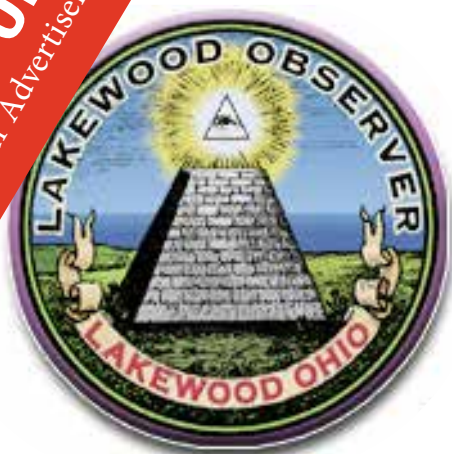


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Volume 12, Issue 12, June 7, 2016

High School Sports News

State Championship Weekend For Lakewood



Photo by Alex Belsie

Eagle ball carrier runs left during the June 3 state championship game.

by Mike Deneen

Numerous local high school athletes competed for state championships over the weekend of June 3rd. Both the Lakewood girls and St. Edward boys rugby teams competed in state title games, and two Lakewood High School pole vaulters competed at the OHSAA Track and Field Championships in Columbus.

EAGLES TAKE RUGBY TITLE FROM ST. IGNATIUS

St. Edward defeated St. Ignatius 12-7 in the state championship rugby game on

June 3 at Fairview Park High School. The Eagles beat the Wildcats soundly in two previous matches this season, but Ignatius entered the game as defending back-to-back state champs. The two teams battled right down to the final play, as Ed's held off a furious Wildcat drive in stoppage time to secure the win.

St. Edward scored first, as Joe Donay powered in a tri with 23:30 left in the first half. The conversion kick failed, leaving the Eagles with a 5-0 lead. The Wildcats answered that score with 9:22 left in the first half,

scoring a tri of their own. They successfully completed their conversion kick, taking a 7-5 lead. Both teams battled to a stalemate for the rest of the first half, and for the first twenty minutes of the second. Unlike the previous two meetings this season, the Wildcats kept the Eagles scorers at bay. St. Edward got a great opportunity with about ten minutes left, when a Wildcat player muffed a John Bradfield punt out of bounds deep in Ignatius territory. Jaret Williamson cashed in the **continued on page 7**

Board Extends Levy Promise Another Year

by Christine Gordillo

Following a positive financial report by Treasurer Kent Zeman at its May 16 meeting, the Board of Education has decided to extend the need to ask voters to approve an operating levy for at least another year. This will extend the promise the Board made to voters when they passed the 3.9 mil operating levy in 2013 that it would not come back to voters for more funds for at least three years.

Zeman reported that the District is currently in good financial condition thanks to greater than estimated revenue from sources such as increased West Shore Career-Tech enrollment fees, better interest rate earnings and improved efficiencies for Medicaid and federal e-Rate reimbursements. Those factors helped the District see a \$500,000 improvement over the projected revenue figures for fiscal year 2016.

There was good news on the expenses side as well as Zeman reported the District spent \$750,000 less than expected in the current fiscal year. This came mostly from savings in insurance benefit costs, lower utility costs and lower deductions from the Ohio Department of Education for students electing to enroll in charter schools as more students have opted to

stay in the District. The state deducts on average \$6,975 for each student who leaves the District and enrolls with a charter school.

The added \$1.25 million cushion to the District's financial coffers convinced Board members that they would not need to ask taxpayers for additional funds this year.

“Thanks to sound fiscal management, the need to put a levy on in 2016 is just not there,” said Board member Linda Beebe. “Delaying this makes perfect sense.”

The District would like to thank all those who participated in the recent phone survey. The results will be valuable as the District evaluates its needs for the future.

Congratulations, Class of 2016!



Photo by Christine Gordillo

Members of Lakewood High School Class of 2016 celebrate their graduation with the traditional toss of the hats. Three hundred eleven students walked across the Civic stage on May 27 to receive their diplomas.

LakewoodAlive To Host Community Forum Regarding Lake Erie On June 14

by Matt Bixenstine

It's always just a few miles away, a constant presence giving our region abundant resources and wonderment. But what must be done to ensure we don't take the world's 11th largest freshwater lake for granted?

LakewoodAlive, a nonprofit community development organization, announces it will host a community forum – entitled “A Deep Dive: Lake Erie Starts

at Home” – from 7 - 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, at the Lakewood Public Library Main Branch (15425 Detroit Avenue). The forum seeks to explore the monumental role Lake Erie plays in our lives, the issues facing our Great Lake and how we as citizens impact its water quality and overall health.

Both the general public and members of the media are invited to attend this free community **continued on page 9**



LakewoodAlive's community forum entitled “A Deep Dive: Lake Erie Starts at Home” will take place on Tuesday, June 14.

Lakewood Observer



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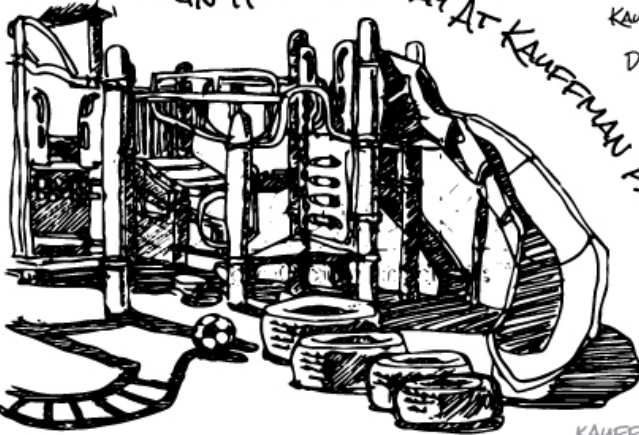
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Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
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From The Statehouse

Northeast Ohio Lawmakers Announce Naming Of The Governor Richard F. Celeste Shoreway

by *Nickie Antonio*

State Rep. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) and State Senator Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) today applauded the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 159, which designates a portion of State Route 2 – also known as the West Shoreway, beginning in Lakewood and connecting to Cleveland – as the Richard F. Celeste Shoreway.

“I am pleased to announce the passage of this bill, which honors

hometown public servant Richard F. Celeste and his career of service to our state,” said Rep. Antonio. “The naming of this portion of the shoreway celebrates an outstanding governor and the Celeste family’s legacy of public service to Ohio.”

Richard F. Celeste served two terms as Ohio governor from 1983 to 1991. Governor Celeste and his brother, former Representative Ted Celeste, are both natives of Lakewood, Ohio. Their father, Frank P. Celeste, served two

terms as mayor of Lakewood from 1956 to 1963.

“Governor Celeste has led a long and distinguished career as a public servant,” said Senator Skindell. “Personally, it is an honor for me to see this legislation passed, as I was inspired by candidate and Governor Celeste when I was attending college in the 1980s. It is also an honor to know that this portion of State Route 2 will bear the name of a great governor and great man, Richard

Celeste.”

Celeste had a storied and impressive career of service to the people of the State of Ohio and the United States, as he served in various capacities under Presidents Kennedy, Carter, Clinton and Bush. He served as U.S. Ambassador to India from 1997 until 2001. The following year he was inaugurated as the 12th president of Colorado College in Colorado Springs and has since retired.

Senator Skindell Introduces Ohio Patient Protection Act

by *Michael Skindell*

State Senator Michael Skindell (D- Lakewood) recently introduced Senate Bill 324 to increase patient safety by setting limits on the number of patients a registered nurse (RN) may care for at one time. The ratio requirements will be based on the seriousness of the condition being treated or the medical procedure that the respective patient is undergoing.

The legislation would require a minimum, numerical nurse-to-patient ratio with a requirement that additional nurses be added when needed. Some of the more critical procedures for which the requirement would be one nurse to one patient are patients in an operating room, a trauma or critical care patient, an unstable newborn or one in a resuscitation period. An intermediate ratio level for which one nurse would be caring for three patients would include pediatric units and pregnant patients who are not in active labor. The ratio would go down to a one nurse to five patient threshold for such patients as infants in nurseries.

For units not listed in the legislation, a hospital-wide nursing care committee would establish ratio requirements to be implemented by the hospital. Factors to be considered in these ratio requirements would be issues such as severity of illness, the need for patient advocacy, the

patient-care delivery system and the hospital’s physical layout. Hospitals would be required to post these ratio requirements in public view.

The legislation requires that nurse assignments based on these ratios be competent for each of the assigned units for which they are providing care. It also prohibits such practices as mandatory overtime to meet the ratio requirements as well as the use of cameras or monitors as substitutes for the actual nurse to fulfill the requirements.

Finally, the bill gives various protections to a nurse for refusal to follow a policy he or she believes in good faith to be in violation of the legislation. It prohibits discrimination and discharge for such a good-faith

refusal.

“These policies will help ensure that patients get the best medical care based on need. They will provide nurses with safeguards to ensure that they are protected from retaliation for whistle-blowing and refusal to follow potential violations of the law,” said Senator Skindell. “Genuine and enforceable safe-staffing standards will save money and lives by ensuring that patients obtain excellent nursing care.”



State Representative Nickie Antonio



State Senator Michael Skindell

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Lakewood Area Collaborative Celebrates Another Year, Presents Helping Hands Award

by Bruce Chamberlin

With a mission to engage and empower children and parents and thus support strong and healthy families, The Lakewood Area Collaborative recently celebrated another year of service to the community. The Collaborative works to link and support a network of helping organizations, schools, community groups, businesses, agencies and individuals who serve those families within the west suburbs of Cuyahoga County and Cleveland down to the airport.

In May at the last meeting of the 2015-2016 program year The Lakewood Area Collaborative recognized an individual who had made a major contribution to the well-being of all in our region. The Helping Hands Award was chosen from a group of nominations from our membership – and all nominated had provided incredible support to the community.

Nahida Farunia’s nomination caught the eye of the Collaborative Leadership Team due to the impact on the community, the relevance of her work and number of years of service. While all nominees deserved recognition, Nahida was chosen to receive the prestigious Lakewood Area Collaborative Helping Hands Award for program year 2016. Joining us to celebrate their mother’s recognition were three of her children, pictured.

Nahida probably does not see herself as a community activist: She would say that what she does is who she is, and giving to her family and community is definitely a huge part of her identity.

Below is the submission to have Nahida considered for the Helping Hands Award.

Nahida’s Story:

“Nahida started volunteering in Lakewood Schools when her children were younger, some 29 years ago. She also became involved in a drop-in program for Lakewood parents of school age children where she got to know other parents. As a Muslim woman this helped nourish friendships and understanding amongst those attending.

An incident at an area swimming pool helped spark Nahida’s involvement in the community. The staff at a local pool asked her to leave the pool as she was not permitted to wear her hijab, or head cover. This was a difficult situation for her, since Nahida’s friend who was a Catholic nun was also wearing a head cover. Her friend was not only permitted in the pool, but seemed to be effortlessly accepted by the staff.

Nahida brought the incident to the attention of Lakewood City Hall and then Mayor Madeline Cain, who responded quickly & efficiently in properly handling the matter by allowing women of all faiths and traditions to be openly welcomed in public at all facilities.

Then September 11, 2001 occurred. During this horrifying time for everyone, Nahida became involved with community relations, helping Mayor



Toni Gelsomino, City of Lakewood Director of Human Services; Bruce Chamberlin, Chair, Lakewood Area Collaborative; Adam Farunia; Nahida Farunia, recipient of the Helping Hands Award; Alia Farunia; Mo Farunia. Not pictured is Colleen McNamara, Clinical Manager/Supervisor, Lakewood Area Collaborative

Cain work on safety and tolerance in Lakewood, speaking in churches and community groups, promoting peace, understanding and acceptance of others, drawing differentiation between Muslims of faith and those of hate.

This later led to working with families around the work and ministry of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and how Muslims were thankful for his ministry and mission as he was a champion of the rights and worth of all people.

In 2004, Nahida was chosen as one of the “The Most Interesting Women in Cleveland” by Cleveland Magazine and received honors presented at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

She was hailed for being instrumental in building the bridge of understanding between the religions of Christianity and Islam across the region.

Through the years Nahida has; served on the Lakewood Public Library Board, became involved with the Lakewood Department of Human Services, Division of Youth helping the staff serve area families, and worked on many Lakewood City Hall programs, including most recently; the Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission.

Nahida’s contributions to the community are seemingly limitless – she is a champion of all people, loves serving others, and continues to help out in various ways, including interpreting for immigrant families and leading women’s groups.

Today she continues to volunteer – AND work a full time job - and give back to the community who has helped her raise her family, provide her employment and has given her a chance to make a difference in the world. Nahida is an example to us all, and I am very grateful for her impact on our community.”

Thank You

We at The Lakewood Area Collaborative would like to thank Nahida as well as all those who do so much – and often go unrecognized. Many people make that strong fabric that connects us all.

Thank you Nahida for being an inspiration to many - planting the

seeds of friendship, peace and understanding, setting the example of inclusiveness and seeing the best in each other.

The Lakewood Area Collaborative will gather again on Thursday August 25, 2016, 12:30 – 2 p.m. at the Lakewood Park Woman’s Club Pavilion to begin our 2016-2017 program year. All are welcome as we come together for a pot luck luncheon for Collab members, friends and guests.

We meet to network, collaborate, and learn through our Spotlight Series. Mark your calendar and join us!

Get more information on The Lakewood Area Collaborative:

- “Like” us on Facebook at “Lakewood Area Collaborative”
- Visit our website at <http://www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/#!/family-collab>
- Email at lakewoodareacollab@gmail.com

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Lakewood Public Library

100 Books Reading Marathon

by Nicole Born-Crow

Happy Birthday Lakewood Public Library! Lakewood Library is celebrating 100 years of service, and what better way to commemorate that than a book reading marathon! The 100 Books Reading Marathon will be on Wednesday, June 8th starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Main Branch of Lakewood Public Library in the Children's

Department. Drop in anytime to hear stories as librarians read books aloud all day until 100 books are read! Staff will take turns reading, each picking their favorite book to share. Library Director, James Crawford, will make a special guest appearance as well! No registration is needed, just come to the Children's Department on June 8th to join in the marathon celebration!



Come listen to Lakewood's librarians read 100 books in honor of LPL's 100th anniversary celebration!

Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead

by Eric Knapp

Enhance your child's education by making learning fun and different with imaginative programs that focus on science, technology, engineering, art, and math. These programs are not registered, but first-come, first-served where tickets are given out at the Children & Youth Services desk where the program is held thirty minutes prior to the start of each program. One ticket per child. Space is limited.



Learning is fun through the LPL's S.T.E.A.M. programming!

Jr. Robotics Express: Diary of a Wimpy Kid – For students entering 2nd – 4th grade. Lego® WeDo Robots and Jeff Kinney's Diary of a Wimpy Kid books combine forces to create some robotic misadventures! **Two Days to Choose From:** Tuesday, June 14 from 2 – 4 p.m. in the Madison Branch Auditorium OR Wednesday, June 15 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Robotics Express: SpaceBOTs Strike Back – For students entering 5th – 8th grade. Learn mechanics, sensors, and programming with Lego® Mindstorms EV3 robots as you fight the evil empire! Wednesday, June 15 from 2 – 4 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Jr. Video Game Creation – For students entering 1st – 3rd grade.

Learn how to make your own video games with Scratch, a free development program from MIT. Bring a flash drive to save your progress and continue the fun at home. **Three Days to Choose From:** Monday, June 20 from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room OR Tuesday, June 21 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Madison Branch Auditorium OR Wednesday, June 22 from 2 – 4 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Video Game Creation – For students entering 4th – 8th grade. Learn how to make your own video games with GameMaker Studio, a free development program you can download. Bring a flash drive to save your progress and continue the fun at home. Tuesday, June 21 from 2 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Mr. Bill's Magic Show

by Marge Foley

Lakewood Public Library presents Mr. Bill's Magic Show, the first program in its Special Friday Performances summer series. Children and their families are invited to join in the magical fun at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 10, 2016 as Mr. Bill performs fascinating tricks and enchanting illusions. With a repertoire of numerous mystical maneuvers, Mr. Bill provides delightful entertainment for all

ages. Families will enjoy this free, interactive magic program in the Main Library Multipurpose Room. Up next . . . experience a variety of bugs and their "cousins" during Jungle Bob's Bug Show on Friday, June 24, 2016 at 3 p.m. For details about Special Friday Performances and other youth programs at the Lakewood Public Library, please call 216-226-8275, ext. 140 or visit us online at www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth.

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Lakewood Author Shares Amazing Spiritual Journey

by Elaine Rosenberger

What do you do when the anxiety of materialistic excess overcomes your soul and you hear a cry from deep within? Lakewood, Ohio author Mark Kacik made a desperate decision. He resigned his corporate engineering job, rid himself of most belongings, and bid his family and friends farewell.



Lakewood, Ohio author Mark Kacik

Setting out on a spiritual journey, Kacik traveled remote backroads of Asia in search of a deep-seated understanding of self, of his mind, and an alternative to his hectic and materialistic American lifestyle. This journey is embodied in his new book "Caves, Huts, and Monasteries: Finding the Deeper Self along the Footpaths of Asia."

On Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, Kacik will discuss his book as well

as the unique cultures and many Buddhist temples and monasteries he visited. Kacik will take questions and encourage discussion about the land, its peoples, cultural differences, the Buddhist practices of the various traditions he studied, and the benefits of meditation practices.

Library Hosts Discussion On The Power Of Forgiveness

by Elaine Rosenberger

The Gathering Place, a cancer support center, offers free services such as support groups, counseling, a lending library, wigs, and cooking classes to individuals and families. This summer, The Gathering Place hosts a series of community discussions in the Main Library Auditorium.

This first discussion, on the power of forgiveness, takes place on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Join licensed social worker Mary Fisher Bornstein to learn how releasing hurt can transform your life.

Future discussions included gratitude and wellness (Wednesday, July 20) and Walking the Labyrinth



(Wednesday, August 31). Admission is free and open to all.

Lakewood Schools

Garfield Book Club Makes Connections Beyond Reading

by Christine Gordillo

When Principal Mark Walter heard that some of his Garfield Middle School male students were not connecting with the books they were reading in Language Arts and were disinterested in reading, he got together with a couple of his male teachers to see how they could help change these boys' attitudes toward reading. The result: The Distinguished Gentlemen's Book Club.

Walter, along with phys ed teacher Harry Manos and Intervention Specialist Larry Holmes, each took a small group of boys who they met with weekly during lunch period and discussed a book they were all reading. The books were chosen specifically to connect with the boys. The first



Members of the Distinguished Gentlemen's Book Club enjoy some lunch and their book, "The Other Wes Moore." Pictured from left: Denzel Henry, Frank Watson, Stevon Semedo and Devonn Brothers.

selection was "We Beat the Street" by Sharon Draper about how three kids

from an inner-city neighborhood banded together and formed a pact to become doctors. Currently, the club is reading "The Other Wes Moore" by Wes Moore. The book tells the tale of two Wes Moores, both growing up in the inner city. One graduated from West Point and

one ended up in jail.

The club advisers aim to open their members' eyes to different paths to success and hopefully spark a better interest in reading. The results have been great so far as Principal Walter recounted how members who formerly were hesitant to read aloud now have found their voice to read to the group confidently. One member recently said that he now has an interest in reading for pleasure that did not exist before.

The club takes field trips as well. The eighth grade members recently visited John Carroll University to get a taste of what a college campus feels like. A Garfield staff connection arranged for the boys to tour the football facilities and meet the Blue Streaks' coach.

While every member may not come away with a burning desire to jump into his summer reading, just opening the boys' eyes to the fact that books can resonate with them and open new worlds to them is success enough.

Lakewood Teachers - Busy End Of The Year!

by VernaAnn Kotansky

The end of the school year marks a time of excitement and anticipation of what the summer and new school year will bring. The month of May was an extremely busy time for students, families and teachers in the Lakewood City Schools. Families attended concerts, field days, field trips, art shows, sporting events, one book one school events, art shows and the list goes on. Many of these events would never be realized without the dedicated commitment of the Lakewood City School teachers guiding our students.

It is with gratitude and pride that the Lakewood Teachers Association recognizes and thanks the outstanding efforts of the Lakewood teachers in creating a learning environment that enriches the whole child. From the planning

and executing of the 8th grade Washington DC trips to the field day events at the elementary schools. From the Art shows to the many music concerts. From the Spring sporting events to the many field trips. From the coordination and development of summer reading programs to the many extra-curricular groups and clubs at all levels, the Lakewood City School teachers are there guiding and encouraging our students and families.

While we close the books on the 2015-16 school year, rest assured the extraordinary teachers of the Lakewood City Schools are already taking classes, planning, and researching for the greatness that will unfold in the 2016-17 school year.

Enjoy a safe and healthy summer break and don't forget your summer reading!

#LTAproud2teach



LTA Scholarship winners with LTA President, Lisa Shaffer-Gill. Left to right: Samuel Hvizdos, Jacob Sedlak, Evan Levis, Lisa Shaffer-Gill.

Lakewood Teachers Association Scholarship Winners Announced

by VernaAnn Kotansky

The Lakewood Teachers Association awards three scholarships annually to eligible children of LTA members as well as students attending Lakewood High School.

Evan Levis is the son of John and Karen Levis. Evan graduated from Lakewood High School and will be majoring in music education at the Ohio State University.

Jacob Sedlak is the son of Amy Sedlak, an art teacher at Lakewood High School, and Michael Sedlak. Jacob graduated from Avon Lake High School and will be majoring in business

at the Ohio State University.

Samuel Hvidos is the son of Nancy Hvidos, 1st grade teacher at Hayes Elementary, and Thomas Hvidos. Samuel graduated from Fairview Park High School and will be majoring in mathematics and education at Wittenberg University.

The members of the Lakewood Teachers Association would like to extend a heartfelt congratulations to these well deserving students and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

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Lakewood Schools

Lincoln Students’ Poetry Honored

by Christine Gordillo

Two Lincoln Elementary students were honored by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District for their poetry entries in the district’s annual Poetree Contest. During April, and in honor of Arbor Day, Cuyahoga County students in kindergarten through 12th grade wrote and submitted poems to celebrate trees.

A winner was selected at each grade level. This year’s third- and fourth-grade winners were Helen Fraunfelder from Allison Martzolf’s fourth-grade class and Cameron Wereb from Sonja Kreps’ third-grade class. Each student was awarded a prize pack that included cool gear all inspired by trees. Congratulations to Cameron and Helen! See more at: <http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/News/24837#sthash.rYdjDNfx.dpuf>



Poetree Contest winners (from left) Cameron Wereb and Helen Fraunfelder with Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Educator Kathleen Rocco.

Nature All Around

by Cameron Wereb

Over the trees
Glimmers of light
Shine from above

Under the dirt
Insects and bugs
Crawl below

All around
Dancing leaves
On thousands of trees

All around
Nature springs to life
Sparkling the light within it

Over the trees
Under the dirt
All around

Lakewood Grad Max Lavisky Claims Conference Baseball Honor While Pitching For Tri-C



Max Lavisky on the mound for Tri-C.

by John Horton

Max Lavisky of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) earned Baseball Pitcher of the Week honors from the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference for his performance April 18-24.

Lavisky pitched six scoreless innings against Lakeland Community College on April 23 to lead the Challengers to a 6-0 victory over the conference rival. He allowed just three hits while striking out seven.

The win raised Lavisky’s record to 7-1 on the season, with 37 strikeouts and a 1.72 ERA in eight starts for the Challengers. He tossed a no-hitter on April 15 against Clark State Community College.

The freshman from Lakewood is studying criminal justice at Tri-C.

The nationally ranked Challengers play their home games at Ron Mottl Field at Tri-C’s Western Campus in Parma. For a full team schedule and more information, go to www.tri-c.edu/athletics.

Trees

by Helen Fraunfelder

There once was an acorn small,
Soon it will become tall,
It will become an oak tree,
Maybe,
Much taller than you and me.

Pine trees do it a different way,
They drop pine cones when the tree starts to sway,
Then the pine cone seeds insert,
A new tree starts in the dirt.

A plant needs leaves for air,
Leaves definitely don’t have hair,
But once the plant starts to grow,
You might know,
That there might be some flowers, right there.

My poem is done, end of the show,
And right now I hope you know,
That tree’s are an important part of life, So don’t chop them
with a big knife.

LakewoodAlive To Host Community Forum Regarding Lake Erie On June 14

continued from page 1

forum. The interactive discussion will address a big-picture overview of the Great Lakes’ importance on a global scale, as well as environmental concerns specific to the lake within our own backyard, such as the challenges we face with aging water and sewer infrastructure.

Moderator Terry L. Robison, Ph.D. – Director of Natural Resources for the Cleveland Metroparks – will oversee a distinguished group of panelists for one hour of discussion. The final 30 minutes will be devoted to panelists fielding audience questions.

The panelists participating in this community forum include:

- Michael Summers, Mayor of Lakewood
- Jared Bartley, Rocky River Watershed Coordinator, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District
- Jill Bartolotta, Extension

Educator, Ohio Sea Grant College Program

- Jason Wood, Chief of Public Affairs, Cleveland Public Utilities

“We’re thrilled to offer this opportunity for Lakewood citizens to learn more about the benefits and challenges associated with our greatest asset,” said Ian Andrews, LakewoodAlive Executive Director. “Lakewood has nearly four miles of shoreline along Lake Erie, and we, as a community, recognize the ongoing role we must play in protecting our Great Lake.”

LakewoodAlive hosts community forums pertaining to topics relevant to Lakewood citizens. For more information regarding the “A Deep Dive: Lake Erie Starts at Home” community forum on June 14, please contact Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive, at 216-521-0655 or iandrews@lakewoodalive.com.

Lakewood Cares

Hospice Of The Western Reserve To Relocate West Side Care Team To New Office

by Laurie Henrichsen

Late last year, Hospice of the Western Reserve was notified that the building in which it has been occupying an office at 14601 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood was slated for demolition. After scouting multiple locations, initially in Lakewood, the nonprofit agency has signed a lease and will be relocating its staff from the Lakewood site to a new office located at 22730 Fairview Center Drive, Fairview Park, early this summer. Multiple factors were involved in the site selection process.

“Through the years, Hospice of the Western Reserve has developed many valued business and community partnerships in Lakewood, from our long-time membership in the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce to our ongoing support of community events such as the Lakewood Arts Festival,” said Lisa Tomm, community facility coordinator. “That will not change. We intend to remain as active as ever in partnering with local business and community leaders to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Lakewood.” Tomm added that operations are expected to be seamless, with no interruptions in service in any of the west side communities the agency serves during or after the move.

The staff and volunteers involved in the move travel to provide care to patients in their personal residences, at nursing

facilities and assisted living and retirement communities in west side communities. The office site serves as a central base of operations for the team; no patient care is provided there. Positions on the care teams include doctors, nurses, hospice nursing assistants, nurse practitioners,

social workers, bereavement counselors, spiritual care coordinators, team leaders, volunteers and administrative personnel.

The office is one of many the non-profit agency utilizes as an operational base. Hospice of the Western Reserve has offices in multiple sites throughout

Northern Ohio, three hospice houses located in Cleveland, Westlake and Medina, and a service area that encompasses Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Stark and Summit counties. Its headquarters is located at 17876 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Free Summer Lunches For Kids At Church Of The Ascension

by Corky Thacker

School-age kids from preschool through grade 12 can get a free, nutritious lunch every weekday from June 6 through August 12 at the Church of the Ascension, 13216 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood. Meals also are available at no charge to those with disabilities through age 21 who participate in

a recognized school program for individuals with developmental or physical disabilities.

The church hosts and staffs the meals as an approved sponsor for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) administered by the Ohio Department of Education. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of

Agriculture, and food is ordered by church volunteers from the Cleveland Food Bank.

Meals are served on a first-come basis in the undercroft in the lower level of the church from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday during the program period. Entry is through the first door by the east driveway.

Far West Center Grant Helps Low-Income Persons Receive Mental Health Care

by Alicia Goodelle

Far West Center announces a recent grant award from The Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation to assist persons without insurance receive mental health care and recovery services. The Center is extremely grateful to the Foundation for its long-

standing show of support for mental health treatment and wellness.

In 2016, Far West Center will serve over 1,700 individuals with serious mental health problems; 75% receive public assistance that only partially covers their care. Far West Center relies on support from partners like

the Prentiss Foundation to fill the gap in funding mental health recovery services.

The Prentiss Foundation’s mission is to support and advance health care in the Greater Cleveland community. The Foundation awards grants for **continued on page 14**

The Jesus Way

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Christian Day Camp at
Our Savior's Rocky River
20300 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

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9 a.m.—4 p.m.
For kids in grades K-6

Registration Fee: \$20
• ea. add'l child in same family: \$10
• Lunch is Included

This week-long, full-day camp is led by college-age counselors from Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio and features Bible stories, games and music. Registration forms also available at www.faithlakewood.org

To register or for more information, call 216-226-6500.

Vacation Bible School

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Faith Lutheran Church Lakewood
16511 Hilliard Rd., Lakewood
(across from Harding Middle School)

July 18-22
9:30 a.m.—12 p.m.
For kids ages 4-11

Registration Fee:
\$5 per child or \$10 per family

Bible stories, songs and games offered by Calvary United Methodist Church, Faith Lutheran Church, Grace Presbyterian Church and Our Savior's Rocky River Lutheran Church

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Lakewood Cares

Distinguished Alumni Invited To Lakewood Women’s Club Annual Installation Dinner

by Torey Worron

On May 26th The Lakewood Women’s Club (LWC) held their Annual Installation Dinner at the The Nicholson House which was catered by Ruth Kostadinov from Gatherings Kitchen. At the dinner, the LWC elected new board members, awarded a scholarship to a Lakewood resident and also awarded our non-profit recipient for this year.

The event was made even better this year due to the fact that we invited some of LWC past distinguished alumni to attend. We wanted to share with them that beginning in the spring of 2017 we will host the Lakewood Women’s Club Presents: Women Honoring Women, an annual event that will help us to brand and promote our women’s club, drive membership, and bring women in the community together. When that event begins next year, it will honor women in Lakewood that have done exceptional things, and serve to inspire the next generation of women in Lakewood as well.

The Lakewood Women’s Club (LWC) supports the community through two distinct programs. The first is an annual scholarship awarded to a female high school senior. The second is a grant that supports a local nonprofit organization voted upon by LWC members through an application process.

Since 1962 the Lakewood Women’s Club has played an important role in helping fund some of Lakewood’s most vital social services and nonprofits. The nonprofit organization that LWC will be supporting over the next year period (June 2016 through May 2017) will be Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach. TLCO’s mission is to foster a healthier community through collaboration, education, and meeting basic needs. They accomplish their



LWC Past Presidents and Alumni

mission by providing four community hot meals each month, a monthly food pantry, a clothing pantry, a free monthly produce distribution (between June and November), a community garden that supports the hot meal program, and community-based health and wellness programming, supporting our neighbors in need. It has been a real honor for the

LWC to not only financially support this cause, but to have the privilege to be directly involved in their mission by volunteering to help serve meals. We look forward to our continued work together in the next year. The LWC has also awarded scholarship monies to deserving high school seniors who are pursuing higher

education. This year LWC’s recipient is Christin Donahoe, a graduating Lakewood High School Senior who will begin her studies in the Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Evansville in the fall. Christin showed both academic and athletic talent and leadership during high school, in addition to a commitment to helping others. We are honored to have Christin as our recipient and expect that she will do great things.

Funding for these programs comes from the Lakewood Women’s Club fundraising programs and events. One of our more fun events is our annual Great Pumpkin Fun Run that is held on the last Sunday in October at Lakewood Park. We also know that our new spring fundraising event “Women Honoring Women” will be a success and we will continue to support our community as well as support each other via our club membership.

Please see our calendar of events on our website: www.lakewoodwomensclub.com



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Lakewood Is Art

Not Horrible Fest 2016

by Buzz Kompier

Did you see the masses of people walking South down Detroit and across W. 117th a weekend or two ago? Well, if they seemed like the type of people who know what's up, they were probably headed over to Now That's Class for this year's Not Horrible Fest. I was also there for most of it, and here's what I thought about all that.

The festival started as Horrible Fest a bunch of years ago as a garage/punk fest. Over the years, the focus has shifted to more of a hardcore/garage/punk festival, with occasional experimental-type acts as well. The management switched around and Now That's Class became the fest's epicenter, and so it was renamed Not Horrible Fest.

Night 1 started off on the right foot with a pretty darn good performance by Pig Player. They've added a bass player since I last saw them (who was playing what looked to be a Fender VI, but I'm not certain from where I was standing, but it was cool), which really improved their sound. Cool punk. Or hot punk. Something like that, or the other one. I'm not quite sure. It was good either way.

Following the Flayers (who took off the next day to go on tour as The Nico Missile; I know this because I talked to them outside and got confirmation) were an even newer band (and Pig Player are pretty new themselves) called Glass Traps, who did a goth-y post-punk type of thing. I thought they were pretty interesting, worth checking out again.

The band I was really there for played next, that being Italy/Cleveland punk act the Flyin' Trichecos. I thought they played great (even when singer Alessandro (the Italian) took Wedge's cymbal away, and kept trying to kiss guitarist Paul (one of the Clevelanders), and it was pretty chaotic, though I'm told it was one of the least chaotic Trichecos shows ever, so what do I know. Our enthusiastic vocalist somehow kept getting more mic stands with which to play catch with audience members even when they were repeatedly taken away from him. Extra bonus points for Paul and Sean playing the riff from "Cocaine" at the start, to which Anus (Alessandro)

replied with something that was pretty funny but cannot be printed in the paper). That was probably my favorite set of the night.

Pleasure Leftists played next, who also had a post-punk type of thing going on. It was my first time seeing them, despite being long recommended to me, and they did not disappoint. I really should grab a copy of their latest LP one of these days.

During Uniform's set, I was outside shooting the breeze, so I can't say how they were. Then I left without seeing the headliner LMNTL, so thus ends day one.

I skipped the day two backyard barbecue, so I unfortunately did not get to see Brainwashed California vs. Mr. California, nor the Burger Boys. From what I've heard they were pretty good.

For night two proper, I walked in a song or two into Tonawandas' set, but was nonetheless impressed. Garagey synth punk. Nice stuff. Their cassette is pretty decent as well, perhaps there'll be a review of it in this very paper sometime soon.

Folded Shirt were absolutely great. Beyond punk. I loved hearing Steve (The Cowboy), Terry (Mr. California) and the aforementioned Alessandro play the opening instrumental over and over while singer Larry (Wet Brain) remained nowhere to be seen. Certain members of the audience were seen pulling out their cellphones to try and call him. Finally, he arrived about mid-way through the fourth repetition of the starting number, and so began the rest of the set. Great renditions of "Jungle Music" and "Folded Shirt." I also liked when they all joined hands and bowed, like they're The Who or something. My top band of night two.

Quitter, from Baltimore, also were just swell. Cool horror movie KBD synth punk. Their 7" on Blow Blood is highly recommended. I should've grabbed their "Dark City Visions" cassette while I was there, but it slipped my mind. Come back soon, Quitter, I'll buy your tape.

I once again took a break to wander around during Fried Egg's set,

but I did like what I caught. I guess the guitarist broke a string or something at one point, because one of the times I walked into the showroom, the guitarist from Quitter was handing a guitar case over. I think they're on Negative Jazz, if I remember correctly. I'm not gonna factcheck that, but they did have a "Fried Egg Flea Market" full of stuff from many bands, so someone in the band probably has something to do with some label of some note. Or something.

Another Blow Blood act, Vanilla Poppers, were next. They did pretty good almost-hardcore-but-not quite punk. Members of Real Regular, Cruelster, Yambag, and like 20 others (even though there's only 4 people in the band), if Cleveland punk genealogy floats your boat. They did all the songs (except the cover, unless I somehow missed it despite being in the room the whole time) off their demo tape, plus several new (newer? older? I have not a clue) ones that I assume will probably see release sometime in the future. My ride home arrived then, so I regretfully had to miss Spray Paint and Giorgio Murderer, who I've heard are both good. Next time.

The day three matinee show was intended to be at Rust Belt Welding, but they had a fire, so it was moved to Now That's Class. Bad Noids started off the fun as only they can. Fun fact: their set was the one during which I got the most beer spilled on me. They did some newer ones, and some older ones, and some ones that I don't know, and one that's called "Outer Space" when it's a Splat song, but funny enough, they didn't do "The Ones." Ha, see what I did there?

Crime Wave, from Texas, were supposed to play next, but no-showed (more on that later), so Yambag got bumped up a slot. They played fast and loud. Enigmatic singer Mask donned a giant squid mask and some kind of raincoat/overall hybrid thing (???). The mask got lost in the shuffle pretty quickly, along with Mask's coat, leaving only the rainoveralls. I had to dodge Mask a couple times as he ran by.

After that, Urochromes played. I

had heard good things about them but never actually listened to them. I was quite impressed. They were very, very good. Even though they didn't play the hit, or so I'm told.

The Yankee Peddler set up shop with his fiddle and did some tunes for a while, while the main event got ready to think about setting up in the other room. That main act, The Darvocets, was delayed by their lack of drummer. Eventually, he showed up and they got ready to go. Some member of the crowd brought in tons of inflatable cows, which were tossed around during their set. They were great, by the way, in case you were wondering. Someone, I assume probably the same person as before, crowdsurfed in a giant inflatable alien. As people took a song or two to process this, another was crowdsurfed in. One was stabbed by singer Larry. These cows and aliens are very relevant to the songs of the Darvocets, if you're unfamiliar. Anyways, they were great. First time they've played in 4 years, as well!

I showed up right at the start for the night show of day three, as I really wanted to see the first band, The Cowboy. They did not disappoint. I believe this was their second show ever. 2/3 of the band are (were? it's sorta unclear) 2/3 of Homostupids, so if you like that band, you'll most likely like these guys. They may have actually been my favorite band of the day three night show, except for possibly the headlining Urinals.

Columbus's Unholy Two played next, doing some loud, noisy hardcore-ish punk. I thought they were pretty alright. The one guitarist had a gorgeous Telecaster. It was like blue green.

So remember when Crime Wave didn't show up earlier? The same members are actually in a different band by the name of Fugitive Family. They showed up! Perhaps in apology for the afternoon, or maybe just because they're a good band, they played a great set. I enjoyed it, anyway. I liked the singer's jack o'lantern getup as well.

I really had no idea what to expect of SQRM, but I didn't think they were as great as they were made out to be.

continued on next page

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Lakewood Is Art

Bridge The Gap My Harvest For Hunger Campaign

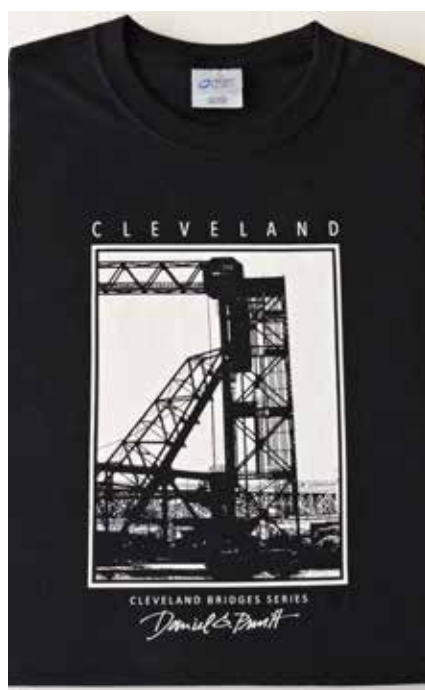
by Daniel Pruitt

I recently launched a new campaign at my Lakewood Screw Factory Art Studio in support of Cleveland's Food Bank Harvest for Hunger. My campaign began at the studio during our recent Open Studio on April 8th. I call it "Bridge the Gap."

Hunger is an incredible problem in our country and I believe doing something about it in even a small way is important. I am always torn when I come to a stop entering or exiting the highway and I see a homeless person begging at the side of the road. It is a stark reminder of the reality of this issue for me and I believe a symbol of where we are in this country in regards to hunger.

We have lived in Lakewood and owned our home for the past 26 years. My wife and I raised our two daughters here and have walked our Vizsla on Lakewood's streets and through Lakewood Park.

During the last ten years I have seen some startling examples of the plight of the poor. Living on the west side I believe we have been insulated from the realities inner city families must cope with. But that has changed; today local churches in Westside communities are serving more people in need with food kitchens. I've seen signs identifying free meals at local churches. Our church has become



The artist's signature t-shirt

much more active in collecting and distributing food, our Religious Education children's classes make up toilet articles for adults and during the holidays collect and distribute toys and games to children in need in Cleveland. We have opened our church as a temporary shelter to area women and their children in a state of transition. Our high school Sunday class holds an all night sleep over in cardboard shelters they construct during a winter evening to gain a sense of what those

without a home must experience.

So how is this of importance to you? Are you hungry? Probably not, but read on.

I took a look at the Cleveland Food Bank's 2015 Annual Report and this is what I read.

"One in four children and one in six people in Greater Cleveland still live in a food insecure household. That means they do not know where their next meal is coming from. Many of these households have at least one member who is working—sometimes more than one job. They are making incredibly difficult choices on a regular bases—regular basis—whether to buy food or pay for the rent to keep their utilities on. They are the working poor who struggle each day to provide necessities for their families."

The need is great but with your support we can make a difference!

MAKE A DONATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

My Campaign "Bridge the Gap" ties into what I do as an artist. The image with this article is my artistic vision of one of the photographs I took two summers ago when I traveled on a friend's boat on the Cuyahoga River. I took over 300 images that hot summer afternoon of the many and varied

bridges as seen from the perspective of the river. My artist's procedure is to alter the photographic image in Photoshop and screen print it with fine powder glass frits onto a glass substrate. I use a traditional inking method to create my Signature T-Shirts.

The Artist's Signature T-Shirt is one of those images that is also available printed and fused in the kiln on glass available at my website or at one of a dozen outdoor Art Festivals you will find me at this summer including the Lakewood Art Festival the first Saturday in August the 6th.

With your \$25.00 donation to my "Bridge the Gap" campaign you will receive a **FREE** Artist's Signature T-Shirt of a Cleveland Bridge with the Terminal Tower, Key Bank and Tower City shown behind it. The shirt is available in S, M, L, and XL.

Up to 70% of your donation will support my Bridge the Gap Hunger Campaign. Connect with my Go Fund Me Campaign at: gofundme/BridgetheGap2016

Visit me at one of my 2016 Art Festivals listed on my site. Any donation of \$5.00 or more will advance this cause and is gratefully received.

MY GOAL FOR THIS MONTH IS

Not Horrible Fest 2016

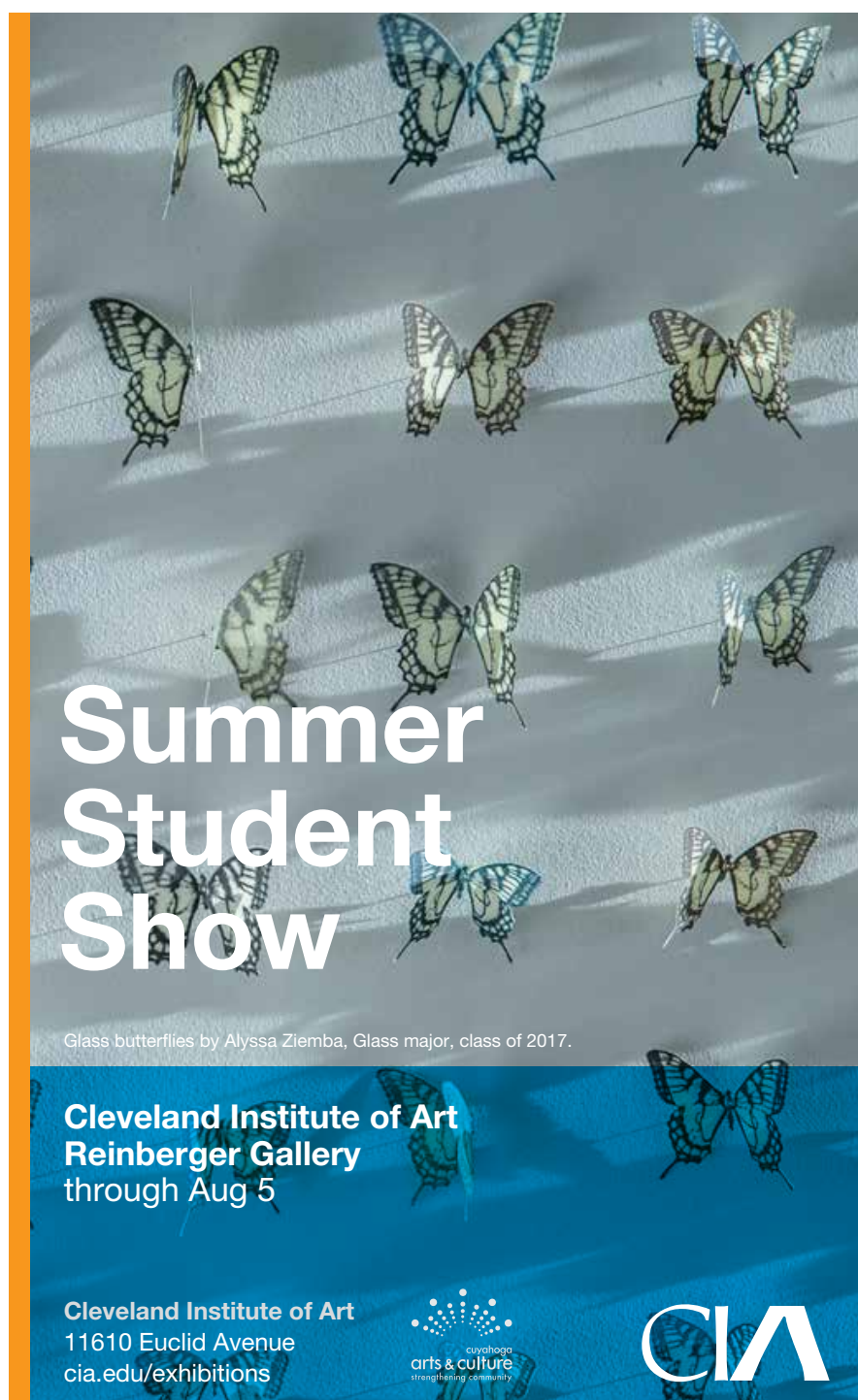
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Decent enough, but not the greatest band ever. Similarly, Watery Love were very hyped to me, and a couple people told me that they were the band to most look forward to. I was underwhelmed. Not bad, I thought they did an okay set, but not the gods among men that people were making them out to be. Maybe that's just me.

I sat around in the showroom watching the Urinals get set up while Predator played on the bar side. They sounded good from where I was sitting, but I guess I don't really know. Anyways, then the headliner to end all headliners, The Urinals played.

I thought they were great. I mean, obviously it's been a long career and they don't play as sloppy as their most famous recordings anymore, but they were very enjoyable for what they were. Plus, they mixed in a couple 100 Flowers songs, which was really cool.

So, yeah. Not Horrible Fest. It was not horrible. There were apparently a variety of after parties, none of which I attended. I was partied out for the weekend. In summation, many very good bands, lots of extremely nice people around, all in all a good experience. The Not Horrible fest comes once a year. Go next time.



Forum

Thought The Hospital Deal Was Bad? It Gets Worse...Part I

by Jared Denman

In much the same way a small cadre of political and bureaucratic insiders in the City and the Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA) were actively initiating the process that led to the Hospital's current status as early as the beginning of November 2012, it appears that at least a \$24.4 million (1) slice of the Hospital pie is going to end up on the plate of a yet-to-be named "New Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Entity" charged with "supporting community health and wellness activities." The not-so-surprising-irony? There is evidence of bureaucratic jockeying by City officials to ensure that a health and wellness non-profit was a component of the developing agreement as a way to siphon funds from the sale of the Hospital to suspect "economic development" interests. Part I covers the formation of the Active Living Task Force in the context of the sale of the Hospital and Part II will cover the Lakewood Active Living Task Force report and the nature of economic development.

The first mention in City records of a "Lakewood Recreation Task Force" occurred in a draft resolution to the Council of the Whole from then-Council President Brian Powers dated December 16, 2013:

For more than a year, the Mayor and I have engaged in informal discussions with the Superintendent of the Lakewood City School District and the previous interim part-time Recreation Director regarding the need for better coordination between the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood City School District regarding recreation facilities and programming. Vice President Madigan and I have also raised the topic with the President and Vice President of the School Board.

Interestingly, almost a year ago to the day on November 19, 2012 Mayor Michael Summers was appointed as Chair of the Select Committee at a meeting of the LHA Board of Trustees which was held on the heels of a corporate retreat hosted by the CCHS at the Cleveland Clinic Family Health Center in Independence. (2)

The formation of the Select Committee was the culmination of an ongoing concern regarding Lakewood Hospital's financial viability going as far back as 2011 when financial services corporation Moody's released an update on July 29, 2011 downgrading the \$13 million Series 2003 municipal bond issued by the City of Lakewood on behalf of the LHA from A3 to Baa2, "...based on continued significant declines in admissions, large and escalating operating losses (and negative operating cashflow), and significant decreases in unrestricted cash. Although the hospital has taken steps to restructure its operations, including closing certain services, progress is slower and less than

anticipated and the hospital has been missing budgets." (3)

This was noted with concern at the August 3, 2011 Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee which eventually led to the formation of the Select Committee in November 2012 as mentioned above and in turn led to the Step 2 Committee that hired Subsidiary. However, at least as early as 2009 the Cleveland Clinic was already paying money to cover the Hospital's debt as part of the agreement with the City and the LHA and was consulting with a third party:

[Jeff Jones, CCHS Administration] noted that consistent with 2009, Lakewood Hospital did not meet the required minimum for this bond covenant and referred the committee to Footnote 11 where this is highlighted. He further noted that the resulting required consultant call-in engagement has been initiated with Navigant Consulting. Navigant will provide their findings for operational improvements to the Advisory Committee of Lakewood Hospital Association. (4)

While dropping admission rates has been cited as the primary cause of the Hospital's financial woes by the Subsidiary study, evidence uncovered by Marguerite Harkness, CPA also indicates the possibility of bookkeeping shadiness. According to Harkness, administrative fees billed to Lakewood Hospital by CCF for out-of-house services such as IT, billing, and supply chain increased 718% in 12 years. (5) Surprisingly, this is corroborated in the same May 2011 meeting mentioned above: "Discussion on the growth in bad debt ensued with additional discussion regarding movement from Salaries, wages and benefits to Administrative services reflecting the reporting relationship changes for Medical Records and Patient Access."

Meanwhile, by at least June 2, 2014 the Lakewood Active Living Task Force was operational according to the Committee of the Whole minutes of the same date where Chris Sinagra

was unanimously selected to fill a vacancy. This was at least eight months prior to the public notice of the Letter Of Intent in January 2015. Approximately six months later Director of Planning and Development Dru Siley wrote a letter to the Board of Control requesting \$19,500 be awarded to the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission "to provide professional technical assistance to the Active Living and Comprehensive Recreation Citizen's Task Force." The money was approved by the Board of Control on December 8, 2014 more than two months before public notice of the LOI. Also of note, Siley attended a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the LHA on April 16, 2012, 9 months after the formation of the Select Committee and almost two years before the release of the LOI.

When the 2015 LOI was released, it blueprinted the plan for the "New Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Entity" which included voting rights and a non-compete for health and wellness services over \$500,000 a year for the Clinic:

The Clinic will be the principal health care system affiliate of the New Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Entity and will have first refusal rights for any health and wellness program, product, or service that said entity seeks to offer in excess of \$500,000 per year in estimated annual revenue or grant. The Clinic will have the right to two (2) voting members on the annual New Non-Profit Tax Exempt Entity's governing board, which shall not have more than twenty-one (21) members. (6)

Shortly after the release of the LOI and in response to the formation of the grassroots "Save Lakewood Hospital" group, "Build Lakewood" formed with the stated "mission" of wholly supporting the plans laid out in the LOI; especially the 6-acres of freed-up land and the creation of a wellness foundation. Their website states:

Imagine if Lakewood had its own version of The Gund Foundation or The Cleveland Foundation. The new Wellness Foundation would be a philanthropic non-profit organiza-

tion initially funded with \$32M all of which would come from the Cleveland Clinic and Lakewood Hospital Association. **Lakewood taxpayers would not have to contribute one dime to the Wellness Foundation's creation or operation** [emphasis added]...

Person of interest listed on the website? Dru Siley.

Mere weeks after Lakewoodites were notified of the LOI, Chair of the Lakewood Active Living Task Force and Senior Vice President of Business Attraction with economic developer Team NEO, Jay Foran gave a presentation to Lakewood Hospital Advisory Council on January 1, 2015 about the goal of the task force and the progress of their report. The minutes of that meeting state, "The Lakewood Active Living Task Force (LALTF) conducted an inventory of 'active lifestyle' providers in the City of Lakewood... To determine the needs of the 'consumer' they have performed research from national studies who have surveyed communities similar to Lakewood at large" [emphasis added]. Notice that there is no mention of surveys actually conducted of actual Lakewood residents; an omission in the data that is also found in the LALTF's final report released in February of this **continued on page 17**

Importance Of Conducting Business Needs Analysis To Ensure Proper Insurance Coverage

by Mary Bodnar

If you are one of our community's important Lakewood business owners, you need to know how much insurance you will require. This can be overwhelming and challenging. It is essential that you have the appropriate insurance policy in place, should you need to make a claim. Having the proper coverages can save a small business a lot of money in the long run.

Conducting a Business Needs Analysis is the first process you should know in evaluating your insurance needs. A Business Needs Analysis will provide you with a better idea of what kind and how much insurance would be the optimum for your type of business. Purchasing liability, property and health insurance, in addition to Worker's Compensation, can be quite expensive, so finding out exactly what coverages and how much of each insurance coverage you need is critical.

Evaluating your business is the first step. In order for your agent to properly quote your business, you must accurately analyze the different liabilities and assets which directly affect the business. These include: Property – all equipment, real estate and other assets. Business Volume – the amount of accounts receivable and the average cash flow of the business. Salaries – how

much you pay yourself and how much you pay all employees the company has. Overhead – the cost of running the business including rent, utilities and other miscellaneous expenses.

You should also take into account future trends in Cleveland and the state of our local Lakewood economy as this may have an impact on your business in the future. Once you have compiled these figures, you can then better determine your company's insurance objectives and determine what type of insurance plan would be optimal for your business.

The second step for determining your insurance needs involves estimating your business' potential for losses. These includes fire, theft, property damage, an employee's legal action or losses due to economic hardship, etc. Once you have evaluated your assets and liabilities, you will be much better prepared to determine how much insurance your company will need. You will want adequate coverage for your assets so make an accurate assessment of potential risks to your property to get adequate coverage.

Usually the higher the premium, the higher amount of coverage, as more assets will be covered. Making sure you take into account any high risk factors so all potential risks will be ascertained **continued on next page**

Business News

YUZU Announces Grand Opening Of New Lakewood Late-Night Concept



Global Comfort food served daily for dinner until 2am on Madison Avenue

by David Bumba

YUZU Lakewood (yuzulakewood.com) announced the Grand Opening of their first restaurant, located in Lakewood at 13603 Madison Ave. The 100-seat restaurant reflects the core concept of the spirit of an Izakaya, Japan’s version of a warm local tavern, with simple, clean décor, serving yakitori and rice bowls.

The kitchen hosts a menu that features fresh, seasonal ingredients and the

restaurant’s signature menu items such as cusabi-panko fries, sake-soaked fried chicken, seasonal yakitori, as well as rice bowls from around the world. All meat is sourced locally from Blue Ribbon Meats. Dessert is sourced locally from Lakewood’s own Fear’s Confections and Amy Joy Ice Cream. The prices are uniformly affordable and we are open late every night until 2 a.m. (except Sunday).

The cocktail menu features wild and

daring twists on classic cocktails—utilizing obscure ingredients normally not found in cocktail culture—such as the Bartender’s Blood, an unholy mix of jager, vermouth, fernet branca, crème de cocoa, and Rising Star cold press coffee. Equally as twisted is our version of the Manhattan, Stone & Webster, garnished with an absinthe-soaked gummi bear. Not all the cocktails are as advanced—our house bargain The Thrift Store is simply a random beer in a paper bag with an accompanying shot at the bartender’s mercy. The drinks, like the food, are meant to be affordable.

We are not a physical literal translation of an “Izakaya”—our representation is more in the spirit of an updated neighborhood bar; much like an Irish bar is to

Ireland. Our goal is to create a warmth and hospitality beyond your typical bar, utilizing what’s fresh and available to create a delicious yet affordable dining experience.

Open six days a week, YUZU is located in the heart of the Madison Lakewood District at **13603 Madison Avenue** (next to Lakewood Village Tavern and a block away from Angelo’s), Lakewood OH 44107. The restaurant is open for dinner **Monday through Saturday from 4 p.m. until 2 a.m.** Major credit cards are accepted. Takeout is also available. **Call 440.799.8343** for info, or visit www.yuzulakewood.com; you can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, and Instagram with the handle yuzulakewood



Comic Book Birthday Party At My Mind’s Eye

by Buzz Kompier

Are you doing anything on June 17th, from 7 PM to 10 PM? Well, you should be at My Mind’s Eye, for the release of The Little Vampire Girl mini comic. The first 30 people at the door will receive an original sketch. The party also features some great DJs: DJ Fishtruck, DJ Wampus Cat, and Count Birdbrain (who will be playing an all vampire-related set!). Come buy a comic and hang out for a while.

And hey, when you’re done at MME, another local artist, Nathan Ward, is releasing the debut issue of his

new comic, Ward Comix, at Now That’s Class, just a little more east on Detroit. That release party will also feature performances by Real Regular, Tonawandas, and an extra special band by the name of Loud Muffins, and original art from the comic will be showcased as well. Come see some cool music and cool art, buy a comic, and hang out there too, starting at around 9 PM.

My Mind’s Eye is at 16010 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood, at the corner of Detroit and Cranford.

...Now That’s Class! is at 11213 Detroit Ave., between W. 112 and W. 114.

Proper Insurance Coverage

continued from previous page
for your business is crucial. One way an insurance company can help you save money on your premium is to advise you to choose a higher deductible. If you choose this route, you will pay less for your policy. Make sure you get the right amount of insurance depending on what your company can afford.

The law requires your business to carry Workers’ Compensation insurance. Consult with your company’s lawyer or financial advisor to determine how much your company may need and what type of package would be optimal for you and your employees. Comprehensive coverage might be recommended for your business if you have several employees and own the business property. Group health and life insurance along with disability, property, flood and fire insurance can often be included in your commercial policy.

Choosing an experienced insurance agent is an important component to

obtaining the right amount of insurance for your business. A knowledgeable agent can help you perform your needs analysis, and ensure that you have the proper coverage so you can focus on your business and know you are in good hands.

Choosing an insurance company with a reliable reputation and solid expertise will give you greater peace of mind if any unfortunate event befalls your business. The last thing you need if you have to make a claim is headaches or being left on hold on the phone. Have your business appraised periodically to adjust the level of insurance you will need on an ongoing basis. Because business finances and assets change over time, the amount of insurance you might need can also be adjusted to reflect your changing needs.

Mary Bodnar is Marketing Manager as well as Licensed Property & Casualty Insurance Agent for Gordon Tower Insurance Agency at 14701 Detroit Ave, Suite # 362 Lakewood 216-663-7777.

Far West Center Grant Helps Low-Income Persons Receive Mental Health Care

continued from page 10

initiatives designed to improve health care quality or delivery, for programs that increase access to healthcare to the underserved or indigent, or for medical research. Support for Far West Center’s services to low-income individuals and families is an example of the Foundation’s leadership and generosity in promoting public health care.

Far West Center is an award-winning community mental health center serving residents of western and southwestern Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties through offices in Westlake and Amherst, Ohio.

For more information, call 440-835-6212 ext. 230 or email intake@farwestcenter.com.

BY THE TIME YOU FINISH READING THIS, YOU’LL BE THAT MUCH CLOSER TO RETIREMENT.

As a rule of thumb, we’re the type to stress the importance of a slow and steady approach. However, in this case, the ability to speed-read may prove modestly beneficial to you. Because the sooner you finish, the sooner you’ll be reminded of the significant value in starting to plan for retirement early. You see, with each tick of the second hand, your retirement edges closer. Which is why we’ve always



While we find the strutting gratuitous, the rooster’s commitment to starting early is strategically sound.

believed there’s no such thing as planning too early. Thanks to the rigorously disciplined, thoughtful process we’ve employed from day one, Raymond James advisors have helped countless clients reach the finish line with the necessary resources to accomplish all the next things they wanted to do. It’s time to find out what a Raymond James financial advisor can do for you. **LIFE WELL PLANNED.**

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Lakewood Living

Saving Lakewood’s History, Love And Respect Is The Way

by Jim O’Bryan

While the Westtown CDC works to save their local theater, the Variety, we lost most of ours, only the historic Phantasy Theater still stands for the time being.



Courtesy of Westtown CDC

A few of us have worked to keep some of Lakewood’s historical highlights that have been cast aside, unloved and rejected. There are virtual Lakewood museums all over town, not just at Lakewood Historical Society, which is the chief collector of Lakewood History and deserves all of our support. However in many yards, gardens, and even offices, you can see bricks from schools torn down, old stained glass, lamps, pews from churches, popcorn machines, even furniture and fireplaces that helped define many a historical moment in Lakewood and nearby. A perfect example is the fireplace at Vosh, which many of us remember as the fireplace from the Lakewood Country Club. Purchased and restored by Lakewood’s #1 entertainment entrepreneur Mickey Krivosh and Bing. But as we are talking theaters and history, and the Lakewood Historical Society is celebrating its 7th Annual National Historic Preservation Month, we give you the saving of the historic Detroit



As remembered from this photo, the last time it was turned on. Photo taken at the exact minute, the last showing of a movie was started.



The day it all became “history.”



Off they head on their trip to their new homes.



One was given to Mickey, who promised to refurbish, and keep it up where the public could see it.



Within the month, they had the sign lit up.

Theater sign.

The second sign has been sitting on my porch as I looked for a proper home for it. I asked the Historical Society, and LakewoodAlive, neither seemed willing to take the 14’ one piece sign, and both doubted they had funds to rebuild it. So slowly with the help of Glen Palmer at Lakewood Hardware, we got the some of the old, hard-to-find items we needed, working with friends at Brilliant Signs and AGS Graphics, we were able to rebuild, retube, and get the sign changed from 220 electrical power, to 110. Finally, with some borrowed tools from Slife Heating and Cooling, and Dave Slife and Glen Palmer’s knowledge base, we were able to finish the project in time

Detroit Theater.

Thank you to Sitech Inc. which helped to save the signs, and the green tiles that made up the ticket window. Thank you to Mickey Krivosh, family and crew, especially Bing for helping on such short notice, and following through. As they always have, year after year after year. Thank you to Glen Palmer, and everyone at Lakewood Hardware for their deep knowledge of old stuff, and fundamental electricity. Thank you to Dave Slife, for so many things but this time, helping me with not having to buy a \$100 drill bit from Glen at Lakewood Hardware for 1 hole. Glen offered me his, but that seemed rude, so I dragged Slife Heating and Cooling in, which brought



The second sign recently refurbished and displayed in all its front porch glory.

for National Historic Preservation Month!

Matt Fish of Melt, has offered to give it a home, but is unwilling to promise it will always stay in Lakewood, though he is committed to the city. So it certainly looks like we might be close to finding it a pretty permanent home. If anyone knows of any place where it could go, and stay for a long long time, drop the Lakewood Observer a note, and we will be happy to talk with them, to see if it can be worked out. Until then the two signs are three blocks from each other for your viewing pleasure and as a reminder what fun we all had at the

help from everyone there, along with a free cheeseburger! Thank you to the neighbors that have continued to push for the renovation and have signed off on this porch art. Thank you to the many people that have helped, talked, asked, or told us about what the sign meant to them. And as always thank you to Deb O’Bryan, who has been a complete partner in so many of these projects, and tolerates so much, you are the best.

One more project from all of our hearts to your eyes and memory.
peace/lovepeace/love
Jim O’Bryan - Publisher, LO

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Lakewood Living

Neighborhood Leadership Development Program Seeks 2016 Applicants

by Sandra Kluk

Are you a passionate, committed Clevelander dedicated to taking an active role in improving your community? Could you use help enhancing your leadership skills?

The Neighborhood Leadership Development Program is a free community engagement training program for residents of Cleveland, and its inner ring suburbs, who are working on projects within the City of Cleveland.

NLDP was established in 2006 by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation and is directed by former Cleveland mayor, Michael White.

Each year 20 committed individuals are chosen for the program. NLDP participants and graduates are from diverse backgrounds and range in age from their 20's to 60's. Their interests and pursuits are similarly diverse. NLDP currently has 166 graduates who are actively working to improve life in their communities.

NLDP graduates come from all different backgrounds and work on a variety of issues. They build and maintain community gardens and work in community development organizations; they support homeowners through financial literacy programs, teach computer skills to residents and build playgrounds for children. NLDP graduates are community activists, they work with

youth; work on environmental issues and work with the homeless and those facing re-entry. They enrich their communities through arts and culture and advocate for housing rights.

Graduates have access to a network of community leaders and can join efforts with others in their project work.

As one NLDP graduate from Lakewood put it ...

"Not only did NLDP provide me with really important capacity building opportunities, but it connected me more deeply to the Cleveland community in ways that I don't think many other programs could. It exposed me to issues and efforts that I was not aware of and really made me think a little more comprehensively about how the initiatives I was working on connected to the larger community. NLDP was definitely an important knowledge, character, friendship, network and capacity building experience that made me much more aware of our community and the issues we face and opportunities for positive change."

-Michael Christoff

Practitioners in areas such as nonprofit management, marketing, program planning, fundraising and organizational leadership are NLDP presenters and facilitators.

Every NLDP participant and

NLDP graduate has ongoing access to the services of a Program Coach. NLDP coaches give advice and support tailored to the needs of the participant.

The 15 sessions take place on Saturdays at Trinity Commons at 2230 Euclid Avenue beginning August 27. For more information and an application, visit www.nldpcleveland.com or call 216-776-6172. The deadline for applications is August 1.

Solstice Step It Up Challenge

by Andrea Anderson

Last year, the City of Lakewood really stepped it up in enhancing our community by installing the Solstice Steps in Lakewood Park. Not only is it a creative use of our shoreline, but it provides a destination for people to gather and furthers our small town feel.

As a health coach, I'm constantly looking for fun ways to encourage people to step up their fitness + nutrition habits in an effort to fight against heart disease, diabetes, obesity and other lifestyle-related ailments. Since the Summer Solstice is June 20 and this is the first summer that the Solstice Steps are open, it seemed only natural to create a fitness challenge around this event.

For the week of June 20-25, I invite you to participate in the Solstice Step It Up Challenge. During this week, I will provide you with suggested workouts that incorporate steps, clean eating meal plans, fun mini-challenges along with health tips and encouragement. Your mission will be to get to the Solstice Steps as your schedule allows during that week and participate to the best of your ability. To also support our local businesses, I will award prizes to the top three participants.

You must have a Facebook account to participate since the challenge is hosted through a private Facebook group page. To join or to ask questions, please message me through my Facebook page, www.facebook.com/wildberrycoach by Thursday, June 16 and I will provide you with details on how to sign up.

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Thought The Hospital Deal Was Bad? It Gets Worse...Part I

continued from page 14

year.

Takeaways? In 2011, after years of making good on the City's municipal bonds, the Clinic began eyeing the exits. Questions regarding how and when the Hospital began tanking- including outright mismanagement or unloading debt from other hospitals to Lakewood Hospital's balance sheet in the form of administrative costs- are still at-large. At around the same time, City apparatchiks who were aware of Lakewood Hospital's financial straits initiated conversations with "economic development" suits behind closed doors about a health and wellness/recreation non-profit that would be seeded with \$24.4 million of proceeds from the Hospital deal- essentially the LHA in everything but name. At least \$19,500 of taxpayer money was spent on the Lakewood Active Living Task Force report that reached conclusions based on cherry-picked data by predominantly surveying recreation providers, citizens with a clear conflict of interest, and using a sample size that is not statistically significant. For what reason? I can think of \$24.4 million of them. Pick up the next issue of the Observer for Part II.

(1) "Letter of Intent Among the Cleveland Clinic, Lakewood Hospital Association, and Lakewood Hospital Foundation Regarding the Future of Health Care Services to The Lakewood Community," 14 Jan 2015, Sec. II(C)-(D).

(2) Lakewood Hospital Association, "Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees," 19 Nov 2012, 1.

(3) Moody's Investor's Service "Rating Update: Moody's Downgrades Bond Rating for Lakewood Hospital Association (OH) to Baa2 From A3; Negative Outlook Maintained."

(4) Cleveland Clinic Health System-West Region and Lakewood Hospital Association, "Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Finance Committees," 4 May 2011, 1.

(5) Young, Kevin. "Missing Millions: A Reminder That Lakewood Hospital Was Profitable" Lakewood Observer [Lakewood, OH] 24 May 2016: 16.

(6) "Letter of Intent Among the Cleveland Clinic, Lakewood Hospital Association, and Lakewood Hospital Foundation Regarding the Future of Health Care Services to The Lakewood Community," 14 Jan 2015, Sec. II(D).

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Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive To Hold “Knowing Your Home: Solar 101” Workshop On June 11

by Matt Bixenstine

The sun is gigantic, bright and ever-present. What can homeowners do to harness the power of this fiery sphere in the sky serving as Earth’s most important source of energy?

LakewoodAlive will shed light on energy derived from the sun during the latest installment of its home educational workshop series. “Knowing Your Home: Solar 101” takes place from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, at a private residence at 2147 Dowd Avenue in Lakewood’s Historic Birdtown Neighborhood.

A representative from Bold Alternatives – the largest solar installer based in Northeast Ohio – will be on hand to share expertise regarding best practices for solar power utilization and the advantages arising from this renewable resource. Workshop attendees can expect to learn all about solar power and the process involved in transforming sunlight into energy production.

The benefits associated with solar energy range from increased home valuation to improved environmental



Solar panels adorn the home at 2147 Dowd Avenue where “Knowing Your Home: Solar 101” will take place.

friendliness to the potential for long-term energy cost savings. Not only is solar energy natural as a source of power to generate electricity, but it’s also sustainable and requires little maintenance.

“This workshop serves as an excellent opportunity to ask

questions and determine if solar power represents a viable option for your home,” said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Director. “Since the home where ‘Solar 101’ will take place is equipped with solar panels, workshop attendees will be able to visualize

what solar power actually looks like in practice.”

The City of Lakewood purchased the property at 2147 Dowd Avenue in 2013 and has since converted the former four-unit apartment complex into a single-family home powered by electricity from the sun. With assistance from LakewoodAlive, the city has succeeded with establishing energy efficiency at the property, installing solar panels anticipated to save a future homeowner thousands of dollars in electricity costs over the course of the next several decades.

Now in its third year, LakewoodAlive’s “Knowing Your Home” educational series is committed to helping Lakewoodites maintain the city’s beautiful yet aging housing stock. The workshops explore home maintenance practices empowering Lakewood residents to tackle necessary repairs and improvements.

Join LakewoodAlive for “Knowing Your Home: Solar 101” on June 11 and discover how the sun might play a larger role in your summer than you ever thought possible.

State Championship Weekend For Lakewood

continued from page 7

congratulations. The Rangers received state runner-up medals in a postgame ceremony, capping off a winning season.

CLARE TOOLE’S REALLY BIG DAY

Friday, May 27 was a much anticipated day for the seniors at Lakewood High School. Their graduation ceremony was held at 7 p.m. at Lakewood Civic Auditorium, culminating their four years at the school. For one LHS senior, the day was even more special.

Senior pole vaulter Clare Toole, a district champion in her event, qualified to compete at the OHSAA regionals at Amherst Steele High School. The catch? Her event was scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on May 27, right before her graduation ceremony. So while the rest of her classmates were putting on their caps and gowns, Toole was competing for one of four spots in the state championship field. She was successful, finishing fourth and earning a trip to Columbus. It was the realization of a goal she has held since sophomore year.

After waiting about an hour to receive her medal, Clare faced a 26.7 mile ride back to Lakewood to attend her graduation ceremony. She made it with just seconds to spare. “When I finally made it to graduation my row was about to be called so I made it right in time to walk across stage,” she recalls. There was no time to change clothes, though....so she wore her track uniform under the cap and gown. At the end of the evening, she was officially both a state qualifier and a LHS graduate. Not a bad day.



Clare Toole with her parents Stephanie Toole (LHS Girls Track & Field Coach) and Kevin Toole.

LHSPOLEVAULTERSCOMPETE AT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lakewood senior pole vaulters Clare Toole and Jimmy Toner both qualified to compete at the OHSAA State Championship Finals on June 4rd at Ohio State University. Toner qualified by jumping 15’3” (a new school record) at the regional competition in Amherst. Toole also qualified at Amherst, finishing fourth in the girls competition. The duo of Toner and Toole have known each other for years. “We have been best friends since 4th grade,” says Toole, “So to have this amazing opportunity for both of us to travel down to states together just makes me so happy.”

Toner competed first in Columbus, as the boys competition began at noon.

He finished tenth in the competition, earning a top ten finish for the second time in two years. Toole finished 12th in the girls competition, reaching a height of 11 feet. Her attempt at 11’6” was agonizingly close, but not quite enough. Toole will continue her pole vaulting career next year at the University of Akron. The pair, which have set many records at LHS, will be missed. Not only do they have great talent, but their work ethic was great motivation for the other team members.

ESPN, HOOPS, and OTHER NOTES

- ESPN will return to First Federal Lakewood Stadium on Saturday, August 27 to broadcast the St. Edward football opener against Pine-Richland High School. Pine-Richland is located in

Pennsylvania, north of Pittsburgh. ESPN was most recently in Lakewood to televise St. Edward’s 2014 opening football game.

- LHS boys basketball program is hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, June 11 from 6-8pm at Around the Corner. A \$20 donation covers pizza, wings, and draft beverages. Funds raised will help provide camps, clinics, and shootouts for the team. Tickets will be available at the door.

- LHS construction is on schedule, which means the new gym should be open in fall 2017. The basketball teams will use Harding Middle School for one more season before returning home to Bunts Road

- LHS was unable to field a boys rugby team this season due to the lack of a head coach. However, it hopes to be back on the field in 2017.



LHS Girls Rugby team posing with their State Runner Up medals.

Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive’s Blossoms Program Blooms In Downtown Lakewood

by Matt Bixenstine

It’s a welcome sight in the heart of the city each June. Stroll along Detroit Avenue through Downtown Lakewood these days and you can’t help but notice an additional splash of greenery and color enhancing the district’s vibrancy.

Begonias and impatiens dot this urban landscape, creating a more appealing commercial district and complementing the array of downtown storefronts. Now in its 10th year, LakewoodAlive’s Blossoms Program has resulted in the addition of 51 flower boxes for 2016 – the most boxes yet – stretching east-to-west along Detroit Avenue from Barton Senior Center to Cerny Shoes.

The Blossoms Program is designed to help Downtown Lakewood merchants make their storefronts more inviting and attractive. LakewoodAlive partnered with Lakewood Garden Center to provide an opportunity for merchants to purchase newly-designed and professionally-planted Earth Box planters with flowers appropriate for the sun/shade needs of each location.

“We are pleased to introduce the 10th consecutive year of our popular and successful Blossoms Program,” said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. “This volunteer-driven beautification service offered to Downtown Lakewood merchants is consistent with LakewoodAlive’s dedicated mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood.”

Longtime LakewoodAlive volunteer Kathy Haber – a 37-year



Volunteers Kathy Haber (front) and Paula Reed water flowers along the southside of Detroit Avenue.

resident of the City of Lakewood – has coordinated the Blossoms Program since 2007. What started as hanging baskets that proved difficult to water has evolved into flower boxes featuring built-in water reservoirs significantly reducing watering requirements.

Flyers are sent to downtown merchants each January inviting them to participate in the Blossoms Program, which includes the rental of flower boxes and stands, the planting of flowers, consistent watering throughout the summer and the pickup and storage of all items come fall. Then Haber spearheads facilitation of the program shortly after Memorial Day each year.

With assistance from Lakewood

Garden Center owner Paul Bilyk, who coordinates the Blossoms Program with a grower, the materials were dropped off at the Lakewood City Center Plaza on May 31. There, Haber was joined by Bilyk, fellow volunteer Paula Reed and LakewoodAlive employees to distribute completed flower boxes to program participants.

Haber’s team of 15 volunteers waters the flower three times per week throughout the summer, and First Federal Lakewood assists with storing the water stands the rest of the year.

“It’s really gratifying for us to be able to help beautify the city,” Haber said. “But if not for the massive effort and cooperation by a group of volunteers, none of this would be possible.”

Since the northside of Detroit Avenue typically has significant sun exposure, these merchants receive begonias, which thrive in a warm, urban setting. Conversely, the shadier southside of the street lends itself to New Guinea impatiens, which are tolerant of both sun and shade.

The success of LakewoodAlive’s Blossoms Program has enticed several merchants outside the downtown district to purchase flower boxes on their own. Meanwhile, many longtime

anchor businesses in Downtown Lakewood have faithfully participated in the program for many years.

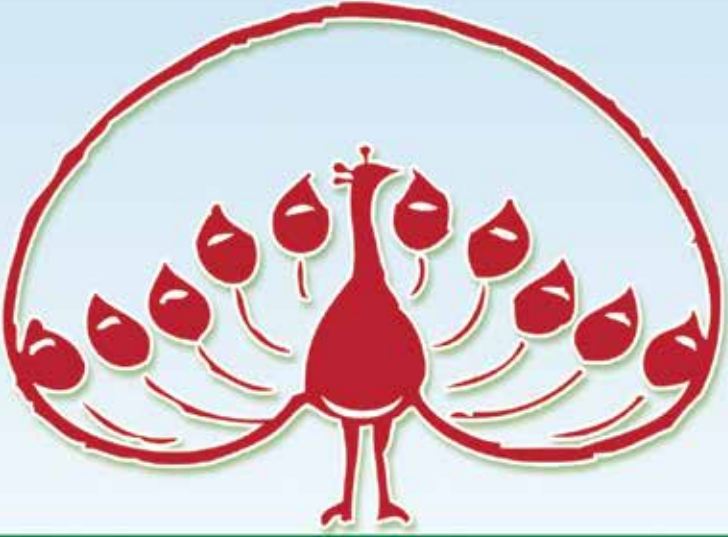
“From a visual standpoint, the flower boxes add some color and enhance the storefronts here in the downtown district,” said Dan Stroup, Co-Owner of Deagan’s Kitchen & Bar. “We’ve been really pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this program.”



A team of 15 volunteers will water the flowers three times per week throughout the summer to keep them looking vibrant.

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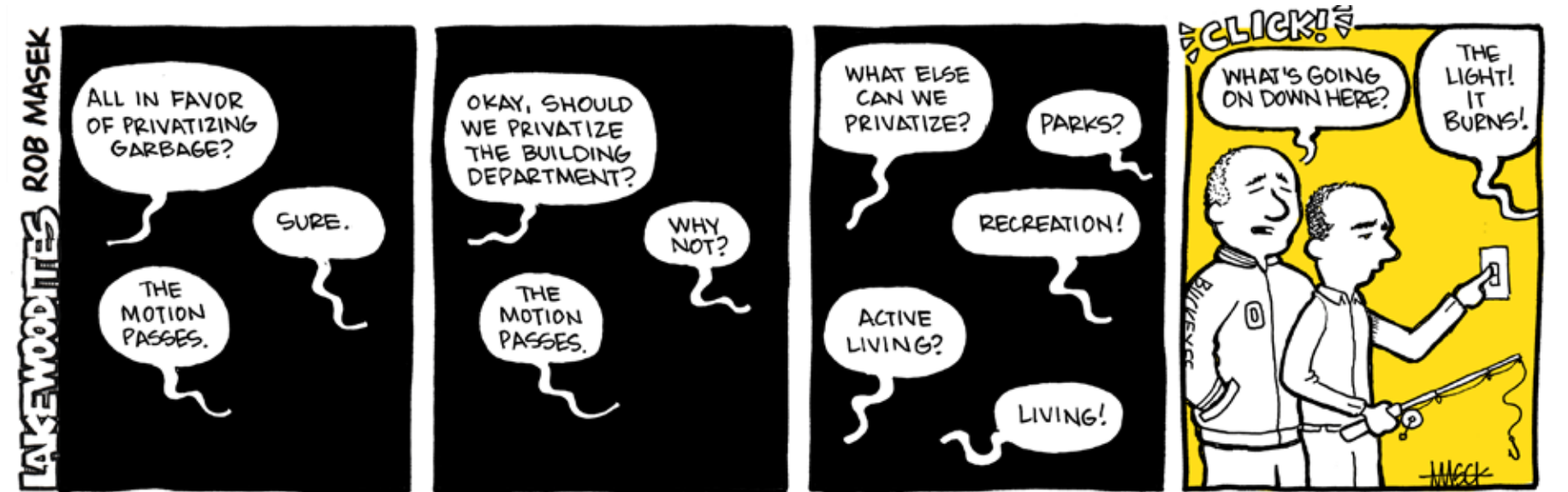
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