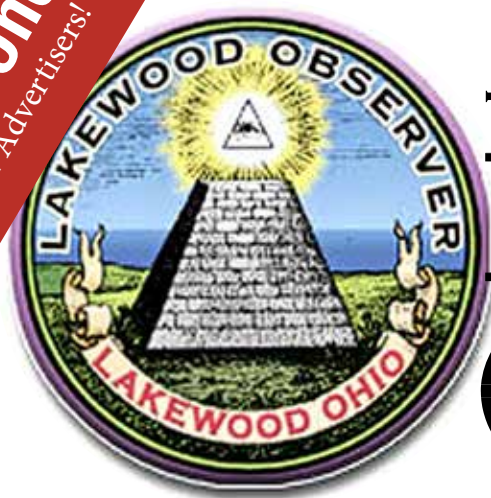


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 18, Issue 16, August 17, 2022

"If you know you're going home, the journey is never hard." - Angela Wood

Changing Times, Changing Styles: Look Inside Lakewood 2022 House Tour

by Sue Finley

From an 1890s Queen Anne Victorian to a 1960s Contemporary and a wealth of styles in between, you're

invited to explore some of Lakewood's architectural treasures during the Lakewood House Tour: Look Inside Lakewood, Sunday, September

11, from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

Eight superb homes are yours to discover, including a home that was built before Lakewood was Lakewood (we used to be East Rockport Township) and a bank that was transformed into a personal residence. Rounding out your tour experience is a lake-front mid century modern, a charming colonial, a vernacular featuring an impressive garage workshop, an American foursquare and a Tudor style, complete with tower.

It's been four years since the last House Tour so if you can't wait one day longer, plan to attend the Patron Party, Saturday, September 10th. The party will be hosted in a home you won't see on Sunday's tour – a 1916 traditional style masterfully integrated with 21st century appointments. Mingle with friends, enjoy fine food

continued on page 10



LHS Senior Lydia Kress Backs Up Machine Gun Kelly

Fun to find out that one of our LHS orchestra students, Lydia Kress (in red tights), was part of a Cleveland Contemporary Youth Orchestra quartet that backed up Machine Gun Kelly for two songs during his epic concert last Saturday night at FirstEnergy Stadium. MGK is just one of a number of famous musicians our orchestra students have played alongside as part of CYO over the years. Well done, Lydia!

The Grace mansion.

Healthy Lakewood Foundation Accepting Applications For Neighborhood Opportunity Grants Funding

by Kate Ingersoll

The Healthy Lakewood Foundation is excited to announce that it is accepting online application requests for Neighborhood Opportunity Grants funding starting on Monday, August 15, 2022.

Neighborhood Opportunity Grants are small, accessible, and community-based grants that support organizations' and groups' drive to initiate and expand

meaningful projects at the hyperlocal level. The funding seeks to increase engagement, creativity, and connection by addressing any social determinants of health.

Funding is for projects in Lakewood that:

Support community building and ways of caring for each other.

Address community

continued on page 9

Healthy Lakewood Foundation 4th Annual Community Meeting - September 21

Please save the date for the Healthy Lakewood Foundation's 4th Annual Community Meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.

The meeting will be in person at the Woman's Pavilion at Lakewood Park. After two years of virtual meetings, the HLF Board is excited to be back in person with the community and share its recent grant making and work over the past year.

The Healthy Lakewood Foundation Board holds a community meeting each year to demonstrate its stewardship of the funds
continued on page 9

Lakewood Intergenerational Summer Cookout

The Lakewood Ohio Division of Aging & the Lakewood Family Room will host an Intergenerational Summer Cookout on Tuesday, August 23rd from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Cove Community Center, 12525 Lake Avenue.

To RSVP, call Aging at 216-529-5000 or email The Lakewood Family Room at echildhood@lakewoodoh.net.



#1 Holly & Tommy Vinkovich
\$100 Gift Certificate to
Lakewood Garden Center



#2 David & Francie Parsons
\$50 Gift Certificate to
Lakewood Hardware



#3 Bob & Margaret Wyza
\$50 Gift Certificate to Sweet
Designs on Detroit Ave.

Winner! Winner! Winner! Winner! You can win too!

by Jim O'Bryan

While the Tree Advisory and Education Board and LO's tree contest is over, there are more ways to win this year!

Next up is our legendary Halloween Decoration Contest, followed by the biggest Christmas/Holiday Lighting Contest in Northern Ohio. Both are open for any residential area in Lakewood: homes,

condos, apartments, or?

We will also be looking for help in nominating and voting, and anyone can win!

We are always looking for restaurant reviews, if we use yours, the LO will pay for your meal, so save your receipt.

So sign up and send in your ideas, stories, photos, artwork, poetry, or what have you.

Let's have some fun this fall!



Her tree didn't win, but just by nominating, Sharon Gazdick won dinner at Woodstock BBQ.

THE MAYOR’S CORNER

Crisis Intervention by Mayor Meghan George

We’re fortunate to have top notch safety forces in Lakewood, where our fire, EMS, dispatch and police do an excellent job every day protecting our community. I appreciate the partnership I have with our police department that allows us to consider new and innovative ways to approach the job and make a difference. Alternative methods to law enforcement that still maintain our city’s high level of safety are a prior-

ity for my administration. One way that Lakewood has had success is through our commitment to crisis intervention training (CIT) and implementation within our police department. Our police force currently has 27 personnel specifically trained in crisis intervention tactics and interactions, which help safety personnel recognize when they are dealing with someone facing mental illness and helping to

stabilize that person. City of Lakewood personnel who have specific CIT training include 16 of our patrol officers who interact daily with the community – but other members of our police also have received the training, from the detective bureau and our dispatchers to many of our supervisors. We also continue to train additional officers in this highly beneficial field and expect five more to complete CIT next month. Our overall goal is to steadily increase the number of officers who have taken the courses and are fully trained in CIT techniques. Our officers understand and embrace the concept that not every call for service will involve a crime or an arrest. What they often find upon arrival is an opportunity to help those in the midst of a mental health crisis. Our most recent annual report from the Lakewood Police Department (LPD) shows the high volume and high

success rate that the LPD has in crisis intervention. Of hundreds of calls for service that involved CIT, none resulted in an arrest. This is a testament to the success of the training and the dedication of our officers, who have been open to new ways of doing the job. As both mayor and safety director, I strive to view the topic of safety holistically, and through crisis intervention, we can both keep Lakewood safe and friendly while helping those in a difficult state get connected to the resources and professionals they need to address their situation. I appreciate the leadership of Chief Kauckeck on this issue and his entire team at LPD who have embraced the concept of crisis intervention. We all believe in the power of the crisis intervention approach to help achieve our shared mission of keeping Lakewood safe.



Recent Lakewood Police Medal of Honor recipients Officers Ron Bunner and Jakub Mejstrik.

Contactless Payment System Added To All Public Meters



from City Hall

The ParkMobile contactless payment system is being added to all public metered parking spaces. This service adds the option to pay by text, website, or mobile app to the existing coin system.

There is no change in the fee to park and the first 15 minutes will remain free. For more information on the Park-Mobile system and how it works, please visit: <https://parkmobile.io/>.



Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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Upcoming Submission Deadline: September 2, 2022 / September 7, 2022
September 16, 2022 / September 21, 2022

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216.407-6818 OR 216.339.2531
PO BOX 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107



PUBLISHER: Debra O’Bryan | EDITOR IN CHIEF: Margaret Brinich | ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Betsy Voinovich, Emily Kompier | ADVERTISING: Sales Manager 216.339.2531

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If you’d like to help this history-making 17-year-old project continue to publish the words, stories and images of fellow Lakewoodites follow the QR Code to the Member Center and sign up at www.lakewoodobserver.com/members.
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Cleveland Clinic Children's: Nationally ranked and locally trusted.



Karen Murray, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Children's

Cleveland Clinic Children's has been named a national leader in clinical care, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2022–2023 “Best Children's Hospitals” rankings. The rankings are based on quality, safety, care and reputation.

“We are privileged to once again be recognized by *U.S. News & World Report*,”

says Karen Murray, MD, Chair of Cleveland Clinic Children's. “These rankings reflect the hard work of our pediatric caregivers who strive to improve the health of our community's children every day through world class patient care, research, education and advocacy.”

Cleveland Clinic Children's specialty rankings:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Cancer (15) | • Neonatology (10) |
| • Cardiology & Heart Surgery (6) | • Nephrology (29) |
| • Diabetes & Endocrinology (36) | • Neurology & Neurosurgery (40) |
| • Gastroenterology & GI Surgery (13) | • Pulmonology & Lung Surgery (30) |
| | • Urology (24) |

For an appointment with a Cleveland Clinic Children's pediatrician or pediatric specialist, call **216.444.KIDS (5437)**.

EMPOWER U: Taking Control of Parkinson's Disease

Presented by Cleveland Clinic, a Parkinson's Foundation Center of Excellence

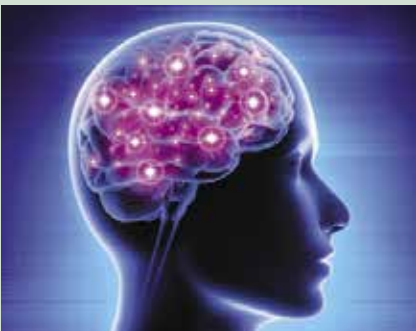
Saturday, Aug. 27 | 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Attend in person* or virtually.**

LaCentre Conference & Banquet Facility
25777 Detroit Road, Westlake

This education-driven event provides a positive, interactive approach to helping individuals with Parkinson's disease take control of their disease, maintain their identity and improve their quality of life.

The goals of the event will be accomplished through:

- Educational sessions on Parkinson's disease treatments and updates.
- Interactive sessions that introduce rehab therapies, exercise programs and wellness concepts to fight back against Parkinson's disease.



Register online at **ClevelandClinic.org/EmpowerU22** or call **216.444.0998**.

*This event will be held live at LaCentre for those who would like to attend in person. In-person attendance limited to a maximum of 3 per group. Face masks required and vaccination strongly recommended.

**For those who prefer to participate online, it will be live-streamed for virtual attendance from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Expanded specialty eye care on the West Side.

Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute has expanded services at the Westlake Medical Campus, located at 850 Columbia Road.

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- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| • Cornea | • Glaucoma |
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To learn more or to make an appointment at the Westlake Medical Campus, call **216.444.2020**.

Cleveland Clinic Community Health Fair

Thursday, September 22, 2022
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Free screenings and health information for all members of the public 18 years and older, regardless of race, ethnicity or gender.

Locations: Cleveland Clinic main campus and convenient locations throughout Northeast Ohio.

Screenings: blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, kidney function, prostate cancer and more.

Visit **ClevelandClinic.org/CHF** for locations and to register for this free event.

Screenings offered vary by location and may be subject to change.



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LAKEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Events At Lakewood Public Library

Children’s And Youth Services Story Time Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert

Pre-school Story Time:
For You and Your 2 to 5-Year-Old Pre-schooler

This four-week pre-school story time is ideal for walkers, new talkers, and learning early literacy skills. You and your toddler and preschoolers will enjoy short books, songs and rhymes. The focus is on skills with your participation as a model. Registration is required. Register once for all four weeks.

Main Library- Tuesdays, September 13- October 4, 2022
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, September 13- October 5, 2022
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Madison Branch- Thursdays, September 14- October 6, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Just Baby 'N Me: For You and Your Birth to 24-Month-Old Baby

Just Baby 'N Me is a four-week lap-sit story time ideal for babies from birth through early walkers. The focus is on rhymes, songs, finger plays and exploring short books together. Registration is required. Register once for all four weeks.

Mondays, September 12- October 3, 2022
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, September 14- October 5, 2022
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Thursdays, September 15- October 6, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Pajama Party: For You and Your 2 to 6 Year-Old Child

Make the Library a part of your bedtime routine with an evening story time. Children are encouraged to wear their favorite pajamas and bring their stuffed animal friends to snuggle. Join us as we wind down for the night. This four-week story time is ideal for walkers, new talkers, and learning early literacy skills. You and your

children will enjoy short books, songs and rhymes. The focus is on skills with your participation as a model. Registration is required. Register once for all four weeks.

Tuesdays, September 13- October 4, 2022
6:00-6:30 p.m.

Family Weekend Wonders

Looking for weekend entertainment for the whole family? Look no further! Drop in to the Library's special weekend story time. Your whole family will enjoy these programs full of enthusiastic stories, engaging activities, entertaining music and clever crafts. Family Weekend Wonders Drop-In Story Time is offered every weekend throughout the year and features a different theme each week to keep things engaging. No registration is required.

Main Library- Fridays- 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays- 10:30 a.m.
Madison Branch- Fridays- 10:30 a.m.

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Welcome,
New
Teachers!

by Christine Gordillo

Our dozen new teachers have been busy learning the ins and outs of being a Lakewood Educator during orientation these past two days.

So glad to have them aboard!

Welcome
Back,
Lakewood
Students!



by Christine Gordillo

What a great first day of LHS Jumpstart! Students were able to get their IDs, Chromebooks, textbooks, yearbooks, and even walk their schedules to get acclimated. Parents could sign up for booster groups and PTA.

It's gonna be a great year!

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COMMUNITY

Community West Foundation Announces West Side Catholic Center As Award Recipient: Lakewood Councilmember John Litten Accepts Award

by Maria Estes

Community West Foundation announced West Side Catholic Center as the 2022 recipient of the David and Martha Hessler Illuminating Hope Award. Since 1977, the West Side Catholic Center has offered hot meals, hospitality, clothing and household goods, emergency services, advocacy, a family shelter, housing solutions, and workforce development training to those in need at no charge, regardless of religious affiliation. They also happen to be Community West’s longest continuously funded nonprofit organization.

The announcement was made during Community West Foundation’s 25th anniversary celebration held at Market Square in Crocker Park on Thursday, July 28th. John Litten, Executive Director of West Side Catholic Center, was called to the stage to accept the award and gave moving remarks. John is one of several very effective leaders at West Side Catholic Center during the shared history with



Left to Right: Marty Uhle, President and CEO, Community West Foundation, David & Martha Hessler, John Litten, Executive Director, West Side Catholic Center, Michael Bernot, Director of Advancement, West Side Catholic Center.

Community West; others included Aggie Hoskins and Jerry Skoch.

The award itself is a replica of

the Homeless Jesus statue by Canadian artist, Timothy Schmalz, creator of the Matthew 25 Collec-

tion installed in Cleveland by the Foundation. In addition, the winner receives a \$10,000 unrestricted grant. The award is named after long-time Community West supporters and philanthropists, David and Martha Hessler, and was created to recognize a local nonprofit with a deep history and commitment to our community that is truly Illuminating Hope.

About Community West Foundation:

Community West Foundation is dedicated to supporting organizations that provide the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, and medical care in the greater Cleveland area. Originally known as the Fairview/Lutheran Foundation, Community West has been supporting these Cleveland Clinic hospitals as well as many community non-profit agencies through grantmaking since 1997. Under the guidance of the Board of Directors, Community West has grown its giving exponentially over the past 25 years. In 2021, Community West distributed \$6.7 million in grants.

The mission of Community West Foundation is to advance the health and well-being of our community. The staff and Board of Directors are guided by the words in Matthew 25:35-40. While their mission is based on these teachings, they are not affiliated with any particular religion. Their grantees, friends and donors come from diverse faiths and practices.

For more information, contact Community West Foundation at 440-360-7370 or visit community-westfoundation.org

Maria Estes is the Community West Foundation, Marketing & Communications Director.

Lakewood On Track To Receive Two ARPA Grants

by Dale Miller

I am pleased to report that Lakewood is on track to receive two grants through Cuyahoga County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. These proposals will be considered for final passage at County Council's next meeting on Tuesday, September 13th, 2022. The first grant would provide \$1,500,000 for the City of Lakewood for its \$12.375 million project that will create a new refuse and recycling center and a new animal shelter. The project is expected to be completed in two phases by the end of 2025. By relocating facilities that are currently in the way, the project will also create necessary space to complete a major storm water retention project. The second grant would provide \$500,000 to the Beck Center for the Arts for HVAC, roof, and and foundation improvements as part of the Beck Center's ongoing capital campaign, which has a total size of about \$6.7 million. Work related to this grant is expected to be completed by the middle of next year.

The City of Lakewood's proposal helps our environment in multiple ways by improving recycling services and making the storm water retention project possible. The project also enables local, humane animal care for Lakewood residents through construction of the new and improved animal shelter. The Beck Center is the premier arts and culture institution on the west side of Cuyahoga County for both performance and arts-related education. This grant will help the Beck Center continue and expand its 90-year record of excellent community service.

Cuyahoga County has been allocated \$240 million in ARPA funds.

County Council and Executive Budish reached an agreement that \$66 million of these funds would be set aside for community grants, allocated at \$6 million for each of the eleven County Council districts. The Council developed a standard application form for community grants, but each Councilperson was given latitude to develop a process for receiving and evaluating proposals and making recommendations to the full Council. No individual Councilperson may approve a community grant application. All proposals must be approved by the full Council following a full legislative process, including three readings and consideration and favorable recommendation from the appropriate Council Committee.

I developed a formal application and scoring process to consider applications and make recommendations to the full Council. An announcement and request for proposals was issued on Wednesday, May 11th and proposals were due on Friday, June 10th. Thirty-three applications requesting a total of over \$21 million were received for the \$3 million first round of District 2 ARPA community grant funds. The proposals were then evaluated by an eight-member review committee consisting of four members of the County Council staff, three experienced leaders from executive departments, and me.

The two Lakewood proposals were among the highest scoring applications. The proposals were introduced in Council on July 19th. The Beck Center proposal was heard and recommended by the Community Development Committee on Monday, July 25; the refuse yard/recycling center/animal shelter proposal was heard and recommended

by the Education, Environment, and Sustainability Committee on Wednesday, July 27th. Both proposals received their second reading in Council on August 4th.

The ARPA funds are providing an excellent opportunity to bring about much needed community improvements.

Dale Miller is the County Councilperson for the 2nd County Council District, representing Lakewood, Brook Park, and the West Park area of Cleveland. He is the Chairperson of the Finance & Budgeting Committee.

Second Annual Car Show At Church of The Ascension

by Susan O'Donnell

The Church of the Ascension at 13216 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood is hosting their Second Annual Car Show on September 11th, (Rain Date the 18th) from 10AM until 3PM. There will be Cars, Raffles, Food and Music, Trophies and Dash Plaques! The Car Exhibitor donation is \$10.

Join us as Church of the Ascension prepares to celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2025 on the very same property where it all began in 1875. In 1875 Church of the Ascension was a small wood frame church, known as “the Little White Church,” on property purchased from Lakewood’s pioneer family, the Nicholsons.

The Church of the Ascension is an Episcopalian Church which embodies the motto “God Loves You, No Exceptions.”

Little did our first parishioners whose names were Kirkland, Fry, Hird,

Beach, Hall, and Nicholson, know that the church they built, consecrated in 1875, would evolve into the dynamic church it is today.

Today Church of the Ascension serves three community meals each month and hosts 10 weekly AA meetings. The congregation welcomes the community for a shared Thanksgiving Meal and Christmas Luncheon. Clothes are collected for the ministry at St. Luke’s church on the near westside of Cleveland as well as school supplies. A Shawl Ministry supports those going through transitions in their lives. This year we even hosted a community bike rodeo with free bicycle repairs, partnering with Bike Lakewood, the Ohio City Bike Co-op and the Lakewood Police Department.

We have come a long way from

continued on page 10

LAKEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lakewood Ranger Magic

by Dr. Charles Greanoff

Magic is found in little things, and sometime in their combination. This morning, I had the unusual honor of giving an alumni tour to students that I taught. In fact, the Lakewood High School class of 2012 was the 1st group for which I was the APUSH 9 teacher. (They seem to have forgiven me).

As the memories came flooding back, I was struck by how different it was to be a relatively new teacher. I wasn't fully aware of the wonderful times ahead, of all the classes, students, games and concerts that would enrich my life. As an added bonus, class couple Wayne Majcher and Courtney Shaw brought future Ranger Keegan

along for the ride. So fond of this group.

After the tour, it was time for the annual LHS Volleyball Car Wash fundraiser up on Madison behind the stadium.

It was a busy time, but the girls sprung into action, swiftly and efficiently transforming my grimy red car into a shiny new toy. The group had many of my current and past students, as well as a few that will be in my Freshman APUSH Class this year.

I can only imagine how many fond memories I will have when they come home for their tenth reunion. The juxtaposition of these two events did indeed create some Lakewood Ranger magic, but also served as a reminder that life proceeds in circles and the community is paramount.

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Lakewood Ranger Football Hall Of Fame



by Dr. Charles Greanoff

With high school football season getting closer, it's a good time to look back on some of our Lakewood Rangers.

Bob Funk was the LHS Male Athlete of the Year in 1962 for excellence in Football and Track, garnering 1st Team All-LEL Honors in both sports (6 total letters).

Bob went on to be a field goal kicker at Ohio State, and made the game winner vs Michigan in the 9-7 Buckeye win in 1965.

He made similar last minute game-winning fields goals that same season vs Washington and Minnesota.

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	6 cut 9"	8 cut 12"	12 cut 16"	Half Sheet
Plain	\$7.50	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$13.00
1 Item	\$8.00	\$9.75	\$13.00	\$14.50
2 Items	\$8.50	\$10.50	\$14.00	\$16.00
3 Items	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$15.00	\$17.50
4 Items	\$9.50	\$12.00	\$16.00	\$19.00
Deluxe	\$10.00	\$12.75	\$17.00	\$20.50
Extra Items	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$2.00	\$2.50
Chicken	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50	\$4.50
Extra Cheese & Special Toppings	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green & Red Bell Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Beef, Pineapple, Jalapeño Peppers Special Toppings: Artichoke Hearts, Fresh Tomato, Broccoli, and *Chicken

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LAKEWOOD IS ART

"Infamous" The Musical, Written By Lakewood Native, Debuts In Staged Concert

by Jenny Norton

"Infamous," a musical about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth, will debut as a staged concert this September at St. Edward High School.

Writer and composer David Michaels grew up in Lakewood, living here for the first 30 years of his life before moving to Fairview Park with his wife Adriana and 3-year-old daughter Maddie. He's currently the orchestra and choir director at St. Edward High School, his alma mater. "I've been a musician ever since I could remember," David said. "I come from a very musical family." He said that he had long held passions for both music and theater.

"I've always wanted to write a musical since I was a little kid," Michaels explained. "So I've always



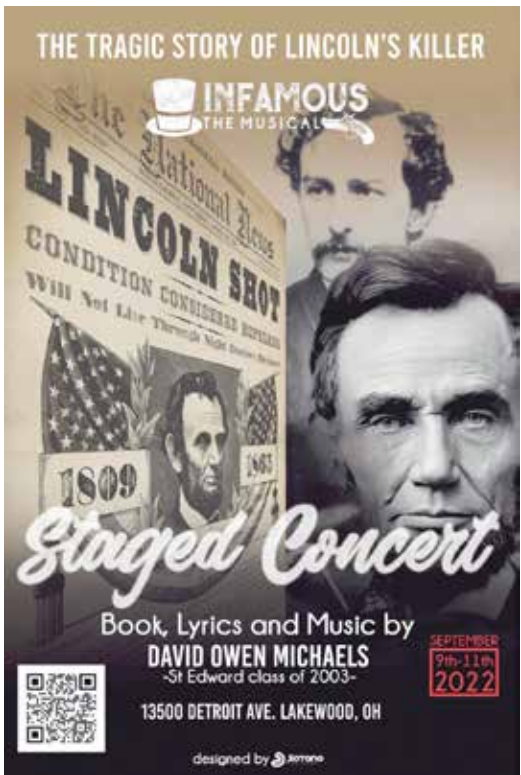
Writer/composer of "Infamous," David Michaels

been waiting for that idea to come and kind of stick with me."

Inspiration struck while Michaels was on a family vacation to the Henry

Ford Museum in Michigan, where the chair that Lincoln was assassinated in is on display. David thought, "You know what? That would be a really interesting play." He read the book "Killing Lincoln" by Bill O'Reilly as well as works by historian James L. Swanson about Lincoln's assassination and the manhunt that followed. Michaels followed up with a research trip to Washington, D.C. to see Ford's Theater in person.

Staged readings of "Infamous" began in 2021. Developmental workshops followed at Cleveland State University, and a staged concert at St. Edward High School will follow in just a few weeks with lighting, scenery, and a full pit orchestra. Michaels wrote the book, lyrics, and music of the show himself. Two-time Tony-award-winning producer Ken Davenport is the production coach for "Infamous," Beck Center's Scott Spence directs, and most of the cast and crew are Cleveland natives.



different. This is a nod to history, and it really dives into the psyches of John Wilkes Booth and Abraham Lincoln, and what was going on in their minds during that chaotic time."

David feels "Infamous" is a "very timely" show. "It deals with division. It deals with a divided nation, which we currently are. It's a parallel, a big mirror. When we look at history through the lens of today, we realize that we're still divided." Michaels mentioned Lincoln's famous quote, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Of the production, he said, "It's a show that preaches a message of unity. It seeks to show how what happened is not the answer, and that we are Americans, and that we can come together and unite."

The show runs September 9th through 11th at St. Edward High School (13500 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107). On September 9th and 10th, the curtain is at 7:00 pm, and on September 11th, the curtain is at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.infamousmusical.com. There will be a limited number of tickets available at the door.

Jenny Norton is a sixth-generation Lakewoodite and enjoys the music and arts scene of the city.

Young Filmmakers Academy Gives Latest Film the Red Carpet Treatment: LHS Senior Marshall Vargas In Title Role

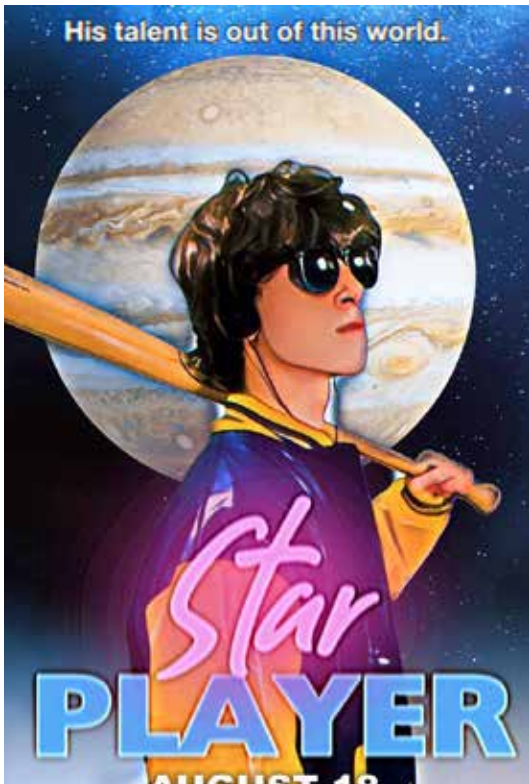
by Eric Swinderman

Young Filmmakers Academy in Lakewood is at it again. The internationally recognized, award-winning film program for kids and teens, now in its sixth year will premiere its new film titled "Star Player" on August 18 at the Sari Feldman Auditorium at Cuyahoga County Public Library's Parma-Snow Branch.

The film, which was written, directed and edited by area middle and high schoolers from Lakewood and surrounding areas, is about a teenage alien who crash lands on earth in 1987, joins the local baseball team and quickly becomes an all-star. But once his secret identity is revealed the town just might turn against him.

Produced by Young Filmmakers Academy and Executive Produced by Eric Swinderman, the Emmy nominated writer and director of the film "The Enormity of Life" starring Brekin Meyer and Emily Kinney, the short film will have its red carpet premiere alongside several other short films produced by YFA this year. Other films include "With Great Power," the story of two students at a school for Super Hero kids in the making, who are having a bad day, as well as several scenes shot by the students of the after school 8 Week Film School.

Star Player features performances from Lakewood student, Marshall Vargas, who plays the title role as well as Sofia Castellanos, Jayson Skudrin Jr., Aidan Benjamin and Victoria Sequera.



The cast is rounded out by professional adult actors Andrew Gordon and Angie Prohaska.

The event is open to the public which starts at 6pm and is followed by a Q&A with the teen filmmakers and cast. Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.youngfilmmakersacademy.org/red-carpet>

Proceeds benefit Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy, a nonprofit organization located on Madison Ave.

Eric Swinderman is an Emmy nominated and award winning filmmaker and TV producer from Lakewood, Ohio. A graduate of Cleveland State University, he also worked as a producer at NewsChannel 5. His most recent film "The Enormity of Life," starring Brekin Meyer (Clueless, Road Trip) and Emily Kinney (The Walking Dead) was filmed in Lakewood.

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LAKEWOOD CARES

HFLA Of Northeast Ohio Provides Interest-Free Education Loans (+Others!)

by Carrie Miller

HFLA of Northeast Ohio (NEO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the self-sufficiency of the residents of NEO by providing access to fair financial resources. For over 118 years, HFLA has provided interest-free loans to residents of NEO who are unable to access traditional capital. Using a relationship lending model, we do not base our lending decisions solely on a person’s income or their credit score (we do pull a credit report). We work through the application process with an individual and learn about them, their relationship to their finances, and their specific needs. We make sure that the applicant can fit a loan payment into their budget and that the loan will not provide a temporary band-aid, but will be a bridge to a more stable future.

There are three primary loan types:

Standard Loans can be applied to most any financial emergency that may arise including home repairs, utility bills, car repair, or funeral expenses among other needs.

Education Loans help pay for undergraduate, graduate, vocational, or technical education for students in NEO. This loan is intended to address small financial gaps that would otherwise hinder a student from starting or finishing their education.

Small Business Loans can be applied to grow a new business or expand an existing business.

If an applicant is interested in an Education Loan, they must first complete all federal forms (FAFSA, etc.) and have utilized all federal student loans and Pell grants. All HFLA loans do require a co-signer/guarantor who will be legally liable for the full amount of the loan. If you are unable to find a co-signer, please contact our office to see if there may be other support. To learn more call (216) 378-9042 or email team@interestfree.org. To fill out a loan application, visit: www.interestfree.org/how-to-apply/.

Carrie Miller is the assistant director at HFLA of Northeast Ohio. HFLA provides interest-free loans to those who would not otherwise have access to traditional capital.



This is Cupcake. She says get your tickets now!

August 28th Cupcake Wars Goes To The Dogs (And Cats)

by Kara Vlach-Lasher

What is sweeter than a summer afternoon of tasting cupcakes and sipping champagne? Doing it for the benefit of the animals at Lakewood’s Animal Shelter!

The Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, will be hosting its 1st Annual Cupcake Wars on August 28th from 1-3PM at The CoLab at 17008 Madison Avenue in Lakewood.

Local bakers will be pitted against each other in a competition of their culinary skills and creativity to present delicious DOG and CAT themed cupcakes. Event guests will taste and vote for their favorites while sipping champagne, coffee and tea.

Winners will be crowned and reign as the 2022 Cupcake Wars Champion in two categories:

Lakewood’s Best Tasting Cupcakes
Best Presentation of the DOG and CAT Theme

Participating Bakers at time of publishing are:

Wicked Woman Bakery
LaLa Custom Cakes
Gingham Market by Gatherings Kitchen

KB Confections
Sweet Petits Patisserie
Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to assisting the companion animals of Lakewood by providing foster and medical care, assisting in the adoption of abandoned animals, and supporting every animal’s well-being throughout their stay at the Lakewood Animal Shelter. CCLAS has been committed to the loving care of Lakewood’s homeless pets for over 30 years! Please help CCLAS sustain its mission.

Tickets are \$40 and include a sampling of mini cupcakes from each participating baker, a full-sized decorated DOG or CAT cupcake, champagne, coffee, teas, raffle baskets, a selfie photo booth and more!

Limited tickets are available for this unique afternoon of sweet fun and competition. Don’t miss the opportunity to celebrate the kids back to school and treat yourself!

Get your tickets now at cclas.org/events

Kara Vlach-Lasher is the Vice President of The Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

Healthy Lakewood Foundation 4th Annual Community Meeting - September 21

continued from page 1

entrusted to it to advance the health and well-being of the community.

All community members are

warmly welcomed to attend to learn and engage with the Board and its community partners. The meeting is free but pre-registration is required at www.healthylakewoodfoundation.org.

Healthy Lakewood Foundation Accepting Applications For Neighborhood Opportunity Grants Funding continued from page 1

issues through innovation and trying new ideas.

Advance learning and understanding by doing.

Neighborhood Opportunity Grants funding ranges from \$1,000 – \$10,000. Applicants can find information and resources to guide them through the steps for applying. The site also offers ways to get support from HLF’s staff in the process.

HLF’s Executive Director, Kate Ingersoll, explains, “This is the first round of these particular grants, and

the HLF Board is eager to learn how community groups and residents envision opportunities to build and strengthen our community. We look forward to supporting many meaningful projects.”

Applications will be accepted through September 28, 2022, with funding awards announced in November 2022.

To learn more about this opportunity, please go to HLF’s website: www.healthylakewoodfoundation.org.

Kate Ingersoll is the Executive Director of the Healthy Lakewood Foundation.

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LAKEWOOD CARES

Changing Times, Changing Styles:
Look Inside Lakewood
2022 House Tour



1115 Forest Road
continued from page 1

and plan your tour experience. Tickets for the Patron Party are \$85 and include Sunday House Tour tickets.

Tickets to the House Tour are \$30 and are on sale now online at lake-woodhistory.org and at the following Lakewood retailers. Your ticket purchase benefits Lakewood Historical Society and their many programs designed to preserve our community's past for the future.

STEM
Avenue Home

Geiger's
Stella & Shay Beauty Bar
The Lakewood Historical Society's Haber Center (Monday through Friday from 11:00am-4:00pm)

The House Tour committee would like to thank our generous sponsors for their support, including Avenue Home and Cotton, select agents from Lucien Realty/Berkshire Hathaway, Cleveland Home Title, First Federal Lakewood, Geiger's, select agents from Howard Hanna, Troy Bratz/Keller Williams, Rozi's, and Slife Heating and Cooling.

Second Annual Car Show At
Church of The Ascension

continued from page 6

the small white wooden church with horse stalls through the Great War, the Depression, World War II and events of modern times.

Join us to support the Ministries at Church of the Ascension on our large property. Enjoy an eclectic collection of cars, food, music, and raffles.

We hope to see you there for a Sunday of fun for all ages.

For questions contact Susan O'Donnell at sjodonnell3651@sbc-global.net or call Church of the Ascension 216-521-8727.

Susan O'Donnell is a Senior Warden at Church of the Ascension, 13216 Detroit. She is an LHS graduate and lifelong resident of Lakewood, Ohio.

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Parker A. Suddeth New
Rotary Club President



Parker A. Suddeth (left) has been inducted as the new president of the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River.

by Lynn Donaldson

Parker A. Suddeth has been inducted as the new president of the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River. He was sworn in by Adam Sonnhalter, assistant governor. With Suddeth was last year's club president Steve Clark.

Sworn in as directors (2023-2025) were George Koussa, Ken Haber and David Drickhammer. They join directors Leslie Favre-Krogman, Gina Gavlak, and Harlan Radford (2021-

2024), and George Hwang, George Frank, and Chris Arnold (2020-2023).

Suddeth's classification is Human Resources. He grew up in Oberlin and is a graduate of Hiram College with a BA in sociology. He resides in Lakewood.

This year's Rotary's theme is "Imagine Rotary." The club meets at noon on Mondays at Umerley Center in Rocky River.



New Assistant District Governor, Eric Jolly, administering the Oath of Office to Bob Tablack, who will lead the Club for the 2022-2023 Rotary Year.

New President At The Rotary Club
Of Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise

by Larry Faulhaber

Accountant Bob Tablack was installed as the President of the Rotary Club of LakewoodRocky River Sunrise. Pictured here are new Assistant District Governor, Eric Jolly, administering the Oath of Office to Tablack, who will lead the Club for the 2022-2023 Rotary Year.

In his acceptance remarks, Bob stressed the importance of increasing membership so that more men and women can experience Rotary and the Club can expand its service activities. Members are encouraged to contact new homeowners, businesspeople and neighbors and invite them to a meeting.

The Sunrise Club members are involved with the many service projects of the Club. Some of the projects include an annual Beck Center Clean-up, Holiday Food Distribution, Trials for Hope Service to the homeless and needy, Food Pantries, 3rd Grade Dictionary Distribution, Youth Exchange Programs (sending dozens of youths to experience other cultures and welcoming dozens of youths into our homes and schools), foster care

birthday bags & school backpacks, Emergency Shelter Boxes, supporting children's sight in Ukraine, and more.

There are two Rotary Clubs in Lakewood and Rocky River. The oldest meets on Mondays at Noon and the second meets on Wednesdays at 7:30am. Both meet at the Don Umerley Hall of the Rocky River Civic Center at Hilliard and West 210, behind Rocky River City Hall. Both Clubs follow the motto of Rotary – Service Above Self. Through Club Committees, they plan and conduct Community, Vocational, Youth and International projects in the area. Awarding scholarships, hosting exchange students, providing dictionaries to third grade students, and reading to children in local schools are just a few of the programs of these Clubs.

You are invited to join with men and women and share your time and talent in serving the Community through Rotary. Contact Kathy Berkshire at sloopyohio19@gmail.com.

Larry Faulhaber is Public Image Committee Chair for Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club.

LAKEWOOD ALIVE

Legal Aid’s Annual “Jam For Justice” Concert Is Back, With A New Format For 2022

by Tonya Sams

There is nothing like a great summer concert – and this year, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland’s annual summer fundraiser returns with a new format with three opportunities to rock to local bands headlined by local attorneys, judges, and law students.

Don’t miss your chance to support a great cause and enjoy live music from greater Cleveland’s best attorney/judge/law student-led bands.

The main event will be held at the House of Blues Cleveland on September 8 at 6 p.m. Two neighborhood jam sessions will be held beforehand: an East Side Jam Session at BottleHouse

Brewery on Wednesday, August 24 at 7 p.m., and a West Side Jam Session at The Brothers Lounge on Wednesday, August 31 at 7 p.m.

Entertaining the crowd at each event will be:

East Side Jam:

- Luke Lindberg & The Hung Jury
- Case Western Reserve University School of Law’s Razing the Bar
- Emcee: Stephanie Haney, digital anchor and legal analyst at WKYC Studios

West Side Jam:

- The No Name Band
- Out of Order
- Emcee: Stephanie Haney (WKYC)

Jam for Justice:

- First Offenders
- The General Counsel Glee Club
- Faith & Whiskey (headlined by Ohio Supreme Court Justice Michael Donnelly)
- Emcees: DJ Brad Wolfe of Brad Wolfe Law, L.L.C. and Delanté Spencer Thomas, President of Norman S. Minor Bar Association

For Jam for Justice 2022, Legal Aid is offering a special All Access VIP Pass for \$150 that is a donation to Legal Aid and includes admission to all three events. Individual tickets cost \$50 for Jam for Justice (September 8), and \$25 for each Jam Session event (August 24 and 31).

More information and tickets are available online: lasclev.org/2022jam

Funds raised by this 2022 concert series will help Legal Aid continue its work to ensure everyone in our community has access to free legal services in civil matters in the areas of housing, education, family, health, work, money and more. Learn more about Legal Aid’s work at lasclev.org and spread the word about Jam with the hashtag #Jam4Justice2022!

Mayor George Recognizes Lakewood Alive With \$10,000 “Tech Boost” Award From Cox Communications

by Jeff Lavery

Despite the important work nonprofits and community organizations do in the communities they serve, many are lacking the modern technology tools needed to perform their missions to the fullest. To bridge this technology gap, Lakewood Mayor Meghan George today announced that Cox Communications has awarded grants to nonprofit groups committed to investing in technology equipment for the betterment of its patrons and mission. In Ohio, the company awarded a \$10,000 “boost” to LakewoodAlive.

This marks the fifth year of the Cox Communications Tech Boosts program, and the goal remains the same: to help nonprofits invest in technology equipment and services that enrich the lives of community members while fulfilling their missions to the fullest. Last year’s recipient in Ohio was the Olmsted Community Center.

“I am excited to share that LakewoodAlive, an organization committed to building more vibrant and con-



nected communities, is going to drive even more impact in the near future with the Tech Boost grant from Cox Communications,” said Mayor George. “If you live here, you know how much good LakewoodAlive does every day, from its housing outreach and small business support programs to public beautification efforts and hosting large scale events. We are grateful for partnerships with companies like Cox that help organizations like LakewoodAlive fulfill its mission.”

This technology grant is awarded to organizations who reinforce intellectual prosperity and are committed to improving humanity. The nonprofit must demonstrate how the organization will positively impact one of four categories with its Tech Boost award.

Read the rest of this article online at:
lakewoodobserver.com

Attachment Song

by Ralph Hutchison

You love with attachment,
playfully like the laws of physics.
A green young branch that won't break,
or like a cloud attached to rivers along blue rain,
Love is young and flexible,
hungry and strong.
Affection is a seed I bear attaching
yellow light
to orange fruit.
Or like a falling leaf attaching
brightly
back at the Root.

Ralph Hutchison, a baker at the Root Cafe in Lakewood, is feeling sentimental about the changing season. He likes to read and talk about books.

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The Back Page



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Legal Aid thanks the
Healthy Lakewood Foundation
for its outreach support!