THE AKEW

Founder of Award Winning Observer Community-Written Newspapers & Websites

Volume 19, Issue 19, October 4, 2023

Re-Elect Jason Shachner For City Council Ward 2

by Jason Shachner

My name is Jason Shachner and I have had the privilege of serving as your Ward 2 City Councilmember since 2020. I am running for re-election because I want to continue working to ensure that Lakewood can provide you with support and services at every stage of your life. Whether you just signed a lease to your first apartment, are a new family, or are ready to retire, I want you to be able to call Lakewood your forever home. My background and experience make me the best candidate to meet that goal.

After graduating from college, I served as an AmeriCorps VISTA Fellow for the non-profit organization Turning the Page in Washington DC, where I worked to increase parents' participation in their children's education so that they could better advocate for their children's future. I then pur-



sued my law degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where I met my wife, Michelle. We now have a 2-year-old daughter, Olivia, and another child on the way! After graduating, I served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the

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Lakewood Fire Lights A Fire Under The Mayor



Mayor Meghan George in one of the burn rooms at the Tri-C Safety Training Complex, with Fire Marshall Fairbanks, and Asst Chief Sambula , as Ward One Councilman Kyle Baker looks on. Lakewood Fire Department spent the day training, and Mayor George, Councilman Baker, and the Observer stopped by to show support. You can see all the photos from the day online at https:// lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs . Isn't it time you added some of your photos to our ever growing galleries?



Lakewood Board of Education President Michael J. Callahan, wife Kristyn, son Liam, daughter Kenna, and daughter Mary Frances. Photo credit Devin Wuebker.

Callahan Seeks To **Retain Seat On Board Of Education**

by Michael Callahan

For nearly the past four years I have had the privilege of representing our community on the Lakewood Board of Education. When I ran for office in 2019, I sought to add representation of a parent with children in the district to the Board, and to bring a perspective of a career public sector manager and parks & recreation professional. I am grateful for the opportunity the community has given me. I have been committed to working for our community and school district in a visible, approachable manner. I have maintained a wide lens as a board member and understand that families in our community have very different needs, interests, experiences, and situations.

My wife Kristyn I are proud to call Elbur Avenue home. We have two children attending Garfield Middle School (Liam grade 8, Kenna grade 6) and one attending Emerson Elementary School (Mary Frances grade 1). Our children have a variety of interests from music and other arts to different sports and clubs. We are incredibly pleased with our children's experience in the district, and are confident they will be well-prepared for a bright future.

As a board member, I have seen even more than before, how dedicated our administrators, teachers, and support staff are to their roles. I have also

seen the benefits of a school district that has strong support of the community. I have had the opportunity to work collabora-

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Get ready to rejoice,

from LakewoodAlive

2023

Walk

chocolate lovers! A delectable evening awaits when the 14th Annual Lakewood Chocolate Walk takes place on Thursday, October 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. in Downtown Lakewood.

Chocolate

The Lakewood Chocolate Walk - hosted by Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance (DLBA) and LakewoodAlive represents a popular autumn tradition with a devout following of chocolate fans from all over Northeast Ohio. Participants visit 25 shops and eateries in Downtown Lakewood that are Sweet Stops on the Chocolate Walk. Limited to 350 attendees, this much-anticipated event will sell out very quickly.

A General Admission

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85 Earn AP Scholar Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Each new school year the Lakewood City Schools celebrates its numerous Lakewood High School students who have earned the designation of AP Scholar by virtue of their scores on the college-level Advanced Placement exams taken in May. The District proudly congratulates the 85 current students and recent graduates - the most in years - who have earned AP Scholar honors thanks to their performance on their AP tests.

The College Board, which administers the AP program, also recognized two of our current seniors as part of its National Recognition Programs. Aaliyah Aziz and Aniya Johnson each

earned the National African American Recognition Award. The award recognizes students who identify as African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, Indigenous or Native who have taken an AP or PSAT exam and have a 3.5 or better GPA.

AP Scholars with Distinction (earned by averaging at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams):

Lauren Barber, Charlotte Beno, Kaitlyn Bitter, Ainsley Bronson, Rowan Brown, Leah Campbell, Audrey Carson, Helinor Clark, Katherine Coleman, Rocco Crino, Tyler Gavin Fulmer, DiLoreto,

continued on page 9

BOE To Move Franklin School Of Opportunity To LHS

by Jim O'Bryan

As we are going to press news has come to us that the decision has been made to move The Franklin School of Opportunity into Lakewood High School.

From a release, "With the addition of FSO to the LHS footprint, a minimal number of LHS classrooms and administrative offices will need to be moved, however, we feel the thoughtful relocation of these spaces will provide some better efficiencies for LHS staff and students as well. The District projects that FSO will be in its new home at LHS beginning in Fall 2025."

THE MAYOR'S CORNER

Improving Lakewood's Walkability

by Meghan George, Mayor, City of Lakewood

A renewed focus on making places more walkable and stressing pedestrian safety has been seen across the US. Here in Lakewood, we've always been fortunate to have a highly walkable and pedestrian-friendly community. It's something that has attracted people to make our city their home, start a business here, or just visit and enjoy the ability to stroll our streets and enjoy the things that make this place so special.

The City of Lakewood is focused on building on our already positive walkability by finding ways to enhance pedestrian safety. We see this as a multi-faceted effort which includes our current development of an Active Transportation Plan, our work to build on safety for kids walking to school, and our implementation of ongoing traffic calming initiatives.

Lakewood is currently developing an Active Transportation Plan, funded with the help of the Ohio Department of Transportation

(ODOT). The City is currently working on this comprehensive plan that seeks to make walking and biking more comfortable for all people and improve overall safety for transportation in Lakewood. The City's Planning and Development Department and our consultant, Toole Design, gathered public input earlier this year and expect to have a draft of the plan in the months to come. You can see and contribute to the areas being considered for plan actions in our online map survey tool: https://tooledesign. github.io/Lakewood_ATP.

As part of the Active Transportation Plan, the City will also be incorporating the first citywide School Travel Plan (STP). Lakewood is one of the only communities statewide where busing is not provided, so safe walking for kids is always top of mind. Lakewood previously developed a partial STP in 2010, which was a good start, but only covered Garfield and Harding Middle Schools. The new

plan will cover all schools across the entire city. Additionally, the Active Transportation Plan will address the context, details, and priorities to qualify for federal and state funding through the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. The SRTS only funds plans less than five years old, which is another reason to update and expand the 2010 plan. The final plan will include a wide array of actions and interventions, including things like adjusting our school crossing guard strategy based on the findings.

Our Planning and Development Department has also been implementing the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program (NTCP) which began its first interventions with a pilot project in the fall of 2020. The NTCP focuses on Lakewood's local neighborhood streets that have characteristics which place them most at

risk to adverse motor vehicle speed and volume issues. The city has established criteria for evaluating possible streets to include in the NTCP, including data gathering on volume and speed as well as determining whether resident support exists for interventions. Residents can submit suggestions for areas to be considered as well as learn more about the program online at: https://www.lakewoodoh.gov/trafficcalming.

As we continue to enhance Lakewood's strong walkability and pedestrian safety, the City will keep you all updated on these planning initiatives and the implementation of their outcomes. Keeping our sidewalks and streets for all remains of the highest priority for City Hall and everyone in Lakewood.

Re-Elect Jason Shachner For City Council Ward 2

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Lake County Prosecutor's Office for seven years, where I spent the bulk of my service in the Felony Division. During that time, I handled cases ranging from drug possession to aggravated murder and worked with law enforcement officers to help ensure the safety of the community and provide a voice for victims.

I am currently an Assistant Director of Law for the City of Cleveland. I provide legal advice and counsel to members of the City Council, the Administration, and various city departments. My responsibilities include representing and advising the Department of Public Safety, the Mayor's Office of Capital Projects, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Civil Service Commission. I also draft legislation, policies, and legal opinions.

Over the last four years, I have used that knowledge and experience to turn residents' ideas into legislation and policy. I drafted and passed the now permanent outdoor dining ordinance allowing restau-

rants to expand their outdoor dining options, helping to keep them afloat during the pandemic. I promoted sustainability by legalizing milkweed planting and backyard beekeeping. I worked to create more housing options with Accessory Dwelling Units, which I am happy to say will likely be codified by the end of this year. I prioritized public safety by strongly advocating to keep our dispatch local and by committing ARPA funds to ensure that a High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) is installed on Madison Avenue between Westwood/Morrison and Victoria/Reveley. Additionally, I am proud to have championed a policy to limit investigations related to abortion, contraception, and reproductive care.

I am proud of my service and what we have been able to accomplish during my first term. Thank you for your support and for sharing your ideas on how to make Lakewood work better for you. Let's keep moving forward by working together. I would be honored to earn your support on Tuesday, November 7.



Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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Lakewood Observer

Upcoming Submission Deadline October 13, 2023 November 3, 2023

Publish Date October 18, 2023 November 8, 2023

PUBLISHER Debra O'Bryan Margaret Brinich

EDITOR IN CHIEF ASSOCIATE EDITORS Betsy Voinovich **Emily Kompier**

ADVERTISING Sales Manager 216,339,2531

ADVISORY BOARD - Heidi Hilty, Jeff Endress, Jim Crawford, Debra O'Bryan, Steve Ott, Margaret Brinich, Betsy Voinovich

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LAKEWOOD CARES

Trunk Or Treat At Lakewood **Presbyterian Church October 22**

by Cindy Dugan

Fall in love with Jesus at Lakewood Presbyterian church's Trunk or Treat! Join us in our parking lot on Sunday, October 22nd, from 3-5pm. (We'll move inside if the weather is bad.) Come as you are or come in costume to collect candy. We'll have a bake sale, trunk decorating contest, and a pumpkin decorating contest, and of course treats!

This event is FREE! But we will have several opportunities to make donations. Our pumpkin carving/ decorating contest will be voted on by

change donations. Bring your quarters! There will be prizes for the best trunk and best pumpkin. All donations will go to support COLORS+ Youth Center. For more information, contact akennedy@lakewoodpresbyterian.org.

Cindy Dugan has been a Lakewood resident for the past 6 years although she has visited with family and enjoyed time in the community for 50 years. She is a member of Lakewood Presbyterian Church, and it is for the church's events that she is joining as a member to submit articles and calendar events.



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Firefighter Recognition Ceremony

The Lakewood Fire Department will host its annual Firefighter Recognition Ceremony on Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 12:00 PM at Fire Station No. 1, 14601 Madison Ave. Join Mayor George, the Lakewood Fire Department, and community leaders as they honor new firefighters and those who have retired or have been promoted over the last year.

Free Piano Concert At LUMC

by Sandy Gates

Come, listen and enjoy three amazing, talented and professional pianists. On October 8th at 11:30 am at Lakewood United Methodist Church at

15700 Detroit Avenue, there will be an hour long concert.

The three pianists are professionally trained and will be playing some Broadway show tunes, classical and more. You may find yourself humming along or tapping your toes.

Attendees are encouraged to donate canned, non perishable food items. The food items will help replenish LUMC's neighborhood little pantry to help others. Here is some information on the three pianists:

Helen Kohler studied music at Baldwin Wallace University. She continued her studies at Kent State University and obtained her master's in Piano Performance. She is currently the musical director for Sweeney Todd in Akron. Helen is a staff

accompanist at Kent State's main campus. Zachary Ricker is a classical trained pianist with 22 years of experience. He studied Piano Performance at Baldwin Wallace University. He currently accompanies the

BW Women's Chorus. Zac works as an Industry Analyst at American Greetings. Judy Fesco is a Lakewood resident. She teaches voice lessons at Lakewood High School and accompanies various choirs in the school district. Judy currently sings with the Good Company, a vocal ensemble. She graduated from the University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music with degrees in Music Education and Piano Performance.

Hope to see you on Sunday, October 8th at 11:30.



LAKEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Connecting For Kids

by Lorilynn Wolf

Registration is required for these programs. Register online: www.connectingforkids.org/register,

via email: info@connectingforkids.org or Call/Text: 440-570-5908.

Inclusive Drop-In

Join Connecting for Kids and Lakewood Family Room for our inclusive playgroup! This program is open to families and their children ages 0-6, with or without concerns about development. Caregivers will have a chance to get handson support, meet other families and connect to community resources. Led by an experienced Early Intervention Support Coordinator and CFK staff, children and caregivers will have the opportunity to learn strategies for dealing with behavior challenges, communication concerns and sensory issues. Registration is welcome but not required. This program is in partnership with Lakewood Family Room and is funded by the Healthy Lakewood Foundation.

Thursday, Oct. 12, 9:30 a.m.

Lakewood Family Room at Cove Community Center, 12525 Lake Ave.

Workshop: Navigating IEPs, 504s & ETRs

What is the difference between an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and 504 plan? How do you request an evaluation if you suspect your child could use some additional support? What is an Evaluation Team Report (ETR)? Navigating the world of special education may seem overwhelming at first. Join Connecting for Kids staff as they help you understand the process so that you can more effectively work with the school to help your child. Families will have the chance to engage in breakout sessions to talk about specific IEP or 504 concerns.

Thursday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. Lakewood Public Library, Main Library

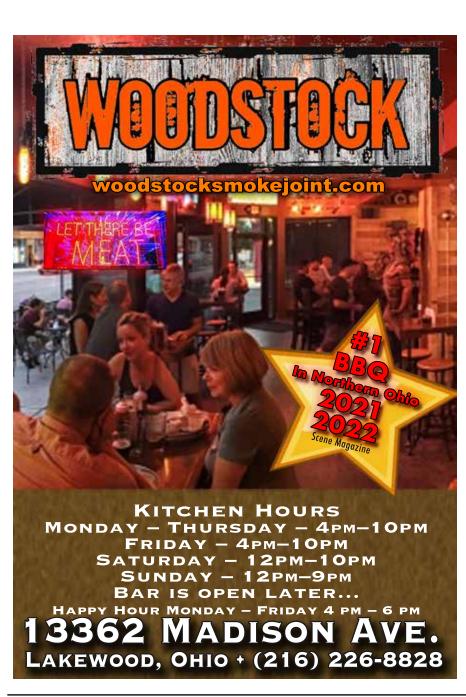
Music Therapy & More

This program is designed for families and their children, ages 0 - 6 years, who have concerns about development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's academic, motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. connecting forkids.org/music

Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

Saturday, Oct. 14, 9:30 a.m.

Lorilynn Wolf is the Communications Director for Connecting for Kids.



Children's And Youth Services Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert

UV Kid

For Students in First through Fifth Grade. Make creations out of special ultraviolet-sensitive beads and other materials we provide, then use our ultraviolet flashlights to see the sun's effects. Registration is required.

Friday, October 6, 2023 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Main Library Activity Room Friday, October 20, 2023 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Madison Branch Youth Program

Galaxy Slime

For Students in First through Fifth Grade. Make your own colorful, sparkly galaxy slime using glue, cornstarch, food colors and glitter. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Main Library Activity Room Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Madison Branch Youth Program Room

Thursday, October 26, 2023 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Madison Branch Youth Program Room

Searching for Life

For Students in Fifth through Eighth Grade. How do you define life? Students observe soil samples of different materials and search for different characteristics of life. Registration is required.

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Main Library Activity Room

Pinwheel Galaxy

For Students in First through Fifth Grade. Hold a little part of our big universe in your hands by making your own paper pinwheel version of this galaxy. Registration is required.

Friday, October 13, 2023 4:00pm - 4:45pm Main Library Activity Room Friday, October 27, 2023 4:00pm - 4:45pm Madison Branch Youth Room

Rover Races

For Students in Third through Fifth Grade. Participants work in teams to model the process for communicating with a rover on Mars, to build programming skills, and understand the effects of time-delay. Registration is required.

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 4:00pm - 4:45pm Main Library Multipurpose Room Wednesday, October 18, 2023 4:00pm - 4:45pm Madison Branch Meeting Rm

Family Weekend Wonders

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 and Saturdays at 10:30 am Madison Branch- Fridays at 10:30 am

To sign up for any program, register online at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mary Warren Impact Scholarship Winner Elliott Snyder's Winning Essay

by Elliott Snyder

Why is equal representaion important?

Equal representation has many definitions, you could interpret it as the methods by which people are represented, or by the way that representatives are assigned to voting groups, with equal representation meaning that all groups are fairly represented. Equal Representation is crucial to have rights for everyone and to be understood by certain groups of people who are just like you. Equal representation is how women have rights to privacy or how women have the right to vote. Equal representation is how people of color have the right to be citizens and also have the right to vote. Equal representation is how LGBTQ+ rights have slowly begun to improve.

Equal representation is not needed in just government. It is needed in schools, sports, the workplace, and everywhere else. In sports we look at the first trans woman to win a gold medal in swimming in the Olympics, this provides young people who identify as a different gender hope that they can do whatever inspires them. In schools and public places we allow everyone to be equal, boys and girls aren't compared as much. Same with the workplace, now women are bosses. Women are business owners and hold more power because of equal representation. Because of equal representation women of all kinds come together to get the rights they deserve.

Equal representation is not only important to have when it comes to voting and playing sports and holding high position jobs, but also when



Lakewood League of Women Voters Scholarship Winner: Elliott Snyder

it comes to children having positive figures to look up to, people who are representatives of people just like them. Children seeing problems that aren't prevented by people in politics could lower their self esteem and confidence. It is important to have representation in ways that create a sense of them being good enough. It also creates an idea in their minds that if there is something wrong going on with their rights being underrepresented, they think they cannot stand up for themselves because no one else is.

Equal representation blocks out things like slavery happening again. Equal representation prevents women from not having the right to vote. Equal representation ends discrimination of LGBTQ+ in the workplace. Equal representation creates room for transgenered equality. Equal representation makes it easier to make changes for people like them. Equal representation is crucial to creating equality everywhere.

For equal representations is not just for your basic human rights but also for your political beliefs. It is so important to have people who think just like you in politics representing you and your community. It shows not only validation towards your opinions

as well as fights for things that you are hoping happen in the government's future. Whether federal, state or city governments, it is important all opinions are heard.

Equal representation is needed everywhere. It is so important for the young minds, in sports and schools, in the workplace, in politics and more.

Our Fall Booklet Is Online and Arriving At Homes REGISTRATION IS OPEN



Look through the booklet now as classes and activities fill FAST!!! Adult Programs & Athletics, Ranger Youth Football, Fall Cheerleading Camp and so much more.



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LAKEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The History of Lakewood:

East Rockport

by Dr. Charles Greanoff

Kudos to Lakewood School History Club Co-President Leah Campbell for her fascinating, informative and well-researched presentation on the History of East Rockport Lakewood. Leah, with great poise and presence, took her appreciative Lakewood Library audience on a journey though our history from the fruit farms, to the street car era to today. She explored the old Elks Field, Birdtown, the first schools, the origin of street names, the oil well boom and so much more. Special thanks to the multigenerational audience—their informative comments and questions elevated the discourse and drew out so much interesting information.

We live in a very special place, bracketed by Lake Erie, Rocky River and the mother city (and I-90 but that's a topic for another day!) But no listing of our core strengths--century



homes, sublime location, neighborhood schools, diverse population, a magic that is Lakewood Park—can capture the heartbeat of East Rockport. The whole is greater than the sum of our parts, and in the end a walk down Grace or Clarence likely captures it best. Long Live Lakewood.

Emerson Earns State PBIS Bronze Award

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to Emerson Elementary, which has won an Ohio PBIS Bronze Recognition Award for 2023! PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) refers to a set of ideas and tools that schools use to improve student behavior and school culture. Award winners' PBIS efforts were evaluated in the areas of student expectations, behavior and discipline; teacher expectations; faculty, student and family involvement; and evaluation processes. The Emerson team will be honored at the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council's PBIS Showcase in January. The Ohio Leadership Advisory Council is a partnership between the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Ohio Department of Education.



Callahan Seeks To Retain **Seat On Board Of Education**

continued from page 1

tively with fellow board members who are deeply committed to our schools and community. Together, we worked through some very challenging times, while listening to our community and making decisions about what is best for all of our students. Together we hired a superintendent who has proven to be a highly effective leader.

District leadership has continued to engage the public and to emphasize the community's Vision of a Ranger. Our leadership team has maintained a safe learning environment where all students are welcome, met where they are, and are challenged to move forward through many paths including a wide range of curriculum and program options. The district also has a robust and comprehensive strategic plan and has engaged the community to work through matters of significance, such as our Facility Study Task Force. The district has also been fiscally responsible. Our treasurer and staff in our finance department are excellent. The district utilized Covid relief dollars effectively and the five year forecast is strong.

Lakewood is unique in that our recreation services are a function of the school district. Over the past several years the district has taken a close look at the recreation department and has made changes to the organizational structure. The creation of the Director of District Activities and Events position has allowed for alignment of the recreation and athletic departments, enhanced collaboration between the Lakewood City Schools and the City of Lakewood, and will continue to put emphasis on providing quality recreation services to our community. I will continue to bring my experience as a public sector parks & recreation professional to the table if re-elected. I truly believe that strong recreation services and programs help attract and retain residents to our com-

munity and students in our district. Community recreation is also not just for students...it is an opportunity to engage all members of the community and to maintain their support.

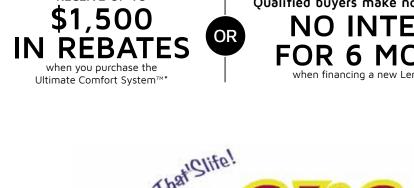
My reasons and qualifications for seeking a seat on the board in 2019 apply today as they did then, however now I bring experience as a board member and current board president, and also proven results as a collaborator. There are many people seeking seats on the Lakewood Board of Education this November. I encourage all to get to know the candidates and what they would bring to the board, and to vote for a proven collaborator, experienced public sector professional, and parent in Michael J. Callahan. For more information on me, my many endorsements, and my campaign visit www.CallahanForLakewood. com, email friendsforcallahan@gmail. com, or call me at 216-202-4082.

Michael Callahan is a lifelong resident of Lakewood. He and his wife Kristyn have three children. Callahan is a current member of the Lakewood Board of Education and works in the public sector as Parks & Recreation Director with the City of Bedford.



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LAKEWOOD TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Winners Of The 2nd Annual Most Distinguished Tree Contest

by Debra O'Bryan

Lakewood's Tree Advisory and Education Board, along with the Lakewood Observer are proud to present the winners of this year's contest. Having four different categories this year opened up the possibilities for any tree to win.

We had 53 trees nominated and over 230 residents voted on their favorites.

The owners of the trees with the most votes in each category will receive a certificate from the City of Lakewood noting their selection in Lakewood's 2023 Most Distinguished Tree Contest. The Overall winning tree with the most votes in any category wins the bragging rights and top prize of a \$100 gift certificate from our generous sponsor, Lakewood Garden Center. The other winners will also receive a prize from one of our other sponsors. Those who nominated the winning trees will receive a prize as well. Thank you to all who participated, I hope you had fun looking at all of our amazing trees. Thank you to our sponsors: Carabel Beauty Salon & Store, India Garden, Lakewood Garden Center, Lakewood Hardware, Melt Bar & Grilled, West End Tavern, and Woodstock BBQ.



The Right Tree For The Right Spot

First-#R-001, 14015 Lake Avenue nominated by Gabrielle Dever, runners-up: 2nd #R-003, 17817 Lake Road, 3rd #R-005, 17203 Hilliard Avenue



...Drum Roll...Overall Winner is... Right Tree For The Right Spot! Our Most Distinguished Tree for 2023 is the Red Maple in front of 14015 Lake Road. Congratulations!

The Oddest Tree

First-#OT-004, 1600 Clarence Avenue nominated by Sandra Cobb, runners-up: 2nd #OT-001, 14318 Lakewood Hts. Blvd. 3rd #OT-002, 1345 Hall Avenue



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The Most Beautiful Conifer

First-#BC-002, 1085 Forest Cliff Drive nominated by Sandra Cobb, runners-up: 2nd #BC-009, 1365 Webb Road, 3rd #BC-001, 17908 Edgewater Drive



The Most Magnificent Tree First-#MM-019, 15621/23 Delaware Avenue nominated by Sarah Brown, runners-up: 2nd #MM-022, Lakewood Park, 3rd #MM-013, 12613 **Detroit Avenue**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Join Me And Others For Colleen Clark-Sutton

by Laura Novosel Little

I am a retired Lakewood elementary school teacher and I serve as the campaign treasurer for Colleen Clark-Sutton, a candidate for the Lakewood School Board. I, and my husband who is also a retired teacher, have known Colleen and her family for more than 20 years. She is intelligent and hardworking with a calm, reflective, and deliberate nature. This year's School Board election includes ten candidates for three seats. Colleen is my first choice on November 7th because she is a diligent supporter of Lakewood's diverse students and staff, while always in pursuit of improvement and excellence.

Colleen is a highly experienced educator who has been involved in the Lakewood City Schools through PTA & The Ranger Marching Band. She served on all four phases of the 50-Year Committee that led the school renovation/ construction process. Colleen held a leadership role in several successful local campaigns including three school levies and three bond issues. Following her daughters' graduations, Colleen has remained engaged in school-related activities with students and teachers. This includes coordinating LHS horticulture students who volunteer at the Beck Center gardens.

Colleen has received numerous endorsements from our community leaders, including:

State Senator Nickie J. Antonio All current City Council members

(and unopposed Ward 3 candidate Cindy Strebig)

Emma Petrie-Barcelona (outgoing school board member)

Mayor Meghan George Former Mayor Mike Summers County Council Member Dale Miller

Colleen has also been endorsed by the following organizations: The Matriots (statewide political action committee dedicated to encouraging Ohio women to run for political office); North Shore Federation of AFL-CIO; Lakewood Democratic Club; Executive Committee of the Democrats of Cuyahoga County; CCPC (Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus); CAMEO (Cleveland American Middle Eastern Organization); and Moms Demand Action (MDA) Seal of Approval (nonprofit advocating for common sense gun laws and efforts to reduce gun violence involving young people).

You can find more information about Colleen's background, positions, and endorsements at www.friendsofcolleenclark-sutton.com and on Facebook. Please join me and add your endorsement - via your vote - for Colleen Clark-Sutton for Lakewood School Board on, or before, Tuesday, Nov. 7th.

Laura Novosel Little is a retired elementary school teacher who taught in the Lakewood City Schools for 30 years. She lives in Lakewood with her husband and two cats. She enjoys music, theater, bicycling and tennis.

Visit Gicily Without Leaving Home

Sandy Alomar Should Be Next Guardian's Manager

by Jeffrey Andrasovsky

Cleveland Guardians first-base coach Sandy Alomar Jr. should be the team's next manager.

Alomar came to the Indians along with shortstop Carlos Baerga in a trade with the San Diego Padres in 1989 for outfielder Joe Carter. He was the tribe's slugging catcher in the 1990s. He was the American League rookie of the year in 1990 and won a Gold Glove Award. In 1997, Alomar got the league's Most Valuable Player Award in the All-Star Game in Cleveland.

Alomar left Cleveland as a free agent in 2001 and played for the Chicago White Sox, Colorado Rockies, Los Angeles Dodgers, Texas Rangers and New York Mets. He had a career .273 batting average and 588 RBI's.

The son of major league second baseman Sandy Alomar Sr., was inducted into the Indians Hall of Fame in 2009. That year he was hired as the team's first base coach. In 2012 he was interim manager after manager Manny Acta was fired. His record was 3-3 that season. The club hired Terry Francona as manager for the 2013 season. Alomar has been coaching first base. He was acting manager in 2020 while Francona was on a leave of absence.

Francona recently announced he was retiring at the end of this season.

From his perch at first base, Alomar has been studying the game, the team and players for more than a decade. He is the best candidate to become the team's next manager.

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM PUBLIC MEDIA RELEASE

The Lakewood Child Care Center located at 1450 Belle Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107 AND Lakewood Community Child Care located at 2019 Woodward Ave. Lakewood, OH

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, these institutions are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsib state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program scrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files nents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any JSDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must liscriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: 1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights H400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or 2. **fax:**(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or 3.**email**:

These institutions are equal opportunity providers.

The following Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced price meals are effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

501 y 1, 2025 through 50th 50, 2021											
		FREE - 130%					REDUCED – 185%				
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	
1	\$18,954	1,580	790	729	365	\$26,973	2,248	1,124	1,038	519	
2	\$25,636	2,137	1,069	986	493	\$36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702	
3	\$32,318	2,694	1,347	1,243	622	\$45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885	
4	\$39,000	3,250	1,625	1,500	750	\$55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068	
5	\$45,682	3,807	1,904	1,757	879	\$65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251	
6	\$52,364	4,364	2,182	2,014	1,007	\$74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434	
7	\$59,046	4,921	2,461	2,271	1,136	\$84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616	
8	\$65,728	5,478	2,739	2,528	1,264	\$93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799	
For each add'l	86 692	557	270	257	120	£0.500	702	207	200	192	







SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Bill Gaydos Honored With Memorial Bench

by Larry Faulhaber

The Lakewood Downtown Business Association and Barton Communities came together recently to honor Bill Gaydos for his long-term service to both organizations. Bill, who recently lost a battle with cancer, was a leader in promoting the downtown businesses, planning and organizing events and activities!

He was also a member and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Westerly Apartments and Barton Senior Center Board of Directors, which are part of the Barton Communities Corporation. Donn Heckelmoser, CEO of Barton Communities was the MC of the dedication ceremony of a memorial bench in front of the Westerly Apartments. Mayor Megan George read a proclamation listing the many activities that Bill was involved in that served the City, including several terms on the Building and Planning Commission, Past President and active member of the Rotary Clubs of Lakewood Rocky River, and St. Luke's The Evangelist Catholic Church. Gordon Geiger recalled his long-term friendship with Bill, as they worked together in both the Downtown Business Association and Rotary!

Bill's wife, Jayne, and his family cut the red ribbon on the bench which features a dedication plaque to Bill's memory! It is on a main walkway to one of the Westerly Apartment Buildings for residents to rest on as they come and go from their home. As a Board member, Bill had helped keep it a safe, affordable and well-maintained facility for older adults on the west side.

As an active Rotarian, Bill contributed his Time, Talent and Treasury to the many community, youth and international service programs and activities of the two Rotary Clubs of Lakewood Rocky River. Rotary is the largest international service organization in the world with over one and a half million members in 14,000 Rotary Clubs.

There are two Rotary Clubs of Lakewood Rocky River. One meets every Monday morning at noon and the other meets every Wednesday at 7:15am, both at Umerley Hall of the Rocky River Civic Center. Contact Kathy Berkshire at sloopyohio19@gmail.com to learn more and how you can join with men and women in your area to give back through service in your community, and internationally.

Public Input Requested On Madison Park Master Plan

Help shape the future of Madison Park! Join us for a public meeting on Tuesday, October 17th from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM to share your input on the Madison Park Master Plan. The Madison Park Master Plan is a policy guide for how the community would like Madison Park to be in terms of its amenities, programming, and services. This meeting will be held at the Madison Park Pavilion. For more info, visit https://ow.ly/wKih50PPawI

85 Earn AP Scholar Honors

continued from page 1

Mateo Guajardo, Grace Hildebrandt, Ava Hitter, James Holland, Jill King, Lydia Kress, Alexis Lindsay, Abigail Marsh, Clare Morrissey, Madeline Oldfield, Alexander Peterson, Jackson Provost, Hutch Reed, Bailey Rohrs, Owen Rumsey, Kegan Weber, Megan Winters, Lila Wright.

AP Scholars with Honor (earned by averaging at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams):

Meredith Barcelona, Ronan Barley, Layla Black, Ava Bruening, Aiden Clasen, Eliza Dreger, Jazmin Dunay, Carter Eardley, Jonas Evans, Alexandra Hodson, Michael Klasa, Rose Lipka, Amalijah Marich, Griffin Norris, Emily Potoczak, Jaxon Riley, Bode Smith, Scarlett Wankowski.

AP Scholars (earned by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher):

Rachel Aoun, Gillian Colson, William Detmar, Sarah Dorn, Yasmine Elhachdani, Taha Elmerrahi, Logan Friend, Fiona Gjermeni, Jack Gowan, Chaiya Herberger, Jake Hirsch, Milo Horsman, Alexandra Horton, Edward Horton, Jacqueline Hudak, Samantha Hudak, Mason Ivinskas, Benjamin Jablonowski, Grace Lamparyk, Maggie Lane, Charlie Lobozzo, Jackson Lodge, Sophia Masek, Colin McCrone, Maggie McGann, Colton Moran, Michael Muzychenko, Olivia Pickens, Jonathan Reighard, Helen Roche, Arabella Spear, Samuel Thomas, Lydianna Trudel, Lydia Watkins, Danka Wentzel, Andrew Winters, Corinne Wroblewski.







Suicide Prevention, Mental Health and Addiction Crisis Services are available for children and adults in Cuyahoga County

Morning

Noon

and Night

Connect with services by calling 216-623-6888 or 988

Crisis Services in Cuyahoga County at adamhscc.org/crisis





LAKEWOOD IS ART®

Folk Rock:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 136

by Buzz Kompier

Mezclado - Mezclado - self-released - 12 songs - CD, cassette, digital

Here's the debut album from Columbus punk/psych/Latin/indie band Mezclado— and it's a good one! All that stuff stuck together could easily end up sounding gimmicky, but this band is able to make it all work. "Fed Up" kicks the record off with a solid punk track with a great vocal performance and I love the little guitar leads in the intro and through the verses. Dan (the one who sings this song) switches to Spanish at times so I'm not

entirely sure what all is being said, but it sounds cool. Next is "Sick," which starts with bass and drums and some "abstract" guitar in the style of John Morton or Mr. California then bursts into an aggressive chorus— I don't really know what all Joe (the one who sings this song) is talking about, but it sounds cool. I really like the sort of post-punk, almost Cure-like feel to the verses of "Snake Driver" and it's got a great, catchy chorus. "Sunday Dread" has an almost-surf (but not quite) guitar sound with an almost-reggae (but not quite) beat and the bored-sounding

vocal delivery perfectly fits the mood of the song. The psychedelic vibe is very present on "Piggies," even when Wyatt (the one who sings this song) gets louder. "Don't Slow Down" might be my favorite on the album; a very catchy, hooky garage-punk song with a great guitar part during the chorus and sort of rambling vocals and lyrics (I think at one point he talks about smoking with his dad, which is cool), plus a part at the end where the guitars and bass do the Thin Lizzy thing and play the same part in harmony. "Stay Around" and "Tired All The Time" are both a bit more mellow— the former feels kind of "desert" to me (I don't know what that means) and has some odd but cool gang backing vocals, the latter has a very psychedelic vocal melody, plus a part where it speeds up and then slows back down which always brings me joy. "Cara Y Piel" has the most Latin influence of any of the songs musically— I unfortunately don't know enough about Latin music to be more specific than that, my apologies, but I do enjoy it— and then goes into a psych-noise-jam part at the end, which I believe is supposed to neatly segue

into "Never Try" but has an abrupt stop before "Never Try" begins (at least on the CD; perhaps this isn't an issue with the cassette but I'm not sure). Besides that little stumble, "Never Try" is a good jammer/rallying cry. "Pachuco" is another good straightforward punk track which works well as bookends with "Fed Up" and has a great example in the instrumental part right before the guitar solo of how easily they can slip the psychedelic stuff in and then slip right back into punk without it feeling jarring whatsoever. And there's a saxophone on this one! The album ends with "Adios Adios" which I believe is a field recording of sorts of some more traditional sounding Latin music (acoustic guitar and trumpet, predominantly) but if I'm wrong and it's actually the band it's pretty impressive. Anyway, a really solid record overall. 4/5

(mezclado.bandcamp.com)

Are you a local-ish band? Do you have a record out? Email vaguelythreatening@gmail.com or send it directly to the Observer: PO Box 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107.

Halloween Contest 2023!



The Lakewood Observer is looking for houses and apartments with the best Halloween/Fall decorations to give some prizes to in appreciation of the residents of Lakewood for all of their hard work.

Go to: Daily Question on our homepage, http://lakewoodobserver. com (QR CODE AT END)

Nominate five different homes until midnight, October 31, 2023. Voting will be done by judges selected from the community and announced in the November 8th issue.

The top ten homes will be awarded prizes from Lakewood businesses.

A random nominator will be chosen for a spooktacular prize too!



YOU CAN





OCTOBER

ARIES: Money is in the stars for the Ram; this Halloween, show them the dare-devil you are & go as Tom Cruise in Maverick, then turn up the heat on the Ram's charm & get the girl.

TAURUS: Luck is with the Bull; come out of that Bullpen of yours, get your sense of beauty on & put on your best Tanya McQuoid costume from The White Lotus, & smile baby smile.

GEMINI: The Twins do everything in doubles; you've got the stars shining on romance this Halloween; grab a partner, search your closet for your brightest Hot Pink & bring Ken along.

CANCER: The Sun's shining in the Crab's home & family this Halloween season, & you are no stranger in the kitchen; put on your best Camy from The Bear & make that pumpkin bread.

LEO: Lion/Lioness, Jupiter's bringing you fame, no stranger, you being the center of attention, show 'em why you're King/Queen of the jungle, strut your Queen Charlotte this Halloween.

VIRGO: Money's your friend this month Virgo; use your analytical/architectural skills, say RIP to Twitter & figure out how to show up at Halloween with the best "X" custom in Lakewood.

LIBRA: Jupiter, Planet of Luck, is shining on other people's money; play

the Lotto; this is your birthday month, your best bet this Halloween; dress up as Cher from Clueless, the perfect you.

SCORPIO: The Sun is behind the scenes hiding in the dark for the Scorpion this Halloween, with a spotlight on relationships; go to the party dressed as Wednesday Adams & Beetle Juice.

SAGITTARIUS: Focus for the Centaur is on health, also your groups & organizations; take care of business before play, then aim your bow & arrow as Katniss (Hunger Games) on Halloween.

CAPRICORN: The business-minded Goat is at the top of your career this month, with a bit of romance thrown your way...put on your best business look & show up as M3GAN on Halloween.

AQUARIUS: Foreign affairs & home & family are the focus for Aquarians this month; whether you're abroad or on the home front, do Halloween as Beyonce' from the Renaissance tour.

PISCES: The local watering hole is where the Fish will be on Halloween, with some fairy dust sprinkled on your fins from others' money. Enjoy the beach look & go as Sarah (Outer Banks).

Eva Starr, the local astrologer, has been studying the moon & stars since she could read. You can reach Starr at evastarr.com.

LAKEWOODALIVE

LakewoodAlive:

Housing Outreach

from LakewoodAlive

Lakewood is a city of beautiful old homes and we love them dearly. In addition to serving as a tremendous source of pride for residents, the 17,000+ units comprising Lakewood's housing stock represent the economic engine for our city.

LakewoodAlive administers a Housing Outreach Program designed to offer a one-stop place for residents, both owner occupants and renters, to gain access to services so they are able to live in healthy and safe housing. Through these programs we foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods, one home at a time.

The services provided through the Housing Outreach Program connect residents with resources to maintain and sustain the community's historic housing stock and ensure healthy and safe living environments. These connections are made through:

Working one-on-one with residents, primarily low-to-moderate income residents, to connect them to financial and educational resources, as well as volunteer labor to complete necessary home repairs.

The Knowing Your Home educational series, which focuses on sustainability and maintenance best practices empowering homeowners to tackle necessary home repairs and



improvements. These workshops are free to attend and are offered from February through October annually.

The Paint Lakewood Program, which is a grant program for low-to-moderate income residents to assist with obtaining affordable exterior house painting.

The Community Engagement Program in Birdtownand other eastern end neighborhoods seeks to improve the quality of life for residents through neighborhood-wide events, door-knocking and one-on-one appointments.

Partnering with the City of Lakewood, Municipal Court and other organizations to assist residents with code compliance and Housing Court violations.

Connection to local social service agencies that provide safety net services to ensure our residents are taken care of both inside and outside of their homes.

2023 Chocolate Walk

continued from page 1

(\$50 each) ticket gains you entrance to First Federal Lakewood (14806 Detroit Avenue) at 6 p.m., where you'll receive your Chocolate Walk supplies. Guided by a map and the signs and festive bows decorating participating merchants, you'll take to the streets to visit the Sweet Stops, collecting something chocolate-themed at each location. You may visit the stops in any order you wish—the merchants eagerly await you.

The VIP ticket (\$90 each) option exists for those seeking to elevate the joy of this chocolate experience. Hosted at Rozi's Wine House, the Pre-Walk VIP Reception – limited to only 50 lucky attendees – takes place from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. at Rozi's Wine House in Downtown Lakewood (14900 Detroit Avenue), where guests will sample decadent treats, as well as appetizers, and receive two drink tokens. VIP tickets will only be available for purchase online starting at 10 a.m. on October 3.

The evening ends for all attendees with the Final Stop at Rozi's Wine House. You may stop here whenever

you finish your walk, turn in your completed Golden Egg Hunt form, wet your whistle with a cash bar and grab a snack. The Final Stop will be your last chance to purchase tickets for the 50/50 raffle and raffle baskets, with the drawings held at 8:55 p.m. You need not be present to win.

Ticket Sales

Online: Tuesday, October 3 at 10 a.m.

50 VIP tickets and 200 general admission tickets will be sold online starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 3. Please note that there is a purchasing limit of four tickets per person, and that the Chocolate Walk is for adults, ages 21 and older. Eventbrite fees apply.

Lakewood Chocolate Walk is generously supported by:

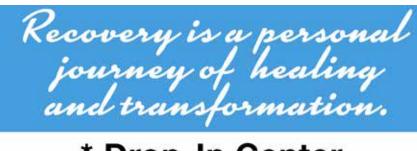
Title Sponsor:

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Chocolatier Sponsor:

Kent State University College of Nursing

*Please note that the ticket fee is required by Eventbrite for use of their services.



* Drop-In Center * Peer Support Group * Arts and Crafts Program







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Contact Legal Aid!

Browse legal information or apply for help 24/7 online: www.lasclev.org
Or, call 888.817.3777 during most business hours.

