

Lakewood City News

Lakewood Is Rich in Buy Local Initiative

by Kenneth Warren

Lakewood is a prime community in Northeast Ohio for people making creative arrangements, moral commitments and smart purchases to preserve and strengthen the city's economy through buy local initiatives. The organization of local consumers and local businesses into green exchange circuits that offer ethical choice and moral value make visible the "Invisible Hand" of the free market.

As the community cultivates a moral compass and recognizes the effects of lost cash flow on Lakewood's one-of-a-kind signature businesses, people search for new ways to enhance their economic impact on the city. By creating green exchange circuits that link economical and ethical interests to more a locally determined value-added purchasing strategy, people integrate civic responsibility, convenient consumption and social solidarity into the neighborhood's quality of life.

Julie Hutchison, owner of Phoenix Coffee on Detroit Avenue, sees Lake-

wood's "green edge" in its resale shops and the thick social mix that meets in third places and buys local.

From Lakewood Is Art and the Madison Avenue Art Walk to the LEAF's community supported agriculture programs and MAMA's injection

of vitality along Madison Avenue, people in Lakewood are attempting to bring a renewed and determined buy local dynamic to daily life. Through these grassroots efforts, the circulation of dollars in the community joins the palpable expression of neighborhood

commitment and appreciation for one-of-a-kind businesses integral to Lakewood's distinctively green character.

For the holidays, LakewoodAlive and Main Street Lakewood are advancing the "buy local" with the inclusion of Lakewood CertifiChecks gift certificates in the Light Up Lakewood event scheduled for November 30th.

"Lakewood CertifiChecks will be redeemable only at Lakewood businesses. They can be used at full face value at merchants who have registered with the program," says Mary Anne Crampton, Executive Director, Lakewood Community Progress Inc., Main Street Lakewood.

Crampton sees the CertifiChecks gift certificates in combination with the convenience, cordiality and quality offered by local enterprises making for a great Lakewood experience.

"More than 150 Lakewood businesses are already signed-up and we expect the list to grow as Lakewood-ites demonstrate their support of local businesses by buying, giving and using Lakewood CertifiCheck gift certificates," says Crampton.

On November 30th, during the Light Up Lakewood holiday season kick-off event, Main Street Lakewood and LakewoodAlive will launch a "buy local" campaign by selling Lakewood CertifiCheck gift certificates, which will be redeemable at any registered Lakewood business.

Start your holiday shopping with Lakewood CertifiCheck gift certificates! The perfect gift for teachers, coaches, employees, friends and family: Lakewood CertifiChecks..

YOU CAN PRE-ORDER NOW FOR PICK-UP at the LIGHT UP LAKEWOOD EVENT! Go to www.lakewoodalive.com for an order form.

CertifiCheck gift certificates function like a cashier's check, and can be directly deposited into business bank accounts at full face value. Change is given in cash. They are available in denominations from \$5 to \$50. This is not a fundraiser. LakewoodAlive and Lakewood Community Progress Inc. are subsidizing administrative and start-up costs as a community service.

A list of participating businesses will be printed in the Light Up Lakewood Nov. 13th pull-out guide in the Lakewood Observer. Every buyer will receive a list of retailers where the gift certificates can be redeemed – currently 150!

For more information, contact Mary Anne Crampton at Main Street Lakewood: macrampton@lcpinc.com or 216-521-0655

Why I Am Voting Markling For Lakewood School Board – School Safety

by Michael Andreani

As an active Lakewood High School alumna, long-time Lakewood resident, homeowner, tax payer, and most importantly, the parent of students attending public schools in Lakewood, I would like to share with you just a few of the many reasons why I am voting for my neighbor and friend, Matthew John Markling, for the Lakewood School Board.

Markling is running for the Lakewood School Board on a platform of academic excellence, school safety, and leadership. I would like to focus on school safety.

Two of my sons attend Lakewood High School, having attended Horace Mann Middle School. My youngest son presently attends Garfield Middle School. The Lakewood Alumni Foundation office that I work in is located in the high school. My sons and I feel safe. My husband, Joel, and I feel safe sending our boys to school every day. Joel had the privilege of serving alongside Markling on both the *High School and Middle School Student Conduct and School Climate Committees*. If we are honest with each other we will all agree that no school can guarantee student safety; however, the Lakewood City Schools can take steps to improve school safety. Both Student Conduct and School Climate Committees recommended steps to improve student safety.

As a school board member, Markling will work to ensure that all school safety recommendations of both *Student Conduct and School Climate Committees* continue to be implemented fully including, but not limited to (1) *Total Enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct* – including the current dress code and ID Cards and (2) *Alternative Educa-*

tion for Students Suspended or Expelled.

Total Enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct

As to *Total Enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct*, the Lakewood City Schools already prohibit, and impose consequences for student misconduct arising on and off of school grounds including, but not limited to: Disruption of School, Assault/Harassment, Dangerous Weapons or Instruments, Defiance of Authority, Gangs, Internet, Hazing, Bullying and Other Forms of Aggression.

Some may argue that rules do not prohibit misconduct but simply impose consequences after the fact. Markling disagrees. The simple act of notifying students and parents that misconduct will not be tolerated in our learned halls acts as a substantial deterrent. It also sets the expected tone of civility. It is unfortunate, but there always will be individuals who choose to disregard the rules. Fortunately, working toward *Total Enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct* will work to discourage such misconduct.

An important aspect of both the student dress code and identification card requirements is the preservation of safe school environment. School security experts have stated that "oversize, saggy or baggy clothing" must be prohibited because such clothing can easily conceal weapons. School security experts also indicate that identification cards must be "visible at all times" so that only students of the Lakewood City Schools are allowed in our schools and all our students can be identified should a crisis arise. While Markling has no doubt that the Lakewood City Schools is vigorous in attempting to prohibit student misconduct "every period, every day" – video surveillance has even been installed - we must remain vigilant as the security of our children is at stake.

As a school board member, Markling will support the legal disciplinary decisions of the Administration.

Markling will also encourage students and parents to take responsibility for their own actions. We must also be mindful that the Lakewood City Schools simply cannot be "every place, every time," so both students **and** parents need to also take responsibility for reporting instances of misconduct to the Lakewood Police Department (911 or 1.216.521.6773) and/or Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services (1.216.696.KIDS). Students and parents should also take advantage of making reports to the Lakewood City Schools Security Hotline (1.216.227.5311). All calls can be made anonymously. It cannot be overstated that students and parents need to take responsibility for knowing their rights and responsibilities. The contents of the *Student Handbook, Lakewood City School Discipline Code,*

and *School Board Policy* can be found on the school district's website.

Alternative Education for Students Suspended or Expelled

As to *Alternative Education for Students Suspended or Expelled*, the Lakewood City Schools established the Lakewood City Academy to meet this goal. The Lakewood City Academy is a premier program that puts students, who would otherwise be removed from the educational setting for disciplinary reasons, back in the classroom through an alternative setting. Ideally, all students should be in the classroom as opposed to roaming Lakewood. The Lakewood City Academy works toward that ideal. As a school board member, Markling will continue to support the Lakewood City Academy and its mission. To learn more about Markling, please visit our website at

www.marklingforlakewood.com.

Vote Markling for School Board on November 6, 2007!

FOP #25 Endorsements

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 25 is pleased to announce the endorsement of the following candidates for the November 6, 2007 General Election.

Lakewood

Mayor - Thomas J. George

Council Ward 2 - Daniel Shields

Council Ward 3 - Michael P. Summers

Board of Education -

Matthew J. Markling

FOP #25 does not solicit or offer its endorsement. Candidates must make a formal request. Requests are first announced to members of the Lodge for comment and critique, and then referred to Committee. The candidates must then complete a comprehensive questionnaire

and be interviewed by a Committee of experienced law enforcement officers. A recommendation is put to the Lodge for further comment or critique, and then voted upon. Failure to complete any part of the process disqualifies the candidate. The named candidates initiated, successfully participated in, and completed all portions of this process.

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #25 represents nearly 600 local, county, regional, state, and federal law enforcement officers in western Cuyahoga and eastern Lorain Counties. The Fraternal Order of Police is the largest association of law enforcement professionals in this area, the State of Ohio, and the United States.