

Lakewood Business

Free Legal Advice in Lakewood:

Volunteer Attorneys Partner with The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

by Katie Collin

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is pleased to announce the first Brief Advice and Referral Clinic in a West side inner ring suburb: Lakewood, OH. This event is part of a series of drop-in legal clinics sponsored by Legal Aid's Volunteer Lawyers Program in various Northeast Ohio neighborhoods

locations. The clinic is on Saturday, November 18th, from 10 am - 12 noon at Sts. Cyril & Methodius School, 1639 Alameda Avenue in Lakewood. Attorneys from the law firm of Giffen & Kaminski, along with attorneys from KeyBank will staff the civil legal clinic for low-income individuals and families. Mary Louise Madigan, Lakewood city councilwoman for Ward 4, rec-

Unchain from Corporate Retail!

by Jennifer Hooper

Lakewood is joining with communities nationwide in a campaign to unchain themselves and shop only at locally-owned independent businesses on Saturday, November 18th. America Unchained! is part of a national program of the American Independent Business Alliance (AMIBA).

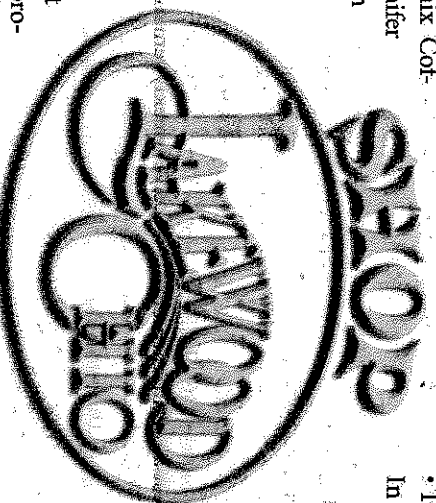
Julie Hutchison, owner of the Lakewood Phoenix Coffee shop, and Jennifer Hooper of Main Street/Lakewood heard about the nationwide program and knew it would be a good fit for Lakewood. One of the goals of Main Street Lakewood is to promote Lakewood's unique business mix. The Phoenix is offering its regular customers a free bag of coffee when they bring in a friend who would have otherwise shopped at a national chain. For trying a Phoenix beverage, the friend gets a free bag of coffee as well. Other Lakewood independent businesses offering specials for America Unchained Day are Local Girl Gallery, Lion & Blue and bela dubby.

Numerous nationwide studies have shown that supporting locally owned businesses can have a significant impact on the local economy. Here are a few compelling reasons why YOU should shop local:

- It keeps your money local. For every \$100 spent at a locally owned business, \$45 goes back into the community which strengthens the tax base. For every \$100 spent at a chain store, only \$14 comes back.
- Better service. Local businesses often hire people who have a better understanding of the products and services they're selling and who take more time to get to know customers.
- Support community investment. Local businesses are owned by people who live here, work here and care about Lakewood's future.
- Support community groups. Neighborhood businesses generously support local nonprofits - an average of 35.0% more than non-locally owned businesses.
- Your tax dollars go farther. Local

businesses in traditional shopping districts need comparatively less infrastructure investment and make more efficient use of public services as compared to national chain stores.

• It's unique. Independent retailers select products based on their own customers, not that of a national corporate sales headquarters. Locally owned stores can quickly respond to the needs of their customers.



• The personal touch. In an increasingly homogenized national culture, chain stores are the same no matter where you go. Local retailers add personal service and familiarity.

As the holiday season approaches, the hope is that America Unchained! will encourage Lakewood residents to do more of their holiday shopping at locally owned businesses. This could result in a big impact on our local economy this holiday season. To that end, America Unchained! will be followed by Light Up Lakewood from November 30-December 3. Light Up Lakewood is a series of holiday community events and a promotion of unique Lakewood retail and eateries.

America Unchained! and Light Up Lakewood promote what makes Lakewood unique. One-of-a-kind independent businesses owned by our neighbors are part of what makes Lakewood special. Competition from well-funded national chains can be very aggressive and our local merchants can't survive without our support. If you wanted to live in Anytown, USA full of chain stores and restaurants, you wouldn't have chosen to live in Lakewood. So on Saturday, November 18th and throughout the holiday season (and everyday for that matter!) support Lakewood's independent, locally owned businesses!

For more information on America Unchained Day in Lakewood contact Jennifer Hooper at 521-0655 or Julie Hutchison at 226-4401. For more information on the national America Unchained Day, see the website of the American Independent Business Alliance: AMIBA.net

ognized the need for this specialized community service since she receives a number of calls about landlord/tenant issues, private property, city liability, etc. "Sometimes people need a little motivation to get going and take action," she remarks, "This project offers accessible, reliable legal advice to the low-income community. The partnership between Legal Aid and Sts. Cyril & Methodius School developed because of an identified need on the east end of Lakewood and the dedication of some very good neighbors."

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland (Legal Aid) provides free, high quality legal services to those unable to afford private counsel in Northeast Ohio. The 45 staff attorneys service an area with approximately 300,000 eligible clients. Today, Legal Aid manages more than 8,500 civil cases annually, which helps 21,000 individuals. Legal Aid attorneys provide advice, referral and representation in state and federal courts and in administrative forums. They represent clients in individual service cases and seek broader systemic relief where appropriate through litigation and policy advocacy. Founded in 1905, Cleveland's Legal Aid is the fifth oldest organization of its kind in the United States.

The Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) was organized in 2005 to supplement the work of the Legal Aid staff and to improve the lives of indigent persons in Northeast Ohio. Organized in collaboration with both the Cleveland Bar Association's Our Commitment to Our Community and the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, VLP mobilizes private attorneys to assist in making legal advice and representation more accessible to low income persons and families.

Brief Advice and Referral Clinics offer volunteers an opportunity to provide practical legal advice discussing civil/legal problems. The attorneys do not handle criminal cases. Often the attorney is able to give advice that would help solve the problem, or answer concerns that day. Legal problems handled through the clinics are related to homelessness, basic income survival, benefit programs, education, housing and unscrupulous business practices. The drop-in clinics are held twice a month at various locations around Cleveland in an effort to reach out to the community at large.

For more information on this clinic or future clinics in the coming year, please call Legal Aid at (216) 687-1900 or visit online at www.lasalew.org

Lakewood Hospital a Cleveland Clinic hospital

Welcome

Charles J. Garven, M.D.

Medical Director
Lakewood Medical Associates, Rockport



Accepting New and Current Patients

Lakewood Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of Charles J. Garven, M.D. as medical director of Lakewood Medical Associates, Rockport. Dr. Garven is board-certified in family medicine and has a special interest in preventive care, disease prevention and health promotion.

Dr. Garven provides expert care in the treatment of chronic and acute medical problems for all ages, including infants and older adults.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Garven, or any of the physicians at Lakewood Medical Associates, Rockport, call 216.529.7125.

Your Life Is Our Life's Work.