

A Publication of the Lorain County Young Democrats

Points of interest:

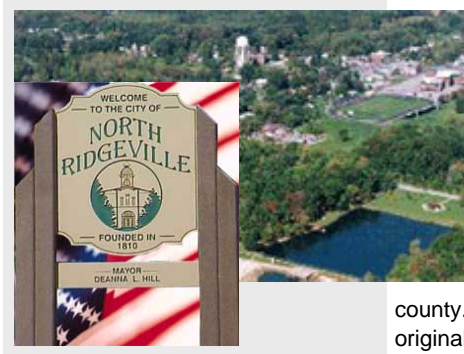
- LCYD begins commitment to North Ridgeville
- Executive Director speaks out about "Sicko"
- Kudos to Kirk Stewart for helping the LCYD
- Thanks to those that supported us at our Annual Burger Bash

*Check out the Opinion section with articles from Paul Adams and Chase Ritenauer on page 4

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| August General Meeting | 8/15 |
| Sept. General Meeting | 9/19 |
| Oct. General Meeting | 10/17 |
| Nov. General Meeting | 11/21 |

LCYD begins the "Commitment to North Ridgeville"



Democrats can win in North Ridgeville and the LCYD will be there to help!

North Ridgeville— A few weeks ago LCYD members made it out to North Ridgeville to help mayoral candidate Anthony Nici begin his campaign with a door to door lit drop. Nici is starting early and the LCYD wanted to be there to help him and the other North Ridgeville Candidates begin a strong campaign.

The LCYD has focused its attention on North Ridgeville just as the county party has. While the LCYD will be involved in other cities, North Ridgeville will be the center piece of this year's campaign plan for the Young Dems. We see the potential for Democrats to once again control the third largest city in the county. A rejuvenated local party and a strong list of candidates originally grabbed our attention. We were also encouraged by the fact that just a few years ago Democrats held the mayor's office and a majority on city council. We believe with the proper support we can help the Democrats in North Ridgeville return to power.

A plan from the Campaigns & Elections Committee, chaired by Cory Shawver, concerning LCYD involvement in all of the 2007 elections will be finalized this week. However, the main focus of the plan will be North Ridgeville. This assistance will commit members to walk door to door and provide various services such as funding for absentee mailers. One of our former treasurers is already helping a candidate with campaign finance reports as we look to any way we can possibly help in North Ridgeville.

Executive Director speaks out about Michel Moore's "Sicko"



Film-maker Michael Moore poses for his new film "Sicko"

Amherst—Recently LCYD Executive Director Adam Bryda wrote the following letter to the editor after seeing Michael Moore's new movie "Sicko." Informing people about the atrocities in the health care system is the job of every Democrat and maybe one day this terrible system will be behind us!

To the Editor;

For the first time in his career,

Michael Moore is getting an unfamiliar taste from his usual critics (and no it's not vegetables)—but praise?! His latest documentary "Sicko" just opened in theatres this past weekend which addresses the broken healthcare system in our country. But after watching the film, it uncloaks the system for what it truly is—a state of emergency!

Unlike other films of his, such as *Roger & Me*, *Bowling for Columbine*, and the most controversial *Fahrenheit 9/11*, Moore has broken ground with an issue that everyone across the nation, regardless of political party, can agree on; healthcare.

Moore began the film by interviewing Americans who have suffered incredibly by the lack of care and greed in our healthcare industry. I don't want to ruin the movie, but a startling situation was with a

man who lost his ring and middle finger sawing wood. He explained that it cost \$60,000 to repair the tip of his middle finger and \$12,000 for his ring finger. Being the hopeless romantic, he chose to have the ring finger repaired, while the tip of his middle finger found its new home in a landfill.

Moore had numerous stories in the film of Americans, just like you and I, who have been manipulated and abandoned by the system. He illustrates the atrocities happening across the nation. The movie really hits home when it shows people who have insurance, yet are denied coverage in their time of need. It's a common

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Lorain County
Young Democrats

Visit us at: www.LorainYoungDems.com

Kudos to Kirk Stewart!



Sheffield Village—Last month two LCYD members, Paul Adams and Adam Bryda, took a drive out to the Metro Park's French Creek Nature Center in Sheffield Village. With the LCYD looking for various locations around the county to hold meetings they thought this would be a perfect place to look into for meeting room space.

After touring various meeting rooms that the facility offered they began to work with staff members to reserve a date. However, when asked what organization they were with the staff members there immediately stopped the process. They were told the metro parks could not have anything to do with a political club. They agreed to contact someone in their main office to confirm and would get back to us, but stated they were doubtful we could meet

there.

After a week went by and no call from the Metro Parks, LCYD Advisor Ken Kelleher suggested the LCYD contact Kirk Stewart. Mr. Stewart is one of the three board members of the Lorain County Metro Parks.

LCYD president Paul Adams had a quick conversation with Mr. Stewart and within 10 minutes a receptionist at the French Creek Nature Center called to set up a date and time for the LCYD to hold a meeting. Thanks to Kirk Stewart for helping the LCYD. We might be a political club, but we should have the same rights to meet in a public building just as any other club. Kudos to Kirk Stewart!

"Sicko" continued

misconception in our country that if you have coverage, you're ok; but unfortunately, this is far from true. The movie is not a political statement, but rather a humanitarian statement.

Regardless of your feelings to Moore or your political background, I urge everyone to at least go see the movie. Democrats, Republicans, and Independents can have the debate on how to fix the system, but Moore thankfully brought Americans together by revealing the albatross plaguing our nation. Like Moore perfectly stated, "Disease does not know your political party."

Adam Bryda

Executive Director, Lorain County Young Democrats

2nd Annual LCYD Burger Bash

Lorain—The LCYD would like to thank all of those who helped make the Annual LCYD Burger Bash yet another success! The weather was perfect and we had a larger crowd than last year. We hope everyone enjoyed the music this year as this was the first LCYD event with a DJ.

Once again our Treasurer, Rebekah Litteral, our Deputy Treasurer, James Ward and all of the members of the Finance Committee did an excellent job bringing this event together. A lot of hard work and planning goes into any fundraiser and the LCYD has the great benefit of a powerful fundraising team. Last, but not least the LCYD can not express it's thanks for the assistance that Scott Muska once again provided. His assistance is an integral part of the financial success of our organization.

We would like to once again thank those who were sponsors of our event;

Anne Molnar—Candidate, Lorain City Council At-Large
James Ward—Deputy Treasurer, LCYD
Dennis P. Will—Lorain County Prosecutor
Chase M. Ritenauer—State Central Committeeman
Judy Nedwick—Lorain County Recorder
Rebekah Litteral—Treasurer, LCYD
Parsons Insurance—Sherrill McCloda
Paul R. Adams—Treasurer, Lorain City Democratic Party
Rick Winrod—Candidate, N. Ridgeville Council At-Large
Tom Callahan—Elyria City Council At-Large
Tom Borowicz—Bailiff, Lorain Municipal Court
Tony Krasienko—Candidate, Mayor of Lorain
John D. Hunter—Candidate, Mayor of Sheffield Village
Sue Morano—State Senator, 13th District
Lorain County Democratic Party—Thomas Smith, Chairman
Plumbers & Steamfitters
Local #42
George I. Koury
Sandi Adams-Member, LCYD
OAPSE Local 771



Ohio Young Democrats appoint new State Officers



Greg Schultz was appointed 1st Vice President for the Ohio Young Democrats last month. He currently works in the State House and is a resident of Columbus.

Columbus—New Ohio Young Democrats President Sarah Saccany took over the state organization earlier this summer. Upon taking the reigns of the organization she was left with a large number of vacancies in the state offices. The current state constitution requires that the President appoint replacements which then must be approved by a vote of the executive committee.

The highest open position open for appointment was the position of 1st Vice President. Late last month President Saccany appointed Greg Schultz to this position. Greg is an experienced campaign manager and has been involved with OYD and the state party since he was in college.

LCYD President Paul Adam initially sought appointment to this position and began an interview process for the position with a handful of other serious candidates.

Paul was the only candidate with experience as the President of a county chapter and one of the few candidates not from Columbus. Though he

was endorsed by a number of chapter presidents he chose to step out of the process on July 23rd.

Below are portions of his statement to the OYD Executive Board;

“I would like to impress upon the OYD executives that, as a long standing YD, I feel the organization is at a cross roads. A strong rebuilding team must be assembled in this appointment process, or OYD will become merely a muted voice in the party.”

“My experience here in Lorain has also taught me that it is imperative that a rebuilding team be united behind the president. I wish Sarah all the best as she takes on this difficult challenge and I hope all the current and new officers give her the support she will need. I will certainly do what I can to help, but I believe it is best that I remain dedicated to my commitments here in Lorain. I am finishing my third and final term as YD president in Lorain and I want to be able to dedicate my time to these final months as President.”

Paul Adams, LCYD President

LCYD members have exhausting July Weekend

North Ridgeville / Amherst—Last month members of the LCYD staffed two events at opposite sides of the county, simultaneously. Paul Adams, Derek Feuerstein, Brendan Kelley and Jose Candelario worked with North Ridgeville mayoral candidate, Anthony Nici, on a lit drop. While James Ward, Adam Bryda, Frank Slife, Terry Traster and others worked shifts at the Amherst Jamboree.

Organizing one event that asks members to set aside time on a summer weekend is hard enough, but to hold two separate events and have a strong showing at both was impressive.

The LCYD has come a long way in the last few years and this is a testament to that growth and organization. Thank You to all those that helped.

Also special thanks to James Ward who organized shifts at the Jamboree and to Terry Traster, Jr. who organized the booth and procedures.



North Ridgeville

LCYD Member Represents Lorain County in Dallas and Canton

Dallas / Canton—LCYD Member Brendan Kelley attended the Young Democrats of America National Convention in Dallas, TX his past July. LCYD Member Greg Holcomb also attended this year's national convention in Dallas.

After attending the convention in Dallas Brendan represented Lorain County at the Ohio Young Democrats meeting in Canton at the end of July. Before the meeting he and others participated in a lit drop for Canton Mayoral candidate William Healy. At the state executive committee meeting Brendan officially represented Lorain County and cast our votes during the appointment process of new officers.

Brendan is a recent graduate of Oberlin College, serves on the Finance Committee for the Lorain County Young Democrats and serves as a field coordinator for Presidential Candidate Barak Obama.



President's Comments



Paul Adams

LCYD President

Endangered species - a population which is at risk of becoming extinct because it is either few in number, or threatened by changing environmental parameters.

Lorain Republicans - An Endangered Species?

For a time didn't it seem awkward when people would ask, "How does the city of Lorain have a Republican mayor?" The answer would usually end up in some kind of long explanation that mentioned a guy named Koscho, but it never seemed enough. It remained a paradox, a Republican mayor in a city where Democrats outnumber Republicans 6 to 1.

To their credit the local Republican Party fought hard in the 90s to become a major player in Lorain city politics for the first time since the Great Depression. What an impressive run it was too! In the 90s the Republican Party controlled the Auditor's office, the Law Director's office and even a handful of seats on council. The party was organized enough to field candidates in nearly every race, and a few times even managed to field candidates in all of the city's 9 wards! Then in 1999, with a strong city chairman and a popular city Auditor, Craig Foltin, leading the ticket the Republicans pulled off their most impressive victory and defeated a sitting Democratic mayor. Yet, less than 10 years later the party stands to be locked out of City Hall come January.

I hope local Democrats look at the rise and fall of the local Republican Party as a warning. Instead of celebrating, we should ask ourselves why they fell and how can we learn from their mistakes. One glaring problem was the fact that few people were groomed to move up in the party. This left the party with few options and an ever shrinking list of candidates. Local Democrats have the Young Dems, where as the Republicans have failed in every attempt to build a youth arm of their party. The question for Democrats is, will we use them? Another issue that is very apparent now is the break down in unity within the local Republican Party. Private and Public bickering between the party chairman and the mayoral candidate have greatly weakened the party. This is a departure from a few years ago when the former city Republican chairman and the mayor were in lock step agreement.

In a few months as we prepare to celebrate the New Year let us not forget our competition, regardless if they are still worthy of that title. Let us not forget their mistakes and fall, so we can learn from them and ensure they never get a chance to lead Lorain down the wrong path again!

It's the Infrastructure, Stupid!



Chase Ritenauer

Former LCYD President
2002-2004

A thriving economy. Jobs. A safe community. These issues tend to dominate campaign literature at all levels; yet, they completely miss the boat when it comes to what the United States desperately needs.

Do not get me wrong—a robust economy, good paying jobs, and safety are all essential to a good quality of life; however, those are the organs of a city. The structure—the foundation that is imperative for those organs to operate to their fullest capacity—is the infrastructure.

Last week, the Minnesota bridge tragedy brought to light an issue that afflicts the federal, state, and local governments in the United States—our infrastructure is in a state of decay. The Federal Highway Act of 1956, implemented under President Eisenhower, created our highway system as we know it today. Billions of dollars were spent

to improve the U.S. transportation system, and in turn, create more opportunities for interstate commerce. Since then, the federal government has not made infrastructure a priority, and a bridge completely collapsing is empirical evidence that its time has come.

Whether it be issuing no interest loans to state and local governments or taking on the responsibility itself, Eisenhower style, the new administration and Washington must embark on a facelift of America. The truth of the matter is that we need road and bridge improvements along with more technologically and environmentally sound buildings. Now, sure, an effort like this is going to cost money. However, by making sure this effort includes a "Made in America" clause, all of the labor, manpower, steel, and concrete would be American. This means jobs, a shot in the arm for industry, and a much needed facelift for the future of America. Investing in the present to reap the rewards in the future—now that sounds like a good idea to me.

Leadership - LCYD

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Keep track of upcoming LCYD Meetings!

August

LCYD Finance Committee Meeting

Date: August 8th
Time: 8PM
Location: Conference Call

LCYD August General Meeting

Date: August 15th
Time: Pizza & Pop 6:30PM, Mtg 7PM
Location: French Creek Nature Center
4530 Colorado Ave.
Sheffield Village, OH 44054

September

LCYD Finance Committee Meeting

Date: September 12th
Time: 8PM
Location: Conference Call

LCYD Sept. General Meeting

Date: September 19th
Time: Pizza & Pop 6:30PM, Mtg 7PM
Location: Avon Lake Donato's

October

LCYD Finance Committee Meeting

Date: October 10th
Time: 8PM
Location: Conference Call

LCYD Oct. General Meeting

Date: October 17th
Time: Pizza & Pop 6:30PM, Mtg 7PM
Location: Lorain County Community
College (Room and directions TBA)

Political Events

Aug 20th—John Hunter Wings Fundraiser—5-7PM—Quaker Steak & Lube, 4900 Transportation Dr.—Sheffield Village (\$15)

Aug 25th—Ray McLaughlin Wings & Pizza—6-8PM—Petey's Filling station, corner of SR 83 and Sugar Ridge—N. Ridgeville (\$20)

Aug 28th—Lorain County Democratic Party Steak Fry—5-7PM—St. Peter's Pavilion, 3901 Oberlin Ave.—Lorain (\$20)

For a complete list of events in July and after please visit the county party website's calendar;

<http://www.loraincountymunicipalparty.com/events.asp>

RaNdom StUFFs

The LCYD will be purchasing a few tickets to the upcoming Lorain County Democratic Party's annual steak fry. Any LCYD member that is interested in a ticket please contact us at: lorainyd@gmail.com Just as ticket distribution in the past the tickets will be handed out on a first come, first serve basis.

The Finance Committee is already beginning work on plans for the Annual Awards Banquet. They are looking at possible speakers, if you have an suggestions or comments about the banquet please forward to Rebekah Litteral - RLitteral@aol.com

Special thanks to Scott Muska who's invaluable help and support in the planning of our fundraisers is greatly appreciated!

Thanks to Anthony Morano and Cory Shawver who represented the LCYD at this year's Corn Festival in North Ridgeville.

