

DeMille Elementary

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The Admired One

Do you have somebody that you admire more than anybody else in the entire world? In Lakewood, there are many people to admire, especially teachers. The teacher that I admire most is Mrs. Bearden. She has taught me how to do better in school and so much more. In fact, there is so much she has done for me, that my gratitude for her is unexplainable.

Mrs. Bearden is about five and a half feet tall and has blond hair. She is a fifth grade teacher at Cleveland Elementary, which is on Josie and Hackett. Mrs. Bearden is happily married and has two children. Last year she was the head of student council and still is today.

Mrs. Bearden has taught me to do better in Math and English classes. In Math, I used to be a C student, but Mrs. Bearden taught me to do better in it and to enjoy it. She let us use pennies and nuts to do demonstrations of fractions such as multiplication of fractions, division of fractions, addition of fractions, subtraction of fractions etc. Now that she has taught me that math can be fun. Thanks to her, math is now my favorite subject and always will be. In addition to that, thanks to her now I'm an A student in math.

To be honest, English used to be my worst subject, but Mrs. Bearden taught me to write as if I were the main person, animal, plant, or anything. Writing like that has made it easier to write narrative stories and expository stories. Writing scary stories [narrative writing] is my favorite type of story to write because it's fun to put yourself as a character and tell the story from the character's point of view. Telling a story like this can really make the story very interesting! Writing like this has made me a better writer. Now I'm doing way better in English and I've got an A in it.

All these have been examples of what Mrs. Bearden has done for me. Thanks to her, I'm in the A.E. program at DeMille and am doing very well in school. Going to Cleveland Elementary School has been the best thing that has ever happened to me and I will never forget my years there. I hope that Mrs. Bearden will keep teaching because I think that is her strong suit. Everything I have said I think proves my point why Mrs. Bearden is the one

that I admire most.

What I Like About Lakewood

By : Amber Bender
English P. 1
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Where should I begin when talking about this wonderful city I live in. I have lived here all twelve and a half years of my life. There are so many good things about Lakewood. Let's start with the schools.

I attended Grover Cleveland Elementary School, and could not have had a better time while learning about reading, writing, and arithmetic, among other things. The teachers and staff there taught me not only about numbers and letters, but about things I needed to know while growing up, like sharing and getting along with others. My brother and sister and even my dad went to Cleveland, and they turned out to be ok! My brother and sister continued their schooling at Bancroft, and then at Lakewood High School, and did well with the same kind of excellent teachers and staff that there are in all Lakewood schools. I look forward to my future years at Lakewood High.

Lakewood neighborhoods have to be the best anywhere. My block is one of the funnest in town. I have one of my best friends living behind me and all our neighbors are so nice. We have a big 4th of July block party every year, where we barricade the street and ride our bikes up and down the block. Everyone walks from one house to the next, visiting or meeting people. And later we have a great fireworks show.

It's nice to see Lakewood's Sheriff cars driving around, they make me feel safe. It is also nice having all the trees in the city for shade and watching them change colors in the fall.

The parks in Lakewood are fun. I have been to all the parks and they all have lots of things to do. I've been swimming at Mayfair and Bolivar, played in the playgrounds of San Martin, and played sports at Del Valle and Mae Boyar. The sports programs in Lakewood are

top of the line. I have played soccer at these parks for many years.

When I'm not playing in the park or practicing soccer, there are lots of other things to do. The movie theaters at Lakewood Center are awesome, especially the one with that huge screen. The mall is a good place to shop or just hang out with your friends, and the restaurants over there are great. Ribs from Outback and a Jamba juice sounds pretty good right now!

When it comes down to it, Lakewood is a perfect place to live. From the great schools, to the safe neighborhoods, to the fun parks, to the cool shops and yummy restaurants, it's a great place for a kid to grow up and live.

Lakewood It's My Home

By James Devlahovich

It's difficult to write what I like most about Lakewood because there are so many things that I like. I will tell you every thing there is that bring out the true colors of Lakewood to me. It could be Lakewood's parks, schools, or even its golf course. What ever makes Lakewood shine I am glad to be a part of it.

During the summer parents can sign up their kids to attend day camp. Lakewood's Day Camp is at Monte Verte Park. What I liked most about the park is that it is out-of-the-way and there was never a dull moment. Mondays were free days, meaning you get to do what ever you want. Tuesdays and Thursdays the camp went to another Lakewood park, Mayfair and used the Olympic size swimming pool. Wednesdays were excursion days. The camp would go to fun places like Legoland, Knotts Berry Farm, Raging Waters, Wild Rivers, Skate Depot, Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure. Fridays are cookout days, the camp barbequed hotdogs for lunch.

The Long Beach Unified School District, that includes schools in Lakewood, just won the title of Best Urban School District in the nation. I am attending DeMille Middle School which is not in Lakewood, but it should be. I attended Grover Cleveland Elementary school and hope to attend Lakewood High School. I don't care what school I go to as long as I get to come home to Lakewood.

Of course Lakewood could not be Lakewood with out the Center. The Center is home to City Hall and the Sheriff Department. The Center is something that really shows how Lakewood is an organized community. I think of Lakewood as a small friendly American town and the Center really shows it. Lakewood has every thing a little American town should have.

I would say that there are two places in Lakewood that really stand out. One is the Lakewood Country Club and the other is the Lakewood Center Mall. What is interesting about the golf course is that Clark Bonner, one of the founders of Lakewood, wanted Lakewood's center piece to be a golf course. The Lakewood Center Mall was once in the Guinness Book of World Records as the biggest establishment in the world of its kind.

Yet the best thing about Lakewood is the community. Every night when I go to bed I know I am going to see another day because I think Lakewood is one of the safest cities in the world. I hope it will never change.

These are the reasons I love Lakewood. Its safe, its fun and its Lakewood. I trust the Center and the safety of my school that I go to. I look forward to going back to Lakewood Day Camp for its never ending fun. Lakewood it's my home and I wouldn't have it any other way. Happy 50th Anniversary Lakewood. Hope the next 50 years are full of fun and excitement.

Samantha Goerlitz
DeMille Middle School
Mr. Kogen, 6th grade

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT LAKEWOOD

There are many things that I like about Lakewood. I like all the activities Lakewood has during the year. I like the Shops, Parks and Schools. Last but not least, I really like the sports programs.

I have lived in Lakewood right by my old school, Grover Cleveland Elementary, my entire life. Now I go to Cecil B. DeMille Middle School and I like everything about it. The Library has many books to choose from and all the teachers that I know are very nice to me. The gym is the biggest gym I have ever been in. The cafeteria has many things to choose from and the food is all good. Also, at DeMille, there is a student store where you can buy candy and drinks.

I like the activities that there are during the year. I have attended many of the summer programs at my local parks, Mae Boyer and Del Valle. Each holiday they have exciting things to do at the park. I have made many art projects at the parks and even had hot dogs in the afternoon! At Halloween, each park in Lakewood has a carnival where you can play games and they have prizes for the best costume. During the summer, I learned to swim at the two great pools in Lakewood at Bolivar and Mayfair parks. This last summer I went to camp. We hung out at Monte Verde park, went swimming and went to some fun places on the bus like Knott's Berry Farm and Lego Land.

The shops are the best! I love going to Lakewood Mall and shopping in all the different stores. I like all the shops that there are like Rave Girl and Limited, Too, it's great! Now the mall even has a Target. You can find a shop in Lakewood for anything you would like to buy. Even if you are not going to buy anything, the mall offers a great place to hang out with your friends. You can find anything you want to eat at the mall and it even has two giant movie theaters.

I also love the sports programs and all the different sports Lakewood has. The reason I love the sports programs is because I was on a softball team at Heartwell Bobby Sox and it was fun. I just love sports. I also have danced in a Lakewood Parks and Recreation program and I swam on the swim team Lakewood Aquatics. I hope Lakewood keeps all of the sports programs. They are all so fun.

Lakewood is a great place to be in and a great place to live. Everybody who lives in Lakewood should be very proud of his or her city. Lakewood has so many great things to offer like the great activities, shopping, schools and sports programs. Just think if there was not a city of Lakewood, you would have to probably drive another fifteen miles to get to Long Beach!

LAKEWOOD is a GREAT PLACE to be in and LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!!!

Wilfred Salvador
DeMille Middle School
November 1, 2003

What I Love About Lakewood

I have been living in Lakewood my entire life, and I love it. When I grow up I plan to continue living here. It is a city with good schools, great parks, and lots of activities. The neighborhoods are clean and quiet. The people who live here are friendly and helpful.

My favorite place in Lakewood is the Lakewood Mall. It is a place where I can just hang out with my friends and have an enormous amount of fun. I like to go to the mall, especially the arcade with my friends. My favorite stores are Aladdin's Castle and Toon Planet. I love Aladdin's Castle because it has a lot of video games. I like Toon Planet because it has many animated things that are hard to find except in Japan. I really love the food court because I love to eat.

I love Lakewood for its many parks. Whenever I am bored and have nothing to do, I can call my friends and tell them to meet me at the park for sports and fun. The parks have a lot of activities for kids and adults. Some of the sports offered are football and baseball.

Lakewood is a very successful city. It has grown and attracted many people from other areas. I plan on living in Lakewood when I grow up because I love the neighborhoods. I believe that I can raise my children in this city and they can have a good life here. I hope my children will live in Lakewood their entire lives and maybe even raise my grandchildren here. Lakewood is the city I love.

Devon Taylor
DeMille Middle School
November 1, 2003

Lakewood, Oh Lakewood!

So many options! Where do I begin? Lakewood has been part of our family for forty-nine years and still impresses me every day with its clean air, attractive places, and great neighborhoods. There are many reasons why I wouldn't live anywhere but here.

One reason I love Lakewood is that there are so many interesting places where people can enjoy themselves. Lakewood Town Center, for example, has so many stores and entertainment centers, it is difficult to find one that isn't crowded. The center has some great restaurants including Panda Express, the Bumble Bee, and T.G.I.F. After a lunch or dinner, there is always desert at Helen Grace. After desert, kids can play at the Power Station which is the ultimate game place for those who love games. People who prefer other forms of entertainment can visit the book store or the clothes shops. Everything a person wants is located at the Town Center.

A second reason I love Lakewood is that it has great programs. The sports programs at the Y.M.C.A. offer basketball and weight lifting. Playing basketball helps kids' self-esteem and teaches them how to be a team player. Swim lessons at the public swimming pools teach children how to swim and gain confidence in the water.

Thirdly, Lakewood's schools offer many programs for their students. DeMille Middle School's history club encourages students to deepen their understanding of American history. Under the guidance of Mrs. Craig, one of our best eighth grade history teachers, students can visit Washington D.C. to learn more about our nation. The chess club teaches students not only how to master the game but also helps sharpen their thinking.

Best of all, Lakewood is a great place to just sit and relax. It is the perfect place for families to live, work, and go to school. Many people are happy to be part of such a great community. I am proud to be a citizen of Lakewood.

What I Like About Lakewood

My name is Kylie Van Hoosier and I am 11 years old. I was born in Harbor City, and lived in San Pedro for two years. My dad was born and raised in San Pedro and my mom is from Torrance. My parents looked at many different neighborhoods and decided Lakewood was the best. My family moved to Lakewood in 1994. I have lived in Lakewood for 9 years, and would like to share what I love about this great city.

I attended Cleveland Elementary from kindergarten through fifth grade. I have many great memories of the Olympic program where I learned swimming techniques at the YMCA and played many sports. Field trips were also fun, like our trip to the symphony and Camp Hi-Hill. I loved all my teachers and staff. There was one sad day in the third grade that I will remember forever. I had two friends named Derrick and Ray that accidentally drowned. In memory of the boys, the school installed two benches on the playground that remind me of them every time I pass the school.

The parks in Lakewood are really cool. I have been going to the parks since the day I moved here. I loved going to May Boyer and going in the kiddie pool. I now go to the pool at Mayfair Park. I've played volley-tennis, basketball, and flag football through the park league. My basketball team was undefeated and all-city champions. The Lakewood cable channel came out and filmed the city championship game; it was exciting to watch myself on TV. I look forward each summer to the Concerts in the Park because I love to have picnics with my family. I also love the Halloween carnivals. I really liked the tribute to 9/11. It made me feel like our

city cares about our Armed Forces. I've just begun to attend TFN (Totally Friday Nights) at DelValle Park. I think it's great that Lakewood has a fun and safe place for kids to hang out and meet new friends. Parks and Rec have really great classes you can take. I have taken ballet, pottery, and baton twirling.

I'm in the sixth grade at DeMille Middle school and proud to be a Knight! So far middle school has been really fun and not as scary as I thought. Going from class to class isn't hard at all. I am on the volleyball team and we have made it to the finals. I'm looking forward to playing volleyball at Lakewood High. My brother is a freshman at Lakewood High and is a staff reporter for the Lance (the school newspaper).

I am very thankful that my parents decided to move to Lakewood. The schools, the parks, and the community are the best. Most of my friends and their families have grown up in Lakewood and that says something about this great city. I hope to live here a very long time and raise a family of my own. I will always feel safe as long as I live here.