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Observer

Community News & Views Written by the Citizens of Westlake & Bay Village • Join in at www.wbvobserver.com

Great Duck Race & Family Fun Fest 2011 at Nature Center June 5

by Joanna Galysh

Quack, quack! Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is in the midst of preparations for the 8th annual Great Duck Race and Family Fun Fest. This year, Family Fun Fest takes place on Sunday, June 5, from noon-4 p.m. The Center is looking for individuals and businesses to sponsor an entry in the 2011 Great Duck Race down Porter Creek, a major highlight of the annual summer event.

At 2:30 p.m., Porter Creek will be filled with vibrant yellow rubber ducks competing to cross the finish line first (with a bit of human help, of course). Anyone can sponsor a duck. The cost of sponsorship is \$5 for one duck, or 5 ducks for \$20.

The Center has already sold over 500 ducks, so be sure to get yours while you can!

» See DUCK RACE, page 13



Relay for Life participants walk the Bay High track in the evening of May 28. The luminaria each bear the name of someone special who has been profoundly affected by cancer and the family and friends who continue to fight back in their honor. See more photos of Bay's Relay for Life events on page 13.

Westlake Kiwanis Aktion Club blooms on Hilliard

by Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Aktion Club planted their Hilliard flower box in red, white and blue in keeping with this year's Westlake Bicentennial theme for Westlake in Bloom. The club used a pattern created by member Jennifer Carlson while planting their flowers donated by Lowe's in Rocky River. The club hopes you stop by to see their display on Hilliard just off of Dover Center.

Aktion Club is a community-service group for adult citizens who live with a disability. The mission of Aktion Club is: To provide adults living with disabilities an opportunity to develop initiative and leadership skills; to serve their community; to be integrated into society; and to demonstrate the dig-

nity and value of citizens living with disabilities.

Aktion Club members strive to return to their communities the benefits, help and caring they have received, as well as develop important skills in the process. ♦



Aktion Club members Jennifer Carlson, Jennifer Rutkoski, Natalie Orlandi, Elizabeth Mulhan, Megan Drops and Advisor Vic Rutkoski show off their freshly-planted flower box on Hilliard Boulevard.



Get fit after school next year!

by Jim Dispirito

A new venture between the Westlake Recreation Dept. and Westlake Schools will offer students a safe, yet fun and active, place to go after school. The Fit 'N' Fun After School Camp will open to fifth- and sixth-graders at the start of the 2011-2012 school year.

Students will be bused from Parkside Intermediate

School to the Rec Center, where the trained staff will combine fitness with fun. Daily lessons and activities will include basketball, volleyball, nutrition instruction, access to the D.E.N. teen fitness area and other fitness programs.

There will be five sessions throughout the school year, each lasting seven to eight weeks. The first session runs from August 29 to October 21, with classes held

Monday-Friday from 3:30-6:00 p.m.

The fee is \$342 for the first session. A discount of \$20 is available to those who register before June 8, as well as for multiple session or multiple children registrations.

Deadline to register is one week prior to the start of each session. For more information, contact Anne Mitchell at 440-808-5700, ext 3475. ♦

Community shows appreciation for veterans



Matt Michelich places a flag during Westlake's Memorial Day celebration. The flags honored each of the city's residents who gave their lives in service to our country, dating back to the Civil War. See more Memorial Day photos on page 3.

Bay students pass 100,000-mile mark in fourth Bike to School Challenge

Students at Bay Middle School and Bay High School didn't let an unusually rainy May dampen their commitment to bicycling during Bike to School Challenge which concluded May 27 with school-wide assemblies to celebrate the program's success.

Students at the two schools bicycled a total of 22,751 miles to school from May 9 through May 27 which saved the environment an estimated 25,026 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. It also saved Mom and Dad over \$4,000 in gasoline expenditures.

Bay Schools marked its fourth Bike to School Challenge by hitting a major milestone – its students have now bicycled a total of 102,803 miles since the program began in 2008.

Bike to School Challenge's grand prizes were two Raleigh bicycles per school donated by Century Cycles and Raleigh Bicycles. The bicycles were won by 12th-grader Matt Brant and 9th-grader Elizabeth Veres at Bay High

School; and 5th-grader Cara Berlan and 6th-grader Owen MacMillan at Bay Middle School (both of whom biked every day of BTS Challenge).



Bay Middle School at the Bike to School Challenge assembly.

The bicycles were presented to the winners by Chris Speyer, vice president of Raleigh Bicycles. Speyer also made a special presentation to Sean McAndrews, principal of Bay Middle School, and Jason Martin, assistant principal of Bay High School, in honor and recognition of their commitment to youth bicycling.

Mayor Deborah Sutherland attended the assemblies, praising the students for their bicycling accomplishments and telling them how much they've inspired their communities. Mayor Sutherland vowed to bike and walk more herself this summer, saying she sees far more citizens riding bicycles in Bay Village since the program began.

At the closing ceremonies, over 50 prizes donated by program sponsors were awarded to students in a raffle. Students earned raffle tickets for every four bike-rides to school that were completed (double tickets if they wore a bike helmet for each ride). ●

Sale raises funds to preserve Westlake history

The Westlake Historical Society held their annual yard sale May 28 at the Clague House Museum. The sale, which had been postponed from May 14 due to rain, is one of several fundraisers the society holds each year.

As a cloudy morning gave way to a sunny afternoon, a steady stream of buyers and browsers strolled the museum lawn. Big-ticket items, including electronics, lighting fixtures and vintage lawn equipment, were

among the first to go.

Lysa Stanton, president of the Westlake Historical Society, told the Observer that this year's sale raised over \$700 – more than double last year's total – not including items taken for consignment.

"Weather plays a huge role in terms of sales," Stanton said. "We got lucky that our 'rain date' had better weather, but the community really helped out by donating a ton of great items this year."

All of the items for the sale were donated to the historical society. The society is funded entirely through membership dues, donations and fundraisers like the yard sale. Membership is open to all Westlake residents and businesses.

Funds raised are used to pay for utility and maintenance costs at the Clague House Museum and to ensure that items donated to the historical society are preserved and stored appropriately. ●



Shoppers browse the annual Westlake Historical Society yard sale May 28.

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Want to submit an article to the Observer? We'd love to hear from you! Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when writing for the Observer:

- Anyone who lives, works or has a vested interest in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 words.
- Check your facts. Take the extra time to ensure accuracy.
- Submit original stories and photos. Don't copy others' work and remember to credit your sources.
- Be respectful of others.
- Write for the community. Your stories will be read by people throughout Westlake and Bay Village (and beyond) so keep the audience in mind when choosing topics.
- Know you'll be edited. All stories pass through

editors who review stories for spelling and grammar. We try to keep the news as "unfiltered" as possible, but may edit length and content if necessary.

- Disclose your affiliation. If you have a personal or business relationship with the subject of your story, let your readers know.
- Don't write stories solely to promote your business—that's what ads are for.

Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process.

To join in, sign-up through the Member Center at www.wbvobserver.com and submit your stories & photos. Photos should be jpegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes in size. If you have questions, contact us at staff@wbvobserver.com.

WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE Observer

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Village Foundation dedicates bronze plaques

The Village Foundation held its annual Memorial Day bronze plaque dedication at Cahoon Park. The plaques bear the names of Bay citizens who have been recognized by their family and friends with a donation to the Village Foundation, and are installed on the footbridge in the north end of Cahoon Park. This year's honorees were Tom Jelepis, former mayor of Bay Village, and Tom and Sandy Sullivan, longtime Bay residents. ●



Sandy Sullivan, with her son, Tom, accepts a plaque on behalf of herself and her husband, Tom, from emcee Jon Loufman.



Nancy Jelepis Clark (third from left) reads a statement from her brother, Tom Jelepis, who was unable to attend the ceremony. With Nancy are her husband, Dwight Clark, and Tom's daughters, Liz and Cate Jelepis.

Memorial Day activities honor our veterans



Amelia Somerville, Sydner Allen and Brandon Somerville wave flags as Vietnam veterans march along Lake Road in Bay Village.



Girl Scout Katie Dunstan and Boy Scout Brian Hippler release doves at Bay's Lakeside Cemetery ceremony.



Cub Scouts salute the flag during the Pledge of Allegiance at Westlake's Clague Park ceremony.



The Westlake Police Color Guard lead the parade down Hilliard Boulevard.



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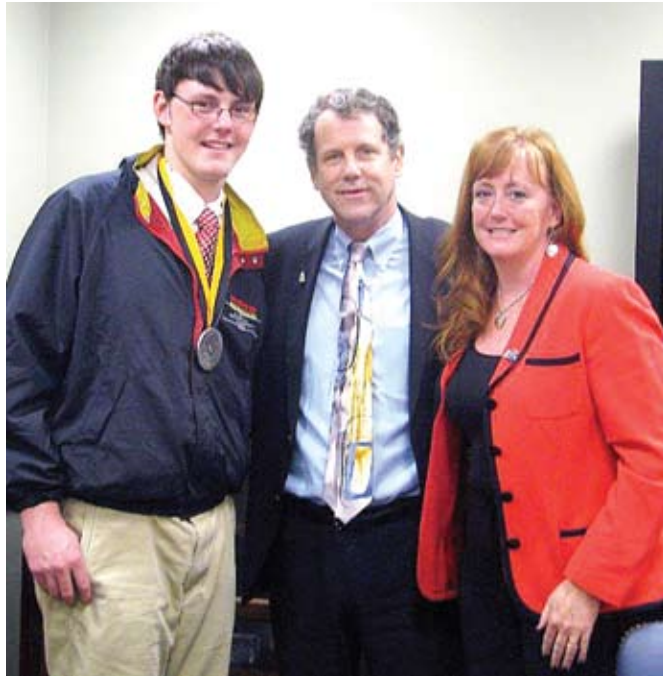
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Proceeds go to support Rose Hill Museum, the Reuben Osborn Learning Center and for student scholarships

Bay senior honored in D.C. for community service

Bay High School senior Joseph Melenick was one of two Ohio students recently honored with the Prudential Spirit of Community Award and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Each year for the past 16 years, Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals have awarded the top two student volunteers from each state and the District of Columbia with a \$1,000 award and a free trip to the nation's capital.

While in Washington, Joe met with Sen. Sherrod Brown, who congratulated him for raising \$50,000 for Crohn's disease research.

"Young Ohioans like Joseph Melenick provide the energy, insight and imagination needed to lead our state toward even greater progress in the 21st century," Brown said. "This is a proud moment not only for Joseph, but also for the family and the educators who



Joseph Melenick and his mother, Nancy, met with Sen. Sherrod Brown in Washington, D.C., on May 3.

helped instill his solid Ohio values of hard work and community service."

While in Washington, D.C., Joe and his fellow honorees toured the capital's landmarks and attended a gala awards ceremony at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. ●

Westlake 'neighbors' give back

by Kathy Rigdon

A group of red-shirted volunteers showed up at Youth Challenge headquarters in Westlake on May 24 to mark the 21st anniversary of the KeyBank Neighbors Make the Difference Day. Members of the Key Private Bank Team, Crocker Park office, took part in the company's annual volunteer community service day by lending many helpful hands to Youth Challenge.

Youth Challenge is a non-profit corporation that brings together children with physical disabilities and youth volunteers for year-round adapted sports and recreational activities.

YC offers round-trip transportation to almost every program for all qualified participants. KeyBank volunteers helped clean YC's fleet of lift-equipped vans to help improve the quality of the transportation experience for the participants. KeyCorp Chairman and CEO, Beth Mooney, even stopped by to help scrub the vans!

Volunteers also planted flowers, washed gym mats and several team members rode with Jack Reck, a YC van driver, to pick up participants at school for the YC Scouts program.

"The best part of our experience was having the chance to meet some of the very special kids Youth Challenge works so hard to help enjoy life in exceptional ways," said Amy Lorus, Trust Officer. "My co-workers and I were fortunate to meet and ride with Ryan, Megan and Mickey. They were each so full of life and taught us that everyone comes in their own special package."

According to Lisa Spinale, Relationship Associate, "the best gift of all was being able to give our time to such an amazing organization."

Many thanks to KeyBank for this day of service to Youth Challenge! For more information about Youth Challenge and to see additional photos of the Key Private Bank Team in action, visit youthchallengesports.com. ●



The Youth Challenge vans have never been cleaner thanks to members of the Key Private Bank Team, Crocker Park office.

Library challenges all ages to 'read around the world' and 'adopt' snake

by Shawn Salamone

The Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library is getting ready for an exciting summer of traveling through books with a "Read Around the World" summer reading game.

The game is open to all readers: children, teens and adults with a variety of great prizes and incentives.

Readers can earn both individual prizes as well as the collective, long-term "adoption" of the boa constrictor living in Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. The Friends of the Bay Village Library have pledged to pay the snake's adoption fees for an entire year if reading logs reach the goal of 20,000 hours.

"We've reached this goal in the past and we are confident our readers can do it again," said Children's Librarian Susan Ballard.

Beginning June 4, readers of all ages can go to the library to receive a prize and a game board. From then on, all you have to do is read! Each reader can earn entry forms to win more prizes such as Zoo memberships and Indians, Browns and Cavaliers game tickets. The more you read, the more

chances you'll have to win one of the Grand Prizes.

The kickoff event will be held at the Bay Branch on June 13 with Wildlife Wendy, origami demonstrations and pizza. Save the date to join in on the fun and then take off around the world!



A one-year adoption of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's resident Boa Constrictor is just one of the rewards in store for area readers this summer, thanks to the Friends of the Bay Village Library.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's Adopt An Animal program allows wildlife lovers to help pay for the care and feeding of the dozens of animals on exhibit and used in teaching and outreach. Adopt An Animal sponsorships are available for as little as \$5 per month, with the Boa Constrictor fee set at \$25 per month. Of course, "adopted" animals stay at the Center where anyone can visit them during regular Center hours, daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ●

Bay Village Historical Society honors Laura Petto with scholarship

by Eric Eakin

Laura Petto is the recipient of this year's \$500 scholarship awarded by the Bay Village Historical Society.

The scholarship is awarded to the Bay High senior who has an overarching interest in local history, as determined by teachers at Bay High.

Petto, the daughter of Peter and Anna, will be attending Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, where she will pursue a double major in government/legal studies and mathematics.

Petto, who volunteered at the society's Rose Hill Museum, held a 4.39 grade point average at graduation and was ranked third in her class of 180 students.

"I appreciate being awarded this scholarship," Petto said. "It will be very helpful and I thank the society very much." ●



Laura Petto is this year's recipient of the Bay Village Historical Society scholarship.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

Summer fun is beginning at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

The Summer Reading Game and Summer Programs are about to begin at the Bay Library. It promises to be a busy, fun time with something for everyone. The Reading Game begins on June 4 and runs through August 6 so now is the time to get started on those books! The theme this year is “Read Around the World” and we’re excited to travel the globe with our customers. Please join us!

ADULT DEPARTMENT:

Thursday, June 9 (7 p.m.) HOT READS – What are the hot reads of the season? Find out about the most buzzed about and highly anticipated books of the summer, and get suggestions for all reading tastes. Bring a list of five favorite books for the biblio-guru game and discover your next great read.

Wednesday, June 15 (7 p.m.) CLEVELAND ETHNIC EATS WITH LAURA TRAXEL – Take a trip around the world without leaving Greater Cleveland! Join us as we welcome Laura Traxel, author of “Cleveland Ethnic Eats.” Find out what restaurants are here, where to find them, and what delicious menu items you’ll find when you get there.

CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT:

Wednesday, June 15 (2 p.m.) BOOK BUZZ: FUN WITH FLAT STANLEY – For grades 2-4. Read a Flat Stanley book and have fun with activities related to the book.

Monday, June 20 (11 a.m.) STORY SAFARI: ANIMALS AROUND THE WORLD – Join storyteller Jennifer Johnson in acting out funny animal folktales with puppets and masks,

then make a craft!

FAMILY PROGRAMS:

Monday, June 13 (2-5 p.m.) SUMMER READING KICKOFF – Wildlife Wendy Horton will help us kick off the Summer Reading Game when she brings her colorful macaws and talking parrots and shares their natural habitats, training techniques, and the importance of pet owner responsibility. Michael Roy Baldrige will amaze customers with his origami animals from around the world. He will hold an origami workshop for children in grades 4 and up. Enjoy pizza and a craft as part of the party!

Please register for these programs by calling 871-6392 or go online to cuyahogalibrary.org. We look forward to seeing you!

HOT READS AT THE BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY!

by Joyce Sandy

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, AT 7:00 P.M.

What are the sizzling hot reads of the season? Want to know what books to take on vacation or which one is good for an afternoon under a shade tree in the backyard?

Come to the Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library on Thursday, June 9, at 7:00 p.m. to hear the library’s own “biblio-guru” Bill Kelly. As a member of the American Library Association Adult Notable Books Council, Bill is required to read a large variety of books throughout the year and he will discuss the most anticipated and talked about new books published this year.

Bring a list of your five favorite recently-read books and discover your next great read! Register online at cuyahogalibrary.org or call 440-871-6392 as seating is limited. ●

SENIOR LIVING

Young and old join together in planting of garden at Bradley Bay

by Nancy Girardot

On a sunny afternoon in May, eighth-graders from St. Raphael School in Bay Village helped Bradley Bay residents work the soil and plant a lovely flower garden. Everyone joined in. This garden will be maintained and enjoyed all summer long by Bradley Bay’s residents and staff. ●



Bradley Bay residents Ann Dvorak and Nettie Turgeon take a break from planting to pose with their student partners.

Learn Bridge While You Play

Six hourlong bridge lessons for \$10

Lessons are Mondays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., beginning Monday, June 6, at the Knickerbocker Apartments in Bay Village.

For beginners, intermediates, or those who haven’t played in a while.

Fee covers cost of supplies.

To sign up, call Marion Weber at 440-250-0664.

Even owls like art



Renee Moell took this photo of one of the family of Barred owls nesting in a pine tree on the BAYarts campus.



Diane Black and her mother, Irene Twohig, enjoy the Ladies Tea at the Gardens at Westlake

Gardens at Westlake hosts third annual Ladies Tea

by Barb Bartlome

The sun actually came out for the 3rd Annual Ladies Tea at the Gardens at Westlake, a retirement and assisted living community on Detroit Road. A large group of residents and their guests were treated to a well-received presentation by Gloria Cipri Kemer, owner of the Emerald Bed and Breakfast Tea Room in Fairview Park.

As an expert on tea, Gloria enthralled the audience with a program titled: “Teas From Around The World” and neatly tied in a little bow were three samples she discussed which were Chinese, English and Tea Today.

While enjoying the variety of teas, everyone was served Flaming Bananas Foster topped with scoops of ice cream.

The program was educational and interesting as the focus was on the concept that people are drinking more tea today related to the enormous health benefits. A hand-out was provided with hints and facts regarding those benefits.

The event was co-sponsored by Michelle Capiccioni, Territory Manager for Medical Service Company, and Emily Marvin, Director of Care Coordination, Caring Tree Home Health. ●

Bay Village Legion to retire old flags

by Jim Potter

The Bay Village American Legion Post #385 will retire old, torn and faded flags on Friday, June 10, at 6:00 p.m. at their Post Home, 695 Cahoon Rd., Westlake. Citizens can bring their old flags in a grocery bag and hang them on the doorknob of the Post home, prior to that date.

The Post Home is located just south of the railroad tracks and north of White Oaks Restaurant.

Each year the Legion retires 500 flags as part of the Flag Day and Veterans Day celebrations. ●

Save the date - August 27

Want a chance at winning \$1,000 or more while having fun, eating, drinking and enjoying live music? Then mark Saturday, August 27, on your calendar: That is the night of the Bay Men’s Club “Lu-Wow” scholarship-fund fundraiser at the Bay Lodge.

All purchasing \$50 admission tickets are automatically entered into a raffle with the grand prize of \$1,000. The event will also feature a catered BBQ ribs and chicken dinner, refreshments, live music, a corn-hole tournament, silent auction, a reverse raffle and much more. Call 440-669-9686 for more information.

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

June events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

Friday, June 3 (10:30-11 a.m.) LET’S SING AND DANCE! – Join us for a fun session of singing and dancing. For children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. No registration required.

Tuesday, June 7 (7-8:30 p.m.) WRITER’S WORKSHOP FOR TEENS AND ADULTS WITH NATALIE PALMER – Local author Natalie Palmer (“Second Kiss,” Tate Publishing, 2010) will conduct a workshop for aspiring writers. Ages 12 and up. Please register.

Wednesday, June 8 (10-11 a.m.) YOU AND YOUR NOOK E-BOOK READER – John Berry from Barnes & Noble Crocker Park will give a presentation on various features of Nook e-book readers, including using your Nook to read library e-books. Please register.

Friday, June 24 (10 a.m.-12 p.m.) PORTER’S FIBER FANATICS – Socialize, share, and solve problems while you work on your current project.

Wednesday, June 8 (10:30-11 a.m.) LET’S SING

AND DANCE! – Join us for a fun session of singing and dancing. For children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. No registration required.

Thursday, June 9 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION — The June selection is “Unfinished Business: One Man’s Extraordinary Year of Trying to Do the Right Things” by Lee Kravitz.

Friday, June 10 (1-4 p.m.) SUPER SMASH BROS. BRAWL GAMING TOURNAMENT – Teens in grades 6-12: Get ready to rumble! Who has what it takes to be the best? There will be fun, food, and prizes! Please register.

Friday, June 10 (2-4 p.m.) MOVIES @YOUR LIBRARY – “TANGLED” (RATED PG) – Cool off with some fun summer movies at the library! Titles may change depending upon release dates. All ages welcome; room limited to 58. Registration begins one week before each movie.

Saturday, June 11 (2-3 p.m.) BRICK BUILDERS CLUB – Love those LEGO bricks? Then bring your ideas and imagination to the club! All bricks provided.

Ages 6-13. Registration begins one week prior to each session.

Tuesday, June 14 (11 a.m.-noon) CHALK THE WALK! – Artists of all ages and skill levels are invited to join us to “Chalk the Walk” at the library! Chalk will be provided.

Tuesday, June 14 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – The June selection is “The Help” by Katherine Stockett.

Wednesday, June 15 (2-4 p.m.) BEGINNER’S ORIGAMI WITH JENN CLINE – Learn how to create origami with origami expert Jenn Cline. This class is designed for beginners. Grades 6-12. Registration begins June 8.

Wednesday, June 15 (6:30 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGY SOCIETY – “And Bob’s Your Uncle! Basics of Family History Research in England” with genealogist Elizabeth Hauser.

To register for any of the programs, please call 440-871-2600 or visit <http://signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080>.

Bay Village waterways get biannual cleaning

by Eileen Vernon

Now in its fifth year, the Bay Village Waterways Clean-up on May 21 was once again a big success!

Eryn Whistler, Bay High School teacher and sponsor of the school’s Project Earth Club, announced that the participants filled 29 large trash and recycle bags, found ten pieces of steel, removed some discarded tires, and picked about 190 pounds of the invasive garlic mustard plant – in just over two hours of work.

The city provided trash bags and gloves for use in picking up debris along Cahoon Creek, Columbia Park, Bay Boat Club, and other portions of the Lake Erie waterfront. Afterwards, city workers pick up the debris.

Student Village Foundation Trustees, Jaimie Kerka, Nathan Notarbernadito, Carson Phillips and Caroline Kennedy planned and delivered lunch – funded by the Village Foundation – for the hungry crowd afterwards.

The Village Foundation began the Clean-up Day program in 2006 with the help of the Bay City Services Department and with the support of Mayor Deborah Sutherland. Village Foundation trustees, families, students and several Boy Scout troops joined in the initial effort.

Shortly thereafter, Mayor Sutherland founded the Bay Village Green Team and the members of that group have participated every year since. The Green Team has been invaluable to the success of the project, emphasizing the importance of identifying and removing garlic mustard from the environment. Many

land managers consider it to be one of the most potentially harmful and difficult to control invasive plants in the region.

Since 2006, Bay Clean-up Day has blossomed into a well-organized twice-yearly project headed by Project Earth Club of Bay High School under the skillful direction of teacher Eryn Whistler. Village Foundation Trustee, Richard Mayer, assisted hands-on with the clean-up activity.

As in most years, the weather cooperated, but working around the water – even on nice days – can be wet and muddy. Participants are asked to wear clothes that they don’t mind getting muddy or wet because Clean-up Day trash pick-up goes on rain or shine. Most wear boots and find the gloves provided by the city of Bay Village to be very useful.

Students, Scouts and other groups looking for service projects are welcome to participate. The fall Waterways Clean-up is tentatively scheduled for September 17; details will be announced as fall nears. ●



Cornelia Ryan pulls garlic mustard plants, an invasive ground cover that crowds out native plants, at Cahoon Memorial Park.



John Hunger, Jake Fowler and Brian Kelly collect trash in Columbia Road Park.

Let’s Meet at Panera!

The WBV Observer is your newspaper, and every resident of Westlake and Bay Village is welcome to join in! Come meet the WBVO staff to learn about this community project, talk about how you can take part, or share your ideas for improvement. Questions? Call 440-409-0114 or email tara@wbvobserver.com

Thursday, June 9
Panera Bread
26137 Detroit Rd.
Stop in anytime between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

WESTLAKE RECREATION CENTER

Splashing into summer, Westlake Recreation style

by Jim Dispirito

PETERSON POOL INFORMATION

Peterson Pool, located in Clague Park, is the city of Westlake's outdoor public pool. The pool is open to both residents and non-residents. Peterson Pool will open its doors for the summer on Saturday, June 4. The pool is open 1-8 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on weekends. For more information, including costs and membership information, please see our website at www.wlrec.org.

PEE-WEE COED SOFTBALL (AGES 4-6)

Come and join one of our longest-running programs. Boys and girls get their first taste of America's pastime, baseball. Children will need to bring their own glove we will take care of the rest. Participants will learn the basics including how to throw, catch, hit and run the bases. We use a softened, smaller softball for our lessons. This is a coach-pitched program. Classes start the week of June 13.

GET FIT

Various fitness classes are offered at the Westlake Recreation Center including, Yoga, Zumba, Phenomenal Abdominals, Spinning, as well as other fitness oriented classes. For more information and class schedules please visit our website at www.wlrec.org.

SOCCER CAMP (AGES 5-14)

This soccer camp is designed for kids who want to work on their soccer skills during the summer. Westlake High School boys coach Mike Besu is the instructor. Full and half-day sessions are available, as are different weeks. Sessions run the weeks of June 13, July 18 and August 1.



JUNIOR HOOP BASKETBALL CAMP (GRADES 1-4)

Join us for this four-day camp to help develop our youngest hoops players. The emphasis will be on dribbling, passing, shooting and basics of playing in an organized game. Classes are held the week of June 13, from 9-10 a.m. for grades 1-2, and 10-11 a.m. for grades 3-4.

GOLF

Various golf lessons are starting including beginners, intermediate and short game classes. Kids on the Course starts in early June. Check out our summer brochure online for all the golf classes. Golf lessons are held at the Golden Tee Driving Range on Olmsted Falls.

Information regarding all of these programs and more can be found at our website at <http://www.wlrec.org> or by stopping by the Recreation Center at 28955 Hilliard Blvd, calling us at 440-808-5700 or picking up our new Rec Gazette. ●

Pick your prize at Crocker Bark

by Nancy Brown

Come to Crocker Park June 11 and 12 to pick out a prize. That prize could be a forever friend or helping out the wonderful pet-related organizations that help the homeless pets.

The first Crocker Bark at Crocker Park has much to offer, being tied in with the annual art festival this year.

Friends of the Bay Village Kennel have had tremendous support in donations of pet baskets, restaurant and retail gift cards, certificates from animal hospitals, soothing items from Bella Capelli, a car detail from #1 Express Car Wash and Detail, a ster-

ling silver necklace with a jade design valued at \$200 from Schreiberman Gems, a trellis with arch donated by Elyria Fence valued over \$400 and decorated by Dean's Greenhouse. Many more prizes and surprises will also be raffled off. Tickets are \$1 each.

All proceeds go to help the homeless and abandoned animals in Bay Village.

The first 350 visitors to the Friends of Bay Village Kennel tents will receive a free goody bag.

Crocker Bark hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on June 11 and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on June 12.

For more information go to www.friendsofbayvillagekennel.com. ●

Designing with garden art



by Julia Shutt

Big trees and shrubs are the first step in creating a pleasing landscape plan. I like to place garden art into position after the bones of a design are in. It's a great way to draw the eye and accent space.

This mixed border along a winding path (pictured above) beckons the visitor to stop and look – and then they

notice they are not alone! A medieval wanderer made of stone peers through giant tropical Elephant Ears (Colocasia). Angel's Trumpet (Brugmansia) and red Impatiens are two more summer annuals that pop against an evergreen backdrop of Canadian Hemlock and Norway Spruce. Julia Shutt is a master landscape designer in Bay Village.

ONE SENIOR'S OPINION

Walking the Relay, one step at a time

by Dianne Borowski

Friday, May 27, was the first time I have been able to participate in Bay Village's Relay for Life. Diagnosed in October, 2008, I have been struggling to define myself in relationship to the cancer which turned my life upside down. For some reason, I wasn't able to assemble in public with others like myself who were co-existing with this dreadful disease.

My cancer was my private challenge. I was reluctant to share much about it except in the safety of my support groups. This year, I decided, it was time to step up with others and be counted as one who is surviving.

Standing with other survivors and those who support their journey, waiting for the walk to begin, I felt an enormous sense of pride. I was sure I

made the right decision. I was meant to be here. Uncertain if I had enough stamina to complete the entire lap, I hesitated. Perhaps, I should just watch the others walk.

Then I thought of all those I had lost to cancer – family and friends – and I began walking. Putting one foot in front of the other, never looking back, only ahead, I slowly made my way to the finish line. I may have been the last to finish but I made it.

As I watched the many volunteers who gave so much to help and support those touched by cancer I thought how very fortunate I am to call Bay Village home. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this year's Relay for Life a reality. To my dear friends, Donna and Diane, who are fighting the good fight so valiantly at this time, I dedicate my walk to you. Believe! ●

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Compeer honors program’s valuable volunteers

by Denise Ayres

On May 17, Compeer held its annual Volunteers Appreciation Dinner at Far West Center. To show our gratitude to all of our valuable Compeer Match Volunteers, Group Event Volunteers, and Community Volunteers, staff organized a bountiful dinner in a warm atmosphere. The room was decorated in an elegant dining room style.

Our goal was to treat our “Valuable Volunteers” as the VIPs that they truly are. Each was given recognition for the care, time and heartfelt friendship they bring to the Compeer Program. Our Valuable Volunteers make it possible for Compeer to offer the friendship and opportunities greatly needed to decrease isolation and depression.

Compeer is planning to spotlight each of our Valuable Volunteers in our upcoming Westlake | Bay Village Observer articles. In this article, we are spotlighting volunteer Krystal Kinley.

Krystal became a Compeer Match

Volunteer in July 2010. She is currently a social work student at Youngstown State University. After receiving her associate degree at Lorain County Community College, Krystal has been working toward her bachelor's degree and her Ohio Social Workers License. Krystal tells us she has plans to continue her education and earn a master's degree.

Krystal is an enthusiastic and caring young woman that has already made volunteering one of her lifetime missions. She also volunteers by helping younger students in the two separate mentoring organizations. Also, in her current position at an assisted living facility for elderly individuals, she works one-on-one with residents and helps them to improve the quality of daily life.

Krystal is matched in Compeer with a woman named Shari. Together, Krystal and Shari make their own plans to meet in the community for lunch, dinner or to have fun. Together they have enjoyed playing the interactive games at Dave and Buster's in West-

lake. As a Compeer Match, Krystal and Shari have become friends that enjoy a good laugh. They also attend Compeer events like “Dancing and Exercise Group with Louis B. Naylor” (a retired CSU dance instructor).

Throughout our upcoming articles you can read about our other Compeer Valuable Volunteers. They are women and men, college students and teachers, athletes and professional athletic assistants, scientists, cosmetologists, young adults and older wise and experienced adults. Each has encouragement to offer and time to spend with an individual that had been isolated due to mental illness.

If you are interested in becoming a Compeer Valuable Volunteer, please call Denise and Jody at 440-835-6212, ext. 242, or email compeer@farwest-center.com. It is totally free to ask us questions and there is no obligation unless you decide to join. Our volunteers set their own monthly schedules, a unique and flexible feature of the Compeer Program! ●

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE’S ANNUAL BARN SALE

by Pam Kilpatrick

Clague Playhouse's Annual “Barn Sale” will be held on Saturday, June 18, from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

We will be happy to accept donations of tables, lamps, furniture, decor items, pictures, kitchen and bath items, lawn and garden equipment, small appliances, toys, games, crafts, and sports equipment (no clothes please) at the theater from Wednesday, June 8, through Saturday, June 11, 1:00-6:00 p.m. and from Wednesday, June 15, through Friday, June 17, 1:00-8:00 p.m. Proceeds from the sale will be used for operating costs for the 2011-2012 season.

Clague Playhouse is located at 1371 Clague Rd., between Detroit and Hilliard.

Readers’ Letters

US should end operations in Afghanistan

President Barack Obama announcing Osama bin Laden's death affirmed that “justice has been done.” Secretary of State Hillary Clinton similarly declared that “justice had been served.”

His execution by a Navy SEAL team had nothing to do with justice. It had been decided in advance that he was to be killed under circumstances in which he could not have been captured and brought before a court of law on charges related to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Behind this decision, the administration made determination to prevent the long history of bin Laden's relations with the U.S. government agencies from being opened up to public review. This relationship began the CIA's arming and funding of the mujahideen Islamist guerrillas fighting Soviet troops in Afghanistan – whom President Reagan described as “the moral equivalent of our founding fathers.”

Osama, the son of a wealthy businessman in Saudi Arabia, played a key role in recruiting and training Arab volunteers for the CIA-backed mujahideen, who ultimately gave rise to the Taliban. Al Qaeda was established in that period, with the aid and arms from the CIA.

This collaboration did not end with the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, or with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. Bin Laden and al Qaeda once again served as assets of the U.S. military intelligence complex in the wars that tore apart Yugoslavia, first in Bosnia and then, at the end of the 1990s, in Kosovo.

The history of this long and intimate relationship between an individual portrayed as America's deadliest enemy and U.S. intelligence agencies is systematically covered up.

What is striking about Washington's response to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, is there was never a logical explanation why, when 15 of the 19 accused hijackers were citizens of Saudi Arabia, that country has remained immune from any retribution. Not one hijacker came from either Afghanistan or Iraq, yet both countries would shortly be engulfed in violence and death.

Now that Osama bin Laden has been summarily executed, we should declare victory and bring the troops home.

– John O'Neill, Bay Village

Mohican outdoor school turns 50

Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors was begun in 1961 to provide outdoor environmental education to school children. Over 250,000 students in grades 4-8 have attended this program in the last 50 years.

I am a former principal of Parkside School in Westlake which still sends students to Mohican. I was also a member of Mohican School's board of directors for 25 years and served as executive director from 2005 to 2010.

I would like to reflect on the impact of this program on participants in helping to better understand and appreciate our natural surroundings. Students spend class time hiking through the woods learning about geology, water studies, trees, animals, plants, astronomy and flowers.

They learn to read a compass and use a GPS to get around a compass course. They get to handle rabbits, snakes, turtles, goats, and see live raptors in class. Today most kids are tied to the TV, computer, video games, iPhones and other gadgets. At the outdoor school, students are not allowed to bring any electronic devices. They think they will die but find that playing ping pong, checkers, chess, and other “old fashioned” games is fun.

They learn to make their beds, clean up their area and be responsible for their belongings. Each student is assigned a

job like setting the table before a meal, recycling, sweeping and emptying trash. For most students this is the first time being away for more than a sleepover and they learn that they can “make it.” They get to see their school teachers at meals, taking hikes with the classes, participating in outdoor activities and wearing their outdoor clothes.

The school is a private, non-profit organization that struggles each year to meet its budget. With educational funding being reduced, the slumping economy, concerns of parents about children being away from home, and less concern about environmental issues, it gets more difficult each year.

However, when I see former students, they always talk about Mohican. They remember their dorm, a staff member, the weather and the great experiences they had.

In order to celebrate its 50th anniversary, Mohican is holding a dinner on June 18 at the school's lodge near Mansfield. Also, donations and volunteers are always welcome. For more information, visit www.mohicanoutdoorschool.org. To attend the dinner, please call the school at 419-938-6671.

– George Christ, Bay Village

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LBMS students earn medals for Spanish exam performances

by Kim Bonvissuto

Claudia Vakos' Level 1 Spanish students from Lee Burneson Middle School attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2011 National Spanish Examinations.

Students earned a total of three gold, nine silver and seven bronze medals, as well as 16 honorable mentions.

"Attaining a medal or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examination is very prestigious because the exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with 140,373 students participating in 2011," said Kevin Cessna-Buscemi, national director of the exams. "Of those students, 32,926 Level 1 students took the exam."

Two LBMS students – Melissa Karpuska and Vishal Shah – landed in the top 3 percent in the nation. They will receive gold medals.

Dominic Cristiano was a top finalist, scoring in the top 5 percent in the nation. He also will receive a gold medal.

The nine silver medalists scored higher

than 85 percent to 94 percent of students who took the exam. They are Victor Rodriguez (87%), Claire Turgeon (94%), Cristina Solomon (86%), Ameesh Shah (90%), Rachel Pentz (85%), Halle Mackert (89%), Abby Lavetchia (88%), Marco Jamsek (87%) and Caroline Hazapis (91%).

Seven bronze medalists scored higher than 80 percent of exam takers. They are Aswin Bikkani, Alan Garber, Jordan Labroo, Maggie Morley, Lianne Nordwig, Ryan Parker and Simon Shea.

Students earning honorable mentions for scoring above the national average were Elizabeth Mancuso, Jordan Martin, Caroline May, Kyle McCauly, Fajad Rahman, Erica Cech, Katie Dubois, Peirce Gleespen, Matt Duperow, Austin Hohman, Mara Lipschutz, Jake Russo, Omar Salem, Dylan Schneider, Shane Supunski and Jackson Sutton.

The National Spanish Examinations are given each year in grades six through 12 and are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. ●

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Visitors enjoy last year's Country Festival in Cahoon Memorial Park.

Bay Village Country Festival, June 18, is fun for the entire family

by Cynthia Eakin

There is something to appeal to every member of the family at the 42nd annual Bay Village Country Festival, June 18 in Cahoon Memorial Park.

In addition to a wide variety of fine arts and crafts and antiques, this year's show features musical entertainment by Brittany Reilly, craft demonstrations, children's activities and an outdoor living and gardening exhibit. Stop by for lunch to enjoy delicious offerings from a restaurant row of food vendors, including the Ironwood Café, Weber's Premium Custard, Celestial Treats Lemonade, Buckeye Concessions, Nectar of the Vine, Oma's Homestyle Catering and Tucky's.

Balloon artist Flower Clown, Elmo from Sesame Street and caricature artist Adam Pate will be stroll-

ing the grounds. Cahoon Nursery will have a display featuring plants for sale.

Community groups participating in this year's festival with booths are Friends of the Bay Village Kennel, Golden Retrievers in Need (GRIN), the Village Food Project, Bay Village PTA Council, the League of Women Voters and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Martha Huntington Devotion Chapter.

Admission to the festival, which runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., is \$4. Proceeds go to support Rose Hill Museum, the Reuben Osborn Learning Center and for student scholarships. The festival is sponsored by the Bay Village Historical Society. Phone 440-669-9686 for details, or visit www.bayhistorical.com. Cahoon Memorial Park is located at Lake and Cahoon Roads in Bay Village. ●

Students complete safe boating class



George Christ instructs seventh-graders during the Ohio Boating Education Course at the Bay Community House on May 21. The course is required by law for any person born after 1982 to operate a power-driven boat over 10 horsepower. Topics covered in the class included a summary of Ohio boating laws and rules, terminology and required safety equipment.

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And the bronze award goes to...

Westlake Girl Scout Troop 71047 concluded their Bronze Award project with a May 15 dedication ceremony at Bradley Road Nature Park. The scouts – Gabriela Kosakowski, Kara McNeilly, Kelley Moutoux, Melanie Rence, Vanessa Richards, Emily Steigerwald, Holly Tomkalski and Adrienne Wentling, under the guidance of leaders Linda Tomkalski and Roberta Rence – identified all of the animal inhabitants at the Nature Park as a service to the community. The

city's sign shop printed their research onto signs installed in an information display at the park.

Mel Maurer reprised his role as Westlake pioneer Leverett Johnson for the ceremony and Mayor Dennis Clough presented a proclamation.

The Bronze Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Junior can receive, and recognizes a scout's leadership and planning skills as demonstrated in a project that makes a positive impact on her community. ●



Girl Scouts and leaders of Troop 71047 are joined by Mel Maurer (second from left) and Mayor Clough at the dedication of their Bradley Park project.

Pat Catan's helps fund cancer research

Pat Catan's made its annual donation to the American Cancer Society on May 25 in a presentation at their Westlake store. The craft supplies store donates 5% of the net proceeds from the sales of its VIP Memberships to ACS. This year's check totaled nearly \$18,000. ●



Pat Catan's employees present a donation check to the American Cancer Society at their Westlake store May 25.



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Huntington Playhouse begins registration for children's theatre

by Tom Meyrose

Huntington Playhouse will be offering their Youth Theatre Classes beginning June 13, 2011. There will be two sessions during the summer. Judith Mazur will be the lead instructor for both sessions.

Session One is designed for students in grades 1-3 and will start on June 13 and conclude on June 25. The two-week class will focus on creative drama and stage craft skills; with the second week consisting of rehearsal and show preparation for a non-musical presentation on June 26. Cost for this class is \$135 and sessions will be held from 10-11:30 a.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Session Two is designed for students in grades 4-6 and will start on July 11 and

conclude on July 30. This three-week class will consist of voice training, pantomime, improvisation and stagecraft. A musical play selection will be presented at the end of the class sessions. The final week of the class will be spent in rehearsal for a performance on July 30. Cost for this class is \$195 and sessions will be from 10 a.m.-noon, Mondays through Fridays.

All classes will be held at Huntington Playhouse.

Registration forms are available online by going to the theatre's website: www.huntingtonplayhouse.com. Huntington Playhouse is located at 28601 Lake Road in Bay Village and is a licensed affiliate of the Cleveland Metroparks. The box office phone number is 440-871-8333. ●

Bay restaurant featured on regional 'best of' show

by Tara Wendell

Greenisland Restaurant, on Eaton Way in Bay Village, was featured on the most recent episode of Time Warner Cable's local cable series "3 Squares." The show, which highlights Northeast Ohio's best restaurants, airs on the cable system's NEON network.

Owners Sean and Connie McConnell said that the show's host, Al Pawlowski, and crew filmed the spot several months ago.

"The crew made three visits, one in the evening and two before we opened, and Al was with them the last time," Connie said. "Chef Abner prepared several dishes for them, including our signature shepherd's pie."

The Irish restaurant and pub, which opened amid some local protest in October 2003, has earned a loyal customer base. When the episode aired April 18, customers and staff gathered around Greenisland's television set to watch the showing. Sean's eyes were glued to the screen as the restaurant's regulars teased him about his newfound celebrity.

"Way to go, Sean!" one exclaimed. "Let's hear one of those Irish stories," another shouted, in reference to McConnell's on-air



Greenisland owner Sean McConnell beams with pride as an episode of "3 Squares" featuring his restaurant airs.

comment about sharing with customers his tales of growing up in Ireland.

The television spot was a surprise to the McConnells, who learned that they had been selected from the show's producers. "One morning when I came in, there was a note to call the production company," Connie said. "He told me that they would like to do a feature on Greenisland."

She added, "Honestly, I'd never heard of the show, but I was excited to hear that they were interested."

Reruns of the episode will air regularly on the NEON channel. For show times, visit twcneon.com. ●

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Westlake Bicentennial, 1811-2011

A yearlong celebration of Westlake's history

In this issue:
1890-1910

The division of Dover

by Lysa Stanton

At the end of the 19th century, the city of Cleveland was growing at a healthy pace. Many who lived in Cleveland wanted a place where they could escape the city and summer homes became popular. Many preferred what the lakeside could give them – beaches, cool lake breezes and a vacation style of life.

A number of wealthy families began buying property along the lakeshore in North Dover. As tax rates climbed, those with expensive property closest to the lake did not feel they were equally represented. They petitioned to establish a separate village and on July 20, 1901, the Hamlet of Bay became independent of Dover Township.

From one large community of early Dover we now have two wonderfully unique and different cities.

Dover's borders were redefined once more, in 1908, when a small portion of Dover, approximately 4.5 square miles, became part of North Olmsted. ●

Early 'bucket brigades' overmatched by raging fires

The first decade of the 1900s saw two major fires in Dover, both resulting in near-total destruction to the buildings. Prior to hand-pumped fire engines, locals would fight fires by passing buckets of water man to man along a human chain in what is known as a "bucket brigade." This method was slow and often ineffective against larger blazes.

In 1906, the Phillips Hotel caught fire. The bell at the Methodist church rang out and the people of Dover ran to assist. The residents formed a bucket brigade and did what they could to save the hotel and the spirits housed in the basement. The liquor fumes fueled the flames and the building could not be saved.

A few years later, the James Hurst Country Store burned to the ground, taking with it the barbershop next door. The store, which also served as Dover's long-distance telephone station and housed the Dover Masonic Lodge on the second floor, was located at the corner of Center Ridge and Dover Center roads (now the site of the GetGo gas station).

On a February day in 1909, several Dover men were taking part in a little sparring (boxing) nearby when the blaze began. They again came running and assembled a bucket brigade, but once again were unsuccessful in saving the structures. ●



Mr. and Mrs. James Hurst are pictured with their children, Russell and Lloyd, in front of their Country Store in 1895. The store burned to the ground in 1909.

Dover women form helping societies

The women of Dover have a rich history of serving others. 1885 was the beginning of the North Ridge Thimble Society. They would sew, but they also held bazaars as fundraisers for the Lewis District School.

In 1899, The Helping Society was formed. As the name implies, they were in the business of helping others in need. By 1905 they bought land and a building was erected on Center Ridge Road. This ladies'

organization played an important role in the life of many.

They visited the homes of those who were ill and assisted the family with household chores, clothing and food. Fundraising during this time was mainly done by putting on plays and later card parties, style shows and bazaars. ●

RIGHT: Dover women formed the North Ridge Thimble Society to raise funds for the Lewis District School on Detroit Road.



Dover's first public high school is built

Until 1898, the highest level of public education offered in Dover was the eighth grade. Students wishing to continue their education enrolled in private, tuition-based academies. On May 10, 1898, the Dover Board of Education decided to establish a high school in Dover.

At a board meeting two months later, it was agreed that the high school would be located on the township property known as the fairgrounds at the center of town (now the site of Lee Burneson Middle School). The classes were to be held in the now-vacant Dover Academy building.

Early in the summer of 1898, Mr. C.M. Walworth was hired as Dover's first superintendent. In September 1898, out-houses were built at the school, as well as sheds for stabling the horses.

Once a student graduated from the eighth grade or from one of the eight sub-district schools located in Dover, he or she could attend what was known as Central High School. All nine districts were represented in the first high school. The students came from all over Dover; the farthest being from Coe Ridge (Lorain Road) and Lake Road.



Miss Nellie Dodd's sixth and seventh grade students gather for a class picture in front of the Red Brick School in 1910.

In 1902, the Board of Education resolved that at the end of the school year the superintendent would prepare a list of questions for final exam of grammar students as well as the final exam for entrance to high school. It was also decided that the work of the grammar schools be more thorough and the high school consist of four years.

In 1908 the voters in Dover passed a bond issue to construct a four-room central brick building. The Red Brick School opened in fall 1909. In 1913, four additional rooms were completed.

The top floor classrooms were for the upper grades. The lower level was used for the younger grades, and the old Dover Academy building – often referred to as the "cow shed" – was

used by Miss Nellie Dodd for the middle grades.

In 1914, the Dover Academy building burned and was torn down. The Red Brick School served as a high school until 1923 when a new high school was erected nearby on the site of the old Academy building.

The Westlake Historical Society has a replica of an old-time school room located upstairs in the Clague House Museum. The school room features a McGuffey's Reader, old-fashioned desks and memories of school days gone by. The museum is open to the public from 2-4 p.m. on the second Sunday of every month. ●

Source: "The First 100 Years of Dover Schools," by May E. Weston.

Kid Wagons

The centralizing of the schools in Dover during this time period created a need to transport students from their homes to the central school. The "kid wagon," pulled by two horses, was born. The wagon would travel the streets of Dover, and children would run alongside the moving wagon and jump in through the open back door. One could call the "kid wagon" the forerunner of the modern-day yellow school bus. ●



A student is seen peering out the back door of a "kid wagon."

CELEBRATING WESTLAKE'S BICENTENNIAL

Bicentennial event at cemetery celebrates old and new

by Lysa Stanton

On May 21, the city of Westlake and the Westlake Historical Society, as part of the Bicentennial celebration, dedicated the new fence at Evergreen Cemetery and took guests on a historical tour of the cemetery.

The beautiful sunny day was perfect weather for our fence dedication and Living History Tour. Evergreen Cemetery dates back to the 1820s on land given by Westlake's first settler, Leverett Johnson. The cemetery sits on over 16 acres of land and has 3,000 headstones.

Councilmember Mark Getsay spoke at the dedication and Rev. Dan Anthony from Rock Pointe Church led the fence blessing. Evan Kelleman and members of Boy Scout Troop 208 led the flag raising ceremony and laying of the wreath at the cemetery entrance.

Those on the tour visited the grave sites of Dover's pioneers and some of its earliest citizens. On the tour, guests were able to visit and get acquainted with: Leverett Johnson (portrayed by Zac Springer, Local History Specialist at Porter Library); Abigail Cahoon Johnson (Natalie Nurse, student at Baldwin Wallace College); Albinus Lilly (Dr. Jim Anderson); Dr. Celia Clem-

ans (Ruth Ann Havasi, historical society treasurer); Asher Cooley (Dr. Tony Adamo); and Jedediah Crocker (William Krause, Assistant Planning Director for the City of Westlake).

The Westlake Historical Society's membership chair, Dave Pfister, played the role of Walter Clague. Mel Maurer, dressed as Leonard Porter, led the tour. Those on the tour also met "Laney," a friend of Sophronia Clague who was up visiting from Cincinnati. She was played by Lysa Stanton, Westlake Historical Society president.

The Westlake Historical Society members enjoyed playing host to the visitors of Evergreen. Dozens of requests have come into the historical society to repeat this wonderful tour. The society hopes to make this an annual event.

Anyone wishing to get more information about the historical society or to join them as they educate and preserve Westlake's fine history, visit them the second Sunday of the month at the Clague Museum or check them out on the web at westlakeohiohistory.org.

To see a video of the ceremony, visit the city of Westlake's website at: www.cityofwestlake.org/Mediasite/Viewer/.



Will Krause as Jedediah Crocker



Zac Springer and Natalie Nurse as Leverett and Abigail Johnson



Dave Pfister as Walter Clague



Tour leader Mel Maurer as Leonard Porter

TASTE OF THE TOWN

Stonehouse Grill a rock solid choice

by Steve Novak

Editor's note: Steve Novak is a Westlake resident and 30-year veteran in the restaurant industry, working at all levels from dishwasher to manager to chef/owner. For the past ten years, he has been working as a personal chef and raising his two young children as a stay-at-home dad. Once a month, Steve will visit a Westlake/Bay Village restaurant and use his years of expertise and knowledge to provide honest, unbiased reviews. He makes two anonymous visits per restaurant and does not except complimentary meals.

If you live in Westlake or Bay Village and haven't been to the Stonehouse Grill, you're missing a wonderful casual dining experience. From the moment you enter, you're treated with a warm greeting and smiling faces that really start things off on a positive note.

It's a quaint, one-room restaurant with a partition wall that separates the dining area from the bar. Booths and tables adorn the dining area, while tables and high top cocktail table surround the U-shaped bar. They also have a patio for when the weather warms up.

My three dining companions and myself started the evening off with the Hawaiian Nachos (\$6.99) for something different, and we were not disappointed. The dish consisted of tortilla chips topped

with tomatoes, black olives and pineapple, then smothered with Monterrey/cheddar cheeses and drizzled with BBQ sauce. Don't overlook the Bruschetta (\$5.99), with homestyle garlic herbs, mozzarella and tomatoes, as an excellent starter.

We went on a Wednesday which is Fiesta Night, and has a Mexican flare. My daughter saw Nachos (\$8.49) on the menu and her mind was made up. There was only one problem: she just likes melted shredded cheese on her chips, along with the seasoned beef.

Our waitress said with a smile on her face, "We can do that for you." I was impressed; usually in some places it's "Let me ask the manager" or "That will be an extra charge" or just plain "No." Not at the Stonehouse Grill. I've always felt that "Yes is the answer, what's the question?" is a philosophy that more restaurants should use as a policy. By the way, the usual nachos preparation with seasoned ground beef,

nacho cheese sauce, tomatoes, jalapenos and olives was very tasty.

The Mexican Pizza (\$10.49) sounded too good to ignore. A wonderful crisp pizza crust topped with sour cream and salsa, then seasoned ground beef, tomatoes, shredded Monterrey/cheddar cheeses, and topped with shredded lettuce combined for an absolutely wonderful blend of flavors. We couldn't eat it all but we were happy to take it home. Their other "award-winning pizzas" (\$8.49 - \$18.69) should be given some serious consideration as well.

You could spend a whole day just trying to decide which of the subs, pitas, or sandwiches you would like to try. Here's a couple to mull over.

The BLT Sub (\$8.99) has enough bacon on it to satisfy anyone. They put a lot of provolone on it, yummy!

Then there was a weekly special,

Shrimp & Lobster Flatbread Pita (\$10.29). Shrimp and langostinos sauteed in a garlic herb sauce with spinach, mozzarella cheese with a touch of Alfredo sauce. I don't think I could come up with an adjective that could properly describe how delicious this meal was. This should become one of their core menu items, not just a special!

As far as the dinner entrees, the Cajun Chicken Fettuccine (\$13.99) caught my eye. Grilled chicken and bacon sauteed in a creamy Cajun Alfredo sauce that has just enough heat to give it some character; for an extra \$2.50, you can do shrimp instead.

There's nothing like a good old-fashioned Petite Fillet (\$16.99) to satisfy the carnivore in you. First it was seasoned in their House Rub, then grilled to perfection. Don't sell yourself short by not adding the Gorgonzola Peppercorn Sauce (\$1.00), a great accompaniment.

We really didn't save any room for dessert but by the selections I'm sure we wouldn't have been disappointed.

I can't say enough good about the service. The young and energetic house staff totally impressed me with their warm, friendly and knowledgeable service. Tables were quickly cleared and cleaned, floors constantly being swept and windows wiped clear of any smudges. A clean establishment shows the pride the owners have instilled in their staff that leaves "no Stone unturned."

Stonehouse Grill
24850 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake
440-871-4745
stonehousegrill.com

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, noon-9 p.m.

Prices: Appetizers, \$5.99-\$8.69; Salads, \$3.99-\$12.99; Sandwiches, Subs, Pitas, Burgers and Wraps, \$6.99-\$11.99; Entrees, \$10.99-\$17.99; Pizzas, \$8.49-\$18.69

Reservations: No
Credit cards: All major
Cuisine: American
Kids menu: Yes
Bar service: Full bar
Accessibility: Excellent
Grade: ★★★★★

Ratings: 1 star: Fair; 2 stars: Good; 3 stars: Very Good; 4 stars: Excellent

Bay Village Relay for Life events

Bay Village hosted three events this May – the dog-friendly Bark for Life, May in Bay 5K and Fun Run, and the 18-hour Relay for Life – to raise funds, remember loved ones and fight back against cancer.



Shirley and Bill Kasay brave the brisk air to walk in the Relay.



Dogs and owners at Bark for Life.



Donna Walter-Quayle addresses the crowd at the Bark for Life event, held May 21 at Walter Road Park.



Kids participate in the 1-mile Fun Run on Saturday, May 28, before the annual May in Bay 5K run/walk.



Cancer survivors kick off Bay's Relay for Life as the first group on the track at the Bay High School stadium on May 27.



LED lights spell out the word HOPE in the stands of Bay High's Memorial Stadium during the overnight hours.

CELEBRATING WESTLAKE'S BICENTENNIAL

Seniors Cruisin' Through Time in Westlake

Close to 425 seniors from Westlake and beyond gathered at LaCentre for a Bicentennial celebration on May 17. The event was created by Cindy Griffiths-Novak, owner of The Belvedere of Westlake, as a way for seniors to share in the Bicentennial spirit. Guests roamed the conference room, enjoying a range of activities at booths set up by Westlake's senior living and health care providers, who also sponsored the event. A luncheon and musical entertainment followed. The event was emceed by Eileen McShea, with presentations by Mayor Dennis Clough and Leonard Porter (portrayed by Mel Maurer).



Event emcee Eileen McShea listens to Mel Maurer's portrayal of notable Westlake ancestor, Leonard Porter.



Jeanne Workman, who recently published a book on Westlake's history, reacts as Mayor Clough declares May 17 "Jeanne Workman Day."



Lisa Harrington of Westlake Village leads a group in a salsa chair dancing routine.



Christina Melaragno, Gardens of Westlake executive director, watches as guests spin the roulette wheel for prizes.

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Westlake Bicentennial celebration event to feature award-winning vaudeville group



The Raisin' Canes will perform patriotic songs June 12 at Unity Hall in Westlake.

by Terri Zajac

The award-winning vaudeville group, Raisin' Canes, will help salute the Bicentennial with a patriotic show Sunday, June 12, at 2 p.m., at Unity Hall in Westlake. Unity Hall is located on the campus of Unity Spiritual Center at 23855 Detroit Road. The event is part of a patriotic celebration and open house in support of Westlake's yearlong Bicentennial celebration. Tickets for the show are \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors 65 and over, and \$3.00 for children under 12.

Food, snacks, and beverages will be available throughout the afternoon. Tickets are available online at www.unityhallpresents.com.

com or at the door. For more information, call 440-835-0400.

These "over 60" Cane Raisers from Parma Senior Center have performed more than 600 gigs in the Cleveland area – and are still amazing audiences of all ages.

Their rousing 90-minute vaudeville show features dance routines, including tap dancing, cane twirling, and the old soft shoe. Novelty acts, comedians and audience participation also highlight their performance.

For this special event at Unity Hall, they'll be decked out in patriotic red, white and blue, and will perform familiar patriotic songs to which the audience can sing along. It will be ideal for people of all ages, but particularly for children and grandparents. ●

Habitat for Humanity collection fills two trucks



Habitat for Humanity volunteers Jerry Jarc (in the truck) and James Jarc (left), and Bay Village Green Team member Barb Caskey accept light fixtures from Raymond Oliger during the May 21 collection.

Bay residents filled two trucks of household items on May 21 to benefit the Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity. The nonprofit organization offers qualified families an opportunity to build and buy a home. Items donated are sold to other homeowners through the Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

The money is used to purchase building materials to make home ownership a dream for deserving families. Items can be dropped off at the store, located at 2110 W. 110 St., Cleveland, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. Visit www.clevelandrestore.org for more info. ●

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Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission visits BAYarts Fuller House gallery

by Peter Winzig

Representatives from the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission (OCFC) stopped in to visit the newly-renovated Irene Fuller House at BAYarts on May 3. BAYarts board members and staff conducted a tour of the building, along with a private showing of the current advanced student ceramics

show "Experience Mexico."

The OCFC, along with the Cleveland Metroparks and dozens of supporting sponsor businesses, organizations and individuals, provided the funding for the long-awaited renovation of the Fuller House, moved to the Huntington Reservation site over 20 years ago.

Said Mary Sullivan, Development Director of BAYarts, "We are so excited

to be able to finally complete the renovation and open the building up to the community. Having the Fuller House gives us more room for special events, gallery shows, concerts and classes for our membership. It's a dream come true."

For more information on upcoming shows, summer classes and free outdoor concerts, visit bayarts.net. ●

BAYarts Gallery Director Eileen Stockdale shows members of the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission the unique gallery space in the renovated Irene Fuller House at BAYarts. The OCFC, which helped to sponsor the renovation, were joined on the tour by architect Mark Yager and members of the BAYarts board and renovation team.



DUCK RACE *continued from front page*

Preparations underway for the Great Duck Race & Family Fun Fest 2011

Ducks will be on sale until 1:30 p.m. on the day of the event, Sunday, June 5, (or until they sell out), and can be purchased online using a donation form or in person at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. New this year: souvenir ducks can be purchased from the Center's Welcome Desk for \$5, or free with the sponsorship of five racer ducks.

Family Fun Fest is part community "happening" and part fundraiser to support the nature education, wildlife rehabilitation, live animal exhibits and planetarium at the nonprofit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Duck sponsorships are a key part of the fundraising effort.

In addition to the Great Duck Race, there will be non-stop activities all day

including the Center's signature live animal and planetarium programs, DJ Jim Rio will provide music, games and prizes from 12:30 p.m. until the Great Duck Race begins at 2:30 p.m. And the fun doesn't stop there!

Families will find crafts provided by Creativity for Kids. Children can jump around in SpongeBob and Dream Castle bounce houses or take a ride down the inflatable slide. A scavenger hunt, pirate's walk, cornhole and basketball, football and ring toss will also be available. Bring your camera to take advantage of a photo opportunity with some



Bounce houses at Family Fun Fest 2010

ducks as well!

Looking for a more natural experience? Enjoy a self-guided hike and earn a prize at the end by collecting stamps along the way! Hungry? A bake sale and food from Smokey Bones will be available for purchase.

Almost 50 popular local attractions, restaurants, sports teams and businesses have donated a long list of great prizes, including a \$100 gift card to Heinen's, four field box seats to an Indians game (the date of your choice), a \$100 gift certificate to Portrait Innovations, and a birthday party/lesson pack at Diamond Indoor Sports. The complete list is on the Featured Events page on the Center's website. Thirty lucky winners will be chosen to receive prize packages. The Center is still accepting prize donations.

Admission to Family Fun Fest is free of charge; however most of the events' activities do require a ticket. Activity tickets are \$1/ticket, \$10/12 tickets or \$20/26 tickets. Tickets are available for presale at the Welcome Desk and can also be purchased on the day of the event. Cash-only is accepted as payment for food on the day of event. For more information call 440-871-2900 or log on to www.lensc.org. ●

Joanna Galysh is a Community Relations intern at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.



Creekside at the Great Duck Race 2010

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

View more events and post your own on the Observer homepage at www.wbvobserver.com.

June 4, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Cleveland Sight Center's White Cane Walk
The Cleveland Sight Center's White Cane Walk is an annual fundraising event to help provide support services to people in our community who are blind and visually-impaired. Participants will learn how to use a white cane and take a walk blindfolded through Crocker Park with the assistance of a sighted guide partner. Registration is \$15. All walkers will be given food, beverages and a T-shirt. Register or make a donation at whitecanewalk.kintera.org or call Donna Farr at 216-658-4581. Crocker Park (on the lawn next to Trader Joe's)

June 5, noon-4 p.m.
Family Fun Fest
See the story on page 1 of this issue.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

June 5, 2-4 p.m.
Celebrating Mary Flanagan
Join us in a retirement celebration reception for Hilliard Elementary School Principal Mary Flanagan. Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria.
Hilliard Elementary School, 24365 Hilliard Blvd.

June 6, 6:30 p.m.
Bay Village Public Information Meeting

Information will be presented concerning the Bradley/Naigle Road intersection project. For more info, call Dan Galli at 440-871-2200.
Bay City Hall Council Chambers, 350 Dover Center Rd.

June 7, 4-7 p.m.
Reception for Principal Jim Cahoon
The Bay Village community is invited by the Bay Rockets Association, the Bay High PTSA, Bay Village PTA Council and the Bay Band Boosters to wish Jim well in his retirement.
Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

June 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
General Meeting, Northeast Ohio PC Club
The featured speaker will be Mike Volker, an expert on digital photography. He'll speak on how to use Adobe Elements, how to digitally enhance old and new photos, and much more, and answer your questions. His talk begins at 7:15 p.m., but come early, at 6:30 p.m., to socialize and enjoy free refreshments. The meeting is free and open to the public.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

June 10, 7-9 p.m.
BAYarts Gallery Opening: "Rock la Rando"
The exhibit features new works by Anna Arnold and George Kocar. Chris Allen performs on stage. Show runs

through July 3.
Co-sponsored by The Village Foundation.
BAYarts Fuller House Gallery, 28795 Lake Rd.

June 11, noon - June 12, 8 a.m.
Westlake Relay for Life
The Relay is an 18-hour, overnight event dedicated to celebrating the lives of people who have battled cancer, remembering loved ones lost, and fighting back against the disease. For more info, visit relayforlife.org/westlake.
Westlake High School, 27830 Hilliard Blvd

June 11, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; June 12, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Crocker "Bark"
This event for patrons and their pooches helps raise awareness of canine health and wellness, as well as rescue and adoption efforts on behalf of such organizations as the Cleveland APL and Friends of the Bay Village Kennel. Activities are doggie driven and include an agility course, fun in the water at the Kalahari Splash Zone, a fashion show to adopt a dog and over 20 vendors offering canine-related products and services!
Crocker Park, Westlake

June 11, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; June 12, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Crocker Park Fine Art Fair
The 6th annual Fine Art Fair will showcase the work of more than 100 locally and nationally known fine art

and craft artists, including Westlake's Lauren Voiers who created the famed Beatles sculpture now on display in Liverpool, England, "Peace & Harmony." Guests can browse and buy everything from jewelry, to photography, to paintings. Pieces are priced for the new collector and established patron of the arts.
Crocker Park, Westlake

June 12, 2 p.m.
Patriotic Bicentennial Celebration
See the story on page 14 of this issue.
Unity Hall at Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

June 14, 6:30 p.m.
Bay Village Green Team Meeting
Join us at the BVGT monthly meeting – get involved, make a difference!
Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.

June 15, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Westlake Garden Club June Meeting
Business meeting followed by lunch and program. Speaker Lois Rose will present "Composting." Learn to identify scraps left over from dinner that can be used for compost. Everyone welcome. Call 440-331-8722 for information.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Westlake names new Hilliard principal

by Kim Bonvissuto

Kimberly Riposo-Conley has been named the new principal at Hilliard Elementary School. She replaces Mary Flanagan, who is retiring after 41 years in education.

Conley comes to Westlake from Franklin Elementary School in Elyria, where she was principal for five years. At Franklin she implemented a Creative Arts Mentorship Program, which created a culture change in her building. Under her leadership her building also

became a demonstration site for the Wilson Foundations Program, a highly regarded reading intervention program for K-2 students. She also teaches graduate-level courses through Walsh University and Communicate Institute Training and Development Inc.

Prior to Franklin, Conley was with the Cleveland Municipal Schools where she was principal at Paul Revere Elementary School, assistant principal at A.B. Hart Middle School and Andrew Rick-off Elementary School, and a teacher at Charles Mooney Middle School, where she taught sixth-grade math, science and Language Arts, as well as special education for grades seven to eight.

She earned her elementary educa-

tion degree from the University of Rio Grande and a master of educational administration degree from John Carroll University.

"Kim has a strong primary school background and has demonstrated experience working collaboratively with staff on data analysis to improve core instruction, enrichment and intervention according to student needs," said Westlake Schools Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr.

Conley said she looks forward to meeting all of the stakeholders and being an active participant in the Westlake community.



Kimberly Riposo-Conley

"I'm looking forward and excited about coming to an excellent school district that has strong community support, exceptional parental involvement and high expectations that are repeatedly met by staff and students," Conley said. "The Westlake

community can expect that I will use my knowledge, experience and expertise to maintain the excellence already in place at Hilliard Elementary School. I will be proactive in moving the school forward to embrace new learning opportunities that exist in our society."

Conley lives in North Ridgeville and has two children, Andrew, 6, and Evan, 8. ●

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