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# Observer

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Community News & Views Written by the Citizens of Westlake & Bay Village • Join in at [www.wbvobserver.com](http://www.wbvobserver.com)

## Bay Rockets Boosters to host Halloween costume party fundraiser Oct. 20

by Anne Kerka

Bay Rockets Athletic Boosters will host a Halloween costume party for adults on Saturday, Oct. 20, from 7-11 p.m. at St. Clarence Church Hall, 30106 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted. Cost of the event is \$25 per person and ticket includes heavy appetizers, beer, wine, pop, music and dancing. Event proceeds support Bay High School and Bay Middle School athletic teams and programs.

Bay Rockets Athletic Boosters President Steve Kowalski said, "We decided it would be fun to throw a Halloween party for adults and came up with the tag line, 'Why should the kids have all the fun?'"

"We hope that community members get into the spirit and challenge each other to come up with some unique and creative costumes," said Kowalski. "Prizes

will be awarded for best costumes in the following categories: best male, female, couple and group," he said.

The party will feature plenty of festive Halloween decorations along with food, music and dancing throughout the evening. A few select items including professional sports tickets and a golf package will also be highlighted in a live auction.

"We plan to make the party an annual event and want parents and community members to gather their friends together for a fun party that also benefits Bay Schools' athletic programs," said Kowalski. "This is an easy way to support our sports teams while celebrating the season!"

To purchase tickets, visit the Rockets Athletic Boosters table at the Bay High School football games, or purchase online at [www.bayrockets.org](http://www.bayrockets.org). ♦

## Westlake alumni gather for all-class reunion



Westlake High alumni wave for a group shot at the Sept. 28 Homecoming football game during the All Class Reunion weekend. See pages 10-11 for more photos.

## 'Sister cities' Westlake and Tralee, Ireland, celebrate fourth anniversary

The "Sister Cities" relationship between the city of Westlake and the town of Tralee, Ireland, has officially celebrated its fourth anniversary. In 2009, Mayor Dennis Clough and Council President Michael Killeen, together with Brett Luengo, Director of Westlake World Partners Co., established the partnership with Tralee in County Kerry. That year, Mayor Clough,

Planning Director Bob Parry and Luengo traveled to Tralee demonstrating Westlake's commitment to helping both municipalities learn about serving citizens in troubled economic times.

In 2011, Tralee's Mayor Grace O'Donnell and County Kerry Tourism Officer John Griffin came to Westlake in order to celebrate the Westlake Bicentennial. This year

Luengo, and Westlake Councilman Michael O'Donnell and his family traveled to Tralee at their own expense, to continue the tradition. While in Tralee, Westlake's delegation met with the new Mayor Johnnie Wall and town council and Kerry County officials to discuss tourism, energy conservation and business development.

» See TRALEE, page 2

## Zombies in the library! Oh my!



Join children's librarian Susan Ballard, aka "Sue B Zombie," on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 2-4:30 p.m. at the library's Zombie Party and get your scare on! See story on page 11.



Mayor of Tralee Johnnie Wall is surrounded by "Roses" representing 32 countries at the Rose of Tralee International Festival in Ireland.





## TRALEE

*continued from front page*

The trip to Ireland was a first for O'Donnell and his family. His two days in Tralee were busy with an official council meeting, learning about a local wetlands project and economic funding plans. He also explored opportunities to work together on educational, business, non-profit, historical and cultural levels.

O'Donnell's interest was in energy efficiency and recycling, and learning about options for project funding sources. Tralee Town Clerk Mike Scannell and Griffin shared their focus on building relationships with global businesses and brokering civic partnerships. Similarly, Westlake has established positive working relationships with local businesses like Hyland Software, Crocker Park, Energizer, Nordson and, most recently, American Greetings.

The trip was not all business. O'Donnell, his wife, Ann, and daughters Jackie and Katie together with Luengo were invited guests to the Rose of Tralee International Festival including the "Rose of Tralee Ball." At the festival, 32 girls representing Irish communities all over the world competed for a chance to become the "2012 Rose of Tralee." The Rose Festival was a tradition started in Tralee over 50 years ago and celebrates a love story of a local Irish girl and her boyfriend. This year

the 2012 Rose was a young woman from Luxembourg who had her family roots in County Cork, Ireland.

At a private reception during the Rose Festival, the Westlake contingent was formally introduced to the Prime Minister of Ireland, Edna Kenny. The Prime Minister and the O'Donnells became fast friends when they learned their roots were all from County Mayo. Luengo and O'Donnell will have another opportunity to meet the Prime Minister when he visits Greater Cleveland next month.

Prime Minister Kenny will be the guest of honor of the Greater Cleveland Mayo Society's Mayo Ball to be held at La Centre in Westlake on Oct. 13. According to Gerry

Quinn, president of the Mayo Society, "This is the first time a prime minister of Ireland will be visiting our great city!"

While in Ireland, O'Donnell was constantly asked about the upcoming presidential election in the United States. The Republic of Ireland is predominantly Democrat by U.S. standards and the Irish prospered during the Clinton years. This year, the economy of Ireland is at almost double the unemployment levels of the U.S.

Even though the United States and Ireland are experiencing economic difficulties, it is a consolation to know that public officials on all levels are working together to explore new ways to better serve their communities in the future. ●



**Westlake Ward 4 Councilmember Michael O'Donnell (front left) is recognized by Tralee Mayor Johnnie Wall at the Tralee Town Council reception on Aug. 17. Also in attendance were (back row, left-to-right) Tralee Councilmember Ted Fitzgerald, Tralee Councilmember Mairéad Fernane, Tralee town clerk Michael Scannell, Tralee Councilmember Patrick Hussey and Tralee Councilmember Sam Locke.**

## All-Bay scout campout weekend set for Oct. 26-28

by George Christ

The All Bay Village Campout will take place on the weekend of Oct. 26-28 at Firelands Scout Reservation near Wakeman, Ohio. This campout is for all Bay Village scout units and will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday and end at noon on Sunday.

There will be activities for all age groups such as utensil-less cooking, monkey bridge, leave-no-trace camping, archery, climbing tower, a campfire and much more. One highlight will be the boat safety trailer manned by the Bay Sea Scouts that will provide an adventure ride as a movie takes the scouts through various boating dangers and stresses boating safety and life jacket wear.

For further details, reservations and cabin requests, please contact David Madigan at David.Madigan@sbc-global.com or Rich Kuper at rkuper@khkinc.com. ●



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## WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE Observer

Over 480 citizens have contributed to the Observer

The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a hyperlocal community newspaper and website written by, for and about the residents of Westlake and Bay Village, providing perspectives and information about topics and events in our community.

The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through citizen participation of 450+ community writers.

We encourage residents of all ages in Westlake and Bay to join in and share stories, photos, and information about our great communities.

We do not accept payment for the inclusion of articles.

The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a locally-owned news source published biweekly.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer staff.

### Observer Guidelines

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.

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PRODUCTION OFFICE  
451 Queenswood Drive •  
Bay Village, Ohio 44140  
440-409-0114  
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# Community Breast Health Education Event

**Wednesday,  
October 17, 2012  
6 – 8 pm**

**Free refreshments, including  
wine and heavy appetizers**

**Free giveaways**



In recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, St. John Medical Center is holding a Free Community Breast Health Education Event.

- Walk-in mammograms
- Learn how to perform a breast self-exam
- Speak with physicians and expert staff
- Informative physician talks
- Special door prizes

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to tour The Breast Health Center at St. John Medical Center. **Please bring your friends and loved ones to this most important evening for women.**

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**Stop by to see why**

St. John Medical Center's Breast Health Center makes it easier to get the comprehensive breast health care you need and deserve.

**No registration necessary. For more information contact Joyce Forristell, Breast Health Coordinator, at 440-827-5459.**



SENIOR LIVING

# Reverse mortgages for senior homeowners

by Kristi Vaughn, LSW

Many people find themselves in the position of being house-rich and cash-poor, and unfortunately many seniors are forced to sell the homes they have worked for all their lives just to make ends meet.

You have seen actors and others on national TV commercials telling about reverse mortgages and the tremendous benefits they provide to homeowners 62 years of age and over. They truly are an amazing financial tool which has been the solution for many seniors in resolving the financial concerns and quality-of-life issues they face each day such as paying for medications, groceries and/or healthcare. In many cases it

has been their only means of survival in the extremely difficult economic times in which we live.

The Federal Housing Authority offers a reverse mortgage program called Home Equity Conversion Mortgage. The HECM program is the only reverse mortgage insured by the federal government, and is only available through an FHA-approved lender.

There have been a lot of myths associated with reverse mortgages and many are immediately turned off to the idea when it is presented. The following are the true benefits of a reverse mortgage:

- You can pay off your mortgage, if any. But you don't have to have an existing mortgage in order to obtain a reverse mortgage
- No loan repayment is required as

long as your home is your primary residence

- You will continue to own your home; you still retain the title, not the bank
- The funds you receive are tax-free
- Your Social Security and Medicare benefits are not affected.
- You can repay at any time with no pre-payment penalty
- There are no restrictions on how you spend your money
- Upon passing of you and your spouse, your heirs keep all remaining equity

For more information about FHA's Home Equity Conversion Mortgage program, including approved lenders, frequently asked questions and a mortgage calculator, visit <http://1.usa.gov/nJKRpy>. ●

# Bay Village American Legion to retire flags, serve as Color Guard at upcoming events

by Jim Potter

The American Legion Post #385 will retire old, torn and faded flags on Friday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. at their Post home, 695 Cahoon Rd., Westlake. Citizens can place their flags in the red, white and blue box next to the front door prior to that date.

The Post home is located just south of the railroad tracks, next to the White Oaks Restaurant. Each year the Post retires over 300 flags as part of Flag Day and Veterans Day celebrations.

The Bay Legion Color guard will lead the Bay High School Homecoming Parade on Friday, Oct. 5. The parade starts at 5:45 p.m. and proceeds west from Wolf and Cahoon roads to the high school.

The Color Guard will also participate St. Paul Lutheran Church's Military Support Ministry's Veterans Appreciation Service on Sunday, Nov. 11, at the 10:30 a.m. service. The church is located at 27993 Detroit Rd., Westlake. ●

# October is party time at the Westlake Rec!

## FALL FESTIVAL & PUMPKIN HUNT

Come for this fun-filled festival for ages 9 and younger on Saturday, Oct. 13, 1-4 p.m. We will have a pumpkin hunt, face painters, hay rides, refreshments, inflatables and much, much more. The event is free and open to the public and will be held on the grounds of the Westlake Recreation Center. Pumpkin hunt will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. Pumpkin patches are age specific. Parents must be present during the event.

## FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

It's the family fun game.....BINGO! Stay out late and enjoy this fun event. Light refreshments will be served and prizes will be awarded. Ages 5 and up. Thursday, Oct. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Fee: \$5 for member parent and one child, \$2 per extra child; or \$10 for Westlake resident parent and one child, \$5 per extra child.

## FAMILY MONSTER MASH & SPLASH (TODDLERS - AGE 8)

Get the family together and dress up in your favorite Halloween costumes. We will dim the lights and have a Trick or Treat trail. Come watch a video and make a craft. Then come and see the great floating pumpkin patch where you can swim and pick out your very own pumpkin. (Participants are asked to change into swimwear). Saturday, Oct. 27, 5-7:30 p.m. Fee per child: \$2/members; \$4/residents. Maximum of 200 and you must pre-register.

## HOOPIN' IT UP (BOYS & GIRLS GRADES K-6)

Getting ready for your season? Just want to learn more about the game? Either way, these preseason workouts will help you develop the skills to take your game to the next level. Each session will focus on the fundamentals of the game, building as the weeks go along to prepare players

for game competition. Ball handling, passing, shooting footwork and defense will be the primary skills taught by coaches Jeff Huber (varsity basketball coach) and Brianne Huber (middle school coach). Each player will be given drills to work on at the conclusion of the workouts so that their improvement will continue. Sundays, Oct. 14-Nov. 4, noon-12:45 p.m. (for grades K-3), 12:45-1:30 p.m. (for grades 4-6). Fee: \$75/members; \$80/residents; \$85/non-residents.

## NO SCHOOL DAY CAMP (GRADES K-6)

This camp is designed to keep kids entertained with games, swimming, art projects and other fun activities. Children will need to bring a brown bag lunch, swimsuit and towel. An afternoon snack will be provided. We reserve the right to verify grade level on each and every child. Friday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fee: \$30/members; \$45/residents; \$50/non-residents.

More information visit our website at [www.wlrec.org](http://www.wlrec.org) or calling us at 440-808-5700 ●

# Community Event at Bradley Bay Health Center Friday, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. featuring Nan Baker, State Representative, District 16



Rep. Nan Baker will discuss what is going on currently in the Ohio House and answer questions.

Please join us for this special event.

Refreshments will be served.



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SPORTING VIEWS

# ‘Ring of Honor’ more like ring of fire

by Jeff Bing

So much to talk about, so few words to do it with... We could discuss the firing of Manny Acta.

The Indians? Nah...too depressing. We could discuss the impending firing of Pat Shurmur.

The Browns? Nah...too depressing. We could discuss the relatively “safe” job security of Byron Scott.

The Cavs are still light years away. You guessed it: Nah...too depressing.

However, I was able to attend the Browns’ debacle against the Buffalo Bills in Week 3. As bad as the game was, other ceremonies included the induction of former Browns Ernie Green and Clarence Scott into the Browns Hall of Fame. The funny thing about it was, those two gentlemen weren’t at the epicenter of the storm otherwise known as Cleveland Browns football.

Who was? Jim Brown, probably the best running back to play the game in the history of the NFL, that’s who. Why? Because he had apparently patched up his differences with the Browns and team president Mike Holmgren, which in this town is grounds for celebration, baby. After all, as the late Jim Croce’s tune proclaimed, “You don’t mess around with Jim.”

But you know what? I couldn’t care less.

Don’t get me wrong: Jim Brown was a tremendous football player, a human highlight film. And he was a pretty good actor, too. I thought he did a great job in classic Lee Marvin flick, “The Dirty Dozen.” So great, in fact, I even went out and bought the DVD.

Know what that makes me? A big-time hypocrite.

I’m not sure exactly why, but as I was watching the ceremonies at the Browns/Bills match-up, I began to recall the instances Jim Brown had been accused of crimes – most of which occurred against women. Let’s see...

twice for rape, another for aggravated assault and a boatload of domestic dispute charges. To be fair, most of the charges were all ultimately dropped – funny how a little cash can affect one’s memory. But to really be fair, it was only twelve years ago – at age 64 – that Brown served five months in prison on a domestic charge. Hey, maybe that’s what “dirty dozen” REALLY stands for.

Think of the guys who have participated in Cleveland sports who contributed enough to the sports scene that we saw nothing wrong with their behavior, but the moment they leave town and bolt for greener pastures, we suddenly have “issues”?

For instance, how about Albert Belle of the great Tribe teams of the ‘90s? Whenever Albert flipped out on the media, teammates or fans, or had another sort of melt-down, we just laughed, knowingly winked at each other, and said, “That’s our Albert.” The instant he left the Indians via free agency, he reverted to Joey, an alcoholic psychopath. The hero-turned-nutcase couldn’t leave town fast enough, could he?

While we’re talking Tribe, anyone recall Wil Cordero, who played in two different stints with the Tribe, in 1999 and then from 2000-2002. Cordero arrived in town with a reputation for hitting, but as it turns out, it wasn’t just baseballs he was knocking around. As it turned out, he was knocking around not just his first, but his second wife as well. Everyone likes a little consistency in a hitter, right?

So just what is it about sports that allows us to overlook a professional athlete’s (wink-wink) “shortcomings” – at least for as long as he’s providing some perceived athletic benefit to us? I mean, for lesser transgressions by elected officials or those in a similar public capacity, we grab the torches and pitchforks.

Kind of scary, isn’t it? ● *Jeff welcomes all feedback and suggestions, pro or con, which may be sent to editor@wbvobserver.com.*

# BV Education Foundation Ten Campaign kicks off on 10-10

by Jacquie Mayer

Beginning Oct. 10, anyone interested in supporting the Bay Village Education Foundation can do so by participating in this year’s Ten Campaign. The BVEF is an independent, non-profit volunteer organization that funds educational projects not supported by tax dollars by awarding grant monies to educators looking to expand their classroom experience beyond the standard curriculum. Since 1985, the BVEF has been helping teachers test new ideas, pilot the latest technologies, and offer enrichment opportunities throughout the district that would not otherwise be funded.

BVEF has funded hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of innovative projects and scholarships throughout the last 27 years, including: the mural and aquarium at the entrance to Normandy, iPod Touches and accessories at Westerly, peer mediation training at Bay Middle School and iPads for students and teachers at BHS and special needs students throughout the district.

The Ten Campaign is based on the simple idea that every able parent, staff member, or resident, contributes \$10 or more (either per student in their household, or as a general gift) to the BVEF. Over 90 percent of this tax-deductible contribution will go into a permanent reserve, generating funds for grants for years to come.

This year, the school with the highest average contribution per its student enrollment on Dec. 21 will be awarded an iPad for use throughout the school, or as the building principal sees fit.

Contributions of \$10 (or more) can be made in a number of ways: cash or checks made out to BVEF and sent to the main office of any school building, mailed to P.O. Box 40262, or online through PayPal at [www.bayedfoundation.org](http://www.bayedfoundation.org). The deadline for contributions is Dec. 12, 2012.

The BVEF looks forward to the community’s support in continuing to create opportunities for Bay students and educators. ●

# Volunteering a great way to help others and improve your resume

by Denise Ayres

Volunteer work is very valuable. Ask any organization that enlists volunteers and they will tell you “volunteers make it possible to run our world!” In our Compeer Program at Far West Center and in all Compeer programs throughout the U.S., Canada and Australia, volunteers help transform peoples’ lives by offering friendship and supportive communication. Did you know that not only is volunteering good for the community and your self-esteem, but it is also a great addition to your resume?

An article titled “Put Volunteer Work on Your Resume” by Susan J. Ellis, featured at [www.volunteerguide.org](http://www.volunteerguide.org), states “one way to capture the interest of an employer is to show that you are an involved citizen – someone who works to make the community a better place to live. In other words, make sure your volunteer work appears on your resume.”

This article also points out that volunteer work listed on a college graduate’s resume shows an employer that the student has demonstrated interests outside the classroom. Ellis also suggests to individuals that are trying to return to the work force after unemployment that “volunteer activities prove that you kept yourself sharp and involved.”

Volunteer work can say a lot about character and one’s ability to commit to a job. Volunteer work shows that you “showed up” for the job and helped an organization to accomplish service goals. The Community Service

Learning Center of Grand Valley State University in Michigan says in regard to resumes: “Remember, volunteer work should be presented with the same value, importance and level of achievement as paid employment.”

In his New York Times article, titled “Volunteering Rises on Resumes,” John Leland offers some results of a September 2011 survey given to employers by LinkedIn. The LinkedIn survey showed that “41 percent of employers said they considered volunteer work as important as paid work.” This same survey reports that 20 percent of employers made a hiring decision based on an applicant’s volunteer work.

You need not look far to find a volunteer opportunity in our Westlake and Bay Village communities. There are a number of outstanding organizations in need of volunteers in order to provide services. Compeer, with an office in Westlake, is looking for adult volunteers. The many advantages to volunteering for our program include socialization, fun activities and a flexible schedule. In fact, Compeer volunteers make their own schedule which makes volunteering fit within their other commitments.

Please visit [www.compeer.org](http://www.compeer.org) and see how rewarding it can be to be a Compeer volunteer. For more information about Westlake Compeer, call us at 440-835-6212, ext. 242, or email [compeer@farwestcenter.com](mailto:compeer@farwestcenter.com).

Many of our Compeer volunteers are listing their volunteer work on their resumes. We hope you will join us and be able to make Compeer a helpful addition to your resume! ●

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PET CARE

The ‘unsweet’ truth about dogs and chocolate

by Lori Aldrich

It is almost Halloween and the start of the candy-filled holiday season! I confess, growing up with my miniature poodle Muffin, I gave her chocolate daily! That was her favorite dog treat, specifically M&M’s. One glance at those soulful eyes and the child in me melted. I did not want a candy nearly as bad as she did! We did not know the dangers of chocolate for dogs back then.

As the owner of a dog bakery/boutique in Westlake, I had to learn the facts to educate my customers on the evils of chocolate and wonders of carob. So here are the “unsweet” facts about chocolate:

Chocolate comes from roasted seeds called Theobroma cacao – which contain theobromine and caffeine, both poisonous to most animals! What matters most are the type and amount of chocolate consumed.

Milk chocolate contains 44 milligrams of theobromine per ounce. Semisweet chocolate contains 150mg of theobromine per ounce. Baker’s chocolate contains 390 mg of

theobromine per ounce.

For example, two ounces of Baker’s chocolate causes severe toxicity in a 20-pound dog, whereas two ounces of milk chocolate causes gastric distress but is not likely to be fatal to the same dog.

However, if your dog ingests chocolate, look for the following symptoms: very excited, increased heart rate, restlessness, increased urination, vomiting and diarrhea. Serious symptoms include seizures, muscle tremors and cardiac failure.

First things first: call your vet, who will likely tell you to induce vomiting. Most times they will want to run some blood work and possibly an ECG to determine the toxicity levels. There is no antidote so prevention is the key!

Additional interesting facts to consider: White chocolate is fine since it contains no real chocolate (but has the trans-fats instead). Cocoa bean mulch for your yard is also poisonous to dogs since it is made from cocoa beans! Some places are using chocolate to help control coyotes since it is toxic to them, too. ●

Bay lacrosse group to host OSU football watch party on Oct. 27

by Mike Voll

Bay Village Lacrosse Association will sponsor a “Football Watch Party” fundraiser featuring the Ohio State vs. Penn State game on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 5:45 to 9 p.m. at the Copper Cup, 680 Dover Center Rd. in Westlake. In addition to the OSU game, there will also be a live feed to the St. Ignatius vs. St. Edward’s 7 p.m. football game.

Event proceeds will benefit BVLA to help fund the group’s capital equipment drive, support Bay Village boys’ and girls’ lacrosse programs and provide LAX scholarships to student athletes in need.

In addition to football, a lot of lacrosse – the fastest growing sport in the United States – will be on tap at this fun-filled fall event. While mostly social, this event will give parents – especially those who are new to the sport – the opportunity to speak with youth league, high

school and even some college lacrosse coaches and officials who will be on hand to answer questions in an informal setting. Select vendors have been invited to showcase the newest and latest lacrosse equipment. Lacrosse camp and league information will also be available for parents interested in off-season playing opportunities for their athletes.

The BVLA “Football Watch Party” will feature a reverse raffle drawn at halftime, football squares games and a silent auction with items ranging from the newest lacrosse gear to a one-of-a-kind Michael Jordan signed, framed picture. In addition, a wheelbarrow laden with a variety of adult beverages will be raffled off at the event. Door prizes will also be given out during the game.

Ticket cost is \$25 per adult. Ticket price includes beer, wine, pop and heavy appetizers during the game. Each attendee will also receive a Bay Lacrosse window decal. To purchase tickets, call 440-570-4263 or email mike.voll@conxx.net. ●

Time to furnish some love

Fall is here again and if you feel the urge to clean out the garage or closets over the weekend, consider donating your gently-used furniture and household goods to the Cleveland Furniture Bank.

The Cleveland Furniture Bank is a local non-profit organization which helps thousands of Northeast Ohioans establish a more stable living environment by providing them with basic home furnishings such as a bed, couch and dinette. Referrals include victims of domestic violence or natural disasters, former foster children who’ve reached

adulthood and returning veterans.

Every year the Cleveland Furniture Bank distributes thousands of furniture items to local households, and by accepting donations, reduces landfill waste by millions of pounds. Items that no longer have meaning to you can mean the world to a family or individual who is starting out or starting over.

Donors may drop off items at our donation center at 6700 Biddulph Rd., Brooklyn, schedule a pick up at www.clevelandfurniturebank.org or call 216-459-2265, ext. 101. The fee for a pickup is \$20.

If you don’t have furniture to give but would like to help, Cleveland Furniture Bank also accepts monetary donations via PayPal on their website. ●

READER’S LETTERS

Bay Village charter amendments on Nov. 6 ballot

The Bay Village Chapter of the League of Women Voters - Cuyahoga Area (LWV-CA) would like to thank the members of Bay’s 2012 Charter Review Commission for their diligent service. Once every ten years, a commission appointed by the mayor and approved by city council reviews the entire charter. Their purpose is to ensure that the charter remains a coherent whole and meets the anticipated and current needs of the community. This is a monumental task.

The themes of this year’s review were flexibility, streamlining city government and paving the way to regionalization. The LWV-CA is a strong advocate of regionalization and we support “voluntary intergovernmental, collaborative agreements which reduce costs, foster transparency and accountability, improve efficiencies, and maintain service standards.” This is an excellent yardstick by which to examine the four charter amendment proposals.

Regretfully, the Bay Village Chapter of the League of Women Voters - Cuyahoga Area is unable to take a position on the charter amendment proposals. Firstly, we note the current lack of a coherent and cohesive regional plan into which the proposed changes may be integrated. Secondly, we would need additional time to conduct an in-depth study of the proposals and their possible effects upon the community.

Nevertheless, we encourage all citizens of Bay Village to examine these issues in light of the criteria listed above and to cast informed votes on local, state and national issues in the November election.

– Barbara Ebright, Chair, Bay Village Chapter, League of Women Voters - Cuyahoga Area

Bay City Council returns from recess

Bay Residents,

City Council is back in session following its traditional summer recess and has begun the budgetary process for 2013. A fiscally conservative approach, marked by targeted cuts and restructuring of debt, has allowed the city to operate within its means without dipping into reserves specifically earmarked for public improvements to benefit our Bay Village residents. The Finance Committee is meeting frequently as the budget takes shape.

The Public Improvements Committee will soon begin a series of meetings with city administration to layout long-term public improvement plans. An aging infrastructure will require investment in municipal buildings, parks and recreation, roads and continued sewer upgrades.

To subscribe to Council’s email newsletter, please send your request to Council Clerk Joan Kemper at jkemper@cityofbayvillage.com.

Proud to Serve,  
Paul Koomar, Council President  
Dwight Clark, Council At-Large  
Scott Pohlkamp, Council At-Large  
David Tadych, Council Ward 1  
Clete Miller, Council Ward 2  
Karen Lieske, Council Ward 3  
Mike Young, Council Ward 4

Get ready to vote: registration deadline is Oct. 9

Voters in all of Cuyahoga County’s municipalities will cast ballots for President, U.S. Senate and members of Congress, Ohio Senate and the Ohio House of Representatives, County Prosecutor and County Council members, judicial candidates, State Board of Education seats, as well as local and state issues.

It is important for voters to be prepared to cast their ballots. The voter registration deadline is Oct. 9. Voters who have moved or changed their name since they last voted need to complete and return a new Voter Registration Card. After a voter has registered, they will receive a postcard that lists their ward, precinct and voting location.

To avoid lines on Election Day and to allow extra time to study the ballot, all registered voters may vote by mail. Vote by mail ballot applications are available at the Board of Elections website: www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us, by calling the Board of Elections at 216-443-3298, and at all public libraries.

Voters who are interested in serving as poll workers may call 216-443-3277 or apply online at: www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us.

– Mike West, Media and Voter Education Specialist  
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections

Lookin’ good

To the publisher,

Just a brief note to tell you that you guys have an excellent-looking, usually attractive publication. Don’t know if I’ve ever seen a weekly that looks better.

I am a retired managing editor of the Elyria Chronicle, I also worked as an editor at the Akron Beacon and the Cleveland Press.

I have lived in Westlake for 30 years; just thought I’d tell you that you are gooood lookin’.

– Arnold Miller, Westlake



MUSINGS FROM THE MIDDLE

Looking ahead to South Africa

by Audrey Ray, fifth-grader at Bay Middle School

Have you ever planned for a big family trip? My family is planning one right now. Some of you may remember that my family is going to South Africa in January. My dad got a Fulbright Scholarship to study the South African Constitution.

We have gotten our passports and physical exams so we can apply for our South Africa Visas. We need visas because we are staying for almost eight months and need special permission to stay that long. We also have to buy our plane tickets. The plane ride is over 15 hours to travel to South Africa and about 18 to come home.

We will be staying in the Cape Town area. It is in the south of the country where the Atlantic and Indian oceans meet. Cape Town is surrounded by Table Mountain. Table Mountain is special because it is flat at the top and not a point. There are penguins that live nearby at Boulders Beach

and whale watching in August. There is even shark-cage diving but my parents won't let us do that.

My parents have been looking online at houses that we could rent. We are trying to stay in a small beach community or maybe in the mountains near the coast. I'm hoping that in our back yard (which they call a garden) we will have a pool. Many houses seem to have pools.

We will also be traveling while we are in South Africa. Parts of South Africa have a mosquito-carrying disease called malaria. My family is planning to avoid those areas because there are plenty of places to see that are malaria free. We will see everything we want to see in Cape Town at least once. We are planning to take a drive along the Garden Route. The Garden Route is famous for its beautiful gardens, ancient forests, white sandy beaches, lakes, and somewhere along the route is the ostrich capital of the world.

Of course we are planning to go on a safari while we are there and I'm hoping

to see the Big 5. The Big 5 are elephants, water buffalo, lions, rhinos and leopards. We hope to get to see smaller animals and birds too.

We are planning to spend some time in Johannesburg. Johannesburg is where the Constitutional Court is and where the cases are argued in front of their Justices. The Constitutional Court is like our United States Supreme Court. My dad, mom and I lived in Johannesburg when I was one year old. They are hoping to show me our old house and some of the places we used to visit. They hope to take us to Pilansberg Nature Reserve. It is near Johannesburg, and there is evidence people lived there from the Stone and Iron Ages.

I hope that we can do all these things and more. I'm planning to write for The Observer while I'm in South Africa. I know I will miss my friends when I am gone and

my other family members. But it's temporary. I will be back sometime in August. My parents are talking more and more about our trip because to them it's right around the corner. To me, it's still pretty far away, but I know it's coming. ●



One-year-old Audrey walks on a Cape Town beach near Table Mountain during her first trip to South Africa in 2003.

Creative, versatile, humorous Chris Morris shares stories behind newspaper illustrations

by Marge Widmar

A photo of two Winsor & Newton paint brushes – one with only a few bristles left and the other with its ferrule full. Guess which one was used by Plain Dealer visual journalist Chris Morris as he created 2,000 drawings? The audience at the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council quarterly event Sept. 18 at Westlake Porter Public Library saw an impressive body of Morris' artwork as well as the sparsely-bristled brush that had been used for nearly 2,000 of his ink drawings. That number, however, is just a percentage of the art that Morris has created. The 542 figures he inked over the course of eight weeks to honor each Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee may offer a clue regarding the size of his portfolio.

Chris Morris opened his presentation with: "I like drawing." He also likes Cleveland. He admires how The Plain Dealer embraces visuals and is "fearless" when it comes to size of the art on a page. He is complimentary of his colleagues. He likes to draw people. He likes to tell a story in visual form.

Chris Morris came to The Plain Dealer from the Las Vegas Sun and before that the Dallas Morning News, the San Francisco Examiner and the Dallas Times Herald. When he left the Sun in 2011, Rachel Perkins of the

paper's parent company Greenspun Media Group, stated that she "regrets to announce that GMG's illustrator extraordinaire is leaving the Sun to become Art Director at The Plain Dealer."

In his presentation, Morris shared that as a child, he received a Walt Kelly "Pogo" book from a great-aunt. Kelly's long, beautiful lines still influence Morris' work. His current Plain Dealer "Browns Town" drawings reflect Kelly's line influence as well as the ability to fit surprise drawings into little pockets of space. Pocketing "locals" into spots in the "Browns Town" strips is especially enjoyable for Morris.

Morris states that he likes to "jump around with different styles." Other influences for his art are Jim Unger and Chuck Jones of Warner Bros. for sense of humor; Al Hirschfeld with his pure and simple black line; Chris Payne, with whom he studied for three semesters at East Texas State; and Charlie Harper's clean, stylized work.

"My art is a combination of styles and flavors, but at its core, I would hope that readers appreciate the lighter touch, the humor perhaps," Morris said. "Of



Chris Morris talks about the large-scale graphics that he can create using vector drawing software.




photo courtesy Chris Morris

Plain Dealer art director Chris Morris recently retired the paintbrush on the left, after creating nearly 2,000 illustrations with it, and is breaking in the new paintbrush on the right.

course, when I have to illustrate a story about a love triangle that ends in a strangulation, I have to reach a bit deeper! But ultimately, I have been blessed with a talent, supported from an early age by a wonderful family and am able to do what I do in a very visually smart newspaper."

From the reaction of the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council audience and this writer, we can conclude Chris Morris is likable and a wonderful contributor to the vitality of visual art in Northern Ohio. ●



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## BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

# Bay Village's Glenview Center celebrating 30th anniversary Oct. 4

by Karen Derby

The Bay Village City School District's Glenview Center for Child Care and Learning is inviting all of the Center's alumni and former staff members, current families, staff and friends to an Open House celebration of its 30th anniversary on Thursday, Oct. 4, from 4:30-6 p.m. at its location on 28727 Wolf Rd. in Bay Village.

Children will enjoy face painting, ice cream, cake and two "bouncy houses." Visitors can tour the building and are welcome to reminisce to their heart's content.

"When Glenview began providing child care 30 years ago, it was almost inconceivable how important it would become in the lives of so many families," said

Clint Keener, Superintendent of the Bay Village Schools. "Today's parents find Glenview's services to be not only a great family support, but to also be a wonderful start to their children's education."

Glenview Center for Child-care and Learning is a full-time, fully licensed daycare center serving infants and preschool-aged children. The Center also offers a preschool for children starting at age three, and offers before- and after-school care and summer care for school-aged children up to sixth grade. The childcare center is completely self-supporting through fees paid by parents.

Glenview also houses the district's S.E.E.D. program, its required pre-school program for children aged three through five who are experiencing developmental delays. ●



Glenview Center's alumni and all current and former staff, families and friends are invited to join in its 30th Anniversary celebration on Oct. 4.

## BAY VILLAGE RECREATION

## Autumn is Awesome at Bay Rec

by Sarah Gilbert

Fall is in full swing at the Bay Village Recreation Department with our football and volleyball programs off to a great start. That only means that basketball season is right around the corner! Registrations have begun for all of our basketball programs, including some new activities for the youngest hoopers. Kickboxing has returned after its summer break and joins our other great ongoing adult fitness programs. Check out some of these and more...

### Youth Basketball Clinic, Grades 1-8

Sundays, Oct. 7, 14, 21 (boys: noon-2 p.m.; girls: 2-4 p.m.), Middle School Gym

Boys: noon-2 p.m.; girls: 2-4 p.m. All clinics take place in the Middle School Gym.

### Yoga Playtime, Grades 1-5

Thursday, Nov. 8 (9 a.m.-noon), Community House  
New! Use music, songs, rhythm, games, and yoga poses to stretch, bend, move, and feel good in our bodies and become more aware of our energy levels. Students will also create a craft and make a healthy snack.

### Kickboxing/Pilates

Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 p.m., Bay Lodge) and Saturdays (8:30-9:30 a.m., Community Gym)

Join Cathy for 30 minutes of high and low impact kickboxing and 30 minutes of pilates. Drop in to try it out for \$7 (non-resident:\$8) or register for a pass and attend

up to 15 classes, good for any day and time.

### Zumba Fitness

Tuesdays/Thursdays (9:30-10:30 a.m., Community Gym) and Mondays/Thursdays (7-8 p.m., Dwyer Center)

Get in on the hottest new dance/aerobic workout! Drop in to try it out for \$7 (non-resident: \$8) or purchase a pass and attend up to 15 classes, good for any time or day.

### After School Youth Tennis, Grades K-8

Mondays and Thursdays, Westerly School Gym  
Session I: Oct. 1-Nov. 1; Session II: Nov. 5-Dec. 13

### Little Hoopers, Ages 3-5

Tuesdays evenings, Nov. 13-Dec. 18, Community Gym  
New this year! Learn the basics of basketball, a great intro to the sport.

### Youth Basketball League

Games: Saturdays, Nov. 17-Feb. 23  
League Divisions – Boys: 3/4 Grade, 5/6 Grade, 7/8 Grade; Girls: 3/4 Grade, 5/6 Grade, 7/8 Grade. Basketball season is right around the corner, sign up now! Teams practice one hour per week in addition to Saturday games at the Community Gym. Volunteer coaches needed for this program!

### High School Basketball, Grades 9-12

Saturdays, Dec. 1-Feb. 16  
The Middle School and Community Gyms will be full of hoops fun this winter. Sign up now! Games take place on Saturdays starting Dec. 1. Parent coaches are always needed!

## Bay High drama 'I Remember Mama' to be performed Oct. 11, 13

by Karen Derby

Bay High students will present the heart-warming 1940s-era play "I Remember Mama" on Thursday and Saturday, Oct. 11 and 13, 7 p.m. at Bay High's auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door (no presale available).

John Van Druten's play "I Remember Mama" focuses on an immigrant Norwegian family who settles in San Francisco in the early part of the twentieth century. As the family struggles with financial woes and illness, its members learn again and again, especially from their mother, that money is not the most important thing.

The original Rodgers and Hammerstein production opened in New York in 1944, with Marlon Brando making his Broadway debut. It was made into a feature film in 1948. The list of Bay High cast members will be available on the school's website at [www.bayvillageschools.com/BayHigh](http://www.bayvillageschools.com/BayHigh) the week of the performance. ●

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WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

# Bassett, Hilliard named Blue Ribbon schools

by Kim Bonvissuto

Westlake's Bassett and Hilliard elementary schools are two of only 13 outstanding schools in Ohio to achieve the 2012 National Blue Ribbon Schools award.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award highlights and gives recognition to schools producing outstanding results for all students regardless of race or socioeconomic status. Schools recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools have demonstrated consistent excellence, and in some cases, those that have made progress and closed gaps in student achievement.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program is part of a larger U.S. Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices.

Both Bassett and Hilliard elementary schools were nominated based on Exemplary High Performing criteria, highlighting the fact that both schools are among the state's highest performing schools as measured by performance on state assessments. Bassett earned the top score of Excellent on the most recent state report card and a Performance Index Score of 110.4, which reflects the achievement

of every student. Hilliard also earned an Excellent on the state report card and posted a Performance Index Score of 108.2.

"The staff at Bassett is humbled by this recognition," said Bassett Principal Ben Hodge. "Former Principal Tim Rickard created a learning community that achieves excellence, and I want to continue that for all children here at Bassett. We have hard working students, parents and staff, and I believe this award recognizes their efforts."

Hilliard Principal Kim Conley also said her staff was honored by the award.

"Through the solid foundation which former Principal Mary Flanagan established, I've been privileged to carry on this journey with a remarkable and dedicated staff, talented students, and supportive parents and community," Conley said.

"It's a great honor that two of the 13 Ohio schools nominated for such a prestigious award come from the Westlake City Schools," said Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. "The Blue Ribbon nominations are a testament to the work and commitment of the teachers, principals, support staff, PTA and all who spend so much time seeing Bassett and Hilliard strive for excellence." ●

# Tablets offer the 'power of one'

by Tak Sato

Love it or hate it but either way we can't live without it. This may be a typical relationship you have with technology. For certain demographics, personal computers are a poster-child for the idiom "everything but the kitchen sink" where the plethora of functions offered becomes a barrier to adopting technology.

Lately, though, I see hope. Although partly due to socioeconomic factors there's another reason why the technology adoption barrier is slowly crumbling. I coin the term "Power of One" to explain this.

You probably have heard about Apple's iPad or Google's Nexus. These devices belong to the general technology genre known as tablets and although they have similar processing powers to an entry level personal computer, they require only one finger to operate. The screen is a touch-screen and is the primary method to communicate with your tablet.

How is this technology different? Why does it seem not to intimidate people as much as personal computers? I believe it is because tablets take the polar-opposite approach of personal computers' "everything but the kitchen sink." Rather, tablets concentrate on the functions most

of us frequently perform in our personal lives: check emails, surf the internet, do web chats, check the weather, read your Westlake | Bay Village Observer and other news/magazines, check your medical records from MyChart, play games and enjoy multimedia such as digital music, videos and eBooks.

And through the wonderful world of apps, tablet users can decide to install only the apps they choose to use. Apps, short for applications, are analogous to the various software packages for the computer and while you may easily spend \$100 or more for office productivity software on a computer, apps in the tablet ecosystem cost nothing or start as low as 99 cents. The same formula that worked for tablets is employed by the apps by keeping the options within the apps at a minimum to prevent the user from information overload and intimidation.

Even the hunt-and-peck style of typing that people used to make fun of is fashionable when using tablets. A device that doesn't make us anxious, doesn't intimidate us and gives unprecedented power with a single finger? That is what technology should be in the first place – another tool that one can use to improve their lives – in this case, the "Power of One"! ●

# Donated wigs give boost to women facing chemotherapy hair loss

by Eileen Coan

The Gathering Place is a cancer support center for individuals and families coping with cancer, offering a wide range of programs and services free of charge. The Gathering Place has been open since 2000 in Beachwood, and 2008 in Westlake. Six months ago, with the help of Regina Brett, the Plain Dealer columnist and author, we opened HairPeace wig salons at our east and west locations.

We are delighted and appreciative of the positive outpouring of support from donors and salons alike. Donated synthetic wigs in good condition are professionally cleaned before going in our salons for women with hair loss from chemotherapy to try on and take home. In just six months, we have given free wigs to almost 300 women!

We have so many touching stories to share of women who, understandably, hated the idea of losing their hair and dreaded getting a wig, and left HairPeace with a smile on their face. The most common thing we hear them say after their appointment is "I can do this!"

Women found that a well made and well fitted wig can give them a seamless transition that no one will notice, or an entirely new look that lightens and brightens their outlook! Husbands have come with their wives, squirming with discomfort, and then perked up when they saw that, with the right wig, we could give them back the woman they married 20 years ago! Whether casual or fancy, long or short, we have been able to satisfy women of all styles.

We've been so successful in providing wigs we now need more wigs! If you



**A very happy participant finds her style at HairPeace Wig Salon with the help of a volunteer.**

have wigs to donate, we would love to have them – and now we know more about what styles are popular. We are looking for straight hair or soft waves, instead of tight or loose curls. We are more often giving women very short or medium-short wigs; the long ones tend to be saved for ponytails in a baseball cap!

All colors are fair game, but women especially like ones with highlights or mixed colors, even with dark roots. What we have never received and yet have had many requests for? Super short and spiky! So, check your closets and drop your synthetic wigs at The Gathering Place.

The Gathering Place West in Westlake is located at 800 Sharon Dr. Wigs can be dropped off Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wigs can also be dropped off when we are open for evening programming, check our website at [www.touchedbycancer.org](http://www.touchedbycancer.org) for hours or call 216-595-9546. ●

Eileen Coan is the HairPeace Wig Salon coordinator and medical librarian for The Gathering Place.

Join in at [www.wbvobserver.com](http://www.wbvobserver.com)



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## Westlake all-class reunion weekend



Westlake alumni Sandy Caldwell, Paula Schade and Marge Foder aboard the vintage Westlake fire truck before the Homecoming Parade on Sept. 28.



Retired teacher and wrestling coach Jerry Miller, second from right, reunites with former WHS wrestlers Milo Sanda, Rob York and George Newrones at Mitchell's Tavern on Friday, Sept. 28.



Carol Maat, Gaylee Griffith and Laurie McGraw reminisce about the good old days at Mitchell's Tavern in Westlake.



Westlake alums Dana Smigielski dyVyver, John Todd, Megan Moutoux, Jamie Melvin, Lisa Forshey and Craig Todd gather at Time Warp Bar for the "Alumni Night Out" on Saturday, Sept. 29.

## Historic Red Brick schoolhouse commemorated in plaque ceremony

Until 1898, the highest level of public education offered in Dover (now Westlake) was the eighth grade. Students wishing to continue their education enrolled in private, tuition-based academies. In 1898, the Dover Board of Education decided to establish a high school in Dover. The Red Brick building opened in 1909 as a high school on Dover Center Road.

In 1923, the school became a grade school, and a new high school was built on the site where Lee Burneson Middle School currently resides. The aging Red Brick building was demolished in 2010.

On Sept. 27, a plaque recognizing the historical significance of the Old Red Brick School building was dedicated.

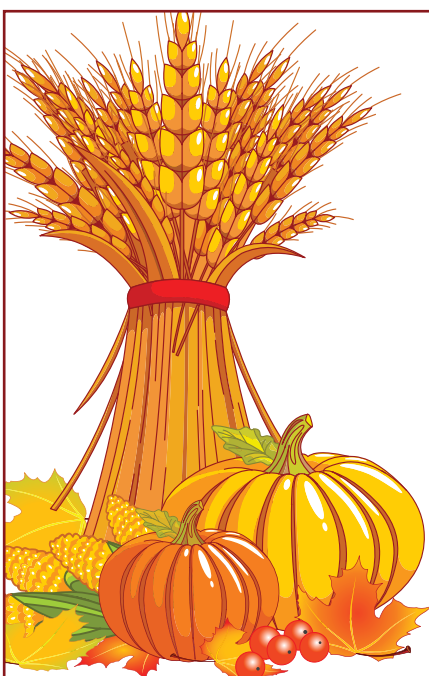


The Red Brick schoolhouse before demolition in 2010

Mounted on a large boulder unearthed this year during construction of the new Westlake high school building, the plaque will reside in what will become the Red Brick Plaza connecting the new Lee Burneson Middle School with the future Dover Intermediate School. ●



Westlake City Schools' Director of Construction Services Dave Puffer unveils the Red Brick plaque at the site of the new middle school.



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## Westlake Homecoming



photo by Carol Maat



photo by Carol Maat

Westlake High School students get creative for this year's "jungle" Homecoming theme.

## Zombies in the library! Oh my!

by Susan Ballard

The Bay Village Branch Library will once again resemble a spooky graveyard for the Second Annual Zombie Party on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 2-4:30 p.m. There will be an additional hour of makeup application this year. Katie Lane from the Legion of Terror will be applying/demonstrating zombie makeup from 2-4 p.m.

Ms. Lane is the co-owner of local design and production company Raven's Wolf and has been involved in the haunt industry for over a decade. She specializes in training actors and makeup artists across the country, working with haunts, entertainment venues, theater groups and schools.

Katie spends her haunt season traveling the nation to guest act (everywhere from Dream Reapers, to Darksyde Acres, to Haunted Hydro, to Spookyworld/Nightmare New England). She also does custom costume design and set design for a variety of events and teaches acting seminars which she did a few years ago at all the Cuyahoga County Public Library branches.

### The Oct. 6 Zombie Party schedule:

- 2-4 p.m.: Zombie makeup application/demonstration. Registration is required for those who want to participate in the makeup application. People under 18 getting made up must have a parent/guardian sign a permission form before the event at the Children's desk.
- 2-4:30: Games and crafts. No registration necessary.
- 4:15-4:30: Zombie parade. All attendees are invited to march in the parade around the outside of the library.

We're DYING to see our zombie friends at the Bay Village Branch Library! ●



photo by Cathy Axcell

The WHS band marches into the stadium before the Homecoming game against Olmsted Falls on Sept. 28.



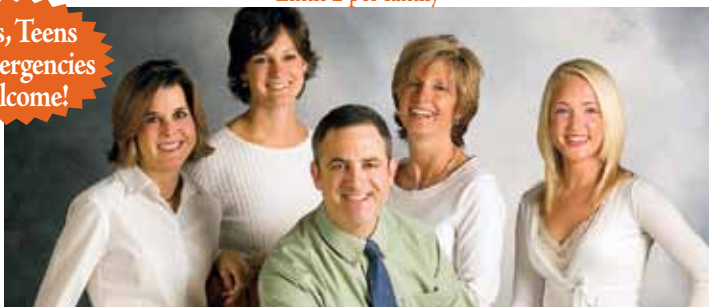
photo by Carol Maat

Westlake girls soccer players show their school spirit in the Homecoming Parade.

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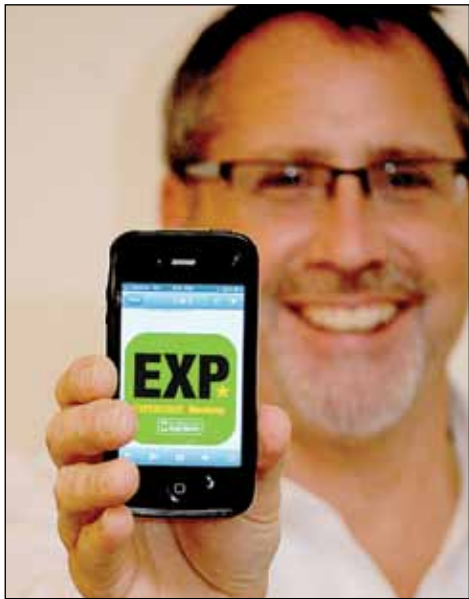
## NEW BUSINESSES

## Westlake: there's an app for that

Several months ago, business owners Steve Novak and Cindy Griffiths-Novak attended a Westshore Chamber of Commerce meeting and struck up a conversation with a fellow member during the networking session. He showed Steve and Cindy the Experience Lakewood iPhone app, and the couple immediately saw the opportunity a smartphone app would provide Westlake's businesses. Steve and Cindy live, work and volunteer their time in Westlake, and are always looking for ways to enhance the city they love.

The next day Steve contacted Barb Cagley, the creator of the app. That phone conversation was the first step in the creation of the Experience Westlake app. "We knew we were going to do this before we even left the chamber meeting," Novak said.

The Experience Westlake iPhone app allows users to find locations, phone numbers and special offers from Westlake businesses. It is also a new opportunity for businesses to promote them-



Steve Novak shows off the new Experience Westlake app on his iPhone.

selves, by subscribing to the app they can post special offers, information about their business or add a listing to the event calendar.

"We have quite a variety of subscribers on board already: Crocker Park, the City of Westlake, salons, auto care, healthcare facilities and restaurants," states Novak, who is contacting businesses daily getting the word out.

The Experience Westlake app is a free download for iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch users through Apple's iTunes store. Steve Novak may be reached directly at 216-849-0144. ●

## Yoga studio opens in Westlake

by Caroline Merk

Krysia Maciuszko grew up in Berea but lived and worked in Scottsdale and Los Angeles for several years before returning to Cleveland. It has been her dream since 2003 to open her own yoga studio. While working toward her Ph.D. in nursing at Case Western Reserve University, she wrote a yoga studio business plan for a doctoral-level course, but did not expect to implement it until sometime later. However, with her professor's encouragement, she decided she was "finally at the right place at the right time to do it," Krysia said. "It is the only thing I have ever really wanted to do."

Krysia found the perfect place, next to Bella Capelli on Center Ridge Road in Westlake. "I've done my homework, and I think there is a need for more yoga in this area," says Krysia. In her new space she created two studios, one a 1,000-square-foot area that could easily hold 50 students, and the second with over 500 square feet that can accommodate 25 students.

Krysia Energy Yoga offers both heated and unheated classes, beginner level,

intermediate and advanced classes.

"We offer the most variety in terms of specialty classes, like yoga for kids and prenatal yoga." The studio also has power yoga, Zumba and deep stretch, aka "yin yoga."

"Our teachers are all genuine and authentic. We celebrate individuality in both instructors and students." All instructors are certified registered yoga teachers with the Yoga Alliance, having completed at least 200 hours of yoga teacher training.

To celebrate the grand opening, Krysia Energy Yoga will offer a free class on Friday, Oct. 5, 6-7:20 p.m., followed by a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception until 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, is free all day, including complimentary classes, chair massage and Arbonne skin care products.

Krysia Energy Yoga is located at 24350 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake; 440-471-4749; [www.krysiaenergy.com](http://www.krysiaenergy.com). ●



Krysia Maciuszko instructs a yoga class in the tree pose.

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## St. Lads to hold pet blessing Oct. 6

by John Travis

In honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of pets, all dogs, cats, and other household animals (and their owners!) are invited to the First Annual Blessing of the Pets at St. Ladislav Catholic Church. The event will take place on Saturday Oct. 6, at 11 a.m. at St. Lads, 2345 Bassett Rd. in Westlake, at the back of the Church near the office entrance. After an introductory service, Bishop A.J. Quinn and Deacon John Travis will individually bless all pets.

The event is free and open to all. Several St. Francis pet medals will be given away. All pets should be on their leashes or in their cages.



**Bring your dogs and other animal family members to St. Ladislav's pet blessing event Oct. 6.**

Although our pets don't speak (Myna birds and parrots excepted!) if they could talk, they no doubt would say: "Take me to the pet blessing!" So why not come? You and your pet will be glad you did! ●

### SAVE THE DATE

#### **BAY MATTERS: Protecting Our Youth – Protecting Our Community**

**Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m.**

**Bay High School auditorium, 29230 Wolf Rd.**

Led by a panel of community leaders, this community-wide forum will provide the latest information and bring awareness about youth chemical substance abuse and addiction, how this issue affects us all, and what each of us can do as concerned citizens to help.

### FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

## St. Bernadette kicks off universal 'Year of Faith' Oct. 19

by Jennifer Kinley

Pope Benedict XVI announced in his apostolic letter "Porta Fidei" ("Door of Faith") that there would be a "Year of Faith" for the universal Church to begin Oct. 11, 2012 and lasting through Nov. 24, 2013. During this year, the faithful are called to "a renewed conversion to the Lord, the one Savior of the world." In other words, the Year of Faith is an opportunity for people to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus, rediscover and renew their relationship with Christ and his Church.

This Year of Faith marks three momentous occasions: the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, the 20th anniversary of the release of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" and the World Synod of Bishops for the New Evangelization taking place in Rome this October.

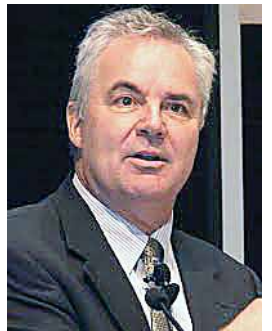
The last Year of Faith was in 1967, announced by Pope Paul VI. At certain times, the faithful are called to devote attention to certain aspects of their faith in this special way, such as the "Year for Priests," "Year of St. Paul," and "Year of the Eucharist" in more recent times.

The start celebration of this year, St. Bernadette Church in Westlake is holding an event Friday, Oct. 19, and Saturday, Oct. 20 to "Kick Off The Year Of Faith" with featured speaker Marcus Grodi from EWTN's TV program "The Journey Home."

"We wanted to offer an opportunity for people to recognize this year and start things off in an impactful way," says event coordinator Kent Dale. "Marcus will speak on conversion, how each of us needs this in our daily lives and barriers to conversion."

Friday begins at 7 p.m. with a musical performance by St. Joseph Academy's acclaimed a capella group Cecilia's Song, followed by Marcus Grodi at 7:30. Saturday begins with 8 a.m. Mass, followed by a continental breakfast and Marcus Grodi at 9:45. Media sales and signings both days.

It is a free event, open to the public. To reserve a seat, email your name and contact information to: [StBernadetteYearofFaith@gmail.com](mailto:StBernadetteYearofFaith@gmail.com). The parish office may be contacted with any questions: 440-734-1300. ●



**Marcus Grodi of EWTN will be the featured speaker at St. Bernadette's "Year of Faith" program Oct. 19-20.**

# Battleground Ohio 2012

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## So many nuts, so little time!



A foraging chipmunk in Bay Village stuffs his mouth with acorns to store for the upcoming winter. The large amount of acorns this year is the result of last summer's weather. Acorns produced this fall begin to form in the previous year's July and August. Last summer's conditions were good, with plenty of rain and sunshine resulting in a bountiful supply of nuts for this happy chipmunk.

## Westlake Historical Society clothing curator combines love of history, fashion in miniatures

by Joyce Waltz-Umerley

**D**r. Marie Albano's interest in dolls, dollhouses, miniatures, and costume design began at an early age. When she was eight years old, her grandmother taught her how to use a treadle sewing machine, and Marie began making clothes for her Barbie doll.

"I enjoyed that my grandmother made outfits for me and my dolls, and I continue to this day," says Marie. She still has almost every doll she ever received and all of their clothing. She rescues dolls no longer wanted, restrings them and gives them a new home at her home in Westlake.

"Being an only child, my dolls were more than 'toys,' they were my treasures," Marie recently recalled. "My female ancestors always had their own art talents; one was a milliner and owned her own store in the nineteenth century. I come from a long line of clothing and floral designers, independent women ahead of their time."

Marie also collects vintage clothing. Her love of history led

her to the Westlake Historical Society where she has been the clothing curator for the past five years. At the Society's annual antique show held in July, you'll find Marie giving tours of the Clague House Museum, while modeling vintage clothing.

Growing up, Marie's interest in dollhouses began with a metal dollhouse and a Barbie Fashion shop. "My first wooden dollhouse was a kit, given to me by my husband, Bruce Weitz, when we were students in dental school," Marie fondly recalls.

After graduating from the Ohio State University College of Dentistry in 1989, Marie and her husband moved to Westlake and opened separate private practices in the area. Their mutual interest in miniatures has continued throughout their lives and careers. Bruce builds miniature furniture from kits in his basement workshop, for Marie's growing collection of dollhouses.

In 2010, Marie bought her very first vintage dollhouse at a Cleveland Miniaturia Society show, and began restoring it. Recently, she acquired a new three-story dollhouse and is decorating it in the time-period of the British television series, "Downton Abbey," her favorite TV show. The show is a period piece in which elaborate costumes, sets and properties are featured to cap-

ture the ambiance of a fictional estate in England. Marie's latest dollhouse acquisition fits her interests like a glove!

Marie's love of costumes, dolls, miniatures, dollhouses and dentistry come together on Saturday, Oct. 13, at Cleveland Miniaturia Society's 41st show, held at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. She will be greeting visitors with a wave of her magic wand and dressed as a fairy godmother, for the show's theme, "Fairy Tales - Once upon a time..."

Several of her dolls, dollhouses and miniatures will be on exhibit: "The Three Bears," "Hansel and Gretel" and Rapunzel," as well as a miniature scene, "What Do Fair-

ies Do With All Those Teeth?" Admission to the show is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children over 5 years. Show proceeds are donated to Cleveland Foodbank. For information, visit [www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org](http://www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org). ●



This is a close-up photo (after restoration) of the first dollhouse Dr. Albano ever purchased, at Cleveland Miniaturia Society's 2010 show. This room depicts Marie's sewing room (in miniature) in her Westlake home, complete with fabric samples, sewing supplies, a treadle sewing machine and sewing projects in progress.



This dollhouse is Marie's latest acquisition, a new three-story dollhouse that she is decorating in the time-period of the British TV series, "Downton Abbey."



Dressed as a fairy godmother, Dr. Marie Albano will welcome visitors to Cleveland Miniaturia Society's show, "Fairy Tales," on Oct. 13 at the Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River.

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## CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

## Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

October will be filled with treats for everyone at the Bay Village Branch Library! Drop in for ongoing storytimes and browse the collection during your visit. We'll be glad to help you find what you're looking for, or introduce you to books and authors you might not know. Register for these programs and get ready to be entertained and informed!

### ADULT DEPARTMENT

**Tuesday, Oct. 9 (10 a.m.) FACEBOOK FOR BEGINNERS** – This program will walk you through the basics of Facebook. You'll learn how to keep your content safe, what to do once you join and how to decide who to "friend." Share photos safely, find long-lost friends and colleagues and socialize with confidence in this brave new world of social media.

**Thursday, Oct. 11 (7 p.m.) MANAGING STRESS** – Stress can cause increased blood pressure and muscle pain and take a toll on your immune system. Join us as a Metro-Health physician explains how to identify stressors and the best ways to cope.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17 (7 p.m.) AUTHOR VISIT WITH P.L. GAUS** – P.L. Gaus is the author of the "Amish Country Mysteries," books set in the Amish culture. Join us as the author shares his thoughts on writing and discusses his latest book, "Harmless as Doves." Books will be available for purchase and signing.

### TEEN DEPARTMENT

**Tuesday, Oct. 9 (3:30 p.m.) ROUND T.A.B.L.E** – For ages 11 and up. Join other teens at the library for this ongoing series doing what teens like to do, whether it be completing projects that serve the community, helping the library or sometimes just hanging out playing video games. Snacks will be provided.

### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

**Saturday, Oct. 6 (2 p.m.) SECOND ANNUAL ZOMBIE PARTY!** – For families with children ages 5 and up. It's time to get your scare on! Please register for the makeup application/demonstration courtesy of Katie Lane from the Legion of Terror from 2-4 p.m. If you'd just like to watch the demonstration, play games, make crafts and march in the parade, no registration is necessary.

**Saturday, Oct. 13 (10:30 a.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME** – Join us for a sensory storytime designed for children with special needs. The program incorporates a schedule

board, double visuals and sensory opportunities for participants, as well as a half-hour socialization time following the program.

**Saturday, Oct. 13 (11:30 a.m.) PLAY/STORY** – For ages birth-5 and a caregiver. Children can come to play with interactive and developmental toys and share a story and song while caregivers meet new friends and socialize.

**Mondays, Oct. 1, 8, 15 and 22 (6-7:30 p.m.) TEAM READ-A-BOOK** – For grades 2-3. Students with identified learning disabilities or who are struggling with literacy skills are invited to join a librarian and a literacy teacher for an hour and a half of information and fun! Students and parents will enjoy separate activities, and participate in an activity together at the end. A pizza dinner will be provided each week, so please come and join us for this program!

**Friday, Oct. 12 (11 a.m.) JACK AND THE BEANSTALK PUPPET SHOW** – Join us on NEOEA Day as Nancy Sander presents a humorous twist on this classic tale!

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 (4 p.m.) IMAGINATIVE ILLUSTRATIONS** – For grades K-5. Exercise your imagination while learning some basic cartooning techniques in this hands-on drawing program. Teaching artist Jim Gill will help you to bring your drawings to life after starting with a simple scribble, line or shape.

**Thursday, Oct. 18 (3:30 p.m.) MUMMY SCIENCE AND THE MYSTERY CEMETERY** – For grades 4-8. Learn how ancient Egyptians preserved their dead. Mummify an egg and try some archeology with the Mystery Cemetery!

**Thursday, Oct. 18 (7 p.m.) FAMILIES READING TOGETHER** – For families with readers ages 8-12. Discuss a good mystery book, try a related activity and enjoy a treat! Pick up the book selection beginning Sept. 27.

**Saturday, Oct. 20 (11 a.m.) EXPLORATION STATION: MAKING CHOICES** – (Rescheduled from an earlier date.) For ages 3-5 and a caregiver. Join us for stories and activities about making choices. Children will be able to explore and practice thinking skills at hands-on learning stations.

**This month – and always – the Bay Library is THE place to be! Join in the fun! Call the library at 871-6392 or register online at [cuyahogalibrary.org](http://cuyahogalibrary.org).** ●

## Amish mystery writer to appear at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Barb Isaacs

P.L. Gaus is the author of the Amish-Country Mysteries series of books set in the Amish culture. He lives in Wooster and has extensive knowledge of the culture and lifestyle of the Ohio Amish.

He has gained this knowledge from over thirty years of travel throughout Holmes and surrounding counties in Ohio, where the world's largest Amish and Mennonite population sprawls out over the countryside near Millersburg, Wooster and Sugar-creek.

Paul took an interest in writing fiction in 1993, and with the advice and encouragement of author Tony Hillerman, he began writing mystery novels.

The first of Gaus's mysteries, "Blood of the Prodigal, An Ohio Amish Mystery," was published by Ohio University Press in June 1999, followed by seven additional novels in this series: "Broken English," "Clouds Without Rain," "Cast a Blue Shadow," "A Prayer for the Night," "Separate from the World" and "Harmless as Doves." An eighth novel in the series is in preparation.

Examining the Amish culture in the context of a murder investigation, Gaus

illuminates life among the Amish.

Join us at the Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. as the author speaks on the topic of "Amish People I Have Met and the Amish-Country Mysteries." This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch and a book sale and signing will follow.

Registration is requested by calling the library at 440-871-6392 or online at [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org). ●

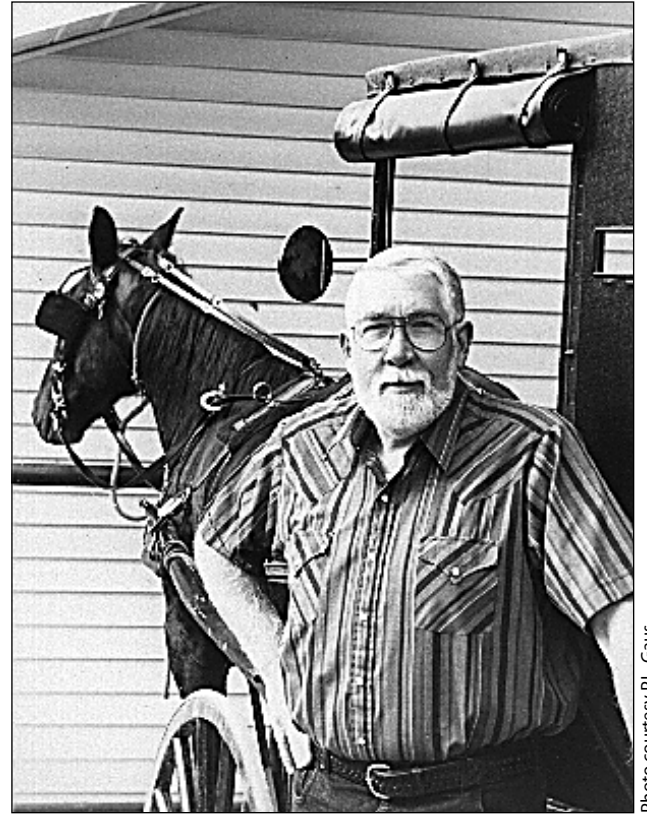


Photo courtesy P.L. Gaus

**Amish mystery writer P.L. Gaus will speak at the Bay Library on Oct. 17.**

## Unity offers peace and meditation in October with labyrinth walk and prayer bead workshop

by Jan Litterst

“The mind can go in a thousand directions. But on this beautiful path, I walk in peace. With each step, a gentle wind blows. With each step, a flower blooms.” – *Thich Nhat Hanh, Vietnamese Buddhist monk*

In the month of October, Unity Spiritual Center is offering those who are seeking ways to pray a variety of programs that will open new doors to prayer. For example, on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. to noon, you can give yourself the gift of a Saturday morning and join in the ancient practice of labyrinth walking. You will learn from a short lecture what's behind the growing attraction of the mysterious labyrinth and why it is being revived in popular culture. It is a powerful tool for transformation whether you are seeking healing, exploring the next steps on your personal life path, exploring your own soul work or you just want to learn what the labyrinth is all about.

Unity Spiritual Center's campus at 23855 Detroit Rd. in Westlake offers a beautiful labyrinth which is open to the public 365 days a year. Located in the southwestern corner of the campus, the Labyrinth at Unity beckons to you every

day, but especially on Oct. 6, when you can join others for a brief program followed by a labyrinth walk. Afterwards, you can share your experience while enjoying coffee and pastries.

Walking the labyrinth serves as a source of revelation and healing. The walk engages body and spirit, connecting heaven and earth; and it can be a powerful way to realign with your personal Divine in a moving meditation.

Six days later, on Oct. 12, you can create your own prayer bracelet at the Prayer Bead Workshop from 6:30 to 9 p.m. This workshop is an evening of fun, recreation, meditation and prayer. You can start the evening with a light dinner of pizza and a beverage and then learn how to make a bracelet or string of beads to assist you in your own personal prayer time. These bracelets can help you concentrate and "go within" as well as being a source of comfort in stressful times.

At the end of the workshop, there will be a blessing and a meditation with the beads.

Preregistration for the Prayer Bead Workshop is required by Friday, Oct. 5, on the Unity website, [www.unityspiritualcenter.com](http://www.unityspiritualcenter.com). Cost for the workshop is \$15. For more information, call 440-835-0400. ●

Join in at [www.wbvobserver.com](http://www.wbvobserver.com)



WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Westlake Porter Public Library's October calendar of events

by Elaine Willis

**Wednesday, Oct. 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. Space is limited, so please arrive early enough to receive a ticket at the Preschool Desk.

**Wednesday, Oct. 3 (1-2:30 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** – Stuck on your genealogical research? Not sure how to get started? Stop by for a free Help Session!

**Thursday, Oct. 4 (4-5 p.m.) FAMILY FUN!** – Miss Nicole hosts an afternoon of stories, rhymes, silly songs and crafts! For children ages 3 and up with their families.

**Thursday, Oct. 4 (7-8:45 p.m.) INVESTOR INTEREST GROUP: HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH – TO RETIRE!** – Learn about the financial aspects of retiring. Please register.

**Friday, Oct. 5 (11:30-12:30 p.m.) MUSIC THERAPY & MORE** – Connecting for Kids and the Music Therapy Enrichment Corps invite you to a music therapy group. Learn how parents and caregivers have a direct role in bringing music to life. For children 6 years and under with or without a formal diagnosis. Caregiver must stay in the room. No registration required.

**Saturday, Oct. 6 (All Day) "STAR WARS" READS DAY – THE FORCE IS WITH US** – It's "Star Wars" Reads Day! Stop in for a trivia contest, crafts and a "Star Wars" movie marathon! For kids grades 1 and up.

**Saturday, Oct. 6 (2:30-3:30 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 before each session.

**Saturday, Oct. 6 (3-4:45 p.m.) MAD4MANGA** – M4M is everything manga! We talk about manga, create manga art, discuss & watch anime films, and more! Grades 6-12 only.

**Sunday, Oct. 7 (2-3:30 p.m.) ALL ABOUT DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND** – Learn about all the new happenings, changes and building going on in down-

town Cleveland. Bring questions and ideas. Please register.

**Monday, Oct. 8 – Columbus Day - Library Closed**

**Tuesday, Oct. 9 (7-8:30 p.m.) SHERI KAY, AUTHOR OF "HINENI: HERE I AM"** – Author Sheri Kay discusses breast cancer and its effects and consequences. Please register.

**Tuesday, Oct. 9 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION** – In October we'll discuss "Caleb's Crossing" by Geraldine Brooks.

**Wednesday, Oct. 10 (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. Space is limited, so please arrive early enough to receive a ticket at the Preschool Desk.

**Thursday, Oct. 11 (4-5 p.m.) FAMILY FUN!** – Miss Nicole hosts an afternoon of stories, rhymes, silly songs and crafts! For children ages 3 and up with their families.

**Thursday, Oct. 11 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION** – The October selection is "Disappearing Spoon" by Sam Kean.

**Friday, Oct. 12 (10-10:45 a.m.) COME PLAY WITH ME!** – Open playtime with age-appropriate toys, songs and rhymes for ages 2-5 and their caring adults. Siblings welcome! Registration begins one week before each program.

**Friday, Oct. 12 (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS PARENT DISCUSSION & FACILITATED PLAYGROUP** – Participate in a discussion group led by a pediatric expert while your children play in a separate room with a CCBDD facilitator. You must RSVP for the playgroup starting one month before each session. Children do not need a formal diagnosis to attend. Topics listed at [connectingforkids.org](http://connectingforkids.org).

**Friday, Oct. 12 (2-3:30 p.m.) MOVIES @ YOUR LIBRARY: "DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX"** – Ted will do anything to find a real, live Truffula Tree in order to impress the girl of his dreams! All ages welcome. In accordance with library policy, children under 9 must be with an

adult. Please register starting Oct. 5.

**Saturday, Oct. 13 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) POKEMON LEAGUE** – Bring your cards and accessories for a fun morning of play, drawing or coloring your favorite characters! For kids ages 7-10 only. Please, no younger siblings. Registration begins Oct. 6.

**Saturday, Oct. 13 (2:30-3:30 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 before each session.

**Monday, Oct. 15 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) TEEN LOUNGE** – Need a place to hang out after school? Come to WPPL's Teen Lounge on Monday afternoons! We've got computers, video games, board games, snacks and more! Registration not necessary.

**Tuesday, Oct. 15 (6-7:30 p.m.) BEGINNING CROCHET FOR TEENS** – It's never too early to start thinking about Christmas! Jenn Cline will teach us how to crochet some gifts before the holidays. You'll learn the basics of making scarves, blankets, hats and much more for all your loved ones (or maybe just for yourself). All supplies will be provided! Grades 6-12. Registration begins Oct. 1.

**Monday, Oct. 15 (7-8:45 p.m.) MONDAY NIGHT MOVIE: "PSYCHO"** – Travel to the Bates Motel as we show the classic Hitchcock film from 1960. Rated R. Registration requested.

**Monday, Oct. 15 (7-8:30 p.m.) COUPONING FOR THE HOLIDAYS** – Learn the basics of couponing, specifically how to save money for the holidays using coupons. Please register.

**Monday, Oct. 15 (7-8:30 p.m.) BUSINESS ADVISORS OF CLEVELAND: PART 2-WRITING A BUSINESS PLAN** – Small Business Advisers of Cleveland will discuss what to include in a business plan for starting a small business. Second of a four-part series. Please register.

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 (2-2:45 p.m.) BOOK BYTES FOR HOMESCHOOLERS** – Join WordWeaver for lively discussions about good books and more. Just bring your curiosity and sense of adven-

ture! Snacks provided. Ages 9-12. Registration begins Oct. 9.

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 (4-4:45 p.m.) BOOK SPEED DATING** – Looking for another great book to read? Join us as we celebrate Teen Read Week with this fast-paced program where you'll be able to discuss your favorite books and hopefully be paired up with a new book that you can take home. Grades 6-12. Registration begins Oct. 2.

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 (7:30-8:45 p.m.) FYI OPERA** – David Bamberger from the Cleveland Institute of Music Opera Theater and students will present arias from "The Secret Marriage." Sponsored by the Westlake Westshore Arts Council.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17 (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. Space is limited, so please arrive early enough to receive a ticket at the Preschool Desk.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17 (6:30-8:45 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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

## Remembering WIXY1260 at Porter Library

If you know what the phrase "WIXY 1260" means you'll want to join Rich Berg and Mike Olszewski at Westlake Porter Public Library on Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. for a look at the legendary Cleveland radio station.

Berg and Olszewski, the co-authors of "WIXY 1260: Pixies, Six-Packs and Supermen," will discuss the origins and history of the groundbreaking station that became synonymous with pop culture in Northeast Ohio during the 1960s. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing after the program.

To register, please visit [signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080](http://signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080) or call 440-871-2600.

## Child behavior the topic of several October events at Porter Library

by Jennifer Qualiotto

Connecting for Kids is a nonprofit organization devoted to supporting parents and families of children with developmental issues such as behavior issues, anxiety, attention/focus issues and difficulty making friends and negotiating bullies. This month, Connecting for Kids speaker series introduces the topic, "Sibling Issues When One Child Gets More Family Attention Due to Unique Needs," presented by Lisa Ruman from the Child and Family Counseling Center of Westlake on Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Often when there is a child who needs the bulk of parental attention, other siblings may create behavior issues of their own in order to feed their need for attention. Alternatively, a parent can feel guilty that their time is not being equally divided between their offspring. Ms. Ruman will address these issues and more. Childcare is available but space is limited so please RSVP for a spot.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, from 1-2:30 p.m., Joyce Kubik, ADD/ADHD coach with Bridge to Success, will present "Homework Hassles: Helping your child with attention issues," providing strategies and answering your questions for

dealing with your child and a meltdown-free homework session. Please note that your child does not have to be diagnosed as ADD/ADHD to benefit from the advice. Again, childcare is available but space is limited.

Parents Discussion Groups for this month include the topics of handling holiday stresses and homework struggles. On Oct. 12 at 11:30 a.m., Kate Boylan, Behavior Intervention Institute of Ohio's outreach director, will discuss preparing your child for and better managing the holiday season in "Decreasing Holiday Stress (Including Halloween)." You are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch. Children are invited to join a facilitated playgroup during the discussion, however, space is limited and reservations are required.

Other monthly outreach activities

the group sponsors are "Music Therapy and More with MTEC" on Friday, Oct. 5, at 11:30 a.m. Children and their caregivers sing and play and work with instruments for a fun and cooperative learning experience. On Oct. 26 at 11:30 a.m., the group brings you "Teach Me To Play." This is a hands-on workshop designed to teach parents how to facilitate playdates and positively discipline. Led by Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities child intervention specialists, your child will learn how to share, take turns and other essential social skills.

All events listed are held at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd. For more information or to reserve a spot for your child at any event visit [www.connectingforkids.org](http://www.connectingforkids.org) or email [sarah-rintamaki@connectingforkids.org](mailto:sarah-rintamaki@connectingforkids.org). ●



## WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

# Jazzercise offers weekly break for WHS special needs students

by Kim Bonvissuto

Angela Siciliano has been a Jazzercise instructor for almost nine years, offering aerobics classes for special needs students and their families at the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Parma Developmental Center. When she came to Westlake High School as a special education assistant this year, WHS Intervention Specialist Rachel Kane asked her if she would offer a class once a week for her special needs students.

Every Wednesday afternoon, for about 30 minutes, Kane's students participate in a Jazzercise class, regardless of their abilities. She's seen children who are non-responsive in most other setting suddenly kicking their feet, moving their heads or just smiling when they hear the music. Some participate in the workouts from their wheelchairs or use adaptive equipment, while more mobile students do all the moves right along with Siciliano.

"They never have a bad day," Siciliano said. "They come to class and enjoy it every single time."

Siciliano offers a 30-minute modified version of a normal 60-minute class. Other WHS students also offer to give up their study halls to join the class and interact with their special needs peers. Sophomore Elizabeth Mancuso said she helped out last year when her special needs peers used the school weight room, so she decided to continue helping out this year with the aerobics class.

Freshman Leah Hemphill also helps out and said she has a lot of fun and "loves all the kids."

Kane said her students are excited about the aerobics class and some have added the word Jazzercise to their vocabulary.

"They love it. They get really excited," Kane said. "Jazzercise is a new word, even for my non-verbal students." ●



Special education assistant Michelle Slak helps Fatima Suleiman in a Westlake High School Jazzercise class.



From left, Manny Muntaser, Caitlin Brown, Derrick Moore, Abi Salem and Jacob Cox have fun while exercising in the WHS gym.

Advertising Feature

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## Meet Your Hidden Community Asset: Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy Trains Medics Who Save Our Lives

We typically don't think much about them, but when we need them, they are indispensable. They are our emergency medical services (EMS) professionals – the technicians and paramedics who save our lives when we're in trouble.

"It takes a special person to be an EMS provider," notes Dan Zezena, director of the Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy. "That person has to feel a calling within that urges them to take care of their fellow man. It is not a desire to receive praise as a hero."

The Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy trains individuals to provide the highest quality of emergency care for their communities. "By improving the health and safety of citizens, our EMS providers – and the institutions that train them – provide an invaluable community service," says Zezena. "EMS organizations today serve as extensions of hospital emergency departments and trauma centers. They are an integral, as well as critical, part of our overall healthcare system."

### The Academy offers the following initial training courses and programs:

- Emergency Medical Responder – for safety forces and corporations
- Emergency Medical Technician program – for entry-level EMS providers
- Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedic courses – for advanced practice providers
- Online refresher programs – for EMTs and paramedics who need to fulfill continuing education (CE) requirements

"Our Academy was one of the first in the State of Ohio to offer online refresher courses," says Zezena. "Many EMS providers have been very grateful for this convenient service – especially if they live some distance from our classrooms. All EMS personnel are required to earn a certain number of CE units each year."

With campuses in three Cleveland-area communities, the Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy is easily accessible for students on the East,



West and South sides of the city. "Our campuses offer opportunities – based on geographic location – that best serve our students and communities," says Zezena.

The campuses are located in Euclid, west Cleveland, and Medina.

State-of-the-art education centers include integrated classrooms, laboratories and computer lab. The Academy's online courses are offered through the Blackboard web-based learning system that creates a virtual classroom.

"By offering the highest level of training, we have the opportunity to improve community health and safety," says Zezena. "And by teaching future EMS providers how to provide first-class care, our EMS Academy truly meets the healthcare needs of the population."

If you are interested in serving your community as an EMS professional, you may visit the Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy website at [www.emsacademy.us](http://www.emsacademy.us) and register online for courses.

Or for more information, please call:  
East Campus: 216.692.7850  
West Campus: 216.523.7040  
Medina Campus: 330.725.8461

The Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy is accredited by the State Board of Emergency Services for all levels of EMS Training: Accreditation #389.

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\* U.S. News & World Report, 2012-13.



## THEATER

## 'The 39 Steps' playing at Huntington Playhouse



The cast of "The 39 Steps," on stage at Huntington Playhouse through Oct. 7  
by Tom Meyrose

Huntington Playhouse presents "The 39 Steps" through Oct. 7. Performances are on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. with one Sunday matinee on Oct. 7 at 2 p.m.

In "The 39 Steps," a man with a boring life meets a woman with a thick accent who says she's a spy. When he takes her home, she is murdered. Soon, a mysterious organization called The 39 Steps is hot on the

man's trail in a nationwide manhunt that climaxes in a death-defying finale! Don't miss this laugh-filled suspense thriller where four actors play over 100 different roles!

The next production to open will be the suspense mystery "Death-trap," opening Oct. 18 and playing through Nov. 4.

Reservations are strongly recommended by calling the box office at 440-871-8333. Huntington Playhouse is located at 28601 Lake Rd. in Bay Village. ●

## Huntington Playhouse director receives Kiwanis honor

by Jon Smithhausen

The Metro-West Kiwanis Club named Tom Meyrose, managing director of Huntington Playhouse, as their Kiwanian of the year. The award was given at the club's officer induction on Sept. 22. Meyrose, a life member of the club, was honored for his work on service projects this past year.

Courtney Kronk was inducted as club president and talked about his plans for the coming year which include a food drive for the Bay Food Ministry with the help of Huntington Playhouse. On Sunday, Nov. 25, Huntington Playhouse will offer discounted tickets to "The Winter Wonderettes" when non-perishable food items are brought in to



Huntington Playhouse managing director Tom Meyrose receives Kiwanian of the year award from the Metro-West Kiwanis Club.

the theatre for the Bay Food Ministry.

Metro-West Kiwanis is a service organization that serves Bay Village, Rocky River, Fairview Park, Westlake and North Olmsted. They meet on Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. at the Beach Education Center at the corner of Detroit and Morewood Parkway in Rocky River. All are welcome. ●

## BAY VILLAGE GREEN TEAM

## Can the Cardboard

Thanks to a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management District, the Bay Village Green Team has created stickers reminding residents to "Can the Cardboard." As part of the city's automated refuse collection, all recyclable materials, including cardboard, must be

placed INSIDE the green cart in order to avoid the landfill. Look for the sticker with the mayor's quarterly newsletter being sent out in the city's sewer and refuse statement on or around Oct. 1. Take the pledge and show your support to "Can the Cardboard" by sticking it on your green recycling container. ●



pledge to

# CAN the Cardboard

Cardboard can go into your green recycling bin!

DON'T LEAVE IT ON THE CURB: Any cardboard left on the tree lawn is considered Bulk Pick Up and will only be picked up on Friday of the first full week of the month. Bulk Pick Up goes to the landfill and is not recycled.

## Robotic hysterectomy offers many advantages.

Hysterectomy is one of the most common surgeries in the United States, performed on more than 25 percent of all women. Fortunately, advanced new robotic techniques are making the procedure possible with minimal pain and scarring, and quicker recovery times.

Hysterectomy, or removal of the uterus, can resolve a variety of serious problems for women, including endometriosis, heavy nonmenstrual bleeding, uterine prolapse, fibroids, uterine or cervical cancer, and ovarian cancer.

"For women facing a hysterectomy, the option of robotic surgery offers the benefit of tiny incisions with less pain to get them back to their normal life faster," says Mona Orady, MD, a Cleveland Clinic robotic surgeon at Fairview Hospital, one of only a handful of hospitals in the greater Cleveland area performing robotic surgery.

### More Precise Surgery

Robotic techniques enable surgeons to perform procedures with unmatched precision and control, using only a few small incisions. Using a three-dimensional magnified image of the area being operated on, robotic surgery translates the movements of the surgeons' hands, wrists and fingers into precise real-time movements of the surgical instruments.

"This technology allows unsurpassed visualization of anatomy and better instruments, especially critical when performing a complex surgery and for working around delicate and confined structures like the bladder," says Dr. Orady. This provides surgeons a distinct advantage when performing a complex hysterectomy involving adhesions from prior pelvic surgery or large fibroid tumors that impact the anatomy.

### Quicker Recovery

Healing time is another distinct benefit of robotic surgery. A woman having a traditional "open" surgery hysterectomy would usually spend two to three days in the hospital with several months of recovery at home. With robotic surgery, most women, even those with a complex condition, can go home within a day and are on their feet within a week or two.

Fairview Hospital surgeons are highly trained and experienced in performing robotic surgery for thoracic, urologic and gynecologic conditions.

"Because robotics lends itself well to both benign and malignant conditions, this is a good option for many of our patients," says Dr. Orady. "It offers all of the benefits associated with minimally invasive surgery and provides excellent clinical outcomes."

To learn more about Fairview Hospital's surgical services, please visit our website at [fairviewhospital.org/roboticsurgery](http://fairviewhospital.org/roboticsurgery).

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**BAYarts**

# BAYarts Moondance was another night to remember

by Mary Conway Sullivan

Approximately 1,000 guests attended BAYarts' sixth annual fall fundraiser on Sept. 15, helping to raise over \$80,000 for general operating funds and to provide free events year round. To view more photos from the event, visit [www.karenmenyhartphotography.com](http://www.karenmenyhartphotography.com) (under Client Preview Galleries) by Oct. 16. Photos can be downloaded and shared. ●



The BAYarts staff having fun during the annual Moondance fundraiser. Front: Eileen Stockdale, Julie Cikra, Marie Knoble, Nancy Heaton; back: Erin Stack, Sarah Goldsberry



Mojo, The Generations Big Band, performs on the gazebo of the Fuller House at BAYarts.



Moondance attendees peruse silent auction items.

## Call for entries: BAYarts' 50th annual juried show opens Oct. 12

by Eileen Stockdale

BAYarts continues the tradition started 50 years ago by Baycrafters with an annual fall juried show opening Oct. 12 in the Sullivan Family Gallery in the Fuller House. This year's exhibition is expected to draw a record number of entries for cash prizes and other awards.

The show will be judged by Susan Channing, former SPACES director, educator and artist; and Del Rey Loven, a professor at University of Akron and artist. Artists can download entry forms with guidelines at [www.bayarts.net/gallery](http://www.bayarts.net/gallery), request via email at [info@bayarts.net](mailto:info@bayarts.net) or pick one up at BAYarts.

The awards will be announced at the opening reception on Oct. 12, 7-9 p.m. at BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd. The show will run through Nov. 2. ●



## Surgery that requires only a 1" incision.

Using advanced techniques such as laparoscopic and robotic technology, the surgeons at Fairview Hospital are able to perform a wide range of minimally invasive procedures. This allows patients to experience a quicker recovery with significantly less pain, smaller incisions and, in many cases, better clinical outcomes.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

View more events and post your own for FREE on the Observer website at [wbvobserver.com](http://wbvobserver.com)

**Oct. 3, 1-2:30 p.m.**  
**Family History Research Help Session**  
If you need help getting started or have come to a “road block” in your journey of searching for your ancestors, this is an opportunity to get assistance. Members of the Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be available to assist other members, or the general public, in the computer lab. There is no charge for this service.  
*Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Oct. 3, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Living With Alzheimer’s**  
This inspiring program features a person living in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease who shares her personal story of how she learns to live with the disease every day. Imagine how you would feel if your co-workers and supervisor started noticing mistakes you were making and questioning your decisions. Learn firsthand how this 58-year-old woman handled hearing of her Early Onset Alzheimer’s disease diagnosis. Co-sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association and Arden Courts Memory Care Community. Call 440-808-9275 for details.  
*Arden Courts of Westlake, 28400 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Oct. 3, 7-8 p.m.**  
**The Prosperity Money Club**  
If you are ready to begin building something other than sandcastles for your future, begin with a baby step to take a path toward changing your life. Discover a simple program developed by the Women’s Institute for Financial Education which will meet monthly the first Wednesday of each month. This is a free resource which will be facilitated by Jan Litterst with over 18 years in financial services. There are no products presented or promoted.  
*Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Oct. 4, 6:30-7 p.m.**  
**8th Annual Pet Blessing**  
Lions, tigers and bears are not welcome, but household animals and their families are invited to the 8th Annual Blessing of the Pets on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Individual blessings will be given to each animal. Dog treats from Landmark will be distributed and a garden statue of St. Francis will be given away. The event is free and all are welcome!  
*St. Raphael Church lawn, 525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village*

**Oct. 5, 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m.**  
**Flu Immunization Program**  
The flu vaccine protects against this year’s three main flu strains. The following insurance plans will be accepted at no cost if the carrier is the primary insurance: Medicare B, Aetna, SummaCare, Humana Gold Choice and PFFS Medicare Advantage Plans. If you have none of the above, the cost for flu immunization is \$30 and pneumonia immunization is \$70. Payment can be made by cash or check (payable to Maxim Healthcare). You will need both your Medicare card and insurance card. Please don’t forget to wear short sleeves.  
*Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village*

**Oct. 5, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Caregiver Expo 2012**  
An annual caregiver resource fair for families and friends caring for an aging loved one. Vendor booths, speakers, give-aways and raffle prizes are included. The event is free and open to the public.  
*Tri-C Corporate College West, 25425 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

**Oct. 6, 8 a.m.-noon**  
**Kiddie Klose Resale Event**  
The sale will feature gently used baby items, kids clothing, toys, games, furniture and maternity

clothes. The sale will include more than 80 tables of merchandise – one of the largest kids resales in the area. Proceeds benefit the Westlake Early Childhood PTA. Admission is \$5 for the early-bird preview from 8-9 a.m. and \$1 for entrance from 9 a.m.-noon. Cash sales only. Please, no bills larger than \$20. Small bills appreciated at the door.  
*Westlake High School, 27830 Hilliard Rd.*

**Oct. 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**  
**Free Classic Car Show**  
The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 15 will host a free classic car show. There is no cost to attend, but there is a cost of \$10 to enter a car. Contact Laddie at 440-227-8176.  
*John Lance Ford, 23775 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

**Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Free Health Lecture**  
“Complementary Alternative Medicine Questions & Answers” with Derrick Lonsdale, M.D. You bring the questions, the doctor provides the answers! Call 440-835-0104 for reservations. Seating is limited.  
*Preventive Medicine Group, 24700 Center Ridge Rd., Suite 370, Westlake (Use rear building entrance)*

**Oct. 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**eBooks Updates**  
Northeast Ohio Personal Computers’ October program features Frances Brawner, who will cover the background on eBooks and eAudiobooks, what eBooks and eAudiobooks Westlake Porter Public Library offers, and eReaders the library commonly deals with. Feel free to bring your eReaders and ask questions after the program. Frances Brawner has worked at Porter Library for 8 years as a popular materials associate and has taught group and individual sessions on eBooks and eAudiobooks. Come at 6:30 pm for refreshments, followed by Club announcements. The main program begins

at 7:15 p.m. Free and open to the public.  
*Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Oct. 11, 7-9 p.m.**  
**Seniors, Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act**  
Speaker: Rachel Rosen DeGolia, Executive Director of the Universal Health Care Action Network. Learn the facts about the new health care law and how the Affordable Care Act will impact your health care and expenses. Admission is free and open to the public. For further information, call Molly at 216-241-8422, ext. 19.  
*Gemini Center Oak Room, 21225 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park*

**Oct. 15, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.**  
**Veterans Benefits Event**  
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 108 is sponsoring a visit by our national service officers. They have a mobile van with all the forms and equipment to help veterans apply for any benefits or needs they may have through the VA. The also have years of experience and training to help the veterans or their family thread the process. The service is free and you don’t have to be a member of the Disabled American Veterans to be helped.  
*Rocky River Memorial Hall, 21016 Hillard Blvd.*

**Oct. 16, 6:30-8 p.m.**  
**Preschool Fair, hosted by the Westlake Early Childhood PTA**  
Meet with representatives from preschools and various childhood programs in surrounding communities including Westlake, Bay Village, Avon, Rocky River and North Olmsted. This event is free and open to the public. If you or someone you know has a two- or three-year-old and would like to find out more about area preschools, this is the event for you!  
*Parkside Intermediate School, 24525 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake*

# FYI Opera gossip is ‘The Secret Marriage’

by Louise Seeholzer

An opera so popular at its premier, the cast was asked to do an encore of the entire opera, will be previewed on Oct. 16, at 7:30 p.m., at the FYI: Opera program at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Domenico Cimarosa’s comic opera “Il matrimonio segreto” (“The Secret Marriage”), considered to be the composer’s greatest masterpiece, will be given form and dimension through the expert handling of David Bamberger, director of opera theater at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Bamberger not only provides intriguing (and sometimes juicy) background details of the opera’s time period and the composer’s life, but he also brings talented CIM student vocalists to perform selected arias from the opera. Regular FYI: Opera attendees eagerly anticipate the delightful experience of hearing gifted voices singing great music in an intimate space within the framework of Bamberger’s knowledge and humor.

Cimarosa’s “Il matrimonio segreto” premiered in 1792 in Vienna. The comic opera greatly pleased the emperor, who invited the cast to dinner, and then asked to have the opera performed again.

The delightful Oct. 16 program is offered FREE to the public by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, which has sponsored the FYI: Opera programs for over 25 years.

The FYI program is a glimpse into CIM’s full, enchanting production of “Il matrimonio segreto” which will be performed Nov. 7 to 10. Information and tickets for CIM’s production are available online at [cim.edu/promos/ilmatrimonio](http://cim.edu/promos/ilmatrimonio) or by calling 216-795-3211. ♦



David Bamberger, CIM Director of Opera Theater

# Invitational art exhibit showcases CFA award winners

by Louise Seeholzer

The Winners Circle, an invitational juried art exhibit of award-winning art will be held at the Five Seasons Family Sports Club, 28105 Clemens Rd., Westlake, from Oct. 12 through Nov. 8. The event is a collaboration of efforts between the sports club and the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council.

A “Meet the Artists” wine and cheese opening reception and awards presentation will be held on Friday, Oct. 12, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Five Seasons. A popular choice award will be voted on at the opening reception. Tickets for the reception

are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Proceeds benefit the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, which promotes educational programming of the arts in the community.

The exhibited artwork, which will be available for purchase, is a collection of the winning works from the Community of Fine Arts Juried Art Show, held annually by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council.

The exhibit is free and open to the public, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors are asked to check in at the Five Seasons reception desk upon arrival. ♦

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