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Observer

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What the 'genealogy' of your land reveals about your home's age

by William Krause

The process of determining the actual year of construction of a building is like researching the "genealogy" of the piece of land on which it was constructed, determining

both the chain of ownership and the history of the appraised value used for tax purposes.

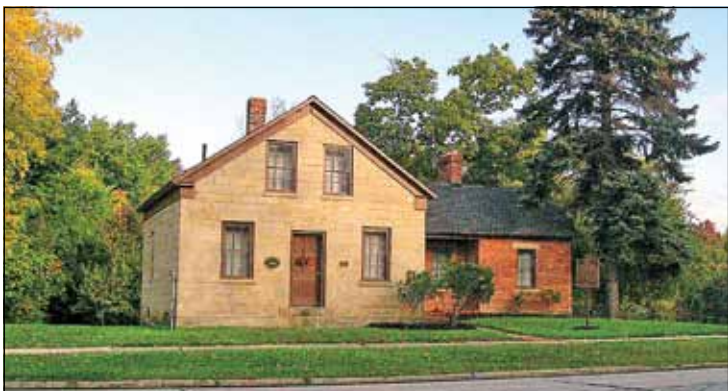
The telltale sign of the "date of birth" of the house is an increase in the appraised tax value of the land underneath the structure. It is only in relatively

The second in a series of four articles on historical homes in Dover – now Westlake and Bay Village – and the Westlake Historical Society's century-home plaquing program.

recent years that the assessed value of the improvements on a parcel, such as a house, are assessed separately from the value of the land. For century homes, there was a time when the land, with a productive agricultural value was worth relatively more than the house.

The dedicated work of local historians and genealogists and the wealth of historical records on the internet make detailed research on century homes and their occupants possible in a way that was undreamed of even just a few years ago. The chain of ownership of the land can be determined from many different paper and online sources. The critical records for researching the early tax value for property in Westlake must be researched in person at the Cuyahoga County Archives at 2905 Franklin Blvd. in Cleveland.

» See GENEALOGY, page 2



The Lilly/Weston House, circa 1844, located at 27946 Center Ridge Rd., is one of Westlake's oldest homes.

Bay trash collection switches back to Tuesdays, bulk pick-up also changes

by Jim Sears

The City of Bay Village will be changing its "Refuse Collection Day" from Fridays to Tuesdays beginning in December. Residents will still have their trash and recyclables picked up on Friday, Nov. 30, with weekly collections changing to Tuesdays beginning Dec. 4.

A change in the trash collection day is always a difficult transition to make since many residents fall into a routine. We feel the change from Friday to Tuesday will allow the city to provide a more efficient collection by eliminating Saturday collections on holiday weeks, and to provide our Service Department



succeeding work days to coordinate with the

REMAINING 2012 BAY COLLECTION DATES:

REFUSE (changing from Fridays to Tuesdays):

- Friday, Nov. 30
- Tuesday, Dec. 4
- Tuesday, Dec. 11
- Tuesday, Dec. 18
- Wednesday, Dec. 26*

BULK ITEMS (changing from first full-week Friday to final Tuesday):

- Friday, Nov. 9
- Wednesday, Dec. 26*

*One-day delay due to Christmas holiday

contractor regarding missed collections, as well as notifying residents to remove any refuse not picked up due to improper placement. Tuesday collections should also eliminate any need for residents to have trash or recyclable containers on the tree lawn over the weekend.

» See TRASH, page 5

Tickets on sale for 'Seniors' Seasonal Delights' program

by Kim Bonvissuto

This year's Seniors' Seasonal Delights program, a joint effort of the Westlake City School District and the Westlake Department of Senior and Community Services, will be held Thursday, Dec. 13, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Westlake High School.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- 5:30 p.m. – Dinner at Westlake High School Cafeteria
- 5:45-6:15 p.m. – Dinner Entertainment: Choirs from the WHS Vocal Music Program
- 6:15-6:40 p.m. – BINGO
- 7:00 p.m. – WHS Instrumental Winter Music Concert at the WHS Performing Arts Center

Cost per person is \$10. Invitations and tickets will be available beginning Nov. 1 at the Westlake Department of Senior and Community Services, 29694 Center Ridge Rd., or send a request by mail to: Ruth Weible, Westlake City School District, Seniors' Seasonal Delights, 27200 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145. ♦

'Bay Matters' invites all adults to forum on preventing adolescent substance abuse



Parents view a presentation on adolescent substance abuse last spring at Bay Middle School. A community-wide forum about youth chemical substance experimentation, abuse and addiction will be held Wed., Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. at Bay High School.

Attention all adults: Based on national studies, parents have the greatest influence on their child's decision as to whether or not they experiment with chemical substances. Studies also indicate that parent drug education has a direct impact on lowering the percentages of teen alcohol and other drug use, especially in the middle school years.

Since there is a direct correlation between parent drug education and lowering the drug rates of teen use, doesn't

it make sense for parents to do all they can to learn about it? Here's your chance!

Led by a panel of our own community leaders, a community-wide forum on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. in the Bay High School auditorium will provide you the latest information about youth chemical substance experimentation, abuse and addiction, how this issue affects us all, and what each of us can do as concerned citizens to help our kids stay drug free.

» See FORUM, page 16

Bay Historical Society program to focus on Sam Sheppard case

by Cynthia Eakin

The notorious Sam Sheppard case will provide compelling subject matter for the Nov. 15, 6 p.m. potluck dinner program at the Bay Village Community House. The public is invited to attend.

Speaker Mark Wade Stone will focus on the first two days of the case. There will be a question and answer session following the presentation.

The Bay Village Historical Society will serve the main entrée of turkey with stuffing,

mashed potatoes and gravy. Guests with last names beginning with L through Z should bring a side dish for 10 people to share and their own place setting. Guests with last names beginning with letters A through K should bring a dessert to share and their place setting. The potluck dinner is free, but donations to help defray costs are appreciated.

Phone Bay Village Historical Society Vice President Doug Gertz at 440-554-6355 or email drgbay@aol.com for reservations. ♦

Bay Village residents named to Magnificat board of directors

by Karen Uthe

Magnificat High School in Rocky River is proud to announce the appointment of two Bay Village residents to its 2012-2013 Board of Directors: Ambassador Heather M. Hodges and Mr. Gary Miller.

Ambassador Hodges joined the Cleveland Council on World Affairs as President and Ambassador in Residence in November 2011. She was U.S. Ambassador to Ecuador from August 2008 to April 2011. She was Ambassador to Moldova from 2003-2006. During her career she also served in Venezuela, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru and Spain. She left the Foreign Service in September 2011 after 31 years of service. Ambassador Hodges is a Bay Village resident and 1964 graduate of Magnificat High School. She has a B.A. in Spanish from St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minn., and an M.A. from New York University. She speaks fluent Spanish.



Ambassador Heather M. Hodges



Mr. Gary Miller

Most recently, Mr. Gary Miller was the treasurer and corporate controller for Aspire Brands and the Bonne Bell Company. He is a certified public accountant in the state of Ohio. He is a member of several professional organizations, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Northeast Ohio Treasury Management Association. Mr. Miller has a B.S. in business administration-accounting from The Ohio State University. He and his

wife, Clare, are Bay Village residents. Their daughter Josephine is a senior at Magnificat.

"Magnificat is blessed to have new leaders of such note in their individual fields," says Sister Carol Anne Smith, H.M., President of Magnificat High School. "We look forward to their insight and energy as we continue moving forward with exciting new academic and formation initiatives." ●

Author raising money for Amy Mihaljevic film

Local author James Renner has launched a fund-raising campaign to raise money for a feature film based on the search for Amy Mihaljevic's killer. Ten-year-old Amy was abducted from Bay Village on Oct. 27, 1989. Her body was later found in rural Ashland County. No one has ever been charged with her murder.

In 2006, Renner's book, "Amy: My Search for Her Killer," took a new look at the case, revealing important new clues and suspects. Before he became a journalist, Renner worked in film, adapting a Stephen King story starring Harvey Pekar and Michael Stanley, which premiered at the 2005 Montreal Film Festival.

Donations as little as \$10 may be made using PayPal or credit card at www.indiegogo.com/amy-movie. Each donation earns a "special thanks" in the credits and other gifts such as tickets to the premiere and film photo albums. Producer credits



A memorial rests next to Bay City Hall, across the street from where Amy Mihaljevic was abducted in 1989.

are still available. If the goal of \$35,000 is not met before Nov. 20, all donations will be automatically refunded.

Renner plans to begin filming the movie, tentatively titled "The Girl with the Sideways Ponytail," in February using a Cleveland-based crew. As a show of support for this project, he has pledged to direct the film for free.

Amy's father, Mark Mihaljevic, has given his blessing and hopes the film will bring more attention to his daughter's cold case.

For more information, you may contact James Renner directly at 330-554-3727. ●

GENEALOGY *continued from front page*

There is some basic "genealogy" that all Westlake and Bay Village homes share in common:

Native Americans gave up their claim to the land west of the Cuyahoga River in 1805 and the land was surveyed into townships in 1806. The territory that was to be Dover then became Township Seven, Range Fifteen. In 1807 a lottery drawing was held and Nehemiah Hubbard and Joshua Stow, two of the 35 investors who made up the Connecticut Land Company, received ownership of all of Dover Township.

Each township was surveyed into lots of a uniform size, in the Western Reserve this was usually a square of 160 acres, they are known as "Original Lots"

(O.L.) today. Early deeds even sometimes list the name of the surveyor such as: "as surveyed and measured by Joseph Darrow in his map and field book."

The Westlake Historical Society has re-energized a plaquing program for century homes in the city. Application forms can be obtained with a call to the Society at 440-808-1961 or with an email to westlakehistory@yahoo.com. A \$50 application fee defrays some of the cost of doing the research to determine if the home is one hundred years old. Then, if it is found to be a century home, the applicant is notified and is eligible to purchase a personalized plaque with the approximate construction year from the Society for \$75. ●

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.



PRODUCTION OFFICE
451 Queenswood Drive •
Bay Village, Ohio 44140
440-409-0114
Fax 440-409-0118

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PUBLISHER, COMMUNITY ADVOCATE -
Denny Wendell • staff@wbvobserver.com

SENIOR EDITOR - Tara Wendell
tara@wbvobserver.com

ADVERTISING - Laura Gonzalez,
Advertising Consultant
440-477-3556 • laura@wbvobserver.com

QUESTIONS - staff@wbvobserver.com
440-409-0114

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.

- Know you'll be edited. All stories pass through editors who review stories for spelling and grammar. We try to keep the news as "unfiltered" as possible, but may edit length and content if necessary.
- Disclose your affiliation. If you have a personal or business relationship with the subject of your story, let your readers know.
- Don't write stories solely to promote your business—that's what ads are for.

Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process. To join in, sign-up through the Member Center at www.wbvobserver.com and submit your stories & photos. Photos should be jpegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes in size. If you have questions, contact us at staff@wbvobserver.com.

WRITERS

Denise Ayres
Susan Ballard
Jeff Bing
Kim Bonvissuto
Gaby Bush
George Christ
Karen Derby
Cynthia Eakin
Nancy Heaton
William Krause
Olivia Langer
Jan Litterst

WRITERS

Deb Marisch
Mel Maurer
Tom Meyrose
Brenda O'Reilly
Jim Potter
Cara Radcliffe
Audrey Ray
Kathy Rigdon
Joyce Sandy
Jim Sears
Louise Seeholzer
Dillon Slaman-Forsythe
Jennifer Smillie

WRITERS

Lysa Stanton
Eileen Stockdale
Karen Uthe
Kristi Vaughn
Tara Wendell
Elaine Willis
Lorilynn Wolf

PHOTOGRAPHY

Martha Fisher
Richard Gash
Nancy Heaton
William Krause
Heidi Langer
Dave Pfister
Kathy Rigdon
Louise Seeholzer
Mary Slaman-Forsythe
Jennifer Smillie
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* U.S. News & World Report, 2012-13.

Artist to share her journey of expression through printmaking

by Louise Seeholzer

Artist Phyllis Fannin will present "A Woman's Journey in Print," on Thursday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m., at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd. Her program outlines a 20-year focus of feminine emotions of her generation and her lithographic art which captures these emotions.

As part of her program, Fannin who has been specializing in the use of photocopies for her printing plates, will give a demonstration of a hand-pressed version of the "paper lithography" printing process. She describes this 20-year-old process as one that uses toner-based photocopies that roll-up with oil-based printers ink in a water resist, as in traditional lithography.

Fannin's program, which is presented by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, will offer insights on her current project titled "All Who Serve." This suite of work was inspired by the emotions that her family experienced in the deployment of two sons in the military to war zones. "The work is being created from my personal photographic collection of my family's experiences, and other families at the time of the painful good-bye moments to the abounding relief in the



This photo of lithograph artist Phyllis Fannin and her husband George greeting their son Mark home from Afghanistan in February 2011 gives weight to Fannin's belief that images can express more than words.

joyous welcome home reunions," Fannin stated.

Believing strongly that images can be far more expressive than words, Fannin describes her new work as "a quiet yet powerful format for honoring the families who exist in the canyons of anxiety while their loved ones are serving far from home, in the emptiness that person's absence creates." From the creation and exhibition of her first print in this moving work, Fannin reports it has been met with overwhelming responses and has awakened people to the personal struggles of military families and service personnel.

The WWAC offers this exceptional and timely program to the community without charge. ●

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Westerly honors their bus drivers

by Gaby Bush and
Cara Radcliffe, Westerly
Safety Patrol members

Do you know that schools celebrate School Bus Safety during the month of October? Westerly School does! Our bus drivers keep us safe. The Safety Patrol which are fourth-graders that help keep the whole school safe decided to honor our bus drivers.

First we made posters that showed we care about our bus drivers. Some of the posters said: "We love our bus drivers" and "Bus Drivers Rock!"

Every morning during the week of Oct. 22, the Safety Patrol members held up the

signs. Some of us even waved pom-poms and flags. We all chanted, "Bus Drivers Rock!"

As a special thank you, we gave our bus drivers special treats every morning. They got muffins, candy, donut holes, cookies and cinnamon cakes. Yum!

Our special bus drivers are Denise Pizzuli, Richard Chase, Bruce Tepper, Karen Dearden, Teri-Lyn Knox, Jeff Yarian, Alan Lyntz, and Bob Patton.

Thank you to all the Bay Village bus drivers who pick us up and drop us off, take us on field trips, and do bus drills so that we know the rules.

WE APPRECIATE YOU EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR! ●



The Westerly Safety Patrol hold up posters celebrating their bus drivers, including Denise Pizzuli (back row, center).

Village Bicycle Cooperative finishes first season of operation

by Jennifer Smillie

Village Bicycle Cooperative's first summer of operation was a success largely due to all of the amazing people that volunteered time to repair bicycles, instruct residents and participate in community outreach events. We were also able to progress so rapidly because of the generosity of a few residents and all of the people that donated bicycles and accessories. Also, big thanks go to the Green Team, the Bay Skate and Bike Park Foundation, Fairview Cycles and Goodman Group; without the assistance from these organizations we wouldn't have been able to offer any open shop hours.

Some highlights from this summer include offering our first series of classes called the Basics of Maintenance where eight Bay residents were able to learn about maintaining their bicycles. We were able to donate two bicycles to Westlake Relay for Life, many residents were



able to purchase safe bicycles for under \$100, and we were able to collaborate with Bike Lakewood, The Beck Center, and Mahall's to offer a Ready to Ride Event allowing locals to stop up and have their bicycles checked for safety and have minor repairs made by the six mechanics on hand. We hope to offer more of these types of services both in Bay Village and to other local communities as well.

We are looking forward to building on these services. The fall and winter will be exciting times for Village Bicycle Cooperative as we attempt to shore up a permanent home in the ground floor of the Bay Community House, and make plans for next spring and summer. Some events and programs we intend to offer are Earn a Bike program where students can volunteer time at the cooperative to earn a bicycle, more Ready to Ride events and the continuing development of our bicycle maintenance curriculum.

Keep in mind that we do accept bicycle donations no matter the condition of it and that if you are interested



Volunteer bike mechanics perform safety checks during an Aug. 22 event in Lakewood co-hosted by the Village Bicycle Cooperative.

in tinkering and learning how to maintain your bicycle, the cooperative is a great organization to be involved with. People of any skill level are welcome as there are a variety of ways to help out at the shop, such as taking bicycles apart to utilize the good parts for other bicycles that will be recycled, de-spoking rims, organizing parts and creating signage to post around the shop. For more information, visit villagebicycle.org. ●

Foul weather doesn't slow down All-Bay Campout

by George Christ

It was wet, it was raining, the winds were blowing, but the 170 scouts at Firelands Scout Reservation near Vermilion still had a day full of activities. Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts of all ages and some brave parents hiked to eight activity sites, including fire building, archery, a monkey bridge and a climbing tower. Some other popular activities included an obstacle course, sling shots and BB guns.

One new activity sponsored by Sea Scouts Ship 41 from Bay Village was the boating safety trailer. Scouts and parents put on their life jackets and boarded the safe boating trail-

er. Here they learned about being safe in a boat which was built inside a 35-foot trailer. They watched a simulated boat ride in the Mentor Yacht Club. Scouts were introduced to safety equipment, different types of boats, and watched a rescue of a capsized boat. The trailer was on loan from the Mentor Safety Village and George Christ, the Spirit of America coordinator for Bay Village, was the presenter.

Leaders and scouts from Ship 41 also helped with the program. Many scouts and parents camped out on both Friday and Saturday nights. The program began on Friday evening and concluded on Sunday morning. ●



Despite the rainy and blustery weather the scouts of Bay Village had a great virtual boat ride aboard the Boat Safety Trailer

SPORTING VIEWS

Boo! Halloween greetings... or commentary from a Browns fan?

by Jeff Bing

So there I was: Walking down the street, minding my own business, just like any other normal citizen of these United States. Sporting my Browns gear, too (okay, so much for the ‘normal’ part), but I was feeling unusually chipper. Perhaps it was because Randy Lerner had sold the team. Maybe it was that I’d had my ankle bracelet removed. Or, perhaps it was that I’d heard Jim Swayze tell me that “There’s a really big sale at Half Price Books.” See? A virtual plethora of reasons to be giddy.

Anyway – lest I spend my entire allotted word count on my reasons for happiness – I happened upon three Westlake youth as I traversed the merry streets of the same city. Now, I would venture to guess that the three were probably early teens, but it was difficult to say with any degree of certainty, as the trio were all sporting Halloween costumes.

One was a Demon. (In Westlake? How incredibly creative!) One looked as if he was trying to be a Justin Bieber-type, and I don’t have a clue what the third kid was. Actually, I’m not even certain if it was a boy or a girl, but he/she automatically gets my personal endorsement simply for NOT trying to look like Justin Bieber, or a Westlake Demon, for that matter.

Seriously, whoever told their kid to do the Demon thing should lose their “parent” card. Maybe they should even be stripped of their “World’s Best Parent” coffee mug, too.

I’m going to go out on a limb here and speculate the three were headed to a Halloween party nearby. You laugh, but there’s also a slim

chance they were headed to a Bieber look-alike contest. Or a Westlake pep rally.

In any event, I wanted these kids to know I was hip - you know, that they weren’t passing just any ordinary old guy on the street (where’s my stinkin’ boom box when I really need it?) - so I said something really cool, like, “Your costumes rock, dudes.” In these days of political correctness, I don’t want to offend anyone – okay, maybe I really, really wanted to offend the guy in the Demon costume, but I didn’t want to maybe get beat up – so I opted for the safe, generic compliment.

Kids these days, they can be so hurtful. I mean, here I am – perhaps I mentioned earlier that I mind my own business, but it bears repeating – I’m minding my own business, and reaching out to tomorrow’s leaders, extending the proverbial olive branch. And what do I get to show for all my effort?

As they’re passing by, one of the kids comments, “No, Dude, that ‘Browns fan costume’ you’re wearing is awesome. Hilarious – as if anybody’s REALLY a Browns fan.” Of course, they’re all laughing, fist-bumping, high-fiving, generally having a good old time at my expense. Imagine that: ME – the guy who minds his own business – the butt of Browns jokes.

Seriously, we’re leaving the fate of the world in the hands of these insensitive – if you’ll pardon the expression – “Demons”?

All I can say is, “Thank you, Mike Holmgren.” ●

Jeff welcomes all feedback and suggestions, pro or con, which may be sent to editor@wbvobserver.com.

TRASH *continued from front page*

The “Bulk Items Collection” day will also change. Bulk items will now be picked up on the last Tuesday of each month. The transition may create a small challenge for residents and the city as there will be a six-week period between the bulk pick-ups of November and December. The November pickup will be on the “old” schedule – the first week of the month, while the December bulk pickup will occur on the “new” day – the last Tuesday of each month.

We hope that residents with bulk trash will take advantage of the first December refuse pick-up on Dec. 4, taking place only three days after the Nov. 30 refuse pick-up, by placing any additional trash in their blue roll out containers for collection.

Everything else will remain the same, as far as holiday week pick-ups, rules and regulations regarding bulk items collection and scheduled

pick-ups for Freon-containing appliances. Yard waste collections will end Tuesday, Dec. 11, weather permitting, and will not start up again until April 16, 2013.

One thing the city will be taking a hard look at is the enforcement of Ordinance 521.12(b) which states that residents are prohibited from placing any refuse or recyclables on the tree lawn prior to 5 p.m. on the day before collections, and establishing an ordinance requiring the removal of any trash or recyclable containers from the tree lawn area by the morning after pick-up.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Bay Village Service Department at 440-871-1221, regarding any questions about the Trash and Recyclables Collection Program. ●

Jim Sears is the special projects coordinator for the City of Bay Village.

Free genealogy help session at Porter Library

by Elaine Willis

Westlake Porter Public Library, the Westlake Family History Center and the Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will offer a free genealogy help session at the library

on Saturday, Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The session is free and no appointments are necessary.

Visitors will receive 15 to 30 minutes of one-on-one help from an expert. Help can range from how to get started researching your family, to suggestions for getting around dead-ends, to tips on various genealogy resources to try, and much more. Bring your stories, your dead-ends and your research so far, and get expert help.

The library is located at 27333 Center Ridge Rd. in Westlake. The help session will take place in the Computer Lab. ●

Calling all parents! Problem-solving help is coming to Bay Library

by Susan Ballard

Victoria Todd, a local child psychoanalyst, will be on hand to answer questions about behavioral issues such as sleeping and eating, bullying and scheduling activities at the Bay Village Branch Library on Saturday, Nov. 3, at 11 a.m. A variety of age-appropriate toys from Cuyahoga County Public Library’s Toy Collection, books and activities will be available for caregivers and their children (ages birth-5 years) to share as Victoria provides information and answers in an informal setting.

Ms. Todd is a summa cum laude graduate of Case Western Reserve University with a B.A. in sociology and psychology and a master’s degree in social administration. A qualified child psychoanalyst, she completed her train-

ing at the Hanna Perkins Center for Research in Child Development. She is now a candidate in adult analysis at the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center.

A member of the American Psychoanalytic Association, the Association for Child Psychoanalysis and the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center, Ms. Todd teaches classes and workshops at Case Western Reserve University. Based on her 25-plus years of experience in assisting children, adolescents and parents as well as her work as a preschool, elementary, middle and high school consultant, she received the President’s Award from the Junior League and was named in Who’s Who Among Executives and Professionals in Mental Health-Honor’s Edition.

Ms. Todd will have handouts on a variety of parenting subjects that covers a broader range of ages. Healthy snacks will be served. ●



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Laughing out loud

by Kristi Vaughn, LSW

It is no secret that being a caregiver is very stressful on those individuals in such a role. There are many suggestions on how to decrease caregiver stress which include respite, exercise and support groups. But the best one I have read a lot about lately is humor.

Laugh therapy is a real thing and it works. Studies show that laughter reduces your blood pressure, increases your immune system, increases your blood flow and can help with pain relief and tension. It can also help you deal with even the saddest and hardest situations, including caregiver stress.

You may be thinking that most days you feel like crying, not laughing. But ultimately the choice is yours and how you choose to react to a situation is totally up to you. And just because you laugh does not mean you don't care.

Most eldercare professionals say it is OK and even helpful to laugh at those funny moments that happen during caregiving such as unprompted remarks including swear words and other antics of an elderly parent. Experts say that when you laugh during these times you aren't laughing at the person, you are laughing at the moment because it was funny.

You can also practice laughing even when you don't feel like it. To do this you could laugh out loud for no reason until you actually start to laugh, or even if you aren't laughing for real, your body still reaps the benefits. Experts say that your body cannot tell the difference between real laughter and fake laughter. Laughing is also contagious and so laugh therapy is often suggested in the work environment or other stressful environments. So just for fun, go ahead and try it one evening while having dinner with your family...I guarantee you'll all enjoy it! ●

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Bay Village Schools are Excellent with Distinction

by Karen Derby

The Bay Village City School District earned the Excellent with Distinction rating on the 2012 Ohio Report Card data release. The district met all 26 of the report card indicators, with about 90 percent and more of students passing various grade level tests in reading, writing, math, science and social studies at the proficient level or higher.

In addition, the district met the requirement for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), which measures achievement for sub-populations of students such as economically-disadvantaged and students identified with special needs.

The district also exceeded the Value-Added Growth measure, which gauges individual student growth from year to year.

The district's Performance Index, a compilation of all the test scores, demonstrates the high percentages of Bay Village Schools students achieving well above the proficient level (the index for all students achieving right at the proficient level is 100.0). The district's 108.4 Performance Index for 2012 is up from 107.4 a year ago. The Performance Index ranking puts Bay Village among the top 1.6 percent of districts in the state.

Individual schools in the district also rated high. Bay High School was rated Excellent, meeting all of its 12 standards and attaining a Performance Index of 108.9. (High schools are not eligible for the Excellent with Distinction rating because the Value-Added Growth measure does not currently apply to those grade

levels.) Bay Middle School, also rated Excellent, met all 11 of its standards and attained a Performance Index of 108. Westerly Elementary was rated Excellent with Distinction, meeting all five of its standards and attaining a Performance Index of 108.6. All schools met or exceeded the AYP and Value-Added measures that apply to them. (Normandy Elementary, serving students in Kindergarten through grade 2, is not rated because state testing does not begin until grade 3.)

"The Excellent with Distinction rating and continued increase in the performance index score both reflect the focused efforts of our staff, student dedication to learning and the support of our parents," said Superintendent of Schools, Clint Keener.

"We continue to move forward with high expectations. Everyone in the Bay Village School District has to believe that we have students and staff possessing the ability and motivation necessary to rise to the challenges we face as Ohio continues to expect more of us."

The Ohio Department of Education released the testing data late this year because of an ongoing State Auditor investigation into a number of Ohio school districts regarding inconsistencies in enrollment and attendance data. The state-wide results were provided in spreadsheet format. The final Ohio Report Cards, usually provided as individual documents for each school and each school district, will not be available until the investigations are complete. When those documents are available, they will be posted on the Bay Village district's website at www.bayvillageschools.com. ●

MUSINGS FROM THE MIDDLE

Helping Malala

by Audrey Ray, fifth-grader at Bay Middle School

Do you remember Malala's story from my last column? Malala Yousafzai is the 14-year-old Pakistani girl who was shot by the Taliban after speaking out in support of girls' rights to education. I've been thinking about her a lot. Before Malala's story, I knew that some girls couldn't go to school in some parts of the world, but I never really thought about it. After I heard about Malala, I realized what a problem going to school is for some girls around the world.

It bothered me that I felt like I couldn't do anything to help Malala. With my parents' help, I decided to contact Ms. Jennifer Sanborn from the Women's Education Worldwide group. I asked her if she had any ideas about what I could do to help Malala. Ms. Sanborn told me "going to school each day with energy and enthusiasm is the best gift you can give girls around the world without privilege."

Her suggestion made me think about how I start my days before school. In the mornings, I usually don't feel like going to school because I'm so tired. My alarm goes off at 6:15 a.m. I spend the morning trying to wake myself up while getting ready for school. Finally, I leave my house at 7 a.m. to catch the bus.

Now when I wake up, I try to remember what Ms. Sanborn told me I should do to help Malala and girls like her who don't have the freedom to go to school.

I am still slow to move, but I know that I am fortunate to be able to go to school. I think about how Malala would be really happy to just have to wake up early and go to school. I think she would feel lucky to only have to worry about feeling tired.

I learned online that Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, England, which is taking care of Malala, updates her progress every day. The updates are available online at www.uhb.nhs.uk/news/malala-yousafzai-status-updates.htm.

People from all over the world are sending cards and packages to Malala. She received a lion from a zoo that wrote in a note that she is as brave as a lion.

I believe people should send cards to her because she deserves them. She risked her life fighting for girls to have the freedom to go to school. Malala should know that we care about her and what she is fighting for. It would be cool if she got stacks of mail from Westlake and Bay Village, Ohio. If you are interested in sending something to Malala, the address is:

"For Malala"
c/o Pakistan Consulate Birmingham
2-26 Constitution Hill
Hockley
Birmingham, B19 3LY
ENGLAND

I think that Malala symbolizes the women and girls all around the world who are trying to make a difference in their country. She is definitely as brave as a lion and someone who is an amazing role model for people everywhere. ●

Prosperity Money Club launches

by Jan Litterst

The first Wednesday of each month finds men and women looking for answers about their money gathering at the Westlake Porter Public Library in a supportive environment of The Prosperity Money Club.

Money clubs began at the initiation of the Women's Institute for Financial Education (WIFE) and are offered by local facilitators throughout the country. This is an opportunity to discover a simple program that has the power to change your financial life forever. Through the selected monthly Money Club topics, you will find the information and support you need to set your own financial course. More information on the program and the topics can be found at www.wife.org.

The Prosperity Money Club meets

on the first Wednesday of each month from 7-8 p.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd. There is no charge to attend. The group is facilitated by volunteer Jan Litterst, a financial professional with over 18 years of experience. Her passion is helping people with their money!

The topic for Nov. 7 is "Your Money Style." What is your money style? Do you save every dime or live it up for today? Do you avoid the topic of money altogether? Are you a Hoarder, Splurger or Avider? This meeting of the Money Club will help you learn about your money style so that you can build your own strengths and compensate for your weaknesses. Join us at 7 p.m. in the craft room of Porter Library on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

For further information, call Jan at 440-670-2252. ●

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Every life deserves world class care.

Meet Compeer and Club West at Porter Library on Nov. 5

by Denise Ayres

The Compeer and Club West programs connect adults to their communities. Compeer has an adult mentoring program in which our volunteer mentors encourage adult members to get out and join in community activities. Club West is peer support that assists adults in their path to recovery from the symptoms of mental illness. The majority of our members were involved in various activities, including college studies, employment, technical training and faith groups, prior to onset of a brain chemical imbalance. Compeer and Club West strive to help our members reconnect to these activities and to discover more!

We are inviting you to come discover our Compeer and Club West Programs on Monday, Nov. 5, 6:00 p.m., at Westlake Porter Public Library. Please come and meet us! There are no papers to fill out or questions for you to answer. We will be there being social, having fun and dare I say “having a party” at the library.

Our Compeer mentoring program needs adult volunteers. Compeer offers one of the most self-directed and flexible mentoring programs available to interested volunteers. Compeer volunteers decide who they will be mentoring. Compeer volunteers make their own individual schedules! As Compeer Program Coordinator, I provide guidance and ongoing support but volunteers do not need my permission to schedule. Now that’s a flexible schedule! Club West Peer Support always wel-

comes new members. If you are an adult recovering from symptoms of mental illness and are looking to improve your holistic health, socialize and have fun, then Club West is your club!

Compeer and Club West also offer a quarterly schedule that offers a variety of weekly activities. This quarter our schedule includes Water Walking, indoor track walking, Tai Chi, Integrative Therapies, Monthly Game Nights, hay ride with bonfire, a trip to “Glow” at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, a Winter Holiday Party, lunch at Picc-A-Deli Café in Westlake, a musical comedy at Clague Playhouse and fun at Dave and Buster’s! Our activities are facilitated by Jody Bell and myself to offer support and because we are fun to hang out with!

Not sure you can be a mentor? Please come meet us Nov. 5 at Porter Library and ask about how you can start as a group activities volunteer. Our volunteers are 18 or older. We love retired adults because they become outstanding volunteers.

Compeer and Club West at Far West Center are both members of the Westlake Community Representatives. We provide programs that are rewarding to both members and volunteer mentors. The Compeer Inc. motto is “Making Friends. Changing Lives.” Please consider joining us!

Any questions? Please call Denise or Jody at 440-835-6212. Denise can be reached at extension 242 and Jody’s extension is 263. Compeer Inc.’s website is www.compeer.org; our programs are listed under Ohio. ●

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Golf outing raises \$20,000 for Youth Challenge

by Kathy Rigdon

Seventy-two golfers enjoyed a beautiful day at Youth Challenge's ninth annual Scott & Julie Mawaka Charitable Foundation Golf Outing on Sept. 24 at the Shaker Heights Country Club.

Major sponsorships were provided by Fleet Response, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Fran and Ron Mawaka. Additional monetary and in-kind donations were made by local and national organizations, friends, and families.

"The continuous generosity of Scott and Julie Mawaka and the Mawaka Foundation means so much to Youth Challenge," says John Petersen, YC trustee and co-chair of the golf outing, "especially now, as we are growing our presence with additional East Side programs."

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



Mary Sue Tanis, founder and executive director of Youth Challenge, is pictured with Scott and Julie Mawaka at the Sept. 24 fundraising golf outing.

Youth Challenge Halloween bash a blast



The annual Youth Challenge Halloween party is a hit with the YC kids.

by Kathy Rigdon

Katniss Everdeen from "The Hunger Games," a Cleveland police officer and even Elmo all made appearances at the fourth annual Halloween Party at the Westlake headquarters of Youth Challenge on Friday, Oct. 26. Over 80 YC participants and volunteers showed off their creative costumes while enjoying the fabulous festivities.

The event was hosted by Smart Business, whose staff members transformed the YC offices into an awesome haunted house and were on hand for games, crafts, dancing, pumpkin decorating, trick-or-treating and costume contests.

"We're grateful to the Smart Business staff for the incredible energy and outstanding effort put forth to make the Halloween Party a huge success," says Ken Kasler, YC Chief of Operations and Program Oversight. "The kids look forward to this party all year."



The YC gang hams it up at the annual Halloween party on Oct. 26.

Youth Challenge offers free, year-round programs to over 100 participants and more than 300 teen volunteers throughout the Greater Cleveland area. The participants are children with such disabilities as muscular dystrophy,

cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and hearing or vision impairments. The teen volunteers are trained to work with children with physical disabilities and are paired one-on-one with participants at each program. ●

Cherished memories of my summer at The Belvedere of Westlake

Dear Belvedere Residents and Staff,

It was an honor to be the lucky Crusher player at the Belvedere this past summer. From the first moment I got there, I was welcomed with open arms and never once did I feel uncomfortable. The staff and residents were so friendly all summer that it made it really tough to leave! Having a place like the Belvedere as my host family made my summer less stressful and more enjoyable. The way you guys trusted me from day one I will never forget.

Getting to meet the residents and creating bonds with them is another thing I will carry with me. They always wanted to



Lake Erie Crushers pitcher Travis Risser

know how the team was doing and having them truly care about me was something very special and unique to staying at the Belvedere. From Claire telling me I looked awful with facial hair, to throwing out candy in the 4th of July parade, I really enjoyed interacting with the residents and will miss all of them.

I would like to thank the staff for making my stay this summer so enjoyable and providing me with whatever you could to

make my time there easier.

I'm glad Joel Collins told me to stay with you guys, because the Belvedere is a very special place. I will never forget my summer of 2012 and will cherish the

memories and friendships I made along the way!

Again, thank you all from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to stay with you and I look forward to seeing everyone there very soon!

Sincerely,
Travis Risser
Lake Erie Crushers



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West Shore Chamber
Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1
Joint Business After Hours
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Enjoy complimentary appetizers and beverages

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
November Networking Luncheon
Networking Begins 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon served at noon

Westlake Holiday Inn
1100 Crocker Rd., Westlake
Networking Begins 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon served at noon. \$20 per person
RSVP: Please call the chamber office at 440-835-8787 by Friday, Nov. 9.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11
Annual Chamber Holiday Party
5-7:30 P.M.

Westlake Holiday Inn
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440-759-1915
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www.theprofitabilitycatalyst.com

Community comes through to save
'Peanut,' the poodle found in Porter Creek

by Dillon Slaman-Forsythe, age 14

The morning started very early on Monday, Oct. 22, for Peanut's surgery at Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital in Copley Ohio. Terrified of the dark, she began biting at us in the car before we even left home, never having done that before. When we took her into the hospital, we were so nervous about her going under anesthesia. I could tell Peanut was, too. We kept praying she would be okay. When the nurse took Peanut for her surgery, we were all so happy to know that she wouldn't have any more troubles; whatever happened.

The waiting we had to endure was incredible. I have never felt tension that strong except when I lost my little brother Teddy when I was seven. We went to a Christian bookstore. Going there helped us a lot with our worries. Finally it was time to pick her up.

The receptionist told us that

Peanut was having a hard time waking up. Dr. Messner had surgically removed several teeth and many more had simply fallen out without effort due to the terrible infection she suffered. Minute-by-minute turned into more hours of waiting. Peanut finally woke up. We were so happy that God answered our prayer!

When she got in the car, she started biting at us again. It wasn't just because of the anesthesia in her, but something more. With that

came scary and sad questions: Did the person who owned her love her? Was she abused? I do know who does care, the community of people here in Bay Village and Westlake and others that have touched our hearts with all the love and compassion that they have given. We are in awe that all her financial needs were met. Thank you from our hearts to everyone and all the stores that allowed posters and donation jars as well as the Westlake | Bay Village Observer.

Four days after surgery, Peanut is slowly showing signs of rehabilitation and has stopped biting at us. She is very happy that her mouth

is better. I have learned one very important lesson: how to help someone in need, in this case, a desperate dog. It is sad to think about how so many other dogs and cats are lost in the world, but especially in Bay Village.

Animals need a place to go when they get lost. We will be speaking at the Nov. 5 City Council meeting to support the Friends of the Bay Village Kennel in building a new kennel. Think of Peanut. She was all alone and had no place to go but inside a rock wall of a creek. With all the rain, she would have drowned if the creek water had risen much higher. When I found her, I feel that was the last day for her. God saved Peanut. She was fortunate that someone found her. Sometimes it doesn't always work out like that.

We are holding a "Peanut Party" in our front yard at 411 Longbeach Parkway in Bay Village, Sunday, Nov. 4 at 1 p.m., rain or shine. Please come and meet the little dog you saved! You can follow Peanut at facebook.com/savelittlepeanut. ●



Dillon and Logan Slaman-Forsythe with Peanut, just after her surgery.



Dillon Slaman-Forsythe gives some love to Peanut as she wakes up from surgery.

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Veterans Day – Honoring



Bay Village American Legion members and veterans march in a Memorial Day parade.

Give gifts for ‘Yanks’ through Bay Village American Legion

by Jim Potter

Members of the Bay Village American Legion, Post #385, have joined with hundreds of other American Legion Posts in Ohio to help make this Christmas memorable for hospitalized veterans. They are doing it by collecting funds for the annual

American Legion of Ohio “Gifts for The Yanks Who Gave” program.

This is the 65th consecutive year the Ohio American Legion is pooling funds from Posts for gifts and activities benefiting veterans in Ohio’s state hospitals, VA medical centers, outpatient clinics and the Ohio Veterans Homes in Sandusky and Georgetown. The program’s name is the same as the one initiated by comedian Eddie Cantor during World War II.

“This effort is not limited to members of the Legion,” stated Commander Stan Zeager. “We welcome contributions from individuals and business establishments to help finance the state-wide program annually costing over \$300,000.”

Checks may be made payable to “Gifts for Yanks” and sent

to the local chairman, Doug Mangan, at American Legion Post #385, P.O. Box 40503, Bay Village, Ohio 44140. Collection jars are also available at various merchants in Bay Village and Westlake.

In addition to distributing individual gifts to veteran patients, the Ohio American Legion is also contributing to each of the five gift shops operated at the VA hospitals, whereby patients may select gifts to send to their families.

Televisions, radios and other electronic equipment for the VA hospitals and the Ohio Veterans Homes are also being provided again this year from the program funds. The fund will also spend over \$100,000 on other Christmas activities for VA and state hospital patients, as well as provide year-round recreation opportunities. ●



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all who served our country

Honoring those who protect our freedoms on Veterans Day

by Mel Maurer

From the battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill in 1775, to the mountains of Afghanistan, Pakistan and the skies over Libya today, Americans have fought and are fighting to give and to ensure the freedoms we

enjoy here in the greatest country that ever was.

Over these 236 years of our country's history, millions of men and women of all races, of all beliefs, across the spectrum of our society – sons, daughters, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters – have

gone to war for us.

They have endured conditions to which we would not submit wild animals: stifling heat, numbing cold, dry desserts, humid jungles, baking sun, torrential rains, disease, insufficient food and never-ending loneliness for those they had to leave behind – those they went to war to save.

They have met with courage, deadly enemies great and small – from world powers to vicious tribes – around the earth, on its ground, in and under its waters, and through its air, in conflicts and wars of all sizes, both hot and cold, winning the peace but never conquest.

They've faced bullets, bombs, bayonets, barricades, tanks, machine guns, Gatling guns, mortars, poison gas, torpedoes, flax, land mines, depth charges

and many other weapons of unimaginable destruction – charging beaches, trenches, mountains, ships and planes – taking war to the enemies, keeping them from here.

The greatest weapon in America's arsenal is the will of its fighting forces to win. Our nation is special today, and the world is safer today, because of them and their unselfish sacrifices.

No one ever goes to war and remains unchanged; no one returns home the same person that left to do his or her duty. Of those we sent into harm's way, many did not return but most did – some on stretchers, some in wheelchairs and some walking, the wounded and the well all having paid a great price for us and for our freedom.

These are America's veterans, those we honor on Veterans Day and those we should thank every day for all they've done for us. Our precious country, our lives in freedom, would not exist without them and their sacrifices.


Remember them with gratitude, their families too, who sacrificed with them, on their special day. Keep them in your hearts and prayers every day, as we thank them for all they've done for us. ♦



Veterans and their families walk in the 2008 Westlake Fourth of July parade.

Westlake Village Salutes


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BAY VILLAGE GREEN TEAM

Beyond the landfill: Recycling reduces pollution, saves energy, creates jobs

by Brenda O'Reilly

Nov. 15 is the 15th annual “America Recycles Day.” The day, founded in 1997, was the idea of the non-profit group Keep America Beautiful to encourage people to dump less trash in landfills.

The good news is that recycling has increased in the USA – from around 8 percent of the total waste stream in 1960 to 17 percent in 1990 and about 33 percent currently, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. However, a lot more can be done, as most waste that goes to the landfill can be recycled, reused or composted.

So, why is it so important to recycle? What difference does it make anyway? According to a report issued by the Tellus Institute last year entitled “More Jobs, Less Pollution,” not only would more robust recycling practices create jobs (nearly 1.5 million jobs by 2030), it would help to reduce pollution.

The report estimates that by diverting 75 percent of the nation’s waste, we would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 276 million metric tons by 2030. This

is the equivalent of eliminating emissions from 72 coal-fired power plants or taking 50 million cars off the road.

Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced because products made from recycled materials take significantly less energy than products made from virgin materials. For example, recycling aluminum requires only about 5 percent of the energy of making a can from virgin materials. Recycled plastic only takes 10 percent of the energy and recycled paper/cardboard takes 60 percent of the energy. An added benefit of recycling paper/cardboard is that it saves trees which help to clean the air of pollutants.

The full “More Jobs, Less Pollution” report can be viewed online at: nrdc.org/business/guides/recycling-report.asp.

Though most people separate their



trash and recycle, the EPA cites additional steps they can take, including these six:

1. Buy recycled products. When you buy recycled products, you create a market for recyclable materials to be collected, manufactured and sold as new products.
2. Purchase durable, long lasting goods.
3. Reuse items by donating them to charity and community groups or selling them.

Learn more about recycling!

Come to a FREE seminar on Thursday, Nov. 15, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Community Room located in the Bay Village Police Department building, 28000 Wolf Rd. Presenters include Kathleen Rocco, education specialist from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, and Brenda O'Reilly, co-chair of the Bay Village Green Team. The seminar will cover what happens when your recyclable materials leave your curbside and tips for how to become a “near zero waste” household. Please register by calling Warren Remein at 440-724-1578 or emailing greenremein@yahoo.com.

4. Use a product more than once, either for the same or for a different purpose. This is even better than recycling because the item does not need to be reprocessed before it can be used again.

5. Reduce your use of packaging: Buy bulk or concentrated products when you can. Take your own bags to the store.

6. Compost your organic matter (yard and food waste). Composting is nature’s way of recycling organic wastes into new soil used in vegetable and flower gardens, landscaping and many other applications. ●

EXPRESS CHECK OUT

Have a nice day, Blake!

beep beep

Geez, all I bought was one bottle of water-I don't need a bag for it. How wasteful of her. Whatever! I'm not going to use it.

Don't leave me! The wind will carry me away and I'll end up in Lake Erie! You can use me more than once for lots of other things, or you can even recycle me!

Don't litter! Wind and rain can move litter into the storm drains, which flow directly into Lake Erie untreated. Dispose of your trash properly and pick up litter if you see it!

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WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

Six CIM voices reveal beauty of ‘The Secret Marriage’

by Louise Seeholzer

David Bamberger, director of opera theater at the Cleveland Institute of Music, described Domenico Cimarosa as the Andrew Lloyd Webber of the 1790s. Then six CIM voice students, who accompanied Bamberger to Westlake Porter Public Library, on Oct. 16, proved Cimarosa’s music still captures audiences.

This Italian opera composer wrote more than 80 operas, including “Il matrimonio segreto” (“The Secret Marriage”), considered to be his masterpiece. Bamberger and company previewed CIM’s upcoming Nov. 7 to 10 production of this work at the FYI: Opera program, presented by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council.

Cimarosa’s comic opera is filled with glorious music and funny situations revealing very recognizable traits of human nature. The opera’s voice and drama challenges were more than capably met by the talented, enthusiastic CIM students.

The story involves a wealthy

merchant, Geronimo, who would like to see his daughters, Elisetta and Carolina, marry into nobility – as titles are something money cannot buy. However, his younger daughter Carolina is secretly married to her true love, Paolino. Count Robinson, who is betrothed to Elisetta, falls in love with Carolina. The girls’ aunt Fidalma loves Paolino and Geronimo is frantic. But following much plotting and romantic scheming, all ends humorously happy.

The tantalizing taste of the opera’s music began with a duet by soprano Bethany Grace Mamula as Carolina and tenor Kevin Simmons as Paolino who blended their voices and acting talents to capture the audience. The fast pace of situations was demonstrated with the fine blending of four voices, Daniel Grambow as Geronimo, Allyson Dezii as Elisetta, Michelle Lujennesse as Fidalma and Mamula. They sounded wonderful and the acting set the excited tone of events.

Dezii and Mamula were

believable sisters exchanging snide remarks with Lujennesse working at being a referee. Terrific acting accompanied the wonderful singing of the splendid trio and the sisters’ duets.

Grambow as the father and Armando Contreras as the Count had some very adversarial conversations, which they delightfully depicted and superbly sung.

The singers’ artful performance of Cimarosa’s music could only be possible with masterful accompaniment, which they received from John Simmons, CIM music director. And as always, Bamberger set the scene for this rich opera preview with colorful details and humor.



From left, Armando Contreras, Allyson Dezii, Daniel Grambow, Michelle Lujennesse, Bethany Grace Mamula and Kevin Simmons captured their audience at FYI: Opera on Oct. 16.

Many members of the attentive FYI: Opera audience made plans to attend CIM’s fully staged and costumed performances of this magnificent

work. Information and tickets for CIM’s production are available at cim.edu/promos/ilmatrimonio or by calling 216-795-3211. ●

Breast Health Center event at SJMC



Dr. Cathy Graham, medical director of the Breast Health Center at St. John Medical Center, speaks to women about the importance of mammograms during a community event at the hospital on Oct. 17. In addition to physician talks, the hundred-plus women in attendance enjoyed tours of the Center, healthy appetizers, door prizes and took advantage of walk-in mammograms. ●

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Contact Nicole Lee at 216-221-1141 or UAL@uakron.edu to RSVP, or for questions.

lakewood.uakron.edu



Featured Speaker:
Janice G. Murphy,
RN, BSN, MSN, FACHE

Janice Murphy has been the president of Fairview Hospital since 2007. She has a diverse background in both clinical and administrative settings and a first hand understanding of patient, physician and employee needs.

In 2009, Murphy was named a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. In 2010, she was elected as a regent for the American College of Healthcare Executives for Ohio Northern.

Murphy earned a Master of Science in Nursing at The University of Akron.



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UA Lakewood is located on the first floor of the historic Bailey Building in the heart of downtown Lakewood.

ABOUT THE WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE Observer

The Citizen-Powered Newspaper

What is the Observer?

The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a grassroots, hyper-local newspaper and website written by volunteers that is published every two weeks and available free at over 225 locations. Our goal is to strengthen our community by encouraging an active, engaged and informed citizenry.

Who writes for the Observer?

Over 480 community members of all ages have joined in to share their knowledge and experiences on topics that are related to our community.

Can I participate?

YES! The Observer is open to all Bay Village and Westlake residents who want to participate in a community-wide dialogue. You may have read a story in the Observer and thought of a topic or photo of local interest that you'd like to share with our community. **What are you waiting for? Become an Observer!** It's fun, easy and free: visit our website at wbvobserver.com and click on Member Center to sign up and be a part of this growing, good-news, community project!

Questions? Contact us and we'll help get you started. Call us at 440-409-0114 or email: staff@wbvobserver.com Join in at wbvobserver.com

Giving a voice to the people of Westlake & Bay Village



How old is too old when you are a dog?

by Olivia Langer, fourth-grader at Westerly Elementary

Apparently 16 isn't too old because my dog Nipper, a Border Collie-Husky mix, just turned 16 years old (in human years) in September. That's 112 in dog years – which may seem old for a dog, but he still runs around the backyard chasing squirrels and our other dogs.

To celebrate his 16th birthday, we invited all of the neighborhood dogs over for a Dog Birthday Party. We invited Ada, Rudy, Daisy, Loudon, Shadow, Buster, Penny and Willis. All the dogs received an invitation to the party. When they arrived, they all received a party hat; but most of their humans wore the party hats because they wouldn't stay on the dogs.

For games at the party, we played, pin the letter on the mailman and a stick relay. The winners received a paw-print dog-treat sucker to eat. All the dogs seemed to have fun and most got along great. There was some growling, but that's normal when you get that many dogs together. All the dogs that came to the party brought Nipper a gift! When the dogs left the party, they all received a "treat bag" with dog treats inside.

I hope Nipper gets to see another birthday next year. I plan to make it bigger and better! He's "Nipper the Wonder-Dog! The best dog ever!"



Loudon wears his party hat at the dog birthday party.



Olivia plays pin the letter on the mailman with her other dog, Ada.



Neighborhood dogs socialize at the dog party. Nipper the birthday dog is in the green sweater.



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WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

November events at Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

Thursday, Nov. 1 (7-8:45 p.m.) INVESTOR INTEREST GROUP: INVESTING WITH HERB GEISSLER – Mr. Geissler will discuss investing. Please register.

Friday, Nov. 2 (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, Nov. 3 (9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.) ACT PRACTICE EXAM – Get ready for test time with an ACT practice exam, then return the following week at 9:30 a.m. to get your results and discuss testing strategies and techniques. Grades 10-12. Please register.

Saturday, Nov. 3 (10:30-11 a.m.) MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE! – Join Mother Goose for this interactive storytime featuring simple books, rhymes, songs and movement. For ages birth-3 years old with adult caregiver.

Saturday, Nov. 3 (2-3:30 p.m.) BEGINNING GENEALOGY – Get started researching your family history. Learn where to begin, how to research, what resources are available and where to find them. Bring along names and dates for hands-on research. Please register.

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

Monday, Nov. 5 (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, Nov. 6 (2-3 p.m.) JUNIE B. JONES – Crafts and fun celebrating the lively, funny Junie B. Jones! Ages 6-9. Registration begins Oct. 30.

Tuesday, Nov. 6 (3:30-5 p.m.) BOREDOM BUSTERS – Drop in and play a game, do a craft or make some art! All supplies provided. Open for all ages; children under nine must be with a grown-up.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 (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, Nov. 7 (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!

Wednesday, Nov. 7 (2-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE – Type "O" drive.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 (4:30-6 p.m.) CROSS-STITCHING FOR TEENS – Get a head start on your gift list by cross-stitching a cool and easy project. All supplies provided! Space is limited. Grades 6-12. Please register.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 (7-8:30 p.m.) INTRODUCTION TO FOUNDATION DIRECTORY ONLINE PROFESSIONAL – Learn how to use Foundation Directory Online Professional, a Foundation Center database you can use to help find potential funders for your nonprofit organization. Please register.

Thursday, Nov. 8 (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, Nov. 8 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The November selection is "Destiny of the Republic" by Candice Millard.

Thursday, Nov. 8 (7-8:45 p.m.) WESTLAKE-WESTSHOREARTS COUNCIL – "A Woman's Journey in Print" with Phyllis Fannin, a lithographic art presentation with a hands-on demo. She will focus on traditional feminine issues and challenges facing families of deployed military.

Friday, Nov. 9 (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, Nov. 9 (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.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (9:30-11:30 a.m.) ACT PRACTICE EXAM –

Get ready for test time with an ACT practice exam, then return the following week at 9:30 a.m. to get your results and discuss testing strategies and techniques. Grades 10-12. Please register.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) CRAFTS A GO-GO! – Come on in and make a craft! We provide the supplies, you provide the creativity. No registration necessary. Meets in front of the Youth Services Desk.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) WALK-IN GENEALOGY – Join Westlake Porter Public Library, The Ohio Genealogical Society, Cuyahoga West Chapter and Westlake's Family History Center of the LDS Church for an all day, walk-in genealogical help session. Let our experts help you with your questions and problems.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (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 Nov. 3.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (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.

Sunday, Nov. 11 (2-4 p.m.) FRIENDS' SUNDAY SOUNDS – The "Swinging Bavarians" will perform polka and patriotic music. Presented by the Friends of Porter Public Library.

Monday, Nov. 12 (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.

Monday, Nov. 12 (7-8:30 p.m.) BUSINESS ADVISORS OF CLEVELAND: PART 4 – Financing a Small Business – Learn about how to finance — where to begin when planning to start or expand a small business. Please register.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – In November we'll discuss "The Chaperone" by Laura Moriarty.

Wednesday, Nov. 14 (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

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

November parenting presentations focus on bullying, speech and social skills

by Lorilynn Wolf

Connecting for Kids is a nonprofit, networking organization that connects parents to resources in the community and supports parents as they help their child grow and develop. During the month of November, the organization will be hosting two speakers. The first event, to be held on Friday, Nov. 9, at 11:30 a.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library, is called, "When to Worry about Your Child's Speech Language or Social Skills." This program targets preschool parents.

It's easy to measure accomplishments like crawling, walking or using a spoon to feed for the first time. But what may be more ambiguous and cause parents concern are speech and social issues. In fact, you may not even realize there is a delay until you get together with a same-age peer who is already stringing two or three words together while your child struggles to articulate single words. Or, you may wonder if your child is exhibiting typical behavior when a peer tries to engage him and you notice that your child is more interested in playing by himself.

Sara Solet of Speech Spot will discuss language, speech and social skill milestones by age at the upcoming Friday Parent Discussion Group. She will also field specific questions you may have about your child in this area.

The second program is called "Helping Kids Understand, Prevent and Manage Bullying" and will be presented at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10, at Westlake Porter Public Library.

Is your son or daughter afraid to ride on the school bus? Does your child come home in tears describing a scene that happened on the playground? Do the neighborhood kids pick on your child or refuse to play with him or her? Bullying comes in many forms and children with developmental concerns are at a higher risk for being bullied; however these children are also more likely to misinterpret friendly teasing and ambiguous behaviors as "bullying."

Led by Meghan Barlow, Ph.D., this discussion group will empower parents to teach their children how to understand, prevent and manage bullying. Unlike other bullying presentations, this talk will first focus on helping kids understand the intentions of others to determine if bullying is really taking place. Dr. Barlow will then provide specific examples for helping kids solve peer problems. Finally, discussion will focus on helping parents determine if and when to intervene and advocate directly for their children.

Connecting for Kids and Westlake Porter Public Library are co-sponsoring free childcare for families during both of these discussions. To reserve a spot for your child, visit www.connectingforkids.org or email sarahrintamaki@connectingforkids.org. ●

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CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

We're heading into the perfect weather to always have a book at your side. It will soon be getting dark earlier with the time change coming up on Nov. 4, and any time is a good time to enjoy a book. Check out the many displays and the New Book shelves, or ask us for recommendations. We're here to help! Please join us for these upcoming programs – we have a busy and exciting November planned! This is also a good time of year to request toys from the Toy Library. New and different toys will keep your little ones occupied and interested, and they can be a wonderful surprise to have on hand when the play group comes to your house! Not familiar with the Toy Library? Ask us – we'll show you how easy it is to use this resource! We look forward to seeing you at the Bay Library – don't be caught without a book!!

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, Oct. 6 (7 p.m.) TIGHTEN UP: HOME EFFICIENCY AND YOUR WALLET – Keep your energy costs from going through the roof and keep your home more comfortable year-round. In this program, Jeff Muhlbach will share common, cost-effective home improvements, many of which you can do yourself, including attic tents, insulation, air sealing and HVAC upgrades.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 (7 p.m.) AUTHOR VISIT: JOE TAIT – The book “Joe Tait: It's Been a Real Ball” celebrates his Hall of Fame broadcasting career with stories from Joe and dozens of fans, media colleagues and players. A book sale and signing will follow the presentation.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (2 p.m.) NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH WRITE-IN – NaNoWriMo is a national nonprofit organization that encourages you to write a 50,000 word novel in November.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 (10 a.m.) THE REMARKABLE CAREER OF NANCY DREW, GIRL DETECTIVE – For more than 80 years Nancy Drew has been a part of American girlhood and influenced generations of young girls. Join us as we discover the “real Nancy Drew,” how she came to be, who really wrote the stories and just what Nancy is up to today.

Thursday, Nov. 15 (7 p.m.) THE WEST SIDE MARKET: 100 YEARS AND STILL COOKING – Local food writers Laura Taxel and Marilou Suszko have joined forces on the new book “Cleveland's West Side Market: 100 Years and Still Cooking” which documents the rich history of this landmark. Join us as we share stories and nostalgia of the renowned market.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Saturday, Nov. 17 (2 p.m.) HO HO NO! TIPS FOR AN ORGANIZED AND STRESS-FREE HOLIDAY – As the holidays approach, are you filled with the joy of the season or with dread at the thought of your endless to-do list? Getting organized is the key to managing a fantastic stress-free season. Come and learn how to decrease your anxiety and increase your productivity.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Saturday, Nov. 10 (10:30 a.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME – Join us for a sensory storytime designed for children with different needs, including autism, Down syndrome, speech/language delays and other special needs or challenges. The program incorporates a schedule board, double visuals and sensory opportunities for participants, as well as a half-hour socialization time after.

Saturday, Nov. 10 (11:30 a.m.) PLAY/STORY – For ages birth-5 years. Join us for a special time! Children will play with interactive and developmental toys while their caregivers meet new friends and socialize.

Thursday, Nov. 15 (7 p.m.) IT'S A GIRL'S WORLD – For grades 3 and 4. Bring an adult female friend for some fun. We'll discuss a good book, share a snack and try a related project.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 (7 p.m.) READING WITH THE STARS – For ages 2-7 years. You're invited to get up close and personal with a Bay Village “star” as they share a book, a craft and details about their jobs.

Saturday, Nov. 3 (11 a.m.) PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW – For ages birth-5 years. Victoria Todd, a child psychologist, will be on hand to answer your questions about behavioral issues such as eating, sleeping, scheduling activities and more. A variety of age-appropriate toys will be available for you and your child to share as Victoria provides information.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 (3:30 p.m.) GREG HEFFLEY, MOVE OVER! FUN WITH CARTOONING – For ages 8-14 years. Join us as we celebrate the release of “Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Third Wheel.” Artist Melinda Placko will share tips of the trade so you can learn how to draw cool cartoon characters yourself! Artists in training will also have a chance to win an autographed copy of the book.

Please register for these programs by calling 440-871-6392, going online to cuyahogalibrary.org, and of course by coming in to see us. See YOU soon! ●

Joe Tait to appear at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

Join us as Joe Tait speaks about his recent book, “Joe Tait: It's Been a Real Ball” co-written with Terry Pluto, on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. The book is full of stories from Joe as well as dozens of fans, media colleagues and players.

Known to three generations of Cleveland sports fans, he was the “Voice of the Cleveland Cavaliers,” also making games come alive for Indians baseball and even Mount Union football. His “Hall of Fame” broadcasting career reflects his passion for sports and his

work has inspired generations of young broadcasters.

His descriptive language has even become part of Northeast Ohio slang: “Wham, with the right hand...” and “To the line, to the lane...”. When Joe was fired from announcing Cavs games in the 1980s, fans clamored for his return and he was rehired by new owner Gordon Gund who stated, “He is the franchise. To have a basketball team in Cleveland, you have to have Joe Tait.”

Registration is requested as seating is limited. A book sale and signing will follow the presentation sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch. ●

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Stress less with gratefulness at Unity Spiritual Center on Nov. 9

by Jan Litterst

The holidays are approaching! The relatives are coming! The holiday season is a typically stressful time of the year, but make 2012 different! Prepare to be grateful this year rather than preparing for the annual stressful times!

Mark Friday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., on your calendars to attend a Gratitude Workshop at Unity Spiritual Center in Westlake.

Why should you attend? Well, let's look at some questions you can ask yourself to answer that: Do you concentrate on what's missing in your life? Do you neglect to acknowledge your loved ones? Do you push yourself without embracing your journey?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, this workshop is for you. Register by Nov. 5 on the Unity website, www.unityspiritualcenter.com, and save \$10. Registering on the website will reserve your seat for \$20. But don't get stressed, you can show up at the door of Unity at 7 p.m. on Nov. 9, pay \$30, and still share

the night with everyone looking to be less stressed.

And that night will be special for you as Lisa Ryan, not only a gratitude expert but also the author of “The Upside of Down Times: Discovering the Power of Gratitude,” helps you to enrich your perspective, strengthen your relationships and improve your health by learning simple gratitude strategies.

Lisa's style is fun and interactive. More than that, her workshop will enhance your life!

Unity Spiritual Center is located at 23855 Detroit Rd. Call 440-835-0400 with any questions.

This is one of many fantastic opportunities available through Unity Spiritual Center and its affiliate, Centered Wellness. Check out our website at www.unityspiritualcenter.com to find exactly what you are looking for, including our popular Spiritual Cinema which will feature the Louise Hay film “Tales of Everyday Magic: Painting the Future” on Nov. 16. ●

FORUM *continued from front page*

In addition, you will hear a personal story from a parent who experienced the heartbreak and fear of having to cope with her daughter's struggles, from experimentation to daily use to addiction, and from a young person who struggled with her own drug use battles, and how they both triumphed and found recovery.

Attending this forum should be the first step in becoming informed and aware of the issues. The next step should be to become more educated on the details of adolescent alcohol and other substance abuse. Take advantage of the programs that are offered at Bay Middle School or in area communities.

Last spring, parents attended a similar forum offered at Bay Middle School. Here are the following comments and

“I never realized this can happen to ‘good kids’ too.”

feedback from the program:

- “Wow, I'm shocked at the prevalence of drugs in our community – I was clueless.”
- “I never realized this can happen to ‘good kids’ too.”
- “I've heard a lot about Spice and want to learn more.”
- “We should all talk to our family members who have had problems to see if family history/genetics can influence our kids.”
- “It's clear – safety triumphs privacy.”
- “I never knew this was a disease and that it can happen to anyone.”

So don't find yourself caught off-guard. Get informed now to keep our children safe!

We encourage all adults, including teachers, coaches, youth leaders and neighbors, to learn how they can help and show a united front by attending this forum on Nov. 7, 7 p.m., at Bay High School, 29230 Wolf Rd. ●

BAYarts

Call for artists: BAYarts Holiday Shop

by Nancy Heaton

Each year, hundreds of holiday shoppers flock to the festive BAYarts Gallery Shop where regional artists of all disciplines sell their hand-crafted, one-of-a kind work – painting, photography, jewelry, fabric, ceramics and everything in between.

Now called “Marge’s Shop” the shop has recently been dedicated to the memory of Margaret Conway, mother,

grandmother and lover of shopping! The easy-going alternative to the multitude of holiday fairs and shopping malls, BAYarts promises plenty of free parking, no lines, cheerful volunteers and free gift wrap.

Artists should contact Karen@bayarts.net to set up an appointment to review your work. Photographs are encouraged with your inquiry. For more information, visit bayarts.net/shop/shop.aspx. ●



Shoppers peruse the artistic wares on sale at BAYarts' gallery gift shop.

Ross Lesko will curate 'The Bomb' group show at BAYarts

by Eileen Stockdale

From the Manhattan Project to Cold War fears of nuclear holocaust, to the current colloquialism in the modern lexicon – “The Bomb” is a phrase laden with connotations. This group exhibition inspired by The Bomb will feature work by artists interpreting the curatorial theme from a variety of perspectives; some fearful, some funny,

but entirely impactful.

This exhibit will be curated by Ross Lesko, gallery director for the Kenneth Paul Lesko Gallery at 78th Street Studios; the opening reception is Nov. 9 from 7-9 p.m. in the Sullivan Family Gallery in the Fuller House of BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd. The show runs through December. Hours of the Fuller House Gallery are Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment. ●

Judith Brandon wins top honors in BAYarts' 50th annual juried show

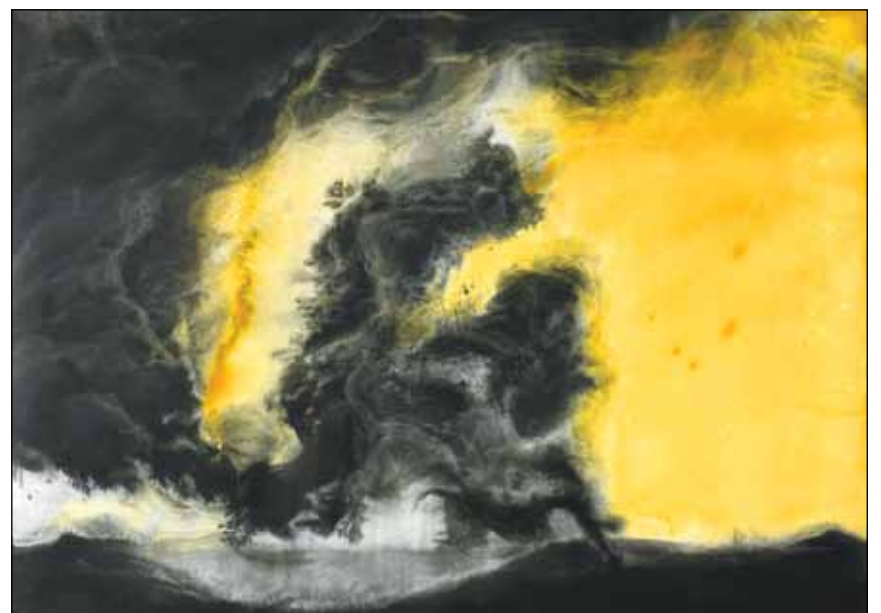
by Eileen Stockdale

The subject matter of Judith Brandon's work originates from the Weather Channel, travels and experiences. Oceans, rain, mist and ice, water in all of its forms and locations are an endless source of inspiration: tides of the ocean, the power of a tsunami or hurricane, the calm of a wetland – each event and waterscape is an opportunity to explore the earth's beauty and fragility.

Judith was chosen Best of Show by judges Susan Channing and Del Rey Leven out of more than 100

entries. Best of Show was awarded \$500; cash prizes were awarded to several other artists including: James P. Hendy (first place), George Kocar (second) and Gary Schmidt (third). John W. Carlson, James March and Judy Takacs won Jury Awards. The Pat Catan award went to Gail Crum and The Red Dot Project award to Ursula Ryan.

The exhibit will be on display through October in the Sullivan Family Gallery in the Fuller House, Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment. Questions, call 440-871-6543 ask for Eileen. ●



Judith Brandon's "Aftermath" – ink, dye, charcoal and pastel on paper.

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WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Historical society marks anniversary of Clague monument

by Lysa Stanton

Members of the Westlake Historical Society and friends gathered on Oct. 12 to mark the anniversary of the original dedication of the Clague Memorial Monument. The monument is located in Clague Memorial Park, directly across the street from the historic Clague House Museum.

This year marks the 83rd anniversary of the monument, which was erected in recognition of the Clague family, who donated their land to Dover Village for use as a park. Each year on this day, a wreath is placed to recognize the wonderful gift and lasting legacy that this pioneer



family left to the citizens of our community.

The wreath is donated by various businesses and organizations. The wreath this year was donated by an anonymous friend of The Westlake Historical Society. ●

War of 1812 history remembered



Gerald Marisch received the Spirit of 1812 award from the United States Daughters of 1812, Peter Navarre chapter, for his efforts in preserving the history of the War of 1812 during this bicentennial year, including daily emails to chapter members and other interested individuals with historical facts about the War of 1812. Presenting the award were, from left, Marlene Wilkinson, Deborah Marisch, Jane Baran and Doris Gorgas.

Chilly weather makes for a successful chili cook-off

Howard Hanna Bay Village held their annual Chili Cook-Off Oct. 27 at the Bay Community House to raise funds for Children's Free Care.

Fourteen local teams competed for the \$100 prize, serving up homemade chili to more than 100 hungry guests.

The Bay Village Green Team was also on hand to make it a "near zero waste" event, composting or recycling almost all of the waste generated – including bowls, cutlery, food scraps and beverage containers.

The winning team was Bay Skate and Bike Park, thanks to Jennifer Kuh's tasty recipe.

The event also featured a 50/50 raffle, silent auction and bake sale. All proceeds were donated to local hospitals to help area children without healthcare pay for their medical treatment. ●



Bay Village fire Lt. Dave Stump dishes out a bowl of his homemade "sweet and hot" chili to Bay Village Green Team member Warren Remein.



Howard Hanna sales manager Leah Gibbons and Lawrence Kuh from the winning Bay Skate and Bike Park team celebrate a successful fundraiser with Connor Gibbons, Grace Gibbons and Ellie Eiermann.

THEATER

Two shows left in Huntington Playhouse 2012 season

by Tom Meyrose

With two shows remaining in the Huntington Playhouse 2012 season, there is still plenty of time to see good theatre at great prices. On stage currently is the suspense thriller "Deathtrap" playing through Nov. 4.

A once-successful writer of Broadway thrillers is struggling to overcome a "dry" spell which has resulted in a string of failures and a shortage of funds. A possible break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from one of his students; a script he recognizes as a potential Broadway hit. Suspense mounts when he

suggests collaboration with the student on the script.

The season will conclude with a holiday production of "The Winter Wonderettes" opening on Nov. 23 and playing through Dec. 16. The Wonderettes are back and they are entertaining at the annual Harper's Hardware Holiday Party. When Santa turns up missing, the girls must use their talent and creative ingenuity, plus some great holiday tunes such as "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Winter Wonderland" and many other seasonal favorites, to save the day. The result is, of course,

marvelous! This entertaining show will delight audiences of all ages.

The theatre is also working with the Metro-West Kiwanis Club to sponsor a food drive for the Bay Ministries Food Bank during the Sunday, Nov. 25 matinee performance. For every five non-perishable food items brought in, the theatre will take \$5 off the price of a full-price ticket.

Reservations are suggested and may be made by calling the box office at 440-871-8333. Huntington Playhouse is located at 28601 Lake Rd. in Bay Village and is an affiliate of the Cleveland Metroparks. ●

COMMUNITY EVENTS

View more events and post your own for FREE on the Observer website at wbvobserver.com

Oct. 30, 6-7:30 p.m.

Freaky Family Fun Night

All children and their families are invited to a safe trick-or-treat night with clowns, balloons, games, prizes and more! The senior center concession stand will be open for dinner with Sloppy Joe sandwiches, all-beef hotdogs, home-made potato soup and more. For more information, call 440-871-3234 weekdays from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Knickerbocker Apartments, 27100 Knickerbocker Rd., Bay Village

Oct. 31, 6-8 p.m.*

BAY VILLAGE AND WESTLAKE TRICK-OR-TREATING HOURS

* May be subject to change, based on weather conditions. For the latest updates, visit cityofbayvillage.com or www.cityofwestlake.org.

Nov. 1, 6-7:30 p.m.

Effectively Coping with Dementia: How to Think Like a Detective

Featuring guest speaker Cameron J. Camp, Ph.D., director of research and development at the Center for Applied Research in Dementia. RSVP, 440-808-9275.

Arden Courts of Westlake, 28400 Center Ridge Rd.

Nov. 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

County Executive Ed FitzGerald

County Executive Ed FitzGerald will address important topics of concern to Cuyahoga County residents at a meeting of the Fairview Park Democratic Club. All Democrats and Independents are welcome to attend. For information, call Jane at 440-333-2072.

Bain Park Cabin, off W. 210th Street, south of Lorain Rd.

Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Christmas Carousel Craft Fair

Avoid the holiday rush while shopping for unique treasures for your loved ones – choose from a selection of arts, crafts, handmade goods and more from over 20 local artisans and vendors. Bring along the family to enjoy the Center's free live animal exhibits, a walk in the beautiful Huntington Reservation or a star show in the Planetarium. Food, refreshments and baked goods available.

Free parking with complimentary shuttle service. Admission: \$3.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Nov. 4, 6 p.m.

Families Anonymous

This free 12-step program meets every Sunday and is designed for family members of those who have drug, alcohol or behavioral problems. What you hear, who you see and what you say stays at the meeting. You will discover serenity and a better way to live, in spite of your loved one's unresolved problems. This meeting is for YOU. Help and hope is a meeting away!

CrossPointe Community Church, 1800 Columbia Rd., Westlake

Nov. 3, 5 p.m.

Share the Magic

Enjoy a family-friendly evening of dinner and surprises to benefit Far West Center. The event is sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Magicians, Blackstone Ring 23, and features tableside magic, cocktails, buffet dinner, auction and a gala magic and comedy show. Tickets are \$50 per person, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting Far West Center. For information or to purchase tickets, call Far West Center at 440-835-6212, ext. 247.

Dave & Buster's Showroom, 25735 First St., Westlake

Nov. 5, 7-9 p.m.

Inspired Success Circle

A seven-session program "working" the principles of "Inspired & Unstoppable" by Tama Kieves. This is the first Inspired Success Circle in Ohio, which works with you to take your dream to the next level. Cost is \$10 per session or prepay \$60 for all seven sessions. Call 440-670-2252 or visit empowerexcellencewithjan.com to register.

Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Nov. 6, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Tuesday Morning Talkers

Would you like to develop communication and leadership skills within a supportive environment? Please be our guest on Tuesday mornings and gain the tools, resources and support you

need from Toastmasters International. For more info, visit tmt.toastmastersclubs.org or contact Betsy McKinney at 440-835-0030 or Doreen Dever Papajcik at 440-899-9479.

Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Nov. 7, 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, members of the Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be available to assist you in the computer lab of Porter Library. There is no charge for this service.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Nov. 9, 8 p.m.

"A Broadway Christmas Carol"

A delightful and unexpected mix of show tune song parodies and Charles Dickens' classic tale. It's laugh-out-loud, roll-in-the-aisles funny, but it also hews close to the Dickens narrative. Showtimes are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. through Dec. 9. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students. Box office: 440-331-0403.

Clague Playhouse, 1371 Clague Rd., Westlake

Nov. 13, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Beyond Driving with Dignity

Are you concerned about your aging loved one's ability to drive? Join us for a discussion about the effects of aging on the ability to drive safely in our community and the alternatives that might be available. Discuss real-life situations and solutions with a certified instructor from "Keeping Us Safe." RSVP, 440-808-9275.

Arden Courts of Westlake, 28400 Center Ridge Rd.

Nov. 13, 6 p.m.

Angels for Adalyn Charity Dinner

Join us for a fun-filled night which includes a full-course meal, comedy show and raffle prizes to benefit Adalyn, who was born with a very rare circulatory disorder called Klippel-

Trenaunay syndrome. You must prepay by Nov. 9 at www.positivethinkersnetwork.com. Tickets are \$40.

Holiday Inn Westlake, 1100 Crocker Rd.

Nov. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Power Struggles/Control Issues: What's a Parent To Do?

Westlake Preschool is presenting a free program for parents of preschoolers through teens from Ron Chidsey, LPC, a career educator on handling family power struggles. Power struggles and control issues are part of a larger program he teaches, "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent." Parents who attended his earlier seminars said they wished they had attended his seminars when their children were younger. This talk will deal with how and why a pattern of power struggles and control issues develops and what to do about it. Contact Linda Reid at 440-899-3075, ext. 2322, or reid@wlake.org for reservations and questions. Child care available.

Hilliard Elementary School library, 24365 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake

Nov. 14, 9 a.m.

The Herb Guild General Meeting

Come early to participate in some hands-on crafts. Business meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch. Starting at approximately 12:45 p.m., Marilou Suszko, author of three books, the latest a celebration of the West Side Market's centennial, will present "It's Fall with Pumpkins, Gourds and More!" All are welcome.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Nov. 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

eBooks Updates

Northeast Ohio Personal Computers' November program features Frances Brawner covering the background on eBooks and audiobooks, what eBooks and audiobooks Porter Library offers, and eReaders the library commonly deals with. Feel free to bring your eReaders and ask questions after the program. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.; main program begins at 7:15 p.m. This presentation is free and open to the public.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

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9:00 am - Contemporary - Auburn Hall
11:00 am - Contemporary - Sanctuary
11:00 am - Traditional with Communion - Auburn Hall

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30 MINUTE EMERGENCY PLEDGE

Introducing St. John Medical Center's 30-Minute Emergency Pledge

When you're hurt, sick or just not feeling well, the last thing you want to do is wait in an emergency room. That's why St. John Medical Center has introduced the 30-Minute Emergency Pledge. When you arrive through our Emergency Department doors, you will be seen by a member of our caring team of ER physicians within 30 minutes.

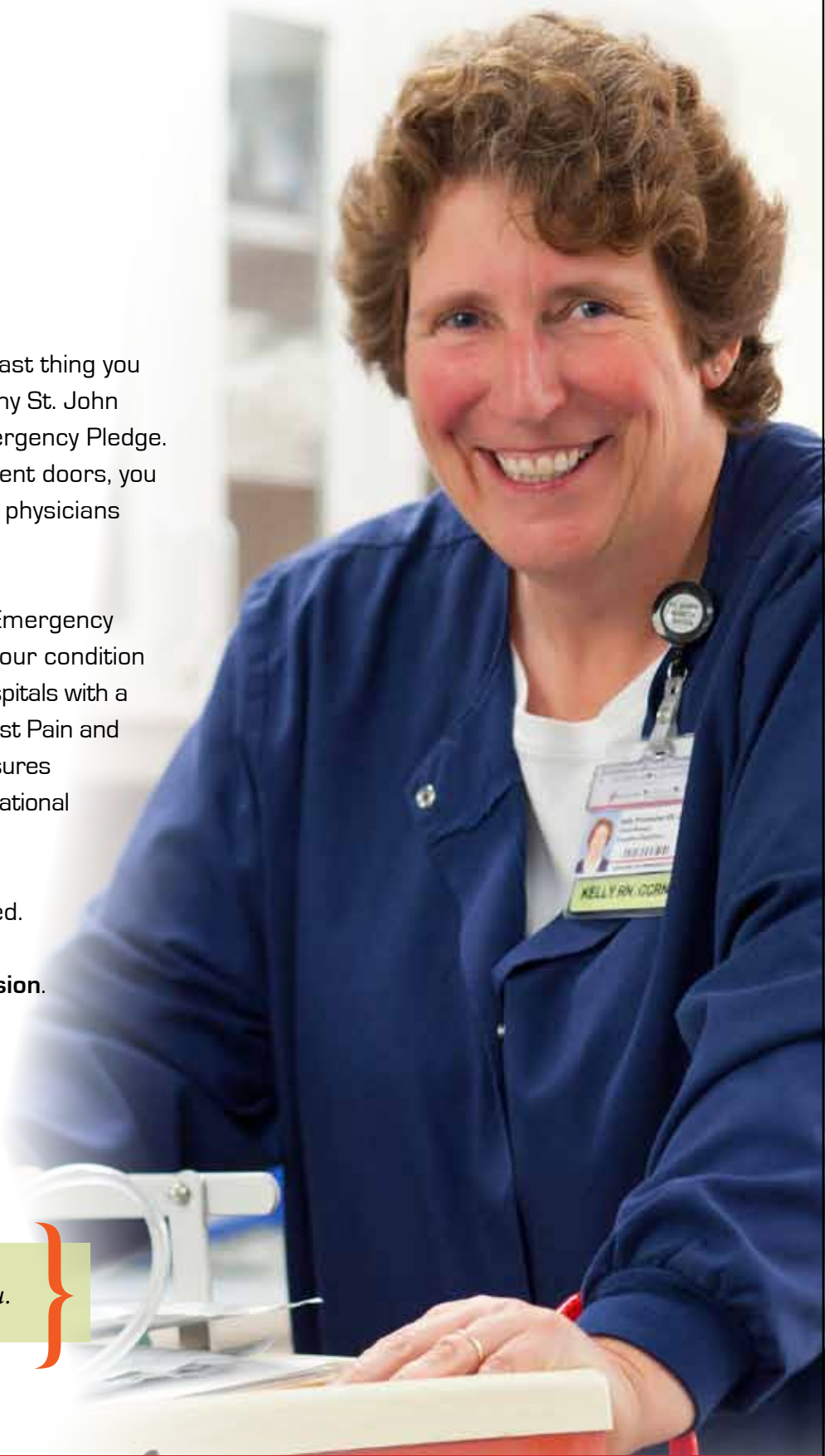
Their expertise is matched by our state-of-the-art Emergency Department, which helps our staff quickly assess your condition and respond appropriately. As one of Ohio's few hospitals with a Level III Trauma Center together with accredited Chest Pain and Primary Stroke Centers, St. John Medical Center assures that you will be treated in a timely manner following national standards, resulting in superior medical outcomes.

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