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Observer

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The bicentennial clock and Christmas tree at Westlake City Hall.

Christmas comes to Porter Library

by Jean Smith

The Westlake Garden Club “decked the halls” at Westlake Porter Public Library on the Monday after Thanksgiving. Garden club members arrived at the library with bags, baskets and boxes of holiday trimmings. A seven-foot-tall tree was put into place, lights were meticulously attached to limbs, baby’s breath garlands were draped, and the ornaments were hung. A nature theme had been selected and the tree decorating committee met several times, including a workshop to craft some of the unique and creative ornaments. Pine cones were decorated



with ribbon, dried cockscomb was fashioned into angels, dried gourds became birds, and twigs became critters. Snow people with twig arms, hats, scarves and whole clove eyes add a touch of whimsy. There are owls in abundance, including a large owl gracing the top of the tree. Dried flowers tucked in here and there add color and continue the nature theme.

» See PORTER, page 4



As 2012 comes to a close, we wish to thank all of the volunteers who have given their time, energy and passion over the past four years to build a truly local media project of which the entire community can be proud. There are now more than 500 members helping to write, photograph, edit and distribute the Observer. Thanks also to our advertisers, whose participation enables the Observer to give a voice to the “good people doing good things” in our community. Happy holidays, Westlake and Bay Village. See you in 2013!

Students learn a lesson in sharing

by Shawn Salamone

Students and families throughout the Westlake City School District collected more than 3,500 food items – valued at approximately \$10,000 –

to benefit May Dugan Center and Westlake Assistance during the annual PTA Council Food Drive. The collection effort was moved from the spring to fall this year. Westlake High School partnered with Giant Eagle to stage a

fill-the-carts “Food Fight” between the classes, with the Class of 2014 coming out on top. Giant Eagle kicked in an additional cartload of food to increase the Juniors’ winning donation. » See SHARING, page 2



The spirit of giving was alive and well in the Westlake City Schools this fall during a district-wide, PTA-led food drive.

Bay Village author pens Hallmark movie

Michael Heaton, the Plain Dealer’s Minister of Culture, author, speaker and Bay Village resident, once said that he used to live in the shadow of his dad: much loved sportswriter Chuck Heaton. Then it was his little sister, Patricia Heaton, who became well-known for her television roles. But now he can celebrate the attention he is getting for his television movie “The Christmas Heart” replaying during the month of December on The Hallmark Channel. The film was truly a family affair: when Hallmark approached Patricia’s production company Four Boys Films for ideas, she remembered the script her brother had written. Hallmark fell all over it, the theme was perfect for their holiday lineup of family-friendly movies. The idea for the story was inspired by the luminaries lining Arthur Avenue in Lakewood every Christmas. “When my kids were little, we lived a street over and had never seen such a thing. Every Christmas Eve we’d head home from holiday festivities with a detour down Arthur,”

Heaton recalled. Without giving the plot away, the luminary tradition, Lakewood and many of Heaton’s old neighbors are all stars of the movie. But the best character might be that of “old man Bob Feagler,” named after Heaton’s friend from the Plain Dealer and fellow Bay Village resident Dick Feagler. Feagler called to congratulate Heaton, saying “I’m happy to see

you found some redemption in me!” and that he enjoyed the film. Upcoming airings of the movie on the Hallmark Channel are: Wednesday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 16, noon; Thursday, Dec. 20; 10 p.m.; and Christmas night, Tuesday, Dec. 25, midnight. Heaton is at work on his next script which also takes place in Ohio and has many familiar characters. Stay tuned! ♦



Michael Heaton holds a film slate from his television movie “The Christmas Heart,” airing during the month of December on The Hallmark Channel.





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SHARING *continued from front page*

Elementary schools collected cereal and students and families in the middle grades donated peanut butter and jelly.

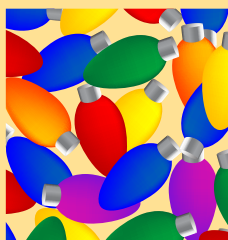
Student and parent volunteers loaded the food onto a school bus for delivery to the May Dugan Center, which serves 10,000 people each year in Cleveland's Near West Side neighborhoods.

Westlake Assistance is a service of the city's Community Services Department, which offers programs and activities to enrich the lives of the fifty-plus population at the Westlake Center and provides a system of social services, including emergency food for Westlake residents of all ages. ●



Westlake students, from left, David Wanhainen, Sean Freeman, Marco Miranda and Jared Sommers rode the bus to deliver donated food items to the May Dugan Center.

Bay Village Holiday Lights Recycling



Drop off and recycle your unwanted, broken, burned-out or tangled string of lights on Friday, Dec. 28, between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Household Hazardous Waste Round-up held at the Bay Village Service Garage on Naigle Road.



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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.

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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.

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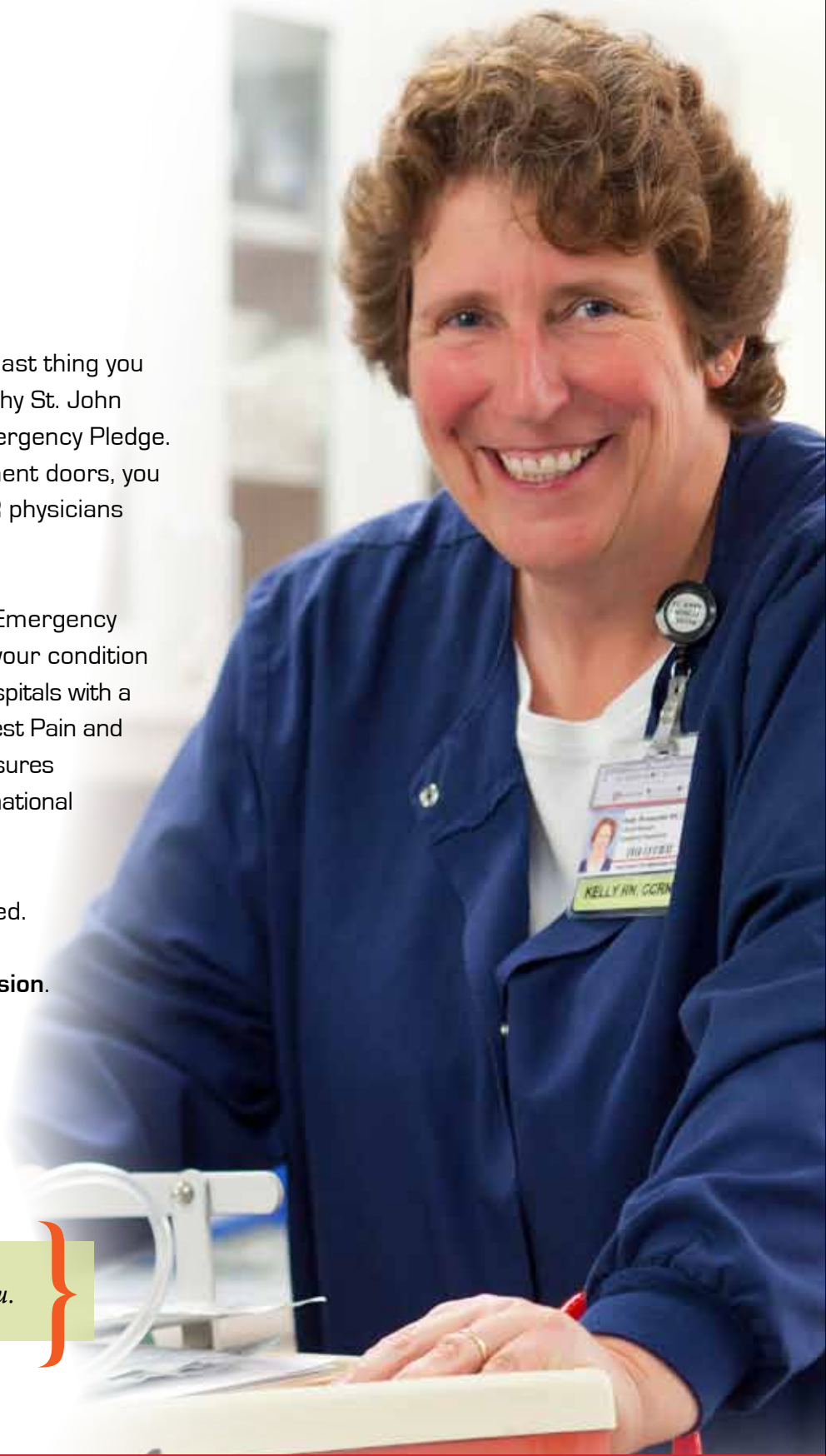
Their expertise is matched by our state-of-the-art Emergency Department, which helps our staff quickly assess your condition and respond appropriately. As one of Ohio's few hospitals with a Level III Trauma Center together with accredited Chest Pain and Primary Stroke Centers, St. John Medical Center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

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Kelly Provencher, RN
Emergency Department Nurse



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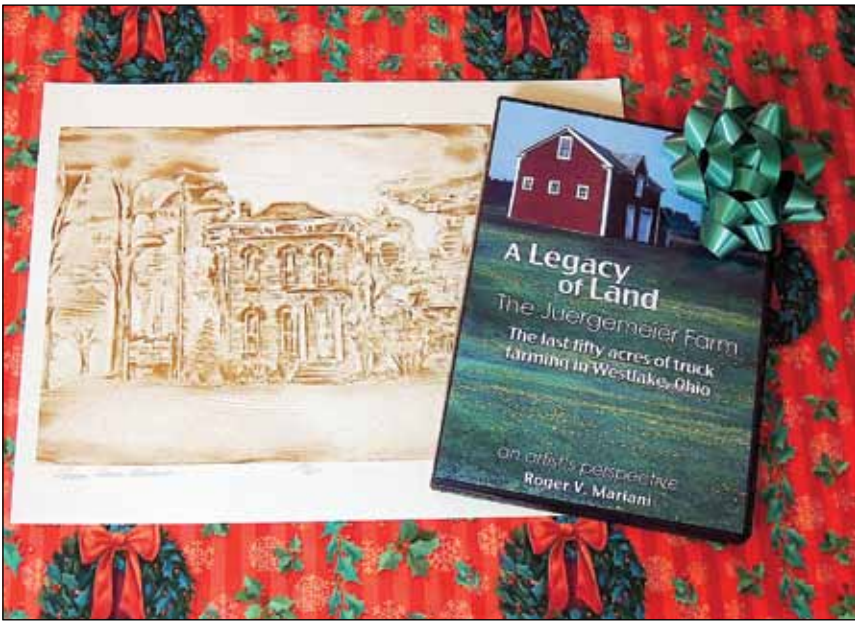
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WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Give the gift of Westlake history



A Clague House Museum print and DVD about the Juergemeier Farm are two gift ideas available from the Westlake Historical Society.

by Lysa Stanton

The hustle and bustle of holiday shopping is well underway. Since consumers are often asked to shop locally during this time of year, what is more local than your Westlake Historical Society?

The historical society has several items that are fun, interesting and celebrate Westlake's history. There are several book choices that cover everything from cooking in the early 1900s to historical coloring books. We also have a limited number of Cat's Meow replicas of local buildings such as the Clague House Museum and Old Red Brick School. The society is very fond of a limited edition Christmas tree ornament that features an image of the Clague House Museum. In addition to note cards, we also have a unique print of the Clague Museum

suitable for framing.

This year we are pleased to introduce a new DVD titled "A Legacy of Land: The Juergemeier Farm" by Roger Mariani. We are honored to be working with the artist to make this DVD available to you.

We trust you will find all of our items to be reasonably priced for your holiday gift giving. Gift wrapping and delivery in time for Christmas is also available. Memberships to the historical society also make wonderful gifts. If you have any questions please contact the society at westlakehistory@yahoo.com or call 440-808-1961.

Another unique gift idea is to have your loved one's name engraved on a brick in the Bicentennial Time Plaza in front of City Hall. Please talk to the friendly folks at City Hall or the Recreation Center for brick details. ●

PORTER *continued from front page*

The very creative committee consisted of garden club members Lillian Bialosky, Don Bowman, MaryAnn Brock, Pat Dailey, Michelle Hathway, Judy Hullinger, Regina McCarthy, Gail Morse, Robert Pearl, Alberta Ricciardi, Margaret Schulz and Jean Smith. Last year the garden club decorated a tree at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, but decided to do something closer to home this year; something to benefit the Westlake community.

Library Director Andrew Mangels and his staff expressed their appreciation and thanked the garden club for its creative efforts. Mr. Mangels stated that he thinks it will become a tradition. It was a very enjoyable project for the garden club and themes for next year are already being considered. The Westlake Garden Club celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2013, so look for a "golden" theme.

The tree is located in the lobby near the door to the café. If you have not yet

seen the holiday tree at Porter Library, stop by and take a look. You are in for a real treat. ●



The Westlake Garden Club tree-decorating committee, from left, Lillian Bialosky, Jean Smith, Regina McCarthy, Judy Hullinger, Robert Pearl, Gail Morse and Ruth Bertrand, add a touch of Christmas to the Porter Library lobby.

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Village Foundation announces guidelines for grant requests

by Eileen Vernon

The trustees of the Village Foundation have announced that the Foundation is now accepting requests for funds to be granted for specific projects of local civic and non-profit organizations. Proposals are due March 1, 2013, and awards are expected to be announced on May 27 at the Foundation's Memorial Day celebration. Awards may range from \$500-\$3,000.

The Foundation is primarily interested in capital projects that improve the quality of life in Bay Village. Projects must be responsive to community needs. Support for programs may also be considered. Reporting requirements from previous awards must be met before the Village Foundation will consider a subsequent funding application.

To be eligible, an organization must be located in or provide services to residents within Bay Village. Funding will only be awarded to tax-exempt organizations classified as 501(c)(3) charities by the Internal Revenue Service, or programs that have a tax-exempt fiscal agent.

A simple application form can be found on the Village Foundation website at www.thevillagefdn.org. In addition to the completed application, applicants must submit an IRS tax-exempt letter, a list of current board or committee members, and the organization's most recent financial statement/audit, annual report and annual operating budget.

All applications should be mailed to: Grants Committee, The Village Foundation, P.O. Box 40122, Bay Village, OH 44140. ●

Cleveland Foundation grant funds online registration at BAYarts

by Jennifer Milligan

With the growing popularity of BAYarts' art enrichment programs came the need to streamline the process. In the past, each time someone registered they had to fill out a new form. If it was for a child, a health form too. If they were renewing their membership there was another form.

On the staff side, additional steps were taken for recording payments, logging students into master books, updating the master database, filing

all the paper, and in the case of adult classes, sending out supply lists. With the new system, it takes one step to accomplish all of this!

Not only can the staff devote themselves to other things as their time is freed up, students have the convenience of one-stop shopping with immediate confirmation.

"It took a lot of research to find the best program for us," says Executive Director Nancy Heaton, "and it wouldn't be possible without the support of the Cleveland Foundation." It was worth the wait! ●

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bay councilman announces resignation

Dear Bay Village residents:

I am resigning my elected position of Council At-Large for the City of Bay Village effective Dec. 31, 2012. The resignation is a result of a very significant career opportunity, which will not afford the time necessary to serve as a dedicated council representative. In my new role, I will serve as CEO of All-American Teleradiology, a nationwide provider of radiology coverage based in Bay Village.

The past seven years has given me a tremendous opportunity to work with residents, organizations, fellow council members, city leadership and city workers, all of whom contribute to the wonderful quality of life we enjoy in Bay Village. The Observer publication is an excellent example of the quality of people woven into the fabric of our community.

It was a great honor to serve. I am humbled by the experience and support received during the past seven years from family, friends and residents.

I will continue to stay active with local non-profits including the Village Food Foundation.

Have a Happy Holiday Season with your family.

Sincerely,
Scott A. Pohlkamp



Councilman Scott Pohlkamp at a recent Bay Village City Council meeting.

The search is on for the next Northern Ohio Rose

by Brett Luengo

The Northern Ohio Rose Centre is accepting applications for its third annual "Northern Ohio Rose Selection Celebration" during which the 2013 Northern Ohio Rose will be chosen. Contestants will need to be available for three days full of preliminary judging, judging and other related events that are being planned from April 19-21, 2013.

The 2013 Northern Ohio Rose becomes the "Ohio Rose" when she travels to Portlaoise, County Laois, Ireland, in May 2013 to compete in the Rose of Tralee International Festival's Regional Festival. Her trip is furnished by Westlake World Partners Co., the non-profit organization that hosts the Northern Ohio Rose Centre.

At the Regional Festival, the Ohio Rose will join other "Roses" from the U.S. and Canada, Ireland and the UK, continental Europe, Asia and the South Pacific for the events leading up to the selection of the final field of 32 contestants who will advance to the Rose of Tralee International Festival in Tralee, Ireland, in August 2013 and vie for the title of the "2013 International Rose of Tralee."

Young women either born in Ireland or of Irish heritage who range in age from 18 (by Jan. 1, 2013), to 28 (no later than Sept. 1, 2013) who are unmarried (and never married) are encouraged to apply.

Former contestants who have participated in the Regional Festival and the International Festival typically describe having the "experience of a lifetime" and walk away with warm memories and, in some cases, long-term international friendships.

The Rose of Tralee International Festival showcases the inner qualities, grace, intelligence, wit, charm and achievement that characterize modern young Irish women worldwide. Miss Nicola McEvoy of Luxembourg is the reigning 2012 International Rose of Tralee, and Miss Ashley Speaker is the reigning Ohio Rose.

More information regarding this time-honored festival dating back to 1959 can be found at www.roseoftralee.ie, which is the Rose of Tralee International Festival's official website. A great showing of support for the Northern Ohio Rose Centre can be achieved by visiting "Ohio" under the "Centres" tab on this site.

New for this year's local Rose contestants, in a move that is consistent with the festival's recommendation as well as other "Rose Centres" is that they are being asked to approach backers such as businesses, clubs, and associations, for a \$100 sponsorship fee that is due with the entrant's application packet. The current deadline for all applications is March 21, 2013, but "early birds" who



Ashley Speaker is crowned the 2012 Northern Ohio Rose by Bridget Linton, the 2011 winner, during the April 2012 ceremony.

complete their applications by Jan. 15 will enjoy a reduction in their personal application fee.

Sponsorships also open the door for businesses, clubs, associations and community groups to conduct their own "contestant search." This can be a fun activity for patrons, clientele and membership while generating community support and recognition. Such interaction is also consistent with the types of activities surrounding the Rose of Tralee's regional and international Festivals in Ireland.

It is also thought that this would be an especially good form of activity and promotion for senior residences, assisted living homes, etc., as it could include residents who would otherwise find it difficult to attend the April 2013 Selection Celebration. As sense of "family" is an important part of Irish heritage, and it's been learned that grandparents and great-grandparents, great-aunts and uncles can be a great source of contestant recruitment.

The Northern Ohio Rose Centre invites potential sponsors to express their interest by e-mailing inquiries@NorthernOhioRose.com. The same holds true for any business that would be happy to be paired with a Rose applicant in search of a sponsor. Details pertaining to event sponsorships and individual ticket sales and locations will be available after the first of the year on our website, www.NorthernOhioRose.com.

The Northern Ohio Rose Selection Celebration is currently the major annual fundraising event for Westlake World Partners Co., which was established to help promote cultural, educational, and civic exchange for Westlake's Sister Cities Program. The town of Tralee, Ireland, has been Westlake's Sister City (or "Twin Town") since 2009, and in October 2012, Westlake formed a new Sister City alliance with the town of Kingsville, Ontario.

This year's event executive is Ms. Denise McConville who is both a Westlake resident and native of Tralee, Ireland. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

‘Twas the night before deadline

by Jeff Bing

(With heartfelt apologies to Clement Clark Moore)

‘Twas the night before deadline, and all through the house
Fresh out of ideas, and annoying my spouse.
My head was hung low and filled with despair,
Dashing hopes that an idea soon would be there.

Faced with a reality which I most assuredly dread,
Visions of bad sports teams danced in my head.
Tried on my Browns helmet, then Indians cap,
Provided little motivation – in fact, feared I might snap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
Wanted to tell whoever it was, to “knock off the chatter.”
Away to the window, I flew like a flash,
My face in a frown; and my teeth they did gnash.

Couldn’t see the source in the moon’s white glow,
Yet a solitary voice pleaded, “It’s me, Santa, you know.”
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
Kyrie Irving, Cavs guard, looking quite “Cavalier”.

When healthy, young Irving, so lively and quick,
But always injured, rendering Cavs fans quite sick.
He then morphed into a new, more infamous name,
A Dolan named Larry, and dwarfed the Cavalier’s shame.

With Sizemore, Hafner, Shelly Duncan, and Carmona,
Cost Manny Acta his job, now trying out Terry Fancona.
Penny-pinching ways have caused the Tribe to fall,
Hopes dashed away, dashed away, dashed away, all.

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
Larry’s kissed any hopes of contention good-bye.
So up to the house-top – the promises, they flew,
Players like Shane Victorino, but in reality we knew.

And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof,
Another familiar voice, and my Browns dreams went “poof”.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Heard Mike Holmgren in the chimney; ‘twas stuck coming down.

He was dressed in all fur, from his head to his foot,
I should have called PETA; then in his place he’d be put.
A bundle of playbooks he had flung on his back,
“West Coast offense” was his wise-crack.

His eyes, how they twinkled; his dimples so merry,
His cheeks were like roses, from perhaps too much sherry.
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
Lit his pipe with a fifty, and said, “They call me ‘Big Show’.”

The stump of his pipe he held in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face – and an even broader gut,
Didn’t really know what would come next from this nut.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
Dropped some of his money, which I took for myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know, Randy Lerner he’d bled.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
Showed me his stock options, and I thought, “What a jerk!”
Must have read my mind, for he then thumbed his nose,
And said, “That’s it for you,” and up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
Right at that moment, wished I controlled an interceptor missile.
But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,
“Merry Christmas to all – and Jeff, learn how to write!” ●

More stories online at www.wbvobserver.com

Youth Challenge honors volunteers

by Kathy Rigdon

For the past five years, Westlake resident Jim Dwyer has logged 1,051 hours and over 36,000 miles traversing Northeast Ohio in a van named “Freedom.” Dwyer is a volunteer driver for Youth Challenge and Freedom is one of the Westlake nonprofit’s lift-equipped vans. Dwyer was recognized as the 2012 Youth Challenge Volunteer of the Year at the annual Holiday Show and Volunteer Recognition on Dec. 8 at Magnificat High School’s Performing Arts Center.

Youth Challenge offers free, year-round programs to over 160 participants throughout the Greater Cleveland area. The participants are children with such disabilities as muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, spina bifida and hearing or vision impairments. Transportation to and from programs is also provided at no charge. YC receives help from more than 350 teen volunteers who are trained to work with children with physical disabilities and are paired one-on-one with participants at each program.

A couple of days a week Dwyer travels to schools and picks up children with physical disabilities and brings them to YC activities. When the programs are over, he delivers them to their homes. YC has a fleet of eight vans and a team of drivers, but Dwyer is the only volunteer van driver. Dwyer credits his wife, Janice, with backing his volunteer spirit. “I couldn’t do it without her support,” he said.

“Jim Dwyer is as selfless, genuine, and kind as

they come,” said Chris Garr, YC director of program services. “Driving Freedom, the 2002 Chevy van that he has made his own, he always goes about his service with a warm smile and happy demeanor. His favorite route is Parma, where he has become a fixture at Valley Forge High School. The Forge kids love Jim and feel safe and comfortable in Freedom. He’s a real YC treasure.”

“Youth Challenge is a perfect world where volunteers receive much more than they give,” said Dwyer. “I’m thankful to be part of such kindness.”

Besides recognizing Dwyer, the evening also included a special ceremony to honor the many teen volunteers who gave almost 10,000 hours of service to Youth Challenge in 2012.

The top 5 YC teen volunteers of 2012 are: Zac Alberty, North Olmsted High School, 309 hours; Ian Janos, Bay High School, 172 hours; Jamie Lawrence, St. Joseph Academy, 158 hours; Barbara Bobal, Westlake High School, 149.5 hours; and Katie Kimble, Rocky River High School, 147.25 hours.

“Our teen volunteers are half of our mission and are truly what make YC possible,” said Sarah Perez-Stable, YC volunteer and program manager. “The energy, joy, fun and friendship they bring to their partners makes an incredible difference in the lives of our participants and we can’t thank them enough.”

Youth Challenge currently needs an additional volunteer van driver. For more information please call Chris at 440-892-1001. ●

BVEF ‘Prize Patrol’ awards over \$10,000 for educational projects

by Jacquie Mayer

The Bay Village Education Foundation awarded \$10,650 in grants to selected applicants this month, with an additional \$2,000 awarded by Bay Village Kiwanis. Grant winners were notified at their respective schools or offices by BVEF Marketing Chair Bev Walborn and BVEF Grants Co-Chair Ellie Bricmont with balloons and award letters. Recipients were also in attendance at the Nov. 26 Bay Village Board of Education meeting, where Ellie Bricmont, BVEF President Scott Best, and Vice President Rhonda Schneider recognized

their achievement.

This year’s grant recipients are: Richard Manderine (\$400) for the PAL peer mentoring program at BHS; Ann Mowery, Char Shyroch, and Eryn Sutterlin (\$3,200) for a Discovery Learning Area at BHS; Darren Allen (\$1,330) for SmartMusic Assessment Expansion at BMS/BHS; Bonnie Altien (\$1,000) for wireless microphones at BMS; Golden Award winner Carla Farrington (\$320) for a digital camera for use in her special needs preschool classroom at Glenview; Char Shyroch and team (\$1,500) for the district-wide Bay Vocabulary Initiative, which also receives the Waldron

Award for literacy; and Debbie Brax (\$2,900) for six iPads to be utilized in three full-day kindergarten classrooms. The Bay Village Kiwanis assisted with funding for the PAL program (\$1,200) and fully funded a grant (\$800) for a Fifth Grade Technology Club at BMS.

In its 27th year, the Bay Village Education Foundation supports innovative programs and projects created by Bay faculty, staff and students that are not funded by tax dollars. Contributions to the BVEF Ten Campaign are still being accepted at every school office, at P.O. Box 40262, Bay Village, OH, and via PayPal at bayedfoundation.org. ●



Left-to-right: Scott Best (BVEF president), Debbie Brax (Normandy Kindergarten teacher), Gail Hartman (Westerly Intervention Specialist), Rick Manderine (Bay High Special Education teacher), Darren Allen (Bay High music teacher and band director), Barb Marsh (Reading Specialist), Char Shyroch (Curriculum Director), Ann Mowery (Bay High physics teacher), Sandy Gase (Bay Middle School Technology teacher), Carla Farrington (SEED teacher), Ellie Bricmont (BVEF Trustee) and Rhonda Schneider (BVEF Vice President).

Westlake Kiwanis donation helps provide safer child transport by Westlake EMS squads

by George Christ

The Westlake Kiwanis Club provided the Westlake Fire Department with four Pedi-Mate Child Restraint systems for the emergency squads. Nationwide, EMS agencies transport approximately 16,000 children every day, according to Dan White of EMS1.com. Westlake Lt. Craig Dayton explained, “This system

allows the Westlake EMTs a much improved method of securing small children during transport.” The Pedi-Mate child restraint system manufactured by Ferno is designed for superior safety. Using a five-point harness, the Pedi-Mate attaches quickly and easily to most cots, securely holding a child up to 40 pounds. A fully adjusting harness system fits each child firmly and provides safe control during transport. The three restraint straps fasten quickly and easily to a stretcher while the quick-release buckles make removal equally convenient.

It is durable, but light-weight, and rolls up compactly allowing for efficient storage and retrieval. Former Kiwanis President Rick Grane was instrumental in securing the grant after learning of the need from the Westlake Fire Department. The Westlake Kiwanis Club was able to obtain the funds from the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation which raises funds from Ohio Kiwanis Clubs and then provides grants for worthwhile projects.

The Westlake Club Family of the Key Club, Builders Club, and Aktion Club also raises local funds for needy community projects. The main source of funds is the pancake breakfasts held each spring and fall. During the holiday season the club provides funds to the Westlake Community Service Commission to help purchase food for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Kiwanis Club members also volunteer to help pack the baskets for distribution.

The Westlake Kiwanis Club meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at SB Eighty-one. If interested in learning more about the club and its activities, call 216-832-1640.



Six-year-old Sienna Schell demonstrates the Pedi-Mate restraint to Kiwanians, from left, Russ Milan, President Bonnie Smith, Rick Grane, Westlake firefighter/EMT Nick Tummino and Bob Clancy.

Al Smith receives Kiwanis Hixson Award

On Nov. 20, Al Smith was recognized for his 40-plus years as a member of the Westlake Kiwanis Club. The club donated funds to the Kiwanis Eliminate Project in his name which qualified him to become a fellow in the George F. Hixson Fellowship, named in honor of the first Kiwanis International president. Hixson dedicated 50 years of his life in service to Kiwanis.



Al Smith

Mr. Smith received a commemorative tie tack/lapel pin and two numbered medallions hanging from blue-and-white ribbons, one encased in a walnut box for display, and one to be worn. He was a former teacher, coach and administrator in the Westlake Schools.

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



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MUSINGS FROM THE MIDDLE

Year-end memories

by **Audrey Ray**, fifth-grader at Bay Middle School

2012 has been an amazing year for me! I hope it has been good for you too. As I think about all that has happened this year, in many ways I hate to see it end. Every New Year's Eve, my family writes in a Ray Family Memory Book all the wonderful, fun and exciting things that happened to us over the last year. Here are some of the things that I will definitely include in our book this year.

1. The Aqua Girls: Ava, Caroline, Eliza, Grace, Olivia and Patty. You are the best teammates. I love working with you. I will miss our DI (Destination Imagination) meetings and competing with you while I am in South Africa. I know you will do great at competition this year. I can't wait to hear about it.
2. The Aqua Girls' Beach Clean-Up: Our Huntington Beach Clean-Up was a lot of work but so worth it. I will always remember the people that helped us make our beach beautiful on that cold, rainy April day. We spent hours preparing for the clean-up, doing things like working with community partners, advertising and writing articles for The Observer, raising money and buying supplies. Thank you again to our community partners, friends

and Bay Village citizens that helped us have a successful clean up.

3. Winning the Destination Imagination Regionals, taking second-place at the DI State Competition and 11th at Global Finals.
4. Global Finals: Traveling to Tennessee, The University of Tennessee, staying in college dorms, meeting people from all over the world, pin trading, watching other groups' shows, and competing. It was an unbelievable experience!
5. Girls on the Run: I love running and learning about eating healthy and drinking lots of water. 5K's are a lot of fun!
6. Starting Bay Middle School: It wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. I'm glad I don't have to worry about that next year.
7. Superstorm Sandy: Living without electricity for several days was not easy. We are lucky that it is over for us, but I think about the clean-up that is taking place in New York and New Jersey. Some of them still don't have electricity or some of them lost their homes. I hope we all remember them this holiday season.
8. Malala: Her bravery is remarkable.



One of Audrey's favorite memories from 2012 was getting her ears pierced for her birthday.

I think of her every day as I go to school.

9. Getting my ears pierced! Finally! It was a birthday gift from my mom and dad this year. I'm so happy to have earrings now!

10. Planning for South Africa: We have our passports, tickets and visas. Now we are packing things up. I'm getting excited, but I know I will miss my grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and teachers. I hope to stay in touch with all of you while I am gone.

It's been such a great year. It's hard to imagine 2012 ending. I know 2013 will be so different from 2012 because I will be spending seven months of it in South Africa. I will continue to write from South Africa.

I want to thank Mr. Denny Wendell and Ms. Tara Wendell for letting me write a column for the newspaper. I also want to thank all my readers. I wish you all Happy Holidays! ●

Straight from the Heart raffle features \$100,000 grand prize!

Would you like to win \$100,000? How about a two-year lease on a Volvo convertible or a motorcycle? Or you could win a Mediterranean cruise for two! These are just a few of the incredible prizes offered through the annual Straight from the Heart Raffle to benefit the cardiovascular programs at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals.

Why not purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win this grand prize and host of many other generous gifts through the Straight from the Heart campaign. Raffle tickets are \$100 each or three tickets for \$200.

Sponsored by the Community West Foundation, the Straight from the Heart raffle will culminate with a drawing of the 40 prize winners on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, at the Straight from the Heart red-tie gala at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility in Westlake.

To see a full list of available prizes, or to purchase your raffle tickets online, visit www.straightfromtheheartevent.org or contact the Community West Foundation at 216-476-7061.

All proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Heart Centers at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals. Winners need not be present. ●

WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

Westlake Schools recognized for health and safety efforts

by **Kim Bonvissuto**

The Westlake City Schools Health & Safety Committee was recognized for bicycle safety programs at Westlake High School, Lee Burneson Middle School and Parkside Intermediate School.

The Greater Cleveland Safe Kids/Safe Communities Coalition recognized the Health & Safety Committee for Outstanding Efforts in

Bicycle Safety in 2012 for its Ride Your Bike to School days. The district's four elementary schools also participated in a Walk to School Day in the fall and spring.

Christie Wiedt, RN, BSN, St. John Medical Center Community Outreach, also earned the Member of the Year 2012 award. The Westlake Police Department also was recognized for Outstanding Efforts in Pedestrian Safety in 2012. ●



Christie Wiedt, St. John Medical Center Community Outreach; school nurse Dorothy Beyer; and Westlake school resource officer Scott Fortkamp are members of the Westlake Schools Health & Safety Committee.

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For more information or to register,
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Westlake's Kluever century homes

by William Krause

During the 19th and early 20th century, parts of Bassett Road in Dover Township (now Westlake and Bay Village) were known as Dutch Road and Elbow Road. "Dutch" for the residents along it, many of whom were of Germanic ancestry, "Elbow" for the angled configuration of the section between Dover and Detroit roads. St. Paul Lutheran Church was the heart of this community of German people and Bassett Road formed the spine.

The first wave of settlers to Dover were primarily from New England with ancestors who had emigrated from the British Isles. Starting sometime after 1852 these original landowners began splitting up and selling their land to the second wave of settlers who were primarily from Germany.

Among this second wave was Dietrich Kluever (sometimes spelled Kleuver and pronounced "Cleaver"). By 1868 he had purchased 20 acres of land on the northeast corner of Bassett and Detroit roads. The 1870 census lists Dietrich and his wife Margaret living in Dover Township with seven children, all of whom had been born in Ohio, the oldest born about 1853. It is unclear exactly when the family came to Dover.

By 1871 Dietrich had purchased an additional 22.5 acres of land directly west of the point of the "elbow" (currently across Bassett Road from St. Ladislav church). In about 1869 Dietrich constructed a house on his northerly parcel which has since been torn down and then in 1888 a second house which still stands at 29102 Detroit Rd. In 1903 this home was in the possession of Gustav Kleuver, his son, who had inherited it. In recent times the home was converted to corporate offices but in the last year it has been converted back to a single family home with a beautiful park-like yard.

In 1892 Dietrich and his wife sold the 22.5-acre southerly parcel to their son, Otto Kluever, who was Gustav's older brother. In 1893 the home at 2440 Bassett Rd. was constructed. It is a vernacular farmhouse in a gable wing configuration with a gable facing the street and a side wing with a hint of Victorian Stick style. The dormer over the porch with a shed roof may have been added later. Otherwise Gustav and Otto's homes are remarkably similar in design.



Gustav Kluever house



Otto Kluever house

In 1940 Otto and his wife Mathilde sold the home and 22.5-acre parcel to Carl and Lucie Kluever (brother and sister). The current owners purchased the home and 1.3 acres of land from Carl Kluever in 1988.

Besides these two existing homes there are two other interesting connections of the Kluever family to today's Westlake. Dave Pfister, an officer of the Westlake Historical Society, recently named Mr. Westlake by the Westlake Town Criers, is related by marriage to Otto Kluever. Dave's great-grandmother Alma Kluever Pfister was Otto Kluever's daughter.

The second interesting connection is that Otto and Gustav had an older brother, Henry. In 1935, Henry Kluever, a widower, "gave" his home and land on Dover Center Road to the organization starting the Lutheran Home. This was during the depths of the Great Depression and the property had a large mortgage on it. The deed indicates that the Lutheran Home assumed the mortgage he owed on it. In return Henry was one of the first residents of the home. He spent his last days as a resident of this cherished Westlake institution. Today Lutheran Home is part of a growing continuum of care community called Concord Reserve. ●

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Westlake and Bay Village students share their seasonal traditions

The holiday season has arrived, with all of the magic and wonder that make this time of year so special. It is a time for rejoicing, connecting with loved ones and creating memories that will last a lifetime. In keeping with the Observer's annual last-issue-of-the-year tradition, Mrs. Martha Fisher of Westerly Elementary School in Bay Village and Ms. Melissa Graham of Dover Elementary School in Westlake asked their students to share favorite family traditions. These are some of their responses.

A Danish Christmas

by Anna S., 3rd grade, Westerly

In my family we have a Danish Christmas. We have elves that move into our house. They come on Dec. 1 and leave on Christmas Day. The elves in our house are boys and girls, two girls and two boys. One of the girls and one of the boys sit on the mantle and the other elves lay by the Christmas calendar. Christmas calendars are sown from fabric and they have little rings. Everyday the elves leave small presents in the rings. In the winter it's not so hard to wake up because I can't wait to see the presents!

New Year's Tradition

by Elaf L., 4th grade, Dover

My family does something very exciting on New Year's Eve. We stay up until midnight and bake chocolate chip cookies. We love baking chocolate chip cookies, decorating our house with pretty lights, and hanging up popcorn and cranberry strings. We play games like Monopoly, Scrabble and many more. We also like to sit around the fire and cuddle up together while watching movies until it is midnight. At midnight, we blow whistles and eat our chocolate chip cookies! Most of all, New Year's Eve is a night to have quality family time!

Christmas Eve

by Lexie B., 3rd grade, Westerly

On Christmas Eve I sing at my church. My grandma, grandpa, my cousin Ashley, Uncle Brian and my family come. We sing "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," "Joy to the World," "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "Away in a Manger." Then everybody either goes to my house or my grandparents' house. Next, we have some food and dessert. Some of the desserts are snowballs and Christmas cookies. After we eat we open one present. It is always nice Christmas pajamas. Then everybody goes home and my family watches a Christmas movie. Finally, everyone goes to bed excited about the next day. It is hard to fall asleep because I am so excited.

Christmas Time is Here!

by Kaitlyn H., 4th grade, Dover

My family tradition is celebrating Christmas. First, I go to my Grandma's house in Medina on Christmas Eve, and we have a Secret Santa. Secret Santa is where you write your name down and three things you want for Christmas, and then somebody picks your name. We exchange gifts and then open them. After that I go home and head to bed. I get up really early with my brother and go peek at the Christmas tree! I open tons of presents with my family and then go to my other Grandma's house in Bay Village. I open more presents with my cousins, aunts and uncles. I go outside with my family, and we have snowball fights! Then we eat chicken, mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie while spending the rest of the day together. Finally, I call my friends and tell them what I got for Christmas. I always have the best Christmas every year!



I Love Christmas

by Chaeli Z., 3rd grade, Westerly

My family and I have lots of Christmas traditions and I want to share some with you! Every Christmas we go and cut down our own Christmas tree. We always take a picture with Santa hats on! My brother, sister and I play tag around the trees at the tree farm. The tree farm has lots of little trees which we call Charlie Brown trees! After we pick out the tree and are on the way home we always get either hot chocolate or a Slurpee from 7-Eleven. Once we get home we set up the tree in our living room! Then we get our three big buckets of ornaments out! Then we start decorating the tree with all the ornaments. We have lots of ornaments: reindeer, apples, lights, snowmen and snowflakes. When we are done decorating the tree, we go out to look at the lights in the neighborhood. I always like going to one special house with about 100,000 lights. When we get home, we all share our favorite part of the day. I LOVE CHRISTMAS! Those are my Christmas traditions!

A Very Merry Christmas

by Nita M., 4th grade, Dover

Christmas is an exciting time of the year that my family enjoys celebrating. On Christmas morning, I wake up and rush to see the Christmas tree. When my parents wake up, I start opening presents. After I'm done, it's my parents turn to open gifts. Then, we make breakfast together and always have a hot drink like hot chocolate. We get dressed and head out to Crocker Park to see their big Christmas tree. After Crocker Park, I go to my cousin's house. We give each other presents and play inside together. At the end of the night, I head back home with my parents. I love Christmas! Happy Holidays!



Christmas Stress

by Claire L., 3rd grade, Westerly

Christmas is great but I really like ornaments. It started when my oldest sister was born. We get ornaments every year and this is my family tradition. Our family drives hours to get the ornaments. Then it takes even longer to pick out ornaments, but once the ornaments are picked out there is still more waiting. Next we have to wait in line to check out. Boring! Then we have to drive home and as soon as we are home, I head to the basement to wrap the ornaments in wrapping paper. The only thing bad thing is my sister's there yelling, "What are you doing?" I go upstairs and say, "I'm doing nothing." Then they leave me alone, sometimes. The next day I have to do it all over again because my mom says buy one thing at a time, and that means even more waiting, yelling and shopping. The only thing that gets worse is that I have three sisters and that means a lot more waiting, yelling and shopping. Sometimes we even run out of wrapping paper, and you know what that means – more waiting, yelling and shopping. Once I have everything bought and wrapped, there is still more yelling because at the dinner table my sisters start yelling, "What were you doing downstairs, tell me!" I start yelling and then my whole family is yelling, and we're still at the dinner table. Finally we go to different rooms. That is my family tradition.



My Yiddish Holiday

by Hayden A., 3rd grade, Westerly

One of my family's holiday traditions is that we celebrate Hanukkah. There are eight nights of Hanukkah. On Hanukkah you play Dreidel. Dreidel in Yiddish means "to turn around." Dreidels have four Hebrew letters on them. My family and Nana play this game. All the players have "gelts" which are chocolate coins. The game starts by every player placing one gelt in the center. The youngest gets to go first. The Dreidel has four sides that give different outcomes. First, you spin the Dreidel. If it lands on shin, Yiddish meaning "put in," you have to put two coins in. If it lands on nun, Yiddish for "nothing," you do nothing. If it lands on het, Yiddish for "half," you get half of what's in the pot, and if it lands on gemmel, Yiddish for "everything," you get everything in the pot. The game is over when one person has all the gelts. Each night we light one more candle on the menorah than the night before. Somebody hides a few chocolate coins and the other people find them and get to eat them! On one of the nights I go to my nana's house and have potato "latkes" or pancakes. You get a present on each night of Hanukkah. That is why I love Hanukkah!



Hanukkah/Christmas Party!

by Amber S., 4th grade, Dover

Almost every year we throw a Hanukkah/Christmas party! This year it's even better because instead of a Hanukkah/Christmas party with my family, we are having a Hanukkah/Christmas party with my Dad's co-workers. First, we will put up wreaths, a Christmas tree, our menorah and presents. Next, we put out the snacks! My Grandma and I bake yummy treats such as cut-out cookies. First, we press the batter down and cut the dough with cookie cutters. Then, we put the cookies in the oven. When I hear the "ding" I know that they are done! Next, we welcome our guests. Later that night, my brother and I sit down with a mug of hot chocolate and play a game of chess and dreidel. Late that night we gather around the table and sing our prayers. Next, we grab the biggest present and tear it open! We thank our Mom and Dad for the gifts before we fall into a deep sleep.



Going to the Woods for our Christmas Tree

by Payton K., 3rd grade, Westerly

My dad and I go to cut down a Christmas tree. We always go on a Saturday afternoon. We drive and drive to get the tree farm. We finally get there. We walk miles and miles and miles in the farm to find a Christmas tree. It takes about one hour to find the Christmas tree. It is in the woods. People that work at the tree farm drive tractors around in the woods so people can go to different places to look for trees. There are so many trees! There are big trees, medium trees, small trees and very small trees. It is very, very, very cold when we go. We talk about Christmas when we are walking. My dad asks me what I want for Christmas. We sing Christmas songs. We find the perfect tree and cut it down. The workers trim it with a machine. We then take the tree home to my family.

Decorating the Christmas Tree

by Sagan W., 4th grade, Dover

Every year my family decorates a Christmas tree together. First, we pull our tree into our living room. I think it's ten feet tall! Next, we get our ornament box from the basement. We then have to bring it upstairs and it is really heavy! I hang a few ornaments, usually by the lower part of the tree. We have lots of ornaments such as a Darth Vader ornament and a Westlake ornament. When all the ornaments are hung up, my Mom takes an angel and puts it on the top part of the tree. Finally, we plug in the lights and the tree lights up! We enjoy hot chocolate and admire the tree. I can't wait until I get to decorate the tree again next year.



Our Tree is Full of Birds

by Rachel L., 3rd grade, Westerly

One of my holiday traditions is every year we get a new bird ornament for our Christmas tree. We usually get one but sometimes we get more. I pick out the bird ornament. It usually is sparkly, shiny, feathery or tiny. Sometimes it is huge. I like the bird this year. We have been doing this tradition for decades. I can't wait till the Christmas tree is full of birds. We put the birds on their own place on the Christmas tree. Only once we got a glass bird and we put it at the top of the Christmas tree. We put the ones that we can play with at the bottom. Decorating our tree and picking just the right bird is a lot of work. This year I picked a purple, sparkly bird that is really delicate. It is made of fabric and looks really pretty on the tree.



The Big Sleepover

by Michael Q., 4th grade, Dover

My favorite family tradition every year is that all of my cousins come over to my house and we have a big sleepover! The next morning, we go on an exciting ski trip with my whole family. We usually go to Holiday Valley or Peek'n Peak in New York. Then, when we get back from our trip we go to the movie theater to see a movie. We also make gingerbread houses and cookies. The cookies are so good! Finally, on Christmas night we stay up late watching Christmas movies. Christmas is an awesome holiday!



All Ready for Christmas

by Rodrigo D., 4th grade, Dover

Every year my whole family gets ready for Christmas and it's my favorite tradition. First, we put up the Christmas tree. We have more than fifty ornaments and it takes a lot of time to put them up. We have fragile, glass, plastic and paper ornaments. We put up our tree in the corner of our living room. Next, we make delicious, frosted Christmas cookies and give them to our friends and neighbors. We decorate the house with stockings, lights, colorful tissue paper, Christmas stuffed animals and calendars. It is really exciting as we count down the days until Christmas on our Christmas countdown calendar. Finally, each year we take turns putting the star on top of the Christmas tree. I love to do these traditions with my family ever year!



Holiday Fun in Cincinnati

by Michael M., 3rd grade, Westerly

A few days after Christmas we go to Cincinnati. We go to visit my aunt, uncle and cousins every year at this time. I look forward to the fun. They have a huge Christmas tree. We each pick a secret Santa before Christmas. It's really fun getting and giving all the presents. We also play games. The games we play are Apples

to Apples, Catch Phrase, pingpong and pool. We sometimes have pingpong tournaments. We also watch movies. Sometimes our uncle grips us really tightly and gives us Dutch rubs. On New Year's Eve we drink kids champagne. It's so crazy and fun! We make tons of noise. Finally we get to do the count down of a New Year, "5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Happy New Year!" Then after all of that, all of the cousins run outside. It's so cold outside because we don't wear jackets. We stay up until 2 a.m., then we go to bed. The next day it's really sad because we have to leave. It's so fun in Cincinnati I always want to stay there.

Happy Diwali!

by Vivek A., 4th grade, Dover

My favorite time of the year is the Indian New Year, Diwali. Diwali stands for "festival of lights." Diwali is seven full days of fun until the New Year comes. First, we go to the Temple (church) and pray to the Indian Gods. At the temple there is so much food to eat like roti and saag. Roti and saag is flat bread with vegetables. You can also do a special dance called "Garba." After temple, people call each other and say "Happy Diwali." Sometimes people even have parties. My family does not go anywhere special but we still enjoy celebrating. What is your favorite family tradition?

My January Birthday

by Angela Y., 4th grade, Dover

For every birthday in my household, we have a special tradition and a specific order to do each thing. For my birthday, Jan. 28, our family has noodles for lunch, which is a Chinese tradition. Next, our family cleans up the table, and we bring in the cake! I'm excited! My Mom or Dad puts on the number of candles depending on how old I am. Next, we light the candles and sing "Happy Birthday." Then, I make a wish and blow out the candles. We remove the candles and dig in! Now it's time for presents! Each family member gives one present or the whole family gives a family present. For dinner, I get to choose whatever restaurant I want. Last year, I chose Olive Garden! Birthdays are always my favorite day of the year!

A Great Christmas Dinner

by Owen T., 4th grade, Dover

Every year, about a week before Christmas, my Grandpa and I make sausage! First, we have to put the sausage in a machine that shreds the meat. Then, we put the sausage in plastic and close it up. We have to hang the sausage in the basement and let it harden so it stays in its form. This takes about a week. Finally, we make desserts, the most fun things to make. We follow cake recipes from a cookbook and have a lot of fun! On the night before Christmas, we eat all of the food my Grandpa and I made. It is the best night ever!



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WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

Sculpture, on and off a pedestal

by Louise Seeholzer

For centuries, works of sculpture, in stone and metals, depicting military or tribal warriors sitting on a horse and statesmen, sitting or standing, were the accepted norm. Unusual paths that innovative sculptors have opened over the past four or five decades were the topic of a panel discussion by four contemporary sculptors on Dec. 5 at Westlake Porter Public Library.

Russian-born artist Irina Koukhanova, who heads the sculpture program at Cleveland State University, described the progression of innovative ideas of art form from the 1930s to the modern broader view that integrates sound, words, light, a myriad of materials and space use. She noted the evolution of classical sculpture from objects of precious metals on a pedestal led to a viewpoint that asks, “What is an art object?” And as beauty is in the eye of the beholder, it

follows that art is in the eye of the viewer.

The contemporary woman and her “Burden” are the focus of a work by that name, which Nancy Prudic sculpted from layers of tissue and latex and pages of censored books. Prudic, associate professor of visual art at Lake Erie College, frequently uses the human figure in her works and illustrates obstacles women face. Her slides showed a progression of the process she uses to complete a work, including a body torso covered with a layer of one-dollar bills. She said the completed body figure was covered in 300 bills.

The work that artist Elizabeth Emery sculpted for the Ingenuity Fest included gold tires, a little printing press and an abundance of \$77 bills and green Jello. The \$77 bill represented the percentage of a dollar that women are reported to be paid in

the same position as a man. Her slides showed a large display dominated by the gold of the tires and the green of Jello and paper bills. Emery said she was impressed by the desire of the audience to touch everything – the Jello, the tires and to pick up the bills. Emery, intern residence coordinator at Zygot Press, teaches young artists at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland’s after-school program.

Robert Thurmer, who was educated in Vienna, Austria, as well as Syracuse University and The Rhode Island School of Design, described himself as probably the most conventional artist on the panel. He said his 40 years as a sculptor

brought him from a time of working with precious metals to a point where he decided to go in an opposite direction. While his works are small replicas, or small portions of large masterpieces, Thurmer uses unconventional materials. Slides of his one-third replica of Rodin’s “Gates of Hell” reveal that the base material is pink insulation foam and the impressive, dark finished piece was covered with roofing tar.

Thurmer, who is the director of the galleries at Cleveland State University and a CSU art teacher, describes his objects as art works, not utilitarian, strictly for viewing. But he believes

using materials purely contrary to their intended use energizes the intellect. “I want my art to be distinctive, singing versus speaking,” Thurmer said.

Ann Albano, executive director of The Sculpture Center in Cleveland, moderator of the panel, opened the discussion with a presentation that included slides of the Center’s

facilities and contemporary sculpture works now being exhibited at the Center. She also outlined the mission of the non-profit Sculpture Center, which includes providing help to early career sculptors and aiding preservation of Ohio outdoor sculpture.

Following the discussion, the panel was met with thoughtful questions from an appreciative audience. The program, which was presented free of charge by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, proved to be interesting and informative on a subject as old as man and as new as the 21st century. ●



Sculpture panelists, from left, Ann Albano, Irina Koukhanova, Nancy Prudic, Elizabeth Emery and Robert Thurmer enjoy comments from the audience.



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GREAT FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

Stop in at the Bay Village Library as you do your holiday preparations. We have plenty of cookbooks to check out for those last-minute get togethers, a list of Great Children's Books to help you decide which books to get the little readers on your list, and music CDs to create a festive atmosphere. We're here to help you find what you need, even if it's just a quiet chair to relax in for a moment!!

Children are invited to drop into the Story Room to do some ongoing holiday crafts from Dec. 22 - Jan 2. All materials will be set out – just bring your imagination! Leave time to try the Holiday Library Scavenger Hunt. Be sure to turn your completed paper in to the Children's Desk for a small prize!

A huge Thank You to all of the patrons who visited the library in the past year! We look forward serving you again in the coming year and wish everyone Happy Holidays and all the best in the New Year!!

Sunday, Dec. 23 - Tuesday, Dec. 25 Library Closed

Sunday, Dec. 30- Tuesday, Jan. 1 Library Closed

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Thursday, Dec. 13 (7 p.m.) CLEVELAND CHRISTMAS MEMORIES – Join us as local foodie and poet Gail Bellamy reminisces and share holiday stories from her latest book, "Cleveland Christmas Memories." Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Thursday, Jan. 3 (7 p.m.) THURSDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – Join us as we discuss "State of Wonder" by Ann Patchett.

Wednesday, Jan. 9 (7 p.m.) MUSIC OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT – See and hear the songs that inspired a nation! Dr. Michael Strasser, professor of musicology at Baldwin Wallace University, will present an historical perspective of the Civil Rights Movement..

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, Jan. 8 (3:30 p.m.) ROUND T.A.B.L.E. – For ages 11 and up. Join other teens at the Round T.A.B.L.E. and do what teens at Bay Library enjoy – whether it be completing projects that serve the community, helping the library or sometimes just hanging out and playing video games. A permission slip must be signed by a parent or guardian prior to meetings in order to enjoy the snacks.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Storytimes for ages birth-5 years begin the week of Jan. 7. Please check for days and times online, or stop in for a flyer!

Thursday, Jan. 10 (7 p.m.) IT'S A GIRL'S WORLD – Girls in grades 3 and 4 are invited to bring an adult female friend to share in a fun book discussion, a snack and a related craft.

Please register for the programs by going online to cuyahogalibrary.org, calling 440-871-6392, or stopping in to visit. We look forward to seeing you! ♦

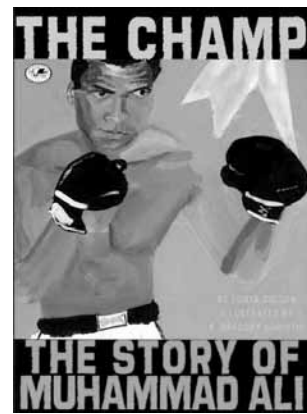
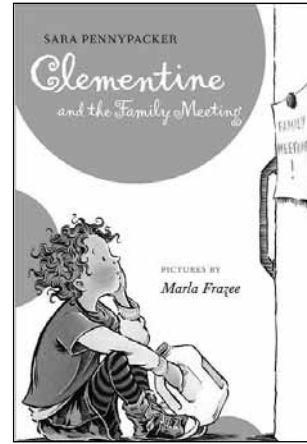
Girls and guys book clubs start up in January at Bay Library

by Sarah Tenorio

Looking to fulfill that New Year's Resolution to spend more quality time with your family? The Bay Village Library has just the opportunity for you – two new book discussion clubs for kids and adults that are fun, interactive and include a snack!

It's a Girl's World is a book club for girls in 3rd and 4th grades along with an adult female friend – mom, grandma, aunt, neighbor. In January we'll talk about the latest in Sara Pennypacker's Clementine series, "Clementine and the Family Meeting."

Eight-and-a-half-year-old Clementine is having a nervous breakdown about what the family meeting could be about – she's probably in trouble. But this is something totally different. On top of that, Clementine is having problems with her best friend and the science class's pet rat is missing. Will Clementine be able to deal with all this change? Read the book to find out, and then join the discussion on Thursday, Jan. 10, from 7-8 p.m. We'll



talk about the book, do a fun craft and eat a treat. Plus, there will be the chance to win a cut-out Clementine signed by the author!

It's a Guy Thing is an all-new book club for boys in 3rd and 4th grades with an adult male buddy – dad, grandpa, uncle, neighbor. Led by our very own branch manager and guy librarian, Mr. McK-instry, January's book will be "The Champ! The Story of Muhammad Ali" by Tonya Bolden.

From his unlikely beginnings as a "string-beany boy" learning to box at a local gym to heavyweight champion of the world, Muhammad Ali's story

is incredible. This book brings Ali's story to life through an amazing combination of words and pictures. Come talk about this book, do a cool activity and have a snack in a laid-back atmosphere on Wednesday, Jan. 16 from 7-8 p.m.!

Registration for either event is available online at www.cuyahogalibrary.org or by calling the Bay Village Branch Library at 440-871-6392. Books will be available for pick-up at the circulation desk beginning Wednesday, Dec. 12. We hope to see you there! ♦

Will you be taking a college entrance exam?

by Sue Grame

The Bay Village Branch Library will be hosting an ACT Prep class for high school students on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. A representative from College Now Greater Cleveland will give tips on how to reach your goal on the ACT test based on your own talents. College can be the most important four years of your life. Prepare to do your best to try to get into the college of your choice – plan on attending this information-packed meeting.

Registration is required. Please stop by the Bay Village Library at 502 Cahoon Rd., call us at 440-871-6392 or visit our website, www.cuyahogalibrary.org, to register. ♦

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Start 2013 by harnessing 'powers of the universe'

by Jan Litterst

What a unique opportunity! "Powers of the Universe" is a new program at Unity Spiritual Center brought to you by a truly amazing facilitator, Maureen Haggerty, who shares her lifelong passion for our evolving Universe Story and the exploration of our evolving consciousness in which she is adept at making deep connections between the scientific, the philosophical and the spiritual!

This 12-week spiritual journey is based on cosmologist Brian Swimme's DVD series and the spirituality of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. You can now participate in this program which includes a unique combination of lecture, DVD viewing, group discussion, artistic expression, meditation and energy embodiment with energy exercises with Patrick Davis. Beginning Jan. 24, 6-9 p.m., at Unity Spiritual Center, this program explores the 10 cosmological dynamics that have shaped our universe since the Big Bang. More than that, you will learn how these dynamics continue to work through us from the cosmic to the personal level and

from the scientific to the spiritual. This program can help you realize your deepest potential and transform your lives.

In my personal experience, I had the unique pleasure of attending this program several years ago with Maureen – it was so impactful that it literally was involved in a major life change for me! It is powerful! Others have found that it was an "Awesome series...helps bridge the gap between science and religion with a whole new language for expressing the inexpressible! I didn't want it to be over!"

Another commented, "This series has re-energized me! I find myself connecting the concepts with events, people and ideas in all parts of my life!"

Come and experience the "Powers of the Universe" for yourself. It is different for everyone who participates!

Every culture has known its cosmological story. Over time, the scientists began to hold this story as their private treasure, which led to a fragmented, confused and desperate culture and planet. As we are moving forward, it is imperative that we learn our new cosmological story, a story of

awe and mystery as well as diversity and profound meaning in which the illusory divisions between science and spirituality melt away! This is a reverent exploration with a beacon of hope that will heal our planet, our culture and ourselves. It is a momentous journey not to be missed.

You can register for this Thursday evening series at Unity Spiritual Center's website, www.unityspiritualcenter.com. If you find that you need to miss a Thursday night program, you can attend the missed session on Tuesday evening of the following week at Cleveland Center for Conscious Living, making life easier for you and making sure that you do not miss a single session.

Additional program and registration information can be found on Unity's website. The cost for the series if you register by Dec. 31 is \$150. After Dec. 31, prepaid registration is \$180 or weekly \$20 per person.

Unity Spiritual Center is located at 23855 Detroit Rd. in Westlake. Questions regarding this program may be directed to Kathy Lowery, 440-835-0400. ♦

Join in at www.wbvobserver.com

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

Wednesday, Dec. 12 (10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:30 a.m.) LET’S SING AND DANCE! – Join us for a fun session of singing and dancing for children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Space is limited, so please arrive early enough to receive a ticket at the Preschool Desk.

Thursday, Dec. 13 (4-5 p.m.) FAMILY FUN! – We’re hosting an afternoon of stories, rhymes, silly songs and crafts! For children ages 3 and up with their families.

Thursday, Dec. 13 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The December selection is “Unbroken” by Laura Hillenbrand.

Friday, Dec. 14 (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, Dec. 15 (10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m.) WPPL’S 128TH ANNIVERSARY – Join us for free goodies in celebration of the 128th anniversary of the library’s founding!

Saturday, Dec. 15 (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 Dec. 8.

Saturday, Dec. 15 (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, Dec. 15 (3:45-5:15 p.m.) WII-STRAVAGANZA! – Join us for games, tournaments, snacks and fun!

Grades 6-12. Please register starting two weeks before each session.

Sunday, Dec. 16 (1-2:30 p.m.) AMERICAN GIRL BOOK CLUB – Join us as we meet the American Girls! We’ll discuss the books, have a snack and make a craft. This month we’ll Meet Felicity. Ages 6-12. Registration begins Dec. 9.

Monday, Dec. 17 (4-6 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! Meets only when Westlake Schools are in session. Registration not necessary.

Tuesday, Dec. 18 (2-2:45 p.m.) BOOKBYTES FOR HOMESCHOOLERS – Join WordWeaver for lively discussions about good books and more. Just bring your curiosity and sense of adventure! Snacks provided. Ages 9-12. Registration begins Dec. 11.

Wednesday, Dec. 19 (10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:30 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, Dec. 19 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – December’s selection is “The Christmas Wedding” by James Patterson.

Wednesday, Dec. 19 (7-8 p.m.) THE PORTER EXPRESS – Get your ticket and take a magical train ride with us as we read “The Polar Express” and enjoy a variety of fun-filled activities! Ages 5-8. Registration begins Dec. 12.

Thursday, Dec. 20 (3-5 p.m.) WINTER BREAK CRAFT ATTACK – Drop in and make a fun winter craft. Perfect for last minute gifts! All supplies provided. Meets in front of the Youth Services Desk.

Thursday, Dec. 20 (6-8 p.m.) WII-STRAVAGANZA! – Join us for games,

tournaments, snacks and fun! Grades 6-12. Please register starting two weeks before each session.

Friday, Dec. 21 (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, Dec. 21 (10 a.m.-noon) PORTER’S FIBER FANATICS – Socialize, share, and solve problems while you work on your current project.

Friday, Dec. 21 (2-2:45 p.m.) REIN-DEER CAKE POPS – Do you love cake pops? How about cake pops that look like reindeer? Learn how to make these delicious and adorable treats that will impress all your friends and family. Grades 6-12. Please register starting Dec. 7. *Allergy Warning: Some ingredients and toppings may include nuts!

Friday, Dec. 21 (3-3:45 p.m.) SNOWMAN CAKE POPS – Do you love cake pops? How about cake pops that look like snowmen? Learn how to make these delicious and adorable treats that will impress all your friends and family. Grades 6-12. Please register starting Dec. 7. *Allergy warning: Some ingredients and toppings may include nuts!

Saturday, Dec. 22 (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, Dec. 22 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) KIDS IN MOTION SENSORY TIME – Join us for stories, activities, music and more! Program consists of a 30-minute storytime followed by a 30-minute social-sharing time for the group. No registration required. Program is designed to engage children with autism or other special needs/sensory challenges. Each child must have an adult caregiver.

Monday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve – Library Closed

Tuesday, Dec. 25: Christmas – Library Closed

Wednesday, Dec. 26 (1-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Thursday, Dec. 27 (3-5 p.m.) WINTER BREAK CRAFT ATTACK – Drop in and make a fun winter craft. Perfect for last minute gifts! All supplies provided. Meets in front of the Youth Services Desk.

Thursday, Dec. 27 (6:30-8 p.m.) WINTER BREAK MOVIE NIGHT – Snuggle up in your PJs and watch a new winter movie! For ages 4 to 10; children under 9 must be with an adult caregiver. Registration begins Dec. 20.

Friday, Dec. 28 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) WINTER BOOK SWAP – Exchange your gently used children’s books for some new to you titles! Swaps must be children’s books in good condition. Damaged, soiled, stained or excessively worn books will not be accepted. Please, no copyright dates prior to 1992.

Saturday, Dec. 29 (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, Dec. 29 (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, Dec. 29 (3:45-5:15 p.m.) WII-STRAVAGANZA! – Join us for games, tournaments, snacks and fun! Grades 6-12. Please register starting two weeks before each session.

Monday, Dec. 31: New Year’s Eve – Library Closes at 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 1: New Year’s Day – Library Closed

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

Holiday fun at the Westlake Rec

by Jim Dispirito

Gingerbread House Decorating Workshop (ages 4-10)

Friday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

We will decorate our own small gingerbread houses made out of rice cereal just in time for the holidays. All supplies are included. Maximum allowed 15. Any child under the age of 7 MUST be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$10/members, \$15/non-members.

No School Day Camp (grades K-6)

This camp is designed to keep kids entertained with games, swimming, art projects and other fun activities. Children will need to bring a brown bag lunch, swimsuit and towel. An afternoon snack will be provided. We reserve the right to verify grade level on each and every child. Various days

are available starting with Friday, Dec. 21. Contact Rachel O’Malley for more details at 440-808-5700.

Holiday Baseball Clinic with WHS Varsity coach Brendan Zepp (grades 1-8)

Dec. 26-28; grades 1-4: 8:30-10:30 a.m.; grades 5-8: 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Prepare for your baseball or softball season and refine your skills in a fun and fast paced environment. Join WHS head coach Brendan Zepp and members of his coaching staff as they present a variety of skills and drills. Campers will take home a new technique or strategy each day.

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

Book discusses medicalization of society

In her recently published book, Westlake linguist Janet Byron Anderson, Ph.D., uses terms like “a greenhouse on steroids,” “autistic architecture” and “comatose careers” to illustrate a modern tendency of Westerners to speak about aspects of their lives that have nothing to do with sickness as if their lives were sick. Western society, she argues, has become medicalized.

For many people the purpose of life has shifted from supporting life to shielding it from mortality altogether. They bicycle, walk and even meditate not to enhance the joy of living but to protect the body from disintegration. Many conditions that in the past were accepted as hardships to be borne with fortitude, are now pathologized, even in the absence of disease.

Dr. Anderson summarizes the

research on medicalization in society, then analyzes, in readable and exciting prose, the linguistic reflection of this trend – what she calls “Sick English,” the use of clinical language to describe aspects of life that have nothing to do with sickness.

Dr. Anderson has traced the use of Sick English in the language of journalists (and many of the people they quote) in newspapers published in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand and Australia.

She is a professionally trained linguist, medical editor, writer and language consultant who resides in and operates a consulting firm in Westlake.

“Sick English” is available in paperback and Kindle versions at Amazon.com. ●

Harness your holiday spirit and pledge to help cancer patients

by Amy Brediger

Today I write as a caregiver and daughter of a cancer patient, as well as the event chair of Westlake Relay for Life. I am writing for everyone who is touched by cancer and will be going through the holidays happy, scared and sometimes sad, praying for hope and time.

As the holidays approach I think of all the amazing people I have met while working on the Relay and all the people that I will meet next year. I am hoping that the American Cancer Society is able to help more patients and their families in 2013. A significant way for this to happen is to support the Relay and take time out of our busy schedules to give time to help.

The upcoming Relay will be at the Westlake Recreation Center again on July 13-14. Our theme is "Game Shows" and we are looking forward to having a fun-filled day of mock game shows and hilarious laughs.

We are in need of many volunteers to help us make this happen so if you are able to give your time we would truly appreciate it. Our next meeting will be Dec. 13 at the Rec Center in the second-

floor classroom. Please come and join a committee or even chair a committee and be a part of the big picture of a cure. Starting a team is a great way to raise money and come up with a fun game show to share with the Relayers. The ideas are first-come, first-get when you sign up. We already have four teams and four games shows taken. Don't miss out on your favorite show by waiting to sign up.

I am also reaching out to Bay Village since your Relay will not happen again this year. Please come join us and bring all your friends and family to this wonderful event. You won't regret it.

Mayor Dennis Clough will be there to start the Relay and many other remarkable people are giving their time to make this a great event. We are still looking for a survivor to speak and a caregiver to share their story. If you know of someone that might be willing to share, please encourage him or her to come to the meeting or contact me.

I know over this holiday season I will be doing my best to ask people to help by donating to our team instead of gifts. This is a great way to get the ball rolling and start meeting our 2013 goal.

Cancer is terrible and I want to do all that I can to help my dad, my mother-in-



Amy Brediger's father, Bill Hackenberg, is still fighting his battle and spending time with his grandkids.

law and all the other people close to me to get more birthdays and more time. My dad is 10 months out from his diagnosis and we are working everyday to make him stronger and earn more time that he truly deserves – the time every individual who is diagnosed deserves.

My emotions run high this holiday season since it is my first while dealing with cancer so closely. My greatest gift would be to help the next person...the next person who hears the devastating news that cancer has invaded their lives. So please join me to make dreams come true and even feel a little better yourself by helping.

Come on, join the fun and start a

team, donate, sponsor or just come to the Relay and show your support. I thank all of you that are helping from the bottom of my heart. It means so much to me to be able to share my story and help others.

And lastly, on my always personal note, please give blood. My dad received his second transfusion this month and there is a blood shortage. So next time you drive by that blood drive, stop in and help so many people get the blood they need. It only takes a bit to save a life.

Contact me at 440-666-0662 for more info and keep an eye out for much shorter articles in the future.

May your holidays be happy and healthy. ●

BAYarts

BAYarts features artist and instructor Andrea Serafino

by Julie Cikra

This winter, BAYarts is highlighting local ceramic artist and teacher Andrea Serafino. The Cleveland Institute of Art graduate has been an adjunct professor at Lakeland Community College for eighteen years. At the Cleveland Museum of Art, she taught the young minds of the children's program for sixteen years and was also on the board of trustees at SPACES Gallery. Serafino also took part in the East/West Alternative Gallery and was director for two years.

Today, when she is not around the BAYarts campus, Andrea runs the Beachwood Ceramic Guild where she

provides studio space and lessons. It is also where she produces her own artwork which includes a combination of wheel-thrown and hand-building techniques. She works with stoneware and porcelain to make decorative serving pieces and also some sculptural work. This January she has quite a line-up of classes at BAYarts:

ADULT CLASS

Functional Forms

Tuesdays, Jan. 22-March 12, noon-2 p.m.

Create beautiful bowls and platters to use in the home. Learn the basics in hand-building, throwing and glazing as you are inspired not only by function, but design as well. This session will focus on decorating techniques. Cost: \$210/members, \$255/non-members.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Dragons & Princesses (ages 5-7)

Tuesdays, Jan. 22-March 12, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Learn basic hand-building techniques to create dragons, castles and a portrait of yourself as a prince or princess! Cost: \$100/members; \$115/non-members.

Handbuilding & Throwing (ages 9 and older)

Tuesdays, Jan. 22-March 12, 4:30-6 p.m.

Learn the basics of hand-building and throwing

to create beautiful bowls and pots. Learn different painting and glazing techniques to complete your work. Class size is limited! Cost: \$150/members, \$165/non-members.

BAYarts will also feature special children's self-portrait workshops on Presidents Day, Feb. 18, taught by BAYarts staff. Create a sculptural self-portrait using hand-building techniques and finish off your personalized piece with colorful under glazes. Cost: \$20/members, \$25/non-members.

For more information and to register for these classes, please visit bayarts.net and click on the "classes" tab.

BAYarts is located at 28795 Lake Rd. in Bay Village. ●



One of Andrea Serafino's beautiful mugs, available at the BAYarts Holiday Shop.

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BAYarts HOLIDAY SHOP
NOVEMBER 23rd thru DECEMBER
TRUNK SHOW
December 13th
7 - 9 pm
www.bayarts.net

City holds ceremony on Westlake magazine launch

The city of Westlake held a special reception on Dec. 4 to recognize the contributors and supporters of the 2013 Westlake magazine. Framed magazine pages were given out to residents and businesses featured in the publication, including Brian Corrigan from Cahoon Nursery, seen at right accepting his plaque from Mayor Dennis Clough.

Also pictured are, from left, Jean Smith, Westlake special projects coordinator; Bob Parry, planning director; and Will Krause, assistant planning director.

The annual magazine will be mailed to city residents. ♦



Worship TOGETHER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE • DECEMBER 24TH AT 8 PM

Capture the blessings and beauty of Christmas at our the beautiful candlelight service and hear the inspiring message and the joyous music. It will have you and your entire family in the spirit of Christmas on this wondrous night!



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**JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM:
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DECEMBER 14 & 15, 6:30-8:30 PM

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BLUE CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 21, 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS SERVICES
CHRISTMAS EVE, 5:30 & 8:00 PM
CHRISTMAS DAY, 10:30 AM

ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CHRISTMAS SERVICES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
7:00 P.M.

The Rev. RJ Johnson • 3760 Dover Center Road, Westlake
www.adventwestlake.org • 440-871-6685



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5pm is a family service for all generations

Children are welcome at all services. Free, professional childcare at 3, 5 and 9pm

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Bay United Methodist Church





29931 Lake Road
440-871-2082
www.bayumc.org

Christmas Eve Services
5:00 p.m. – Family Service
A children's Christmas pageant.

7:00 and 9:00 p.m.
Hymns, Special Music, Christmas
Meditation and Candlelighting



PHOTO CREDIT: SAM HUBISH

TRINITY CATHEDRAL INVITES YOU TO SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH US.

ANNUAL MESSIAH SING
Wednesday, December 19 | 12:10 p.m.
Trinity Chamber Orchestra, soloists, and YOU in the massed choir!
Todd Wilson, conductor
Sponsor: Bradley Upham

CHRISTMAS EVE
Monday, December 24
5 p.m.
Family Eucharist and Pageant

10:30 p.m.
Prelude
Music for choir, organ and trumpet

11 p.m.
Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY
Tuesday, December 25
10 a.m.
Eucharist with Carols

BOAR'S HEAD AND YULE LOG FESTIVAL – 50TH ANNIVERSARY
Saturday, December 29 | 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
50th Anniversary of this Cleveland Christmas tradition.



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CHRISTMAS EVE

Children's Service
4:30 pm

Lessons and Carols Promise
6:00 pm

Lessons and Carols Worship Team
8:00 pm

Lessons and Carols Traditional
10:00 pm



Bay Presbyterian Church
25415 Lake Road, Bay Village
440.871.3822 www.baypres.org

CHRISTMAS DAY
Tuesday, December 25
4:00 pm
Intergenerational Service

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Tuesday, January 1
10:00 am
Intergenerational Service

More stories online at www.wbvobserver.com

LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

2013 board leadership named for Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

by Kathleen Shields

The board of directors of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center in Bay Village is pleased to announce newly elected members and appointments of executive officers. Joining the board of directors are Douglas Schosser, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Key Corporate Bank and resident of Avon; Todd Rosenberg, senior manager of federal tax at KPMG LLP and resident of Avon Lake; Jeffrey M. Whitesell, attorney at Tucker Ellis and resident of Westlake; and William P. Watkins, group head of business development, Harris Williams & Co. (subsidiary of PNC) and resident of Bay Village. Colleen Lowmiller was appointed to a second term as president. Colleen is senior actuarial consultant for Findley Davies and a resident of Lakewood. Stephen Fink, Ph.D., was appointed to a second term as vice president. Dr. Fink

is research instructor at Case Western Reserve University's Department of Medicine and a resident of University Heights. Jerry Rudowsky was appointed to a third term as treasurer. Jerry is a partner with Ernst & Young LLP and a resident of Avon. Gary Garling was appointed as secretary. Gary is program manager for Lubrizol and a resident of Bay Village. "Lake Erie Nature & Science Center gives people opportunities to discover and appreciate our natural world with hands-on programs, live animal exhibits, a planetarium and direct access to Lake Erie. The talented professionals elected to the Center's board of directors provide vital leadership and support for our nonprofit organization and this important mission," said Executive Director Catherine Timko. "The officers and all of the board members serve as key advisors and ambassadors to the community." ●

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Holiday story time continues Dec. 16 at Rose Hill Museum



Bay Village Schools Superintendent Clint Keener reads a special holiday story about Christmas in the Western Reserve to an audience at Rose Hill Museum.

by Cynthia Eakin

Enjoy this year's final Sunday story time at Rose Hill Museum on Dec. 16. Bay Village Mayor Deborah Sutherland and Rev. Bill Buckeye from Bay United Methodist Church will share the tale of how a young Cahoon daughter experienced the holidays with family and friends in the 1860s. The original story is written by Bay Village historian Kay Laughlin. Mayor Sutherland will read at 2:30 p.m. and Rev. Buckeye will read at 3:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and each child will receive a handmade orna-

ment. Christmas decorations can be seen on all three floors of Rose Hill Museum, with Victorian trees and a special display of vintage dolls, through Dec. 23. The Rose Hill Museum gift shop offers English tea cups, Amish toy buggies and the much-sought-after ornaments depicting Bay Village landmarks. Everyone is invited to visit this great historic home and to feel the holiday spirit it conveys. Hours are from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and admission is free. Special holiday group tours can be arranged by appointment. Phone 440-871-7338. Rose Hill Museum is at 27715 Lake Rd. in Bay Village. ●

The Bay Village Historical Society
Rose Hill Museum
Open 2-4:30 pm on Sundays
Free Admission • Gift Shoppe
Located in Cahoon Memorial Park

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St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Bay Village would like to thank contractors who have helped in the restoration of our building and grounds:

CHRIS KOEHLER AND SQUIRES ROOFING that has replaced our roof and Michael Stahlberg of Squires who has done the restoration work on the steeple;

MAPLE LEAF LANDSCAPING for rehabilitating our shrubbery and helping us plan extensive work for next summer;

WILSON TREES for removing some dying and unstable trees;

SKETTLE ELECTRIC for replacing interior and exterior lighting with energy efficient fixtures;

W.S. ZAMISKA, Mechanical Contractors for replacing our heating system and planning for the addition of central air conditioning;

TODD HULTZMAN and VERDIN BELLS AND CLOCKS for the replacing of our carillon;

TOM LABUDA, The Paint Doctor for plastering and painting our interior walls.

★★★★★

These contractors have all done exemplary work and have graciously worked around the on-going operations of the parish and around one another. Each has been a tremendous blessing.

Maple Leaf, your hometown landscaper, wishes you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

M^{LEAF} MAPLE LEAF LANDSCAPING

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Dec. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Northeast Ohio Personal Computers Meeting
Martha Pontoni will discuss "Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+"—everything you want to know about social networking but were afraid to ask. She will walk through the pros and cons of each networking site, including how to "lock down" your profile and keep your privacy. Questions welcome! Come at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments, followed by the program at 7:15 p.m. Free and open to the public.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Bay Village Community Band Christmas Celebration
Enjoy the songs of the Christmas season! Featuring the classics with a few audience sing-a-longs.
Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

Dec. 14, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bedtime Struggles (How to Get Your Kids to Bed and Keep Them There!)
Preschoolers can present many challenges when it comes to sleep and bedtime. Learn strategies to promote healthy sleep including helping your child to learn how to fall asleep independently and sleep through the night. The discussion will focus

on common problem areas: eliminating the nap, transitioning from crib to bed, bedtime behavior and night waking. Childcare is available during the discussion, but space is limited. To reserve a spot for your child, visit connectingforkids.org.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Dec. 14 and 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Journey to Bethlehem: A Live Nativity
Annual live nativity featuring King Herod, angels, shepherds, magi, Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. Journey to Bethlehem is an indoor/outdoor experience with live animals and music. 15-minute journeys will run continuously. Dress for the weather and enjoy refreshments after your journey. Admission is free. For more info, call 440-331-0834.
Church of the Redeemer UCC, 23500 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Dec. 19, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Free Community Meal
Every community needs a time and place to come together. This is especially true during the special time of the holidays. What better way to do this than with warm food around tables in friendship, laughter and connectedness. Please join us for a free, holiday hot meal. Doors open at 5:15 and

dinner is served continuously from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Call 440-871-3088 with questions.
Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Rd.

Dec. 21, 7 p.m.
"Blue Christmas" Service
Not everyone's life is in step with the merry rejoicing of the Christmas season. Blue Christmas is a special holiday service of prayer and reflection that provides an occasion to honor the birth of Jesus for those who are finding it hard to rejoice. Everyone will have the opportunity to light a candle to remember a loss, acknowledge pain and hardship, offer thanks for support received and to hear a word of hope. A jazz band will provide music for the service. Free and open to all who seek comfort in the hope of the season. For more information, please call 440-331-0834.
Church of the Redeemer UCC, 23500 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Dec. 30, 6-7:30 p.m.
Winter Break Ice Skating Party!
The Westshore Young Leaders Network are throwing a winter break party! ALL middle and high school students from Bay Village, Fairview,

Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake are invited. Cost is \$4. Ice skate rental is \$1 extra; snack bar available at an additional cost. Tickets may be pre-purchased through Dec. 21, or they can be bought at the door on the night of the event. Parents will be required to sign a permission slip, although transportation arrangements are up to each individual. If purchasing tickets at the arena, please have one parent stop in to sign the necessary permission form. Tickets may be purchased from the WYLN representative at your school, or by contacting Noreen Kyle at 440-336-2371 or Jamie Mahnic at 440-617-7416.
Serpentini Arena @ Winterhurst, 14740 Lakewood Heights Blvd., Lakewood

Jan. 2, 7-8 p.m.
Prosperity Money Club: Getting Organized With Your Money
Monthly meeting, open to all, free of charge, facilitated by financial professional Jan Litterst. This Women's Institute for Financial Education program covers basic money topics in a conversational, interactive style. For additional information or questions, call Jan at 440-670-2252.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Bay Community Services' holiday program offers help to those in need

by Deborah Bock

The Community Services Department has been dedicated to caring for Bay Village's most vulnerable members for over 26 years. One hundred percent of the funding for the care provided comes from donations from generous individuals, foundations and groups throughout the community.

Each year food, gifts, cleaning products, paper products and personal hygiene products are provided to residents who are struggling whether due to illness, loss of income or a variety of other reasons.

This month, Bay Village Kiwanis generously donated \$1,000 from their annual Christmas tree sale to the Holiday Caring and Sharing program. Persons wishing to support this program may contribute by making checks payable to the City of Bay Village and mailing or dropping off to the Community Services Department, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village, OH 44140. Please



Jim Potter, Bay Village Kiwanis Club community services chairman, presents a \$1,000 check to Bay Community Services Director Deborah Bock, kicking off donations for the Holiday Caring and Sharing program.

include "Holiday Caring and Sharing" in the memo section of your check.

Additionally, donations of non-perishable food, paper products, cleaning products, shampoo, soap, etc. may be dropped off at the Community Services office, located within the Dwyer Memorial Senior Center, until noon on Dec. 17.

The staff at the Community Services Department would like to thank everyone for their generous support of these programs and wishes everyone a very Happy Holiday and Healthy New Year. ●

WestShore Lions offer aid to hurricane storm damage victims

District Governor Dan Lester presented a disaster relief grant check from the Ohio Lions Foundation to WestShore Lion Club members Kevin Barret, President Al Whitmer and David Sacco at the club's Dec. 3 meeting. The small disaster relief grant



check was received after the WestShore Lions Club applied in relationship to the recent storm damages that occurred in Westlake, Bay Village and North Olmsted. As a result of the grant, a limited number of gift cards redeemable to Wal-Mart in the amount of \$50, were made available to WestShore individuals to assist with food, bedding, and other needs as deemed necessary by the recipients. ●

Students excel on Young Astronaut Day

Westlake students attending the Birchwood School in Cleveland met with success in the annual Young Astronaut Day at the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center on Nov. 3. The fifth- and sixth-



graders, from left, Olivia Savona, Megan Stewart, Farah Sayed and Christopher Haddad, competed in challenges designed to stimulate an interest in engineering and aeronautics. Participants were divided into teams of 10-12, and the Westlakers' teams were among the top three finishers in their assigned challenges. ●



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