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Observer

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Girl Scouts craft valentines to share love and thanks with soldiers

Bridget DeMonica

Fourth-grade Girl Scout Troop 77140 of Westlake wanted to help make our soldiers overseas know that they are loved this Valentine's Day. The troop made 50

valentines with expressions of love and thanks to send to the troops.

"It's important to remember those fighting for our safety," said Girl Scout Alexis DeMonica, "especially when their families are so far away."

Each valentine had a small token gift attached of either a friendship bracelet that the girls made, or candy Pop Rocks. The girls hope that these small tokens of thanks will help make our soldiers' Valentine's Day a little brighter! ♦



Fourth-grade Girl Scout Troop 77140 of Westlake display their hand-made valentines for active-duty soldiers.

Westlake, Bay Village students have strong showing in regional art competition



"Rust Belt" by Julianne Aprile



"9 Lives" by Sarah Stockton

Westlake and Bay Village students brought home nearly 100 awards from this year's Scholastic Art & Writing Competition, hosted by the Cleveland Institute of Art, including 20 Gold Key awards – the contest's top prize. From a field of 1,700 entries, artwork created by the students of

Westlake and Bay's high schools and middle schools won 92 gold, silver and honorable mention awards in categories including drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, mixed media, photography and writing. Read about the winning students and see a selection of Gold Key artwork on page 8. ♦

Bay Athletic Boosters announce inaugural SNOBALL 5K Race/Walk on Feb. 23

by Anne Kerka

Saturday, Feb. 23, marks the date for the first-ever Bay Athletic Boosters 5K Race/Walk and 1-Mile Fun Run with a start and finish at Bay High School, 29230 Wolf Rd.

"We thought it would be fun to celebrate the snow and shake off the winter blues with a mid-winter run/walk for the whole family," said Tim Brajdic, chair of the SNOBALL Run. "The Bay Athletic Boosters are embracing Northeast Ohio weather with a great fitness opportunity and a new way to raise funds for our athletic programs."

Managed through Hermes Race Systems, the SNOBALL 5K Race/Walk and 1-Mile Fun Run



Bay Rocket Athletic Boosters President Steve Kowalski and SNOBALL Run chair Tim Brajdic gear up for the 5K Race/Walk and 1-Mile Fun Run that will take place Saturday, Feb. 23, with a start and finish at Bay High School.

will kick off at 9 a.m., with packet pickup and day-of-race registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. in the Bay High School gym corridor. Pre-registered participants will

receive a long-sleeve T-shirt featuring a snowman graphic, a roll of Duck brand duct tape and post-race food and beverages.

» See SNOBALL, **page 2**

Final thoughts before I become a foreign journalist

by Audrey Ray

Editor's note: Audrey Ray's regular column, "Musings from the Middle," a chronicle of the joys and struggles of a Bay Middle School student, will be on hiatus as her family relocates to South Africa. Audrey expects to resume writing once settled in their temporary home in Stellenbosch, near Cape Town. With the help of family friend Heather Ransom, Audrey filed one last article before heading overseas.

Would you want to travel more than 24 hours to go to another country to live for seven months? I sure wouldn't want to, but that's what I am doing. By the time you read this, I will be in South Africa. My dad received a Fulbright Scholarship to study there, so my family will live there for seven

months.

South Africa is on the very bottom of the continent of Africa in the Southern Hemisphere. But before I get there I am dreading the trip. I know it's going to be long, tiring and boring. I also don't think traveling with my younger siblings will be very easy.

My family has been planning for this trip for months. My parents have told me things about South Africa since we lived there when I was one year old. So I feel like I kind of know what life is going to be like there. I've decided to try and make predictions about what life is going to be like for me in South Africa.

I know we are living in a house in Stellenbosch.

» See TRIP, **page 9**



BAY VILLAGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Annual antique show is source of fun and learning

by Nancy Trainer

Spend Presidents Day Weekend at the 44th Annual Antique Show at Bay High School, Saturday, Feb. 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Browse 1960s and older jewelry, toys, furniture, glass, pottery, household and kitchen items, pictures, linens, figurines, war memorabilia and much more.

Relive your childhood – or your parents' or grandparents'. While the Internet is great for buying specific items, there is no substitute for seeing and feeling an item and visualizing it in your home.

Get a free appraisal on one item. Request a numbered ticket when purchasing your show ticket at the door. On Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Vivid Diamonds, Design & Timepiece Gallery in Bay Village will appraise jewelry while Avon Lake Coin & Collectibles assesses your coins and precious metals (sterling silver, medals). On Sunday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., professionals will appraise all other antiques.

The Bay Village Women's Club hosts the annual Antique Show which funds college scholarships with your generous \$6 donation. The show includes homemade baked goods, home-cooked food, a plant sale and Bay Village memorabilia (afghans, playing cards, Bay favorite recipe cookbook and more). The show is wheelchair accessible, but no strollers are allowed. For information, call 440-334-7539.

Go green! Antiques are the ultimate in going green, whose primary mandate is "reuse." Most old furniture is built from "real" wood – when trees were trees and not glued particle board, and many quality antiques are worth restoring. Many dealers in this show also restore antiques and are happy to answer your questions.

Following are common types of restoration:

- Upholster furniture: The fabric might be worn, but if the frame is good – reupholster. New furniture seems economical, until you upgrade the fabric which significantly raises the cost. Select your desired fabric, then have a professional repad your old furniture and properly cut, sew, stretch and tack the material.
- Repair and refinish furniture: Broken legs, chipped inlays, worn or dented finishes and water damage can discourage use of otherwise well-built wooden furniture. A qualified artisan or restorer assesses the extent of deterioration, then determines the best course of action and identifies the types of materials needed to properly restore.
- Restore stained or leaded glass: Over time these windows and objects may crack, sag or become soiled. Review the quality of the artisan's work on other pieces first, since improper repairs can destroy the "stain," further deteriorate the caning or leading, or incorrectly fit the glass pieces, resulting in future damage.
- Cane or rush weave chairs: Caned furniture can be unsightly or unsafe with broken strands or sagging seats. The proper repair requires selecting the appropriate materials, soaking them in water until pliable, re-weaving into the existing pattern, then gluing or tacking the ends. The repair might also require repainting or staining to match the furniture piece.

I recently visited the Antique Corner in Westlake which performs all the above services and where one can view many restored pieces, including several large turn-of-the-century trunks which serve as great conversation pieces in a room. Visit your selected dealer and discuss your options, the level of restoration desired (look like new or retain imperfections), and the costs. Remember, you are not only saving a tree or other natural resources, you are saving a piece of history. ●

SNOBALL

continued from front page

Awards will be given to top finishers in the following categories: Top overall male and female, and top three male and female in the following age divisions: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 and over.

Brajdic said, "We are hoping to attract at least 400 participants, and we are challenging our own athletes and their families as well as those from surrounding communities to come out and participate in the race."

The pre-registration cost for the SNOBALL Run is \$15 for students and \$20 for adults. Mail-in registrations forms are available to download on the Bay Athletic Boosters website at

www.bayrocketsassociation.com and must be received by Feb. 20 at 5 p.m. Online registration is open through Feb. 22 at 9 a.m. at www.hermescleveland.com. Race-day registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and cost is \$20 for students and \$25 for adults. Day-of registrants will receive a long-sleeve T-shirt and other items while supplies last.

SNOBALL Run sponsorships are currently available at \$1,000, \$250 and \$100 levels. If you or your company would like more information on becoming a SNOBALL Run sponsor, contact Race Coordinator Tim Brajdic at 440-864-0183 or at 440-835-0283.

A volunteer-driven, nonprofit organization, Bay Athletic Boosters is dedicated to raising funds to promote and support the athletic teams of both Bay High School and Bay Middle School. ●

Join the Compeer mission for 2013: Inspire

by Denise Ayres

January 2013 is here and has brought along all the possibilities of a new year. Some of us make New Year's resolutions and most of us start to identify goals to achieve within the next twelve calendar pages. Organizations do the same whether it is setting a target for earnings or expanding new ideas.

"Inspire" seems to be a perfect word to summarize what our Compeer Program would like to achieve in 2013. Inspire can have many meanings and most of them are related to helping others. The majority of those synonyms describe the actions of our Compeer volunteers. Our Compeer Program serves others by affirming a person's worth, raising hope that good things are part of the future and encouraging individuals to reconnect with their communities.

I have met many inspiring people in our cities. I am certain there are countless more I have yet to meet. If you can offer encouraging words to someone then you are an inspiring person. Inspiration does not have to be given in the form a large gesture. I have seen numerous times how sincere, consistent, kind, hopeful words can bring about major changes in another person's life. These actions are often referred to as friendship.

Our Compeer volunteers offer friendship to people that are managing depression, have anxiety and have become isolated. Compeer volunteers make phone calls, visit, plan community outings and inspire people to gain confidence. One of our volunteers has helped a young lady go from spending most days in her room to becoming someone that seeks out new experiences and is a social butterfly! This was accomplished by weekly phone calls and getting together throughout each month to shop or get a bite to eat.

You do not need to be a super hero or an award winner to inspire others. You only need to be a friend. Please consider how your unique friendship could inspire someone else to reach their potential. Compeer welcomes adults to become part of our mission to inspire. Please call 440-835-6212, ext. 242, to see how volunteering for Compeer at Far West Center in Westlake can fit into your schedule. You can also email the Compeer Program in Westlake at: compeer@farwestcenter.com.

Compeer offers training and ongoing support. We also offer a variety of fun social activities. Compeer is part of Compeer Inc., a nonprofit organization with more than 60 locations worldwide. Find Compeer on the internet at: www.compeer.org. ●

WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE Observer

Over 500 citizens have contributed to the Observer

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

The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through citizen participation of 500+ 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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Letters to the editor (max. 300 words) may be sent to tara@wbvobserver.com. Please include full contact information.



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 or works 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. The Observer's focus is on the people, news and events of Westlake and Bay Village.
- 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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Westshore mayors recognized by state auditor



The Westshore Council of Government cities were awarded with Auditor of State Dave Yost's Taxpayer Hero Award on Jan. 9. Accepting the award were, from left, Rocky River Mayor Pamela Bobst, Bay Village Mayor Debbie Sutherland, Fairview Park Mayor Eileen Patton, Lakewood Mayor Michael Summers, North Olmsted Mayor Kevin Kennedy and Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough.

Bay Village Mayor Debbie Sutherland and Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough were among the Westshore leaders recognized Jan. 9 by state Auditor Dave Yost for their efforts to make the most of taxpayer dollars. Awarded to the Westshore Council of Governments, a collaborative body that includes the cities of Bay, Westlake, Rocky River, Fairview Park, North Olmsted and Lakewood, the auditor's Taxpayer Hero Award recognizes governments that "maximize services for taxpayers while spending less."

The Westshore COG, formed in 1971, works to increase efficiency by sharing services including SWAT, central dispatch centers, cooperative purchasing, waste-

water treatment and a municipal court system. Yost also noted the volunteer Westshore Regional CERT team, which assists first responders during emergencies, for recovery efforts following Hurricane Sandy.

Auditor Yost praised the Westshore COG for its innovation and teamwork between neighboring communities, calling its success "a model for local governments considering regional cooperation."

This is the second Taxpayer Hero Award presented by Auditor Dave Yost. The first went to Sandusky County Sheriff Kyle Overmyer last October, for cutting his jail's costs by establishing an inmate-tended garden behind the jail and switching to a local food supplier. ●

WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Clague House Museum lights up the night

by Lysa Stanton

The Westlake Historical Society is all aglow with the completion of outdoor lighting at the Clague House Museum. The society would like to thank the city of Westlake for helping us to accomplish this goal.

This lighting not only adds ambiance to the museum, it also makes it possible for the

society to fly the American flag 24 hours a day. The flag pole was installed and dedicated this past fall in honor of William and Jean Robishaw.

Once spring arrives the society looks forward to the addition of more landscaping around this Westlake landmark. ●

RIGHT: The city of Westlake recently installed outdoor lighting on the grounds of the Clague House Museum.



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New Bay Village councilman selected to fill at-large seat

by Tara Wendell

Bay Village City Council welcomed its newest member at the Jan. 14 meeting. Councilman-at-large Steve Lee was sworn in to replace outgoing Councilman Scott Pohlkamp, who resigned Dec. 31, 2012, to devote his full energy to his new position as CEO of the Bay-based firm All-American Teleradiology.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the residents of Bay Village," Councilman Lee said. "I want to be part of maintaining this special place and enhancing the quality of life for current and future residents. It is my hope that if, in twenty years, my children were to decide to raise their families in Bay Village, they will find it to be the same great community we know it to be today."

A twenty-year resident of Bay Village, Steve Lee has worked as a corporate attorney since graduating from the University of Michigan Law School in 1989. He currently practices law in his own firm



Bay Councilman-at-large Steve Lee takes the oath of office on Jan. 14.

and is a principal in a specialty insurance brokerage. His wife Diana, nee DiVenere, has lived in Bay Village since 1978. The couple has two children - Marissa, a sophomore at Bay High School, and Jack, a Bay Middle School eighth-grader.

Lee was selected from among 14 candidates interviewed by Council for the vacant seat.

"Steve Lee demonstrated individual and professional traits which Council found appealing during the interview and selection process," said Councilman Dwight Clark. "He is an active member of the Bay Village community, currently

serving as a trustee for the Village Foundation and on the Bay Rockets Athletic Boosters board. Having served as general counsel for Westlake-based TravelCenters of America for 10 years, and as an integral member of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Bay Village Schools, Steve's all-around credentials made him an excellent choice to join Bay Village City Council."

Lee was given the oath of office by Mayor Debbie Sutherland at the start of the Jan. 14 meeting, then settled in for his first session as councilman-at-large. He later admitted to the Observer that he was a bit nervous during his swearing-in, joking that he thought the mayor was repeating parts of the oath, as his time in the spotlight seemed to last quite a while.

The good-natured Lee describes himself as a "practical problem solver and consensus builder." In his letter to City Council requesting consideration for the position, Lee expressed a strong sense of community, stewardship and service toward Bay Village.

Councilman Lee plans to seek election to the seat in November, when his current term expires. ●

Bay Village hires new finance director



Bay Village Finance Director Renee Mahoney

Renee Mahoney's appointment by Mayor Debbie Sutherland to the position of Bay Village finance director was confirmed by City Council in a unanimous vote on Dec. 27. Mahoney, a certified public accountant, has 20 years of municipal finance experience with the city of Shaker Heights, advancing from staff accountant to assistant finance director. Her employment at Bay Village City Hall began on Jan. 4, on a part-time basis initially as she transitions from her former job. Mahoney takes over for the previous finance director, Steve Presley, who accepted a position in the Pepper Pike finance department. ●

Generous salon staff and clients give to Youth Challenge

by Kathy Rigdon

If you visited Rometrics Salon-Spa of Westlake this past December, you had a chance to support Youth Challenge. Between sales of raffle tickets and angels, \$1,000 was raised to help the kids of YC.

Youth Challenge is a Westlake-based nonprofit that provides sports and recreational activities to children

with physical disabilities and their teen volunteer partners.

Sherry Young and Jane Kozey of Rometrics attended a recent YC program to present the donation. "We're grateful for the generosity of our Westlake neighbors—both the staff of Rometrics and their clients," said Ken Kasler, YC Chief of Operations and Program Oversight. "Everyone at YC appreciates their fundraising efforts." ●



YC participants and volunteers gather while Ken Kasler, YC Chief of Operations and Program Oversight, (third from left) accepts a check from Sherry Young and Jane Kozey from Rometrics Salon-Spa of Westlake.

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Don't miss the annual book sale at Westlake Porter Public Library

by Carol Masek

Have you noticed the banners on the light poles in Westlake? They are once again reminding you about the annual book sale at Porter Library sponsored by the Friends of Porter Public Library. Each year a crew of dedicated volunteers sorts and stores the thousands of books donated to the library so that we can hold this five-day event that is one of the major fundraisers for the library. We need three rooms to display all of the books that have been donated since our last big sale.

There has been an amazing variety of items donated this year – fiction, non-fiction, adult and children's books, books that are brand-new, and some that are 100 years old. We have DVDs, music CDs and many books on CD if you like to listen to your stories.

Some of the more valuable books are available in the silent auction that is going on until Feb. 10. These can be seen right now in the showcase in the lobby of the library, right next to Portables, the gift shop run by Friends. This year we have a nice collection of books about the history of the Cleveland area, as well as many other interesting items. Take some time to make a bid in the bidding book.

The sale starts on Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. with a preview night for members of Friends. Memberships will be available at that time. The regular sale runs on Thursday, Feb. 7, 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m., and Friday, Feb. 8, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 9, there is a half-price sale from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and then our popular \$2 Bag Sale on Sunday, Feb. 10, from 1:15-4:30 p.m.

A big thank you to all of our volunteers who are ready to help set-up and run our sale. The sale could not be the success it is, year after year, without you. ●

CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE

Special student admission on Saturdays at Clague Playhouse for 'Gulf View Drive'

by Pam Kilpatrick

Clague Playhouse continues their 85th season with "Gulf View Drive," the third play in Arlene Hutton's Nibroc Trilogy which began with "Last Train to Nibroc" followed by "See Rock City." In the first two plays, a young pair of Kentuckians named May and Raleigh meet, fall in love, marry and try to reconcile marital expectations and their opinionated mothers-in-law.

In "Gulf View Drive," the time frame has moved from World War II to 1953, and May and Raleigh have moved to Florida, where the crush of dreams, families and the turbulence of events just outside their door threaten their comfortable life.

Robert Gibb is the director and featured in the cast are Bobby Coyne as Raleigh, Bernadette Hisey as Mrs. Brummett, Debbie

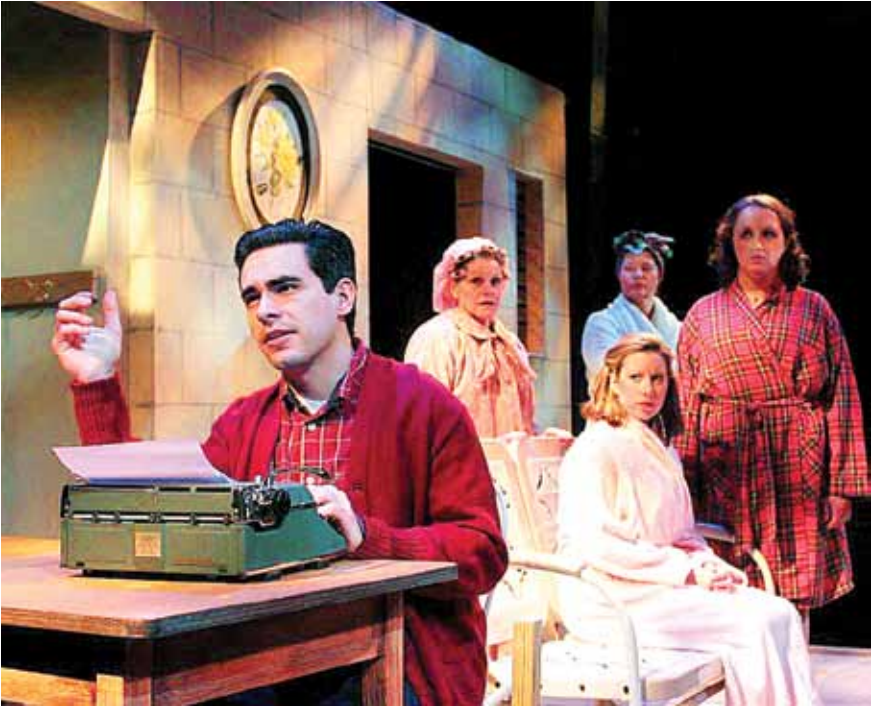


Photo by James Ely

Bobby Coyne as Raleigh, Bette Prendergast as Mrs. Gill, Debbie Lenarz as May, Bernadette Hisey as Mrs. Brummett and Jacqueline Scheufler as Treva in Clague Playhouse's "Gulf View Drive."

Lenarz as May, Bette Prendergast as Mrs. Gill, and Jacqueline Scheufler as Treva.

The play runs through Feb. 3 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$16 for adults, \$15 for seniors (60+) and students (with valid ID), with a special \$10 student admission

for Saturday performances, and may be purchased by calling the box office at 440-331-0403, Wednesday through Saturday from 1-6 p.m. Cash, check, Discover, MasterCard and Visa are accepted. Clague Playhouse is located at 1371 Clague Rd. Free parking and handicapped accessible. ●

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WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

Wednesday, Jan. 16 (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, Jan. 16 (1:30-2:30 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.) E-READER HELP SESSIONS – Got an E-Reader or tablet PC for Christmas but need help accessing, downloading and reading e-books from the library? Call the Popular Materials Desk at 440-250-5462 to schedule a help session on the days and times specified.

Wednesday, Jan. 16 (6:30-8:45 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Friday, Jan. 18 (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS "TEACH ME TO PLAY" – Experts from the Cuyahoga Board of Developmental Disabilities will lead this playgroup for children ages 3-6 years. Parents will learn how to help their children play and interact with peers through modeling techniques. Children do not need a formal diagnosis to attend. Caregiver must stay in the room. Please register at connectingforkids.org.

Saturday, Jan. 19 (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, Jan. 19 (10:30-11 a.m.) MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE! – Join Mother Goose for this interac-

tive storytime featuring simple books, rhymes, songs and movement. For ages birth-3 years old with adult caregiver.

Saturday, Jan. 19 (3-4:45 p.m.) MAD4MANGA – M4M is everything manga! We talk about manga, create manga art, discuss & watch anime films, and more! Grades 6-12 only. Registration not necessary.

Sunday, Jan. 20 (2-4 p.m.) FRIENDS' SUNDAY SOUNDS – The Friends of Porter Public Library present the Billy Kaye Duo, who will sing songs from the Great American Songbook.

Monday, Jan. 21 (2-3:30 p.m.) LET'S BUILD! – Explore your creative side with a variety of bricks, blocks and other building toys and games! For grades K-5. Please Registration begins Jan. 14. Westlake Schools are not in session this day.

Monday, Jan. 21 (4-5:30 p.m.) MOVIES @ YOUR LIBRARY – Join us for some family movies over the school break. All ages welcome. In accordance with library policy, children under 9 must be with an adult. Registration begins one week before each movie.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 (6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m.) E-READER HELP SESSIONS – Got an E-Reader or tablet PC for Christmas but need help accessing, downloading and reading e-books from the library? Call the Popular Materials Desk at 440-250-5462 to schedule a help session on the days and times specified.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 (7-8:45 p.m.) CATCH A RISING STAR...BALDWIN WALLACE MUSIC THEATRE IN RECITAL – The Westlake-Westshore

Arts Council presents Baldwin Wallace music theater students. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Jan. 23 (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, Jan. 23 (1:30-2:30 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.) E-READER HELP SESSIONS – Got an E-Reader or tablet PC for Christmas but need help accessing, downloading and reading e-books from the library? Call the Popular Materials Desk at 440-250-5462 to schedule a help session on the days and times specified.

Wednesday, Jan. 23 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – January's selection is "The House I Loved" by Tatiana de Rosnay.

Wednesday, Jan. 23 (5-6 p.m.) TWEEN BOOK CLUB – Read a really good book recently? Looking for suggestions? Then join us for lively discussions about good books, audio, apps and more. Snacks provided! Grades 5-8.

Thursday, Jan. 24 (5-6 p.m.) TEEN BOOK DISCUSSION – Read a really good book recently? Looking for suggestions? Then join us for a snack and a lively discussions about books, audio, apps and more. Grades 9-12. Please register starting Jan. 10. Meets at Panera Bread, 26137 Detroit Rd., Westlake.

Friday, Jan. 25 (10 a.m.-noon) PORTER'S FIBER FANATICS – Socialize, share, and solve problems

while you work on your current project.

Friday, Jan. 25 (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.

Saturday, Jan. 26 (9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.) SAT PRACTICE EXAM – Get ready for test time with an SAT practice exam provided by Sylvan Learning Center. Please remember to bring a calculator and two #2 pencils. Detailed results will be available one week after the exam at the Youth Services desk. Grades 10-12. Registration begins Jan. 12.

Monday, Jan. 28 (1-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Monday, Jan. 28 (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.

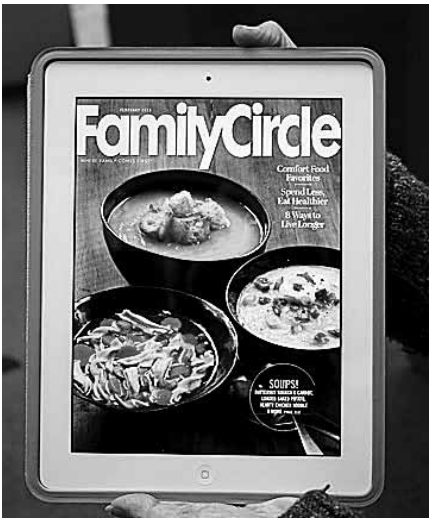
Wednesday, Jan. 30 (10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:30 a.m.) LET'S SING AND DANCE! – Join us for a fun session of singing and dancing for children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Space is limited, so please arrive early enough to receive a ticket at the Preschool Desk.

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

Westlake Porter Public Library now offers e-magazines!

Westlake Porter Public Library is offering its users something new in 2013: e-magazines. The library's collection of digital magazines is supplied by Zinio through the library's website (www.westlakelibrary.org). Zinio allows users to instantly download and view magazines on any Internet-enabled device – computer, e-reader or other mobile device. Zinio apps are available for the iPhone, iPad, Android, Kindle Fire and Blackberry Playbook for ease of use. Each title in Zinio allows unlimited multiple users.

WPPL's collection includes popular titles such as Consumer Reports; O, The Oprah Magazine; Reader's Digest; Woman's Day; Harper's Bazaar and Car and Driver. It also includes Newsweek, which was recently discontinued in its print version. The collection covers a variety of genres – women, men, automotive, health/fitness, enter-



tainment, hobbies, fashion, and much more.

To access the e-magazines users must have a valid WPPL library card and create an account. Once you have successfully created an account, just log in for a link to the library's Zinio collection. Visit the "Downloadables" section of the library's website for more information or to get started.

"The world of publishing continues to evolve and more information is being offered digitally rather than in print," said Library Director Andrew Mangels. "Westlake Porter Public Library is committed to ensuring that our users have access to the information they need regardless of format, and e-magazines are the latest way we're meeting that goal."

Note: The Bay Village Branch Library also offers e-magazines through the Cuyahoga County Public Library network. More information is available at cuyahogalibrary.org/zinio.aspx. ●

Remembered

by Dave Scullin

A cold Sunday and the church-goers were bundled up.

The very old man in front of me in the pew could not weigh more than 120 lbs.

He took off his "Browns" watch cap to reveal a bald spot and some wispy white hair, from his comb-over, that floated for a moment in the holy air.

He opened his personal prayer book. It was black faux leather, its corners dog-eared by use and the gold edges of the pages had gone to mostly silver from age.

At some point in the service I noticed he plucked a small card from the prayer book and cupped it in his hand and stared at it for a while, as a smile spread across his weathered face.

I thought it was one of those cards you pick up when you write your name in the sign-in book at a wake.

But no, it was a picture of his smiling wife in her thirties.

It's so good to be remembered.

Bay & Westlake students' Gold Key-winning artwork from the Scholastic Art competition



"Rainbow Street" by Madeline Lee



"Time" by Kelsea Patterson



"Extraterrestrial Landing" by Jaccob Sooy



"Skater's Self Portrait" by Joseph Strunk



"Intensity" by Thomas Koss



"Pressed And Sprigged Pot" by Rose Mlaker



"Toaster" by Francesca Zappala



"Reflections" by Meredin Oster



"The Burdens We Carry" by Katie Allen



"In Depth" by Christa Beyer



"Westside Market" by Paige Dawson

Bay Village Schools students win 45 Scholastic Art + Writing awards

by Karen Derby

Bay Village City School District students garnered eight first-place Gold Key awards, 13 second-place Silver Key awards, and 24 Honorable Mention awards from a field of nearly 1,700 entries in this year's Cuyahoga County Scholastic Art + Writing Competition. Gold Key winners will be judged at the national-level competition in New York City this spring.

Gold Key winners were Bay

High seniors Katie Allen (sculpture, "The Burdens We Carry"), Joseph Strunk (sculpture, "Skater's Self Portrait"), Francesca Zappala (painting, "Toaster"); freshman Jaccob Sooy (photography, "Extraterrestrial Landing"); Bay Middle School eighth-graders Rose Mlaker (ceramics/glass, "Pressed And Sprigged Pot"), Meredin Oster (painting, "Reflections"), Sarah Stockton (painting, "9 Lives"); and seventh-grader Thomas Koss (painting, "Intensity").

Silver Key winners were seniors Stephanie Killian (painting, "Frozen Moment") and Stephanie Sheppa (photography, "Girl Fox"); junior Hanna Heberlein (painting, "Pomeroy"); sophomore Payton Lake (painting, "Moving Forward"); freshmen Paulina Blaha (sculpture, "Pink Pearl"), Emma Chalk (science fiction/fantasy writing, "The Color Of Silence"), Abby Christel (ceramics/glass, "Blossom"), Charles Neroni (photography, "Contrast"); eighth-graders Mia Russell (sculpture, "Bird Temple") and Nick Seicean (drawing, "Nested Bird"); and seventh-graders Stephanie Mahon (ceramics/glass, "Tea With Dale Chihuly"), Delaney McDonald (ceramics/glass, "Heralding the Art of Keith Haring") and Analiese Seicean (drawing, "Egyptian Expedition").

Honorable Mention awards went to seniors Stephanie Killian (painting, "House"), Alissa Kolke (painting, "Priorities"), Katelyn Ramella (painting, "I Da Know"), Cameron Meakin (digital art, "Cthulhu"), Colleen Rodman (painting, "KI"), Megan See (mixed media, "Shrine To The Heart"), Joseph Strunk (sculpture, "Mobius"), Lizzie Tomcho (sculpture, "I Am In Here"), Francesca Zappala (painting, "Oberlin"), Kristen Zeuch (paintings, "Working Spirit" and "I Need Space"); juniors Bridget Durham (painting, "Puppies") and Kloe Reddy (paintings "Biggie" and "The Valley"); sophomores Katherine Kunze (sculpture, "Soapstone Dog") and Madeline Moriarty (painting, "Ferris Wheel"); freshmen Joe DeBarr (photography, "The Other Side"), Lydia Barnes (sculpture, "Puffer Fish"), Andrea Blumental (photography, "Floating Along"), Delaney Bly (photography, "Child's Play"); eighth-graders Alexandra Hoffman (painting, "Man's Best Friend"), Lila Robinson (mixed media, "Fragile Beauty"), Mia Russell (mixed media, "Tropical") and Milana Scarlato (ceramics/glass, "Tranquility").

Students completed their winning art during the last school year; freshmen completed their work while at Bay Middle School. Bay Village Schools art instructors are Cherie Bauer, Denise Ross and Tom Schemrich (Bay High); Greg Leininger and Gloria Wilder (Bay Middle School); Debbie Sanson (Westerly Elementary); and Jama Jennings (Normandy Elementary). ●

Westlake students bring home 47 awards from county-wide contest

by Kim Bonvissuto

Five Westlake High School students and four Lee Burneson Middle School students won Gold Key awards in the Cuyahoga County Scholastic Art + Writing Competition, which recognizes creative achievement of seventh to 12th grade students throughout Cuyahoga County.

Senior Julianne Aprile, junior Kelsea Patterson and sophomores Paige Dawson and Christa Beyer won Gold Key awards. Sophomore Madeline Lee won four Gold Key awards. Representing LBMS with Gold Key awards are eighth-grader Jane Fitz, who won two Gold Keys, eighth-graders Sneha Ramachandran and Ben Sposet and seventh-grader Allie Routhier.

Julianne Aprile also was nominated for the American Visions Award for "Rust Belt," along with four other Gold Key winners from the county. All Gold Key winners' artwork will continue on to national competition this spring in New York City.

WHS Silver Key winners include Madeline Lee, sophomores Taylor Racela, Sadie Roff and Reizaen Abuhamdeh;

seniors Mason Trowbridge, Wan Kwok, Ricky Kolar and Katie Parchem; and junior Alex Busser. LBMS Silver Key winners are eighth-graders Gaham Kowalski and Sneha Ramachandran.

Honorable Mention awards went to WHS sophomores Christa Beyer, Sam Peplin and Regan Falin; seniors Jenna Lawrence, Ally Chonko, Wan Kwok, Julianne Aprile, Grace Cristiano and Ishaan Bakhle; juniors Evan Leonard, Allison Veide and Haley Ward. Juniors Kal Patterson and Taylor Salamone each won two Honorable Mentions, and junior Brian Hood won three Honorable Mentions. LBMS Honorable Mention winners are eighth-graders Katie Hahn and Ben Sposet, and seventh-graders Rachel Altman and Jade Hawk.

Wan Kwok also received an Honorable Mention for her portfolio.

The 2013 Scholastic Art + Writing Exhibition will be held through Feb. 2 at the Cleveland Institute of Art's Reinberger Galleries. The work was judged by a panel of local professional artists, art educators, writings and writing educators. ●



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visit www.straightfromtheheartevent.org
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for Two from Barcelona
- 7 \$5,000 Cash
- 8 7-Night All Inclusive
Trip for Two to
Cancun, Mexico,
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Dr. E. Dean Nukta
- 9 7-Day Trip for Two to
Waikiki, Hawaii
- 10 Channel Set Diamond
Hoop Earrings,
arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 11 \$3,000 Cash
- 12 7-Night Canadian
Cruise for Two from
New York
- 13 Diamond Cluster
Pendant,
arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 14 7-Night Caribbean
Cruise for Two
- 15 5-Day Trip for Two to
California Wine Country
- 16 \$2,000 Cash
- 17 5-Day Trip for Four to
Walt Disney World
- 18 5-Day Golf Package
for Two to Hyatt Grand
Cypress, Orlando
- 19 \$2,000 Cash
- 20 Stock Your Cellar with
100 Assorted Wines,
arranged by
Rozi's Wine House
- 21 \$1,500 Cash
- 22 Weekend Getaway for
Two to New York City
- 23 3-Night Trip for Two to
Las Vegas
- 24 \$1,500 Cash
- 25 Treadmill and
Workout Essentials,
arranged by Health & Fitness
- 26 His/Hers Movado
Watches,
arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 27 \$1,000 Cash
- 28 \$1,000 Travel Voucher
- 29 Weekend Getaway for
Two to Chicago
- 30 \$1,000 Cash
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- 32 \$1,000 Cash
- 33 \$1,000 Cash
- 34 Apple iPad 16GB
- 35 Nook E-reader and iPod
- 36 \$1,000 Cash
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- 38 Bose Digital
Music System
- 39 Sony Blu Ray
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- 40 Cannon Powershot
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Toshiba Camcorder

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Young Bay swimmers compete at four-state championship meet

by Leigh Owen

Bay Middle School students Colin MacMillan and Maja Miedza recently returned from Indianapolis, where they represented Team Ohio at the 2013 Mid States Championships Meet held at IUPUI Natatorium. Colin, a seventh-grade student, and Maja, a fifth-grader, were part of a select group of swimmers participating in this age 14-and-under elite meet.

Both swimmers are members of the Lakewood Rangers Swim Team, a USASwimming club in Lakewood. "Being named to represent Team Ohio at the Mid States Championships is indeed an extremely high honor. Colin and Maja's performance at this meet bodes well for their future in competition at national meets," said LRST head coach Jim Stacy.

Colin and Maja each competed in three individual events – 50-yard butterfly, 100-yard butterfly, and 50-yard freestyle – and two relays, finishing within the top 10 in each event. Colin swam in the boys 11-12 age group and Maja competed in the girls 10-and-under age group. Both also swam on their respective 200 freestyle and 200 medley relays.



BMS students and Team Ohio swimmers Colin MacMillan and Maja Miedza helped their team finish second in a four-state meet.

Team Ohio scored 3494.5 points and placed second behind Team Indiana's 3897.5 points. Team Kentucky finished third, Team Michigan was fourth.

Team Ohio is comprised of swimmers from Lake Erie League and the Ohio League, the two USA Swimming leagues in Ohio. Team Ohio selects the top four swimmers in each event to travel to the Mid States Championships. ●

TRIP

continued from front page

From Google Maps, it looks like it has small yard that South Africans call a garden.

I think Stellenbosch is going to be pretty big because it has a university named the University of Stellenbosch in it. I think it is going to be like living in Bay Village only bigger.

We've been told that the grocery store is right across the street from our house. I predict that instead of us all shopping together, my mom might send me across the street to run errands for her. Crossing the street will be very different because cars drive on the opposite side of the road. Instead of looking left, right and left again, we will have to look right, left and right again. That will take some getting used to.

My parents say that going to the bank is different too. There are guard dogs outside the bank with security officers. When I was little, the security guard at our bank used to let me pet the dogs, but I don't remember that.

School will be different too. I will be home-schooled by my mom along with my brother and sister. I want to thank my teach-

ers Mrs. Hurtuk, Ms. Mullarkey, Mrs. Lion, Mrs. Battershell, Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Sherwood for getting together all the work I will need to finish fifth grade. I only have one thing to say about the work you gave me: Did you have to give me so much?

I am excited to see all the different animals in their natural environment. I can't wait to see the top of Table Mountain and go on hikes. I'm looking forward to seeing where the Atlantic and the Indian oceans meet. I really want to go whale watching and visit the penguins on Boulders Beach.

However excited I am about this trip, I'm still going to miss my friends. It was hard saying good-bye to all of them, but I will be back soon. My parents think seven months is going to fly by, but I think they are wrong. I think it is going to go by *very* slowly. My mom tells me I'm going to have a hard time leaving South Africa in August, but I think she is wrong about that too. ●



Audrey Ray, center, with siblings Evelyn, Adrian and Iain, headed to South Africa on Jan. 15 with parents Brian and Kim. Audrey will share with Observer readers her experiences during the family's seven-month stay abroad.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

It looks like our “January Thaw” is coming to an end with temperatures in the teens. And that, of course, means a trip to the library! Don’t be caught without the essentials: good books, movies, audio books and magazines to enjoy! Come in and browse the collection – we’ll also be glad to help you find what you need. Parents: bring your preschooler to Preschool Pals, a storytime for ages 3 1/2-5 without a caregiver! That’s right – your little one comes in on his/her own for a storytime just for them! Adults can enjoy time in the Children’s Room while their children hear stories, sing and dance! Please join us for that and the following programs:

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Monday, Feb. 4 (7 p.m.) VALENTINE ZENTANGLE – Cathy Zavodny will show us how to design beautiful Zentangle Valentine cards. Come join in the fun!

Wednesday, Feb. 6 (7 p.m.) ALA NOTABLES LIST OF BOOKS 2013 – Join us as Bill Kelly, the Beachwood Branch Manager and member of the American Library Association Council, explains how the process is completed and why these notable books were selected.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, Jan. 22 (7 p.m.) ACT PREP – For high schools students. College Now Greater Cleveland will help you set your personal ACT score based on your talents. Learn which questions you should skip, develop specific strategies for each subject section and make a plan for you to reach your ACT score goal!

Thursday, Feb. 22 (3:30 p.m.) ROLL OUT THE DUCT TAPE! – For ages 11-18. Join us as we roll out the duct tape for fun projects. Try one of ours or come up with one of your own – you’ll be stuck on whatever you create!

CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT

Thursday, Jan. 24 (11 a.m.) PRE-

SCHOOL PALS STORYTIME – For ages 3 1/2-5. Join us for stories, songs and rhymes during this time for preschoolers on their own!

Wednesday, Jan. 30 (4 p.m.) AMELIA BEDELIA DAY – For children ages 4-8. Celebrate Amelia Bedelia’s 50th birthday with us. She’s here with a new story – “Teach Us, Amelia Bedelia” – followed by more fun activities, crafts and refreshments. Parents must sign a release form before the program.

Thursday, Jan. 31 (3:30 p.m.) JUNIOR ENGINEERING CLUB – For ages 8-12. Bring your ideas and imagination! Get together once a month with other students and have fun creating all kinds of structures.

Saturday, Feb. 2 (2-4 p.m.) DIY DIGITAL MOVIES – For grades 4-8. Stephanie Sutton will teach us how to use video equipment and editing software, create mini-movies, video blogs and interview sessions.

Tuesday, Feb. 5 (4 p.m.) WE CAN ALL BE BRAVE AND KIND – For grades 2-5. Through participatory folk tales from diverse cultures, songs, role-playing and reflection, Susan Weber invites children to empathize with story characters and consider effective responses when confronted with unkind words and actions. During the workshop, kids can explore positive behaviors in a safe, supportive environment.

Saturday, Feb. 9 (11 a.m.) ANIMATION STATION: ANIMATED GREETING CARD CREATION – For grades K-3. Learn how to make an animated greeting card using the computer program Fluxtime. You decide on the message you want to share, choose a background and characters, and even make them move! An email address is necessary to forward completed projects. A parent must sign a release form before the program.

Please register for these programs by going online to cuyahogalibrary.org, calling 871-6392, or when you stop in for a visit. We look forward to seeing you! ●

Friends of Bay Village Library book sale, Jan. 26-29

ONE SENIOR’S OPINION

Take the flu seriously

by Dianne Borowski

The joy of January this year brings with it a national flu epidemic. If you haven’t been vaccinated with the flu vaccine, now’s the time to do it. Professionals tell us the vaccine is not always 100 percent effective but does give partial immunity, at least, to the various strains of the flu floating around. Believe me, you don’t want to experience full-blown flu, especially if you’re among the very young or are a senior citizen. These populations are hit hardest because of a low or weakened immune system.

One of the best ways to fight the

flu is to wash your hands frequently for at least twenty seconds under warm running water. Frequently doesn’t mean just before and after meals but anytime you move from one environment to another. Trading viruses from one person to another results in the possibility of being confined to home and feeling miserable for several days to a week.

I’m sure all of this information seems repetitive but it can be a matter of life or death. Every year people die from the effects of the flu. Take care of yourself by doing everything you can to avoid catching the flu. These precautions not only help you but your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Let’s beat the flu this season. Keep our community healthy this winter. ●

Relax with a Valentine Zentangle at the Bay Library

by Barb Isaacs

What is Zentangle? It is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, simple-to-understand method to create beautiful images by drawing shapes and lines to create repetitive patterns, created by Rick Roberts and Maria Thomas. Even if you are convinced you are not an artist or don’t have any drawing experience, you can create a Zentangle.

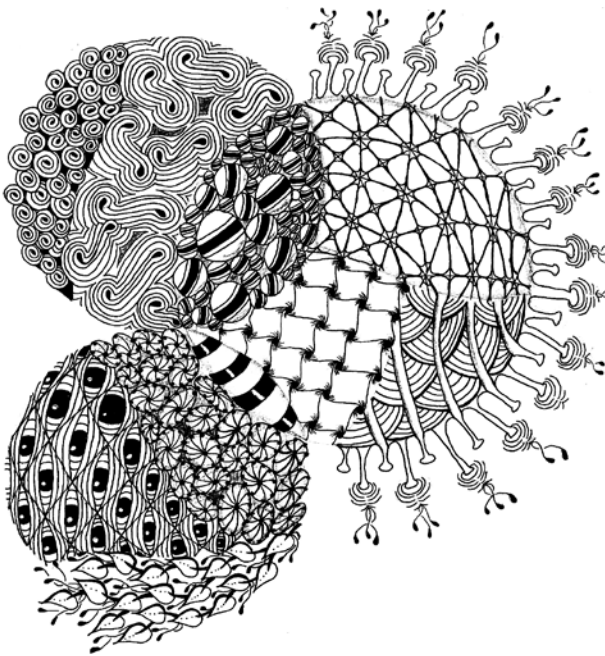


Image courtesy tanglelink.com

Cathy Zavodny will explain how to draw Zentangles, like the one she created above, at Bay Village Branch Library on Feb. 4.

Not only a mode of self-expression, Zentangle has benefits similar to the effects of meditation, such as increased focus and creativity as well as a sense of personal well being and relaxation. The Zentangle method is enjoyed worldwide by people of all different skills, interests and ages. Anyone can do it!

Join us at the Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library on

Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. when Cathy Zavodny, a certified teacher for Zentangle, will present how to make Zentangle Valentine cards. This program is for adults only and registration is required as seating is limited.

Register online at www.cuyahogalibrary.org or call 440-871-6392. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library. ●

SENIOR LIVING

Five tips for long-distance caregiving

by Kristi Vaughn, LSW

Living far away from aging parents can be very difficult for families. You may feel overwhelmed and wonder what you can do to help from a long distance standpoint. The following are some tips that may help to decrease your worries and help you feel more prepared.

- Consider having a family meeting via conference call or the web. Talk about the concerns each sibling is having with your parents’ health, living environment and/or safety. Decide who can do what to help, establish a schedule and set goals. Consider asking your parents’ friends or neighbors if they would be willing to help in small ways such as checking in periodically. They may be able to give insight into what is truly going on in the home. Hold a meeting with each other first, and then another with your parents after you are more organized with your concerns. One person should keep notes and provide each sibling with a copy.
- Organize your parents’ health and financial information. Include each parent’s diagnosis, medications, allergies, names/numbers/addresses of primary physician and any specialists, all family/friend/neighbor contact information, insurance information,

- pharmacy, copies of Durable Power of Attorney and/or Living Will (if no one is appointed immediately discuss this with your parents), medical equipment company contact information, home health care contact information and any special dietary needs. Have a copy of the financial Power of Attorney (if no one is appointed currently, discuss this with your parents), consider having one child on your parents’ bank account in case they become incapacitated.
- Contact your parents’ medical providers and ensure you are aware of their medical status and current recommendations from the physician. Research their diagnoses and medications so you are familiar with what your parents are going through and dealing with from a medical standpoint. Consider having someone accompany your parents to their medical appointments to help keep track of information.
- Depending on the needs, consider hiring extra help via a non-medical home care provider. Consider a life alert system. Contact their local senior center for more information on providers.
- Plan for emergencies such as having money set aside in case you need to make unexpected visits to help during an emergency. ●

WESTLAKE KIWANIS

Aktion Club helps military families with 'Coupons to Troops'

by Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Aktion is clipping coupons for military families serving overseas. The project is called "Coupons to Troops" and the Aktion Club has been involved in this project for just under a year now. They are currently providing coupons for their second family, an Air Force family in Italy; the first was an Army family stationed in Germany.

These military families can use the coupons at their Post Exchange and can be six

months expired and still be used. The families who receive these coupons share the coupons they can't use with other military families. The Aktion Club meets at Westlake Porter Public Library and clips and sorts coupons in various categories such as food, health and beauty, baby, household and pet products. They then mail a box once a month to their military family.

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

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



ABOVE: Laura Santamaria, Natalie Orlandi, Becky Humphries, Robert Grant, Mike Sigmund, Josh Kuntz and Jennifer Rutkoski with the finished product ready to send to a military family overseas.



LEFT: The Aktion Club clips coupons for military families at Porter Library.

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Amelia Bedelia returns to Bay Village Branch Library

by Susan Ballard

Get out your dusting powder and scissors, here comes Amelia Bedelia and we're celebrating her birthday! Over the past fifty years, Amelia Bedelia has given children countless laughs, smiles and enduring stories that truly inspire a love of reading. Now it's time for us to celebrate Amelia Bedelia's cheerful personality, literal translations and playful spirit by throwing Amelia Bedelia the best birthday bash ever!

By commemorating this special anniversary on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 4 p.m., with a celebration of Amelia Bedelia's mixed-up antics, we honor Amelia Bedelia's refreshing view of the world, as well as authors Peggy and Herman Parish's lasting contribution to children's literature.

Bernice Cernoch will be returning as Amelia Bedelia with a new story to tell, "Teach Us, Amelia Bedelia." A local resident, Bernice combines thirty years of teaching with a theater back-



Bernice Cernoch returns to Bay Library on Wednesday, Jan. 30, to celebrate Amelia Bedelia's 50th birthday.

ground to bring this beloved book character to schools and libraries. She is passionate about creating excitement about reading for children. She feels that reading is so important as a way for children to use their imaginations and extend the story.

Bernice makes her storytelling interactive because, as she states, "Besides being more fun, direct involvement can ensure a stronger connection to the story. It can also sustain an active interest and encourage further reading."

The Bay Village Branch Library invites families with children ages 4-8 years to help celebrate Amelia Bedelia's 50th birthday with a new interactive story followed by more activities such as games, crafts and refreshments. Parents must fill out release forms for their children before the program which can be obtained at the children's desk. Register now by calling 440-871-6392 or online at www.cuyahogalibrary.org. ●

Area scouts compete in first annual pinewood derby race

by Laura Gonzalez

The first annual "Race to Scouting" corporate pinewood derby race, which was organized by West Shore Chamber of Commerce member and Cub

scoutmaster T.J. Worsencroft and hosted by Joe Firment Chevrolet in Avon to benefit kids of Scouting on Jan. 12, drew tremendous support from local businesses and families. Thanks to all who participated. A great time was had by all! ●



Scouts and their families cheer on the racers in the first annual "Race to Scouting" event at Joe Firment Chevrolet in Avon.

THE TALL SHIPS ARE COMING

by Colleen Harding

If you are making plans for the Fourth of July weekend and looking for something pretty spectacular, plan to attend the 2013 Cleveland Tall Ships Festival. The event is being sponsored by the Port of Cleveland and hosted by the Cleveland Rotary.

It has not been confirmed yet which of

the replica historic vessels will be sailing in, however it's certain our port will be full of majestic sails and vessels packed with beauty and history of days gone by. Cleveland hosts many wonderful events but there is none more stunning than the Tall Ships' Parade of Sail into our harbor on a warm summer day.

The festival runs from July 3-7, so mark your calendars and don't miss it.

For more information, including hours and admission, visit discoverohio.com (search "tall ships"). ●

Happy Valentine's day
Thursday, February 14

Advertise in this section in our Feb. 5 issue. Call Laura at 440-477-3556 for special rates.

Monica Besida, former stylist of Westlake salon is now working in Avon! She moved to Great Clips located in Avon French Creek Square. Love you all!

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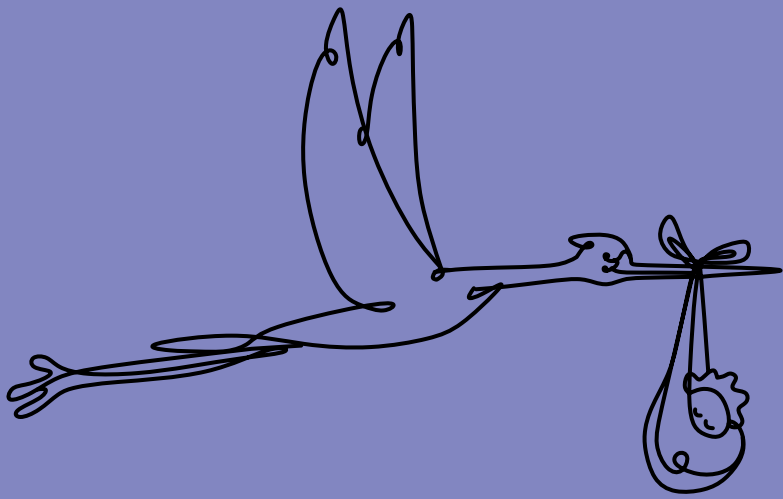
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BAYarts

BAYarts fundraiser focuses on sustainability and great food!

by Marianna Orro

Inspired by a partnership with Bay Village Green Team, BAYarts saw the rewards and ease in which they could incorporate sustainable practices on the campus. But where to begin? Who better to consult than Pat Conway, owner of Great Lakes Brewing Company and national leader in sustainability advocacy, practices GLBC has been using for decades. This was the beginning of a beautiful relationship.

Pat agreed to make a presentation at BAYarts, but why not throw in a tasting of GLBC seasonal beers? And what goes better with great beers than great food? Thus the idea for a Fat Tuesday event with a sit-down dinner of gour-

met, seasonal foods that complement the brews, and a guest speaker who knows all about it.

Although the event was originally scheduled to be at BAYarts, the space was limited and sold out quickly through word-of-mouth. That's when Joe Dubbs, chef and manager of The Ironwood Cafe on Dover Center Road, graciously offered the Copper Cup party center adjacent to The Ironwood, to host the event.

The Great Lakes Brewing Company beer tasting and four-course dinner costs \$75 per person and will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 12, from 6:30-9 p.m. Reservations are required by Feb. 8, purchased at BAYarts or by calling 440-871-6543. For more information, contact info@bayarts.net. ♦

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bay Village Historical Society hosts annual Victorian tea

by Cynthia Eakin

Join the Bay Village Historical Society for a traditional Victorian Tea on April 27, 2 p.m., at the Dwyer Memorial Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane in Bay Village.

Highlights of the annual tea include a drawing for an American Girl doll and a fun create-your-own hat contest. Carol Major will be selling clothes for 18-inch dolls.

Bring your daughters, granddaughters or little friends, age five and above, to experience entertainment from Victorian times. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$12 for children under 12 years of age. Dolls are invited. Reservations are required. Phone Carole Roske at 440-871-4797 for information.

All proceeds from the event go



Johanna Garr, left, and daughter Emma with Camille Anter at the Bay Village Historical Society's 2011 Victorian Tea.

toward the maintenance of Rose Hill Museum and the Osborn Learning Center, and toward student scholarships. ♦

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BAY

arts



Westlake trainer attempts world record for local girl



Trainer Paul "Theo" Theodore will attempt to break the world record for pull-ups at a fundraiser for Zoe, a Westlake girl battling cystic fibrosis.

by Paul Theodore

Westlake fitness trainer and former Cleveland State wrestler Paul "Theo" Theodore will attempt to break the Guinness World Record on Feb. 9 for the most pull-ups in 24 hours – but he's not doing it for himself.

The athletic feat is on behalf of Zoe, a 16-year-old from Westlake who has been battling a severe case of cystic fibrosis her entire life. She has an amazing wish: to renovate her hospital floor at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, to make it a more pleasurable environment for all the children that regularly stay there. "Zoe puts others before herself," Theo said. "She gets what this life is all about."

Cystic fibrosis is a rare and chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children in the U.S. The disease causes thick, sticky mucus to form in the lungs, digestive tract and other areas of the body. People with CF have to deal with life-threatening lung infections, pancreatic issues, persistent coughing, wheezing or shortness of breath,

and many other issues. The CF Foundation reports that the median life expectancy for someone with CF is mid- to late-30s.

"CF may try to take years away from Zoe's life, but she has way more life to her years than most people I know," Theo said. "She has an angelic spirit to her. Within minutes of being in her presence you quickly sense something special."

The current record for pull-ups in 24 hours stands at 4,020, a mark Theo will try to break at a fundraising event on Feb. 9, 6 to 9 p.m., at Grace Baptist Church in Westlake. The benefit will also include food, prizes and raffle baskets. The cost is \$30 per adult, \$10 per child or \$70 per family.

A team pull-up competition will be held before the benefit, from 4 to 6 p.m. Teams of up to eight people are welcome to enter, with a suggested donation of \$160. To register for the competition, email Amber at amber.theodore@yahoo.com. All money raised goes directly to Zoe's fund.

For more information or to donate in support of Zoe's wish, visit fitmeupfitness.com/pull-ups-for-zoe. ●

PET CARE

Of cats and claws, a simple solution to scratching

by Rachel Polaniec

Ten thousand years ago, a family welcomed a cat into their home. This first house cat was promptly tossed back outside, upon the missus' viewing the damage done to her newly-upholstered animal hide sofa. From that moment on, mankind has been confronted with a perplexing dilemma: How to have our cats and unspoiled furniture too.

My husband and I were among the most recent additions to this centuries-long struggle this past fall when we adopted an orange tabby, Dash, from a local animal shelter. Within twenty-four hours of coming home, Dash was scratching furniture, carpet and rugs with equal gusto. We attempted to curb this bad habit, but the sprays and strategically placed scratching posts were ineffective. I didn't want to have him declawed, but I didn't want to wrap all my furniture in plastic wrap either. Fortunately I had another trick tucked in my (shredded) sofa cushions: Soft Claws.

Probably the greatest cat product since the invention of scoopable cat litter, Soft Claws allows cats to keep their claws intact and people to keep their furniture intact. The idea behind them is simple: Secure a small plastic "cap" over the nail with an adhesive, much like placing a sword in a sheath. Once on, Soft Claws enable a cat to go about its normal business of scratching, while eliminating the destruction caused by sharp claws. They come in four sizes (by weight of the cat); kitten, small, medium and large in a pack of forty caps, two bottles of adhesive with six application tips, and easy to follow instructions, all for about \$21 (I bought mine at Petco, but many places sell them).

We used them on Dash and the improvement was immediate, although I must caution anyone considering this method for their own cats: Cats hate Soft Claws (at first). And until they are

all on and secure, the cat's claws are very much able to scratch you while you are in the process of getting them on. When applying them to a cat who has never worn Soft Claws before, I would suggest enlisting the help of a friend, or at the very least having a pillow case or a large towel on hand to restrain the cat.

Even the most docile and friendly of cats (like Dash) can become a raging,



Soft Claws are a humane alternative to declawing.

howling beast when having its claws covered (like Dash). Once in place, it takes a cat some time to get used to the feeling, and he might try to chew them off at first. After a few days, once he's been acclimated to them he won't notice them anymore, and won't resent it as much when an old one falls off and you replace it with a new one.

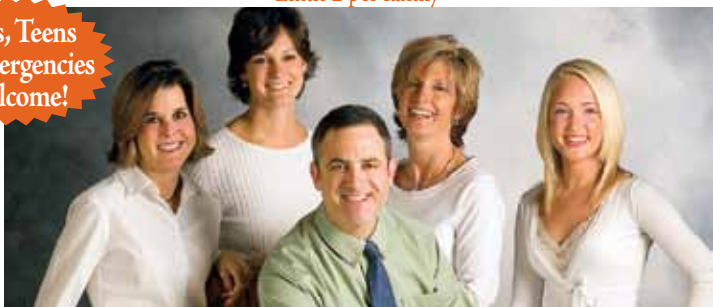


Dash models a set of clear Soft Claws nail caps.

Dash has since come to accept his new Soft Claws, and is doing quite well. My furniture is doing even better. And I have enough plastic wrap to last a lifetime. ●

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Remember Sandy?

by **Tricia Granfors**

Were you prepared for Superstorm Sandy? Be part of the solution for yourself, your family and your neighbors. Community preparedness starts with you, whether it's preparing for a hurricane, an extended power outage, a pandemic or a severe winter storm.

The Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (WSC) is offering free classes on topics such as disaster preparedness, basic injury assessment and medical treatment, search and rescue procedures, fire suppression, disaster psychology and much more. The 20-hour FEMA course is

conducted by local safety professionals. Westshore residents who are over 18 years of age, successfully complete training and pass a background check are eligible for team membership.

Do your part to keep our region safe and prepared. To indicate your interest in the free classes or for more information, contact WSC Coordinator Tricia Granfors at 440-716-4135 or granforst@north-olmsted.com. Space is limited.

Training begins Saturday, Feb. 23. The five consecutive Saturday morning classes will be held at St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., and the City of Westlake Service Center, 741 Bassett Rd., from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ●

So long to an old frequency

by **Dan Hirschfeld**

Something happened in our Westshore communities at the end of 2012 that gave the same sort of feeling to this Westlake radio enthusiast that many of the city's residents likely had when the Red Brick School was demolished.

The occurrence I speak of is that of the Westshore fire departments of Bay Village, Fairview Park, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake moving their radio operations off of the frequency 154.250 megahertz (MHz) and on to a very sophisticated, interoperable radio system – allowing for communication with outside agencies – occupying a number of much higher frequencies. (This radio system move has been confirmed by viewing official documentation online.)

Prior to this move the radios of those departments found their home on 154.250 MHz using a simpler communications system for a number of decades, going back at least to the 1960s.

I initially became aware of the radio presence of our local fire departments around 1970 or so, as a relatively young person when my parents gave me a little AM/FM radio that also tuned in “VHF High Band” two-way radio conversations, the VHF High Band being a conventionally agreed upon range of frequencies.

It just so happened that the police and fire departments of our Westshore suburbs conducted their radio operations on the VHF High Band so, after discovering this, a new radio enthusiast was born.

Also helping to fuel this radio geekdom was the (albeit simulated) use of two-way radio communication in the television series “Dragnet” and “Adam-12.”

For some reason I was fascinated by the close-up of the Motorola control unit that tended to find itself in scenes involving mobile radio use on these programs.

To throw in a bit of television trivia here, on both the TV shows “Dragnet” (the later version with Harry Morgan as Officer Bill Gannon) and “Adam-12” the call sign “KMA367” would be heard during enacted radio conversations.

That call sign actually was issued by the Federal Communications Commission to the City of Los Angeles for their police radio communications system back when those shows were produced.

While the LAPD now uses a number of much newer, more sophisticated radio systems with their associated FCC licenses and call signs, they maintain the old KMA367 license to this day (verified on the FCC's online license database).

Anyway, to get back to the point, our local fire departments' radio operations being on 154.250 MHz was, to me, something that seemed would always be a given, much as the Red Brick School building seemed likely to always be keeping watch over Dover Center Road in the minds of many.

While I would indeed find it comforting if both that radio frequency and the Red Brick School had been kept in use, sometimes things find themselves needing to give way for progress.

As a note, my early interest in our local public safety forces radio communications spurred a lifelong interest in radio, including a couple of periods of activity in Amateur (ham) Radio.

While I haven't been active in ham radio for some time, it has in the past given me many opportunities to serve the community, such as in helping to provide communications for running events, bicycle tours – particularly the Bike MS: Pedal to the Point – and assisting in amateur radio licensing courses.

For others interested in community service, Amateur Radio can provide a great vehicle for just that. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

The road to the Super 8 Bowl

by **Jeff Bing**

A long time ago (well, almost 45 years) in a galaxy (technically, a '67 Ford Galaxie) far, far away (well, if you were walking, it was very far), there came a time of revolution (I tried to drive without a permit)...

For those of you otherwise unaware, the above (without my parenthetical comments, of course) is the screen introduction to the classic movie, “Star Wars.” I use it as a clever segue to introduce you to my fascinating experience, not only as fan, but a budding film artist, who attended the 1968 NFL title game between the Browns and the Baltimore Colts at Cleveland Municipal Stadium.

Of course, many of you are no doubt also unaware that back in the 1960s, the Cleveland Browns were not only good, they were a perennial playoff team. To put it in perspective, in those days we beat the Steelers twice a year – every year. In fact, playoff appearances for the Browns were so common, I was able to go to the game because a friend of my neighbor had to opt out for some reason or another, and the subsequent fourteen guys the neighbor then asked also weren't interested, so I was lucky number (last choice) fifteen. Much like death and taxes, Browns and playoffs were taken for granted.

Anyway, it was a few days after Christmas, and I'd received a brand spankin' new Bell & Howell Super 8 movie camera as my present. I'd had a fascination with movies for some time, and collected many of the silent classics. Yeah, it may sound a little weird, but what do you want from a fifteen-year-old? I scraped up some cash, bought some film, and figured I'd be taking NFL Films to school

with my advanced film knowledge (which consisted of knowing how to operate the camera's zoom lens).

Game day arrived, and it was cold. Municipal Stadium? I think it was designed specifically so the icy wind would swirl around the entire stadium a dozen times before finding its way out. Our seats? Ever hear of the term, “nose bleed section”? It originated from Municipal Stadium. I swear to you, after walking halfway up the stairway that went on forever to like, section 8000, the ushers handed out oxygen masks, similar to the drop-down ones you have on planes.

I also heard that the military often went up to the top of the stadium and practiced their sky-diving skills. Not only that, but I think Alfred Hitchcock came up with the idea for the classic film, “Vertigo,” after taking in a Browns game from up there. Honestly.

And the game? Keeping in mind the Browns smoked Don Shula and the Colts, 27-0, four years earlier for the NFL championship, I expected more of the same. And I got it, more or less. To the naked eye, from where we sat, the players on the field looked like ants. With my trusty zoom lens, they looked like slightly bigger ants.

At halftime, the Colts led, 17-0. I decided not to waste anymore film after that, particularly since everyone was leaving and walking in front of my camera. No respect for an artist at work. It ended up 34-0, essentially ending my taste for a film career.

When he found out, I'm certain George Lucas breathed a little easier. ●

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

Unity offers programs to become financially evolved, energized, enlightened

by **Jan Litterst**

The phrase “health and wellness” covers all parts of our lives! Whether it is healthy eating, increasing energy or planning for a peaceful transition in the future, there is something for everyone.

Evolution has become a popular topic in recent years, with everything from books like Andrew Cohen's “Evolutionary Enlightenment” or consciousness teachings from Barbara Marx Hubbard to personal evolution. On Saturday, Jan. 26, 10 a.m. to noon, Unity Spiritual Center will offer “Local Evolution,” a discussion of how people can begin to evolve their behaviors through eating local and all Cleveland has to offer in that realm, buying local in an era of appreciation of what our local business communities truly do have to offer and even investing in local businesses. Our culture is returning to the relationship-building of years past, knowing our neighbors and our local proprietors, and how that truly creates community and personal wellness. This program costs \$30 per person.

Continuing the personal evolution journey, on Saturday, Feb. 2, “Energize Your Money, Energize Your Life” returns to Unity Spiritual Center from 10 a.m. to noon. This is a fun, interactive session where you learn how to accomplish unfulfilled childhood dreams, create your own personal artwork and learn how this all can help you energize your money, which will energize all parts of

your life because money touches every part of your life. This is the best program to attend to kickstart 2013 as a great money year! Maybe your best money year yet! The cost of this program is \$30 per person.

And, then, on Monday, Feb. 4, 7 to 9 p.m., preparing for a truly spiritual transition of your assets upon your transition, “Passing On Values As Well As Money” welcomes you to an evening that is informative, educational and emotionally fulfilling as you learn how to choose the right beneficiaries for your assets while learning just who you can pass your earthly belongings on to while you are still vibrant and concerned that your values will live on beyond your years! Educate yourself and relieve future stress. Cost is \$30 for the evening.

All programs are offered through Centered Wellness at Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd. in Westlake. Unity is a nondenominational spiritual center welcoming all who attend programs there.

EMPOWER Excellence, an affiliate of Centered Wellness, provides all of the programs discussed, and registration for all can be done by calling 440-670-2252 or registering online with secure PayPal at www.empowerexcellencewithjan.com in the “Classes” area.

All of these programs are facilitated by a veteran financial professional. Join us at all or any of these programs to create a great money year in 2013 and continue moving toward a wonderful feeling about your money. ●

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Post your group's events for FREE at wbvobserver.com

Jan. 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Free Community Meal
Please join us for a free, hot meal the 4th Wednesday of every month! Doors open at 5:15 p.m. and dinner is served continuously from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Come for great food and good company. Church is handicap accessible via the rear parking lot. Call 440-871-3088 with questions.
Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Rd.

Jan. 23, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
North Coast Chapter of Embroiderers' Guild of America
The topic this month will be Doodle Dolls, a project decorating dolls with stitches, lace, braid and other small odds and ends, taught by Cathie Karls. Please join us to meet fellow stitchers and to have fun. For additional information, please call 440-777-7085.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Jan. 25, 1-3 p.m.
Vision Board for Those Touched by Cancer
It's time to express yourself! Explore your vision of the future by using a creative collage technique with others on the cancer journey. Advance registration is required, 216-595-9546.
The Gathering Place West, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Jan. 25, 9-11 p.m.
Dance the Divine
Come dance with yourself or with others into your heart-core as the crystal singing bowls and a conscious recorded music journey illuminate an experience for you to journey into the bliss-try. We will close our journey together with a guided crystal singing bowl visualization. The room shall be set up to encourage dancing; chairs will also be provided. Cost: \$15; register at the door or email Iris at Iriswater@me.com.
Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Jan. 26, 5-6:30 p.m.
Free Community Meal
Serving from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., free to all, the church is accessible to the physically challenged. No carry outs.
Clague Road United Church of Christ, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted

Jan. 27, 1 p.m.
Lake Ridge Academy Open House
Lake Ridge Academy invites you to attend their Open House for grades K-12. Please RSVP to 440-327-1175, ext. 9104, or visittlakeridgeacademy.org.
Lake Ridge Academy, 37501 Center Ridge Rd., North Ridgeville

Jan. 28, 11:30 a.m.
Herbs: Spice Up Your Garden
Bay Village Garden Club will welcome Kathy Habib, a master gardener. Kathy will discuss the many uses of herbs, including ornamental, culinary, fragrance, dyes and medicinal. Learn how they can be grown and preserved. Luncheon served at 11:30. There is a \$5 fee for guests.
Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.

Jan. 28, 1:30-3 p.m.
Shared Grief Support Group
Join us as we gather to talk about the realities of grief and gain hope for healing. The atmosphere will be a safe place to share your story or just listen. Hosted by Kathy Behrendt LPN/SCP of Sol Amore Hospice. Seven week session: 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, and 3/18. Call 440-899-3442.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village

Jan. 30, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Westlake Toastmasters Open House
Take this opportunity to improve your public speaking skills by joining our local Toastmasters club. Visit our open house, or join our meetings Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. Guest always welcome!
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Jan. 30, 1:30 p.m.
Fab 50's Cleveland Style
Western Reserve Historical Society presents "Fab 50's Cleveland Style: Glorious Sports, Gory Murder, Glamour Girls & Gas Guzzlers." Sponsored by West Bay Care and Rehabilitation Center. RSVP is required, seating is limited. Snacks will be served. Call 440-899-3442 for more information.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village

Jan. 31, 7-8 p.m.
Social Networking & Young Children
Randy Kimbo, of the FBI Citizens Community Outreach program, will cover cell phones, social networking, child predator "grooming," cyberbullying, sexting, live chat and "follow me" cell phone apps. Although the program is geared to K-6 parents, anyone is welcome to attend this free event. Childcare for ages 4-12 provided by WHS Leadership Challenge students. Registration required by Jan. 28 for childcare; RSVP to mcginty@wlake.org.
Parkside Intermediate School, 24525 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake

Feb. 4, 1 p.m.
New Tax Laws Presentation
There are many new laws and changes to the income, business and estate taxes. Learn what's new from Bay resident, Lou Popp, EA, ATA. Call 899-3442 to make your reservation.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village

Feb. 6, 1-2:30 p.m.
Free Family History Research Help Session
Members of the Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be available to assist other members, and the general public, at the computer terminals in the computer lab. There is no charge for this service.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

PROGRAM SERIES STARTING SOON

"Three Simple Questions" Book Group
Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. (Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12)
It's hard to escape the anger, violence, division, and hateful language that is tearing apart the world that God so loves. But what can we do about it? In his book, "Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living," Reuben Job asserts that answers can be found in 3 questions that focus on understanding who God is and our role as God's human family. Join Rev. John Butchko, pastor of Westlake United Methodist Church, as he leads a discussion to know the God of love, hope and purpose. No cost for the group; books will be provided. Drop in on any session!
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Powers of the Universe
Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. (Jan. 24 to April 11)
This spiritual journey is based on cosmologist Brian Swimme's DVD series and the spirituality of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. This program includes lecture, DVD viewing, group discussion, artistic expression, meditation and energy embodiment with energy exercises with Patrick Davis. Facilitator Maureen Haggerty shares her passion for our evolving Universe Story and the exploration of our evolving consciousness. For more info, visit unityspiritual-center.com or call 440-835-0400. The cost for the series is \$180 or weekly \$20 per person.
Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Feb. 1, 8:30-11 a.m.
AARP Tax Assistance
Fridays, 8:30-11 a.m. (Feb. 1 through mid-April)
Tax assistance for people with less than \$75,000 annual income. The IRS trained and certified volunteer tax counselor will do your returns free of charge every Friday thru mid-April. Call Community Services at 899-3442 or 899-3409 to make an appointment.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village

WESTLAKE RECREATION CENTER

Dancing into the new year

by Jim Dispirito

ULTIMATE AFTER HOURS BASHES, Grades 5 & 6

Fifth-graders: Friday, Jan. 25 (8:30-10:30 p.m.); Sixth-graders: Friday, Feb. 8 (8:30-10:30 p.m.) – The return of the popular after hours fun time. We close the doors and stay open late for these special events. Students will enjoy gym time, swimming, fun, games, a DJ and pizza. Participants must remain in the building until 10:30 p.m. This program is only open to any student who lives in or goes to school in Westlake and members of the Westlake Recreation Center. Deadline to REGIS-

TER IS 8 P.M. THE NIGHT OF EVENT. COST: \$10/MEMBERS; \$15/RESIDENTS.

PLAYTIME/IMAGINATION TIME, Toddlers to age 5

Fridays, Jan. 25 and Feb. 8 (1-1:50 p.m.) – In conjunction with Westlake Porter Public Library, youngsters will be able to listen to various stories then go on an adventure within the Westlake Recreation Center. Children will use their imagination in the gym, on a treasure hunt or some other adventure. Participants will also have the opportunity to check out books on site at the Rec Center. (Must have Porter Library card present.) Cost: \$3/members; \$5/non-members.

FATHER/DAUGHTER VALENTINE'S DANCE, Ages 3-10

Friday, Feb. 8 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) – Dance the night away with your little princess. This is a great chance for dads to spend time with their daughter(s). Cookies and punch will be provided and each couple will receive a photo memento of the evening. Join us again this year for a "sweet" time! Registration deadline is Jan. 31 or when maximum of 100 is reached. Cost: \$15/member couple; \$20/resident couple; \$5/each additional child.

COACH BESU'S LITTLE KICKERS SOCCER, Ages 4-6

Sundays, Feb. 10-March 10 (noon-1 p.m.) – WHS varsity soccer coach Mike Besu and players will be giving instruction to future soccer stars.



Spend some quality time with your little valentine at Westlake Rec's annual father/daughter dance on Feb. 8.

Program will focus on the basic skills needed to play. Players will be given instruction and some game play will occur. Session will be held inside the gym of the Westlake Recreation Center. Cost: \$45/members; \$55/non-members.

SWIMMING LESSONS
Various swimming lessons are now being offered for both

members and residents. The next session of classes will start in mid-February. Please check out the Rec Gazette in person or online at www.wlrec.org for more information and pricing.

More information regarding all of these programs and more can be found at our website at www.wlrec.org.

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