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WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE

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Observer

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

Bob Parry retires

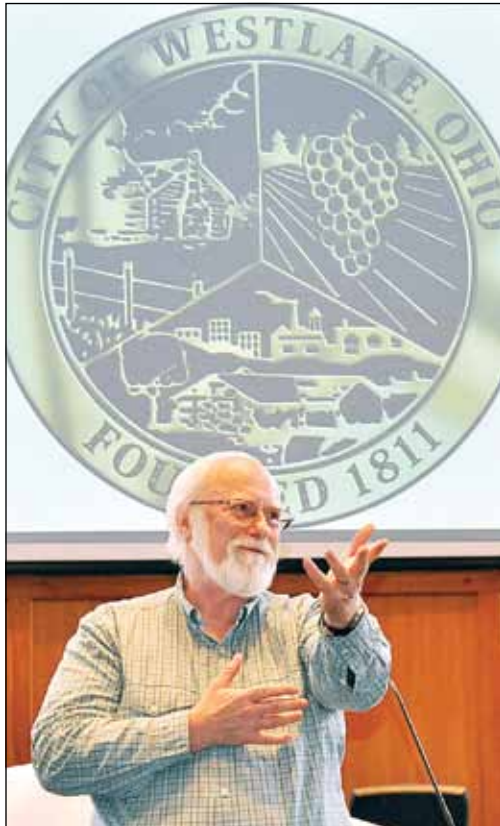


PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Bob Parry at his retirement reception April 19.

For 26 years, planning director shaped Westlake

by Tara Wendell

Warren Buffett once said, “Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.” It’s unlikely Buffett was thinking of Bob Parry when praising that second “someone,” but the comparison is fitting, literally and figuratively.

Current and future generations have Parry to thank not only for the abundance of trees lining Westlake’s streets and developments, but also the transformation of the city from a quiet farming community to a bustling destination for residents and businesses. » See PARRY, page 8

Ohio Rose crowned



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Kelsey Higgins expresses her surprise with Ashley Speaker, left, and Colleen Gallagher, right, after being crowned the 2013 Ohio Rose at LaCentre on April 19.

by Kathy Luengo

The highlight of a festive evening on April 19 celebrating the finest attributes of young women of Irish heritage worldwide occurred when Kelsey Higgins of Springboro was crowned as the 2013 Ohio Rose by 2012 Ohio Rose Ashley Speaker. Higgins’ achievement is the first step in a year-long reign that will be punctuated with travel and celebrity appearances. Members of the 2013 “Rose Court” created a very tight field of competition. They are: Mary Clare Cooper of Euclid, Kathleen Drescher of Rocky River, Colleen Gallagher of Fairview Park and Alannah McCarthy of Akron.

Kelsey Higgins is a language arts

education major graduating in May from Ohio University. She is active in her sorority, student senate, works as a facilities assistant for the university’s recreation center, fashion stylist and teaches Irish dance. Higgins is an avid supporter of Locks of Love. She was among a group of Ohio University volunteers in New Orleans to assist restoration in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Higgins travels to Portlaoise, Ireland, in late May to participate in the International Rose of Tralee Festival’s Regional Finals. There she will join fellow Roses from Ireland, Great Britain, North America, Europe and elsewhere.

» See ROSE, page 6

‘Legally Addicted’

Play focuses on adolescent prescription drug abuse

Parents, here’s an opportunity to bring your child to an eye-opening, educational play called “Legally Addicted” to learn about the realities and consequences of adolescent prescription drug use, and use this as a great springboard to talk to your children openly and honestly. Sponsored by Recovery Resources with support from the Westshore Youth Leaders and BAY Matters, the play will be performed on May 8, 7 p.m., at the Bay High School auditorium. The program is geared for parents and students in seventh through 12th grades.

The reason this event is very important for you to attend is supported by a brand new study from The Partnership at Drugfree.org and the MetLife Foundation, along with alarming trends we’re seeing here in our local community. One quarter of teens say they have misused or abused a prescription drug at least once, a 33 percent increase over the last five years!

» See ADDICTED, page 2

League of Women Voters forum spotlights Westshore Council of Governments

by Conda Boyd

On April 16, the League of Women Voters-Cuyahoga Area hosted a lively discussion on regionalization among Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers, Westshore Council of Governments fiscal officer Steve Presley, and 65 citizens, local officials and safety forces members. This was the second of three LWV voter education forums on regionalization. While the

first event explored collaboration with the county, this forum took a close look at collaboration among cities, specifically members of the Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG).

WCOG was formed in 1971 by six communities – Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake – “to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service.” Funding for 2013 is \$330,000, with 10 percent shared equally and 90 percent based on population and valuation.

» See FORUM, page 4



Walk, bike, run the streets of Bay this summer!

by Jacquie Mayer

The second annual Tour De Bay will be held this summer from May 25 to Sept. 2 (Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend). Participants will have all summer long to walk, run or bike every street in Bay Village while tracking their progress on a map of Bay streets (provided). Proceeds are to benefit the Bay Village Education Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports innovative projects in Bay Village schools. The Tour is a great opportunity to see all of Bay while enjoying a healthy summer activity on your own or with the whole family!

Families or individuals can register online at bit.ly/11qmM2W OR print a registration form at facebook.com/tourdebay. Registration cost for families is \$20 for a T-shirt and pledge, \$15 for pledge only. For individuals it is \$20 for a T-shirt and pledge, \$10 for pledge only. (Please note on registration form that checks for T-shirt registration and checks for Pledge Only are to be made out differently.)

Registration deadline for T-shirts is Monday, May 6. Maps and shirts will be distributed at the May in Bay 5K on Saturday, May 25. Pledge registration will remain open throughout May. ●

Learn how to write for the Observer
Wednesday, May 8 • 7 p.m. • Bay Village Library
SEE DETAILS, PAGE 16

The Herb Guild has two events planned for May

The Herb Guild's May meeting will be held Thursday, May 9, 10 a.m., at the Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Road. The Herb Guild members will begin with a general business meeting followed by opening up our Rose Hill Herb Garden for the season which is directly beside the Community House. For more information about the meeting, please call 440-899-0773.

The Herb Guild is planning a Spring Tea event for Friday, May 31, 2-4 p.m. at Bay Village's Rose Hill Garden Gazebo in Cahoon Park. The Spring Tea is part of The Herb Guild's 35th anniversary year-long celebration. Please come enjoy a lovely spring afternoon beside the rose garden and across from Lake Erie sipping tea and enjoying delicate refreshments. The Guild wishes to introduce new members and welcome those who are interested in learning more about herbs, The Herb Guild Community Project, our Herb Garden at Rose Hill near the Gazebo, and our guild itself. Looking forward to seeing you in May. For more information about the Spring Tea, please call 440-937-4240. ●

Ice cream social and dance party May 7 at Westerly School

by **Jacquie Mayer**

Bay Village Education Foundation trustees are preparing to scoop and serve delicious Mitchell's ice cream at the upcoming Westerly Art Show / Dance Party on Tuesday, May 7, at 6 p.m. Prices are: \$2.50 for a plain scoop; \$3.00 for one topping; \$3.50 for two toppings; and \$4.00 for three or more toppings. This year, the featured Mitchell's ice cream flavors will be: chocolate, vanilla, mint chocolate chip, cookie dough, cookies and cream and raspberry sorbet. Westerly Elementary School is located at 30301 Wolf Road.

Profits from the ice cream social go to the Bay Village Education Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting, promoting and funding programs created by students, faculty and staff of the Bay Village Public Schools that are not funded by tax dollars. For more information, visit BayEdFoundation.org. ●

VILLAGE BICYCLE COOPERATIVE

Bike co-op volunteers needed

by **Jennifer Smillie**

Village Bicycle Cooperative is seeking volunteers to help part out bicycles for their usable parts in preparation for their grand opening. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by their new loca-

tion on the ground floor of the Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Road, during the following times: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. We will be open most Saturdays; check our calendar for those hours at www.villagebicycle.org. ●

Annual Compeer Day is May 5 at Westlake Porter Library

by **Denise Ayres**

On Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m., the Compeer Program at Far West Center will hold our fifth Annual Compeer Day at Westlake Porter Public Library. Since 2008, Library Director Andrew Mangels has offered to host the Annual Compeer Day in May, Mental Health Awareness Month. The Compeer Program is a mental health recovery program serving Cuyahoga County and is located at Far West Center on the St. John Medical Center Health Campus in Westlake. Compeer is honored to have the ongoing support of the Westlake Porter Public Library.

Annual Compeer Day offers three important opportunities. It serves as an open house for the community to receive information about the Compeer Program and Compeer volunteering. It is also an opportunity for residents to learn about the services that the Westlake Porter Public Library offers, in the words of their motto, "... to educate, empower, enlighten, and excite..." which all improve brain health. Thirdly, this annual event is a community social event that strives to strengthen community relationships.

Annual Compeer Day at WPPL is open to the public and free. It begins at 2 p.m. and will be held in the spacious Porter meeting room. This year's event will celebrate mental wellness with

indoor games and musical entertainment! Exercise your brain by developing your personal strategy in order to get a "hole in one" playing mini-golf or sinking a toss in the target of the corn hole toss game. Relax your brain waves by enjoying acoustic music and songs performed by young talented musicians Ray Flanagan (of Ray Flanagan and the Authorities Band), Dave Deitke and Savanna-Rae Fahoum. Check out information on how the Compeer Program serves to promote individual mental health and recovery with the friendship and time given so generously by caring volunteers.

Our Compeer Program at Far West Center has been facilitating mental wellness since 1989. The Compeer Program, funded by the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, is a branch of the international nonprofit organization Compeer Inc. You can find Compeer Inc. online at www.compeer.org.

Please plan to join us May 5, 2 p.m., at Westlake Porter Public Library and get to know our Compeer Program located right here on the Westside. Our Compeer Program is looking for adult volunteers to help us with our mission to offer friendship and support to individuals recovering from mental illness.

For more information, call 440-835-6212, ext. 242, or email compeer@farwestcenter.com. We hope to see you there! ●

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.

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

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

PRODUCTION OFFICE
451 Queenswood Drive
Bay Village, Ohio 44140
440-409-0114
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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 to submit your stories & photos. Stories should be submitted through the Member Center, not by email.

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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ADDICTED *continued from front page*

Contributing to this disturbing trend in teen medicine misuse and abuse are the lax attitudes of parents and caregivers. They are missing key opportunities to effectively communicate the dangers of prescription medicine misuse and abuse to their kids, while not safeguarding and disposing of their medications properly at home.

"This new data is not about blaming parents. Rather, it's an urgent call to action for them to use their immense power to help curb this dangerous behavior, said Steve Pasierb, president and CEO of The Partnership at Drugfree.org. "It's about missed opportunities to protect their kids by having direct con-

versations with them about the health risks of misusing and abusing medicines – and to then moving to safeguard the medicines in their own home.

"Parental apathy on this issue is contributing to the problem. Yet the same data show year in and year out that kids who learn a lot about the risks of drug use at home are up to half as likely to use as kids who don't get that life-changing gift from their parents."

So parents – take advantage of this very important, free event and bring your questions for our expert panel of educators, drug prevention experts and law enforcement, hosted by Monica Robins from WKYC Channel 3. ●

Correction

In the April 16 issue, captions for two Green & White Revue photos were mislabeled. The masters of ceremony were Izabela Jamsek, Scott Pyle and Katie Jerome. "Hey There Delilah" singer was Ryan Hooper.

30 MINUTE EMERGENCY PLEDGE

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

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

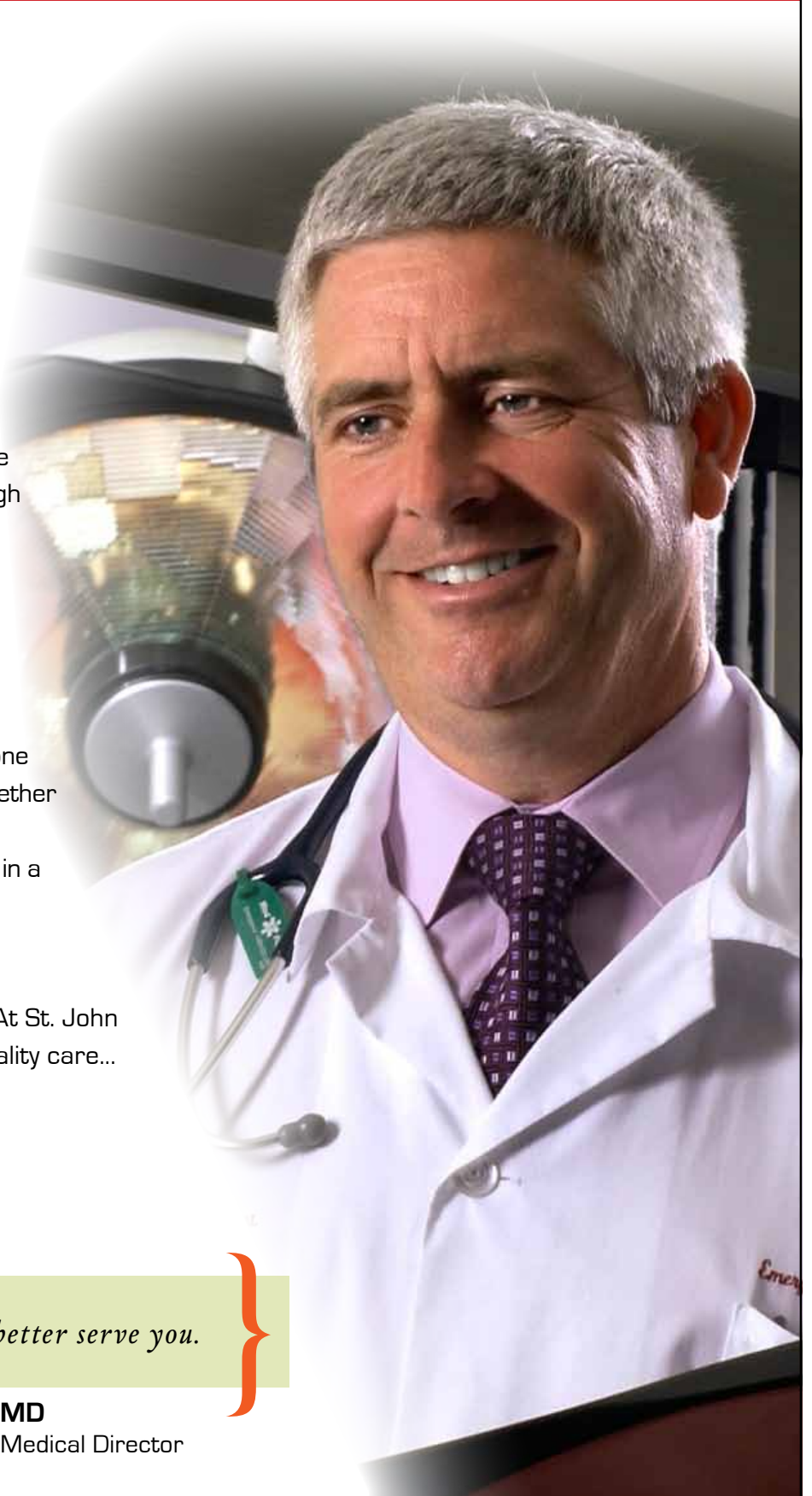
Their expertise is matched by our state-of-the-art Emergency Department, which helps our staff quickly assess your condition and respond appropriately. As one of Ohio's few hospitals with a Level III Trauma Center together with accredited Chest Pain and Primary Stroke Centers, St. John Medical Center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

Emergency medicine is about skilled care and speed. At St. John Medical Center, we pledge to provide fast, efficient quality care... with **heart** and **compassion**.

All within 30 minutes.

This is our pledge to better serve you.

Roy Seitz, MD
Emergency Department Medical Director



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FORUM

continued from front page

The original WCOG agreement established the Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB), which offers police chiefs a framework in which to collaborate on vice and narcotics investigations, as well as to field special teams including SWAT, bomb squad, hazmat, special rescue teams, and FEMA's Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This January, Ohio State Auditor Dave Yost awarded WCOG his Taxpayer Hero Award to recognize their 41-year history of cooperation.

Some projects involve subsets of communities. Since 2006, Westshore Central Dispatch has been offering fire and EMS dispatch services for the WCOG cities, minus Lakewood but plus North Ridgeville. The Rocky River Waste Water Treatment Facility is a venture of four WCOG cities (Rocky River, Bay Village, Westlake and Fairview Park). Bay Village and Westlake co-operate a com-

post facility. Then again, all six cities own and share a tree stump grinder, as well as other equipment too expensive and rarely used for each city to own.

Some interests do not overlap, as shown by the spirited exchange between Mayors Clough and Summers on the impact of a long pattern of migration outward from Cleveland into

the suburbs and now the surrounding counties. Lakewood, with aging infrastructure and housing, faces different problems from Westlake, which has thriving commerce that is feeling the pull of the cheaper land made available via the new Lear-Nagel interchange. The problems of crime and poverty in Cleveland can seem remote, but



Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers and Westshore Council of Governments fiscal officer Steve Presley at Dwyer Center April 16.

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Mayor Summers argued that without a regional view, a falling tide could beach all boats. Both mayors agreed that the State of Ohio is pushing for regional collaboration and structuring funding to meet that goal.

The next big regionalization project is the proposed fire district merger for four WCOG cities – Bay Village, Fairview Park, Rocky River and Westlake. They have applied for a \$100,000 grant to plan the merger; the outcome will be known later this month. When asked about Plan B, Mayor Clough stated that each city could ante up a share of the necessary funds. He also noted that the four cities could proceed without amending their charters by going through a trial period before formalizing a merger. Bay Village voters rejected charter amendments last November that would have paved the way for a regional fire district.

The WCOG meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Lakewood Women's Pavilion. Meetings are open to the public. And mark your calendars for the LWV-CA's third forum Wednesday, June 19, 7 p.m., at Fairview Park Library, when the focus will be on fire district mergers. ●

Aqua Girls move on to DI finals for second year

by Audrey Ray

The Destination Imagination State Competition was held at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Central Ohio on Saturday, April 20. Three teams from Bay Village Schools competed: Swedish Chefs, Penguins with Swag...BAHM! and the Aqua Girls. The 3 teams spent weeks perfecting their challenge solutions to make them the best they could be. All the teams did a great job representing Bay Schools and everyone had a blast!

While all the teams represented Bay Village well, only the top 3 teams in each challenge get to go on to the next level. The Aqua Girls are moving on to compete at Globals held at the University of Tennessee (for the second year in a row) during the week of May 22-25. We won first place for the "In Disguise" challenge and are looking forward to returning to UT to

compete against teams from all over the country and all over the world.

The theme of the Aqua Girls' show is to remind people that there are animals around the world that are mistreated and we believe that animals belong in their natural environments to live happy, healthy lives. The animals in our show live in a tiny, dirty cage and are taken care of by a mean zookeeper who mistreats them. An animal activist rescues them and takes them back to their natural environment and they all celebrate the animals' freedom at the end.

The idea of the show came from the Newberry Award-winning book, "The One and Only Ivan." It is an amazing story about a gorilla living in a cage at a mall and is told from the point of view of the gorilla. I highly recommend this book to everyone! Katherine Applegate is the author, and she got the book idea from a real gorilla living at a mall in Tacoma, Washington.

The Aqua Girls, Swedish Chefs and Penguins with Swag...BAHM! would like to thank Mrs. Marian Harmount for driving all the way to Mount Vernon to be an appraiser for

the long day at the competition. We also want to thank Mrs. Carrie Engelbrecht, the music teacher at Westerly Elementary, and her husband for being appraisers all day at the competition for us too. We appreciate all of you!

I am so proud to be a part of the Bay Village Schools' Destination Imagination organization and the Aqua Girls, even though I'm living in South Africa for seven months. I am super excited about Globals and I have a *surprise* to share with all of you! My dad bought my mom and me plane tickets as a surprise so we can join the Aqua Girls at Globals next month! I can't wait!! Go Aqua Girls!

The Aqua Girls are fundraising to help cover some of the costs of the trip. If you would like to help us get to the University of Tennessee, please make checks payable to "The Aqua Girls" and send the checks to Marian Harmount at Westerly Elementary, 30301 Wolf Road, Bay Village, Ohio 44140. We would appreciate any help you are willing to give.

Audrey Ray is a fifth-grader at Bay Middle School currently living abroad in South Africa.



The Aqua Girls won first in the statewide Destination Imagination competition to advance to the Global Finals in Tennessee.

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WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

Sold-out fundraiser gives jump-start to WWAC's Scholarship Fund

by Louise Seeholzer

The arts were the catalyst, a feast of food provided incentive, and the result was a sold-out gathering of amiable people enjoying "A Spring Celebration and Feast."

The Westlake-Westshore Arts Council's successful fundraiser held April 21 at Dadonna's Fine Italian Restaurant in Westlake, not only endorsed the group's dedication to provide art programing in the community, but gave thrust to

its newly established Scholarship Fund.

The afternoon affair received sponsorship from public officials, businesses and countless community members who support expression through the arts. The entertaining talents of violinist Mary Beth Ions added to the spirited mood of the audience, which included Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, his wife Virginia and newly retired Westlake Planning Director Robert Parry and his wife Laura.

Patt Long, W-WAC president, expressed her deep appreciation to her hard-working committee and the many others who collaborated to color this event delightful, as well as successful.

When the Council raises \$10,000 needed to endow its Arts Scholarship fund, it can be administered, promoted and managed by the Cleveland Foundation and the W-WAC can begin awarding yearly scholarships at its board's discretion. ●



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Violinist Mary Beth Ions entertains guests during the W-WAC fundraiser at Dadonna's on April 21.

WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

History comes alive in Evergreen Cemetery Walk

by Lysa Stanton

The Westlake Historical Society is putting the finishing touches on the very popular Evergreen Cemetery Walk, held this year on May 18, 1-3 p.m.

Join longtime residents portrayed by historical society members and volunteers as they help the cemetery, located on Center Ridge Road between Porter and Crocker, to come alive. Those wishing to attend, please meet under the Evergreen

arch at 1 p.m. Tours will begin with the laying of a wreath at the entrance to the cemetery. It will end at the 200-year-old Moses Cleveland Tree in the back of the cemetery with refreshments. There is no cost for this community event, but your donations do help to continue the work of the Westlake Historical Society.

Join us as we re-enact early Dover Township citizens during the living history tour. You will meet along the way Leverett Johnson, considered the first

settler of Westlake, as he cleared this land in south Dover. He built a log cabin at Porter and Center Ridge roads for himself and wife Abigail in 1814. He is buried at Evergreen, which consists of his donated land. Also on the tour is Leonard Porter (1806-1884), who donated his personal collection of books and funds to establish what we know today as Westlake Porter Public Library.

The tour also features Walter Clague, whose family homestead was deeded to the community in 1926, and Jedediah Crocker, who served in the Revolutionary War under George Washington, as well as many of other prominent past citizens.



PHOTO BY DAVE PFISTER

The cemetery tour is a wonderful way to honor those who have gone before us and who played a part in our rich history.

Parking is available in the

soccer field parking lot just east of the cemetery. For more information please contact the Westlake Historical Society at 440-808-1961. ●

Advance Your Career Open Houses

Saturday MBA

The Saturday MBA program is now registering for Fall 2013. The program is designed for working professionals and can be completed in two years -- every other Saturday -- one course at a time.

Learn more at Open Houses:

Tuesday evening May 28th, 6:30 p.m. and
Wednesday evening May 29th, 6:30 p.m.

Nursing degrees, RN-BSN & MSN

Register now for May 2013 bachelor and masters nursing programs at the University of Akron Lakewood. RN-BSN, completer degree, and MSN for those looking to advance their career in nursing.

Open House Wednesday, May 8th, 4:30 p.m.

Offering a quality education and convenient location, at The University of Akron in Lakewood.

To register for open houses or information about classes, call Nicole Lee at 216.221.1141 or lakewood.uakron.edu

The University of Akron
Lakewood

UA Lakewood is located on the first floor of the historic Bailey Building at 14725 Detroit Ave. in the heart of Downtown Lakewood.

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ROSE

continued from front page

The regional finalists will receive much attention, attend numerous events, and be evaluated in a variety of settings leading up to their on-stage interviews. On the last night of the Regional Finals, the names of the Roses selected to advance to the International Finals in Tralee this coming August will be announced. The Northern Ohio Rose Centre, hosted by Westlake World Partners Co., is affiliated with the Rose of Tralee International

Festival, a cherished Irish tradition since 1959.

A special highlight of the 2013 Northern Ohio Rose Selection Celebration at LaCentre was the presentation of the inaugural Westlake World Partners Founders Award. The honor was bestowed upon Ohio Supreme Court Justice Terrence O'Donnell in recognition of his exemplary service to the Northern Ohio Rose Centre, his years of public service, and being a role model and mentor for young adults. At his choosing, a donation was made on his behalf to Our Lady of the Wayside.

The Northern Ohio selec-



Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, Tralee Mayor Johnnie Wall and Kingsville Mayor Nelson Santos pose with Kelsey Higgins, winner of the 2013 Ohio Rose competition.



PHOTOS BY DENNY WENDELL

Members of the 2013 "Rose Court" gather with last year's Ohio Rose for a group photo at the Ohio Rose ceremony on April 19. Pictured I-to-r: Alannah McCarthy, Kathleen Drescher, Mary Clare Cooper, 2012 Ohio Rose Ashley Speaker, 2013 Ohio Rose Kelsey Higgins and Colleen Gallagher. Back row: judging panel chairperson Linda Shubeck, master of ceremonies Dan Coughlin and 2011 Ohio Rose Bridget Linton.

tion is an annual fundraiser for Westlake World Partners, a 501(c)(3) non-profit formed to support international cultural, educational and civic exchange in support of Westlake's Sister Cities program. Westlake currently has two sister cities: the towns of Tralee, Ireland, and Kingsville,

Ontario, Canada.

A significant moment in Westlake's history occurred over the 2013 Ohio Rose selection weekend when mayors from Westlake's two sister cities paid visits at the same time. Tralee Mayor Johnnie Wall and Kingsville Mayor Nelson Santos were

officially received in Westlake, as were Tralee town clerk Michael Scannell, town engineer Gerry Riordan, and Tina Wall, wife of Mayor Wall. During their visit they were warmly welcomed by the community and presented Keys to the City by Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough. ●

SENIOR LIVING

Artists young and old join together for annual show

by Tara Wendell

Rae-Ann Suburban hosted the sixth annual "Bridging Across Generations" art show in April, bringing together the artistic works of nearly 75 Westlake students and residents of the skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility.

Entries were judged by local artists Marge Widmar, Mary Broberg and Mary Lou Ferbert, as well as by the art creators themselves. Rae-Ann Suburban residents voted for their favorite of the students' artwork, and the students cast ballots on residents' art pieces. The winners were announced during a reception on April 23.

John Griffiths, owner and administrator of Rae-Ann Suburban and an avid art lover, conceived the idea after realizing that the city does not hold an all-grades art show. Along with his wife Mary, John organizes the show every year as a way to build community and join the youngest and oldest generations of Westlakers.

The artwork was arranged on floor-to-ceiling panels in a sun-lit meeting room just off the Rae-Ann lobby. It quickly became a destination for residents of the facility.

"The residents love it," said Mary Griffiths. "Therapists are able to get them to walk farther than usual because they want to look at all the art."

Students in every grade from kindergarten to high



Overall Best in Show winner "Ivy League" by WHS senior Miruna Gorodea

school throughout the Westlake City School District, and a few from St. Bernadette's, entered artwork ranging from pencil and chalk drawings to paintings to sculpture.

The winner of the overall Best in Show award was WHS senior Miruna Gorodea's paper collage, "Ivy League." Runner-up for the award was Jane Fitz, an eighth-grader at Lee Burneson, with her "Fish Out of Water" sculpture crafted out of metal objects including nails, washers and soda can tabs.

The residents' favorite piece was WHS freshman Robyn Hageman's drawing titled "Carter." Bassett second-grader Kate Peacock was voted the runner-up for her multimedia entry, "Mask."

After the round of student judging, Rae-Ann



PHOTOS BY TARA WENDELL

Holly Lane first-graders and twin brothers Brexton, left, and Brogan Hartup pose with their artwork for mom, Ellen.

Suburban resident Danny Sauer was given the Student Choice Award for his pencil-and-paint drawing, "6 a.m. Electrical Storm." Robert Reese's painting, "View from a Window," came in second. ●

BRIAN THOMPSON FOR WESTLAKE COUNCIL WARD 2

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SPORTING VIEWS

A Raw Deal

by Jeff Bing

I had a pretty crazy dream the other night. How crazy is “crazy” you wonder? Well, why don’t you decide for yourself?

I dreamt I was back in the Old West, and staying in a hotel room situated above a saloon (apparently, even in my dreams I still get thirsty) and while heading upstairs to retire for the evening, I noticed a card game taking place in the room across from mine.

There sat four pretty serious gentlemen playing poker. Strangely, all were familiar to me, and although we’d never met, I somehow already knew their names (a huge time-saving feature of my dreams in general).

Sitting directly across from where I stood sat a grey-haired man, nattily-attired and with a Southern accent. He answered to the name of Jimmy and acted as if he was the one in charge, although you got the distinct impression that could change at any moment.

To my right sat another well-dressed gent who went by the name of Dan. He, too, was quite dapper; seemed to be smirking all the time. At one point Jimmy accused Dan of dealing the cards too quickly, but Dan simply smiled and corrected Jimmy, saying, “Not quick-ly, Jimmy, it’s quick-en.” As goofy as it was to hear, it somehow made sense to me.

On my left, there was an older man who wasn’t dressed quite as lavishly as the first two, and while they had stacks of tens and twenties at their disposal, this man – who others addressed as Larry – had but a small change purse in front of him. Regardless, you still had the impression this guy was doing better than he let on. Larry treated each coin as if it was his last, yet the others in the room weren’t buying his act.

Finally, the fellow I was standing behind had a familiar face – even though I couldn’t see it – and was known around town as one Joseph Fanatic, or as more commonly hailed, Joe Fan. He was rather drawn and beaten down; I had an overwhelming sense that Joe had been playing with these guys – and those who preceded them – for many years, but didn’t have much to show for all his suffering.

The bet had come to Joe, and he had to either match the bets of Jimmy and Dan, or fold. “You know, Jimmy,” Joe commented while counting his meager stack of loot, “if you hadn’t charged me for that PSL, I’d be able to play longer.”

Larry appeared perplexed, before taking the bait. “What’s a PSL?”

Jimmy snickered while answering, “Poker Seat License.”

Joe was shocked at Larry’s ignorance. “You mean to tell me that only certain people have to buy a PSL?”

Dan nodded. “I’m just sorry I didn’t think of it first – back when I had a product which was in demand.”

Larry nodded wistfully. “Yeah ... a product in demand ... those were the days...”

I leaned down to whisper into Joe’s ear that he should fold his hand, get out of Dodge, and retain the shred of dignity which still remained. I was jolted awake when (cue the dramatic music) I realized Joe Fan’s face was ... was ... wait for it ... MY OWN!

Still in a cold sweat, the message to me was obvious: Joe Fan was about to be taken for a ride – yet again – by the same band of con men. So obvious, in fact, that any idiot could tell you that.

I figured you might as well hear it from me. ● *Jeff welcomes all feedback and suggestions, pro or con, which may be sent to editor@wbvobserver.com.*

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BAY VILLAGE BRANCH

Upcoming programs & events at the Bay Village Branch Library

by Joyce Sandy

The calendar just turned to May and I think it’s finally safe to say that spring has arrived! The flowers and flowering trees are beautiful and the buds on trees have appeared overnight, it seems. Storytimes end for the month of May beginning on May 6 so we can prepare for summer activities and visit the schools. We’re getting excited about our summer programs and of course, the Summer Reading Game! Details about the game and kick-off celebration will be coming soon! Until then, join us for these programs and to find a book that’s perfect for your needs. Yard work, spring repairs and dealing with the allergies that those flowers bring – we have the book for you!

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, May 1 (1:30 p.m.) WEDNESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION – Join us for a discussion of “The Happiness Project” by Gretchen Rubin.

Thursday, May 2 (7:30 p.m.) THURSDAY EVENING BOOK

DISCUSSION – We’ll discuss the book “Canada” by Richard Ford.

Tuesday, May 14 (10 a.m.) CONVERSATION WITH ELEANOR AND LUCRETIA – Two American women from different generations share their differences and commonalities. Eleanor Roosevelt and Lucretia Garfield meet over tea and discuss their paths to the White House and beyond. Discover how they dealt with marriage difficulties, mothers in law, children and politics. These two educated, intelligent women also examine their early self-esteem issues and how they grew beyond them into strong, independent and formidable widows. This program is presented in collaboration with Dwyer Senior Center.

Wednesday, May 22 (7 p.m.) SONGS OF BOB DYLAN – (Rescheduled from May 1) Blending rich vocal harmonies with guitar, bass and harmonica, Muscle and Bone interpret the music of Bob Dylan. Enjoy a concert of familiar favorites and lesser known gems by an American master.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Saturday, May 4 (2 p.m.) VIDEO GAME CREATION: HATCHLING DEFENDER – For grades 5 and up. Explore making your own video games using GameMaker 8.1 Lite. Create original graphics, import music and build “Hatchling Defender” the video game. Bring a jump drive to save your game!

CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT

Saturday, May 4 (11 a.m.) CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES – For ages 4-10. Come as your favorite superhero and get in on some super fun! Try our superhero games, contests and crafts, plus get a free comic book!

Thursday, May 23 (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.

Please register to attend these programs by calling 871-6392, going online to cuyahogalibrary.org, or by stopping into see us. We look forward to seeing you! ●

Writer of Spider-Man, Avengers and X-Men coming to Bay Library

by Susan Ballard

Bay Library is celebrating comics this week beginning with a visit from comic book author Marc Sumerak on Wednesday, May 1, at 4 p.m. for students ages 5-16.

Sumerak is well-known for his writing work on Marvel Comics’ Power Pack and the Eisner & Harvey Award-nominated “Franklin Richards: Son of a Genius.” Over the past few years, Sumerak has written multiple-issue story arcs on both Marvel Adventures: Avengers and Marvel Adventures: Spider-Man. He has also contributed stories for a number of anthologies, one-shots, and limited series, including Amazing Spider-Man Family, Hulk: Broken Worlds, Hulk Team-up and Models Inc.

Marc grew up in Cleveland wanting to work in the comic book industry. While earning his BFA in creative writing at Bowling Green State University, Sumerak had the life-changing opportunity to move to New York City and spend a semester working as a Marvel Comics editorial intern where he was asked to write the Avengers Casebook 1999. Not long after, Sumerak got the call from Marvel offering him a coveted position on the editorial staff!

In 2011, Sumerak released his first creator-owned project: All-Ghouls School, an original all-ages graphic novel. He will sell and sign copies of this book and others after his presentation at the library.

After Marc Sumerak’s visit, Bay Library will end the week on Free Comic Book Day, Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m. with “Calling all Super Heroes!” A fun program of all things SUPER for children age 4-10 years. Come as your favorite superhero and try some of our games, contests and crafts then go home with a free comic book! Register for these two programs by telephone 440-871-6392 or online at www.cuyahogalibrary.org. ●



Comic book author Marc Sumerak will visit Bay Library on May 1.

PHOTO COURTESY MARC SUMERAK

Annual Bay Village hydrant flushing in progress

by Lt. Dan Uldrich, Bay Village Fire Department

Our annual hydrant flushing in the city of Bay Village will begin April 29 and will be completed, weather permitting, by mid-June. Each year we test and flush every hydrant in the city to ensure proper function, pressure and maintenance.

As in past years, we will keep residents aware of our daily progress through the city by posting temporary signs. We also notify city hall each morning of our work area for the day.

Please note that hydrants are flushed between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Since hydrant flushing sometimes loosens some of the

rust in the water mains, you may notice rusty or discolored water when we are flushing in your area. If this happens, let your cold water run for a few minutes until it is clear again. Should any rusty water end up accidentally in your laundry, the Fire Department has a supply of rust remover packets. Call 871-1214 for more information or just stop in at the fire station, 28100 Wolf Road. ●

PARRY

continued from front page

Bob Parry, who retired as Westlake's director of planning and economic development on April 19, played a vital role in shaping the developing city over the course of 26 years at city hall. Hired in 1986, Parry helped to plot a course forward during the most dynamic period in Westlake's history as the construction of Interstate 90 and a population boom that began in the 1980s shifted the city away from its agricultural roots.

Trained in city planning and experienced from 16 years on the county's Regional Planning Commission, Parry was brought on by Mayor Dennis Clough to help control the rate and direction of Westlake's growth.

"Bob has that vision, he had that big picture of what the city of Westlake should be," said Mayor Clough, noting that Parry was not afraid to stand up to developers if he felt it necessary. In a time of rapid growth, "you have to be able to push back, you can't accept everything that people want to bring into your community."

"If there is ever a Mt. Rushmore for Westlake, Bob's bearded face belongs up there"

— Will Krause, assistant planning director

The stability provided by the long tenures of Parry, Mayor Clough, Council Presidents Bob Peterson and Michael Killeen, and Planning Commission Chairmen Dick Lancashire and Dick Schultz aided the execution of long-range plans.

Their foresight and dedication will have a lasting impact on the city. During his final appearance before City Council on April 18, Parry presented a top 10

list of the most memorable projects completed during his tenure. Among them were zoning code updates which facilitated the development of the mostly vacant west side of the city, construction of new municipal facilities including the recreation center, creation of business incentives that led to

the construction of \$97 million in buildings and 1,400 new jobs and a tree preservation ordinance requiring developers to preserve or replace trees. Parry's No. 1 planning accomplishment was attracting Crocker Park to the city.

"If there is ever a Mt. Rushmore for Westlake, Bob's bearded face belongs up there, amongst others who shaped Westlake to the great community that it is today," assistant planning director Will Krause said during an April 19 farewell



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Will Krause, Westlake assistant planning director, unfurls a banner commemorating Bob Parry's efforts during Westlake's bicentennial year during a reception held April 19 in Westlake's city council chambers.

reception attended by Parry's colleagues and family.

In recognition for his many years of service, Parry was showered with praise and retirement gifts from the people with whom he worked. Mayor Clough presented him with a 24-hour Swiss watch for use while traveling overseas; Will Krause unrolled a Bicentennial-style banner with Parry's name and photo; and a street in Crocker Park was renamed "Parry Lane."

Sometimes straining against emotion, Parry expressed appreciation for his "right-hand man" Will Krause, the longevity and stability of his job, the respect and support of city council and fellow department directors and partnership with civic groups.

"I've enjoyed working here and I hate to leave," Parry said, "but I think it's time for me to leave while I can walk out."

Onto the shaded, tree-lined streets of Westlake. ●

WESTLAKE KIWANIS

Westlake Special Olympics is for everyone

by Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis family and the Westlake City Schools would like to invite anyone with special needs to take part in their fourth annual Special Olympics Competition at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 8, at the Westlake High School track, 27830 Hilliard Blvd.

The event is open to anyone ages 7 and older with special needs. Last year's event included contestants ranging in age from 7 to 72 years of age. There will be seven track events: 25 meter wheelchair race (independent), 50 meter wheelchair race (independent), 25 meter wheelchair race (assisted), 50 meter wheelchair race (assisted), 25 meter independent walk, 25 meter walk and 50 meter dash. The field events will include: softball throw, standing long jump and wheelchair softball throw. Participants may pick up to four events to participate in, two track and two field.

Forms may be obtained at the Board of Education office, 27200 Hilliard Blvd., or online at www.wlspecialolympics.blogspot.com. Deadline for entry is May 11. Any ques-



PHOTO BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Kevin Walker of the Westlake Kiwanis looks on as Michael Bokan prepares to throw the softball.

tions regarding the Special Olympics may be directed to Russ Milan at 440-777-2720 or lr24498@aol.com.

Anyone is welcome to attend, so come on out and enjoy the day and cheer on these special athletes. ●

Tea for Three



Martha Valco with her granddaughter, Ashley, and daughter, Kim, were among the sold-out crowd at the annual Victorian Tea, hosted by the Bay Village Historical Society on April 27 at the Dwyer Center. All proceeds from the fundraiser go toward the maintenance of Rose Hill Museum and the Osborn Learning Center, and toward student scholarships.



PHOTO BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Russ Milan of the Westlake Kiwanis scores the long jump at last year's Westlake Relays.

Westlake Relays feature new day, new time, new teams

by Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake High School Athletic Department and Westlake Kiwanis present the 48th Annual Westlake Relays on Friday, May 10. This is one of the oldest relay events in the state of Ohio. For the first time, the Westlake Relays will be on Friday and will be a late afternoon event.

This year the relays will also be adding several quality teams with the likes of Shaker Heights, Lorain, Norton and St. Edward's to go along with

the core teams of Avon Lake, Benedictine, Elyria, Hathaway Brown, Midview, St. Joseph Academy and Westlake.

The pole vault will begin at 4:00 p.m. with the rest of the field events beginning at 4:30 p.m. All the events will be at Westlake High School's Louis Duchez Field, 27830 Hilliard Blvd., with the exception of the discus which will be held at Parkside Intermediate School, 24525 Hilliard Blvd.

Come out and enjoy an evening of great track events and support your local track athletes. ●

Westlake Garden Club continues decades-long Arbor Day tradition

by Regina McCarthy

Since its formation 50 years ago, the Westlake Garden Club has planted trees at various locations in our beautiful city. In 1991, the City of Westlake was designated a “Tree City USA,” a designation it has held every year since. This honor is earned by meeting the high standards set by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters. In recognition of this designation, in 1991 the Westlake Garden Club began its tradition of planting a tree every year on Arbor Day. The sun was bright this Arbor Day morning, April 26, as Mayor Dennis Clough, Garden Club members and their guests, Director of Public Service Paul Quinn, administrative assistant Gayle Hill, Urban Forestry Manager Stan

Barnard and several of the forestry crew gathered at the Founders’ Walk in Clague Park. As they have done together many times through the years, Mayor Clough and longtime club member Kathy Molner presided as the Garden Club’s 22nd consecutive Arbor Day tree was planted. The mayor presented us with a proclamation recognizing Arbor Day 2013 in the City of Westlake. We thank Mayor Clough and his staff for their continued support of our Garden Club and for all the work that goes into keeping our city a Tree City USA. Our thanks and gratitude to Cahoon Nursery for donating the tree and for the many years they have partnered with us. The Founders’ Walk is located across from the Clague House Museum and Clague Playhouse. The City recently planted ‘Ivory Silk’ Tree Lilacs at the brick pathway leading up to the monument. At the far right of the monument is the Garden Club’s 2013 Concolor Fir, joining the Concolor Fir at the far left, which we planted in 2012. Ide-



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Westlake Garden Club member Kathy Molner and Mayor Dennis Clough place the first shovel full of dirt on the newly planted Concolor Fir tree in Clague Park. ally suited for this location, this hardy evergreen grows rapidly once established. ●

Another record-breaking benefit for Youth Challenge

by Kathy Rigdon

Close to 400 generous guests helped raise \$210,000 for Youth Challenge at their “Gallery Gala” Annual Benefit & Auction on April 13 at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center. The Westlake nonprofit brings together children with physical disabilities and teen volunteers for adapted sports and recreational activities. Guests enjoyed a fun evening with cocktails, hors d’oeuvres,

dinner, silent and live auctions, a Hilton Head vacation raffle and a 50/50 raffle while supporting Youth Challenge. In addition, attendees were treated to a gallery of artwork created by YC participants and volunteers. The Youth Challenge participants and their teen volunteer partners energized the crowd with a rousing hip-hop performance complete with glow sticks waving throughout the ballroom.

Fred Koury, president and CEO of Smart Business Network, was the honorary event chair. Steve Nock, president of The Nock and Son Company and past president of the Youth Challenge board of trustees, and Ernie Vargo, partner at BakerHostetler and current YC board president, were co-chairs of the event. Christy McGucken of Ernst & Young and Marcia Obrock of ShurTech Brands served as auction co-chairs for the “Gallery Gala.” ●



PHOTO BY VINCENT GORMAN


YC partners Jamie and Gabby, Phil Bova and YC chief of operations and program oversight Ken Kasler.

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WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Library

by Elaine Willis

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

Wednesday, May 1 (7-8:45 p.m.) ENERGY THERAPY AND CHAKRA CLEANSING – Reiki master Linda Street, returns to speak about Energy Therapy in more depth. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; presentation is from 7-8:30 p.m. Q & A to follow. Please register.

Friday, May 3 (10-10:45 a.m.) COME PLAY WITH ME! – Open playtime with age-appropriate toys, songs and rhymes. For children ages 2-5 with a caring adult. Registration begins one week before each program.

Friday, May 3 (Toddler session: 10:30-11 a.m.; Preschool session: 11:30 a.m.-noon) MUSIC THERAPY & MORE – Connecting for Kids and the Music Therapy Enrichment Corps invite you to a music therapy group. Learn how parents and caregivers have a direct role in bringing music to life. The toddler session is geared for children under 3. The preschool session is geared for children ages 3-6 (siblings are welcome). Caregiver must stay in the room. No registration required.

Saturday, May 4 (All Day) NATIONAL FREE COMIC BOOK DAY – In partnership with Carol & John’s Comic Book Shop we’ll be giving out free comic books (one per person) all day while supplies last!

Saturday, May 4 (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, May 4 (1-2:15 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 by calling 440-250-5563. Children do not need a formal diagnosis to attend. Topics listed at connectingforkids.org.

Saturday, May 4 (3-4 p.m.) DERBY DAY FUN! – Join us for horse stories, games and light refreshments. Create your own Derby Day hat, too! Ages 7-11. Registration begins April 27.

Sunday, May 5 (1-5 p.m.) COMPEER DAY AT PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY – Enjoy an afternoon of mini-golf, live music and fun and learn more about Compeer and their mental health services.

Sunday, May 5 (2-3 p.m.) CINCO DE MAYO – Hola! Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with us! Festivities include stories, songs, dancing and a craft. We’ll also break a pinata! Ages 3-5. Registration begins April 28.

Monday, May 6 (1-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Monday, May 6 (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, May 7 (7-8 p.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS PARENT SUPPORT GROUP – Support for parents with questions or concerns about their child’s development. For parents only. Register at connectingforkids.org.

Wednesday, May 8 (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, May 9 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The May selection is “Zoobiquity” by Barbara Natterson Horowitz.

Thursday, May 9 (7-8:45 p.m.) WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL – A View from Stage of The Cleveland Orchestra. Retired Principal Percussionist Richard Weiner shares memories and commentary from 48 years as a member of The Cleveland Orchestra.

Friday, May 10 (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 by calling 440-250-5563. Children do not need a formal diagnosis to attend. Topics listed at connectingforkids.org.

Saturday, May 11(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. No registration.

Saturday, May 11 (2-3:30 p.m.) BEGINNING GENEALOGY – Learn how to get started researching your family tree. Bring along names and dates for hands-on research. Please register.

Saturday, May 11 (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, May 11 (3-4:45 p.m.) MAD4MANGA – Do you love Manga, Anime or Japanese culture? If you do, this club is for you! Each month we watch a different Anime series and talk about our favorite Manga. Sometimes we even throw in some crafts, Manga drawing or Japanese treats just for fun! Grades 6-12 only. Registration not necessary.

Monday, May 13 (10-11 a.m.) DR. SEUSS STORYTIME – You could not, would not, want to miss a party that’s as fun as this! Join us for a morning of Dr. Seuss stories, games and a craft to celebrate Children’s Book Week. Ages 3-6. Registration begins May 6.

Monday, May 13 (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, May 14 (7-8 p.m.) THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE STORYTIME – Listen to stories about Thomas and his friends, make a cool craft and play some games. Ages 3-5. Registration begins May 7.

Tuesday, May 14 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – The May selection is “Gone Girl” by Gillian Flynn.

Wednesday, May 15 (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, May 15 (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. Please register starting May 8.

Wednesday, May 15 (6:30-8:45 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – “Researcher Beware: Internet Sources Aren’t Always What You Think,” presented by Margaret Cheney, vice president, Ohio Genealogical Society.

Wednesday, May 15 (7-8:30 p.m.) INTRODUCTION TO FINDING FUNDERS – Learn how to use Foundation Directory Online to find funders for your nonprofit organization. Please register.

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

Learn about energy therapy at Westlake Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

Reiki master Linda Street will speak about Energy Therapy and Chakra Cleansing on Wednesday, May 1, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library. Street, of Healing From the Heart, is a certified in reiki and other forms of energy healing. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Reiki is a Japanese therapy in which the body’s energy is used to heal a variety of illnesses. It is often used in conjunction with western medicine. According to Hindu beliefs the chakras are centers of energy located along the midline of the body. Reiki uses the chakras to direct the energy to specific places during the healing process.

For more information or to register please call 440-250-5460 or visit signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080.

Investors Interest Group returns to Westlake Porter Public Library

by Elaine Willis

The Investors Interest Group will return to Westlake Porter Public Library on Thursday, May 2, at 7 p.m. The IIG took a four-month break while the library searched for and hired a new business specialist to replace Cynthia Hall, who retired last December. Business specialist Sue Provenzale, who started in February, will now manage the group.

The May 2 meeting will feature a presentation by Herb Geissler on the “Market Climate and Weather Forecast.” Geissler will review key economic facts to help investors understand the market climate during the next several quarters.

Geissler is the managing director of the St. Clair Group and president of the Pittsburgh chapter of the AAIL. He is also a business management consultant and coaches individual investors to help them improve the management of their investment portfolios.

To register or for more information about the Investors Interest Group, please call 440-250-5460 or visit signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080.

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girl scouts of north east ohio

Westlake honors volunteers

by Joyce Able Schroth

The City of Westlake awarded certificates to over 70 volunteers at a special ceremony on April 18 at City Hall. Among those honored guests was four-year-old Anna Lassen who participated in a food drive for the City's food bank as well as those who have served as auxiliary police, magistrates, commissioners, advisory board members and in a variety of other ways to provide much-needed service to the city of Westlake and its residents.

Although the council chambers were filled with volunteers, their friends and families, elected officials, and honored guests from Westlake's sister city, Tralee, Ireland, not everyone could be present to receive their honors – many were volunteering at other functions. Perhaps volunteer Samuel Janning, age 8, said it best when he commented upon receiving an invitation to the recognition, "I didn't volunteer to help those people so someone would recognize me. I just did it to help someone else. I guess if they really want to do this then I guess we can go."

It was an evening of thank you's. Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough remarked that "we could not provide the services ... we could not be the community that we have become without the involvement of so many of you throughout the year."

During the recognition event, nine volunteers



Recipients of the President's Volunteer Service Award, l-to-r: John Wichman; Larry Matus; Jimmy Lee; Richard Hong; Glenn Franklin accepting for his mother, Betty; David Lubrant; Dorothy Titera; and Al Smith.

received the President's Volunteer Service Award. The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation was established to recognize the valuable contributions of volunteers to their communities. This award program is a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

Among those honored was Westlake High School senior David Lubrant, a volunteer for food drives and food basket distributions since the age of six. He received President Obama's bronze award as did Betty Franklin for family history and Richard Hong, an auxiliary policeman. Al Smith, a past recipient of the bronze award, was presented with the silver award, recognizing twenty years of distributing food to needy Westlake families during the holidays. Jimmy Lee received the

gold award. Jimmy was saluted for his many years of contributions to the Westlake Food Bank, his efforts with Westlake students and as a founding organizer of Relay for Life in Westlake. Also receiving the gold award was Dorothy Titera, recognizing her seemingly unlimited volunteer service to the residents and extended families of sister city Tralee on behalf of the City of Westlake.

Four Lifetime awards were presented to members of the Westlake Auxiliary Police for their years of dedicated service, directing traffic, assisting in weather-related emergencies and patrolling city facilities, among other responsibilities. They are Larry Matus, Marian Zietz, John Wichman and Bill Anderer. These Presidential awards were a surprise presentation to the recipients. ●

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Westlake researcher solves Tralee family history mystery

by Joyce Able Schroth

A family history triangle involving Westlake, its sister city Tralee, Ireland, and parts of North America was solved by Westlake resident Dorothy Titera. The search began over twenty years ago by Tralee officials intent on finding descendants of a baby boy born on the high seas in a sailing ship from Tralee during the great potato famine.

During a chance encounter at a family history event during Westlake's bicentennial two years ago Tralee's then-mayor Grace O'Donnell and development officer John Griffin met Dorothy Titera. Ms. Titera listened intently to the situation and immediately decided to help. Ms. Titera is a volunteer consultant at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family History Center in Westlake and has assisted countless families search for their ancestors. Now she would assist an entire city and the County Kerry.

Nicholas Johnston Ryle (Reilly) was born aboard the famine ship Jeanie Johnston on its maiden voyage to Quebec in April 1848. Quebec was the gateway to North America for thousands of Irish emigrants. Through Ms. Titera's efforts, the last living direct descendant, 94-year-old Frances Keating, a granddaughter of Nicholas Johnston Reilly, was found in northern California.

At a special volunteer event at Westlake City Hall on April 18, Dorothy was honored by Mayor Dennis Clough. Mayor Clough said, "when we became a sister city of Tralee, Ireland, little did we know that we had someone here in the city of Westlake that was very adept at tracing family history and family roots. But we do – we have Dorothy Titera in the city of Westlake."

Mayor Johnnie Wall from Tralee was in attendance and met Ms. Titera for the first time. He presented her with an investiture into a new group, Friends

of Tralee, saying "the total significance is Dorothy Titera of Westlake Family History, [who] has made the most important contribution of Tralee in our scholarship – our Irish 19th century scholarship."

In 2003 a replica of the Jeanie Johnston ship was constructed in Tralee and sailed to the United States and Canada. "At that time," Mayor Wall continued, "a major effort was made to track down the family of the O'Reilly baby who was born on that ship. About ten years later Dorothy succeeded where we failed. Dorothy has so far located over 100 family members right across America. Already a variety of relations are planning to return to Tralee. I think they were completely unaware until Dorothy made contact with them."

Mayor Wall brought Nicholas's history to a conclusion when he said that the Irish in America became farmers, policemen, fire service and barmen. "Nicholas ended up owning a saloon in Minnesota and died there in 1904."



Mayor Johnnie Wall of Tralee, Ireland, presents Dorothy Titera with an investiture into a new group, Friends of Tralee.

Ireland is currently celebrating homecoming events for people with Irish ancestry and in particular the County Kerry (where Tralee is located) has announced their family history events

will form part of The Gathering Ireland 2013. Mayor Wall invited Ms. Titera and the audience to Tralee, saying "if you go to Ireland there are no strangers there, only good friends you haven't met." ●

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

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BAYARTS

Bay High student awarded BAYarts' Purdy scholarship

by Nancy Heaton

Megan See, an art student at Bay High School, was the first recipient of the BAYarts Ruth Purdy-Leslie Scholarship. The \$500 award is for a student attending college in the fall for a career in an art field. Megan is a multi-award winning ceramic artist going to Cleveland Institute

of Art in the fall who won the judges over with her passionate and focused application.

The scholarship is the first of its kind through the Ruth Purdy-Leslie Scholarship. The fund was created by friends and family of former Bay Village art teacher and resident Ruth Purdy-Leslie. Ruth's mother, Marianne, was one of the founders of the original Baycrafters, and Ruth continued to teach and take classes at BAYarts in her adult life. A colorful memorial garden on BAYarts campus features stones and sculptures created by her former students. A mural created by the Rustbelt Monster Collective is the backdrop.



Bay High School senior Megan See is the recipient of the Ruth Purdy-Leslie Scholarship.

pursue a career in an art field, and limited to students attending Bay High School.

The review panel included an art educator, a professional artist and

In the first year, the fund raised over \$13,000 to allow students in grades K-12 attend BAYarts programs. Although the BAYarts class fund is need-based and open to students throughout northeast Ohio, the college scholarship was determined by the student's application and desire to

an administrator, who did not know the students. The applications were varied and of course, very creative. Next year, BAYarts hopes to expand the fund to include more schools and more scholarships.

To learn more about how to apply for funds for BAYarts classes, you can go online and download the forms at bayarts.net/classes.aspx. Families eligible for the free milk/lunch programs are eligible for the fund, but all applications are considered. The 2014 college scholarship application will be announced in January 2014 in the schools. To donate to the Ruth Purdy-Leslie Scholarship Fund, click on the Donate tab on the BAYarts website or stop by BAYarts at 28795 Lake Road for more information. ●

BAYarts students' ceramic exhibit and sale opens May 3

by Eileen Stockdale

Each year, BAYarts' advanced pottery students, under the direction of Moira Beale, BAYarts ceramic department head, conceive, create and curate a show of their work inspired by a central theme. This year's theme is "Clay Garden" and opens May 3, just in time for mother's day and spring, featuring bird houses, bird

baths, yard art and more.

Beale feels the "soup to nuts" planning and executing of the yearly show teaches students how a gallery works and how to present their work. Pieces are for sale at affordable prices and sell out quickly! Proceeds of the sale go back to the studio for equipment and updates.

This year's artists include Julie

Barker, Jeff Chalmers, Leah Gary, Sue Kirchgessner, Denise Novack, Linda McDonough, Mark Lapczynski, Joe Morris, Sue Peplin, Jessica Ramage, Alison Brown, Amy Coursen, Elise Till, Shellie McQuaid, Andrea Seraphino and Erin Schechtman.

The opening reception is Friday, May 3, from 7-9 p.m. in the Sullivan Family Gallery in the Fuller House and runs through May 24. Fuller House hours are 8 a.m. to noon or by appointment. BAYarts is located at 28795 Lake Road in Bay Village. ●



PHOTO BY NANCY HEATON

Sue Kirchgessner's "Ceramic Garden" dishes are among the pieces created by BAYarts students for the annual exhibit.

'I Love My Library!' coloring contest winners announced

by Jennifer Cirincione

The Friends of Westlake Porter Public Library announced their "I Love My Library!" coloring contest winners.

Over 70 kids entered the contest. All entries are currently on display in the library lobby through Wednesday, May 8.

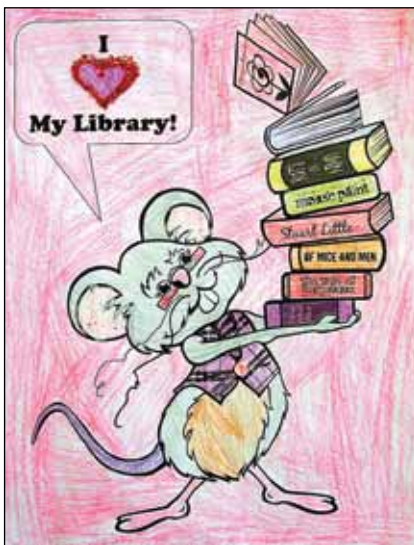
The overall winner was Molly Brian, whose design included a button and glitter. (See photo, far right.)

The toddler-to-age-4 group winner was Madeline G; the age 5-7 group winner was Ellie B.; and the age

8-10 group winner was Yikun Y.

Winners received a Mitchell's Ice Cream gift card.

Thanks to all who entered! ●



POETRY

White Bird

by Dianne Borowski,
Bay Village

He swooped down
To visit awhile
Regal plumage
Delights my eyes.

Bright white feathers
With a touch of tan
His ring of feathers
A perfect crown.

Those piercing eyes
Look through my soul
His eyes as dark
As newly mined coal.

He shook his head,
Ruffled his feathers and
Swayed side to side
Then began to glide.

He soared air bound,
Dipped, cried out
As he disappeared
Into the space
I call memory.

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MEET THE CANDIDATES

Nick Nunnari running for Westlake's Ward 2 council seat

Hello. I want to introduce myself and ask for your vote on May 7: Nick C. Nunnari, for Westlake City Council, Ward 2. As your voice on city council I will ensure that our tax dollars are used responsibly and address Ward 2 issues. I will champion your input to envision a plan to keep our city moving forward for our community's future stability and growth.

I consider myself well prepared for this position:

- First-hand experience: born and raised in Ward 2, Westlake resident for 40+ years
- Warm and approachable: build solid working relationships
- Knowledgeable: attend city council meetings regularly; have gone through the budgeting process
- Well versed on residents' concerns: water department issue, too frequent electrical interruptions, safety and security posed by aging housing stock, need for better street lighting, attention to speed limits on major



Westlake Ward 2 City Council candidate Nick Nunnari

streets, more involvement for our senior citizens.

It's time to give back to the city that has given me so much. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve as your voice on city council – a logical progression in my passion to serve my community where I have spent hundreds of hours in service:

- Member – Westlake PTA
- Teacher – St. Bernadette PSR
- Coach – youth baseball & basketball
- Organizer – adopt-a-family, food drives, Relay for Life

- Director – Vietnam Veterans Greater Cleveland Chapter 15 Classic Car Show

Carol Winter, vice president, Westlake school board, said, "As a fellow Ward 2 resident I support Nick. He lives and works in our community, and he'll be a strong independent voice. Nick will ensure that our tax dollars are used responsibly and that our voices are heard at City Hall."

As assistant service manager at John Lance Ford I have exhibited sound decision-making and a strong customer service mentality. A graduate of the University of Toledo, my wife Alice and I have three sons.

Respectfully,
Nick C. Nunnari

'Black Tie' concludes Clague Playhouse's 85th season

by Pam Kilpatrick

"Black Tie" by A.R. Gurney is insightful and touching in its depiction of a man welcoming back that ghost many of us have to banish consciously from our minds as we grow older, the voice of a parent that becomes an internal barometer of the propriety of our behavior, whether we like it or not. Wryly witty and warmly embracing of its characters' eccentricities and foibles, this generation-gap tale is a charmer – funny, observant and altogether winning! Please note: this play contains adult language.

Featured in our cast are Donna Case, Bobby Coyne, Debbie Lenarz, Peter Toomey and Lou Will. They are directed by Douglas A. Farren.

"Black Tie" runs May 3-26 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$15 for seniors (60+) and \$10 for students (with valid ID) and may be purchased by calling the box office, 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 Road, south of Detroit Road. Free parking and handicapped accessible. ●



Donna Case as Mimi, Lou Will as Father and Peter Toomey as Curtis.

Parkside students illustrate the importance of trees

by Mary Beth Schneider

The first annual Arbor Day poster contest was held April 26 at Parkside Intermediate School with 95 fifth-graders submitting outstanding posters to be entered in the contest. Each poster included artwork and a paragraph of 150 words or less explaining "why trees are important to the City of Westlake."

The contest was sponsored by the Westlake Tree Commission in conjunction with Westlake's 22nd consecutive annual designation as a Tree City USA. The students illustrated on their posters the many ways trees are important and why trees should be preserved and

protected in their city. The posters were then judged by myself and fellow Tree Commission members Margie Rosander, John Walz and Diane Morris as well as Stan Barnard, urban forestry manager for the City of Westlake, and Paul Quinn III, Westlake's service director.

Each of the fifth-graders who submitted posters were then invited to participate in the Arbor Day ceremony and to help plant a beautiful buckeye tree in Parkside's front yard. The students all aided in placing a shovel full of dirt around the tree and learning about the history of the Ohio buckeye tree.

Six winners and six honorable mention posters were selected by the judges and the winners each received a ribbon with the top six receiving a proclamation from Mayor Dennis Clough proclaiming their day in Westlake. All of the posters made by the fifth-graders will go on display the week of April 29 at the Westlake Recreation Center.



The winners of Parkside's first Arbor Day poster contest.

After the tree planting, the students were invited to dip their hands in washable green paint and put their handprint on the City of Westlake's "Tree of Life" banner from the 2013 Rain and Garden Show. Once completed, the tree – with handprints for leaves and a trunk formed by names written in brown marker – will be scanned and used as the new logo for the Westlake Watershed Group and city engineering department's "Go Green" program.

The winning entries were submitted by: Samantha Thomas, Lexie Floyd, Selena Alamir, Allison Hook, Abdullah Abdul-Maani and Kari Adkins. Honorable mention winners were Lydia Choban, Kerrigan Ponsart, Eric Kronz, Sophia Ricaurte, Mai Lin Conway and Kara Wilkinson. Congratulations to all! ●



Parkside students add their prints to a banner for the city's new "Go Green" logo.



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The Bay Village Historical Society



Rose Hill Museum

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Tri-C Westshore to hold job recruitment information sessions

Cuyahoga Community College's Westshore Campus is hiring to fill daytime and evening teaching and tutoring positions for the Summer Session and/or Fall Semester 2013. There will be two information sessions on Tuesday, May 14 – the first from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and the second from 5-7 p.m.

During the information sessions, interested parties will talk with faculty, tour the campus and learn more about being an adjunct faculty member or tutor.

The Westshore Campus is looking for faculty and tutors in the following disciplines: accounting, information

technology, biology, business administration, chemistry, computer science, earth science, English, English-as-a-Second Language, history, mathematics, philosophy, physics, physical sciences, political science, psychology, sociology and speech.

To be an adjunct faculty member, you must have a master's degree in the discipline or a closely related field. To be a tutor, you must have a bachelor's degree in the discipline or a closely related field.

Please RSVP for either information session to 216-987-3527 or Kathleen.Twyman@tri-c.edu. ●

POETRY

The Seagull and the Tree by Dave Scullin, Westlake

My father was Jonathon Livingston, the renowned seagull. He made famous the saying "The gull sees farthest who flies highest."

I asked my mom, "How come seagulls don't land in trees like other birds? Those birds seem happy. They and their friends gather in the trees, sing with each other and sometimes eat fruit from the trees. In fact they enjoy trees so much they make their homes in them!"

My mother shuffled her web feet and said, "Son, some things are not meant to be."

Register now for annual Westlake Police Dept. Bicycle Rodeo

by Ken Delfing

The Westlake Police Dept. will hold its annual Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, June 1, at Parkside Intermediate School, 24525 Hilliard Blvd. The event begins at 9 a.m. and is designed to give young bike riders practice in slow-speed skills. The event is free to all Westlake residents from kindergarten to fifth grade. The first 30 participants will be fitted for and receive a new bike helmet. Helmets are required to ride the course. To pre-register please fill out the form below and either mail to or drop off at the Westlake Police Department, 27300 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145, Attention Officer Delfing. For more information call 440-871-3311 or email delfing@wlake.org.

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AGE & GRADE OF PARTICIPANT _____ (Grade just completed)

Signature of Parent or Guardian

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Bay High ranked Gold by U.S. News and World Report

by Karen Derby

Bay High School is listed as one of U.S. News and World Report's 2013 Best High Schools in America, earning the magazine's GOLD designation in this annual ranking of the nation's high schools by the magazine.

U.S. News and World Report ranked high schools as Gold (top 500), Silver (next 1,790) and Bronze (an additional 2,515) out of a total 21,035 American high schools analyzed. Bay High's ranking puts it in the top 2.7 percent nationally. The school was ranked 19th in Ohio and 496th in the nation. Bay High had been named to the Silver list since 2007.

U.S. News and World Report considers several factors in its ranking. These factors include whether all students performed better than statistical expectations on math and reading proficiency tests based on the average for students

in the state. Then, the number of economically disadvantaged students were factored in to determine schools that were performing better than expected statistically.

Finally, in a third-step calculation, an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) "college readiness" index was computed based on the weighted average of the AP or IB participation rate (12th-grade students taking at least one AP/IB test before or during their senior year divided by number of 12th-graders) along with how many of those students passed with an AP score of 3 or higher (the score which many colleges accept for course credit) or an IB score of 4. The quality score (passing rate) was weighted at 75 percent, while the participation rate was rated at 25 percent for the college readiness index. Bay High offers an extensive selection of AP college-level courses ●

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Recovering addicts seek to 'Fill the Void' faced by others

by Nelson Blount

Dave and Tony, two young men in recovery, have launched a Christ-centered 12-step recovery group for teens and young adults. Fill the Void meets every Sunday at noon at CrossPointe Community, 1800 Columbia Road in Westlake (just south of Hilliard). It is a discussion group. Dave and Tony facilitate the group utilizing Scripture and the 12 Step Recovery Bible.

These two young men realize the importance of carrying the message to other addicts. They have come to realize that a major component of their own recovery is intensive work with others recovering from substance abuse.

The 12th step suggests: "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other addicts, and to practice these prin-

ciples in all our affairs." Carry this message to others! You can help when no one else can. This is the desire of Fill the Void – to launch a community of young people who are discovering freedom in Christ. Life has taken on new meaning for Dave and Tony. It is a real joy to see them help others.

Their hearts' desire is to see loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship of young people who are overcoming by the power of God and to have a host of friends on the same road. Developing healthy relationships is an essential part of recovery. We know you will be glad you came. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." (NLT, Proverbs 3:5-6). ●

Spring Green Garden Show coming to Bay on May 18

by Brenda O'Reilly

The Spring Green Garden Show is a free, family-friendly event promoting organic gardening and other green ideas for your home. It will be held May 18, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bay Community Garden, on Wolf Road. Visitors will have a chance to experience the beauty of the community garden and meet the Bay Village Green Team volunteers.

The show will feature children's activities, including how to make cool crafts from recycled materials and working the Enviroscope Model to learn about the importance of soil and water conservation. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lake Erie Nature & Science Center will have some

interesting animals on site.

There will be presentations throughout the day on "green gardening" topics such as small plot gardening, backyard composting and urban beekeeping. Various local vendors will have displays focusing on organic lawn and garden care, sustainable landscape design, rain barrels and organic gardening products. Refreshments will be available.

There will be a silent auction featuring green gardening products and services. Residents are encouraged to walk or ride their bike to the event, and the first 50 people to walk or bike in will receive a free gift. Proceeds from the garden show will benefit the Bay Village Green Team. ●

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Learn how to write for the Observer

“Reporting for Citizens: An easy path to covering your community like a pro”

Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m.
Bay Village Branch Library

Would you like to learn more about writing articles to be published in the Observer? We'll be sponsoring a free program at Bay Village Library to help community writers fine-tune their skills when crafting an article.

This step-by-step workshop will demonstrate how to find, report and write about the people, news and events in our community. The program will be presented by Bob Rosenbaum, adjunct professor at the Kent State School of Journalism & Mass Communications and a writer for the Heights Observer. We hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY EVENTS See more events online at wbvobserver.com

May 1, 12:30 p.m.

Lifestyles of the Wet & Feathered

Join the Women's Board of the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center as noted nature photographer Carol Conti-Entin presents a slide show and talk on the fascinating, curious and amusing habits of Northeast Ohio's herons, ducks, geese and their young. Refreshments at noon.

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

May 1, 1-2:30 p.m.

Free Family History Research Help Session

If you need help getting started or have come to a "road block" in your path to finding your ancestors, member volunteers of Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be available to assist you, at the computer terminals. Please bring a copy of your pedigree chart and relevant family group sheets. Or, if you are just starting out, a member will help you begin to organize and record what data you currently have. However, if you have never used a computer, we suggest you first attend one of Porter Library's free technology training sessions to learn the basic skills needed to browse the internet.

Computer Lab, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Parenting Seminar: Cooperation, Consequences and Keeping Your Sanity

Whether your kids are preschoolers, elementary-age, or well into the teenage years, you'll receive practical tools to help build long-lasting character into their hearts. Come learn how to develop cooperation and responsibility. Led by Marsha Snively, this seminar is creative, with participant interaction and plenty of opportunity for you to make specific application to your own family. You'll leave the seminar encouraged, armed with lots of practical strategies and encouragement to bring change in your family. Bring the whole family as children through the age of 12 will learn in a supervised environment fun and exciting ways they can enhance family life. The cost of the seminar is \$20 per person which includes both lunch and a children's program running concurrent to the seminar. To register, call 800-771-8334 or register online at biblicalparenting.org/register.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 27993 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Habitat for Humanity Collection

Bay residents may drop off furniture of all kinds, building/renovation supplies, electrical/plumbing equipment, sinks, toilets, tools, lumber, tile, landscaping tools and equipment, kitchen cabinets, doors – anything that can be used by someone else and is in working condition. Habitat DOES NOT want bedding, clothing or paint. For items that need to be picked up, call 216-429-3631, ext. 238, to set up a time.

Bay Village Police Station, 28000 Wolf Rd.

Saturday, May 4, 1-2:30 p.m.

Self Control: Teaching Your Child to Use His/Her Inside Stopper

A common complaint heard from many parents is, "How can I get my child to stop what he is doing without telling him a hundred times?" In other words, the child is dependent on an outside stopper (mom or dad). Psychoanalyst Victoria Todd will explain how to help your child develop an inside stopper and be able to stop themselves. Child-care is provided but space is limited. To reserve a spot for your child, visit www.connectingforkids.org or email sarahrintamaki@connectingforkids.org.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Sunday, May 5, noon Fill the Void

A 12-step Christ-centered substance abuse recovery group for teens and young adults; facilitated by two young men in recovery who are carrying the message of hope. Focus is full of hope with generous amounts of encouragement. We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness! Meets every Sunday.

CrossPointe Community Church, 1800 Columbia Rd., Westlake

Sunday, May 5, 2-4 p.m. Kids Sunday

The day will feature Mother's Day and Father's Day themed crafts, healthy snacks and Clague House Museum tours. There is no charge. We encourage families to come out and enjoy some time together. The event is geared toward children aged 3 to 12, however we will accommodate younger or older children. It is our hope that we send the kids home excited about Westlake's rich history. For more information or to register, call the Westlake Historical Society at 440-808-1961 or email westlakeohiohistory@yahoo.com.

Clague House Museum, 1371 Clague Rd., Westlake

Sunday, May 5, 7 p.m.

BGSU A Cappella Choir

Bay United Methodist Church invites the community to attend a concert by the Bowling Green State University A Cappella Choir. Let the gift of song bless your life as spring arrives. There is no cost to attend this concert, although a freewill offering will be taken.

Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Sunday, May 5, 7 p.m.

Burning River Baroque Concert

Burning River Baroque will present "J.S. Bach, Sacred, Sombre and Celebratory," featuring guest artist Kathy Stewart, a founding member of Apollo's Fire, on the traverso (Baroque flute). The program will celebrate the many magnificent and diverse faces of Bach, from sacred arias to intense instrumentals. A freewill offering will be taken.

Bethesda-on-the-Bay Lutheran Church, 28607 Wolf Rd.

Sunday, May 5, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

The West Shore Chorale & Orchestra Present Handel's 'Samson'

Joined by select student singers from local high schools, the Chorale is excited to bring this dramatic and colorful oratorio to the Cleveland community for the first time in 25 years. Soloists include Bryan McGucken as Samson, Michael Frolich as Manoaah and area music teachers Lisa Hanson, Dallas Young and Eric Richardson in featured roles. The program will be conducted by John Drotleff and a free reception will follow. Tickets \$15, all students free. Parking is free and handicap accessible. Tickets at the door, online at westshorechorale.org or call 216-373-7773.

Magnificat Performing Arts Center, 20770 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

Tuesday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Bus Tour of Cleveland's Cultural Gardens

Presented by the Westlake Garden Club. The tour guide is historian Rebecca McFarland. Lunch at noon at Nido Italia, 12020 Mayfield Rd. in Little Italy. At 2 p.m., tour Rockefeller Park Greenhouse. For more information call Ruth Bertrand at 440-899-1565. Rain or shine. Cost is \$55 for Westlake Garden Club members, \$65 non-members. *Bus departs from parking lot at S.E. corner of Columbia and Detroit roads, behind Key Bank at 8:30 a.m. The bus returns to same parking lot at 4 p.m.*

Wednesday, May 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

NEOPC Monthly Meeting

Northeast Ohio Personal Computers Club's May program is Q&A with our own experts, Lee Gerber and Dennis Lewis. All are welcome to contribute by bringing questions. This is a workshop session covering: Basic computer fundamentals of MS Windows XP, 7, and 8; MS Security Essentials; MS Word, Excel; AVG Anti-Virus; CCleaner; wireless networks; tablets and smart phones; what to backup and the best method; and Yahoo groups and the NEOPC web site. Refreshments at 6:30; program begins at 7. This event is free and open to all. For additional info, go to www.neopc.org.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, May 8, 7:30 p.m. Bay Village Community Band Concert

Join us for our final indoor performance of the season.

Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

Thursday, May 9, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Senior Planning Education Event

Being well prepared for your future and the future of your loved ones takes planning. Please join us as we discuss the many options and opportunities available to seniors planning for their golden years. This series is open to everyone at every age. Refreshments will be served.

West Bay Center, 27601 Westchester Pkwy., Westlake

Friday, May 10, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Potty Training the Challenging Child

This parent discussion group is specifically for parents of children who are defiant, nonverbal or have other delays that make potty training a much more difficult process. The conversation will focus on tools and techniques you can use in your home to help your child make a successful transition from diapers. Sarah Larson and Holly Winterstein, intervention specialists with Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, will lead our discussion group. Childcare is provided but space is limited. To reserve a spot for your child, visit www.connectingforkids.org or email sarahrintamaki@connectingforkids.org.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Friday, May 10, 2-3 p.m.

Free Community Open House

The public is invited to tour the house and grounds at Ames Family Hospice House. The new 40,000-square-foot Craftsman inspired house opened last summer, and is tucked away on a hidden 30-acre site in the woods near Porter Creek, just north of the I-90 Crocker Road exit, between Holiday Inn and Bonne Belle. Refreshments will be provided. Reservations can be made by visiting hospicewr.org or calling 216-486-6645.

Ames Family Hospice House, 30080 Hospice Way, Westlake

Saturday, May 11, 4-7 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 235 Spaghetti Dinner

Bay Village Boy Scout Troop 235 will hold its bi-annual "All You Can Eat" Spaghetti Dinner, featuring Tony Dostal's famous homemade spaghetti sauce, salad, bread and delicious pies. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for seniors and children under 12. Tickets will be available at the door.

Bay Presbyterian Church, 25415 Lake Rd.

Tuesday, May 14, 6-9 p.m. Westlake Relay For Life Kick-Off Party

Please come and join us for fun, food and information. You will be able to sign up your Relay for Life team, join a team or just come and show your support for this great event.

Rusty Barrel, 27026 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30-8:45 p.m. Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

Margaret Cheney, former trustee and current administrative vice president of the Ohio Genealogical Society, will be the guest speaker. Her presentation is titled: "Researcher Beware: Internet Sources Aren't Always What You Think." Social time, with refreshments, is from 6:30-7 p.m. The public is invited at no charge.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Does your group benefit from free listings? Consider supporting the Observer project by purchasing a display ad inside the paper to announce your next event.



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