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WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE Observer

VOLUME 6 • ISSUE 15 | The Community Newspaper Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village | JULY 22, 2014

Porter Library will hold used furniture sale

by ELAINE WILLIS

Westlake Porter Public Library will hold a used furniture sale on Monday, July 28, starting at 9 a.m. and lasting until everything has been sold. Items to be sold include file cabinets, chairs, tables, a computer workstation and typewriter tables. Payment may be made by cash, check or credit card, and all sales will be final. Please call 440-871-2600 for further information. ●

Bay Library used book sale July 26-29

by LINDA LAMB

Mark your calendar for the upcoming summer used book sale at the Bay Village branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library. The sale will run during regular library hours from Saturday morning, July 26, through 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of Bay Village Library with proceeds from the sale supporting various library activities. There is a wide range of children, teen and adult books as well as DVDs, CDs, audio books and magazines. All have been categorized for easy shopping. Tuesday is bag day when a bag full of books can be purchased for \$1.

Bags are supplied by the Friends. Volunteers are needed to help with the book sale and other library events sponsored by the Friends. Please contact the library at 502 Cahoon Road or call 440-871-6392 if you are interested in volunteering, becoming a member of our Friends group or have a question about the upcoming book sale. ●



A family views the setting sun from Cahoon Memorial Park in Bay Village. During the summer months, the parks along Lake Erie fill up a few minutes before sunset with spectators hoping to catch a colorful scene as the sun disappears below the horizon.

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Westlake youth football reorganizes

by JIM DISPIRITO

The football field in Westlake is changing. Do you have a child who is interested in playing football, either tackle or flag? Then this news article is for you.

First and foremost, things have changed over the past year concerning the youth football programs in Westlake. The old Junior All-Star Football League has wrapped up after more than 40 years of service to the city of Westlake. In its place, the new Westlake Youth Football Association has been created.

The Westlake Youth Football Association will serve as the place to go for all third- through sixth-graders who live in or go to school in the city of Westlake and want to play tackle football. These players will be broken up into two divisions.

The third-graders will play with the fourth-graders while the fifth- and sixth-graders form the other division. Both of these tackle divisions will now play in the Little SWC.

» See FOOTBALL page 4

Scent of family lures dog home

by NANCY BROWN

When many Bay Village residents were preparing for and finalizing Fourth of July festivities, family, friends and many with compassionate hearts were pounding the pavement in search of a Bay Village beagle named Brutus.

Brutus has storm and firework phobia like many other animals and his family, the Pullmans, and rescue volunteers knew that time was of the essence since firework displays were set to go off all around the area. Some

said prayers to patron saints like St. Francis, St. Christopher and St. Anthony to please keep this little dog safe and bring him home.

The city was plastered with flyers, email blasts, social media and no sightings. The dog's bed and food were left out on the porch with the light on, and still nothing.

Rescue contacts encouraged the family to fan out efforts, resulting in a sighting in Westlake. A humane, large dog trap was delivered to Westlake Police, but Brutus sightings were not consistent enough to set the trap. Cue a clever beagle lover, who con-



Brutus the beagle

sidered how search and rescue canines work and suggested the family hang out laundry and create a scent trail home.

» See BRUTUS page 2

PHOTO BY DARCY PULLMAN



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Finding a fine collectible

Doug Oltmanns of the Westlake Historical Society peruses a selection of vintage tools and toys at the society's 44th Antique, Vintage & Craft Show on the grounds of the Clague House Museum on July 20. Pleasant temperatures drew out visitors to the annual fundraiser to view the booths of more than 60 exhibitors.

BRUTUS *from front page*

Brutus's mom, Darcy Pullman, left recently worn T-shirts and some pillow cases on the porch and took Brutus's absolute favorite, dirty socks, and shredded a pair and hung them on low lying bushes and some even higher to create a trail from home to the last known sighting in Westlake along the tracks as a lure for that famous beagle nose.

Six brutal days and nights on the Westlake-Bay Village border, with a couple of sightings just south of the tracks, countless calls to police departments with updates and to make sure no dogs had been reported hit by a car. The scarce sightings made the family think their little dog would never come home and the family prepared for permanent heartache.

Then on July 5 when all the fireworks and festivities were over, he came out of hiding. He was spotted going eastbound then westbound on Detroit close to Columbia, then on Clague, and in and out of King James at least twice. He appeared very skinny, limping and mouth swollen.

Dodging multiple near-hits by cars, blowing horns and screeching brakes, Brutus managed to bolt up driveways and of course pick houses without fences or open garages. The

Pullman family caught up to him at an intersection and jumped out of the car, screaming "Brutus, we love you, come here."

The glazed look in his eyes indicated he did not know his family, and

His family was still out searching for him – but luckily the neighbors spotted him, alerted the Pullmans and the biggest, best beagle reunion happened.

His family could not believe it! He was skin and bone, smelled like wild-



PHOTO BY DARCY PULLMAN

Brutus the wandering beagle is happy to be back home with his family and the neighbors who found him, pictured clockwise from bottom, Annabelle Pullman, Jacob Pullman, Peter Kraft and Sean Kraft.

he disappeared into Clague Park, not to be seen for another six hours. A sighting at Westlake High School and prevailing breeze made the scent to home really strong, strong enough to get him on the other side of the tracks where he belonged and down Lincoln Road – but no one greeted him when he arrived.

life, with paws bloody from running. Remarkably, his vet check was good, no walks for a bit yet and working on gaining some weight.

Brutus is happy to be home, glad his dog bed is back in the house and that mom brought back all of the dirty laundry. ●

What I think Brutus did on his 6-day adventure

by ANNABELLE PULLMAN, age 10

Brutus took off at the sound of thunder and got turned around in the rain. He ran, reacting to the noises, and finally hunkered down and fell asleep.

Day 2: Brutus woke up and went in search for food. He didn't find food but he found some chipmunks to chase! Next he found a creek for water to cool down and a shady spot to nap for the rest of the day.

Day 3: When he woke up he

realized he was not in his bed and walked around to figure out where he was. He was easily distracted by the wilderness animals to play chase which made him tired.

Day 4: When he woke up he went back to the creek for cool water and searched for food. He got lucky – leftover snacks dropped by people. Yummy bits of burger! Not easy with horns honking, bright lights, people yelling. So he ran. He found a nice yard and curled up on a chair.

Day 5: People! He took off, wan-

dering strange streets looking for home. When he saw people they seemed scary so he kept running till his paws hurt and he rested.

Day 6: He didn't want to get up but he had to get home. Cars honking, chased by strangers again. WAIT! Something smells familiar this time. He had to turn around, he was on to something! His little body hurt but his beagle nose got a whiff! He made his way across town, careful to stay out of the way of cars, and made it to the tracks and then on to home.

It's good to have a beagle nose! ●

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The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a hyperlocal community newspaper and website written by, for and about the residents of Westlake and Bay Village, providing perspectives and information about topics and events in our community. The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through citizen participation of the 600+ community volunteers.

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

Observer Guidelines

Want to submit an article to the Observer? We'd love to hear from you! Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when writing for the Observer:

- Anyone who lives or works in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 word articles.
- Photos should be jpegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes in size.
- Submit original stories and photos. Don't copy others' work and remember to credit your sources.
- Review our Observer FAQs on our website at: wbvobserver.com
- 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. Staff contact information is listed below.

To join in, sign up through the Member Center at wbvobserver.com/members to submit your stories, photos and events. All content should be submitted through the Member Center, not by email.

Letters to the editor (max. 300 words) may be sent to tara@wbvobserver.com. Please include full contact information.

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FOOTBALL *from front page*

While Westlake will practice in Westlake, their talents will shine all over the Southwestern Conference, just like their big brothers at the high school on Friday nights.

Part of the new Westlake Youth Football Association's model and plan is to team up with USA Football. All of the coaches will have concussion recognition certification and will have gone through some specialized training from USA Football. The teams created by the new WYFA will be equal in size and level of competition. This is a must as the Little SWC bylaws ensure all teams from all cities practice fair and fun football. Registration is ongoing at the WYFA website: www.westlakeyouthfootball.org.

Maybe tackling is not your cup of tea. Flag football returns to Westlake through the Westlake Recreation Department. The third- and fourth-grade flag teams will practice in Westlake, but will play all their games at a central field in North Olmsted against teams from North Olmsted, Fairview Park and Bay Village. The rules and field size are the same as the first- and second-graders who have played in Westlake before. The first- and sec-

ond-grade teams will both practice and play their games in Westlake at the Recreation Center fields. As always, one game will be under the lights at Clague Park.

Volunteer coaches are needed for all teams and you can register to coach when you register your child to play. Registration for the flag football teams will run through the Westlake Recreation Department. More information will be available on the Rec Department's website and in the Rec Gazette. As always, please remember that all of these teams, tackle and flag, are open to all boys and girls who want to play football.

Finally, for those pre-kindergarteners ages 4-6, you are not to be left out. Coach Jim is back with his Pass N Catch classes on Saturday mornings. Children will learn a new skill each week while reviewing the old ones on a week-to-week basis. Each child will receive a jersey and small football. This is a parent/child class with coach Jim leading the way. Classes run for 45 minutes for five Saturdays in a row.

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



Westlake youth can play flag football through the Rec Department or join a new tackle league.

FAMILY OBSERVATIONS

Conversations with your teenager

by RJ JOHNSON, pastor at Advent Westlake

On the way home from school one day, my daughter said, "Why do people like to watch sports? I think sports are boring."

An alarm rang in my head. She just asked me to explain something. This was an opportunity to have a real conversation. I had to be careful. It was like having a butterfly land on the palm of my hand. If I tried to grasp tightly, I would crush this moment. If you have had teenagers, you know you cannot schedule opportunities for real conversations. They just land, last a few moments, then fly away.

I asked for a little more information, and she told me that when her friends talk about sports, she cannot relate. She does not like to watch sports.

"Sometimes when we take time to understand what someone else finds interesting about a subject, it can become interesting to us," I responded.

"You mean I should pretend to be interested? Isn't that kind of like lying?" she asked.

Great, I thought, my daughter thinks I am telling her to lie. No parent wants to teach their child to lie, but for a minister it's doubly bad. After a moment of careful thought, I replied, "No, you are not pretending. You are asking them to explain their interest to you. You may or may not think it is interesting after you hear what they have to say, but at least you will understand what they find interesting."

"So what did you pretend to be interested in when you met Mama?" she asked.

Another alarm went off, this time much louder. Not only was I not communicating clearly, there was no right answer to this question.

I composed myself and said, "I did not pretend to be interested in

anything. I did discover some very interesting things about gardening, and have a better appreciation of how to design flower beds so different things come into bloom at different times."

"So you like to garden now?" she responded. "I never see you gardening."

"I am still not much of a gardener," I said, "But I can understand why she enjoys it."

"Hmm," she said, then her phone beeped to let her know a text had just arrived. I knew that the moment for our conversation had just drifted away.

One of the joys of relationships is that they open us to new ideas and new ways of looking at the world. This does not mean that we will always come to an agreement. It is unlikely that my daughter will ever enjoy watching sports or that I will become an avid gardener, but when we have conversations, we can find a new appreciation for something we did not understand. ●

Westlake baseball camp a summer tradition

by LAURA GONZALEZ

Phil Bova's love of baseball and passion for training youngsters on the fundamentals of the sport was evident once again at his 41st summer baseball camp, which was held at the Westlake Recreation Center and attended by a record-breaking 205 participants.

During the weeklong camp, campers received invaluable training and insight from high school, college and professional level coaches and staff, while learning how to improve their individual playing skills and become team players in a highly organized, positive and fun-filled environment.

One of Phil's mottos, which is posted on a sign at each of his annual baseball camps, is "Enthusiasm is contagious. Be a take-charge player." This saying captures the essence of Phil's philosophy about baseball and about life and has made a lasting impression on many of the camp's past participants, who still recognize and practice this principle throughout their daily lives.

At the awards ceremony for this year's camp, which was attended by more than 500 people, Phil shared his energy and enthusiasm with the audience and expressed his gratitude to his wife, Donna, and to the many coaches, parents and campers who made this year's camp a huge success. ●



PHOTO BY DAVE MILLS

Campers practice sliding skills at the annual Phil Bova baseball camp in Westlake.

Deadline extended for Mini-Rockette camp

by HEIDI LANGER

Time is running out to enroll in this year's Mini-Rockette Camp, conducted by the Bay High School Rockette team. The camp will be held Saturday, Aug. 16, in the Bay Middle School cafeteria, 27725 Wolf Road, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The camp is open to all children entering first through eighth grade and the cost of the camp is \$60 per child. The registration deadline is July 25.

The camp will include: dance and flag skills, a special Rockette

T-shirt, crafts and games, two snacks and lunch, face painting and poms for the performances. During the last hour of camp, the Mini-Rockettes will perform the dances they learned at the camp. In addition, the Mini-Rockettes will perform during the pre-game festivities for a Bay High School football game at Bay High Stadium.

Interested individuals can find registration information at bit.ly/MiniRockettes or by contacting Leanne Rohlke at 440-871-0768 or ybagi@sbcglobal.net. ●

Help Wanted

Part time position available 20-30 hrs/wk. caring for active adults with developmental disabilities in our Bay Village group home. Help with household tasks, meal prep and community outings. Evenings and overnight availability required. Call 440- 250-2773 or fax resume to 440-899-6219 or email robin@familyhaven.org.

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Bay’s community services director bids farewell

by DEBBIE BOCK

I have a quote by Dr. Clarissa Pinkole Estes tacked to the bulletin board in my office. It says, “Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach.”

In the 10 years that I served as the Community Services Director for the City of Bay Village, it was an honor and privilege to serve residents, collaborate with community groups and work with a great team of employees within the city. Bay Village is an extraordinary community with residents who are generous with their donation of time and money to help their neighbors.

I have enjoyed getting to know so many residents



and have especially benefitted from the wisdom of older adults. So many people presume that just because someone is a senior citizen, they must be old-fashioned, feeble, and no longer able to contribute to society. This is simply NOT TRUE!

If I could leave one last gift for Bay Village, it would be to reduce the stigma of aging. Just like youth, older people are often misunderstood and undervalued by society. Ageism is the tendency to discriminate against older people. I believe this generation of baby boomers can alter the tide of

negativity.

As we age, we have the power and freedom to stop wasting valuable energy either seeking approval or proving how much better we are than others. We become free to engage in life however we wish, without

worrying how it looks to others. So let’s focus on the positive aspects of aging and develop an appreciation of the aging process and challenge the longstanding view of aging as decline, but instead create hope and empower action among older people.

I will take fond memories and wisdom from Bay Village residents with me to Rocky River. I look forward to meeting and working with residents in that city. I have no doubt that they have just as much to teach me, as I have to offer them! Socrates stated that the secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new. I look forward to a new challenge in Rocky River, but will always cherish the years I have spent in Bay Village! ●

Debbie Bock served her last day as director of Bay Village’s community services department on July 11, after accepting a position as head of Rocky River’s senior center. Mayor Sutherland appointed Ann Orin as the department’s interim director.

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

A blueprint for laughter

by SHARON FEDOR

Have you ever laughed until you’ve cried? Have you heard the old saying, laughter is the best medicine? Has your doctor ever made you laugh or cry with their medical diagnosis? Do you cry over something one day, and the next day laugh about it? Has a doctor ever told you jokes? Can

laughter heal us? What is it about laughter? Have you ever thought it possible to come to church and laugh the whole time you were there? Ever hear of a spiritual comedian? Do you think God has a sense of humor, or is He too busy chalking up our wrong doings? Have you read this line: “If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plan?” Aren’t your best buddies in life those who can help you to laugh at yourself?

Laughter is personal. It is private, yet it’s best done out loud. It makes us feel good, like when we laugh until we cry, and then we often feel we’ve been refreshed and lifted by those tears. A little levity brings a lot of clarity into our world and our struggles.

Ever been scolded in Church when you should have been ... well, not laughing?

Come meet an expert at laughter, Dr. Pamela Gerali, humorist, author, intuitive healer and spiritual teacher. She’ll let you laugh, even make you laugh, maybe cry, maybe even dance, or all three at the same time. Give yourself the freedom to imagine what depths could bring you to laughing like a child who has no worries.

Giggle your way through Dr. Gerali’s one-woman show, “Confessions of a Spiritually Promiscuous Woman,” on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 1:30 p.m. at Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Road in Westlake. Tickets are \$15 for the Sunday afternoon show and are available by calling Unity Spiritual Center at 440-835-0400 or

online at www.unityspiritualcenter.com. Enjoy the show and be amused by the transformations Dr. Pam goes through wearing many masks before she reaches empowered womanhood. Her personal journey is wild, and wooly and wonderful, and she shares the sacredness of it with us all. Dr. Gerali holds a master’s degree in public health and a doctorate in holistic health sciences.

In addition to the show, Dr. Gerali will speak at Unity’s 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services on Aug. 17. She will share spiritual tidbits from her “Blueprint for the Human Spirit,” a way to live consciously and purposefully. All faiths are always welcome. Remember to laugh out loud - it’s good for the soul. ●

WEST SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

West Shore announces upcoming chamber events

by SHARON MATTHEWS

Annual Golf Outing

The West Shore Chamber’s annual golf outing will be held on Thursday, Aug. 7, at Avon Oaks Country Club. Shotgun start is at 1 p.m. This is a joint event with the Fairview Park Chamber of Commerce. There are still openings and sponsorships available. Cost of \$150 per person includes golf, cart, lunch and dinner. This event is open to the public. Advance registration is required.

New Teachers Luncheon

The annual luncheon welcoming our new teachers in Bay Village and Westlake will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 12, at the Holiday Inn in Westlake. The event is from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. State Representative Nan Baker will be the guest speaker. Cost is \$20 per member. Advance registration is required.

To register for these events, please

contact Sharon Matthews at 440-835-8787 or email sharon@westshorechamber.org.

New Westshore Chamber Member



Passion for Change is a unique, Westlake-based not-for-profit 501(c)(3), which serves as a catalyst in breaking the stigma of mental illness by shedding light, challenging misperception and driving change through research, advocacy and education. Located at 28263 Center Ridge Road, Suite E-12 in Westlake, PFC is currently conducting its “Communicators for Mental Health” Greater Cleveland pilot project and welcomes volunteers. For more information, check us out at www.passionforchange.org, or contact us at 216-496-3295 or mquill@passionforchange.org. ●

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Lake Erie Crushers game • Thursday, August 21 • 7 p.m.
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New pup on the block

by TARA WENDELL

There was no red carpet, so Safety Pup revealed his post-makeover look on the painted asphalt behind the Westlake police station. The Westlake Police Department's community outreach mascot strolled the streets of Safety Town on July 11 in his first public appearance since undergoing a complete transformation.

Gone is the beat-up, decades-old costume, replaced by a state-of-the-art model. Thanks to a grant from the Lakewood Elks Lodge 1350 in Westlake, auxiliary officer Rick Grane was able to update the popular pooch.

In addition to Safety Town graduation ceremonies, Safety Pup appears in parades and special events to entertain young children while reinforcing safety rules and drug education. ●



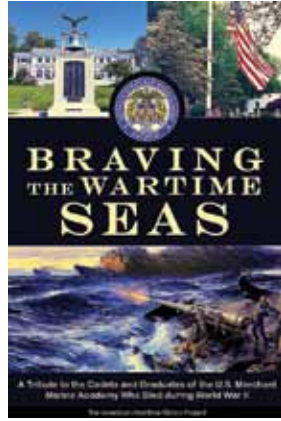
A spiffy new Safety Pup at Westlake's Safety Town.

Book on Merchant Marine in WWII has local ties

George Ryan of Bay Village is the editor of a recently published book, "Braving the Wartime Seas." The book is a tribute to the cadets and graduates of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and Cadet Corps who died during World War II.

The U. S. Merchant Marine during World War II was the fourth arm of national defense that bridged the oceans to provide armament, fuel and logistic supplies to the allied navies and armies. The U.S. Merchant Marine suffered tremendous losses; by percentages more merchant mariners died than those who served in the U.S. Navy or Army. Many of those who died were still students, Cadet-Midshipmen from the Merchant Marine Academy, as well as recent graduates.

As a graduate of the Academy, George and other graduates wanted to honor the short lives of men from the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings



Point and to recount the history of training these young men to become officers in the U.S. Merchant Marine. The reader will be taken to the distant oceans of the world often in the winter North Atlantic where many ships were sunk and off the East Coast and Gulf Coast of the U.S. where other ships were sunk and merchant mariners died. The beginning of the book tells the story of the basic and advanced training at Kings Point, N.Y.; Pass Christian, Miss.; and San Mateo, Calif.

As our nation remembers the 70th anniversary of D-Day and the Normandy Invasion and the sacrifices of many men in the military services, it is necessary to remember the men and women who delivered the goods to win the war. Their watery graves are a testimony to their service to America. The book is available from publisher Xlibris and major book sellers. ●

Porter Library receives clean financial audit

by ELAINE WILLIS

Westlake Porter Public Library has passed its recent audit, which means auditors found no weaknesses or deficiencies in the library's financial management and record-keeping. In addition, the library was found to be in compliance with the laws, regulations, contracts and other agreements it is required to meet. This continues the library's longstanding record of successful audits.

"Our Finance Department works very hard to make sure the library is a good steward of the funds entrusted to us by the community," said Library

Director Andrew Mangels. "So I am not at all surprised by this result."

The library is required by the state to have its books audited every other year. This year's audit took place in late spring, and covered the years 2012 and 2013.

Julian and Grube Inc. performed audit procedures agreed upon by the board of trustees, library management and the state auditor. The procedures were conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants attestation standards and the Comptroller General of the United States Government Auditing Standards. All records were found to be in compliance with the standards. ●

Ames Family Hospice House earns health care environmental award

by LAURIE HENRICHSEN

Hospice of the Western Reserve, a nonprofit agency caring for more than 7,000 patients annually in the Northern Ohio region, became the first hospice in the United States to earn two national health care environmental awards from Practice Greenhealth, a nonprofit organization devoted to promoting environmental stewardship in the health care sector. The agency's Ames Family Hospice House in Westlake earned an "Emerald Award" while its David Simpson Hospice House on Cleveland's east side lakefront, built in 1995, received a "Partner for Change Award."

The awards were presented in Cleveland at CleanMed 2014, a leading national environmental conference for health care sustainability. Other award winners include Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, the Mayo Clinic and Johns Hopkins.

"Hospice of the Western Reserve is committed to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship – not only at our two in-patient care centers but throughout the agency," said Bill Finn, chief executive officer. "Environmental stewardship, economic vitality and social responsibility align with our mission of

providing the best quality of life for our patients and leaving a positive legacy for future generations."

"We have worked hard to develop programs and practices that protect the environment and the health of our patients, staff and community," added Kathleen Gatto, director of support services, who heads up the agency's green team. "It's rewarding to see our efforts recognized on a national level."

The Ames House's Emerald award recognizes "health care facilities that have achieved improvements in mercury elimination, waste reduction, recycling and source reduction programs 'that go above and beyond.'" Recipients are considered to be "further along the path to sustainability" and are deemed to "show leadership in the local community and in the health care sector."


Last year, the Ames House also achieved prestigious Gold LEED certification for its environmental building and sustainability practices from the U.S. Green Building Council. Sustainability strategies



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

A chemical-free garden at Ames Family Hospice House.

include the use of low VOC paint, carpet and furnishings, built-in recycling centers throughout the facility, chemical-free lawns and gardens, a high-efficiency climate control system zoned for patient comfort and water-efficient fixtures, which reduce water use by 28 percent. When Ames Family Hospice House was built, more than 75 percent of construction debris was diverted by repurposing or recycling. ●




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SPORTING VIEWS

Cavs owner Gilbert to finally win crown ... as ‘court jester’

by JEFF BING

So the King is back, huh? Unless we're talking burgers, or you spotted Elvis on Lolly the Trolley, I'm not all that interested. *Really.*

The news that LeBron James is returning to play basketball for the Cleveland Cavs doesn't have me terribly excited. No question it's a strange dynamic, because if we had lured LeBron here from Miami – and he had no prior connection or history in Cleveland – I'd probably be leading the “Welcome LeBron” parade down East 9th, and be the first to plant a big sloppy kiss on his cheek. As we all know, though, that's not the case. And, for your own edification, I don't generally kiss basketball players.

The manner in which he dumped on Cleveland four years ago is *never* going to sit well with me. Maybe if LeBron does lead the Cavs to a championship, I'll have a change of heart. After all, it is rather difficult to visualize me sitting and sulking all alone in a corner, while the rest of the city goes bananas over an NBA title.

But for all the venom I harbor toward the best basketball player in the world, there's one guy who's catapulted himself past LeBron (no easy task) on my seemingly ever-growing list of Cleveland no-goodniks.

If I gave you a hint and said it was the owner of a Cleveland pro sports franchise, you might still have trouble thinning the herd, based upon the track records of Jimmy (“I'll run the Browns like I run my other businesses”) Haslam and Larry or Paul (“We'll spend money to improve the team

only when the contracts of other foolish choices run out”) Dolan.

If nothing else, the departure of LeBron James to greener pastures in Miami four years ago revealed the competence level of Dan Gilbert as owner of the Cavs. Gilbert, by virtue of inheriting LeBron when he bought the Cavs from Gordon Gund, rode the wave of good fortune which accompanied having the best player in the NBA. Gilbert was hailed by many as just the kind of owner the city needed (ironically, the same was said about Haslam, prior to the Flying J mess).

Unfortunately, when LeBron left, the true state of the franchise revealed its ugly head in the form of multiple coaching and personnel changes, and a flurry of poor draft picks, all of which have left the Cavs in the same sorry state of affairs it was before it drafted LeBron nearly a decade ago.

Gilbert is no idiot. Over the last four years, he has watched the Cavs return to a level of futility rivaled only by the teams of the Ted Stepien era, which is incredible unto itself. So, Gilbert wisely claims he patched up his relationship with LeBron simply for the benefit of the people of Cleveland.

Don't believe it for a second. Dan Gilbert is doing this so Cleveland and the rest of the sports world will finally stop laughing at *him*. Without question, the return of LeBron will make the Cavs a contender and they will once again be a dominant force in the NBA, and Gilbert will be able to shed the label of “Court Jester.”

Just remember, Gilbert earned that title. This time around, let's not be too hasty in removing it. ●

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Social media assists Decision 2

by TAK SATO

Every morning since LeBron James became a free agent on July 1, our son asked my wife where “King James” will go next. With a sigh of relief on her face that Friday afternoon of July 11 when James revealed the answer to “Decision 2” online, my non-geek wife commented on how powerful technology is and especially how efficient social media is in dispersing information. I wholeheartedly agree with her and I see signs of my geekiness rubbing off on her!

Social networking websites such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and hundreds of others are community forums, equivalent to the Times Square of the digital world, instead of being just media outlets of the past. Why? Because the participants of social media are also the creators of the information that other people read and comment on. This interaction is also known simply as “social media” and is a big umbrella term.

Sports Illustrated posted King James' heartfelt homecoming essay on their website at 12:13 p.m. on July 11 and LeBron followed it at 12:29 p.m. by posting to Instagram a simple picture of himself wearing his No. 23 Cavs jersey with the text “I'M COMING HOME” flanked by a Cavs logo. This precise and meticulously orchestrated one-two punch was all Team LeBron needed to light up the digital world. It was immediately followed by Dan Gilbert tweeting “Welcome Home @KingJames ...” and fans, players, coaches, owners and basically the whole world kept talking. A Google News search of the phrase “I'm coming home” lists pages of results of media outlets around the world carrying the news, from Sydney Herald (Australia) to Manila Times (Philippines) and every continent in-between.

There's more to the power of social media. Although it starts in the digital world, news crosses over to the real world and continues to propagate. Even if you don't partake in social media, chances are good that you are going to receive this breaking news through traditional media outlets, for example on TV, since they participate in social media. This news crossing the divide from digital to the real world, a secondary propagation, is another reality of the

complementary worlds we live in. How else can you explain the cacophony of car horns, sirens and other noises in downtown Cleveland starting shortly after James' Instagram posting?

When James' homecoming is discussed by traditional news outlet stalwarts like “PBS NewsHour,” or when it comes up during a White House daily press briefing, we are reminded of the boundless power of social media and how a small ripple, just a picture with the phrase “I'm coming home,” can be made into a tidal wave; in the digital world they call this phenomenon “going viral.”

As for me I really liked when someone tweeted “James just lifted a whole city by himself.” It was first the Republican National Committee choosing Cleveland for their 2016 convention and now LeBron James' homecoming. Quick, someone tweet to the world: “Wonderful things happening now – come see our Cleveland!”

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DIGITAL WORLD

I purchased an antivirus program for my computer years ago and renew it every year. But recently I saw a competitor's antivirus program on my computer, and I don't remember installing it. What do you think is going on here?

Assuming you don't have other issues that may point to bigger problems such as virus or malware infections, you probably did install it through one of the numerous program updates. Next time when a program informs you of an update, take your time and see what the screen says before pushing the button. You may find that you have to opt out from certain “partner” programs or they will be automatically installed. For example, for quite some time now Adobe Acrobat Reader has employed tactics of opting in by default to install McAfee. And it gets worse. I've seen some companies bury the ability to opt out from partner program installation unless you click on the custom installation option instead of the default installation option.

Have a question for Tak about computers, software or other technology? Send it to editor@wbvobserver.com. ●

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BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY

Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

We hope you've been enjoying the lovely weather of summer so far and have had the opportunity to get some summer reading done. The Cuyahoga County Public Library summer reading program – "Ready. Set. Read!" – is still going strong, and it's not too late to log those reading minutes before the Aug. 16 deadline. As usual, we have some great programs coming up at the Bay branch. Check out our Moon Party on Aug. 4 or stop by one of our weekly storytimes, before they go on hiatus for the month of August.

ALL AGES

Monday, July 28 (9:30 a.m.) BOOK CHAT AT THE FULLER HOUSE – Grab

a coffee and join us on the porch of the BAYarts Fuller House where a librarian will discuss and recommend books.

Monday, Aug. 4 (7:30 p.m.) MOON PARTY – Members of the Cuyahoga Astronomical Association, an amateur astronomy club, use their telescopes to show us the moon and any other objects that may be visible in the night sky. If you have your own telescope, bring it along.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Thursday, July 24, (2 p.m.) COOKIES AND A BOOK – Children in grades 3-5 are invited to join us as we discuss a book while enjoying cookies. Copies of the book are available before the discussion.

Thursday, July 31 (2 p.m.) SCIENCE FUN – Build a simple catapult and test your skills with a game of Storm the Castle.

Wednesday, Aug. 6 (2 p.m.) BOOK JEOPARDY – Children in grades 2-3 are invited to take turns reading a book aloud and then we'll play a lively comprehension game.

STORYTIMES:

Wednesdays, July 23 and July 30 (9:30 a.m.) BABY & ME – For caregivers and their children ages birth to 18 months. Join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and books.

Thursdays, July 24 and July 29 (11 a.m.); Tuesdays, July 22 and July 29 (7 p.m.) PRESCHOOL – Caregivers and

their children ages 3-5 not yet in kindergarten are invited to join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and stories.

Mondays and Tuesdays, July 28 and July 29 (9:30 a.m.) TODDLER – Caregivers and their children ages 19-35 months are invited to join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and stories.

Wednesdays, July 23 and July 30 (7 p.m.); Friday, July 25 (9:30 a.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME – All ages of children with an adult caregiver are invited to join us for stories, songs and fingerplays.

Please register to attend the programs online at cuyahogalibrary.org, call us at 440-871-692, or stop in to the library at 502 Cahoon Road and register with a librarian. ●

HUMOR

Looking for signs along the way

by KATHY LUENGO

Although yellow, triangular signs depicting leaping deer may have been less prevalent in Westlake or Bay Village 30 or 40 years ago than today, long-time and newer residents alike definitely know what they mean!

Do the deer care? Not really. They're too busy looking for dinner! Courtesy of lush local landscape, deer find Friday night feasts faster than do hungry Westshore diners foraging for a dinner destination with less than a 40-minute wait!

How effective are these signs? By the time a buck or two have been bopped and signs erected, survival-minded deer could be crossing elsewhere. Are enough safety-minded motorists spotted pumping brakes and glancing side-to-side to warrant "jumping deer" signs? If so, good for those who do. For them, the signs are working.

With deer running rampant, the instance of road casualties doesn't appear to have dented their overall population as badly as it has Westshore residents' cars. There's a point where adding deer signs might not work as intended. Perhaps some of these signs could be recycled to warn motorists of other creatures crossing: *jaywalkers*.

We know where many sightings occur: not far from busy intersections with clearly marked and signaled

pedestrian crosswalks. While crosswalks can't guarantee everyone's safety, offering legal right-of-way to compliant crossers make crosswalks the better option.

Although deer don't know what crosswalks are, jaywalkers *should*. Why jaywalkers put themselves in harm's way, while exasperating drivers who could bear a lifetime of guilt if an accident should occur, is anyone's guess. Have you ever seen jaywalkers pushing a stroller or joined by small children on foot? It happens! Even "man's best friends" trained as companion dogs can safely guide people across busy intersections.

Case in point: a Westlake resident recently recalled a close encounter with a jaywalking duo when turning north onto Dover from Center Ridge. Two mature male subjects cutting across the parking lot of a corner business were on track to cross Dover just down from the intersection. The closer, quicker and taller of the pair stepped off the curb before double-checking for traffic in both directions. With one foot in the street, he looked up and upon seeing the Westlaker's vehicle approaching, hastily returned to the curb. As Subject No. 1 was stepping back, Subject No. 2, leaning on a walker equipped with oxygen supply, first stepped onto Dover, then glanced up, unobstructed, and similarly scrambled to reverse course.

Both subjects glared indignantly at the cautiously passing motorist who saw through the rearview mirror that the car immediately behind stopped and deferred to the Dover-crossing duo, which subsequently forced southbound traffic to a halt. Fortunately, this disruption didn't cause a fender-bender courtesy of a distracted driver.



PHOTO BY KATHY LUENGO

Even when a crosswalk isn't pretty, it's there for our protection, provided motorists and pedestrians alike know and respect the rules of the road!

It's true that in early spring, local drivers will cede to lines of geese and their goslings waddling across area streets, but that's understandable. Geese don't know better, and the fuzzy little goslings are so cute to behold!

Heads up, Westshore residents! Should communities start hosting "Adult Safety Town," it could be a sign of the times! ●

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SENIOR LIVING

Seniors On Parade

by BRUCE LEIGH

Riding bikes is all the rage now, but not everyone has the mobility and dexterity to balance a moving bike. Bad weather, puddles, pot holes, and dogs that chase anything moving are all in the minds of the good folks of the Knickerbocker Apartments in Bay Village.

So what to do? In our rec room there are several exercise bikes. With the summer here, a parade would be great. The upside is no sunburn, no bumpy sidewalks or distracting ice cream stores. Only shouts from the sidelines cheering the bikers on, resulting in hand waving, just like a real parade. Older folks are fun folks ... and stationary bikes are great. ♦



PHOTO BY MAUREEN REYNOLDS

Knickerbocker residents form a "parade" of stationary bikes.

Compeer connects with Westlake community

by DENISE AYRES

The Compeer Program at Far West Center, located in Westlake, is a nonprofit program that strives to end the loneliness and isolation too often experienced by adults managing a chronic mental illness. The symptoms of mental illness are treatable with medication and most symptoms subside with health management services.

Some adults in recovery from mental illness become isolated because they have lost connections with the peers in their age groups and also may have developed anxiety or depression. The volunteers in the Compeer Program work along with staff to encourage these isolated adults to come out and go to community places and engage in community activities. Compeer is helping adults connect with inviting places and engaging activities throughout Westlake.

Twice each month Compeer volunteers, members and staff get together to engage in fun social activities with residents of assisted living facilities. One Tuesday evening each month Compeer goes to the Gardens at Westlake on Detroit Road to share games, stories and laughter with the members of their "Residents Club." On one Wednesday evening each month we visit our friends at the Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve on Dover Center Road to enjoy friendly challenges in Scrabble, Rummy, trivia, and other games. Everyone involved benefits from these special connections of friendship.

Westlake Porter Public Library

offers an enriching opportunity to help out the Friends of Porter Public Library in their volunteer work at the "Book Nook" resale shop. Compeer volunteers, members and staff lend a hand with sorting, shelving and customer service at the Book Nook several times each month. This opportunity connects Compeer members to WPPL resources, meaningful activities and warm, welcoming people in our community.

Compeer and Westlake share a belief that the best ways to socialize are to have fun! We have community game nights at WPPL which include group interactive "Fun Fact Jeopardy" games. We will be enjoying the tastes of summer ice cream at Friendly's in August. Compeer plans to join Westlake in sharing the music in the summer air at two of the many community outdoor concerts being offered, "Arrival" at Westlake Recreation Center and "Qwik Sil-Ver" at Crocker Park. As if all the fun of guessing, tasting and dancing weren't enough Compeer will celebrate at our annual summer picnic at Bradley Woods on Aug. 22.

Westlake offers many inviting ways for Compeer volunteers to encourage isolated adults to come out, join in, and connect to the community. We need more adult volunteers to offer friendship to adults in recovery from mental illness. Compeer volunteering is flexible and fits any busy schedule. Please consider getting involved in our rewarding social program that runs on human kindness. Call Compeer at 440-835-6212, ext. 242, and get connected! ♦

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WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, July 23 (10:15 and 11 a.m.) LET'S SING AND DANCE! – Sing and move to the music with Miss Nancy! For children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Please arrive early to receive a ticket at the Pre-school Desk.

Wednesday, July 23 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – The July selection is “And the Mountains Echoed” by Khaled Hosseini.

Wednesday, July 23 (3-4:30 p.m.) GIANT GAMES – Looking for something to do? Stop by with your friends for an afternoon of GIANT GAMES! We’ve super-sized Jenga, Dominos, Chinese Checkers, and more of your favorite games for even more fun! We’ll also have video games and snacks.

Wednesday, July 23 (4-5:30 p.m.) BOW WOW! READ TO UNCLE CHOW CHOW! – Stop by the Youth Services Department each Wednesday and sign your child up for a 10-minute reading time with Uncle Chow Chow, our reading dog! Bring your own book or choose one of ours. Registration begins each Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Friday, July 25 (10 a.m.-noon) PORTER’S FIBER FANATICS – A time for needlecrafters to share, solve problems, and show off.

Friday, July 25 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) IPAD USERS GROUP – Learn and share basic tips with other iPad users. Please bring your iPad with you. Registration required.

Friday, July 25 (2-4 p.m.) MOVIES @ YOUR LIBRARY! – Join us for fabulous Friday afternoon flicks! Based on availability; movie titles may change without notice. In accordance with library policy, children who are under age 9 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration begins one week before each session.

Saturday, July 26 (2-4 p.m.) CARRY-OUT CRAFTS – Stop by the Youth Services Department to see what each day’s featured craft is! Tables will be set up with all of the supplies needed.

Saturday, July 26 (10:30 a.m.-noon) BEGINNING GENEALOGY RESEARCH FROM HOME – Learn how to research your family history, including the avail-

able resources and where to find them. Bring along names and dates for hands-on research. Please register.

Saturday, July 26 (3-5 p.m.) MAD 4 MANGA – 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! Grades 7-12 only.

Saturday, July 26 (2-4:15 p.m.) and Sunday, July 27 (2-4:30 p.m.) SUMMER MOVIE WEEKEND – Please join us for a movie duo:

Saturday: The Academy Award-nominated film about the author of Mary Poppins and Walt Disney. Stars Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson. Rated PG-13.

Sunday: The classic movie about a magical nanny starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke.

Please register for both movies.

Monday, July 28 (6-8 p.m.) FRIENDS’ ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL – Join the Friends of Porter Public Library for ice cream sundaes and family fun!

Tuesday, July 29 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: SETTING UP A LINKEDIN PROFILE – LinkedIn offers many perks for users, particularly job seekers and entrepreneurs. Learn how to set up a great profile which you can use to meet people who can assist your search and to find companies that are hiring. You will leave with your profile draft. Bring a resume to view and a flash drive with your resume on it in Word to cut and paste from. Sign up early by calling Cynthia at 216-367-3011 to reserve your spot. Only 12 seats at computers – others can bring in their own computer.

Tuesday, July 29 (2:30-3:30 p.m.) PUZZLING PLASTICS – Learn about the characteristics of plastics, then have fun creating shrinking plastic crafts out of plastic carry-out containers. Presented by Kathleen Rocco of the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. Grades 2-5. Registration begins July 22.

Tuesday, July 29 (6-8 p.m.) CD REPLAY – Drop in the Youth Services department and make some cool crafts from recycled CDs! All ages.

Wednesday, July 30 (10:15 and 11 a.m.)

LET’S SING AND DANCE! – Sing and move to the music with Miss Nancy! For children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Please arrive early to receive a ticket at the Pre-school Desk.

Wednesday, July 30 (1-7 p.m.) – AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Wednesday, July 30 (4-5:30 p.m.) BOW WOW! READ TO UNCLE CHOW CHOW! – Stop by the Youth Services Department each Wednesday and sign your child up for a 10-minute reading time with Uncle Chow Chow, our reading dog! Bring your own book or choose one of ours. Registration begins each Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, July 30 (3-4 p.m.) EXPLOSIVE SCIENCE – Celebrate Science Week with some insanely fun experi-

ments that are sure to include a few big bangs! Grades 6-12. Please register starting July 23.

Wednesday, July 30 (7-8 p.m.) COME SAIL AWAY – Come sail away with us as you design, decorate and race your own origami boat! Ages 8-10. Registration begins July 23.

Thursday, July 31 (10 a.m.-noon) SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS AND EGG DROP – Check out our drop-in experiment stations for some hands-on excitement! Kids will also get a chance to participate in an egg drop. If their egg survives, they may get a prize! All ages welcome! While supplies last!

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



PHOTO BY JENNIFER CIRINCIONE

Andrew, Tina and Katie Cirincione enjoy \$1 ice cream sundaes at last year’s Friends of Westlake Porter Public Library ice cream social. This year’s social is July 28.

Porter Library ice cream social July 28

by JENNIFER CIRINCIONE

Friends of Westlake Porter Public Library invites you to their annual Ice Cream Social, to be held on Monday, July 28, from 6-8 p.m. at the library, 27333 Center Ridge Road. Mitchell’s ice cream sundaes will be sold for \$1 and plenty of entertainment will be on hand!

Come see The Big Daddies Band, Balloon Dave, and take your turn on a hole of our mini golf. Check out the silent auction, with items including dance lessons, baking supplies, and Disney World passes. Bidding is now available in the library lobby and closes at 7:45 p.m. on July 28.

New this year will be thousands of half-priced books, movies and more at the Book Nook, a used book room run by Friends that sells the library’s discard books, and books that the public

donates. This is a great time to stock up on summer reading and to get a deal on used library books and media.

Also shop all day at Portables Gift Shop’s sidewalk sale. The gift shop is run by Friends, staffed by volunteers and all proceeds go to the library.

Sundaes will be served from a tent in the parking lot from 6-8 p.m. Popular flavors include vanilla, chocolate, cookie dough and, special to the library, Porter Peppermint Patty! Friends of WPPL subsidizes the cost of the sundaes so the public pays only \$1.

Make sure the kids take a turn at the Cakewalk – a 50-cent round might win you one of our 60+ cookie and cake choices!

Friends of WPPL looks forward to your attendance at this fun, annual community event! Parking is available at the library and across the street at the post office. Happy summer! ●

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Celebrate Batman's 75th anniversary at Porter Library

Westlake Porter Public Library will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the birth of Batman with a day of programming for all ages on Wednesday, July 23. The library has timed the event to coincide with DC Comic's Batman Day. DC Comics is the publisher of the Batman comic books.

The day-long festivities include a Batman Scavenger Hunt open to the first 25 people through the library's doors, the opportunity to draw something and have it posted to the "Bat-wall," a Batman trivia game, and a Batman coloring packet. Scavenger Hunt and Trivia participants will have their names entered in a raffle upon completion of either.

For more information please call 440-871-2600 or visit the library's website at www.westlake-library.org.

Golf outing to support foster care youth

by LAURA GEUTHER

On Sept. 11, Fill This House will host a golf outing at Elyria Country Club, with all proceeds going to help kids in need. The outing kicks off with a box lunch and shotgun start at noon. Drinks will be available on the course and a barbeque dinner will be served. The cost is \$600 per foursome. It promises to be a fun-filled day and we hope to see you there!

Based in Bay Village, Fill This House is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the living conditions of local youth aging out of the foster care system. Too frequently their foster families release teens in foster care when they turn 18 with little or no adult support. By providing household items for transitioning youth in independent housing, Fill This House is able to deliver support, comfort, and provide a fresh start to these very deserving young people. The need is increasing! In 2013 FTH served 65 former fosters and project to serve 100 in 2014.

Your support and generosity is greatly needed and so much appreciated. Please consider a financial contribution, hosting an "item shower" to fill our needs list (posted on our website), or doing a collection drive at your place of business or group you are involved with. See www.fillthishouse.org for further information and the golf outing registration form. We also welcome new volunteers! Please call 216-633-2448 if you are interested.



St. John Medical Center's Festival of the Arts

Photos by CAROL MAAT

Thousands of visitors from across the region enjoyed beautiful weather and a serene setting as they browsed more than 200 artist and craft booths nestled among the trees on the St. John Medical Center campus July 11-13. Now in its 21st year, the festival is a popular mid-summer highlight.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Post your group's free community events online at wbvobserver.com

Thursday, July 24, 7:30 p.m.
Bay Village Community Band Annual Benefit
Bay Village Community Band and Huntington Playhouse present a benefit performance of the musical "Catch Me If You Can." A pre-show reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. is included in the ticket price. Tickets may be purchased through the band's website at <http://bvcb.org>. This event is the primary fundraiser for the band and will help shape the 2015 concert season. Note: BVCB is not playing during this performance.
Huntington Playhouse, 28601 Lake Rd., Bay Village

Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m.
Walk to Wellness: Diabetes
Join St. John Medical Center physicians and health experts as they walk and talk about healthy living topics. Walkers meet at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria. Talk is followed by a walk on the track or an indoor route in inclement weather. This week's topic: "Reducing the Risk of Type 2 Diabetes" with endocrinologist Christine Trillis, M.D. Light refreshments provided. RSVP: 877-597-6348.
St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Saturday, July 26, 10-11:30 a.m.
Fear of Recurrence
Learn techniques to manage fear of cancer recurrence. Topics include handling anniversary dates, follow up care, and dealing with cancer in the media. Presenter: Susan Marinac, LISW-S, MT-BC. Advance registration required. Call 216-595-9546 or visit www.touchedbycancer.org for more information and to register.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Saturday, July 26, 4:30-6 p.m.
Free Community Meal
Please join us for great food, fellowship, and good conversation. This meal is provided by area churches, it is free to everyone! The church is accessible to the physically challenged, no carry outs.
Clague Road United Church of Christ, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted

Wednesday, July 30, 7-8 p.m.
Drum Your Emotions
Explore the various emotions that can come up during cancer. Experience a sense of release as we work together as an ensemble to "Drum Out" these emotions. Drums are provided. Facilitator: Susan Marinac, LISW-S, MT-BC. Advance registration required. Call 216-595-9546 or visit www.touchedbycancer.org for more information and to register.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Thursday, July 31, 2:30 p.m. OR 6:30 p.m.
Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits
This free workshop will focus on important Social Security issues: factors to consider when applying for benefits; how to maximize benefits for you and your spouse; divorced-spouse and survivor benefits; Delayed Retirement Credits and how to use them; how working can affect your benefits. Registration begins 30 minutes prior to each workshop. RSVP to 1-800-762-0715 or nyegroup.com. No cost or obligation.
LaCentre, 25777 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Thursday, July 31, 6-8 p.m.
Meet the Supreme Ladies of the Court
The Women of Westshore invite you to join us

in a casual evening with Ohio Supreme Court Justices Sharon Kennedy and Judith French. Chat with these Ladies of the Court in a friendly, informal atmosphere, and learn about Ohio's judicial system. Bring your spouses, friends, and neighbors for an enjoyable night of good food and pleasant conversation. \$10 per person includes appetizers/soft drinks and cash bar.
Houlihan's, 25651 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Thursday, July 31, 7-9 p.m.
Avoiding a C-Section
Whether you are a first-time mom or mom that has had a previous Cesarean section or are merely considering a pregnancy, this free educational seminar is for you. RSVP: 877-597-6348. Light snacks and beverages served.
St. John Medical Center, Building 2, 1st floor auditorium, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Saturday, Aug. 2, 9 a.m.
Walk to Wellness: Heart Disease and Diabetes
Join St. John Medical Center physicians and health experts as they walk and talk about healthy living topics. Walkers meet at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria. Talk is followed by a walk on the track or an indoor route in inclement weather. Light refreshments provided. RSVP: 877-597-6348.
St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2-3:30 p.m.
Grief Support Group
Twice monthly group for those who have lost an adult loved one to cancer. Advance registration required, 216-595-9546.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

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