

Bay Village Scout Troop celebrates 50 years



Nearly 150 Boy Scouts, family members and alumni from Bay Village Troop 41 gathered for a 50th anniversary reunion picnic on Aug. 9. See story inside, page 4.

Westlake holds annual gala for gardeners



Dover Congregational Church won best of the Hilliard flower boxes. See a list of all Westlake in Bloom winners, page 9.

by TARA WENDELL

Westlake was all abloom again this summer as gardeners across the city took to the soil in hopes of winning the annual planting contest. Westlake in Bloom, the community beautification program that began with planting day on May 17, concluded Aug. 13 with an awards ceremony at LaCentre.

More than 300 entrants competed in 23 categories, varying in scale from expansive business landscaping all the way down to residential window box gardens. As in years past, the judging panel included master gardeners, a past Bloom winner and a couple of amateur gardeners. Plaques were awarded for the top three finishers in each category, with the first-place winners receiving \$25 gift certificates to one of Westlake's four garden centers.

» See WESTLAKE IN BLOOM page 9

Westlake's Corporate Challenge spurs friendly competition



PHOTOS BY DENNY WENDELL

Joe Paoletto of Allegro Health competes in the 8-ball tournament event of the Westlake Corporate Challenge at Buckeye Lanes.

by JIM DISPIRITO

The City of Westlake recently wrapped up its annual Corporate Challenge, a week of sports, games and contests pitting Westlake companies against one another, all in good fun. Now in its eighth year, the challenge is organized by the Westlake recreation department.

Alego Health, Applied Companies, Echo Health, Equity Trust, Q-Lab, Rae-Ann Suburban, Western Enterprises and the City of Westlake participated in the weeklong competition. Twenty-six different events including cupcake decorating, sand volleyball, golf, 5K relay, bowling and cardboard boat races were held at various venues throughout the city. The championship trophy went to Q-Lab, an international provider of material durability testing with corporate headquarters on Canterbury Road.

» See CHALLENGE page 12

Hives thrive at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

by WENDY HANNA

The Stickney Family Honeybee Exhibit has always been a popular one at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. A highlight is a hive framed in glass found inside the halls of the Center. Guests of all ages can get up close and peer into the heart of an active beehive. Regular visitors have watched this hive grow and strengthen over the past several years.

The exhibit also includes another hive located in the interior courtyard. With the help of beekeeper Scott Danniger, these hives have become extremely active and are thriving.

Mr. Danniger anticipates that this is the first year honey will be able to be extracted from these outdoor hives. While the bees produced honey last year, it remained in the hives to strengthen and encourage the growth of the community.

» See BEEHIVES page 2



Stuart Morris of Lakewood holds his 18-month-old son, Elliott, to get a close-up view of the beehive inside the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center.



Village Foundation changes name to Bay Village Foundation

by EILEEN VERNON

The Village Foundation is getting ready to celebrate 20 years of public service to the community of Bay Village and is changing its name in the process, from The Village Foundation to the Bay Village Foundation. The board of trustees of the foundation voted to modify its name to broaden the recognition that the foundation is THE Bay Village foundation.

This is the second name change for the group that T. Richard Martin founded in 1995 as Play In Bay. Its purpose was to have one community fund to be used for contributions for volunteer projects. The name was changed to The Village Foundation in 1997 at which time it also became a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. Charter members donated the startup funds.

After slow but steady growth, we faced two issues that

afflict many smaller and medium-sized foundations. First, we found that name recognition was a challenge. For example, many people were confusing The Village Foundation with the Village Project. Secondly, we had a growing sense that there was a disconnect between what the Foundation was doing as it moved forward.

The Foundation went from helping very small community programs to becoming a community coordinator and fundraiser for larger community wide projects such as the Bay Fireworks Fund, thereby giving the Foundation a broader vision as a service group. The solution was to modify the name of the Village Foundation to The Bay Village Foundation to better capture its philosophy and value to the whole community, and to energize its role as the community foundation of Bay Village.

It's not uncommon for established groups to make a name change, starting again in some sense to rebuild on the marketing and branding fronts. Three main reasons for organizations making such a change are: the name no longer represents what they do; the brand has gotten caught up in confusion with another organization; and for practical reasons.

A name change can go a long way toward resolving any of these and we think changing our name to The Bay Village Foundation helps us to address each of these points. ●

Bay Alumni Foundation takes meeting on the road

by LEE ROHLKE

The Bay Alumni Foundation's usual meeting location is the Bay Village Police Department community room on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. President Mara McClain (class of '89) twice a year takes our meetings on the road to a local restaurant for a mix of business and fine dining.

After the August meeting at the Ironwood Cafe was adjourned, great fun was had by all.

The BAF's next meeting is Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. back at the police station and it's the Foundation's first annual Open House. We encourage ALL Bay alumni, young and less young, to attend this open house to hear what great and exciting ideas we have and the steps we're taking to achieve them.

The mission of the BAF is to connect alumni to the school and to each other and provide events, like a Homecoming Parade float and the Tri-Bay Golf Outing, and other programs

to bring the BAF mission to life. We also offer scholarships to Bay students.

The Bay Alumni Foundation – we are your “Past, Present and Future” and Go Rockets! ●



Bay alumni Nancy Mitchell, BAF President Mara McClain, and Billie Crook have some fun after the meeting.

PHOTO BY JOHN GROSS

BEEHIVES *from front page*

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is offering a free event when the honey is removed from the hives. The event, Live from Our Hive, “is an opportunity to celebrate and educate,” says Catherine Timko, executive director. “We are so excited about the success of the hives and this is a great opportunity for the public to learn more about the fascinating topic of honeybees.”

Live from Our Hive is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 23. At 11 a.m., Mr. Danniger will give a brief presentation. Guests are invited to watch the extraction and spinning of honey from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Wildlife specialists will also be on hand to talk further about the life of bees, their contribution to our local environment, the creation of honey and more. The program is completely free of charge and no registration is required. If the weather doesn't cooperate, the event will be moved to Aug. 30 at the same times.

The Stickney Family Honeybee Exhibit will remain at the Center. Ms. Timko is thankful to the Stickney family and Mr. Danniger for their support and dedication and she's excited by the interest from the community. “There are children who come through our doors and race to this exhibit. There's nothing better than seeing a whole family fascinated by what's going on inside the hive.” ●



Busy bees at work can be viewed in the hive at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.

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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.
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- 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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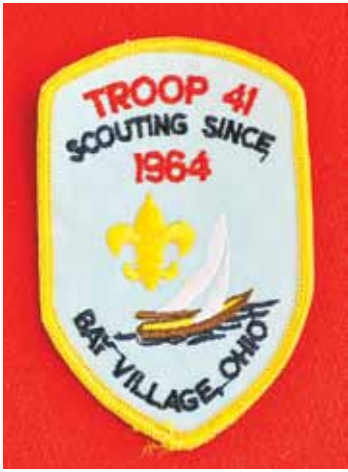
50 years a scout troop

by BEN FINICLE, Troop 41 Senior Patrol Leader

Boy Scout Troop 41 is celebrating 50 years of scouting as a chartered organization of Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church in Bay Village. Our 50th anniversary reunion picnic took place on Aug. 9 at the pavilion in Huntington Reservation. Current Scoutmaster Randy Risch welcomed nearly 150 scouts, alumni and family members to the celebration, including 10 out of 17 scoutmasters and more than 30 of the troop's 141 Eagle Scouts. Activities included historical displays of Troop 41 memorabilia, video slideshows, a mock campsite and a monkey rope bridge assembled by the scouts.

Dwight Clark, former Troop 41 committee member and current Bay Village city councilman, served as the event's master of ceremonies. Mr. Clark informed the guests that although the troop is only 50 years old, it has produced more Eagle Scouts than any other troop in the Greater Cleveland Council.

He then introduced alumni speakers including Rick Kuper, the first Troop 41 Eagle Scout and later scoutmaster from 2004-2007; Ken Dechert, the troop's third Eagle Scout; Richard Gash, scoutmaster from 1992-1999; Erik Helgesen, scoutmaster from 1999-2002; and Tim Lee, scoutmaster from 2007-2010. The alumni shared memories of high adventure trips, National Jamborees, weekend campouts and troop service projects that continue to benefit local schools, churches and parks.



Troop 41 scoutmasters, l-to-r, back row: Richard Unterborn, David Spera, J. Charles Bergmann, George Christ, Richard Gash, Erik Helgesen; front row: Rick Kuper, Tim Lee, Randy Risch.



PHOTO BY NANCY MEERMANS

The Boy Scouts of Troop 41 put up the number 50 with their hands in celebration of the milestone.

The celebration concluded with a Court of Honor Ceremony. Nico DiGiulio and Nate Hafford, who were wearing vintage Troop 41 uniforms from the 1960s, assisted me in presenting the awards. Thirty scouts were recognized for earning 61 merit badges and 15 rank advancements. Nathan Cullinan was also acknowledged for earning his Bronze Eagle Palm.

Eagle Scout Alex Davis then administered the Eagle Scout Oath to two of Troop 41's newest Eagle Scouts, Dillon Forsythe and Carter Salis. Rct. Brogan MacMillan, who is currently training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, was also recognized for achieving the Eagle rank.

After 50 successful years, Troop 41 continues to excel in providing a quality scouting experience for boys in Bay Village and its surrounding

communities. The troop has participated in service projects including serving Dutch oven cobbler to the congregation of Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church (our chartered organization), spring cleanup of the church grounds, assisting with the Village Project fundraiser "Project Pedal," and cleaning up Cahoon Park following the annual Bay Days celebration of Independence Day.

Scouts have also completed or assisted with Eagle projects including curating a military display for the Westlake Historical Society at Clague House Museum, building and landscaping a fire ring at John Knox Presbyterian Church, rebuilding and landscaping the dumpster enclosure at Bethesda, and building raised garden beds and a rain barrel irrigation system for Flat Rock Homes, a care center for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Troop 41 would like to thank everyone who attended the event or donated to their scouting program. Anniversary T-shirts, yard signs and programs are still available. Email baytroop41@gmail.com for details. ●

Editor's note: Life Scout Ben Finicle wrote this article as part of his project for a communications badge, his final merit badge required to apply for Eagle Scout. He's working on his application paperwork this week.

Local women's chorus looking for singers

by IRENE MADASZ

The Avon Lake Women's Chorus is looking for a few Westlake/Bay Village women who enjoy singing to join us as rehearsals begin Monday, Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m. at the Avon Lake United Church of Christ, 32801 Electric Blvd. No formal audition. Choral experience and ability to read music helpful. Bring a friend or make new ones. Call Irene at 440-937-8827 for more information.

The Avon Lake Women's Chorus is a volunteer, non-profit organization that performs for residents of independent, assisted living, and extended care facilities and local group gatherings in eastern Lorain and western Cuyahoga counties.

Professionally directed by Jenny Zapfe, a Westlake resident, the chorus prepares semi-annual, seasonal-appropriate programs featuring a variety of vocal music, accompanied by pianist Carey Wentzel. Rehearsals are held January to April and September to November. Membership not restricted to Avon Lake residents. High, mid-range, low voices welcome! ●



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Herb Guild awards scholarships

by SHIRLEY SWINDELL

The Herb Guild Garden Club held their 30th annual scholarship luncheon on Aug. 6 celebrating “The Magical World of Herbs.” The beautiful table decorations mirrored this magical theme of herbs, as did the boutique shop with its array of delicious herbal dips, mixes, vinegars and herbal bakery items.

Wagner’s of Westlake put on its best appearance while luncheon guests, scholarship honorees and their family members, Herb Guild members, and guest fashion show models were all dressed in their lovely summer attire, with some guests arriving in style in a limousine. The main hall, the podium and entrance table decorations, and guests’ lovely attire were reminiscent of a beautiful Monet painting.

Mary Kay Filipiak, chairwoman of the organization’s scholarship committee, awarded \$1,300 scholarships to two of our area’s college-bound students. Katarina Liska, a graduate of Strongsville High and Polaris Career Center’s chef program, was part of National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Key Club, Student Council and a Dare Role Model.

While at Polaris Katarina was named Junior and Senior Outstanding Program Student and a member of the National Technical Honor Society and Polaris Ambassador program. In 2013 she was a member of the Polaris Career Center Pro Start Culinary Competition Team as that placed first in the state of Ohio and eighth in national competition. In 2014 she led the Pro Start Culinary Competition Team as their captain to a first-place finish in Ohio and a fourth-place finish at the national competition. She also was named 2014 Ohio Pro Start Top Poultry Fabricator. Katarina works at Chop Bistro and Bar in Ohio City as an assistant to the pastry chef and a line cook to round out her busy

schedule. Katarina will attend Johnson and Wales University in Charlotte, N.C., where she will pursue a bachelor’s degree in culinary arts and restaurant management. She said “she will embrace the culture of the South and make the most of their restaurant culture in their bustling Uptown district.” The Herb Guild will be anxiously awaiting news of Katrina’s culinary successes.

The second scholarship recipient, Antonio Zodda, was born and raised in Cleveland and graduated this spring from St. Ignatius High School. Since early childhood he has had an interest in growing food and learning about the processes. While a youngster he spent his summers on his grandparents’ farm where two generations of the family taught him what would be the foundation of his knowledge of gardening today.

He and his immediate family have participated in a large plot of community garden in Cleveland area for the past six years. When Antonio entered high school he searched for a way to continue doing what he loved, as well as offer that passion to the whole school community. While at St. Ignatius, with the help of two of his teachers, a student organization was developed centered around growing food through hands-on experience and education. The club has grown to 14 raised beds where they grow vegetables, fruits and herbs.

A bee-keeping aspect is now included and Antonio knows it will continue to grow as he goes off to attend The Ohio State University where he plans on pursuing a major in agriculture and environmental science. Antonio finished his scholarship acceptance speech by remarking that he and Katarina could possibly col-



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Scholarship recipients Katarina Liska and Antonio Zodda, pictured with Herb Guild President Gail Morse, left, and scholarship committee chair Mary Kay Filipiak, were honored at the guild’s Aug. 6 luncheon at Wagner’s of Westlake.

laborate on a business venture in the future when their educational pursuits are completed, given their love of the food-making process. The Herb Guild cannot wait to see if this pans out ... what a win-win situation. We will be the first in line at Antonio’s food coop venture.

The Herb Guild wishes both delightful and talented scholarship recipients much success now and in the future.

The scholarship luncheon is The Herb Guild Garden Club’s primary fundraising event for continuing to be able to award scholarships to area graduating high school students. All the dedicated efforts of our members and the generosity of our guests make this project possible through the sale of luncheon tickets, silent auction and gift basket raffle, and sales of the guild’s 2013 cookbook, “Thyme & Again.” For more information about the guild please visit theherbguild.org. ●

WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Astronaut from Westlake honored with historical marker

The community is invited as The Westlake Historical Society will honor astronaut and Westlake native Robert Overmyer on Saturday, Aug. 23, at noon with an Ohio Historical Marker placed in Clague Memorial Park by the Clague pond gazebo. There will be a reception following the dedication in Clague Cabin.

We are pleased to have NASA Glenn Director James Free as one of our speakers, and the 25th Marine Battalion from Brook Park to present the flag of the United States. NASA plans to bring several displays as well as the always popular astronaut photo booth.

Col. Overmyer was a student at Dover Elementary and a

1954 graduate of Westlake High School. After joining NASA, he worked on the Skylab project and as a support crew member for the Apollo 17 mission. He piloted the Columbia and Challenger space shuttles in the 1980s and was part of the team that investigated the Challenger disaster in 1986. He died in 1996 while testing an experimental aircraft.

The Overmyer marker will be the sixth placed in the city of Westlake. Markers already installed around the city honor Westlake’s first settler, Leverett Johnson; naturalist Jack Miner; Theodore Elijah Burton, a prominent politician and resident of the historical Dover Farm on Detroit Road; The Weston House, one of Westlake’s oldest standing structures; and the Clague Family Homestead, property on Clague Road that houses the Clague Museum and Clague Playhouse. ●



PHOTO COURTESY NASA

Reconnecting with your Catholic faith

by JOHN TRAVIS

Sometimes important things get away from us – like our faith. Have you been too busy, unable to answer questions about your faith, or looking for an opportunity to explore your Catholic faith? If so, “Awakening Faith” may be just right for you.

This six-session series included topics such as: “Spirituality, What’s the Buzz?,” “Can I Accept God’s Mercy?,” “Can the Mass Make My Life Meaningful?,” and “The Church and Me.” You can learn and ask questions ... all in a friendly and confidential setting with other Catholics.

St. Ladislav Catholic Parish (2345 Bassett Road, Westlake) invites you to six “Awakening Faith” sessions, Mondays 7 to 8:30 p.m. beginning on Sept. 15. There is no charge and each participant will receive an “Awakening Faith” booklet. One need not attend every session; they do NOT build on one another. So a person can attend any one session, even the very last one, and would be welcomed.

Please go to www.stlads.org for more information or call the parish at 440-835-2300. ●



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SPORTING VIEWS

Does LeBron's return = a championship? History emphatically says "No!"

by JEFF BING

Now that LeBron James has decided to come "home" to play some hoops, I know many Cleveland sports fans have become downright giddy at the prospect of not one, but *multiple* NBA championships. And if the rumored acquisition of the highly talented Kevin Love also comes to pass, the prospects of a championship parade down East 9th Street certainly increase. However this being, you know, *Cleveland* and all, it's only good sense to consider possibilities of other scenarios which also might happen.

I mean, lest ye forget, we've been down this road before. Remember the Cavs of the '90s? Brad Daugherty, Mark Price, Larry Nance, Hot Rod Williams, Ron Harper. Ah ... Ron Harper, remember him? Wayne Embry, the Cavs' GM at the time, thought they were only "a player away" from an NBA championship. So, he deftly traded Ron Harper away for the rights to Danny Ferry, who was playing in Italy at the time.

Well, after the trade, the good news is that the Cavs were

no longer a player away from an NBA championship. The bad news? They were now two or three players away. Ferry was never close to being the player Embry and many others thought he'd be. Bad, bad deal, Mr. Embry.

Or look at the '95 Indians. A young powerhouse of a team which won 100 games in a strike-shortened season, most people (myself included) saw multiple championships ahead for those guys. What happened? Some guys enjoyed career years in 1995, never to be duplicated again. There were injuries, which are always hard to anticipate. And GM John Hart, while everything he'd touched had turned to gold in his early tenure as GM for the Tribe, suddenly made some deals which turned to, well, NOT gold. Suddenly, the "super team" became a collection of mortals. Good, but never quite good enough.

Or look at the Browns and LeCharles Bentley in 2006, who was regarded as the best free agent of the bunch in 2006. Bentley, one of the best young offensive linemen in the NFL, was going to spearhead the revival of the Browns. However,

this being *Cleveland* and all (oh, did I mention that already?) LeCharles – on the very first play on the very first day of full scrimmages during training camp in July of 2006 – suffered a serious leg injury which he never fully recovered from. And the Browns continued to do that which they know best: play horrible football.

Maybe it's time for our luck here to change. Everyone knows we're due for a little good luck, and maybe the James/Love tandem will in fact bring us that championship parade after all.

To me, however, here's what I see happening: I see James and Love colliding during their first practice together, with either one, or both (most likely, both) suffering season-ending (if not career-ending) injuries. Both will be doing color commentary on ESPN by January.

And while we're at it Andrew Wiggins and Anthony Bennett, our two No. 1 picks from the last two seasons who are reportedly included in the Love deal, will both enjoy long and productive careers in the NBA, each with more rings than one of my dress shirts.

Just sayin'. ●

'Revolutionary Parenting' event to be held Oct. 16

by MICHAELA KEKEDY

Westside Christian Academy in Westlake is pleased to announce that the 2014 Family Strong Series event will be "Revolutionary Parenting" with special guest speaker George Barna. The event will be held on Thursday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center of Westlake High School, 27830 Hilliard Blvd.

The event focuses on one of the greatest challenges to parenting in the 21st century. Parents recognize that increasingly they are competing for their children's attention with many other voices in our culture. Those voices may not respect them or their values.

George Barna, author of "Revolutionary Parenting: Raising Your Kids to Become Spiritual Champions," examined the lives of thriving adult Christians and discovered the essential steps their parents took to shape their spiritual lives in childhood. He also learned surprising truths about which popular parenting tactics just aren't working.

"We are excited to bring George Barna to the Cleveland area. Parents want their children to become authentic Christian adults who make a difference in their generation in our country," said Jim Whiteman, headmaster of Westside Christian Academy.

The evening will also include door prizes, a book signing by George Barna, and a freewill collection.

The event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is requested and can be completed online at familystrongcleveland.org.

Any proceeds from the event will provide tuition assistance for Westside Christian Academy families in need. ●



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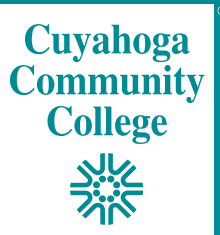
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BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cleveland’s lighthouses are topic of historical society talk

by CYNTHIA EAKIN

“Cleveland’s Lighthouse History” is the topic of a presentation by author Janice Patterson at the Sept. 18 meeting of the Bay Village Historical Society. Two century-old lighthouses still

perform their nightly illumination of Cleveland’s harbor. They are noted by today’s boaters, but overlooked by many Cleveland-area residents. Patterson’s illustrated talk will describe some of the maritime activity these iconic structures have seen through the years and highlight the several other

lighthouses and beacons that have guided ships in and out of Cleveland since 1830.

The presentation is based on Patterson’s photo-rich book, “Cleveland’s Lighthouses, published by Arcadia in 2009. The talk will be accompanied by a display of artwork showcasing lighthouses, created by local artist and Bay Village Historical Society member Marge Gulley.

Admission to the September meeting is free and open to the public. A potluck dinner will be served, with the main entree provided by the Bay Village Historical Society. Attendees are asked

to bring a side dish for 10 to share and their own place setting. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at the Bay Village Community House in Cahoon Park.

Other upcoming historical society programs include “Ohio’s Unsung Heroines,” a presentation about women during the Civil War, on Nov. 13. Speaker George McNulty will relate the history of Playhouse Square, including current development, at the Feb. 20 membership meeting. The historical society is also planning narrated tours of Lakeside Cemetery in Bay Village this fall.

For more information, visit www.bayhistorical.com. ●

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, Aug. 20 (10:15 & 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 Preschool Desk.

Wednesday, Aug. 20 (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 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20 (7-8:30 p.m.) INTRODUCTION TO FINDING FUNDERS – Learn how to use Foundation Directory Online, the database in which you can search to find funders for your nonprofit organization. Please register.

Thursday, Aug. 21 (11 a.m.-noon) SNAP ART DAY – Use art materials and your imagination to create a masterpiece. This program is for adults with developmental disabilities (and their caregivers, if needed). Please call Rebec-

ca Shook at 440-250-5471 to register or with questions.

Thursday, Aug. 21 (2-3 p.m.) TRICK YOUR LOCKER – You’ll have the coolest locker in school when you trick it out with these fun – and useful! – crafts. Grades 5-7. Registration begins Aug. 14.

Friday, Aug. 22 (10 a.m.-noon) PORTER’S FIBER FANATICS – A time for needlecrafters to share, solve problems, and show off.

Friday, Aug. 22 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME – Join us for a storytime for children with special needs and their parents/caregivers. The program includes interactive stories, rhymes, songs and movement activities, followed by 30 minutes of play. Content is geared to ages 3-7. Please call with questions or to register.

Friday, Aug. 22 (2-4 p.m.) MOVIES @ YOUR LIBRARY! – Join us for Friday afternoon flicks! Based on availability; movie titles may change without notice. In accordance with library policy, children who are under age nine must be accompanied by an adult. Registration begins one week before each session. This week’s movie: While on a world tour

the Muppets fund themselves wrapped into a European jewel-heist caper headed by a Kermit look-alike and his dastardly sidekick. (Rated PG)

Saturday, Aug. 23 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) MAKE EVENT – Please register for this special program on creation, collaboration and innovation. Enjoy a gathering place for tools, projects, mentors and expertise that celebrates the Maker Movement so popular today. Plan to participate in design projects at a variety of skill levels. We promise to explore the Maker in all of us.

Saturday, Aug. 23 (2-4 p.m.) CARRYOUT 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, Aug. 23 (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.

Monday, Aug. 25 (1-7 p.m.) – AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Tuesday, Aug. 26 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: THINK LIKE AN ENTREPRENEUR – Starting and running a new business isn’t for everyone. Regardless of your previous career, there’s something to be said for the entrepreneurial spirit. A little entrepreneurial zeal can give you a distinct advantage in your professional

life, whether you think you would ever strike out on your own or not. Train yourself to think like an entrepreneur – learn to apply the process in daily life.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 (10:15 & 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 Preschool Desk.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – The August selection is “Stella Bain” by Anita Shreve.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 (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 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 30 (2-3:30 p.m.) MEET THE ARTIST RECEPTION – Please join the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council in the Porter Room to greet the artists from the juried art show.

Saturday, Aug. 30 (2-3 p.m.) BRICK BUILDERS CLUB – Bring your ideas and imagination to the club! All bricks provided. Ages 6-12.

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

Explore the maker movement at WPPL event Saturday, Aug. 23

by ELAINE WILLIS

Westlake Porter Public Library will give West Shore residents an opportunity to explore the “maker movement” at a Make Event at the library on Saturday, Aug. 23, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The maker movement is the technology-based extension of do-it-yourself pursuits that typically involves electronics, robotics and 3-D printing, as well as traditional activities such as metalworking, woodworking and other arts and crafts.

The Make Event will be an exploration of creation, collaboration and innovation using new tools to create. Included will be demos of Google Glass, 3Doodler, Sphero and electronics ideas, as well as hands-on design projects for all ages – including children– and

skill levels.

Scheduled presentations include:

- Mel McGee and Shana Mysko from Image Nation will demonstrate Google Glass.
- Holly Klinger from Northeast Ohio Regional Library System will demonstrate the 3Doodler and Sphero.
- Scott Kutz, technical drawing design teacher at Westlake High School will share projects from his classroom.
- Members of the Makers’ Alliance will demonstrate electronics ideas in motion.
- WPPL staff will demonstrate Raspberry Pi and Arduino.

To register please call 440-250-5460 or visit signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080. ●

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Drive for Westlake Assistance

Mary’s Food Friends, aka St. Paul Lutheran Thrivent Hunger Ministry Service Team, has organized a special supplemented Hunger Campaign for donations received through Sept. 15 to assist the Westlake Assistance Program.

This supplement is made possible by the Northwest Cuyahoga County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans’ Care Abounds in Community Program and will really help fill the cupboards of Westlake Assistance.

To donate money, write a check payable to Northwest Cuyahoga County Chapter, mark memo: Westlake Assistance and mail to Hunger Ministry, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 27993 Detroit Road, Westlake, OH 44145.

Thank you for joining in this much needed Hearts Helping Hunger Campaign.

– Mary H. Levtzow
Food Friends Director

BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY

Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

As we head into the Labor Day weekend, don't forget to stop by the Bay Village Branch Library to pick up those books, DVDs, or audio materials you may need over the long weekend. Beginning Saturday, Aug. 30, we will be closed for the holiday. Our regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 2. Of course, you can still access items in our digital collection during this time.

After a hiatus in August, our story-times start back up in September. We also have some great after-school programs coming up. Our new Teen Zone will offer activities, games, art and more. See the listings below for dates and times.

We're excited to host professional skateboarder Doug Brown on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 3:30 p.m. He will join us to share tips and tricks of the board – as well as give advice on how to enjoy life and make the most of it. You won't want to miss this event.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT STORYTIMES

Tuesday, Sept. 2 (9:30 a.m.) TODDLER – Caregivers and children ages 19-35 months are invited to join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and stories.

Tuesday, Sept. 2 (1:30 p.m.) PRESCHOOL – Caregivers and children ages 3-5 not yet in kindergarten are invited to join us for books, rhymes, songs and fingerplays.

Wednesday, Sept. 3 (9:30 a.m.) BABY AND ME – Caregivers and children ages birth to 18 months are invited to join us for rhymes, songs, fingerplays and books.

Wednesday, Sept. 3 (7:00 p.m.) FAMILY – Caregivers and children of all ages are invited to join us for stories, songs and fingerplays.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, Aug. 26 (3:30 p.m.) ROLL OUT THE DUCT TAPE – Feeling creative? Join us as we roll out the duct tape for fun projects like locker design. Try one of our ideas or come up with one of your own.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning Sept. 2 (3:15 p.m.) TEEN ZONE – Video games, challenges, art and more for those in grades 5-12. Please join us for something fun to do after school most every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Check our website for details. Parents will need to sign a permission form to cover the fall programs.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 (3:30 p.m.) SKATE STRAIGHT! – Grades 5 and up. Professional skateboarder, author and speaker Doug Brown shares tips and tricks of the board, as well as how to enjoy life and make the most out of it.

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. ●



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Party wraps Bay library's summer reading game

by ANNE LYNCH

On Saturday, Aug. 16, the Bay Village Branch Library held their Summer Reading Wrap Party. The families had lots of fun activities to participate in as a thank you for joining us this summer.

Creativity was abundant in the sidewalk chalk art and the fabric marker tie-dye projects that were made. Frozen treats and some fun library giveaways were a hit with all the participants. All the children started off the new school year with an "I Love Reading" pencil and a Cuyahoga County Public Library pen. ●



The Keberdle family – Joseph, mom Hilary, Savannah and Thomas – make tie-dye shirts at the Aug. 16 library party celebrating the end of the Summer Reading Game.

Science fun at Bay Library

As part of a two-class series entitled "Science Fun!", Bay Village Library children's staff member Peg Tomek challenged 13 students in grades 4-6 to build marble loop-de-loop roller coasters using a marble, insulation tubing, tape, boxes and a chair along with their own creativity. The groups of happy engineers had such a "scream" building and testing their coasters. Each team earned points for building specific components and completing challenges. Roller-coaster challenge winners PJ and Jack, right, proudly pose with their "trophies" and can't wait for more science programming!



PHOTOS BY ANNE LYNCH



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WESTLAKE IN BLOOM

from front page

The most coveted award of the evening, the Lu Walter Best in Bloom Award, recognizes the best of the best gardens. Master gardener Judy McNamara visited each category's first-place winner and selected the one that she felt best symbolized Lu's philosophy on life and gardening.

This year's winner was one of the youngest entrants in the competition, 14-year-old Holly Tomkalski. The patio garden she grows at her family's Bradley Road home had been recognized with third-place, honorable mention and second-place awards in the past three years, but this year she won big.

"Holly Kaye Tomkalski's patio garden exemplifies all that Lu was about," McNamara said. "This garden has grown into a colorful, floral outdoor space. I have seen this garden evolve from simple containers to a beautifully balanced area of lush plantings. Holly surrounded the area on all sides and levels with well balanced pots of striking color."

Holly began gardening at age 8 as part of a Girl Scout badge project growing vegetables. She's had a love for it ever since, something that her parents, Joel and Linda, try to nurture.

Holly and her mother volunteer together at the Our House greenhouse, but the patio garden is entirely Holly's project. Aside from some coleus that she overwintered indoors and a few perennials, the garden is filled with annuals. Linda admitted to helping with one aspect, shopping, as Holly was still in school when planting season began in May.

It's no surprise that Judy McNamara was drawn to the "striking" color in Holly's garden, as that is one of her favorite aspects of gardening. "I like putting all the colors together and making one cohesive pot," Holly said.

This year marked the first that the Adopt-a-Bed gardens were included in the competition. Bonnie Heim and Campbell Bailey from the Westlake service department judged the seven entries and awarded first place to the Dean's Greenhouse bed at the corner of Center Ridge and Porter roads.

Awards of distinction were bestowed upon three honorees this year: the Westlake Community Garden for community involvement, Dr. William Bennett for heritage preservation involving the 1820 House on Center Ridge Road, and Crocker Park for its floral displays. ●



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Holly Tomkalski, winner of the Lu Walter Best in Bloom Award, with contest judge Judy McNamara, planning director and master of ceremonies Jim Bedell, Bloom coordinator Jean Smith, and Mayor Dennis Clough.



PHOTO BY LINDA TOMKALSKI

Holly arranged more than 50 pots of flowers and vegetable plants in creating this year's Best in Bloom garden. She used a variety of shapes and colors, including petunias, orchids, fuchsia, asparagus fern, lobelia, tomatoes, beets and squash.

Westlake in Bloom 2014 Winners

Evergreen Cemetery Fence Gardens

First Place: In Memory of Stanley and Dixie Dean
Second Place: The Eberling Family
Third Place: The Endress Family
Honorable Mention: The Coe, Barry, Ward and Hull Families

Hilliard Boulevard Flower Box

Best of the Boxes: Dover Congregational Church
First Place: King James Homeowners
Second Place: The Freeh Family
Third Place: Earth Laughs in Flowers (Barbara Munch)
Honorable Mention: Early Childhood P.T.A.

Adopt-a-Bed Gardens

First Place: Dean's Greenhouse
Second Place: Yards Done Right
Third: Nurturing Nature's Knowledge

Apartment or Condominium Complex

First Place: Bay Landing Condominiums
Second Place: Sturbridge Square Apartments
Third Place: Remington Apartments
Honorable Mention: Barrington Place Apartments

Business

First Place: Applied Home Healthcare

Equip./Superflash Compressed Gas Equip.

Second Place: Lakewood Country Club
Third Place: Ironwood Café
Honorable Mention: Red Roof Inn

Church

First Place: Westlake United Methodist Church
Second Place: St. Ladislav Church
Third Place: Hungarian Seventh-day Adventist Church

Nursing Home, Assisted/Independent Living

First Place: Rae-Ann Westlake
Second Place: The Belvedere of Westlake
Third Place: Rae-Ann Suburban

Residential Landscaping – Small, Entire Yard

First Place: Angela and Matt Fink
Second Place: Dave Clements
Third Place: Al and Dannielle Cavallaro
Honorable Mention: Mary Beth Schneider

Residential Landscaping – Small, Front Yard Only

First Place: Mary Kim Elkins
Second Place: Terry and Mary Schordock
Third Place: Mary Beth and Jack Bedell
Honorable Mention: Lisa B. Cerankosky

Residential Landscaping – Medium, Entire Yard

First Place: George and Diane Woyansky
Second Place: Dave, Kathy, Sarah and Andrew Presley
Third Place: Susan Mulhern

Residential Landscaping – Medium, Front Yard Only

First Place: Crystal and Dan Doyle
Second Place: Tony Grego
Third Place: Robert and Annette Koenig

Residential Landscaping – Medium, Rear Yard Only

First Place: Lan Le and Binh V. To
Second Place: Martha and Jim Radca
Third Place: Dan and Sally Koster

Residential Landscaping – Large, Entire Yard and Rear Yard Only

First Place: Terry and Rose Monnolly
Second Place: Nancy Bole
Third Place: Dale and Kathy Gyor

Patio Garden – Multi-family

First Place: Phillip E. and Alice Kuhn
Second Place: Marianne Petro
Third Place: Sharon Huelsman

Patio Garden – Single family

Honorable Mention: Helen J. Szarka
First Place: Holly Kaye Tomkalski

Second Place: Rosemary Ware

Rain Garden

First Place: Debra Sue Solecki

Shade Garden

First Place: Dr. Wolfgang and Ina Mueller
Second Place: Cindy Mulligan
Third Place: Angela DeMuesy

Vegetable Garden

First Place: Inge and Michael Moorman
Second Place: Evy and Greg Tidwell
Third Place: Karen McCready
Honorable Mention: Gary Colyer

Window Boxes

First Place: Rita Briggs
Second Place: Ronald Perger and Deborah Forkas
Third Place: Patricia and Robert Crowley

Lu Walter Award

Holly Kaye Tomkalski
Award of Distinction for Community Involvement

Westlake Community Garden

Award of Distinction for Floral Displays

Crocker Park
Award of Distinction for Heritage Preservation

Dr. William Bennett

FAMILY OBSERVATIONS Lawn Care

by RJ JOHNSON, pastor at Advent Westlake

“What’s wrong with dandelions?” began a post I made to Facebook extolling the virtues of this miracle plant. They grow well in most soil types, are drought resistant, have lovely blooms, and are even edible. If I could create a hybrid that did as well as the dandelion, I would be rich.

All of that was intended to be to tongue-in-cheek, yet the photos of yards, white with dandelions gone to seed, explaining, “This is what’s wrong with dandelions,” let me know my humor had struck some raw nerves.

I understand that no one wants their neighbor’s yard to be filled with those white balls of fluff waiting for the first breeze to spread their seeds across the neighborhood. It might help to know that I grew up in north-eastern Colorado, where the arid climate made any hint of green in your lawn during August to be the cause for envy among your neighbors.

It also meant you were probably violating the watering restrictions in the middle of the night. So my standard for lawn care might be a little different. There are two questions I ask: “Is it green?” and “Is it a uniform length?” If the answer to both is yes, I can sit back and relax.

For many people a nicely manicured lawn is a symbol of pride. This originated at a time when wealthy people had animals that grazed in their yards, keeping the vegetation short. A well-trimmed yard meant you could afford plenty of animals. I think the picture of a flock of goats performing my lawn care might be more upsetting to the neighborhood than a good crop of dandelions.

Mortified that my post had stirred up such controversy, I tried to justify my declaration in favor of dandelions with some lame excuse about the effects of herbicides on our waterways. After seeing what the algae bloom did to Toledo’s water supply, I do wonder about the effects of all of the chemicals we use on our lawns. However, my initial response was all about saving face. Suddenly I discovered that I was looking for lawns that had lots of dandelions. When I saw a crop of dandelions that had gone to seed, I could feel pride that my yard looked better.

Although I believe it is a desirable thing to try to keep my yard from embarrassing the rest of the neighborhood, I have never seen it as a source of personal pride. It has always been more of a matter of good manners. I realized how quickly I could be made to buy into the values of those around me.

With lawn care, there is not much harm in that, but I had to stop and think about whether the values of our culture may have influenced me in other subtle but truly undesirable ways. I will have to give it more thought next time I mow the lawn. ●

THE DIGITAL WORLD Email address like a license to cruise the internet

by TAK SATO

Technology is supposed to make our lives easier. The tools entrenched in the digital world, whether they are devices such as smartphones and tablets, or services like online banking and social networking, are supposed to empower you to get the job done faster and more efficiently so that you have more time for important things in your life in the real world.

Unfortunately technology has a PR challenge as it is often viewed, and even dismissed by certain demographics, as confusing and intimidating. This public perception, when applied to any and all technology regardless of merit, can be misleading. It can prohibit people from embracing specific technology that has concrete benefits if applied and even worse it can subliminally erode one’s confidence when relating with technology in general.

I remember how I felt when I passed my driver’s license exam. I fondly recall how happy I was to finally drive without a chaperone. What I didn’t expect were

the other benefits provided by a driver’s license beyond just the privilege to drive. For example state-issued driver’s licenses or even identification cards can provide proof of identity when applying for a library card, opening an utility account such as natural gas or electricity to your new abode, going through security checkpoints at the airport, cashing checks and provide other auxiliary benefits. Not to sound too melodramatic but it really was, for an 18-year-old, a confidence-inspiring piece of laminated card in my wallet.

In the digital world your email address is analogous to the utility provided by a driver’s license in the real world. Not only can you send and receive messages – which is the primary use of your email address, just like privilege to drive being the primary use of a driver’s license – an email address enables you to open and utilize other services in the digital world.

For example social networking and social media services like Facebook and Twitter, video chat services like Skype and Hangouts, online shopping store-

fronts like Amazon, video streaming services like Netflix, and many other services require you to have an email address when opening an account with them.

Email is technology-driven thus it has the same public perception of being confusing and intimidating. Over the years I’ve found that for the uninitiated, looking beyond the one-time event of creating your email address and reaping the benefits of having an email address can bring down the intimidation barrier while building up the confidence to deal with email, or even technology in general.

Our libraries in Westlake and Bay Village can help you to set up an email account if you’re intimidated by the process. (Some basic computer knowledge is usually required, like how to use a mouse.) Westlake Porter Public Library and the Cuyahoga County Public Library system also offer occasional classes to learn the powers hidden in a simple email address.

Understanding the benefits of owning an Email address, just like owning a driver’s license, should help in building the confidence to embrace technology in a meaningful way. After all, no one should be intimidated by technology.

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

Discovering artists at Bradley Bay



PHOTOS BY DONNA D'AMICO

Artists Carol Rodman, Nancy Treadway and Ruth Young create watercolor masterpieces at Bradley Bay.

A new monthly program underway in our Assisted Living at O’Neill Healthcare Bradley Bay may lead us to discover the next Henri Matisse! Watercolorist Mary Lou Palermo has created a program, focused on the senior population, to help individuals develop their own unique painting style. Classes can be enjoyed by all Bradley Bay residents, regardless of their artistic ability. ●

Music therapy program helps dementia patients

by LAURA STUMP

One year ago, an innovative music program called “Hear My Song” was introduced at the Gardens at Westlake for members in its Residence Club, a transitional memory care program geared toward early to moderate Alzheimer’s Disease or other dementias. Dr. Cameron Camp, Ph.D., from the Applied Research for Dementia Association, developed “Hear My Song” to teach people with early to moderate forms of memory loss, known as Mild Cognitive Impairment, to play musical instruments. This type of

music therapy is shown to enhance the ability to retain short-term memory.

Linda Burgess directs The Residence Club and worked with Dr. Camp to bring the program to the Gardens. To commemorate the second anniversary of The Residence Club, residents put on a concert for family and friends followed by a celebration dinner on July 24.

“Our residents are able to focus and participate in something they really enjoy,” Ms. Burgess remarked. “We are pleased to have implemented this program for our residents and look forward to seeing it grow.” ●



Residents of the Gardens at Westlake learned to play xylophones and presented a concert for family and friends on July 24.

WEST SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber luncheon welcomes new Bay, Westlake educators

Bay Village's new educators, pictured from left:

- Amanda Anderson, Small Group Instructor, Bay Middle
- Heather Shuster, Language Arts, Bay Middle
- Maral Demirjian, Speech Language Pathologist, Glenview
- Ben Boka, Spanish, Bay High
- Danielle Jeglie, Speech Language Pathologist, Bay Middle
- E. James Kitora, Music, Normandy
- (not pictured) Rachel Aldrich, Mathematics, Bay High
- (not pictured) Osama Assad, Science, Bay High
- (not pictured) Erin Nealon, Speech Language Pathologist, Westerly
- (not pictured) Haley Rinas, Physical Education, Normandy

The West Shore Chamber of Commerce held its annual end-of-summer luncheon focused on education and jobs. All of the new teachers in the Westlake and Bay Village school districts were the chamber's invited guests on Aug. 12 at the Holiday Inn on Crocker Road.

The luncheon also featured a presentation of the Friend of Education Award, given to the chamber member who has made the biggest contribution to education in the

past year. This year's honoree was Jeremy Thompson from Amica Insurance, who accepted his award from Nancy Ralls, career development coordinator of the Westshore Career-Technical District.

State Rep. Nan Baker, the regular speaker at the new teachers luncheon, discussed what is being done in Columbus to create new jobs and enhance the business landscape in Ohio. ●



Friend of Education honoree Jeremy Thompson with presenter Nancy Ralls.

Westlake's new educators and administrators, pictured from left:

- Matthew Mayforth, German, Westlake High
- Alexander Fleming, Principal, Bassett
- Adam Gordon, Intervention Specialist, Bassett
- Kayleigh O'Neill, Third Grade, Hilliard
- Joseph Heiland, Physical Education, Holly Lane
- Karleigh House, Kindergarten, Bassett and Hilliard
- Hilary Patriok, Instrumental/Music, Westlake High and Dover Intermediate
- Amy Shollenberger, Gifted Intervention Specialist, Hilliard and Holly Lane
- Kathi Maxwell, Director of Academic Services
- Geoffrey, Palmer, Interim Superintendent
- (not pictured) Elizabeth Osicki, School Counselor, Westlake High



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CHALLENGE *from front page*

Some employees discovered hidden talents – for things like skee-ball, putt-putt and bocce ball that they didn't know they had. We are already talking about “next year”!

Jerry Dabato from Western Enterprises echoed the thoughts of many: “Once again we had a successful Corporate Challenge. The challenge helps build intracompany relationships as well as giving employees the opportunity to meet people from other companies. Thanks to everyone at the Westlake Recreation Center for doing a great job putting it all together!”

Part of the challenge is for the companies to give back to the residents of Westlake. We are happy to report that we had exactly 100 units of blood donated to either Life Share or the American Red Cross. In addition we held a food drive that was our biggest one ever! There were 2,898 items and \$473.50 donated to the City of Westlake's food cupboard program which helps feed numerous families throughout our city. More than half of that total – 1,573 items – were donated by the employees of Equity Trust Company. ♦



Colleen Murnane tees off at Meadowood Golf Course as fellow Echo Health teammates Chuck Yesberger and Neal Van Duys watch.



The Applied Companies team starts off on the 2-mile timed walk accompanied by some four-legged friends.



Emily Straffen of Q-Lab Corporation tosses a ball during the bocce ball contest.



Jodi Rodriguez's cupcakes took first for the city of Westlake.



See more photos of the Corporate Challenge at: wbvobserver.com/photoblogs



Donald Novak of Western Enterprises lines up his approach at Buckeye Lanes.



Players size up their cards during the Texas Hold 'Em competition at the Meadowood clubhouse.



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WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

CFA presents art demonstrations, gathering of artists

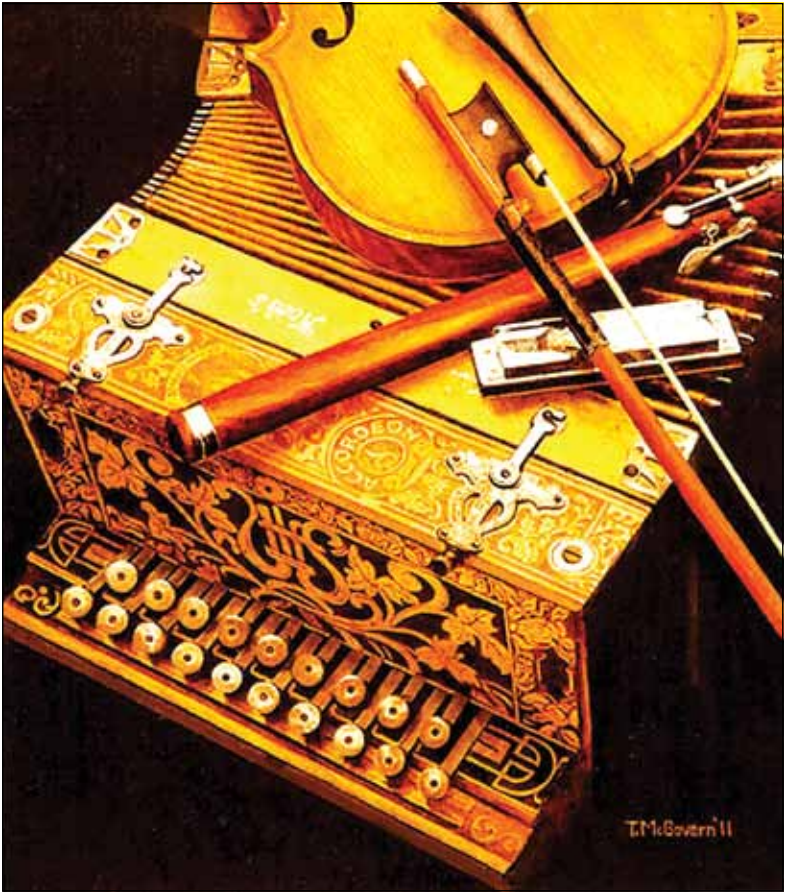
by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

An opportunity to view an outstanding collection of original art works, now on display at the Community of Fine Arts Juried Art Show, is sufficient reason to plan a visit to Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road.

In addition, a schedule of live demonstrations by artists entered in the show and a “Meet the Artists” reception on the show’s final day, Aug. 30, are further motivations provided by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, sponsors of the CFA event.

The artists’ working presentations that take place in the lobby of the library during the remainder of the show are scheduled as follows: Aug. 20, 9 a.m. to noon, Paul Johanni; 1 to 4 p.m., Ken Marshall; Aug. 21, 9 a.m. to noon, Joyce and Jerry Wolf; 1 to 4 p.m., Alan Dash; Aug. 23, 9 a.m. to noon, Bill Mannion; 1 to 4 p.m., Robert Parry; Aug. 26, 9 a.m. to noon, Bernie D’Ettorre; Aug. 30, 9 a.m. to noon, Patricia Stafford.

WWAC president Patt Long and CFA chairpersons Jean Povinelli and Tom Nowicki invite the public to a



“Violin,” by Terry McGovern, selected for the first-place award in the oil/acrylic category, is among the original art works on display at the Community of Fine Arts Juried Art Show.

free “Meet the Artists” reception Saturday, Aug. 30, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. A mix of viewing art works and greeting artists will be sweetened with light refreshments.

Presentation of the first-place \$150 cash awards and honorable mention awards in each of four categories will take place at the reception.

Three judges, William Beuther, Susan Gray-Be’ and Mel Grunau, selected the following art works as winners of the 2014 CFA:

Watercolor: First Place: Robert Moyer, “Floral”; Honorable Mention: Thomas Hemsath, “Golden Dawn”; Ken Marshall, “Autumn Glow”; Claire Palmisano, “Countryside”; Robert Parry, “Belltower of Yvoire, France.”

Oil/Acrylic: First Place: Terry McGovern, “Violin”; Honorable Mention: Barbara Cawley, “Clague Homestead”; Ben Hoffman, “First Thaw at Sunset”; Gusztav Veres, “Autumn Landscape.”

Photography: First Place: Neil Doren, “Reflections at Water’s Edge”; Honorable Mention: Vincent O’Keefe, “Autumn Takes Root”; Robert Parry, “Navajo Slot Canyon”; Patricia Stafford, “Beach Impressions.”

Drawing: First Place: Mike Guyot, “Michigan Ave. Flags”; Honorable Mention: Sean Crum, “Joan of Arc”; Mike Guyot, “Chicago Ave. Bridge”; Mike Guyot, “Wrigley Building in Chicago.” ●

BAYARTS

Artfully ever after: Artistic couple married at BAYarts

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

When artists Erin Schectman and Ron Caruso became joyfully engaged, they knew where they wanted their wedding to be. And so, on Aug. 16, the pair met each other atop an outside altar to say their vows on the verdant BAYarts campus.

The couple has long been a familiar, sunny fixture in the Northeast Ohio art world. Caruso is an accomplished photographer, and Schectman is an artist who has taken part in many gallery shows at BAYarts. Additionally, two colorful murals

from her Rust Belt Monster Collective grace the campus. Those art pieces that have captivated and intrigued the imagination of many visitors served as a perfect backdrop for the festive nuptials.

In speaking about the location choice, Schectman referenced magic. “BAYarts is such an important part of our Cleveland narrative, so we knew we wanted to share one of our favorite places with our family and friends, and actually didn’t even look anywhere else. There is something magical about it.”

As they are both artistically-inclined, the wedding incorporated several touches

that were created by the couple themselves. In this way, their personal handling helped the affair feel as intimate and special as they had hoped. Caruso shared about some of the details they had customized. “I (was) excited to share our wedding with our guests because we planned, designed and hand-made so much of it ourselves: the invitations, many of the decorations, and even some of the food. I feel like it meshed perfectly with the creative spirit that embodies BAYarts.”

With a wedding so intimately created together, their marriage is off to a strong start. ●

BAYarts receives Cleveland Foundation grant

by PIXIE EMERSON

BAYarts has received a Cleveland Foundation grant for \$25,000 to be used for technical upgrades. It is the third grant of this type that the foundation has awarded BAYarts in the course of their rapid growth.

The first grant was received in 2009 to replace antiquated phone systems, purchase computers and add security systems. In 2011, with the completion of the Fuller House renovation, a second grant made it possible to install a Sonos music system, phones and computers in the renovated building.

The current grant coincides with the groundbreaking of the Karen Ryel Ceramics Studio, set to open at the end of this year. It also provides funds to upgrade the BAYarts website and online registration system.

“It is affirming to have the support of a prestigious organization like the Cleveland Foundation behind us,” said board president Peter Winzig. “Grants like these are vital for our growth and sustainability, providing us with the tools we need to serve our community in the best possible way.” ●



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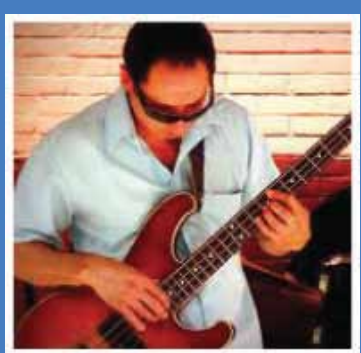
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Westlake, Bay students receive Tri-C honors fellowships



The students in Tri-C's inaugural honors program fellowship class sign letters of intent at the Westshore campus in Westlake.

by JOHN HORTON

Mariam Ghanem from Westlake and Connor Hazeldine from Bay Village have received Honors Program Fellowships from Cuyahoga Community College. The fellowship offers high-achieving students scholarships to cover tuition, fees and books as they work toward an associate degree.

The inaugural fellowship class features Ghanem, Hazeldine and 11 other area students who graduated high school with at least a 3.5 grade point average and stellar ACT/SAT test scores. By entering the scholarship program, they commit to being full-time students and earning a degree from Tri-C within two years.

"These are high-achieving students who decided to begin their future at Tri-C," said Herbert Mausser, assistant dean of Honors and Experiential

Learning Programs.

The students signed commitment letters with the College during an Aug. 11 ceremony at Westshore Campus in Westlake. Each scholarship – funded by the Cuyahoga Community College Foundation – is valued at up to \$4,250 per academic year.

The Foundation secured funding for the program from numerous community partners who wanted to invest in students committed to securing a degree at Tri-C. The goal is to expand the program to up to 60 students in the future.

The honors fellowship places special emphasis on academic planning, mentoring and portfolio building to reflect student work. Smaller honors class sizes also ensure specialized attention for students.

The program is designed to support eventual transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's and other advanced degrees. ●



Rhonda Schneider, Bay Village Kiwanis president, and Norm Resko, Westlake Kiwanis president, hold the spikes from the yearly Golden Spike competition at Bay Lodge on Aug. 12.

Golden spike retained by Bay Village Kiwanis

by DENNY WENDELL

Every year the Kiwanis clubs of Bay Village and Westlake hold a joint meeting of their members to highlight each club's past year's accomplishments and to plan for upcoming projects. The annual interclub meeting is also a friendly competition to see which organization can have the highest percentage of membership in attendance.

Since 1984, the winner is awarded a specially designed plaque with a gold-colored, nickel-plated railroad spike representing the Nickel Plate Railroad which divided the two townships at the turn of the century. The runner-up also receives a railroad spike, albeit a rusty one, on a plaque that states "There's always next year."

At this year's meeting Aug. 12 at Bay Lodge, the Bay Village Kiwanis retained the golden spike with a 70 percent attendance. The competition will continue next year, when both clubs will be celebrating their 65th anniversary. ●

Keeping them up in the air



Neelraj Arjune and Erick Mori-Quimper from the St. Ignatius Circus Company entertained seniors at Dwyer's Center's Annual Summer Patio Picnic on Aug. 13. Above they perform a 9-ball passing juggle routine to the delight of the crowd.

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

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ONE SENIOR’S OPINION

An interesting experience

by DIANNE BOROWSKI

I had a technological problem recently which took two months to resolve. My telephone and internet service decided I did not have an account with them. Even though the bills were paid on time, my landline was turned off.

After numerous calls to my service provider on my son's cell phone I finally got through to a customer service rep. I was offered a chance to sign up with the phone service for the second time and receive a phone which worked from the internet. I signed on.

The new phone was working very nicely until my computer crashed. The modem started flashing red. I contacted the provider. Now the fun began. My son lent me his cell phone, again, to call the company. I continued paying their bills while trying to resolve the problem.

Several weeks and many calls later, a tech came out to investigate the problem. He told me the modem was defective. Gee, no kidding, I thought. A new modem was installed. This one also didn't work. The tech went outside to test something and it worked. Hurray!

For a short while all was well, then computer and phone died again. More phone calls from a borrowed phone. At last a “conflict resolution specialist” contacted me. We discussed my problem for quite a while. Soft, soothing music played in the background. I could hear the smile in her voice as she offered to reduce my monthly payments substantially and waive all service charges.

Earlier in the conversation I dropped a subtle hint I wrote for a newspaper which I believe helped pave the way for my generous settlement. Of course, I didn't mention I was a volunteer writer for a community newspaper.

Problem solved and my son has his cell phone back. ●

An opportunity to revisit F. Scott Fitzgerald

by JOAN GRACE

The Case Western Reserve University Off-Campus Studies program returns to Westlake this fall. This session's topic is “F. Scott Fitzgerald: His First Three Novels Revisited” and will be held Thursdays, Sept. 25 to Nov. 13, 10-11:30 a.m., at Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Road.

The cost for the eight-week program is \$75. The instructor will be Barbara Parr, a former teacher at Rocky River High School. Off-Campus Studies courses provide an open environment for lively discussion based on meaningful examination of shared texts. Leader-teachers facilitate discussion and provide academic background and context.

Fitzgerald's first book, “This Side of Paradise,” examines WWI youth and a vigorous and restless America. His second book, “The Beautiful and the Damned,” satirizes a glamorous and doomed marriage in the decadent high society of New York City in the 1920s inspired, of course, by his own marriage. His masterpiece, “The Great Gatsby,” focuses on decadence, idealism, resistance to change, social upheaval, and excess.

For questions, call one of the coordinators: Sandra Berendt, 440-892-4931, or Joan Grace, 440-777-9381. Register at 216-368-2090 or online at cwru.edu/lifelonglearning. ●

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FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Concert of healing sounds on Aug. 26

by SHARON FEDOR

A didjeridoo – “What's that?” you might ask. A didjeridoo is much more than a fun word to say. It is classified as an Australian Aboriginal wind instrument, more similar to a trumpet than a flute. Its shape takes the look of a long wooden tube, and most measure from three to 10 feet long. No two sound exactly alike. The longer the tube, the lower the pitch or tone. It has been said that both the player and the listener can experience a powerful trance from the sounds it produces.

A bowl that sings ... I don't have any of those in my kitchen. These types of bowls are really more like standing or decorative bells. Singing bowls sit with their bottom surface resting, often on a pillow or a cushion, the rim is stroked, then it vibrates to produce sounds. A singing bowl is special for it emits healing sounds that allows the soul to stretch and feel things it may not have felt before.

Combine the world's largest quartz didjeridoo and crystal singing bowls infused with citrine, platinum, diamond and more, and you have the recipe for a truly unique sound healing experience. Bring together Paradiso, a master didjeridoo artist, and Rasamayi, a

vocalist and master artist of the singing bowls, and you have a celestial soundscape with unlimited potentiality. Their audiences have reported and experienced profound meditative states, and intense healings of emotional, physical and spiritual pain. The didjeridoo, singing bowls and voice work weave a powerful and sacred soundscape. Like the artist whose painting means different things to different individuals, these soundscapes create visions of interpersonal transformations in each listener.

The collaborative CD “3rd Eye Rising” won numerous accolades and awards, among them the Independent Music Award for Best New Age Album of the Year. They have created five critically acclaimed and chart-topping CDs. Their newest is titled, “Attuning to Oneness: The Harmonic Ascension.”

This sound healing concert is part of their Northeastern U.S. tour, and will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m., at Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Road, Westlake. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 online in advance; \$30 at the door. Visit unityspiritualcenter.com to purchase tickets, listen to music samples and watch a short video that introduces Rasamayi and Paradiso.

Expect the unexpected, expect surprises – this is not a concert of performing songs in the everyday sense, but a unique personal transformational journey. At the very least one will experience the benefit of deep relaxation, and who can't use a little more of that in these hectic, fast-paced days? Sounds can heal like jokes can make us laugh. Come join this adventure into heavenly healing sound vortexes and find your best note. ●

READER’S OPINION

Finding spirituality on Sturgis trip

by ROBERT KESS

My recent trip to South Dakota was meant to be for a motorcycle rally in Sturgis, but the actual experience was quite different.

I arrived in Sturgis on a Sunday and the first ride I took was through Spearfish Canyon. The best way for me to describe it is, the Cleveland Metroparks on steroids. Sheer cliff walls, a stream running alongside the road, a waterfall, viewpoints to pull onto and the long wide curves made for a relaxing ride. When I finished, I felt as if I had been to church and heard a really great homily.

Monday was a trip by bike to Mount Rushmore. Photographs don't do justice to the immense scale of a sculpture on the side of a mountain. The creativity, ambition and craftsmanship needed to create such a work of art are unfathomable to me.

Tuesday had a threat of thunderstorms so I drove my Chevy TrailBlazer to the famous drug store in Wall, South Dakota, followed by a drive through Mako Sika; which is Lakota for Badlands. My limited vocabulary prevents me from expressing the magnificence of this area of our great country. Witnessing the birth of my son, and seeing Kathy walking toward me down the aisle at St. James church on June 3, 1995, are the only experiences that surpass the emotions I felt in Mako Sika.

Wednesday was bike day at Devils Tower in Wyoming. The Native Americans of the area refer to the tower as Grizzly Bear's House, and hold the ground to be sacred. As I began my walk around the tower, a sign advised us to look

for, but not disturb, “prayer bundles” left by the people of the various tribes. The bundles I saw ranged in size from a silver dollar to streamers of cloth and feathers up to two feet in length. The bundles asked the spirits for individual blessings. The combination of the prayer bundles dispersed around the tower, which took hundreds of thousands of years to form, had a profound emotional and spiritual effect on me.

Thursday was a day which started out as a research project. I needed to find the site where my friend and neighbor, John Stevenson, had a motorcycle accident, and subsequently lost his life. Trips to the police station, city hall, and eventually the library produced the results I was looking for. Almost 14 years to the day later, I visited that site. It seems that John was on his way back to Mount Rushmore, his favorite sight in South Dakota.

I returned to the site of John's accident the next day with my own prayer bundle. My bundle consisted of a white rose, a Harley Davidson do-rag with an American motif (John always wore a do-rag when he rode), a strip of cloth from the sleeve of one of my Harley shirts, and the red and white edge from an American flag (I subsequently had the flag re-hemmed). I asked for blessings for John's family and his soul. John was doing something he truly enjoyed, riding his Harley, and going to see something he was really impressed with, Mount Rushmore.

I followed that up with a return visit to Mako Sika. I spent the next six hours driving, hiking and meditating. I became totally immersed in the majesty and spirituality of this natural wonder. The experiences of the day touched my soul to the very core.

We have a remarkable country with unique lands and people. If at all possible, leave your immediate circle and open yourself up to the awe inspiring opportunities our country has to offer. You never know what you'll find. ●

North Coast Health’s main fundraiser set for Aug. 28

by ELIZABETH O'BRIEN

North Coast Health's signature annual fundraising gala, Celebration of Caring, will be held on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at LaCentre in Westlake.

The evening will feature a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert, awards presentation, a live auction and raffles. Honorary chairs for the event are Chris and Sandy Haas. Event co-chairs are Wendy Kieding, Kathe Serbin, and Carol Sterba. The evening's goal is to raise \$150,000, more than 10 percent of NCH's

annual operating budget, to continue to provide life-saving health care to the medically underserved in our community.

Despite the many changes transforming our nation's health care system, the need for our services continues. There are still families having to make the choice between paying their utilities and buying medications they need. Without North Coast Health, most would not have access to a provider of medical care.

The winning ticket for North Coast Health's summer vacation raffle will be drawn at the gala. The winner can

choose between a 7-night, all-inclusive package including airfare to the Luxury Bahia Principe Ambar in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, or a 4-night golfing package at The Fairmont Scottsdale Princess including rounds of golf, airfare and rental car. The winner may also select a \$3,500 travel voucher to Independence Travel in lieu of the above prizes.

Raffle tickets and event tickets for the Celebration of Caring gala are available online at northcoasthealth.org/celebration or by phoning 216-228-7878, ext. 114. Event tickets are \$125 each; raffle tickets are one for \$25, three for \$50 or eight for \$100. ●

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Saturday, Aug. 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Live from Our Hive

Learn all about bees and watch the extraction and spinning of honey at this free, family-friendly event. *Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village*

Saturday, Aug. 23, noon
Historical Marker Dedication

Join the Westlake Historical Society in honoring astronaut and Westlake native Robert Overmyer with an Ohio Historical Marker. The ceremony will take place by the Clague pond gazebo, followed by refreshments in Clague Cabin. *Clague Memorial Park, Westlake*

Tuesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m.
Bay Wards 1 & 4 Meeting

Bay Village Councilmen Dave Tadych (Ward 1) and Tom Henderson (Ward 4) invite residents to attend a joint Ward Meeting this summer. The councilmen will share some interesting facts and news about the city and hope to exchange ideas with residents about our wonderful community. *Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.*

Saturday, Aug. 30, 8-11 a.m.
Celebrate Westlake

A 5-mile run and 5K run/walk fundraiser. Chip-timed events with awards and cash prizes. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m. The 5-mile run kicks off at 8:30; the 5K at 8:45. From 8-11 a.m., a health and fitness expo will feature local businesses, health screenings and vendors. Kids activities include a 1/2-mile and 1-mile kids fun dash and as well as bounce houses, face painting, balloon artist and much more! Bring your family and enjoy a morning of health and wellness. Proceeds benefit local charities. Visit

celebratwestlake.org for more details.

St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Saturday, Aug. 30, 2-3:30 p.m.
CFA Artists Reception

Meet the artists of the Community of Fine Arts juried art show and view their work on display. Awards will be presented to the winning artists. Light refreshments served. *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Saturday, Aug. 30, 4:30-6 p.m.
Free Community Meal

Great food, good conversation and fellowship. This meal is provided by area churches, free to everyone! No carry outs. The church is accessible to the physically challenged. *Clague Road United Church of Christ, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted*

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7-7:45 p.m.
Bay Alumni Foundation Open House

The Bay Alumni Foundation would like to invite all Bay High alumni to its September meeting open house. Come and hear the exciting new initiatives the Foundation has planned and join in the open discussion. *Bay Village Police Department Community Room, 28000 Wolf Rd.*

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 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, members of the Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will volunteer their time and talent to assist you, at the computer terminals.

Please bring a copy of your pedigree chart and/or relevant family records. *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Thursday, Sept. 4, 6-8 p.m.
Annual Corn Roast and Candidate Night

Bay Village Democratic Club's annual Corn Roast and Candidate Night. Corn, hot dogs, soda. Bring the kids, friends and a dessert or side dish to share. Free, but donations accepted. For more information or to volunteer, call John Rinehart, 440-471-4829. *Huntington Beach Pavilion, Bay Village*

Saturday, Sept. 6, 9-11 a.m.
Women of Westshore Monthly Meeting

Women in politics supporting our Republican leaders by having fun, networking, and supporting our communities with amazing events. We have many opportunities upcoming that will take some brainstorming using our women's point of view. Join us as we put the party back in Party. *Panera, 19705 Center Ridge Rd., Rocky River*

Saturday, Sept. 6, 6 p.m.-midnight
Heart & Harvest Festival

The evening begins with Mass at 5 p.m. with Bishop Lennon as principal celebrant followed by dinner served from 6-8 p.m. Tickets for dinner are \$15 for adults and a child's meal for \$5. There will be a kids fun area as well as games, music, casino and raffle. Win a 2-year lease on a 2014 VW Beetle Convertible, an 18K diamond necklace or a stay at the Bedford Springs 4-star golf and spa resort. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Dinner and raffle tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 440-734-1300. Visit www.stbern.net for more information. *St. Bernadette Parish, 2256 Clague Rd., Westlake*



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