

## FAITH &amp; SPIRITUALITY

## Dec. 13 candle lighting connects grieving families

by SHARON FEDOR

Buddha says life is suffering. Some can only imagine the agony of losing a child, while others experience this extreme loss each and every day, some ... every moment. When the pain becomes unbearable, where do you turn, who can help, what can be done? The unbearable can become bearable when your pain evolves into trust, realizing you are not alone, and an entire new family of friends is here for you. Connected by loss, they understand your pain. Tears can fall, but they need not fall in the illusion of solitude. If you are open, they can unfold, and be gently

scooped up by caring, earth angels.

Unity Spiritual Center of Westlake, 23855 Detroit Road, is honored to take part in the 19th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting service. People who have lost children or grandchildren come together respectfully to honor those they love. This commemorative service takes place every year, on the second Sunday in December, this year on Sunday, Dec. 13, starting at 6:30 p.m. in Unity's Sanctuary.

Started in 1997 as a small internet service by The Compassionate Friends, a child bereavement group, the candle lighting has grown into a moving and emotional event.

» See LIGHTING page 2

## Bay Village light display takes inspiration to new level



The elaborate lighting display at John Underation's Maple Drive home began with the gift of Christmas lights that belonged to his friend, Randy Stang.

by SUSAN MURNANE

At 6 p.m. on Nov. 29, John Underation turned on the lights of a breathtaking Christmas display at 30629 Maple Drive in Bay Village for its fifth season. Underation began his Christmas decoration obsession when he was offered well-known Bay Village activist Randy Stang's extensive collection of Christmas lights by Stang's wife, Jacqueline, the summer after Stang's untimely death in February 2010.

Underation did not always decorate his house for Christmas. He grew up in Barberton, Ohio, and his family did not decorate. But there was a house in nearby Norton that decorated extravagantly, and had a flying Santa Claus. Underation would visit the house at Christmastime as a child and wanted to have a house like that when he grew up. When he moved to Cleveland with his wife, Kelley, in 2001, Underation decorated discretely with white twinkle lights.

The gift of Stang's light collection inspired

Underation to higher levels of achievement. In 2014, a minivan with two teenagers pulled up to his house and presented Underation with their award for Best Christmas Lights in Bay Village.

Each year Underation's Christmas display has gotten more elaborate. He has taken advice on light placement and improvements from friends, neighbors and his children. He decided he needed a flying Santa Claus, and found one at Home Depot. He found additional reindeer on eBay. Underation added an arrow pointing toward the chimney when his younger son asked how Santa knew to get into the house to leave presents.

Underation begins preparing his display a week before Thanksgiving, checking out the bulbs and making sure everything works. High winds last year damaged reindeer, requiring repairs and modifications to their harnesses. This year, Christmas music has been added to the display.

Make a visit to Maple Drive part of your Christmas tradition. ●

## LAKE ERIE NATURE &amp; SCIENCE CENTER

## Eyes to the sky for Geminid Meteor Shower



PHOTO CREDIT: KENNETH BRANDON

A time-lapse composite image from 2012 shows the Geminid meteor shower over the California coast. This year's meteor shower should be observable as early as 10 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13.

by WENDY HANNA

Turn your eyes to the sky to be a part of the Geminid Meteor Shower. In the dark evening sky of Dec. 13, viewers should be able to witness many "shooting stars," breathtaking streaks of light.

The Geminid Meteor Shower will be most visible Sunday evening, Dec. 13. No telescopes, binoculars or special equipment are needed. Katy Accetta, planetarium specialist at the Lake Erie Nature &

Science Center, suggests midnight as the ideal time for viewing but says the spectacle should be visible as early as 10 p.m. Meteors will be visible as streaks of light through the air and should be observable throughout the sky, although she suggests looking east. A crescent moon will help by providing a dark night sky.

Meteors are composed of tiny bits of dust and rock left behind by soaring comets.

» See METEORS page 2

## SPORTING VIEWS

## Playing to Johnny's strengths

by JEFF BING

Unless you reside under the proverbial rock, you're painfully aware of Johnny Manziel's latest, um, "transgressions" with his employer (at least as of this writing,

anyway), the Cleveland Browns.

As we all know, the Browns have gone to great lengths to try and keep their young, party-loving quarterback in line. But now, with a fairly large sample size to reflect upon, it appears most will agree that so far the attempts have yielded disappointing results. In other words, it ain't workin', gang.

I suggest it's time to think outside the box with Johnny Manziel.

That's correct; I'm advocating the "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em" approach here.

» See JOHNNY page 5





## LIGHTING *from front page*

The worldwide service will begin in New Zealand at 7 p.m. When these candles burn down, they are lit in the next time zone, creating a commemorative circle of light. It is currently believed to be the largest mass candle lighting on earth.

Locally, the service will have a special message from Reverend Joanne Rowden, Scripture readings, inspiring music, a memory wall, open prayer stations, a Remembrance Book, and people who have gathered together to praise the life of a child, grandchild or sibling, with light. After the service there will be refreshments, and a labyrinth walk on Unity's large outdoor labyrinth. You will find comfort, warmth and hope in this service, knowing the energy and light of your loved ones' lives are truly inextinguishable. All are welcome. Call 440-835-0400 or email [unityinfo@unityspiritualcenter.com](mailto:unityinfo@unityspiritualcenter.com) for more information. ●

## METEORS *rom front page*

When the Earth passes through this debris, these bits of comet litter penetrate the Earth's atmosphere and begin to plummet towards the planet. They reach such incredible speeds that they ignite and catch fire.

"There's no need to worry about safety when observing the phenomena," says Accetta. The meteor itself remains very small, often no bigger than the tip of your pinky finger.

Those interested in learning more about comets, meteors and meteor showers are invited to participate in the Center's ongoing "You-niverse" program. This planetarium program for all ages runs each Tuesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays at 1 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person. More information can be found at [lensc.org](http://lensc.org) or by calling the Center at 440-871-2900. ●

# Westlake Kiwanis end November busier than usual

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

The Westlake Kiwanis, always a busy organization, were busier than usual at the end of November. The Kiwanis and their Westlake Kiwanis Key Club raked and cleaned up 16 senior citizens' lawns.

The Kiwanis also donated money for Thanksgiving Baskets for the less fortunate and helped distribute the baskets at the Westlake Community Center. They finished up the month delivering "Meals on Wheels" on Thanksgiving Day, giving the regular drivers a chance to be home with their families.

All these projects were in addition to their usual sponsorship of Key Club, Builders Club, K-Kids and Aktion Club.

Please consider becoming a Westlake Kiwanian. If you would like to join an active volunteer group and give back to your community on many worthwhile projects, please contact George Christ at 440-871-3980 or [gchrist44140@yahoo.com](mailto:gchrist44140@yahoo.com). ●



Westlake Kiwanis members pause food distribution long enough for a photo. From left: Vic Rutkoski, Bob Clancy, Rick Grane, Ray Budo, George Christ and Bruce Zyrkowski.



Westlake Kiwanis Key Club members and club advisor Bob Clancy clean up a senior citizen's lawn.

WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE  
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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 700+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate.

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:tara@wbvobserver.com). Please include full contact information.

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

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FAMILY OBSERVATIONS

# The question of sauce or cylinder

by RJ JOHNSON

Cranberries – should they be in the form of a sauce, or should they be in the shape of a can and sliced in circular blobs of gel? This is largely a question of family culture that emerges around some tables and Thanksgiving. For some families, cranberry sauce is the way to go. After all, the pilgrims at Plymouth did not have canned cranberries. To this, the canned cranberry faction might point out that cranberry sauce was not mentioned as a sauce to serve with meat until 50 years later.

As long as we are thinking about the first Thanksgiving, let's remember that lobster was served at the first Thanksgiving feast. If you are a steadfast traditionalist for your Thanksgiving meal, please invite me next year. I love lobster, but can rarely afford to eat lobster. I will even forgive you the lack of cranberries as long as there is butter for the lobster.

Holidays often bring out conflicts in family cultures. Do we eat cranberry sauce or cranberry cylinders? Do we open presents on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? Do we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Name, or New Year's Day? Is April 1 a real holiday? If you are married to a person who does not think April Fool's Day is a real holiday, I suggest the suspension of any celebration of April 1 immediately.

So, the real question is cranberry sauce or cranberry cylinders. I suggested to someone that this might be a "First World problem." Immediately a look of shock and horror

came over his face. "Really?" he asked. "A First World problem?"

I was waiting for him to say that this was a much more serious question than a First World problem. Instead to my surprise he said, "You know, the phrase 'First World problem' is a microaggression." For the uninitiated, a microaggression is a statement that is not intended to be offensive, but is actually a slight to an oppressed group. "It means that you think Third World people are too wrapped up in their 'horrible lives' to have everyday concerns," he explained.

I thought the debate over the shape of cranberries was difficult. Avoiding microaggressions is much more difficult. I don't want to commit a slight against anyone. At the same time, I want to be able to point out the absurdity of the debate between cranberry sauce and cranberry cylinders.

Apparently, it is not only the clash of family culture that is brought out by the holidays. Perhaps we live in a society in which the culture clash in general is brought to the fore.

There might be another way to endure the holidays. Instead of fighting over cranberry sauce or cranberry cylinders, we might be able to cut each other some slack. On the Thanksgiving table in my family, there were three bowls with cranberries. One was a cranberry sauce. Another was a cylinder of cranberries cut into slices. The third was a cranberry relish from a Serbian recipe.

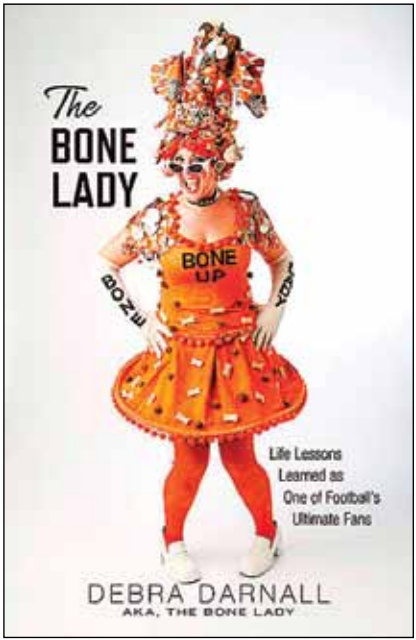
Maybe, during the holidays, we can cut each other some slack, and recognize that we love the people around the table. ●

# 'Bone Lady' to visit Westlake

NFL ultimate fan Debra Darnall (aka "The Bone Lady") will meet-and-greet fans and auto-graph copies of her new book, "The Bone Lady: Life Lessons Learned as One of Football's Ultimate Fans – A Memoir" on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 1-3 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Crocker Park. The event is free and open to the public.

In this unusual new memoir, Darnall tells about the wacky, bumpy and ultimately wonderful ride of self-discovery she found herself on after deciding one day to put on an outrageous costume and start rooting for the Cleveland Browns. The struggling artist suddenly and surprisingly became one of the most visible women in football and a spokesperson for fans of all kinds.

In her new book, Darnall shares her offbeat and candid personal story to inspire others to discover their own passion. She writes about becoming an "empowered fan" and taking joy where one can find it – even when their own football team's on-field performance is less than rewarding. (She offers tips for how to watch a Browns game without smashing the TV in frustration.) "Women love football too," Debra says. She embraces the idea



that fandom is open to everyone.

"The Bone Lady" was honored as the 2001 Cleveland Browns Fan of the Year in the Visa Hall of Fans at Canton's Pro Football Hall of Fame. She rose to prominence among Cleveland fans in 1999 when she donned her now-famous beehive wig and orange dress, strapped a giant dog bone to her 1987 Volvo station wagon, and began attending games in the famous Dawg Pound. An artist and decorative painter, she lives in Lakewood.

For more information about the book signing event, call 440-250-9233. For more information about book and author, visit the publisher's website, grayco.com. ●

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9 Years in a Row!





THE DIGITAL WORLD

# Read search results before clicking

by TAK SATO

If I had my druthers, a long-running topic of debate would focus on whether the effects of executing “just Google it” is beneficial or detrimental to our cognition. Just like how coffee/caffeine used to be considered good for you, then bad and then good again recently.

Thus I make my own judgment calls and practice accordingly. For example we continue to teach our son to use a traditional dictionary, instead of Googling a word he doesn’t know. I admit, it is easier to type or dictate a question into the browser and out come the answers ranked in relevance to the question.

Just like anything else the digital world has to offer, we need to be vigilant and practice good usage habits – akin to street smarts – before clicking on a search engine result. Failure to do so increases the chance of becoming a victim in the digital world that has real-world consequences (such as robbing your hard-earned cash).

Search engines from Google, Yahoo!, Bing and others track, collect and create a profile docket from your search engine usage and browsing habits. Except for Personally Identifiable Information (or “PII” for short; any data that could be used to identify, locate or contact you), they use the

information to sell ad spaces.

It’s not coincidence that you see ads for new cars when you are researching a car – these are called “targeted ads.” The same is true when you are using a free email account. Here, the providers will scan your email content, minus the aforementioned PII, and show targeted ads in a similar fashion.

But weren’t these services “free” in the first place?

There is no such thing as a free lunch, and that applies to search engines, emails and most of the other “free-to-use” services in the digital world. The currency is your information instead of greenbacks. This is how the search engine companies make money off of you under the auspices of the providing free services. From the advertisers’ perspective the efficacy of these targeted ads is higher than other mediums due to the ads’ relevance to your specific interests instead of the general readership.

Search engines rank the search results by relevance to the search terms, which is computed in different ways by different search engines. Portions of these formulas are closely guarded secrets, analogous to Coca-Cola or Kentucky Fried Chicken recipes, that are competitive advantages for each company. As such, sometimes the results may not be ranked in the most relevant order and that can lead you astray.

The tip here is to simply read the search results carefully before clicking on any one of them. Although most search engines are getting better at raising the relevance factor, due to the nature of these formulas being proprietary there can still be instances where the highly ranked result may not be what it says it is. Knowing this and acting accordingly is being internet street smart! ●

## JOHNNY *from front page*

For instance, how about implementing some of the following plays that would be right in Manziel’s wheelhouse?

*Red Rehab 88:* Johnny stands behind center, repeatedly holding his head in pain, and acting like he has a terrible hangover. The opposition thinks he’s too wasted to even throw the football, and Johnny catches them by surprise by hurling one (before *actually* hurling) 50 yards for a quick six points. The “hangover” sign suddenly becomes more popular than the “money” sign. Jimmy Haslam smiles – candidly – at the anticipated additional T-shirt income.

*Spousal Abuse Slant:* Johnny’s girlfriend is activated before the game. They stage an argument on the sidelines, and just when the opposing team thinks that Johnny will never speak to her again, she runs out and catches a deep slant. As Tina Turner once vocalized and put to music, “What’s love got to do with it?” Tina should be the team’s motivational speaker.

*The Socks-Bowe Incident:* Never-used, yet nonetheless millionaire receiver Dwayne Bowe is adjusting his socks on the sideline, implying that he’s about to enter the game. Johnny rolls on the ground in laughter, because

even he thinks the idea is preposterous. So do the opposing players, who join Johnny on the turf in side-splitting guffaws. Johnny has the last laugh, as he throws a bomb to Bowe. The laugh is short lived, however, as Bowe drops the pass. Correction: Bowe has the last laugh, as he reminds everyone his contract – which runs through next season – includes \$9 million in guaranteed money.

So, when you actually sit down and think about it – go ahead and have a seat; I’ll wait – it’s fairly humorous to listen to the surprise and indignation coming from the Browns front office over the way Manziel has “represented” the Browns since the *Browns front office* drafted Johnny Chugalug a year and a half ago. Just for the record, has the Browns front office not noticed the surprise and indignation coming from the fans over the management of the Browns over last 16 or so years? What if they held themselves to the same “high standards” for stuff like – and I’m just spit-ballin’ here – the draft or free agent signings that they evidently hold Manziel?

So, what I’m asking here is this: If Johnny That-wasn’t-me-in-the-video ends up not cutting it as a player – all things considered – he *still* would (overwhelmingly) qualify for a lofty position in the Browns front office, right? ●

# Huntington Playhouse Stories: End, middle and beginning



by PATRICK MEEHAN

It’s December and the Huntington Playhouse will close this month. One more show is scheduled, “Christmas at Aunt Ida’s,” then it’s time to sell off any remaining items of value, pay some bills, turn off the lights and hand over the keys. The end.

The middle of this story is the end of one story and the beginning of another.

The announcement came in August to close the theater. The current managing director, Tom Meyrose, decided to continue operation until the end of the year. Meanwhile Bay Village resident John Hnat decided to try and keep community theater alive in his city.

After the hundreds of opening nights he has overseen during his role as managing director, Mr. Meyrose will host the final show he directed on Dec. 3. The final curtain for “Aunt Ida” is on Dec. 20.

Since making his decision, Mr. Hnat has started Citizens for Bay Village Community Theater. Immediate plans are to produce two shows next year at a location to be determined while at the same time develop a business plan to present to the Metroparks and fill out nine more positions on the board of directors that will oversee fundraising, advertising, programming, building evaluation, etc. A series of tasks that seem daunting, but progress continues.

There is no guarantee another show will ever be produced at Huntington Playhouse; what is certain, it is worth a try. One only has to look at what a successful theater gives to a commu-

nity to know that.

While Mr. Meyrose wraps up a long run at the Huntington Playhouse, a moment’s reflection is all it takes to reveal what a monumental effort this job required.

What will the future bring for Bay Village community theater? It is not certain but there seems to be lots of positive energy

If we can lower the curtain on our first production, if we brought out crowds of people and made them happy, if we can, then this won’t just be a story, but a new beginning. We look forward to the summer of 2016.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m., in the BVPD Community Room, 28000 Wolf Road. We plan to vote to adopt our bylaws which can be reviewed on our Facebook page.

I encourage you to see the last show at the Huntington Playhouse and show your support for all of the good people that worked hard to bring you this final season.

*Citizens For Bay Village Community Theater is working to form relationships with civic groups, not-for-profit organizations, government and businesses in Bay Village to provide a true community effort to keep community theater an active and vital part of our city. We have established a dialogue with the Metroparks board and are working to develop a proposal that will allow community theater to remain on the Huntington Reservation. Join our Facebook group, Citizens For Bay Village Community Theater, or contact us at bay.village.community.theater@gmail.com for updates. ●*

## READER’S OPINION

# A day that will live in infamy?

Most people know why Feb. 14 is a special day, and March 17, and of course July 4. Most of us know that Nov. 11 is Veterans Day, but few connect it to the armistice – the end of World War I. And when I say to someone on Dec. 7, “Today is a day that will live in infamy,” they respond, “Why?”

Dec. 7, 1941, was the day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. More than 2,500 people died, 1,000 were wounded, and 21 American ships and more than 300 airplanes were damaged or destroyed.

This deadly attack launched the United States into the fighting of World War II against the Axis powers.

G.I. Joe and Rosie the Riveter sprang into action! The combined efforts of the home front and war front helped the Allies win this horrific war.

Americans should remember this day, and furthermore, continue their studies of American history. I wouldn’t wonder if people from other countries know our history better than we do. For a few hours a week we should study important past events. Maybe we should forget about pop culture for a little while each day and pursue things of a more intellectual nature.

That is my wish for Dec. 7 – for all who suffered, sacrificed, and died, let us learn and then remember why. –Kathleen Maloney, Westlake



# West Shore Council of Governments (WCOG) meeting, Nov. 18, 2015

by LWV observer KATHRYN KOSIOREK

This report is not an official statement of the League of Women Voters; Mayor Sutherland’s office prepares official minutes, which are posted on Bay Village’s website.

Present: Mayors Sutherland (Bay Village), Patton (Fairview Park), Kennedy (North Olmsted), and Bobst (Rocky River). Mayors Clough (Westlake) and Summers (Lakewood) were absent. Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney and Fairview Park Fire Chief Raffin also attended.

The mayors provided the following reports:

**RTA** (Sutherland): There will be an election for representation of mayors on the RTA board.

**NOACA** (Sutherland): There will be no meeting until mid December.

**Land Bank** (Kennedy): There are a few projects in the pipeline. More properties are needed for the demonstration fund.

**Cuyahoga County Planning Commission:** There was no meeting to report on. There will be an appointment of a mayoral representative soon.

**Cuyahoga County Mayors and Man-**

**agers Association** (Kennedy):The association will be appealing for an increase in the Local Government Fund. The next meeting is Dec. 2 for the new mayors’ orientation. Mayor Kennedy also reported on a program on human trafficking which illustrated extent of trafficking throughout all communities.

**Municipal League** is looking at statewide advocacy for strengthening leadership.

**CERT** (Community Emergency Response Team): Fire Chief Raffin reviewed CERT needs and support from the Chiefs of Police. Needs for volunteers continue. The county would like to coordinate CERTs.

**WEB** (Westshore Enforcement Bureau) (Mahoney): October financials were passed. Adjustments in the budget for the rest of 2015 were approved. The proposed 2016 budget was passed. Ms. Mahoney reported on the allocation of monies from a prior drug bust which will be distributed to community law enforcement trust funds.

*There will be no December meeting. The next meeting will be held at Rocky River City Hall on Wednesday, Jan. 13. WCOG meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. and are open to the public. In 2016 WCOG meetings will be hosted by Major Pam Bobst at Rocky River City Hall. ●*

# Nominations due for Bay Village citizen, project of the year

by JESSICA BRESLIN

The Bay Village Community Council is now accepting nominations for the 2016 Bay Village Citizen of the Year and Project of the Year. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 8, and selections will be announced by the Community Council soon afterwards.

Although nominations for Project of the Year are being accepted, this award is not intended to be an annual designation. Special projects will be considered based on community impact and the involvement of volunteers and organizations. Citizen of the year nominees, either individual or couple, must be Bay Village residents that have provided significant community service without monetary reward.

Nomination forms are available at City Hall, the Bay Village Branch Library, and from members of the Bay Village Community Council. Downloadable forms for Citizen of

the Year and Project of the Year are available by accessing this article at wbvobserver.com. Forms may be submitted via email to jbreslin@cuyahogalibrary.org or mailed to Bay Village Community Council, 350 Dover Center Road, BayVillage, OH 44140. Electronic nominations will be accepted at the following links: Citizen of the Year submissions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZWG67ZP>; Project of the Year submissions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZX5P5XZ>.

The Bay Village Community Council is where Bay’s civic groups come together. Representatives from member groups meet quarterly to discuss upcoming events and initiatives, share ideas and look for collaboration opportunities. Annual dues are \$20 for an organization and \$2 for an individual. For more information about the Bay Village Community Council or the Citizen of the Year/Project of the Year awards, please email jbreslin@cuyahogalibrary.org or call 440-871-6392. ●

# Holiday fun at the Westlake Rec Center

by JIM DISPIRITO

The holidays are fast approaching and ‘tis the season to give ... and also have a little fun! On Saturday Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to noon, Black Dog Lacrosse, in conjunction with the Westlake Recreation Department will host its annual Charity Lacrosse Clinic. This clinic will be held in the gym of the Westlake Recreation Center and is open to all boys and girls in grades K-6. There is no fee to participate; however, all participants are required to bring in a FULL grocery bag of dry, nonperishable food items. No expired food, please. These items will be then donated to the Westlake Assistance Program.

This is an introductory clinic for those players new to the game or with less than two years experience. This clinic will focus on stick skills as well as basic passing/team building skills. Bring your lacrosse stick or you may borrow one from us. All participants must be pre-registered in order to attend. Register at the Westlake Recreation Center.

The Westlake Recreation Department is also offering the following events for the holiday season:

## Holiday Family Fun Night

Friday, Dec. 11, marks the return of the popular two-hour family fun night. This program is open to all current members of the Westlake Recreation center. All children must be accompanied by their parents or legal guardians. The Rec Center will close at 6 p.m. (fitness will remain open until 8:45). Starting at 6:30, families will be able to enjoy Christmas/holiday videos, balloon twisters, swimming, crafts, jump around in the gym, songs by holiday carolers and a visit by Santa himself including his reading of “’Twas the Night Before Christmas.” This is free to all members but you must pre-register for this event.

## Letters to Santa

Kids ages 3-8 can drop their letters to Santa and we will mail them to the North Pole. Children will receive an electronic response from Santa. Letters can be dropped off at the Recreation Center in the special “North Pole” mailbox no later than Dec. 15. Registration is required. Free to members of the Westlake Recreation Center. Non-members may register for only \$2 per child.

## Holiday House Workshop

On Thursday, Dec. 17, from 4-5 p.m. OR 5:15-6:15 p.m., children ages 5-8 can decorate their own small holiday house made out of graham crackers. All supplies are included. Children under age 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

## Kringle’s Workshop

Santa is busy getting his list ready for Christmas and the elves are busy making the toys. On Monday, Dec. 21, 3-3:45 p.m., kids ages 5-8 can get busy and make two homemade gifts to put under the tree for their parents/grandparents. Each gift will be made in our shop by your child and wrapped to take home. This is a drop-off program and the parent must remain in the building during this time.

## NOON Year’s Eve

Is midnight past your bedtime? Help us welcome in 2016 at NOON! Starting at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31, we will have some goodies to nibble on, crafts and a DJ to rock the house. Come dressed for the occasion in your best PJ’s and slippers. As we approach noon, we will have a countdown. This is a chance for parents and children ages 3-9 to welcome in the New Year in a safe and fun environment. All in attendance must be registered.

*More information regarding all of these programs and more can be found at our website at [www.cityofwestlake.org/recreation/index.aspx](http://www.cityofwestlake.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 Rec Gazette. ●*

# Toiletry drive for those in need

by ELIZABETH O’BRIEN

For the fourth consecutive year, North Coast Health is partnering with First Federal Lakewood to collect toiletries for our patients. Basic necessities, like toilet paper, toothbrushes and personal care items, can be expensive. North Coast Health is committed to provide not only top quality care to the medically underserved, but to be able to support basic care needs.

Needed items include the following: new toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products,

shampoo, lotion, facial tissues and more. Travel-size products and full-size items are welcomed.

Donations may be dropped off through Dec. 31 during regular banking hours at select area First Federal Lakewood branches, including both locations in Westlake: 2035 Crocker Road and 24441 Detroit Road.

Donations can also be delivered to North Coast Health, 16110 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood, weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

No contribution is too small and every little bit helps! ●

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# Telestroke offers timely evaluation of stroke.

Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of long-term disability, with more than 700,000 strokes every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

In a stroke, every minute counts. A neurological evaluation within three to four and a half hours of exhibiting stroke symptoms increases the possibility that clot-dissolving therapies, such as tPA, or other clot-retrieving procedures can be administered in time to reduce the chances of disability or possibly death.

Now, through telemedicine technology, neurologists can evaluate potential stroke patients and expedite treatment for patients who present at a Cleveland Clinic Emergency Department.

Telestroke is a system that uses videoconferencing and image transfer to connect Cleveland Clinic stroke specialists to patients who need those specialty services no matter where they are seen in our hospitals.



M. Shazam Hussain, MD



Peter Bambakidis, MD

With help from emergency department physicians and staff at the patient's bedside, a vascular neurologist on main campus is available 24/7 through videoconferencing to evaluate the patient, and treatment is coordinated between the specialists and neurologists where the patient is physically present.

"Telestroke and the coordination of patient care between our various hospitals has worked well," says M. Shazam Hussain, MD, Head of the Cleveland Clinic Stroke Program. "We've seen a significant improvement in our ability to administer tPA to people who need it, often resulting in improved outcomes for patients."

"An acute stroke is always an emergency situation," says Peter Bambakidis, MD, a Cleveland Clinic neurologist at Fairview Hospital. "Telestroke has proven useful for evaluating stroke patients in a timely or prompt manner, when a neurologist is not able to be at bedside in the emergency department."

Visit [clevelandclinic.org/fairviewhospital](http://clevelandclinic.org/fairviewhospital) to learn more or call 216.476.7000. For information about the stroke program at Cleveland Clinic, visit [clevelandclinic.org/stroke](http://clevelandclinic.org/stroke) or call 866.588.2264.

Cleveland Clinic offers same-day appointments.

## Straight from the Heart

Win \$100,000 or one of 39 other great prizes.

"Straight from the Heart" raffle tickets are on sale now through February 12, 2016. Raffle winners will be drawn at the "Straight from the Heart" Red Tie Gala on February 13, 2016. All proceeds help Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran hospitals better respond to cardiovascular needs through new techniques, technologies, services and outreach programs.

### Early Bird Raffles

Entries received by Dec. 18 will be entered to win \$1,000.

Entries received by Jan. 15 will be entered to win another \$1,000. Early bird winners will also be eligible for all prizes, including the \$100,000 grand prize!

Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$100 per entry or 3 for \$200. Payroll deduction available for Cleveland Clinic employees.

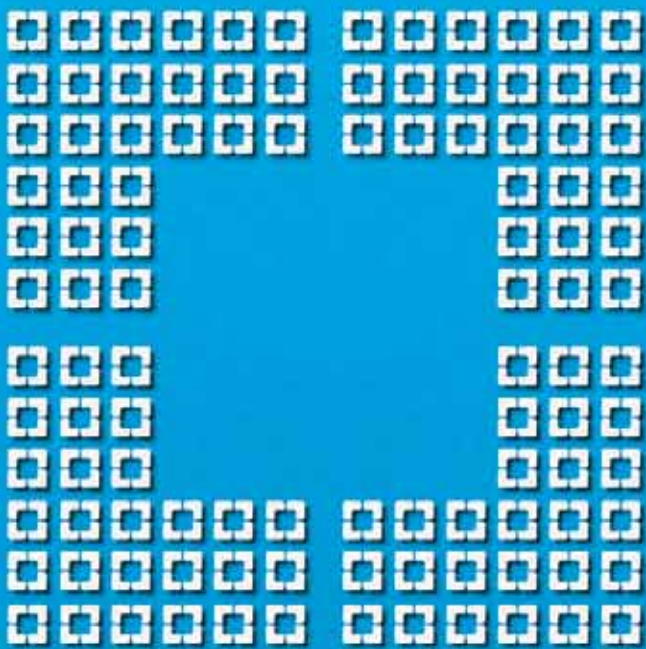
All participants are eligible to win \$100,000 or one of 39 other great prizes.

Raffle winners will be drawn at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Tie Gala on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility. Gala tickets include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing.

For more information on the raffle including a list of prizes, visit [straightfromtheheartevent.org](http://straightfromtheheartevent.org) or call 216.476.7061.

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# Bay Village groups announce annual grants for innovative classroom programs

by KAREN DERBY

The Bay Village Education Foundation (BVEF) awarded nine grants totaling \$15,135 for its 2015 classroom grants award program. In partnership with the BVEF, the Bay Village Kiwanis funded three additional grants totaling \$2,125.

Grant applications were submitted this fall by Bay Village City School District teachers and other staff members to enrich classroom education. All four Bay Village City School District K-12 buildings received grants.

"I am especially pleased that our collaborations with the Bay Village City School District will result not only in these wonderful classroom enrichment projects, but in alternative funding for other projects as well, based on the district's goals and budget," said Ellie Bricmont, chair of the BVEF grants committee. "The grants process has truly become a catalyst for moving the innovative ideas of our educators forward."

Normandy Elementary music teacher Dr. James Kotora received \$300 for Normandy Green Screen Adventures. Dr. Kotora began a weekly video newscast last school year using students as news anchors. This grant will replace a makeshift green screen that was used to create a virtual news studio background and will add some studio lighting to the program.

Westerly Elementary music teacher Carrie Engelbrecht was awarded up to \$2,500 to bring back the "Mr. Hal Walker, Artist in Residence" program that was funded by the Westerly PTA last year. Musician and songwriter Hal Walker spent time with Westerly music students over several weeks teaching elements of songwriting, lyrics and some basic instruments. He will also work with students who are interested in composing music.

Westerly Elementary fourth-grade teacher Mary Jo Mahall received \$93 to purchase Alligator Clips, devices that will

let young students easily connect and disconnect wires as they study electrical circuits with batteries, light bulbs and primitive power sources in a variety of ways.

Bay Middle School teachers Carol Brajdic, Colin Lackey, Nancy McLaughlin, and Julia Papcke-Russell were awarded up to \$1,000 (\$500 of which comes from the BVEF's Maynard Bauer Leadership Fund) for Up with People. The grant takes advantage of Up With People's national tour as it takes its weeklong program to nearby Chagrin Falls and brings the group into Bay Middle School for one day. The program supports the district's core values of respect, kindness in actions and acceptance of others and will be done in honor of Anne Marie Young, a recently deceased special education teacher at Bay Middle School who took her Cultures class to see the touring group.

Bay High health and physical education teacher Robert Dougherty and staff members Jodi Higgins and Diana Lee were awarded \$2,566.52 for Vitamix Health Benefits to Bay High School. Two Vitamix commercial-grade blenders will be purchased to allow students in Health class to make nutritious smoothies using recipes based upon USDA-recommended serving sizes for fruits and vegetables used as ingredients. Smoothies can also be sold during lunch periods to promote healthy eating choices.

Bay High family and consumer science teacher Bridgit McFarland received \$1,264.49 for Village Project Cancer Quilts. The grant will purchase materials that will allow students to use their sewing skills to produce a lap quilt that will be donated to patients who are going through chemotherapy. The quilts will be given to the local Village Project, who will then distribute the quilts to families in need of some comfort.

Bay High technology education teacher Ron Rutt was awarded \$1,950 to purchase a plotter (large scale printer) that will print large-scale technical drawings, architectural



Bay Village Education Foundation 2015 grant winners, left-to-right: front row, seated -- Bridgit McFarland, Helen Smith, Maria Stansbury, Mary Jo Mahall, Ellie Bricmont (BVEF); back row, standing -- Martha Fisher, Colin Lackey, Nancy McLaughlin, Megan Basel, Robert Dougherty, Darci Sanders (LENSC), Jim Kotora, Brian Reynolds, Char Shryock, Carrie Engelbrecht, Carol Brajdic, Danielle Jeglie, and Susan Bixler (OSU). Not pictured are Jodi Higgins, Diana Lee, Julia Papcke-Russell and Ron Rutt.

plans, and 3-D renderings. Others at the school will also have access to the printer for printing artwork, posters, etc.

Elementary school-level speech therapists Danielle Jeglie, Helen Smith, and Maria Stansbury were awarded \$460 for The Power of Better Communication with iPads, which will allow students to use iPad apps to help them work on increasing their communication skills (i.e. articulation, fluency, voice, receptive/expressive language and social/pragmatic language), and to provide diagnostic assistance to the therapists.

District Director of Curriculum Char Shryock was awarded \$5,000 for Climate Kiosks which will, through the district's partnership with the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center and Ohio Sea Grant, give students access to real-world data on the Great Lakes, lake and forest habitat, and seasonal weather data as well as hands-on opportunities to interact with the plants, animals and geology of our region. (This was the second-largest grant ever awarded by the BVEF after the special 50th anniversary grant of \$35,000 for a District Video Production Studio. This provides 10 percent local funding that is required to apply for a \$50,000 Ohio Environmental Education Grant that the partners will pursue.)

In addition to the nine BVEF grants, the Bay Village Kiwanis awarded three grants:

Westerly Elementary Guidance Counselor Megan Basel was awarded \$1,100 for

Project Buddy Part 2. As part of the school's Students of Character Club service project, two "buddy benches" will be built for the students to design, paint and have installed on the playground. Students will then promote the use of the benches to use if they need a friend to play with, as sitting on the bench signals to others to reach out and incorporate the seated student into the playground fun. Basel began the program at Normandy Elementary last year with a grant from BVEF.

Westerly Elementary third-grade teacher Martha Fisher was awarded \$300 for Back Pack Math: Linking Math from School to Home. The funds will purchase new math enrichment materials aligned with the new Ohio math standards which students can take home through the already established Back Pack Math and use for practice and family participation.

District Technology Coordinator Brian Reynolds and Curriculum Director Char Shryock were awarded \$725 for Sphero SPRK: Student-Parent-Robotics-Kids. Sphero SPRK is a robotic ball that can be controlled through a variety of free mobile apps using an iPhone or iPad via Bluetooth. The grant allows purchase of five Sphero SPRK balls, one for each building, that will provide a hands-on application for students to use computational thinking skills through the use of code to identify a problems and create a solution. ●

## O'Neill facilities rebrand as O'Neill Healthcare



John T., John, and David O'Neill

The O'Neill family has owned and operated premier senior living communities on Cleveland's west side since 1962. Today, over 800 employees provide outstanding care in comfortable surroundings to seniors in Skilled Nursing, Assisted living, Independent Living, and Hospice Care, as well as deliver a myriad of ancillary services ranging from Rehabilitative Therapies to daily social activities. Sharing a common name solidifies our efforts and strengthens our ability to be a cohesive provider of senior care services. Putting the needs of our residents first is our unilateral mission, and we now have a unified name to reflect our commitment and dedication to our case.

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## BAYARTS

## Tall Walls exhibit offers easy art shopping

by NANCY HEATON

Quite literally using the entire towering expanse of the gallery walls, the BAYarts Tall Walls exhibition will be showcasing generous handfuls of art from many of the organization's artists.

BAYarts Artistic Director, Karen Petkovic, is excited for this inaugural year of the concept. "The idea is that an overflowing amount of art will be filling the walls up to the high ceilings and down to the floors." And there's a large amount of artists who will be supplying the art.

Featured artists include: Chad Cochran, Al Fuchs, Larry Kasperak, Christopher Gray, Mary Burkhardt, Susanne Dotson, Angela Oster, Jack Koch and many more.

With a variety of mediums (from photography to watercolors), artistic styles, prices and sizes, there's art to suit all aesthetics. As pieces sell, new ones will be hung in their place, making the gallery a rotating hotbed of local art.

An opening reception, free to the public, will be held on Friday, Dec. 4, 7-9 p.m. The exhibition will be open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., through December. ●



Art from a variety of mediums, including this piece by Chad Cochran, will be displayed for sale in a floor-to-ceiling exhibit at BAYarts through December.

## Youth Challenge receives grant for adapted sports equipment

by KATHY RIGDON

Youth Challenge has received a \$3,200 Quality of Life grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. The award was one of 84 grants totaling over \$704,732 awarded by the Reeve Foundation to nonprofit organizations nationwide that provide more opportunities, access, and daily quality of life for individuals living with paralysis, their families, and caregivers.

Youth Challenge used the grant money to purchase ramps and bocce balls to support its bocce team for children and young adults with physical disabilities. Bocce is the adapted form of bocce. YC bocce programs are designed for children and young adults with various physical disabilities to compete on a sports team, many for the first time. The athletes work together with teen volunteers as their sport assistants and take part in local and regional competitions.

"Youth Challenge is extremely grateful to the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation for supporting our bocce program," said Mary Sue Tanis, YC founder and executive director. "This gift ensures that our players have the equipment necessary to be competitive in the sport."

Grant requests were evaluated and scored based on a rigorous review process



Youth Challenge participant Andy DeJesus and volunteer Kendra Cundiff try out the new bocce equipment.

to determine funding for organizations that improve daily life for those living with paralysis, as well as their families and caregivers. Quality of Life grants focus on initiatives that engage and involve individuals with paralysis and their families in their community. With these initiatives, these organizations plan to help those living with paralysis assert their independence in the community.

Youth Challenge provides adapted sports and recreational opportunities to children with physical disabilities. Trained teen volunteers are paired one-on-one with participants to play, socialize and have fun. YC serves children throughout Northeast Ohio and has offices in Westlake and Shaker Heights. To learn more, visit [www.youthchallengesports.com](http://www.youthchallengesports.com), or call 440-892-1001. ●

## Westlake Animal Hospital is proud to call ourselves an AAHA-accredited hospital.

In the United States, all human hospitals that serve people with Medicare must be accredited through an accrediting body; they undergo regular reviews and quality checks to ensure they meet standards of quality for every aspect of medical care. Only 12-15% of animal hospitals have gone through the accreditation evaluation process by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).

The AAHA-accreditation process is voluntary. The accreditation process is rigorous and time-consuming, and not every veterinary hospital wants to go through the lengthy process. Westlake Animal Hospital has been accredited since 1978! The entire Westlake Animal Hospital staff pitches in to achieve our goal of ongoing accreditation. Because we believe your pets deserve exceptional care.

Accreditation by AAHA means that your Westlake Animal Hospital has been evaluated on approximately 900 standards of veterinary excellence. To maintain this accreditation, we undergo a rigorous review by veterinary



experts every three years. AAHA accreditation is considered the standard for veterinary excellence.

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Learn more about AAHA accreditation and why our accreditation is important to you and your pet. Visit [aaha.org/petowner](http://aaha.org/petowner).



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**Bay Village Community House**

- ★ Watch for Santa as he tours Bay Village in a city fire truck!
- ★ A special presentation of "Twas the Night Before Christmas"
- ★ Santa will light the official Bay Village Christmas tree at 4:00 pm!
- ★ Something for everyone in the family, from buying your Christmas tree to touring Rose Hill museum!
- ★ Free refreshments!
- ★ Children's gingerbread house contest at Rose Hill Museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**Santa's Route**

BAY LODGE 2:00 P.M. → COMMUNITY HOUSE 3:15 P.M. → WOLF RD → OSBORN RD → E. OAKLAND RD → KNICKERBOCKER RD → ASHTON LANE → BAY LODGE





A treetop view of Westlake

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

# Bay High's Laura Colagiovanni is new Ohio leader for Key Club

by KAREN DERBY

Bay High junior Laura Colagiovanni is barely into her term as International Key Club's Ohio Division Governor, yet the 16-year-old is already leading the state's Executive Board, overseeing 25 Lieutenant Governors, and mulling over a possible five-year strategic plan for the success of future Ohio Key Club boards.

"It's truly a pre-professional experience," said Laura. "I campaigned hard and was elected to the position. I'm running meetings using parliamentary procedure. I'm actually doing things that I'm studying about in AP Government."

Laura didn't foresee the leadership opportunities available to her when she signed up for Bay High's Key Club as a busy freshman cheerleader. She just wanted to help people. She was recruited to become the club's freshman representative. Once she had the experience of attending leadership meetings and working on projects with upperclassmen, Laura said she had found her niche.

"Key Club stuck with me," she said. And she stuck with the club, becoming Bulletin Editor and then attending the Ohio District Conference, where she enjoyed workshops, learned new service and fundraising ideas, and mingled with 200 members from throughout the state. "It opened up everything," she said. "It changed my perception of Key Club in a big way."

She decided to run for Key Club's Ohio Division Governor after she went to an International Key Club conference in Anaheim, California.

The campaign and election process was intense. She designed a campaign flyer with her biography and platform, and announced her campaign the first day of the Ohio District Conference last year in Beachwood. "I was a little naive," she said, explaining that she has learned a great deal more about the improvements she'd like to lead for the Ohio District now that she's experienced some of the planning and budgeting challenges herself. She answered random questions pulled from a fishbowl in front of the 200-member audience. She and the two other candidates attended a nominating conference with 25 Lieutenant Governor-elects, gave a two-minute speech and fielded questions. The resulting vote whittled the three down to two finalist candidates, one of which was Laura.

A caucusing process ensued, and the two candidates, along with other Executive Board position candidates, rotated among four rooms of members, giving two-minute speeches and again responding to questions. Two representatives from each high school club voted for the final winner following more candidate speeches and question-and-answer periods.

Results were revealed in a morning closing session. Laura was called up to accept the top position. She was presented the governor banner to display at Bay High School, and she gave an acceptance speech. She was also

surprised to find that her parents, Joy and Chris Colagiovanni, had been called and were in attendance.

"Laura has been a natural Key Club leader," said Bay High Key Club advisor and teacher, Anita



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

Bay High junior Laura Colagiovanni is International Key Club's new Ohio Division Governor.

Bauknecht. "Her enthusiasm towards serving others is contagious, her organizational skills produce flawless events, and her leadership challenges her peers to go beyond their perceived abilities. I am excited to see what new boundaries Laura will push in the coming years."

Laura would like to major in political science in college. She says her experience has shown her she can truly make a difference as she works alongside 30 other students in the state leadership, and she would like to one day be involved in making better, positive legislation in government.

"I often hear seniors in high school say they wish they had known about the many leadership opportunities in Key Club," she said. "I'd encourage students to get involved in Key Club as early in high school as they can. We are about instilling leadership skills, but above all, a love of service."



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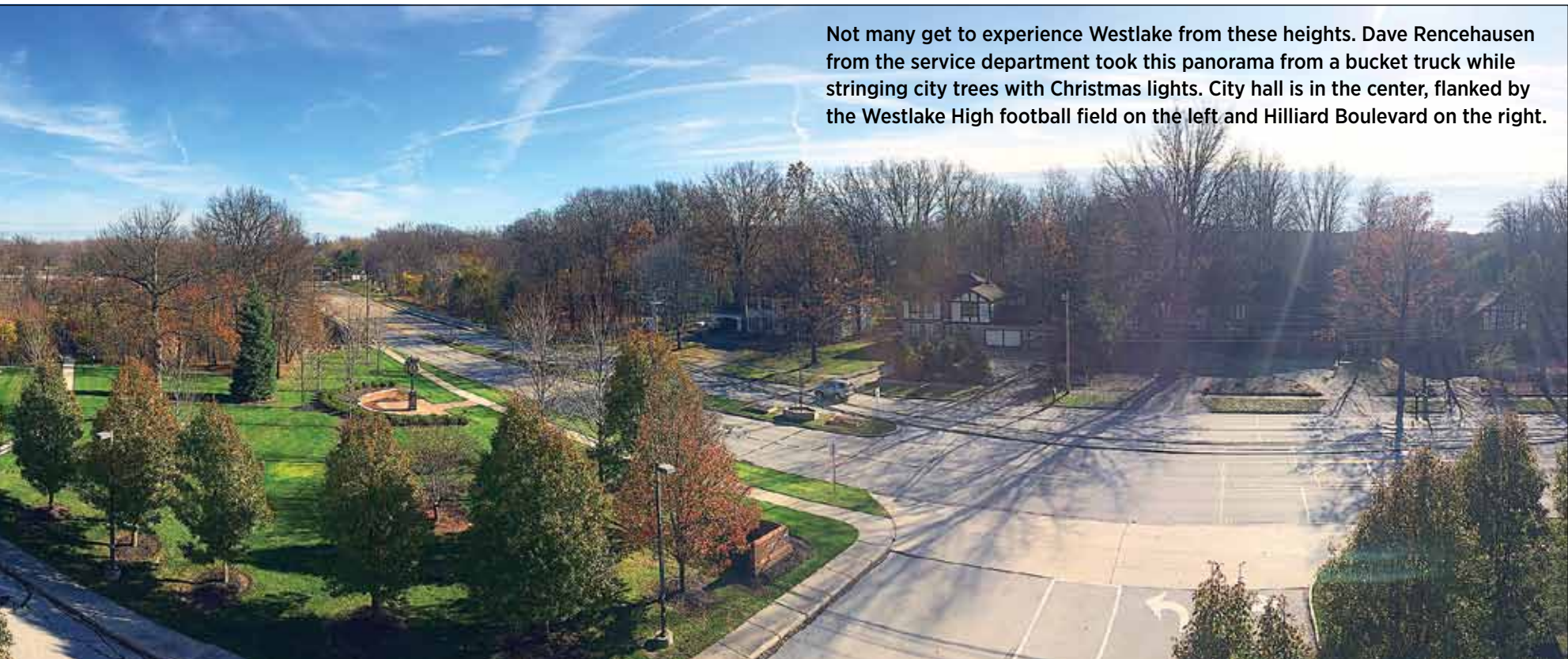
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Not many get to experience Westlake from these heights. Dave Rencehausen from the service department took this panorama from a bucket truck while stringing city trees with Christmas lights. City hall is in the center, flanked by the Westlake High football field on the left and Hilliard Boulevard on the right.

# Teens learn leadership tools

by NOREEN KYLE

The 2015/16 Westshore Young Leaders Network continues to flourish as they spice up their Leadership Training by welcoming their new partner, Flo Brett, founder and executive director of Effective Leadership Academy, a Beachwood-based nonprofit. ELA partners with schools and youth groups to provide

programs that help improve personal and organizational results through action-based team-building strategies, goal achievement, and positive attitude development. Westlake Recreation Center was the site for the Annual Leadership Training where 100 middle/high school students from the six western suburbs and their school representatives put on their “Leadership Tool Belts” to become

better equipped as leaders. Some of the tools in their belts included: putting on a leadership mindset, knowing yourself and your team, tuning up your personality, tackling team challenges and creating a web of influence. On the third Thursday of every month you will find many of these same devoted students at the WYLN Monthly Teen Meeting which is held in the Bay Village Police Department Community Room. Each meeting has a focus on alcohol/drug prevention strategies while reinforcing and building teens’ self-esteem through leadership development. Students have the opportunity to network with friends from other schools. This unique assembly gives teens the affirmation of peers and allows them to develop plans, share dreams and goals to create new ventures in their schools and communities. The Westshore Young Leaders gives youth a voice, opportunities to lead and recognition for their positive choices. ●

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BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY

# Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

Cuyahoga County Public Library's "Great Books for Kids" has arrived at the Bay Village branch library just in time for your holiday shopping. Filled with book selections divided by age, it contains summaries of titles for ages birth to 18 years. All of the books featured in Great Books for Kids have been selected by our very own librarians, so you know they're the very best. Pick up your copy and get great book and gift ideas for the children in your life!.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

\*Weekly storytimes will be on hiatus for month of December. Please join us again in January.

**Tuesday, Dec. 1 (6:45 p.m.) and Wednesday, Dec. 2 (10 a.m.) PLAY, LEARN AND GROW** – Children ages birth-5 years and a caregiver are invited to this casual, drop-in play program.

Age-appropriate toys will be available for the children while the adults mingle. Check out the many toys available through our library toy catalog that you can take home.

**Monday, Dec. 7-Wednesday, Dec. 23 (all day) MAKE AND TAKE SEASONAL CRAFT** – Stop by and make a craft to take home

**Tuesday, Dec. 8 (7 p.m.) HOUR OF CODE: CODE WITH ANNA & ELSA** – Grades 3 & 4. Use code to join Anna and Elsa as they explore the magic and beauty of ice. You'll create snowflakes and patterns as you ice-skate and make a winter wonderland.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9 (7 p.m.) SCRATCH DIGITAL ANIMATION 101** – Grades 3 & 4. Learn how to create your own digital animation from Scratch! Join us as we explore, create and share our own stories, games, music and art. You must have your own email address.

**Saturday, Dec. 12 (10:30 a.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME** – Join us for a program geared for children who are developmentally at the preschool level and specifically designed for children with special needs and their families. The program incorporates a scheduled board, double visuals and sensory opportunities for participants as well as socialization time following the program. Registration requested.

**Thursday, Dec. 17 (4 p.m.) COOKIES AND BOOKS** – Children in grades 3-4 are invited to join us to discuss "The Invention of Hugo Cabret" by Brian Selznick. Copies of the book are available one month before the discussion. A parent/guardian must sign a release form before the program. Refreshments sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Library.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE** – Students in grades 5 and up can stop in to enjoy fun apps, book discussions, video games, community service, challenges and more! Parents need to sign only one permission form for the school year.


ADULT DEPARTMENT

**Tuesday, Dec. 15 (7 p.m.) ALL CLEVELAND ACCESS: THE ROCK AND ROLL PHOTOGRAPHY OF JANET MACOSKA** – Join Bay Village author Peter Chakerian and photojournalist Janet Macoska as they present their new book, "All Access Cleveland: The Rock and Roll Photography of Janet Macoska." A book sale and signing will follow the presentation. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch.

**Wednesday, Dec. 16 (7 p.m.) CREATE GREETING CARDS** – This program for adults will consist of writing and designing greeting cards using different techniques and equipment.


**Thursday, Dec. 17 (7 p.m.) AUTHOR DENNIS MANOLOFF: FROM ANDREWS TO ZASTUDIL** – Join us as Dennis Manoloff presents his book, "From Andrews to Zastudil: A Collection of the Plain Dealer Sportswriter Dennis Manoloff's Favorite Interviews." A book sale and signing will follow.

Please register to attend any programs online at [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org), call 440-871-6392 or stop in at 502 Cahoon Road. ●



## WORSHIP TOGETHER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

### SPEND CHRISTMAS DOWNTOWN AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL



**ANNUAL MESSIAH SING**  
Wednesday, December 16

**12:10 p.m.**  
Trinity Chamber Orchestra, soloists, and YOU in the massed choir! Todd Wilson, conductor  
*Sponsors: Robert and Judy Barnhart*

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Thursday, December 24

**5 p.m.**  
Family Eucharist and Pageant

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


**11 p.m.**  
Choral Eucharist  
*The Very Rev. Tracey Lind preaching at all services.*

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Friday, December 25

**10 a.m.**  
Eucharist with Carols  
*The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching*

**BOAR'S HEAD AND YULE LOG FESTIVAL**  
Saturday, December 26




**3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.**  
Freewill offering  
[boarsheadcleveland.org](http://boarsheadcleveland.org)



**TRINITY CATHEDRAL**  
AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY OF FAITH  
The Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese  
of Ohio located in downtown Cleveland

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Cleveland, OH 44115  
216.771.3630  
[www.trinitycleveland.org](http://www.trinitycleveland.org)

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## Bay United Methodist Church



29931 Lake Road  
440-871-2082  
[www.bayumc.org](http://www.bayumc.org)

### Christmas Eve Services

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

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

## St. James Anglican Catholic Church



**1861 East 55th St.  
at Payne Ave. in Cleveland**  
**Sung Mass 10:30 a.m. Sundays**

Tues., Dec. 8, 6:30pm - Conception of the B.V.M.  
Wed., Dec. 23, 10am - Feria  
Thurs, Dec. 24, 10:30pm - Vigil of the Nativity  
Fri., Dec. 25, 10am - Nativity of the Lord  
[www.saintjamescleveland.com](http://www.saintjamescleveland.com)  
**216-431-3252**

## ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH



### Christmas Eve, Thur. Dec. 24

**Family Service 5:00 p.m.**  
**Candlelight Service 10:00 p.m.**  
Please join our Advent Family as we  
celebrate the birth of Jesus.  
The Rev. RJ Johnson • 3760 Dover Center Road, Westlake  
[www.adventwestlake.org](http://www.adventwestlake.org) • 440-871-6685



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*For Your Spiritual Growth*

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[www.UnitySpiritualCenter.com](http://www.UnitySpiritualCenter.com)



# Wishing tree reveals what families who have children with special needs wish for in 2016

by LORILYNN WOLF

“I wish bullies weren’t so mean.” “I wish people would accept me, autism and all.” “I wish that I could see.” These are just some of the wishes that children with special needs have added to the Connecting for Kids Wishing Tree which features more than 300 wishes submitted by area families, community supporters and students. The tree will be on display through the holiday season at Barnes & Noble at Crocker Park in Westlake.

“We wanted to build something amazing in our community and we are so excited to see it all come together,” said Sarah Rintamaki, Executive Director of Connecting for Kids. “We have two goals with the Wishing Tree. One is to raise awareness in the community about what it’s like to have a child with special

needs. The second is to demonstrate that even though a family may have a child who struggles, their wishes are similar to any other family. One parent wrote that her wish is not to have to remind her sons to wash their hands every time they leave the bathroom – I think all parents can relate to that wish.”

Other parent wishes are more serious:

- *I wish that the milestones her peers meet naturally didn’t take her years of therapy.*
- *I wish there was a cure for epilepsy*
- *I wish my child could make and keep friends.*
- *I wish that this would be the year that we hear our son say, “Mom,” “Dad,” and “I love you.”*
- *I wish I didn’t feel judged as being a “bad” parent when my child acts out in public.*

The 7-foot-tall, white and silver tree is being sponsored by St. John Medical Center and Five Guys at the Promenade

at Crocker Park. In addition to wishes, the tree also features family photos, holiday greetings and messages of support from area professionals, educators and community members. More than 150 wishes were submitted by students from Hilliard Elementary in Westlake and McKinley Elementary in Elyria who participated in Connecting for Kids’ Beyond the Bench training program this fall.

Additional messages will be added to the tree once a week throughout the holiday season. If you would like to purchase a leaf for \$10, simply visit [cfk.gobigfundraising.com](http://cfk.gobigfundraising.com). All proceeds are 100 percent tax deductible and benefit Connecting for Kids. Monies raised will be used to fund free, parent education programming in the coming year.

“I find myself tearing up as I read the



The tree features more than just wishes; it also includes family photos, holiday greetings and messages of support.

wishes submitted by these children and their families as they are just so heartfelt and moving,” said Rintamaki. “We invite you to take a few minutes and view the Wishing Tree as you are shopping during this busy time of year. I think it will give you a new perspective.” ●

## WORSHIP TOGETHER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6-7 pm



### CROSSPOINTE COMMUNITY

LOVE GOD PASSIONATELY, LOVE PEOPLE GENUINELY

WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY, 10:30 AM  
[OURCROSSPOINTE.COM](http://OURCROSSPOINTE.COM)  
1800 COLUMBIA ROAD • WESTLAKE  
REV. NELSON BLOUNT, PASTOR

### St. Raphael Catholic Church

525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

<b>Christmas Eve:</b>	<b>Christmas Day:</b>
4:00 pm Church/PAC	8:00 am Church
8:00 pm Church	10:00 am Church
10:00 pm Church	12:00 pm Church

440-871-1100



## Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship



### Thursday, December 24th

## 3pm, 5pm, 7pm & 9pm

Traditional	Childrens	Blended	Traditional
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Children are welcome at all services. Free, professional childcare offered at 3, 5, & 7pm.  
100% of the Christmas Eve offering goes to missions.



27650 Center Ridge Road • Westlake, Ohio 44145 • 440-871-3088 • [westlakeumc.org](http://westlakeumc.org) Sunday Worship at 8:15am, 10am, 11:28am

### Join us for a stress-free Christmas pageant and Holy Communion.

CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 p.m.  
Christmas Pageant and Holy Communion  
We have costumes for any child who wants to be in the pageant.

CHRISTMAS MORNING 10:00 a.m.  
Holy Communion and Carols



### ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

468 Bradley Road, Bay Village  
[www.stbarnabasbv.org](http://www.stbarnabasbv.org) • (440) 871-6200



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## St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

27993 Detroit Road, Westlake 44145  
[www.stpaulwestlake.org](http://www.stpaulwestlake.org)

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES  
AND SHARE THE GLORIOUS NEWS  
OF OUR SAVIOR’S BIRTH.



SERVICE SCHEDULE	
Dec. 24th	Family Contemporary Service 5:00 pm
	Traditional Worship Service 5:00 pm
	Contemporary Worship Service 7:00 pm
	Traditional Worship Service 7:00 pm
	Traditional Worship Service 11:00 pm
Dec. 25th	Traditional Worship Service 10:00 am
Dec. 31st	Traditional Worship Service 7:00 pm

For further information, call the church office at (440) 835-3050





# TV nostalgia authors will visit Westlake on Dec. 5

by JANE LASSAR

TV nostalgia authors Mike and Janice Olszewski will meet-and-greet fans and autograph copies of their new book, “Cleveland TV Tales, Vol. 2,” on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 1-3 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Crocker Park. The event is free and open to the public.

A sequel to the first book, “Cleveland TV Tales,” the second volume gives more behind-the-screen stories from the golden age of local television including favorite Cleveland television personalities of the 1970s, ’80s, and ’90s.

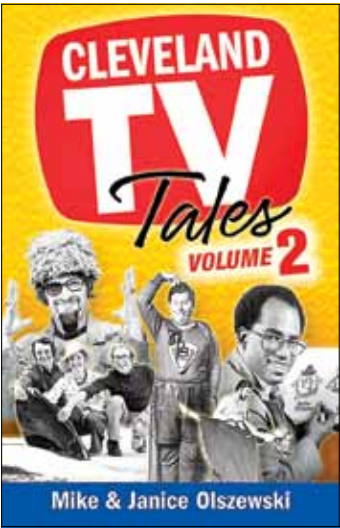
The book includes stories about the rise of glamorous news anchors (including more than one Miss America contestant); late-night horror-movie hosts battling to take over the legacy of the legendary Ghoultard; the strange, sad saga of the former daytime host who shot himself after a bizarre sex scandal; a weatherman who was a lightning rod for coworkers’ endless practical jokes;

the gutsy reporter who interviewed Danny Greene hours before the mobster was blown up in his car; and many more.

Mike Olszewski is a veteran Cleveland radio and television personality and the curator and archivist for the Ohio Broadcast Archive and Museum. He also teaches media and communications classes at Cleveland State University, Kent State University, the University of Akron, and Notre Dame College.

Janice Olszewski has more than three decades’ experience in the travel and tourism industry. Her photography has been published in Filmfax, Outre, and other national magazines.

For more information about the book signing



Mike and Janice Olszewski will autograph copies of their new book, “Cleveland TV Tales, Vol. 2,” at Barnes & Noble on Dec. 5.

event at Barnes & Noble, call 440-250-9233. For more information about book and author, visit the publisher’s website at grayco.com. ●



Bay Men’s Club rakers are, left to right, Dick Majewski, Dwight Clark, Mark Vinick, Doug Gertz, Steve Ernst and Dave Sanson.

# Bay Men’s Club members aid neighbors with rakes

by ERIC EAKIN

Members of the Bay Men’s Club turned out on a recent Saturday morning to help their fellow citizens by raking leaves and cleaning the yards of a number of deserving residents, many of them seniors and disabled.

Participants included Chris Edelman,

Iggy Gannon, John Underation, Peter Gierosky, Dick Majewski, Dwight Clark, Mark Vinick, Doug Gertz, Steve Ernst, Dave Sanson, Dan Gallagher, Mike Shaffer and Eric Eakin.

“We are glad to help out any way we can,” BMC President Jon Lang said. “It’s a great opportunity to assist those who can use our help.” ●

# Porter Library has holiday gifts galore

Friends of Westlake Porter Public Library will offer two opportunities this month to take care of some holiday shopping while supporting the library. Through Saturday, Dec. 12, a selection of festive, decorated wreaths and miniature trees will be on display in the library’s lobby and available for bidding in a silent auction. Each item was created and donated by library patrons, and would make a lovely gift or accent to your seasonal home decor.

Portables Gift Shop, also located in the library’s lobby, will hold an open house and jewelry event on Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 6, 1-4 p.m., featuring unique jewelry, purses, wraps, gifts and more. All proceeds from the auction and gift shop support Porter Library events and programming. ●



ABOVE: Friends of Porter Library will offer unique jewelry, purses and other items at the Portables Gift Shop open house on Dec. 5 and 6.

RIGHT: An auction of trees and wreaths will run until Dec. 12.



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**WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

# Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

**Tuesday, Dec. 1 (7 p.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS' COFFEE & CHAT** – Join us as we discuss a topic related to parenting children who struggle. Group discussion is facilitated by a mental health professional. This month's topic is “Spiritual Connection: You Are Not Alone.” Registration is required at connectingforkids.org or call 440-250-5563.

**Tuesday, Dec. 1 (7-8:30 p.m.) HOLIDAY SHOPPING ONLINE** – Learn how to shop online this holiday season using Amazon and eBay. Please register.

**Wednesdays, Dec. 2 and 9 (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.

**Wednesdays, Dec. 2 and 9 (4-5:30 p.m.) and Thursdays, Dec. 3 and 10 (6:30-8 p.m.) BOW WOW BOOKS** – Stop by the Youth Services Department and sign your child up for a 10-minute reading time with a reading therapy dog! Bring your own book or choose one of ours. Registration begins each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and each Thursday at 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, Dec. 2 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) WPPL HORROR FILM CLUB** – Join us as we explore some of the classic films from the genres of horror, science fiction and suspense. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult. Please register.

**Wednesday, Dec. 2 (7- 8 p.m.) BIRDS, BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, BARRIERS & BASEBALL** – Harvey Webster, director of wildlife at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History explores the perils and possibilities for birds in an urban environment and reviews the ways we can work to correct negative impacts of windows, wind turbines, communications towers and more. Please register.

**Wednesday, Dec. 2 (6:30-7:30 p.m.) MEDICARE ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT INFORMATION** – Open enrollment ends Dec. 7. Gain a better understanding of Medicare and the differences

between Medicare Part A, B, C (Medicare Advantage) and D (Prescription Drug) as well as Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) and Medicare Advantage. Learn how to ensure coverage and avoid penalties. Please register.

**Thursdays, Dec. 3 and 17 (3:30-5 p.m.) TABLETOP GAMING GROUP** – Stop by for an afternoon of playing tabletop games with other gamers! Games will include Munchkin, Settlers of Catan, Forbidden Island and more. Grades 7-12.

**Thursday, Dec. 3 (6-8 p.m.) HOW TO LIVE: A WORKSHOP ON HAPPINESS** – This seminar aims to present scientifically based knowledge on what factors make people happier, and conversely what factors detract from happiness. You will gain knowledge and tools to structure your lives so that you can live happier. Please register.

**Friday, Dec. 4 (4-5:30 p.m.) WEIRD-ER SCIENCE** – Learn science while having fun! Our interactive after-school science program for middle school students teaches fundamental principles in an entertaining format. This month we'll explore library databases! Grades 5-8. Please register.

**Saturday, Dec. 5 (2-4 p.m.) CARRY-OUT CRAFTS** – Stop in to create our featured craft. We have all the supplies you'll need to create something fantastic!

**Saturday, Dec. 5 (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, trivia or Japanese treats! Grades 7-12.

**Sunday, Dec. 6 (2-3 p.m.) AMERICAN GIRL: MARYELLEN** – It's 1954 and Maryellen Larkin wants to stand out, but with lots of siblings, it's not easy. Learn about life in the '50s, listen to some rock 'n' roll, and make a craft. Ages 6-11. Please register.

**Sunday, Dec. 6 (2-4 p.m.) UGLY SWEATER PALOOZA** – Get ready for the holiday festivities by making your

very own ugly sweater! We'll provide the sweaters and supplies, you bring the creativity to make them as tacky as possible! Grades 7-12. Please register.

**Mondays, Dec. 7 and 14 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) TEEN LOUNGE** – Need a place to hang out after school? Come to the Teen Lounge! We've got computers, video games, board games, snacks and more! Grades 7-12.

**Monday, Dec. 7 (7-8:30 p.m.) GREEN UP YOUR HOLIDAYS WITH DEAN'S GREENHOUSE** – Discover how you can add a wonderful evergreen look (and scent!) to your home this holiday season. Dean's will show you how to make holiday porch pots, wreaths, swags, and more during this special program. Special tips, ideas, and door prizes will be included! Please register.

**Tuesday, Dec. 8 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY WITH EMPLOYERS** – Learn some tips to guide you to successful conversations, while learning how others perceive you so you can make the right impression.

**Tuesday, Dec. 8 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION** – In December we'll discuss “All the Light We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr.

**Thursday, Dec. 10 (7-8:30 p.m.) CHEESE TRAYS FOR THE HOLIDAYS** – Learn about and sample different types of cheeses, provided by Heinen's Supermarkets. Please register.

**Thursday, Dec. 10 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION** – The December selection is “Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail” by Ben Montgomery.

**Thursday, Dec. 10 (7-8 p.m.) PINTEREST BASICS** – This is a lecture-based session focused on the basics of using Pinterest followed by an open Pinterest Lab. Please register.

**Friday, Dec. 11 (Family Sessions: 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.; Preschool Session: 11:30 a.m.) and Saturday, Dec. 12 (Family Sessions: 9:30 and 10:30**

**a.m.) MUSIC THERAPY & MORE** – This program is designed for children (ages 1-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. A board-certified music therapist will lead families in a fun and exciting music-making class. Throughout the session, the therapist will present experiences that address a variety of areas of development. Registration is required at connectingforkids.org/music.

**Friday, Dec. 11 (4-4:45 p.m.) FUN SCIENCE FRIDAYS** – Each month, we will focus on a different science topic. This month's theme is Christmas Chemistry. Discoveries will be made through hands-on experiments, active participation and simple take home projects. Ages 4-6. Registration begins Dec. 4.

**Saturday, Dec. 12 (3-3:45 p.m.) GINGERBREAD FUN!** – Create your own gingerbread house with us! Just bring your sweet imagination, and we'll supply all the necessary parts and pieces! Ages 7-10. Registration begins Dec. 5.

**Tuesday, Dec. 15 (9:30-10 a.m.) STORIES AND SIGNS** – Enjoy an interactive storytime while learning a few words in sign language! Ages 0-3 with caregiver, siblings welcome.

**Tuesday, Dec. 15 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: RESULTS-ORIENTED RESUMES** – Competition is tough and employers are swamped with resumes for each position they post. Learn what will catch their attention and make them want to interview you.

**Tuesday, Dec. 15 (7-7:30 p.m.) BED-TIME STORIES** – Put on your pajamas and join Mrs. K as we unwind at the end of the day. Our themes each month will include quiet, possibly silly stories, followed by shared songs, finger plays and other activities to help us get ready for bedtime. This month we'll feature “Mouse in the House.” Ages 4-6; siblings welcome.

**To register for any of the programs, visit westlakelibrary.evanced.info or call 440-871-2600. ●**

# Upcoming programs at Bay Rec

by CARLY BANASIAK

**CHRISTMAS CUPCAKES** (Ages 5 & up)  
Students will learn how to decorate fun cupcakes! Students will bring home their decorated creation in a carrying case to share with the family. All supplies are included.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 10:30 a.m.-noon.  
Location: Community House. Fee: \$28 (NR: \$48).

**HOLIDAY FUN DAY WITH SANTA**  
Join us to share some holiday cheer! Visit with Santa, make a holiday craft, face painting, and write a letter to the North Pole.

Saturday, Dec. 19, 10 a.m.-noon.  
Location: BMS Community Gym.  
**PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME** (Ages 5 & under)

Bouncing balls, tumble mats and more! Parent supervision required.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tuesday/Thursday, 11:15 a.m.-1 p.m. Location: Community Gym. Fee: \$2/child (non-resident: \$4); 10-day pass: \$15 (NR: \$35).

**ITTY BITTY FIT & PLAY** (Ages 2-5)  
Improve your tots' motor skills, counting and colors with fun games, obstacle courses, ladders, hula hoops and puffy tennis balls.

Thursdays, Jan. 7-28, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Location: Community Gym. Fee: \$40 (NR: \$60).

**KINDERGARTEN HOOPS**  
A fun and energetic program for beginners.

Tuesdays, Jan.5-Feb. 23, 6:45-7:45 p.m. Location: Community Gym.

Fee: \$68 (NR: \$88). Deadline: Dec. 10 (late fee \$20).

**1ST & 2ND GRADE BASKETBALL**  
Learn the fundamentals of basketball in a fun, recreational environment.

Season: Jan. 6-Feb. 25. 1st Grade: Wednesdays, 6:45-7:45 p.m.; 2nd Grade: Thursdays 6:45-7:45 p.m. Location: Community Gym/BMS Gym. Fee: \$68 (NR: \$88). Deadline: Dec. 10 (late fee \$20). Deadline: Dec. 10 (late fee \$20).

**INDOOR AFTERSCHOOL QUICKSTART TENNIS** (Grades K-4)

Learn the fundamentals and build on your skills. Choice of one or two days per week.

Nov. 23-Dec. 15. Days: Mondays, 3:45-4:30 p.m. at Normandy Gym; Tuesdays, 3:10-4 p.m. at Westerly Gym. Fee: one day per week, \$40/session (NR: \$60); two days per week, \$75 (NR: \$95).

**INDOOR AFTERSCHOOL QUICKSTART TENNIS** (Grades 3 & 4)

Join our tennis instructors after school for this fun, instructional tennis program. Choice of one or two days per week.

Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, Jan. 5-28, 2:20-3:10 p.m. Location: Westerly Gym. Fee: one day per week: \$40/session (NR: \$60); two days per week: \$75 (NR: \$95).

**INDOOR AFTERSCHOOL QUICKSTART TENNIS** (Grades 5-8)

Build on fundamental skills in this fun, instructional program.

Thursdays, Jan. 7-28, 4-5 p.m. Location: Westerly Gym. Fee: \$45/session (NR: \$65).

**ADDITIONAL ADULT PROGRAMS:** Adult Volleyball, Men's Hoops, Adult Yoga, Feeling Fit, Full Body Fitness with Cathy.

*Fitness memberships and daily admission rates available in rec office. Questions? Contact the Bay Rec Dept at 440-871-6755. ●*

Join in at [www.wbvobserver.com](http://www.wbvobserver.com)



## SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

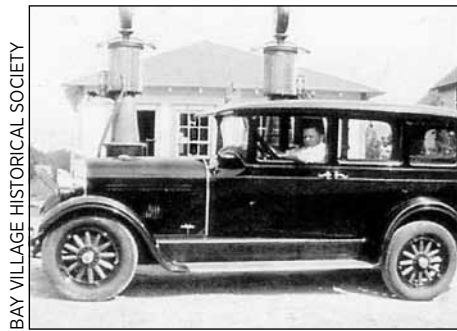
## The gas station that put Bay Village on the map

by KAY LAUGHLIN

When John D. Rockefeller started Standard Oil he realized a need for gas stores for selling his gas and oil. All over Ohio, gas stations began popping up in townships and large cities to supply the demand.

Out in the country, in the little Village of Bay, John D. Rockefeller supplied the gas to a small station built by William Blaha at the intersection of Dover Center and West Oviatt roads. At the time, Dover Center was a dirt road and you drove your car up to the pump, literally, by the side of the road.

In 1914, William Blaha was operating an Edward Foods store in the old Cahoon Store next to the railroad tracks. It being successful, Blaha purchased land to the north of the store at the intersection of



Bill Blaha at the pumps in front of his Standard Oil gas station.

West Oviatt and Dover Center Roads with the thought of one day owning his own butcher shop and store. The first building he constructed, however, was a Standard Oil gas station. Standard Oil boasted that they had a “dot” on their road maps for every township with a pump. When the map came out, the Blaha gas station did not appear on the map. Bill let them know about that, and the next map of Ohio printed had a dot for the Village of Bay.

In 1929, Bill built a new brick building at that location to house his grocery/meat market. The Standard Oil gas pumps remained in front of the brick store, but the gas station was moved back to the side of the lot and the two front doors were replaced with garage doors. Cans of oil,

inner tubes, tires and other car supplies sold out of the building for many years. Here the station remained until 2015.

This year the City of Bay Village notified the Peterson family who own the buildings and land (John Peterson's mother was Marie Blaha Peterson) that the gas station would have to be taken down as the addition on the east side was leaning. The Petersons offered to remove it so the original gas station was standing alone. However, back in the day of construction, the beams across the roof of the gas station were spaced too far apart and not up to code for today. The city advised the Petersons that the problem would need to be corrected if they intended to keep the station.



The Blaha gas station was located on Dover Center Road, across from West Oviatt Road.



As seen in this recent photo, the old gas station was in need of major repair to bring it up to current building code. It was demolished earlier this year.

## BAY VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Bay Village groups share winter plans

by JESSICA BRESLIN

Representatives from many of Bay Village's civic groups and nonprofit organizations attended the Community Council meeting on Nov. 18 to share news, notes and events scheduled through January.

**BAYarts** presents its annual Holiday Shop for unique, handmade local gifts throughout the season: Mondays-Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays); and Sundays, noon-5 p.m. Full winter program guides are available online at bayarts.net.

**Bay Village American Legion Post #385** has begun their annual collection of donations for the statewide program “Gifts for Yanks.” This effort is part of a larger drive of the Ohio American Legion that for over 65 years has pooled funds from local posts to maximize the impact of local gifts providing activities and gifts for veterans in Ohio's State VA hospitals and other VA centers. Collection bottles have been placed in select businesses in Bay and Westlake.

**The Bay Village Education Foundation's** annual fundraising dinner event, “Creating Opportunities,” is upcoming on Jan. 31, 5-8 p.m. Tickets are available from any trustee. The high school's video production studio, supported by a BVEF grant of \$35,000 and slated to go live in the spring semester, has 15 students enrolled. Outfitting of the studio continues. BVEF participated at the inaugural Trick or Treat on the Track held at BHS Stadium along with many other local businesses and civic organizations.

**Bay Village Kiwanis** are holding their

annual Christmas tree sale at Cahoon Park. The Kiwanis recently contributed \$12,000 to the new playground at Normandy School and continue to fund the Bay High Key Club and the Builders Clubs at both St. Raphael and Bay Middle School.

**The Bay Village Historical Society** and the Bay Village Kiwanis will host an old-fashioned community Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-4:30 p.m. The event will include a children's gingerbread house contest at Rose Hill Museum, the reading of holiday stories, caroling and crafts for kids in the Bay Village Community House, the Kiwanis Christmas tree sale, a visit by Santa Claus and the lighting of the community tree in the Cahoon Memorial Park gazebo. Residents can help to “Light up Bay Village” by placing luminaries in their yards that evening. Bay Village community groups are invited to participate by decorating a holiday wreath, to be displayed in the gazebo. Any civic or school groups interested in taking part in the festivities or selling holiday merchandise should contact Cynthia Eakin at info@bayhistorical.com or 216-213-0312, or Rhonda Schneider at baykiwanis@gmail.com or 216-225-6538.

**The Bay Village Women's Club and Foundation** will hold their annual holiday luncheon and raffle on Dec. 3 at Westwood Country Club. The Bay High School Choraleers will present their special, wonderful holiday program. Social hour begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend; contact Lou Popp at 440-871-3075 for tickets or more information. The 45th Annual Antique Show featuring an antique doll display will be held on

Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 13 and 14 at Bay High School. Interested dealers can contact Nancy at 440-334-7539 or visit baywomensclub.org. Memorabilia is still available for sale and makes a great holiday gift. Please call Marilyn at 440-892-4344 or Nancy at 440-334-7539.

With summer bike season winding down, the **Village Bicycle Cooperative's** Fix-it-Forward program continues at a good pace for the holidays. So far this year VBC has refurbished and donated 50 adult and children's bicycles to needy individuals. It is expected that an additional 30 bikes will be rider ready and donated for the upcoming holiday season. This year the VBC will be partnering with Bay Community Services to provide refurbished bicycles to deserving families in Bay. During the Cahoon Christmas, Village Bicycle will also offer upcycling craft classes, as well as host tours and an Open Shop. Volunteer nights continue every Wednesday in the Community House at 7 p.m.

**The Citizens for Bay Village Community Theater** have talked to Metroparks CEO Brian Zimmerman about keeping the existing theater. If the Metroparks decides to go another direction concerning the fate of the current Playhouse facility, the group will attempt to partner with any potential affiliate in sharing the space of any new facility to be built on the site of the current Playhouse. The group will look for a suitable space within Bay Village to convert to theatrical use. The group filed for 501(c)(3) status, is working on a business plan specifically designed to use the current Huntington Playhouse facility with the hope of acquiring affiliation with the Cleveland Metroparks and is exploring the feasibility

The family wanted to keep the station since it was a historical building plagued by the Bay Village Historical Society. The Petersons looked into the extent of construction to bring the station up to code and found the cost to be prohibitive. Consequently, they had the station demolished.

Another piece of Bay Village history gone. The gas station had existed more than 80 years on that spot. Bay seems to be losing so much of its history. Once gone, it can't be replaced. I know a couple who travel the highways looking for these first gas stations. I advised them Bay had two gas stations from this era: the Rick Burns establishment on the corner of Wolf and Dover Center built by the Bott family in the 1920s, and the Blaha gas station across from West Oviatt built in 1914. Now the Blaha gas station that put Bay Village on the map is gone and the Bott gas station is for sale. ●

of producing one or two theatrical productions in 2016. Shows and locations are to be determined.

**Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library** will hold their next book sale Jan. 23-26.

**The Lake Erie Nature & Science Center** reports another record-setting year for its wildlife rehabilitation program. At the end of October, nearly 1,400 patients had been admitted surpassing last year's total of 1,325 patients. The entire list of all winter programs, including events for all ages, can be found at lensc.org.

**The League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland, Bay Village Chapter** has approved the donation of an additional \$10,000 to Bay Village City Council to install a microphone system in both the council chambers and the committee/conference room, bringing the total donation to \$20,000. In council chambers, the funds will cover the cost of stationary microphones for each member of council, the mayor, law director, finance director and clerk, as well as two mobile microphones for department heads and residents seated in the audience and a lapel microphone for guest presenters. In the conference room, there will be a microphone for every seat at the table. The recordings will be available online. Speakers will also be installed to amplify sound. The chapter hopes that the installation will be completed in January 2016. The chapter voted to donate \$100 towards the improvements to Play in Bay. The next chapter meeting is Saturday, Jan. 9, 9:30 a.m. at Bay Library. ●

*The next meeting of the Bay Village Community Council will be Jan. 14 at the Bay Village Branch Library. The Selection Committee will meet at 6 p.m. to select the Citizen of the Year and Project of the Year. The regular meeting will follow at 7 p.m.*





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# Bay Village Kiwanis Club holds annual tree sale

by KAREN UTHE

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! The Bay Village Kiwanis Club set up its annual Christmas tree sale at the Cahoon Park Gazebo area and began selling trees on Nov. 28.

Three Christmas tree varieties are available, including Fraser Firs, Douglas Firs and Colorado Spruces. Tree sizes range from 6-10 feet tall. Prices range from \$40-\$130, depending on size and type. Cash or check is accepted. Delivery is available for a donation.

The tree sale runs through Saturday, Dec. 19, or until sold out. Hours are: Fridays, 4-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

"Everyone buys a Christmas tree, so why not buy your tree locally and help fund the many worthy projects and programs that the Bay Village Kiwanis Club supports," says Rhonda Schneider of the Kiwanis Club of Bay Village.

Again this year, the Bay Village Kiwanis Club is co-hosting the third annual Cahoon Christmas event, with the Bay Village Historical Society, taking place on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 2-4:30 p.m. This event will feature a visit by Santa (arriving by fire truck!), holiday music by the Bay High School Choraleers, the Fairytale Princesses, the official lighting of the Bay Village Christmas tree at 4 p.m., the Bay Village Kiwanis Club's Christmas tree sale and many other activities.

If you have questions regarding the Christmas tree sale, please contact Kiwanian Rhonda Schneider at 440-225-6358 or email baykiwanis@gmail.com.

Funds generated by the annual Christmas tree sale and other Bay Village Kiwanis Club events help support projects like: Normandy School Playground, Rachel's Challenge, Reese Park renovations, Village Project, BAYarts, educational grants through the Bay Village



Bay Village Kiwanis Club members will assist you in finding that perfect Christmas tree.

Education Foundation and many more.

Look for Bay Village Kiwanis on Facebook. The group meets every other Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Bay United Methodist Church in the lower level. All are welcome. ●



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Post your group’s free community events online at [wbvobserver.com](http://wbvobserver.com)

**Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m.**  
**Deer Population Management Meeting**  
Bay Village Councilman Tom Henderson and Bay Village Police Chief Mark Spaetzel invite you to come learn about a deer population management program that Avon Lake and Bay Village plan to implement in Walker Road Park this winter.  
*Bay Lodge, 492 Bradley Rd.*

**Thursday, Dec. 3, 7-8 p.m.**  
**Toastmasters Meeting**  
Find out how Toastmasters can help you overcome your fears of speaking, develop better speaking and presentation skills, learn to think quickly and clearly on your feet, build strong leadership and mentoring skills, and open doors in your personal and professional life. Contact: Mary Anne, 216-374-3205,  
*Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake*

**Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4 and 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**Hospice of the Western Reserve Volunteer Education Series**  
Volunteers assist in private residences, nursing homes, assisted living communities, our two Hospice House locations, and hospital settings. Opportunities to serve are diverse: visit patients and families to provide companionship, socialization, and comfort; help with legacy work, transportation, light housework, and meal preparation; run errands; make phone calls; help with clerical work; attend health fairs; make presentations. Volunteers with specialized professional qualifications and training are also needed: attorneys, licensed hair dressers, massotherapists, pet therapy dogs and their handlers. Pre-registration is required. For more info, or to register, call 800-707-8922, ext. 6881.  
*Hospice of the Western Reserve, St. John Medical Center, 29101 Health Campus Drive, Bldg. 2, Suite 400, Westlake*

**Friday, Dec. 4, 6-8:30 p.m.**  
**Holiday Night Tree Tradition**  
Celebrate the heartwarming story of The Night Tree – one family’s tradition of sharing the spirit of the holidays with nature. Santa will be celebrating too so bring those cameras! Create a holiday craft, enjoy a close encounter with some of the animals

featured in the story and take home a special treat for the wildlife in your own backyard. Dinner is provided. For all ages. Please register in advance, 440-871-2900. Fee: \$12/adults; \$8/children (includes dinner).  
*Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village*

**Saturday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Bay Village Early Childhood PTA’s Santa Shop**  
Santa’s elves will help children find gifts for mom, dad, grandparents, siblings, teachers and even pets. All items are priced under \$5 and will be gift wrapped and tagged. While the little ones are shopping, parents can enjoy a cup of coffee and tempting treats from Santa’s Sweet Shop. Free admission. For more information, visit [bvcepta.org/events](http://bvcepta.org/events) or call 216-577-9656 or 440-376-4611.  
*Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.*

**Sunday, Dec. 6, 2-4:30 p.m.**  
**Cahoon Community Christmas**  
Bay Village Kiwanis and the Bay Village Historical Society are hosting the third annual event, featuring a visit by Santa (arriving by fire truck!), holiday music by the Bay High School Choraleers, the Fairytale Princesses, the official lighting of the Bay Village Christmas tree at 4 p.m., the Kiwanis Christmas tree sale and many other activities. Free and open to the public.  
*Cahoon Memorial Park, Bay Village*

**Sunday, Dec. 6, 5-6 p.m.**  
**Candlelight Labyrinth Walk**  
Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle to walk the labyrinth with us. It is prayer in motion, allowing us to walk in the light of God’s presence. Open to the public. All are welcome, no exceptions. The prayer service will start in the Sanctuary, followed by the labyrinth walk outside. Please dress comfortably for the weather as the labyrinth is outside in the prayer garden. Flashlights are encouraged.  
*St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 468 Bradley Rd., Bay Village*

**Tuesday, Dec. 8, 5-7 p.m.**  
**Chambers of Commerce Holiday Party**  
All members from West Shore, North Coast,

Fairview Park, North Olmsted, North Ridgeville and Olmsted chambers are welcome. No cost; no RSVP required. Enjoy complimentary appetizers and cash bar.  
*Dave & Buster’s, 25735 First St., Westlake*

**Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**VFW and Veterans Holiday Social**  
Local veterans and immediate family are cordially invited to meet local North Coast vets and learn more about veteran groups like VFW and celebrate the holiday season with neighbors. Refreshments will be served.  
*Bay Village Police Station, community room, 28000 Wolf Rd.*

**Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7-8 p.m.**  
**Backyard Wonders: Winter Waterfowl**  
Winter is a great time to observe a wide array of waterfowl on Lake Erie. Join our expert wildlife staff to hear all about the unique waterfowl in Ohio. Learn about these animals, how we treat them and our unique facilities that allow us to rehabilitate waterfowl. For adults and families with children ages 10+. Fee: \$7/person.  
*Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village*

**Wednesday, Dec. 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Genealogy in the Digital Age**  
Northeast Ohio Personal Computers group welcomes Mary Jamba, who will cover using your computer skills to research and organize your family tree. Mary serves as President of the Greater Cleveland Genealogical Society, Sunshine Lady of the Computer Assisted Genealogy Group, and third vice-president of NEOPC. Come at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments, followed by the program at 7 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information, go to [neopc.org](http://neopc.org).  
*Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Thursday, Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m.**  
**Gift of Touch for Those Touched by Cancer**  
Learn hand and foot massage to nurture yourself and loved ones, a great strategy for handling holiday stress. Advance registration required; call 216-595-9546. Free.  
*The Gathering Place West, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake*

**Thursday, Dec. 10, 7:30-8:15 p.m.**  
**SkyQuest: Eyes on Earth**  
Did you know that NASA has many satellites focused on the Earth? Come and learn about some of these missions and why NASA has turned things around to examine our home planet. For pre-teens through adults. Fee: \$5/person.  
*Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village*

**Saturday, Dec. 12, 9:30 a.m.-noon**  
**Advent Program: Moving from Stress to Joy**  
The program is designed to help clergy, lay and busy people let go of the stress and anxiety of the season and embrace the wonder and expectation of the birth of our Savior. Our featured speaker, Bob Stice, is a trusted expert in the field of emotional health and a gifted presenter, speaking at dozens of conferences around the U.S. Free admission. Everyone is welcome.  
*St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 468 Bradley Rd., Bay Village*

**Sunday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m.**  
**Christmas Choral Cantata**  
Recall the wonder and majesty of the first Christmas through music and song with the Westlake UMC Chancel Choir as they present a Christmas cantata. Featuring a wide variety of musical styles, this celebration of the Christmas story remembers when God sent his son into the world to bring His love to us. Full orchestral accompaniment brings an extra dimension to the music, and with over 50 total musicians involved, this is a free event you won’t want to miss. Presented as a Sunday morning worshipful experience.  
*Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Rd.*

**Monday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Senior Housing Fair**  
The Westside Healthcare Organization and St. John Medical Center are hosting their 4th annual senior housing fair. You will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from independent, assisted living, skilled nursing and memory care communities.  
*St. John Medical Center, Bldg. 2, Aud. A & B, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*



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<b>Miscellaneous</b> Civil War Items • WWII Items All Sports Items • All Tiffany Items	<b>Artwork</b> Currier & Ives • Oil Paintings Watercolors • Posters	<b>Advertising</b> Signs • Give-A-Ways Early American • Etc.	<b>Sterling Silver</b> Flatware • Jewelry Tea/Coffee Sets
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