



Family Safety and Wellness Fair on May 21

by LYDIA GADD

The community is invited to learn ways to increase personal safety and wellness at the Westlake Recreation Center on Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. as the City of Westlake and University Hospitals St. John Medical Center co-host a Family Safety and Wellness Fair.

The day fittingly begins with a flag-raising ceremony at 9:45 a.m. in honor of Armed Forces Day. St. John Medical Center will present City Council President Michael Killeen with a commemorative framed flag which was flown at the U.S. Capitol on Earth Day this year.

» See SAFETY FAIR page 6

Keeping a great thing growing

Westlake hosts Tree City USA awards banquet

The City of Westlake, along with the Westlake Tree Commission, hosted the 2016 Tree City USA awards banquet at LaCentre on Tuesday, May 10. Northern Ohio Tree Cities from as close as Bay Village and as far away as Sandusky, Youngstown and Wadsworth attended the event. All in all, over 240 participants, the largest gathering ever for this event, enjoyed a wonderful breakfast and lunch and many outstanding speakers. Exhibitors from many nurseries, lawn care companies, The Holden Arboretum

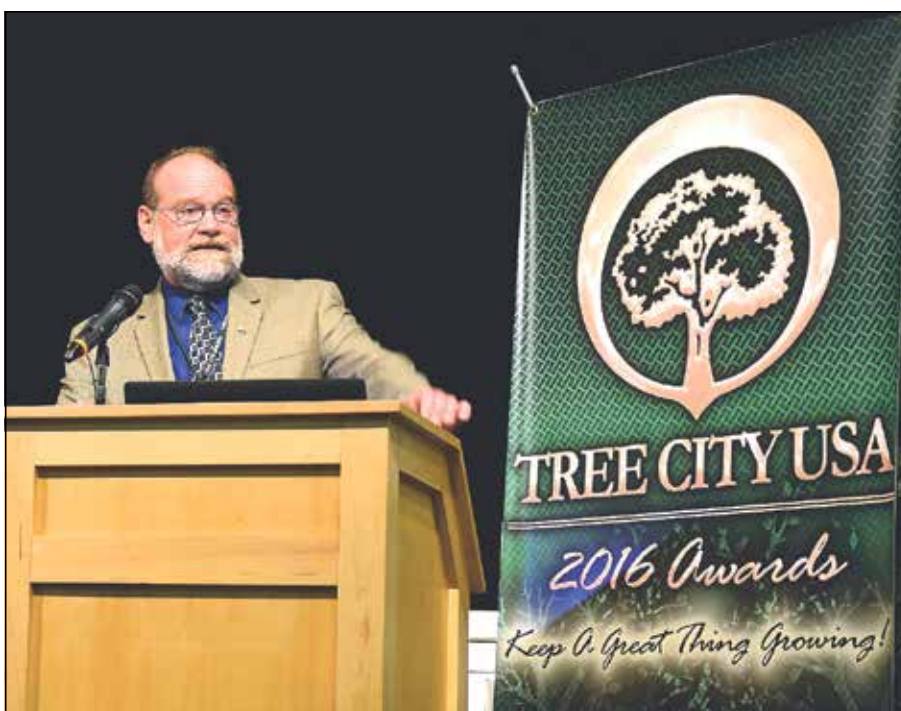


PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Alan Siewert, a regional urban forester from the Ohio DNR, speaks at the Tree City USA awards banquet on May 10. Westlake hosted the event, celebrating its 25th year as a Tree City.

and Forest City Tree Preservation took time to display their products to those in attendance and

many local businesses provided gifts and door prizes.

» See TREE CITY page 4

Foundation to honor 3 Bay residents

by AL PAULUS

The Bay Village Foundation will host its annual Memorial Day ceremony to dedicate permanent bronze plaques honoring James Potter, Richard Schier and Eileen Vernon. The program, now in its 21st year, takes place at Cahoon Park North, under the tent, at approximately 10:30 a.m., immediately following the city's Memorial Day observance at the Cahoon Park Gazebo.

The Potter family honored Jim with the plaque on his 80th birthday this month, celebrating his tremendous commitment to Bay Village through his involvement in numerous community organizations.

» See FOUNDATION page 2

Bay, Westlake Sea Scouts reach semifinals

by RICHARD GASH

Our Sea Scout crew, named "Boats" and comprised of Adam Schordock (Westlake High School), Khalid Hamil (Bay Middle School), and Derek Reid, Nick Maude and our leader Zak Hamil (all from Bay High School) reached the semifinals of the Paradigm Challenge, a \$250,000 international competition sponsored by the American Red Cross.

The scouts submitted a trifold brochure, titled "Don't let this be Your Boat." The competition sought innova-

tive ideas from youth to prevent home fires and deaths. Since the scouts are at home on the water, they designed an infographic highlighting the main causes of boat fires. The graphic also gave suggestions for preventative maintenance that should be taken.

The Sea Scouts invited the U.S. Coast Guard vessel inspection officers to review the trifold and incorporated their suggestions to improve the content. After a final overview by Commodore Clay Miller and the other officers and trustees of Bay Boat Club, the trifold was submitted and has reached the semifinals of the competition. The Sea Scouts will be seeking a grant to publish the trifold and distribute it to marinas.

Sea Scouting is a co-ed program for eighth-graders through high school who love boating. Contact Richard Gash, Skipper, 440-871-6106 for further details. ♦



PHOTO BY DAWN HAMIL

Sea Scouts Adam Schordock, Khalid Hamil, Zak Hamil and Nick Maude with a graphic they created about preventing boat fires.

Second 'History Mystery' bike ride a success

by DONNA WILSON

The second annual History Mystery Bike Tour on Saturday, May 7, was a success with over 90 participants including adults and children who were able to learn more about Bay Village's rich history, sample food, dance and listen to great music provided by the Waylows.

The organizer, Rebecca Krueger from Village Bicycle Cooperative, said, "The History Mystery ride showcased Village Bicycle Cooperative's great resources and an ongoing commitment to the community." She further added that because of VBC's efforts Bay Village is becoming more bike friendly due to changes in the bike laws and the collaboration between law enforcement and the community.

This year, participants were able to visit and to learn about businesses that have been in the community since 1948: Burns Auto Service, Bay Barber Shop, Arthur's Shoe Tree and Bay Lanes.

» See BIKE RIDE page 6



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Chris Zalud, along with her daughter, Ashley, and son, Merritt, pedal past the Rose Hill Museum in Cahoon Memorial Park during the History Mystery tour.



FOUNDATION

from front page

Richard Schier, a veteran and resident of Bay, remembered the Bay Village Foundation in his will and is being honored for his service to the country and to the community.

Eileen Vernon, charter member and long-time president of the Foundation, is being honored by her colleagues for 21 years of service to the Foundation and to Bay Village.

Friends of the honorees and the public are invited to attend the ceremony.

The plaques are installed on the Bay Village Walking Trail Bridge and visitors are invited to view the plaques following the ceremony.

The Bay High Honors String Quintet under the direction of Ms. Carrie Singler will play throughout the ceremony. Tenor Troy Ayers II will sing as the names of each of the 33 memorialized persons are read. And as a special tribute to Bay Village veterans and current members of the military, a playing of taps will conclude the program.

The Foundation will also announce the names of those local non-profit organizations receiving grants from the Foundation in 2016, and the names of three Bay High seniors receiving scholarships from the Foundation, including the T. Richard Martin Memorial Scholarship; the latter resulting from a perpetual gift made by the Martin family.

The Bay Village Foundation bronze plaque program was established as a way for families and friends to give permanent recognition to Bay citizens. Donors that contribute to the Foundation at the level of \$2,500 or more may request a plaque to honor the life work of a Bay Village resident, living or deceased.

For more information about the Foundation, estate planning opportunities, call 440-899-3490. Applications for scholarships and guidelines for proposals are available at thebayvillagefoundation.org. ●

Bay Legion seeks families of active military personnel

The Bay Village American Legion is seeking families with active military members. These families are eligible to receive a Blue Star Service Banner to display in the window of their home to signify that they are a Blue Star Family. The Blue Star Service Banner is a reminder that war touches every neighborhood.

The Blue Star Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Captain Robert L. Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry who had two sons serving on the front line. The flag quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in service. In 1967, the Department of

Defense authorized the service flag with an act of Congress.

The Department of Defense specifies that family members authorized to display the flag include the wife, husband, mother, father, stepfather, parent through adoption, foster parents who stand or stood in loco parentis, children, stepchildren, children through adoptions, brothers, sisters, half-brothers and half-sisters of a member of the armed forces of the United States.

Parents or spouses of active military personnel should contact Americanism Chairman, Jim Potter, at 440 899-9343 and arrange to get a Blue Star banner. ●

Celebrate National Garden Week

by JEAN SMITH

The National Garden Clubs Inc. designates a week in June every year as National Garden Week. They ask local garden clubs to celebrate with activities that involve the community to learn more about gardening and making good choices.

This year the Westlake Garden Club will celebrate National Garden Week with the following activities:

- Monday, June 6, 10:30 a.m. – Come to Dean’s Greenhouse, 3984 Porter Road, to learn how to plant a vegetable garden in a container and what vegetables work best. Bring a container to plant or purchase one

there. A good selection of plants will be available.

- Wednesday, June 8, 10:30 a.m. – It is never too early to get children involved in gardening. Bring your children to Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road, to pick up a kit with everything needed to grow a plant from seed.
- Friday, June 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – Stop by our table at Westlake Porter Public Library to “talk to the gardeners.” Club members will be available to answer your questions and give helpful hints on growing a beautiful garden.

We hope you will join us for one, or all of the above activities to help celebrate National Garden Week. ●

Dover UCC embraces Peace Village Day Camp

by CYNTHIA STUART

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2239 Dover Center Road in Westlake, will host Peace Village Day Camp, July 11-14, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Peace Village Day Camp focuses on the spiritual practice of peace present in all faith traditions.

Peace Village, which started in the UCC 20 years ago in the Pacific Northwest, teaches children peaceful practices through fun, outdoor adventure, classes, music and interfaith stories.

“The four components to the program – Peace Within Self, Peace and the Planet, Peace and our Culture, Peace with Others – have a strong theological base,” said Cynthia Stuart, co-director of Peace Village. “As Christians, we follow Jesus’ model that both embraced children and taught peace. But the idea of peace is evident in all faith traditions. We can learn from each tradition’s peace emphasis.”

Each day, peace stories from different faiths by people who practice the faith will be shared with the campers. Campers will hear peace stories from Muslims, Jews, and Christians.

Dover UCC will host the Peace Village Day Camp on the beautiful acreage behind the church building or inside the building if it rains. Children and youth, grades 2-12 are invited to attend. Tuesday afternoon is reserved for the oldest campers to try their skills at a Tree Top rope challenge, while the other campers walk trails in Bradley Woods Reservation with a nature guide.

Registration forms and other information about the Peace Village Day Camp can be found on the Dover UCC website: doverucc.org/what-we-do/christian-education. ●

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Program shines a light on Cleveland history and Superman

by CYNTHIA EAKIN

Learn about “Truth, Justice and the Cleveland Way” as guest speaker Dennis Sutcliffe addresses the legend of Superman on Thursday, May 19.

The Bay Village Historical Society invites the community to join their mem-

bers for an informal potluck dinner and an evening of Cleveland history.

Sutcliffe will talk about Jerry Siegel and Joe Schuster, two kids from Glenville High School who created the world’s most enduring superhero. Meet the original Superman and learn how he was influenced by the boys’ lives in Cleveland.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m. in the Bay Village Community house, followed by the potluck dinner and 7 p.m. program. The society provides the main dish, which is a cookout with hamburgers and brats.

Guests with a last name beginning with A to L are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert for 10 to share. Guests with a last name beginning with M to Z are asked to bring a side dish. Everyone should bring their own place setting.

Admission is free. Please RSVP to Cathy Flament at 440-835-4472 or Doug Gertz at 440-554-6355. ●

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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
- Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process. Staff contact information is listed below.

To join in, sign up through the Member Center at wbvobserver.com/members to submit your stories, photos and events.

All content should be submitted through the Member Center, not by email.

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

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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Tour shows water flow, from Lake Erie to tap

by WARREN REMEIN

Water in Bay Village and Westlake currently comes from the Cleveland Water Crown Treatment Plant located on Clague Road in Westlake. On Saturday, May 7, I took the public tour celebrating 160 years of Cleveland Water. About a dozen people were guided by Scott Naeltitz, a plant supervisor. We passed the reservoir which holds 36 million gallons of clean drinking water. Crown pumps 41.5 million gallons per day into the Cleveland system which serves 420,000 homes and businesses in a 640-square-mile service area.

We turned into the spotless pump building and looked into the main pump area. Our clean, tasty water comes from Lake Erie through pumps as big as 2,250 horsepower! The water comes from the intake 3 miles out in Lake Erie. The intake pipe is 24 feet in diameter – big enough to drive through.

The initial screening occurs as water enters the intake well 60 feet below ground, removing most material including fish, algae and debris. The screening is squeezed dry and made into fertilizer. We followed the water that is pumped on and up to the next building where flocculation with alum sticks together and settles more dirt and algae. One of our group tried the spinning exhibit that shows how a new slanted plastic screen cuts settling time and doubles effective area. We moved past the area chlorine first goes in the water. In 2013, Cleveland Water spent \$10 million in improvements to change from chlorine gas to the safer



Machinery in the main pump building

liquid form.

It takes lots of infrastructure – pipeline, buildings and equipment – to clean and filter our water. The Cleveland system has four primary pump stations (including Crown), 11 secondary pumps stations, 22 towers and tanks, and nearly 5,200 miles of underground pipes – the piping could stretch from here to Athens, Greece! Incoming power is over 2000 volts, and is backed up by generators that can fully power the plant.



PHOTOS BY WARREN REMEIN

Inside the control room of the Crown Treatment Plant.

We walked on to the filtration building. A 6-foot-deep filter bed of carbon chips removes chemicals, algae, bacteria and dirt. The filter material is continually being checked and backwashed with both air and water to keep it clean. Water is again treated with chlorine and fluoride on the next level up.

Equipment is well labeled and safety aids easy to reach.

We walked on to the control area and labs. The building has operators at the control station 24 hours every single day. Every process, pump and flow is monitored on the easy-to-see large screen monitors. Water is continually tested in the labs for chemicals, pH (acidity), chlorine levels and turbidity (suspended dirt). The U.S. EPA and the FDA have stringent quality requirements. In 2015,

the Crown plant received the Phase IV “Excellence in Water Treatment” award, the highest achievement from the Partnership for Safe Water. The plant is only the 16th recipient of this award across all of North America.

The tour was fascinating. The plant was spotlessly clean, and well maintained. Our guide, Scott, courteously answered all our questions. I thanked Scott and went home to fill – you guessed it! – a glass of fresh, cold and clean tap water. ●



OBSERVED
This time of year we have a chance to see colorful birds as they migrate ... but this is just ridiculous! I saw this bird at my bird feeder in Bay Village on May 15. -Denny Wendell



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TREE CITY *from front page*

Westlake's Service Director Paul Quinn emceed the program, which opened with a greeting and welcome by Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, followed by remarks from Alan Siewert, a regional urban forester from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Beth Buchanan was there to promote the Tree Fund which finances research into tree development.

Mary Beth Schneider, chairperson of the Westlake Tree Commission, gave a short history of the 25 years of Westlake being a Tree City and she introduced Jerry Fleischer, Westlake's first tree forester, and Stan Barnard, the current forester. Mary Beth explained how the Westlake Tree Commission, City Council, city leaders and the foresters have been instrumental in preserving trees in the city of Westlake.

Careful planning and foresight have continued a healthy plan to maintain quality green space in Westlake and to keep the city a beautiful place to live. Mary Beth also gave a little history lesson by telling the story of the many, many trees in a row along Westwood Road between Columbia and Canterbury. In the late 1920s and '30s the family that owned the land



Mary Beth Schneider is surprised with a proclamation from Mayor Dennis Clough in honor of her 25 years of service on the Tree Commission. Also pictured are Service Director Paul Quinn and Urban Forestry Manager Stan Barnard.

PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Bay Women's Club awards scholarships

by NANCY TRAINER

The Bay Village Women's Club Foundation is awarding \$22,500 in scholarships of \$2,500 each to nine outstanding Bay High School seniors. The Club recognized the students and their families May 12 during a luncheon at the Cleveland Yachting Club. The Bay High School String Quintet provided entertainment.

This year's scholarship recipients are

as follows, with their school and major:

- Rachel Hamilton, Case Western Reserve University, cognitive science and neurology
- Evan Harms, Kent State University, multimedia journalism
- Jocelyn Joseph, Baldwin Wallace University, psychology and pre-medicine
- Katelyn Laskowski, Cuyahoga Community College, criminology
- Annamarie McGuire, West Virginia University, forensic science
- Moira Meehan, Ohio Wesleyan University, biology and fine arts
- Alysse Nowak, Ohio University, chemistry and pre-medicine
- Matthew Szekely, Kent State University, music education
- Rachel Zvara, Cleveland State University, undecided. ●



PHOTO BY EILEEN CERNEA

Bay Village Women's Club scholarship recipients, from left: Evan Harms, Annamarie McGuire, Matthew Szekely, Moira Meehan, Jocelyn Joseph, Alysse Nowak, Rachel Zvara, Rachel Hamilton, Katelyn Laskowski.

in that area wanted to mark the property line of their farm so the father had his son plant a tree there every time he misbehaved. If you are to travel down Westwood and look at the plot of land today you will still see many of those trees still standing in a long, straight line. It is believed that the young man planted over 100 trees!

Mary Beth also thanked the current Tree Commission members for their service – John Walz with over 10 years; Margie Rossander, five years; Diane Morris, 4 years; and Justin Parks, who was recently appointed. After her talk, Mary Beth was surprised on stage with a proclamation from Mayor Clough recognizing her 25 years of service on the Tree Commission, 10 years as chairperson.

The event's morning session then continued with many outstanding speakers. Lauren Lanphear of Forest City Tree Protection gave a world view of urban forestry. His interesting PowerPoint presentation allowed the audience to view unusual tree trimmings, plantings, and preservation of trees around the world – taking the audience to Singapore, Australia, China, Russia and Czechoslovakia. He also shared ways countries honor trees, preserve historical trees and champion trees along with displaying various types of "Arbor Art" in places such as France, Italy, the U.S. and Sweden.

Several city employees concluded the morning with talks promoting interesting initiatives that Westlake has undertaken to promote a "green" city. Jim Smolik from the Engineering Department spoke on the storm water committee formed to evaluate water runoff,

educate children and our community on the importance of managing water runoff and the benefits of rain barrels and organic fertilizer. Westlake has also taken an aggressive approach to improving the water retention basins throughout the city and returning many areas to a healthy environment.

Chris Stuhm from the Service Department spoke on the extensive recycling and composting projects that they have undertaken. The city has a large ecological compost facility, shared with Bay Village, to provide an alternative action to yard waste. These efforts have eliminated approximately 240,000 tons of leaves from landfills in the last 25 years. Wood waste recycling takes in approximately 10,000 cubic yards each year and sells over 4,000 cubic yards back to the community to use as wood chips and mulch. This has saved 34,000 tons from being placed in a landfill over the past 25 years!

Jim Bedell, Westlake's planning director, discussed the ordinances that Westlake has put in place to protect our trees and green space when land is developed. Detailed plans must be submitted to maintain the trees on a plot of land and approved before a business or a developer can clear the land. Westlake has been a leader in establishing ways to keep our urban forestry healthy!

Following the speaker and lunch, the Tree City Awards were presented by Alan Siewert. Among the more than 60 Northern Ohio cities recognized, Westlake was honored for being a Tree City for 25 years; Bay Village for 18 years; Rocky River, 32; Fairview Park, 24; and Avon Lake, 23. ●

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HUMOR

Remembering my days as a talk-show host

by EILEEN VERNON

When applying for positions in law and education, I would list my experiences, degrees, grades, skills and at the bottom, I had a one-line past experience: radio talk show host. To a person, the first thing I would be asked about in an interview was that radio show!

How I got my own radio show is probably something they were wondering. I'm not exactly a conventional radio personality, although I suppose I'm somewhat conventional when it comes to small-town radio, which is what my show was broadcast on, not a major network. I have the kind of odd and uninteresting voice with a Pittsburgh accent that works out all right in life but would not work out on national radio.

When you live in a small town, interesting jobs are difficult to find. I finished college at the ripe old age of 36 and was looking for part-time work. I taught speech communication at the university as a graduate student and did part-time substitute teaching. I should say I was "almost" finished with college at that time; I didn't know I'd go to law school at the age of 51, but that's another story.

In our little town of Princeton, Illinois, we had one radio station, WZOE,

that covered news for all of Bureau County. I dropped in one day asking to help out with the news and was hired. Shortly thereafter I was offered the morning talk-show host job! What I knew about hosting a radio show was exactly nothing. I was curious and much into knowledge of trivia so I assumed it would work out – and it did.

For 12 years I hosted Coffee Time, a 45-minute talk show. I was sure I could tap my relatives and friends and a few famous strangers talking about food, talking about the role food plays in life, politics and the role that plays in our life, and various sundry subjects like antiques, self-help programs, new products, county fairs, books and other things that the person behind them was dying to talk about to anyone that would listen.

I loved that job. I never ran out of topics and to this day, 30 years later, my friends and family refer to me as "The Voice of Bureau County."

POETRY

SUGAR GLIDER

A haiku by ANNA CORN, age 11

Gliding though the air,
Tree to tree so gracefully,
The sugar glider.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hear bass in a multitude of dimensions

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

Enjoy "Bass Extravaganza" on Tuesday, May 24, at 7 p.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library. Ann Gilbert, whose resume resembles a "Who's Who" of bass studies, performance and teaching from the highest regarded classical levels to pop celebrities, will present a unique program that explores different ways in which the bass can soar.

Gilbert urges all to come with open ears and minds as she serenades her audience on a carbon fiber bass, an upright electric Gel Bass and a modern Italian string bass. She will bring several friends, including two Suzuki bass students (5 and 7 years old), a jazz trio, and an all-carbon fiber instrument string quartet.

Currently, Gilbert plays principal bass with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, the Akron Symphony, Blue Water Chamber Orchestra and is a member of Firelands Symphony Orchestra. She also teaches Suzuki and traditional bass for the Cleveland Music School Settlement. Her résumé includes appointments as principal bass with the Symphonic Orchestra of the State of Mexico, assistant principal bass with the Oregon Symphony, and in the Symphonic Orchestra of Seville, Spain.

She is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Juilliard School of Music, and the University of Akron.



PHOTO COURTESY ANN GILBERT

Ann Gilbert with her carbon fiber bass, one of three she will showcase at Bass Extravaganza on May 24.

Gilbert's first bass teachers were George Wisneskey and Harry Barnoff. She studied piano with Marianne Mastics. She studied string bass with David Perlman, principal bass for the Cleveland Orchestra and John Schaeffer, principal bass for the New York Philharmonic. She has played in orchestras backing up Kenny Rogers, Scott Hamilton, Kenny Loggins, Roger Daltrey, Luciano Pavarotti, Jewel, Dennis DeYoung, the Three Tenors, and the Moody Blues.

This extraordinary program is presented to the community without charge by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, as it fulfills its mission to make art programs, in all forms, available to the general public. Westlake Porter Public Library is at 27333 Center Ridge Road. ●

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SAFETY FAIR *from front page*



SJMC nurses Anne Gorski and Shana Outrich set up the tabletop “Operation” board game, designed to teach how different organs are affected by drugs.

This event promises to be interesting to all age groups. Outside there will be a “Touch a Truck” event which will include emergency vehicles, service trucks, the ICAC forensics van, the Ghost Buster van and more; including a special appearance by the UH helicopter (weather permitting). Free bike helmets will be distributed (while supplies last).

There will also be a bounce house, balloon twist-ers, a DJ, and a Teddy Bear First Aid station.

The gym will be home to

50 vendors and table displays representing a variety of health and safety topics for all ages. Some topics will include: cyber safety, technology for seniors, the opiate task force, crime prevention, weight management, wandering and safety devices both for seniors with dementia issues and children with autism issues, just to name a few.

The community rooms will house a wide variety of biometric health screenings, including cancer screenings. All events and offering are free of charge. ●

BIKE RIDE *from front page*



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Village Bicycle Cooperative volunteers sign up riders and give directions for the History Mystery tour at the Community House in Cahoon Memorial Park.

There was a presentation in the Community Room at the Bay Village Police Department about the education program, “Bike More: Drive Less,” which is beginning May 20 (see villagebicycle.org for more information). Mothers were honored at the ride and they received special gifts of fresh tulips, chocolates and cookies. A potential plan for next year’s History Mystery Ride is to visit the farms around the area, sample some treats at each stop and meet new people.

Thanks to all the sponsors for food, raffle contributions and support, especially Lake Road Market, Gina’s Pizza, Whole Foods, Fragapane’s, Trader Joe’s, Fairview Cycles, Blazing Saddles and Beat Cycles. And, of course, the Waylows, whose music put the spring into the air and dancing in the wind.

Village Bicycle Cooperative is 100 percent

volunteer run and we couldn’t do what we do without all the committed volunteers throughout the year. A special thanks to the following for their help with the ride: Carl Gonzalez, Justin May, Colleen Bumba, Brian Klueber, Lawrence Kuh, Jennifer Smillie, Patrick McGannon, Bill Abbott, Gregg Wilson, Jim Smillie, Jim Jewett, Max Grube, Bill Fleig and Michelle Kraft and a big thanks to Rebecca Krueger for organizing this event. Luke Smillie, our youngest volunteer at age 8 summed up best the mission of VBC: “Family and kids are biking when it’s nice out and not driving.”

Spending the day outside with friends, riding bikes, learning about our city and enjoying tasty food and good music...what could be better! We welcome your help and donations so we can continue providing the city with programs and recycling bikes. ●



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THE DIGITAL WORLD

Options to ease seniors into digital literacy

by TAK SATO

In recent issues, we explored the probable consequences stemming from the currently low digital literacy rate among seniors. Although each senior's personal situation and life challenges are different, such as the benign sounding, yet common mental health symptom of "loneliness" that afflicts many aging-in-place seniors, as well as physical health issues, becoming digitally literate empowers seniors to overcome many of their challenges and enjoy digital world benefits.

I continue to exclude younger generations out of this discussion, as they are mostly well in-tune with the utility of the

digital world. But communication requires at least two parties, so the younger generation – such as the seniors' offspring and their grandchildren – play an integral role in promoting digital literacy for seniors.

I've learned that something as simple as finding out a person's real world interests and coaching them on how those interests can be cultivated in a more expansive and efficient manner can be a powerful motivational tool. Online research on topics of interest, like genealogy, can be a great way to introduce seniors to the digital world.

Another motivator is the use of communication technology to keep in touch with loved ones. While seniors may want frequent phone calls and visits from their offspring, the younger set may prefer to communicate using social networking sites such as Facebook.

Many seniors are elated to find out that they can simply become "friends" with their children and grandchildren on Facebook, enabling them to see their pictures and updates. Their intimidation barrier is further reduced when they find

out that they themselves do not have to share a single picture or update. Using social media in this way can help maintain intergenerational family connectedness.

This is similar to my personal example from a previous article, where even though I'd prefer flying back to Japan more frequently, responsibilities and finances prohibit such indulgence. Rather than succumbing to being homesick, or worrying about my aging-in-place parents (or them worrying about me, as all parents worry about their children), we both embraced the digital world tool of video chat to keep in touch and overcome our obstacle of distance.

There is no stopping or slowing down of how everything we used to do in the real world is increasingly moving to the digital world. Products and services are delivered, and some even exclusively, in the digital world. Being able to use digital tools to access products and services has become critical.

Digital literacy has become the life skill that everyone, especially seniors, needs to embrace quickly! ●

SPORTING VIEWS

The ultimate two-party system

by JEFF BING

Ever wonder what it's like being the guy who writes the "Sporting Views"? Actually, and this is a little more to the point, ever wonder what the wife of the guy who writes the "Sporting Views" thinks about all this?

I'll bet there are a few of you out there who are curious, and if there are at *least* a few of you, I won't have to worry about my readership numbers taking a hit as a result of me choosing this topic.

First, perhaps a little history about my wife: Patti and I met 46 years ago in the field behind St. Bernadette church in Westlake. Ironically, we would be married at the same church seven years later (much to the chagrin of her parents).

Anyway, when we first met, she didn't care much about sports. Invariably, her questions about the Indians, Browns and Cavs were pretty generic and predictable: "Are the (insert team name here) any good this year?" And then she'd ask who the opponent was. And then she'd ask if the opponent was any good, to which I'd offer my considered opinion, along the lines of "Yes," "No," or "Your guess is as good as mine."

So I set out to change her. (Obviously, I was young ... and very, *very* naïve). I mean, what kind of relationship can a couple have if they don't have some common interests? If you can't have an honest conversation about home runs, touchdowns, or the 24-second shot clock, what the heck is the point, right? So we spent countless hours, weeks, months even, going over the fine points of professional sports in Cleveland.

Let me tell you: it wasn't easy, especially in the beginning. There were discussions, arguments, even insults thrown on occasion. And it usually even got worse when we started talking about *sports!* But I must say, after almost five decades of intense schooling on my part – I'm a stickler for detail if you haven't noticed – the fruits of my labor began to bear some, uh, fruit. The difference is like night and mid-morning. Check this out:

Today, a mere 46 years after "school" commenced, she *still* doesn't care much about sports. Invariably, her questions about the Indians, Browns and Cavs are pretty generic and predictable: "Are the (insert team name here) any good this year?" And she'll ask who the opponent is. And she'll ask if the opponent is any good, to which I'll offer my considered opinion, along the lines of "Yes," "No," or "What's for dinner?"

It just goes to show what a couple can accomplish when food is the key. ●

Herb Guild Scholarship Luncheon

by BARBARA ARMSTRONG

The Herb Guild's 32nd annual Scholarship Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 3, at Avon Oaks Country Club. This year's theme is "In the Pink." Tickets are \$35 each and are on sale now.

The boutique will open at 10 a.m. and will feature culinary herbs, herb mixes, herb dips and specialty items. There will be a tasting table so you can taste the delicious foods before you buy them. Breadsmith of Lakewood will sell their herb bread again this year. There will be raffle baskets, each worth \$75 or

more, and a silent auction with amazing deals.

This year, three scholarships will be awarded at the luncheon. The cost of the ticket includes lunch and the keynote speaker, veteran Cleveland radio and television personality, Mike Olszewski. Proceeds from the annual event will be used for the club's scholarship fund.

For more information call Kathie Conrad at 215-872-9725. ●

WESTLAKE RECREATION DEPT.

Time to plan your summer fun

by JIM DISPIRITO

As the school days start to wind down there is one major question on every parent's mind: "What am I going to do with them for the whole summer?" Yes, parents, that golden time has arrived. After your child sleeps in the first morning, then gets up, brushes the sleep from their eyes and promptly yells out: "I'm bored, there is nothing to do!"

Don't worry, the Westlake Recreation Department has you covered. We offer activities for almost every age group. Daily programs, weekly camps, swimming lessons, sport-specific camps and much more. The best part is, you can register right now for these camps and have the whole summer planned out even before they run out of school on the last day.

Summer Day Camp (ages 6-12)

Running weekly from June 6-Aug. 12, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Weekly field trips. Before and After Care available.

Playful Preschoolers (ages 3-5)

Running weekly from June 13-July 14, 8:45-11:15 a.m. Different themes on different weeks.

Youth Tennis Academy (ages 6-16)

Weekly sessions starting June 6 and ending the week of Aug. 8. Ages 6-10 run 9-10:30 a.m.; ages 11-16 run 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Summer Sport Time (ages 3-5)

Tuesday-Thursday mornings, June 21-July 21. This program will let your child experience all different types of sporting activities all in one class. The session features T-Ball, basketball and soccer each on a different day. All activities are held in the gym of the Recreation Center.

Phil Bova Baseball Camp (ages 7-14)

Annual baseball camp held the week of June 13. Register at bovacamps.com or call 440-779-1390.

Soccer Camp with Mike Besu Ages (5-14)

The return of Coach Besu's soccer camps. Three weekly camps this year: the weeks of June 20, July 11 and Aug. 1. All camps run Monday-Friday, 9-11:30 a.m.

Shawn Hood's Basketball Skills & Drills Camp (grades 3-8)

Join WHS varsity coach Shawn Hood as he works with players to improve shooting, passing and overall skills at this great

summer camp for boys and girls.

Monday-Thursday, July 25-28. Grades 3-5: 9 a.m.-noon; grades 6-8: 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Demons Summer Volleyball Camp (grades 2-6)

Are you just learning or want to polish your volleyball skills? This camp will be ideal for both. Join members of the WHS staff as they focus on the basics of the game in the three-day camp. Grades 2-4 will focus on the basics while grades 5-6 will build upon the basics and prep you for game time. Monday-Wednesday, July 18-29. Grades 2-4: 9-10:30 a.m.; grades 5-6: 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Black Dog Lacrosse Camp (ages 6-15)

Almost 30 years of camp experience will guide everyone from basic player to advance technique. This camp will work with the beginner as well as the intermediate player on their skills. Drills will be level specific. Beginning players will be required to bring sticks and mouth guards. Intermediate players will be required to have full equipment. Monday-Thursday, June 27-30, 9 a.m.-noon.

The Westlake Baseball School (Ages 7-14)

Join former St. Ed's coach John Whelan as he heads up this skills program. The focus will be to improve your child's hitting, throwing and fielding technique. Held at Clague Park fields. Monday and Wednesdays, June 13-July 6. Ages 7-10 attend from 9-10 a.m.; ages 11-14 attend from 10:10-11:10 a.m.

We also offer swimming lessons at Peterson Pool in Clague Park and the Westlake Recreation Center.

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

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BVPD celebrates 10 years in 'new' building

by TARA WENDELL

The Bay Village Police Department is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of its station house this month. In honor of the milestone, the department held an informal ceremony on May 6, welcoming Mayor Debbie Sutherland and Ruth Popovich, the city's assistant finance director, for a trip down memory lane.

"We're here because Ruth remembered that this month was our 10th anniversary," said Chief Mark Spaetzel.

The finance department was heavily involved in the process, monitoring costs as the city dealt with legal and environmental issues that affected construction.

"We tracked every dime that went into this building," Popovich recalled. "All the change orders and everything; it's hard to walk in here and not think of the contractors, and the lawsuit and the

ground remediation."

The group, including several officers who have been with the department since before the move, reminisced about the old police headquarters, which had been housed on the ground floor of City Hall since the 1950s.

"It was disgusting," Mayor Sutherland said of the former station. "One of the major reasons that we needed to make the move was because it was so dangerous to process any prisoners over there because there was no room."

The space was cramped and outdated, with four jail cells, the dispatch center, the officers' locker room and records department in an area that is now home to the SafeBuilt building department, administrative offices and the woodworking shop.

"Where the wood shop is now,



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Mayor Debbie Sutherland and Ruth Popovich (not pictured) visited the Bay Village police station on May 6. Standing, from left: Lt. Calvin Holliday, officer Michael Bourque, Sgt. Elliot Silva and Chief Mark Spaetzel.

that used to be the sally port for prisoners," Popovich said. "Officers used to pull their cars in and close the doors and they would have access to the police station." Added Chief Spaetzel: "When we arrested somebody, we'd have to shut down the whole department as we'd walk in a prisoner. It was a disaster waiting to happen."

"When the police department was located at City Hall, we were in violation of so many regulations," said Sutherland. "It was only a matter of time that if somebody got hurt, whether it was an officer or a prisoner, the liability for the city was tremendous. We didn't have any way to improve it at that current location, so

that was one of the overarching reasons that we built the new station. It was old and we couldn't upgrade it sufficiently to meet the regulations for jails."

Operations were officially transferred to the new station when the old phones were closed for good at 1:32 p.m. on May 22, 2006, according to police logs provided by Lieutenant Calvin Holliday.

"I don't know how we did it. This room is as big as the old station," joked officer Russ Kime, referring to the conference room in which the anniversary commemoration was held. "This place is the Taj Mahal compared to where we were." ●



Bay Village police officers promoted

by MARK SPAETZEL

Two Bay Village police officers were promoted during a ceremony administered by Mayor Debbie Sutherland at City Hall prior to the May 10 City Council meeting.

Lt. Mark Palmer has been with the Bay Village Police Department since August 2010. He was promoted to lieutenant in charge of the Patrol Division. He is a drug recognition expert, is a member of the

Westshore Enforcement Bureau's Crisis Negotiation Team and was a field training officer. Lt. Palmer is married and has two children.

Sgt. Eric Tuisku has been with the Bay Village Police Department since October 2009. He was promoted to patrol sergeant in charge of the afternoon shift. Sgt Tuisku is a member of the Westshore Enforcement Bureau's SWAT team. He has also served as a field training officer and a bike patrol officer. ●



Lt. Mark Palmer and Sgt. Eric Tuisku

PHOTO BY MARK SPAETZEL

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Westlake welcomes 2 new firefighter/paramedics

Two new firefighters/paramedics were sworn in to the Westlake Fire Department during ceremonies on April 6 and April 19 in City Council chambers.



Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough administers the oath of office to firefighter/paramedic Patrick Crawford.



Firefighter/paramedic Christopher Molnar is sworn in by Mayor Dennis Clough as Fire Chief James Hughes looks on.

Contracts approved for Bay Village Schools teachers and support staff

by KAREN DERBY

The Bay Village Board of Education approved new, three-year contracts with the district's teachers and support staff members at its Monday, May 9, regular board meeting.

Both the Bay Teachers Association and the district's OAPSE employees (including custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, maintenance staff and school secretaries) agreed to salary increases of 2 percent for the first year of their new contracts, with increases of 1.75 percent for each of the following two years.

"Thanks to the collaborative relationships between our administration, our teachers and our support staff, we can continue to offer a high-quality education to our students while maintaining sound fiscal management for our community," said Amy Huntley, president of the school board. "This stability is so important. It lets our board plan ahead to offer the best programs in the most cost-efficient ways. I know I speak for our board in saying how proud we all are of our staff members and their dedication to our children and to our community."

Superintendent Clint Keener noted that because staff members have accepted modest increases, freezes and higher employee-paid health insurance costs since an operating levy passed in 2010, the district has been able to extend that levy well beyond its initial three-to-four-year projection.

"Our teachers are very motivated professionals," Keener said. "More than three-quarters of them have, on their own time and cost, earned master's degrees in their fields because they want to be the best. Their hard work keeps us among the top in national and state rankings that measure academic performance in all kinds of ways."

Keener noted that the most recent data from the Ohio Department of Education shows that Bay Village teacher salaries are just slightly above the average in Cuyahoga County, yet the faculty is among the top third in years of experience.

He had praise for the district's support staff, as well. "Our bus drivers have an excellent safety record. Our food service staff has, through hard work and creativity, balanced their budget. Our custodians take great pride in keeping our buildings clean and attractive. Our maintenance staff uses a broad set of skills to save us many dollars in building repairs and upgrades. And our secretaries serve everyone with patience and pride each day," he said.

Keener said that it was the positive collaboration and mutual respect reflected in the bargaining agreements that let the district excel both in financial management and in student academic achievement. "Learning is our product," he said. "We teach the whole child. It requires a team of dedicated professionals at every level. I have the utmost respect for our staff members, and I know that we are on track for continued success." ●

Westlake Historical Society hosts community art show

by DAVE PFISTER

The Clague House is turning 140 years old this year and, as a part of our yearlong celebration, the Westlake Historical Society is honoring Sophronia Clague's love for artistic expression by holding an Ice Cream Social and non-juried Community Art Show beginning on June 10.

All Westlake residents or members of the Westlake Historical Society are invited to submit up to two items for display and/or sale. We ask that all submissions be ready for hanging and suit-

able for public display to families in a museum. The show is open to all types of art including drawings, paintings and photographs. Each submission must be your original work.

All ages are encouraged to participate in the show. Please include a brief statement about the work and/or a mini bio about yourself. To officially enter the show or ask questions, please call Dave at 440-610-2728.

An Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social on the grounds of the Clague House will kick off the event on June 10. Please plan to join us at 6 p.m. for free ice cream and birthday cake, interesting art, and tours of the historic Clague House Museum. During the Ice Cream Social, divisional winners for the art show will be announced.

The art show will also be open on Saturday, June 11, and Sunday, June 12, from 3-5 p.m. ●

Moms celebrated with High Tea



PHOTO BY CANDY SANSON

Carolyn Vieth enjoyed an early Mother's Day celebration with her daughters, Becky Olson and Evelyn Sobczak, at O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village on April 30. The ladies attended the High Tea dressed in their finery, hats and all, and enjoyed an assortment of teas, scones and other delights.

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FAMILY
OBSERVATIONS

Balls and Strikes

by RJ JOHNSON

The difference between a ball and a strike is whatever the umpire says it is. I now know this firsthand.

The boy's little league team was scrimmaging with another team, so there was no official umpire. Our coach asked one of his assistants if he would umpire. "I don't think I can," he said. "My son is on the mound."

I saw the coach's eyes shift towards me. I looked at the ground. "Maybe he won't notice me sitting here," I hoped.

"Can you call balls and strikes?" he queried.

"I can try, but..."

He handed me a clicker with which to keep track of balls and strikes as he said, "You can stand behind the backstop if you want. We don't have a mask or pads for an umpire."

I never played organized baseball. The only baseball I ever played was on the playground at recess, where they usually asked me to back up the left fielder. (For those not familiar with the intricacies of the game, backing up the left fielder is like being told to just stay out of the way.)

What had I gotten myself into? I wasn't even sure where the strike zone was. I sauntered over to one of the assistant coaches and said, "I can't remember. In this league, is the strike zone between the shoulders and knees?" I

hoped no one else heard the question.

"That sounds about right," he said.

"About right." That's how I called things. About right.

I called for the first batter of the game. My heart raced. Everyone would soon know that I had no idea what I was doing.

The first pitch came. The catcher reached over his head to grab it. It went over his mitt. The ball was heading for my face. I ducked in time. "Ball 1," I said.

Maybe this was going to be easier than I thought. I have good reflexes, and can duck when I need to.

Unfortunately, not all of the calls were so easy. I called one pitch a strike. The batter looked back at me and said, "You have to be kidding. That was over my head."

The pitch was not over his head, but it was probably a little high.

"Don't argue with the umpire!" called the coach.

"Yeah," I said, "don't argue with me, or I'll eject you."

"No you won't," he replied.

He was right. It was the boy, my boy, who was up to bat.

He swung at the next pitch, even though it bounced off the plate. He looked at me and said, "Might as well swing. You'll call it a strike anyway." He smiled.

On the way back to the car after the game, I said, "You were right. The first one was a little high."

"I know," he said.

"Why on earth did you swing at the second one?"

"I don't know," he replied. "I just got nervous."

"So did I," I said. "So did I." ●

Far West Center, Clague Playhouse partner for play, paintings

by ALICIA GOODELLE

Far West Center and the Clague Playhouse formed a unique partnership this month when original art works from the "AHH! Art Helps and Heals" program at Far West Center are displayed during the Playhouse's performance of "Panache." The play runs through May 29.

Both community nonprofits discovered common ground and a chance to combine their talents in the performing and the visual arts. A meeting between the Playhouse's board president, Rich Lynch, and Far West Center's mental health recovery

coordinator, Denise Ayres, led to this one-of-a-kind project.

"Panache" is a play about Harry, an aspiring artist and short-order cook, asked by socialite Kathleen to give up the rights to his vanity license plate. The growing relationship between the two characters creates this heartwarming comedy. Lynch and Ayres added a special twist – client art pieces from the AHH! program are featured within the set itself.

The Playhouse's lobby gallery will showcase even more original pieces prior to the performances. The gallery is open from 1-6 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays through

Saturdays, and 1-2 p.m. on Sundays in May. The exhibit is free and open to the public at those times and is sure to entice observers to then stay for the play! For tickets to "Panache," call 440-331-0403.

"This is a great opportunity to connect an engaging performance with inspiring and delightful artwork," said to Kelly Dylag, President/CEO of Far West Center.

Far West Center is a community mental health center with an office on the St. John Medical Center campus in Westlake. For more information about Far West Center, visit far-westcenter.com. ●

Singer Karen Drucker performing at Unity

by TERRI BREWER

Unity welcomes singer/songwriter Karen Drucker for a concert on Saturday, May 21, at 7 p.m. at Unity Spiritual Center. Unity is located at 23855 Detroit in Westlake. Cost is \$25 with free coffee and desserts following the concert.

Growing up in California, Karen's life was changed when, in her youth, the famous songwriter Carole King moved onto her street and Karen became the babysitter for Carole's two small children. Karen was thrilled when Carole let her borrow her piano during Carole's home remodel. With King as her role



Karen Drucker

model and mentor, Karen Drucker began a long and meaningful career in music as she created song after song of positive affirmations, healing and self empowerment.

Now after 15 CDs, and a book, "Let Go of the Shore," Karen travels around the country performing and conducting spiritual retreats. Her exquisitely beautiful songs and chants get entire audiences engaged in a shared, life-affirming experience that resonates with them for a long time.

As a child, Karen created a campaign to get other kids to

help save the famous Hollywood sign which had fallen into disrepair. That experience of activism also put her on the path of becoming a person who makes a difference. Whether it's riding her bike from San Francisco to Los Angeles for AIDS research (the AIDS Bike Ride), walking from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles for breast cancer research (the Avon Breast Cancer Walk), swimming the English Channel (becoming the first American women's relay team to make a successful crossing) or performing her original music played on piano, she continues to make a difference.

For more information or for tickets go to unityspiritualcenter.com. Unity is non-denominational and welcomes people of all faiths. ●

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) meeting, May 11, 2016

by LWV observer JANICE PATTERSON (Westlake/North Olmsted chapter)

This report is not an official statement of the League of Women Voters. Mayor Bobst's office prepares official minutes.

The meeting took place at Memorial Hall, Rocky River, with Mayor Pam Bobst presiding.

Present: Mayors Bobst (Rocky River), Summers (Lakewood), Sutherland (Bay Village), Patton (Fairview Park) and Kennedy (North Olmsted). Mayor Clough (Westlake) was absent. Also present were Mary Ellen Umerley, Chris McNulty, Jeff Capretto and Kevin Bednarski.

Two extensive reports were presented. Chris McNulty, Director of Political and Community Affairs for the Republican National Convention Arrangements Committee, briefed the mayors on his office's responsibilities

relating to the July 2016 Republican National Convention. Jeff Capretto, Special Agent in Charge, Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB), presented the 2015 annual report orally and in print.

Key points from McNulty's presentation:

- Convention committee members and media will begin arriving about July 8 for a week of conference work preceding the actual convention. Some 15,000 media personnel are expected.
- Delegate travel to and from Quicken Loans Arena (by bus from their hotels in four counties) is not expected to change rush-hour traffic very much as they will be coming into town in late afternoon.
- Westshore suburbs can expect a lot of activity in shopping areas, restaurants and bars during the daytime from people who have come to the area with RNC delegates but do not have credentials themselves. Several bars are requesting temporary late closing hours.
- Volunteer recruitment continues; approximately 8,000 people needed to assist with logistics downtown as well as in all hotels where delegates are housed. Volunteers must commit to attending a training and to specific time assignments.
- Hosting the RNC has the opportunity to "rebrand" Cleveland, as about 85 percent of delegates may be visiting for the first time.
- While there will be a specific national security "net" controlling egress in and around The Q for delegates, media and assigned volunteers, citizens are welcome

to come downtown to enjoy the ambiance of a major event.

Capretto's sobering report highlighted the epidemic level of heroin addiction in Ohio and its presence in the Westshore suburbs. He stated that a many-pronged approach is necessary to address use and abuse of all kinds of drugs, beginning with health education for children and youth and following through to convictions of traffickers.

Lakewood has four dedicated narcotics officers and Westlake has two. His remarks prompted questions from the mayors about the varied substances that are being sold and used.

The group also discussed possible need for new ordinances that would control locations for sales of electronic cigarettes and marijuana products should medical marijuana become legal in Ohio.

Members accepted the financial reports for February, March and April presented by Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney.

There were no commission reports. The mayors also exchanged ideas on the ways they are using technology to inform citizens about emergency situations and community activities.

The preferred candidate for CERT Coordinator has declined the position, so the search will be reinstituted.

County Chief Economic Development Officer Ted Carter did not attend the meeting as had been announced in the March meeting report. ●

BAYARTS

Dinners, movies and opera under the stars

In response to the popularity of BAYarts' Thursday night Farm and Art market, foodies will be pleased to know that the newest addition to BAYarts' summer "stay-cation" lineup are Dinner in the Dark events, farm-to-table meals under the stars. Dinners will be served on the lawn on farm tables handmade by BAYarts' event planner extraordinaire Diana Brewer. Brewer upcycles donated wood doors, palettes, and windows to create all the furniture used at BAYarts events.

On Friday, Aug. 5, Ben Bebenroth's Spice Kitchen will be featured, complete with artisan drinks and live music by The Tim Joyce Band. On Thursday, Aug. 18, local girl Brittany Reilly's Leaf Farm to Table Catering will serve up a

vegetarian/vegan dinner following the farm market.

The dinners were the brainchild of BAYarts' resident foodie and market manager, Pam Mills, who was inspired by similar events at the famous Culinary Vegetable Institute in Milan, Ohio. "There is nothing like sharing a great meal with friends under the stars on a summer evening," say Mills. "The bonus is, we get to do it right here in the park." Dinner in the Dark events will



have limited seating so BAYarts expects a sellout. Advance tickets will go on sale June 1.

Also new this summer is a lineup of outdoor movies presented by Hinkley Lighting. Local film aficionado Robert Banks will convert the concert stage to a movie screen three nights this

summer. The movie "Ghostbusters" will be shown as part of a Family Fun Night on Thursday, June 30; a Midsummer's Night Out for grown ups on Saturday, July 14, will feature concessions, libations and Woody Allen's "Play It Again Sam." And what better way to follow everyone's favorite Irish band The Portersharks on Sunday, July 17, than with everyone's favorite Irish movie "Waking Ned Devine." Also new this summer, all concessions will be by Sweet Melissa and available throughout the evening. The free movies begin at dusk (no rain dates).

Making its first appearance on the west side, The Great Lakes Light Opera comes to BAYarts' summer stage on Sunday, Aug. 14. GLLO is a regular at University Circle's Wade Oval Concerts and looks forward to sharing a fun and accessible performance to a new audience. Other summer acts include Back Bay, Red Light Roxy, The Portersharks, Flavored Jazz, Boogie Woogie Boy and the annual Open Mic finale. Information on all these events are in the BAYarts newsletter at many local businesses or at bayarts.net. ●

Kiwanis adapt toys for children with disabilities

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

The Westlake Kiwanis held a RePlay for Kids project on Tuesday, May 10, at Westlake Porter Public Library. Eight members and three guests volunteered their time to work on the toys.

They adapted the toys so they can be used by children with disabilities. It involves taking apart the toys and installing switches which can be used to make the toys operate in various ways, such as blowing into a tube or touching with the side of a head. They managed to complete 30 toys which is the

most they have ever done. As usual, Natalie Wardega, director of operations for RePlay for Kids, led the group.

To learn more about volunteering with RePlay For Kids, a non-profit organization based in Medina, check their website at replayforkids.org for dates and times of future workshops. They

also accept donations of new or gently used toys and monetary donations.

If you're interested in helping with a project like this why not join the Westlake Kiwanis, a hands-on community organization dedicated to helping children. Contact George Christ at 440-871-3980 or gchrist44140@yahoo.com. ●



Alex Krystynak, Norm Resko, Alan Hendricks, Bonnie, Smith, Natalie Wardega, Vic Rutkoski, Hal Paul and Ray Budoi hold adapted toys.

PHOTO COMPOSITION BY KEVIN WALKER

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WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

WHS student named Jefferson Scholar

by KIM BONVISSUTO

Westlake High School senior Bradley Katcher was named a Jefferson Scholar for the University of Virginia.

The Jefferson Scholars Foundation award is intended to cover the entire cost of attendance for four years at the University of Virginia, plus coverage of the supplemental enrichment experiences. Those opportunities include Team Challenge Program, Institute for Leadership and Citizenship, foreign travel studies, Alumni Connections Program, career counseling, public service fellows, and enrichment dinners and receptions.

Awarded solely on the basis of merit, Jefferson Scholarships are granted to candidates who have undergone a rigorous selection process. Jefferson Scholars must be nominated by their schools. Over 4,200 secondary schools are eligible to nominate in the regional competitions. Bradley was nominated by WHS Guidance Counselor Joan Jerome and was one of 15 students from the North Ohio region (stretching from Columbus to Cleveland) interviewed by a regional committee.

As one of 120 finalists to come out of the regional competitions, Bradley was invited to Charlottesville for the Jefferson Scholarship Selection Weekend in March, which included networking, tours, math tests, essays, interviews and other assessments. From there he was named one of the 36 Jefferson Schol-



Bradley Katcher

ars. He also was named an Echols Scholar through the University Honors Program.

At UVA, Bradley will study politics and economics. Thanks to AP credits, along with waivers of general education and pre-requisite requirements through the Echols Scholar Program, he will graduate in four years with at least a master's degree and potentially begin his doctorate.

"I attribute my success to the high number of AP classes I took, as well as my participation outside the classroom," said Bradley, who is graduating one year early. "This honor means that my hard work has all come to fruition. Thanks to the education I received at Westlake High School and my participation in extracurricular activities like Latin Club and Speech and Debate, I was selected as one of the best and brightest in the world."

At WHS, Bradley is involved in Speech and Debate, Model UN, Latin Club, Ohio Junior Classical League State Executive Board, student council, Regional IT Engagement Board, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Certamen, math team and student tutoring. ●

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Bay student is Honorable Finalist in Library of Congress contest

by KAREN DERBY

Bay Middle School fifth-grader Annabella Mayer was recognized as an Ohio Level 1 Honorable Finalist in the Library of Congress' Letters About Literature 2016 Contest.

Students entering the contest write letters to the author of a book that has made a difference in their lives. Annabella wrote her letter to author Jerry Spinelli about his book, "Stargirl."

Annabella explained that Mr. Spinelli's book helped her realize that she didn't need to fit in with the crowd. "I, like every-

one, am not perfect. I don't always fit in," she wrote.

"All my life, I've thought that being different, being imperfect, was somehow inferior. That it was to be tolerated, not embraced. But now, I know something new. Stargirl has taught me what no parent could convince me of. You really should embrace that difference."

Annabella was one of seven students recognized in Ohio's top Level 1 (grades 4-6) out of 974 entries from all over the state. She



PHOTO BY ANNE HURTUK

Bay Middle School fifth-grader Annabella Mayer with her parents, David and Jacquelyn Mayer, and her brother, David.

attended the awards ceremony with her parents, Jacquelyn and David Mayer, her brother, David, and her Enrichment Resources Teacher, Anne Hurtuk, on May 7 at the main branch of the Cleveland Public Library. ●

Bay High students donate quilts to Village Project



Bay students created over 70 quilts for Village Project clients.

by DIANE FRYE

Beauty, creativity, warmth and comfort are special gifts to share. And that is just what students from classes taught by Bay High School family and consumer science teacher Bridgit McFarland recently did.

On May 3, Mrs. McFarland and a group of students from her "Fashion Runway" and "On Your Own" classes gathered in the Bay High auditorium to present over 70 lap quilts to Barb Harrell, executive director of Village Project.

The student-made quilts will be distributed to VP clients who are undergoing chemotherapy and in need of some comfort.

Colorful, soft and soothing, the 100 percent cotton flannel material used to make the quilts was purchased with a \$1,264 grant from the Bay Village Education Foundation. The students, in turn, donated their time, skills and creativity to the project. Mrs. McFarland noted, "Because of the grant, I didn't feel as bad about making them give the quilts up. They reaped the rewards of learn-

ing about volunteerism."

The Bay students were very enthusiastic about the experience. Moira, Alaina and Al'leshia said some of their favorite parts of the project were picking out the patterns and attaching the ribbons between the squares of fabric. They also enjoyed the gift of giving. "I think it will be excellent for Village Project clients to use our quilts. It's cool to make something for someone besides ourselves."

Barb Harrell thanked the students for their donations and revealed that "it's like Christmas morning" for the clients when they receive such a thoughtful gift delivered with their Village Project meals.

Village Project provides meals and extended care to local residents battling cancer and their families. Currently, meals are prepared and delivered two days each week, but in order to serve more families, VP is trying to raise enough money to increase the number of meal preparation days each week to four. To find out how you can participate in VP's upcoming Project Pedal fundraiser or to get more information about this local organization, visit ourvillageproject.com or call 440-348-9401. ●

HUMOR

Gilligan's Island? Try Gilligan's Knickerbocker

by CAROL JANOVSKY

The Knickerbocker Apartments has a longtime resident cat. A sign on the door of Phyllis' apartment reads "Gilligan's Place." Gilligan is a black cat – who, by the way, is vice president-elect of the Knickerbocker (I kid you not) – that graciously allows the apartment's human tenant to cohabit "The Place" with her.

Before the days when the Bay Village Kiwanis provided us with plastic mailboxes by each apartment door, we had to bend in half to slip our communications under the door. For many of us seniors this wasn't the easiest feat to accomplish.

One day, I had an envelope to deliver to Phyllis. I pushed it under the door until it disappeared. Much to my surprise, "faster than a speeding bullet," my envelope flew back at me and landed in the hall a foot from the door.

Evidently, Gilligan was sitting right inside the door, took his paw and – WHAM – batted the envelope right back out!

Later that day I phoned Phyllis and reported what Gilligan had been up to. We shared a good laugh. I figure Gilligan thought it was a bill! ●



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Students write about Immigration Trunk Day

by KRISTEN THOMAS

My third-graders at Westerly School in Bay Village learn about immigrants during the period that Ellis Island was open. Students get a chance to compare life today with life in the past. Throughout this integrated unit, the students learn about immigrants from fiction and nonfiction texts as well as going on a virtual tour of Ellis Island. They learn to write letters and poems related to immigration.

As a culminating activity, the students participate in “trunk day.” Each student is assigned a country and they learn about real immigrant families that settled in the Cleveland area. Each group has a chance to explore trunks or suitcases with artifacts, journals, logs and more. Here are two summary paragraphs written by two of my students.

Trunk Day by Jacob Owens

I think that you should have Trunk Day. It is when you go to different centers and do worksheets and eat food from different countries. I was from Hungary (not really). We got to dress up in clothes from the suitcases. Most of them were grown-



Westerly third-graders Ella and Jacob pose as Hungarian immigrants after their long journey to America.

up clothes. I hated the food except for these cookies called pizzelles from Italy. I learned about life in America through

letters to Hungary. There were other notes from the trunks to help us. The Vaskos were an interesting family to learn about. Does this sound like fun?

Trunk Day by Kate Kontis-Gleydura

Long ago, people came from other countries to Ellis Island, then to America to have a better life. On trunk day, Julia, Bea and I were in a group to learn about a Polish family. First, we looked in the trunk on the table. The first thing we saw was an old doll in a little dress. Then we filled out the worksheet about the Kniola family. They were immigrants living in Cleveland a long time ago. Then we dressed up. I wore a very long, green and black dress. Next, we tried food from six different countries! My favorite food was little, tiny rolls with powder on them called Russian Tea Cakes. Then we



Westerly third-graders Kate, Bea, Karis and Julia pose as Polish immigrants just off the ship.

got our pictures taken dressed in our immigrant clothes. Last, but not least, we answered some questions on stage to teach everyone about our Polish family. I have a question for you. Are you an immigrant? ●

Bay High's Alana Bernys adds National Merit Finalist to list of honors

by KAREN DERBY

Bay High senior Alana Bernys has been named a National Merit Finalist. She is among less than one percent of U.S. graduating seniors who qualified for the distinction based on scores of the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) college entrance exam taken during their junior year.

Alana has previously been recognized for earning a top score of 36 on the ACT college entrance exam. She was also named a Presidential Scholar candidate earlier this year. She plans to pursue a

double major in biochemistry and art history when she enters Dartmouth College this fall to prepare for a career as a medical researcher in the field of genetics.

“My interest in genetics started when I took some advanced classes through the Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search program in the eighth grade,” she said. She took online courses in genetics and biology, and has maintained a rigor-



Alana Bernys

ous high school schedule of AP science and math courses ever since.

A longtime student of ballet, Alana will be trying out for Dartmouth's dance team, a contemporary and ballet-based performance group. She has used her dance expertise to choreograph routines for the Bay High Rockettes, serving as senior lieutenant for that dance and drill team. She is a member of National Honor Society and has served on the leadership team

of Bay High's Team Africa. She participates in Young Life (a Christian outreach group), and she will be accompanying her younger sister on a Young Life camping trip this summer. She will also work as a nanny before heading off to Dartmouth.

“Being named a National Merit finalist is a tremendous honor that truly recognizes all of the hard work of Alana's educational career,” said Bay High principal Jason Martin. “Alana is a tremendously gifted and talented young lady who has worked hard to become a high achieving student, and this award is well deserved.” ●

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SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Remembering the Red Brick School House

by KAY LAUGHLIN

George Drake was the son of Metta and Frank Lincoln Drake. He was the grandson of Mary Ann Stephens Aldrich and Henry Aldrich. Henry Aldrich was the son of Elizabeth Winsor Aldrich and Aaron Aldrich who first settled in Dover Township in 1816 and built the 1830 Landmark home at Bradley and Lake roads. George inherited the house and lived there until his death. Following are George's memories, excerpted from "Bay Village: A Way of Life," about the Red Brick School House that used to stand on Lake Road, just east of Bas-

sett Road.

"When I started to school in 1896, the brick school just east of Cal Osborn's barn at Stop #30 had two rooms and a separate entry for boys and for girls. There was a woodhouse on the west side of the building, and of course, the boys' back house [today known as an outhouse] on the east side and the girls at the west side.

Blackboards were in front [behind the teacher's desk], and a hall for hats and coats and benches was on the northwest corner for the girls and a hall for the boys in the northeast corner. The teacher's desk was on a raised platform between

the two halls. We got our water from Cal Osborn's chain pump across the road to the west. We had water in a bucket in the sink on the west side of the room, with a dipper which all the kids used. There were only three in my class, myself and Mabel Osborn were two of them. This was the class that chose the school colors - blue and white.

As the classes were called, we went up to recite. You raised one finger when you wanted a drink and two when you wanted to go out (or was it the other way around?). We played tag in the back yard and 'Andy I over the woodshed.' We also had races around the school building. In the wintertime we brought our sleds and slid on Cal Osborn's hill [down to the lake]. The thirty



BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The red brick school house on the south side of Lake Road at interurban Stop #30 was built in 1869.

kids in the school would gather around the big round stove in the wintertime to keep warm."

George continued his education in Rocky River and then matriculated at The Ohio State University, majoring in engineering. He worked for the City of Bay Village engineering

department for many years.

After Parkview School was built in 1922, the red brick school was used as a theater for Bay Players and a voting precinct. It was torn down in 1941. The school teacher's desk is in the 1818 Room at Rose Hill Museum. ●

Celebrate memory of loved ones while helping hospice

by LAURIE HENRICHSEN

Residents of Bay Village, Westlake and surrounding West Shore communities are invited to walk in memory of their loved ones while "paying it forward" to help other patients and families. Registration is now open for Hospice of the Western Reserve's 2016 Walk to Remember, sponsored by FirstMerit Bank. Emmy award-winning broadcast journalist Leon Bibb of WEWS-TV, Channel 5, is this year's master of ceremonies.

Now in its fifth year, the event takes place Sunday, June 12, 8:45 a.m. to noon, at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Registration is available online at hospicewr.org/walk or by calling 216-383-3715. Admission includes a full day at the Zoo and Rainforest, T-shirts, entertainment and much more. The cost is \$25/adult and \$12/child; or \$65/family (includes two adults and three children under age 12). Ages 3 and under are free.

More than 3,000 participants are expected to honor the memory of their loved ones while raising funds for services provided by the nonprofit agency that are not fully covered by Medicare and private insurance. These include pediatric hospice and palliative care, patient "day to remember" life enrichment experiences, art and music therapy, grief and trauma support in local schools and much more. ●



Channel 5's Leon Bibb is master of ceremonies at this year's Walk to Remember on Sunday, June 12. The event benefits patients and families cared for by Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Westlake police honor local company

by JEFF AGOSTON

The Westlake Police Department recently honored the Scott Fetzer Company for their partnership in the Westlake PD's 2015 Adopt-a-Family program. Dispatcher Jeannie Ross and Scott Fetzer's events coordinator, Mary Leonard, worked tirelessly to assist the Murillo family, whose father, Jose, suffered a life-altering work related injury in March 2015. In the spirit of Christmas, on Dec. 22, 2015, the Murillo family was surprised with clothing, toys, various family mem-

berships, and recreational/educational equipment to assist during Jose's extensive recovery.

To honor their contribution, Ross, along with WPD Chief Kevin Bielozer and auxiliary officer Rick Grane, presented Leonard, President/CEO Bob McBride, and Chairman Ken Semelsberger with a plaque recognizing Scott Fetzer's collaboration in supporting the local community. Great appreciation was expressed to all who participated in the ongoing coalition to assist those in need who live and work in Westlake. ●



PHOTO BY JEFF AGOSTON

Rick Grane presents a plaque to Bob McBride. Also pictured, left to right: Chief Kevin Bielozer, Jeannie Ross, Mary Leonard and Ken Semelsberger.

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BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY

Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

As we head into Memorial Day weekend, we start thinking summer fun! The Bay Village branch library has a variety of activities to keep your children busy during the upcoming summer months. Besides our weekly in-library storytimes, we'll also be hosting a storytime at the Bay Village pool on Monday and Tuesday afternoons starting June 13 at 2 p.m. Our popular Book Buddies program starts back up on June 22 and we have some fun STEM programs – Project Bridge and Light Up Your Summer.

Also, children and adults can sign up for Cuyahoga County Public Library's summer reading program, "Get in the Game: Read." Keep track of your reading and you'll have a chance to win prizes. Pre-registration has started. CCPL is also hosting a variety of camps for children of all ages this summer. Visit cuyahogalibrary.org for more information on what is being offered.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Storytimes start back up on May 31. Also,

starting on June 6, join us at the Bay Village pool for poolside storytimes. The poolside storytimes will be held on Monday and Tuesdays at 2 p.m. We hope to see you there this summer!

STORYTIMES: Caregivers and their children are invited to enjoy rhymes, songs, fingerplays, books and stories together. No registration is required.

- **Mondays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STORYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- **Tuesdays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STORYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- **Tuesdays (6:45 p.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME** – for all ages
- **Wednesdays (10 a.m.) BABY AND ME STORYTIME** – ages birth-18 months
- **Thursdays (10 a.m.) PRESCHOOL STORYTIME** – ages 3-5 (not yet in kindergarten)
- **Thursdays (6:45 p.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME** – 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.

- **Fridays (10 a.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME** – for all ages

Thursday, May 19 (4 p.m.) COOKIES AND BOOKS – Children in grades 3-4 are invited to join us to discuss a good book. Copies of the book will be available one month before the discussion.

Saturday, June 11 (2 p.m.) LIGHT UP YOUR SUMMER – For grades 1-3. Light up your summer with fun and illuminating activities. Join us in sharing firefly and summer adventure books. Participate in crafting your own Storybook Lantern and Critter Bookmark using LEDs and other light sources.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, June 8, and Thursday, June 9 (2-4 p.m.) PROJECT BRIDGE – Those in grades 6-12 can participate to see who can design and build the best bridge – the most aesthetic and the strongest. Test your engineering ability and see what you can achieve with limited supplies in just 2 days! Registration required. Participants may be recorded and/or surveyed to capture program's effectiveness.

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!

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Friday, May 20 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS BOOK DISCUSSION – Join friends, neighbors and library staff as we discuss this month's book, "Best Boy" by Eli Gottlieb, on the BAYarts campus in the Sullivan Gallery. Copies of the books will be available at the library and BAYarts one month prior to the discussion.

Wednesday, May 25 (7 p.m.) VINCE MCKEE: THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS: A HISTORY OF THE WINE AND GOLD – Author Vince McKee has proven to be a top-notch chronicler of the impact of Ohio sports through his various books about Jacobs Field, the Cleveland Cavaliers and other sports figures from Cleveland. Join us as he recounts the history of the Cavaliers and his experiences with the sports heroes he's written about. A book sale and signing will follow the presentation.

Wednesday, June 1 (7 p.m.) ROAD SCHOLAR VACATION – Much more than a tour, a Road Scholar trip is a true learning adventure. Join a Road Scholar ambassador for an armchair vacation highlighting where Road Scholar has been and where it's going next.

Please register to attend the programs at cuyahogalibrary.org, call us at 440-871-6392, or stop in to the library at 502 Cahoon Road and register with a librarian. ●

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesdays, May 18 and 25 (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.

Wednesday, May 18 (7-8:45 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – Tom Neel, OGS Library Director, will speak about "Genealogical Research in Kentucky."

Thursday, May 19 (noon-1:30 p.m.) SMALL BUSINESS LUNCH & LEARN: HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – From the feasibility of starting a business through marketing, financial management, human resource management and the legal issues of operating a business. We will discuss the next steps needed to move forward with your plans. Bring your lunch; coffee is provided. Please register.

Thursday, May 19 (Combined Session: 6:30 p.m.) and Friday, May 20 (Basic Session: 9:30 a.m. and Advanced Session: 11 a.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS TEACH ME TO PLAY – For children 3-6 years old who need help with communication and social skills. Join us for a play-based program designed to model and teach families strategies to improve their child's social interactions, facilitate communication, and manage behavior in a positive way. Led by an early intervention specialist in behavior. To register: connectingforkids.org/hand-sontraining.

Friday, May 20 (4-4:45 p.m.) FUN SCIENCE FRIDAY – Explore the wonders of our world in a curious, caring and

creative setting. Investigate the life cycle of butterflies and bees, along with their important job of pollination. Discoveries will be made through hands-on experiments, active participation and a simple take-home project. Ages 4-6.

Saturday, May 21 (9:30-10 a.m.) YOGA RHYME TIME! – A perfect way to introduce yoga and practice simple poses with rhymes that imitate animals and nature. Remember to wear comfortable clothing and bring a towel or yoga mat. Ages 3-1/2 to 5 years.

Sunday, May 22 (2-3 p.m.) USING HERBS AND SPICES FOR GREATER WELLNESS – Herbalist Anne Floyd discusses how to use herbs and spices for greater wellness through food, tea and aromatherapy. Please register.

Sunday, May 22 (3-4 p.m.) EX-AMISH: WHERE ARE THEY NOW? – Brenda Nixon returns with fascinating new stories of Amish runaways. Brenda provides a safehouse for Amish leaving their culture and transitioning into the English world. Please register.

Tuesday, May 24 (9:30-10 a.m.) STORIES AND SIGNS – Enjoy interactive stories, songs and movement activities while learning a few words in sign language! Ages 0-3 with caregiver, siblings welcome.

Tuesday, May 24 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: INTERVIEWING SKILLS – Preparation is the essential ingredient for a successful job interview. Learn how to research potential employers so you're prepared to answer difficult questions and differenti-

ate yourself from other candidates.

Tuesday, May 24 (7-7:30 p.m.) BEDTIME STORIES – Put on your pajamas and join Mrs. K as we unwind at the end of the day with quiet stories, songs, finger plays and other bedtime activities. Ages 4-6; siblings welcome!

Tuesday, May 24 (7-8:45 p.m.) WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL – Westlake-Westshore Arts Council presents bassist Ann Gilbert. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, May 25 (10-11:30 a.m.) PINTEREST BASICS – This is a lecture-based session focused on the basics of using Pinterest followed by an open Pinterest Lab.

Wednesday, May 25 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – The May selection is "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins.

Wednesday, May 25 (7-8:30 p.m.) PROPOSAL WRITING BASICS – Non-profits will learn the key components of a proposal to a foundation. Please register.

THURSDAY, MAY 26 (10:30-11:30 A.M.) SENSATION STATIONS – Engage your child's senses by scooping, pouring and sorting a variety of materials. Specifically for children with special needs.

Thursday, May 26 (2-3 p.m.) TRAVEL CLUB: INDIA – All the way to India and back in one hour?! Yes, the travel club at WPPL can "virtually" give you a tour in an hour. Our YA Librarian Samantha Kretschmer will be our guide. Please register.

Friday, May 27 (1-2:30 p.m.) FANTASTIC FRIDAYS – Fantastic Friday is a great day for homeschoolers! Every month we'll explore a new topic with related activities. Ages 6-12. Registration begins May 20.

Saturday, May 28 (10:30-11 a.m.) MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE! – An interactive storytime featuring simple

books, rhymes, songs and movement. For ages birth-3 with an adult caregiver.

Saturday, May 28 (2-3 p.m.) MORSE CODE BRACELETS – Make your own bracelet and necklace using Morse Code. You can keep it for yourself or send a special message to a friend. Ages 13-15. Registration begins May 21.

Saturday, May 28 (4-5 p.m.) FULL STEAM AHEAD: LET'S GO FLY A KITE – Each session will explore a different aspect of STEAM learning. This month we'll make and decorate our own kites. Weather permitting, we'll test them outside! Grades 3 and 4. Registration begins May 21.

Sunday, May 29 and Monday, May 30 – LIBRARY CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday, May 31 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: FIRST IMPRESSIONS – If you're networking or interviewing, you need to make a positive impression. Get tips on the things that determine how you are perceived and how that perception impacts your success.

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

Porter Library parking lot to be closed for resealing

Westlake Porter Public Library's parking lot will be closed for resealing and striping on Sunday, May 29, and Monday, May 30. There will be no access to the drive-up book drops while the parking lot is closed. The library will be closed on May 29 and 30 in observance of Memorial Day, making it an ideal time for performing the annual maintenance. The re-sealing and re-striping will be done weather-permitting. ●

Join in at www.wbvobserver.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Wednesday, May 18, 1-2 p.m.
Importance of Wildflowers

The Westlake Garden Club presents Bev Walborn of the Metroparks Rocky River Reservation, who will speak on the importance of wildflowers to the environment. You are also welcome to join us at our monthly meeting at 11 a.m. and lunch at noon. No charge. RSVP to 440-665-5463.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, May 18, 4-6 p.m.
Fast-Track Job Training Open House

Come learn about Tri-C's fast-track programs: Health Care, Manufacturing, Information Technology, Truck Driving, Public Safety. Many programs offer paid internships and job placement assistance. Questions about funding, financial aid and scholarships? Partner agencies and staff will be on hand to help.
Tri-C Westshore, 31001 Clemens Rd., Westlake

Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
Cuyahoga West, Ohio Genealogical Society

Tom Neel, library director of the Ohio Genealogical Society and president of the New London Area Historical Society in Huron County, will speak about "Genealogical Research in Kentucky." Public is invited. Social time with refreshments is 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-8 p.m.
Evening Bird Hike

Grab your binoculars and head out on a relaxing evening bird hike that will wander through the woods and fields of Huntington Reservation. Members of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society will be our guides as we head towards the lake to look for warblers and other migrants. For adults. There is no fee for this program.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Thursday, May 19, 7-8 p.m.
Toastmasters Meeting

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, May 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Bike More & Drive Less

This free class will focus on errand running – learn how to set up your bike, simple errand trips to replace, and basic gear requirements. Pre-registration required at villagebicycle.org.
Village Bicycle Cooperative, 303 Cahoon Rd.

Friday, May 20, and Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

VFW Annual Buddy Poppy Days
Bay Village VFW Post 9693 will hold our annual fundraising campaign. The "Buddy Poppy" has an interesting history and represents your support for veterans and military members that either have or are sacrificing for our freedom. Our members and volunteers will be taking donations outside 3 area businesses. Please provide any support you can and proudly wear your Buddy Poppy!
Java Bay, 27225 Wolf Rd., Bay Village
Discount Drug Mart, 27300 Detroit Rd., Westlake
Giant Eagle, 30275 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Fridays, May 20 and 27, 2-3 p.m.
Creative Connections

Free weekly arts enrichment session to engage individuals affected by dementia along with their care partner (spouse, child, caregiver). Each session provides hands-on experiences in visual arts, music, and storytelling. Must preregister by calling 440-414-0434. Learn more at farrellfoundation.org.
Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation Studio, 26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake

Saturday, May 21, 9:45 a.m.-2 p.m.
Family Safety and Wellness Fair

Learn how to increase personal safety and wellness at the free fair hosted by the City of Westlake and St. John Medical Center. Includes a "Touch a Truck" event, free bike helmets, children's activities, vendors and table displays focused on a variety of health and safety topics for all ages, and biometric health screenings.
Westlake Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.

Saturday, May 21, 7-8 p.m.
BHS "After Prom" Public Walkthrough

Bay High School's "After Prom" public walkthrough is free and open to the public. This year children can jump in the gym of inflatables, with a parent present and a donation to the After Prom Committee of \$5 per child. Donations payable at the gym doors. For more information, email heidi@langermarketing.com.
Bay Middle School, 27225 Wolf Rd.

Monday, May 23, 11:30 a.m.
Backyard Wildlife Habitat

Katherine Geraldts, a Master Gardener, will discuss creating a garden or landscape that allows you to attract the wildlife you want in you yard. All interested gardeners are welcome. Luncheon served. \$5 fee for guests. Call 440-871-9098 or visit bayvillagegardenclub.com for reservations.
Bay Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 24, 26, 31 and June 2, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Hospice of the Western Reserve Volunteer Education Series
Volunteers are needed to assist in private residences, nursing homes, assisted living communities, our three 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. Pre-registration is required. For more information, or to register, call 216-255-9090.
Hospice of the Western Reserve at St. John Medical Center, Building 2, Suite 400, 29101 Health Campus Dr., Westlake

Tuesday, May 24, 6:30-8 p.m.
Introduction to Craniosacral Therapy for Those Touched by Cancer

An opportunity to introduce you to this gentle, noninvasive form of bodywork that focuses on the bones of the head, spine, and sacrum. Advance registration required by calling 216-595-9546. Free.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Wednesday, May 25, 5:45-7 p.m.
Aging vs. Dementia

Have you wondered if the memory loss you or your loved one is experiencing is due to "senior moments" or my be considered an early warning sign of dementia? During this seminar, Dr. James Wang will address what is normal memory loss and what is not, plus more. RSVP, 440-808-9275.
Arden Courts, 28400 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Saturday, May 28, 4:30 p.m.
Free Community Meal

Redeemer Church of Westlake and Clague Road United Church of Christ are hosting a free meal. The church is accessible to the physically challenged. No carry outs.
Clague Road UCC, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted

Monday, May 30, 8 a.m.
Bay Village Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

At 8 a.m., parade participants will assemble in Huntington Park and at 8:45 a.m. will march to Lakeside Cemetery. The parade continues down Lake Road at 9 a.m., finishing in Cahoon Park for ceremonies at 9:45 a.m. Call Ed Kus of the American Legion at 216-536-0243 for more information.
Lake Road, Huntington Park to Cahoon Park

Monday, May 30, 10 a.m.
Westlake Memorial Day Parade and Services

The Westlake Kiwanis Club invites anyone who likes a parade to join them for their annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade travels down Hilliard Boulevard and finishes in Clague Park, where the memorial services honoring those civilians and military who sacrificed so much to protect and keep this country free take place. Call Rick Grane at 440-829-0974 or Russ Milan at 440-777-2720 for more information.
Hilliard Boulevard, Westlake Christian Church to Clague Park

Monday, May 30, 10:30 a.m.
Bay Village Foundation Plaque Ceremony

The Bay Village Foundation will host its annual ceremony to install and dedicate permanent bronze plaques honoring Bay residents. The Foundation will also announce the winners of scholarships and will award community grants during the program. The public is invited.
Cahoon Park, north of Lake Road

Wednesday, June 1, 1-2:30 p.m.
Free Family History Research Help Session

Members of Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will offer free family history research assistance, to the public. If you have data recorded to pedigree and/or family group sheets, please bring these forms.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Friday, June 3, 7-9 p.m.
BAYarts June Gallery Opening Receptions

Featuring two gallery shows: Suzan Kraus, "Perspection," and Bill Forester, "Facing Forward." All welcome. Free event. Light refreshments.
BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd.

Wednesday, June 8, noon-1:30 p.m.
Lunch 'n' Learn Speaker Series

Career Transition Center presents a monthly series where you can hear from a member of the business community about topics of interest to job seekers. Doug O'Bryon will discuss "New Economy - New Rules of the Game." Bring a lunch. Coffee and cookies will be provided.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, June 8, 6:30-8 p.m.
Rain Barrel Workshop

Attend this free workshop by the Cuyahoga County Soil & Water Conservation District to learn how to harvest rainwater to use for watering lawns and gardens. A complete rain barrel system with diverter and spigot will be available for \$60. Registration required; 216-524-6580, ext. 22, or aroskilly@cuyahogawcd.org.
Bay Village Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.

Jim Sgro's Village Barber Shop
620 Dover Center Rd. 440-871-0899

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