

Westlake Council of PTAs awards 21 scholarships

by MARY ESSIG

Westlake Council of PTAs (Westlake Council) and its member PTAs are proud to announce 21 recent Westlake High School graduates as recipients of their 2016 PTA scholarships. Each recipient exhibited academic success, as well as community and/or school involvement through participation in athletics, music, clubs, service and employment. Each student received a \$1,000 award from the respective PTA unit, totaling \$21,000 in scholarships awarded.

This year's recipients were:

Westlake Council of PTAs Scholarship

- Michelle Appel
- John Bogart

- Allison Cantrall
- Matthew Hom
- Elise Kennedy
- Katie Liggett
- Ryan Zubricky
- Anna Parchem (Arts)
- Alex Ikezawa (Challenge)
- Catherine Tsuei (Technology)
- Bassett Elementary School PTA Scholarship**
- Emma Steinman
- Dover Elementary School PTA Scholarship**
- Rebecca Essig
- Hilliard Elementary School PTA Scholarship**
- Alexis Mance
- Holly Lane Elementary School PTA Scholarship**
- Thomas Bowles
- Dover Intermediate School PTA Scholarship**
- Rebecca Prexta

» See **SCHOLARSHIPS** page 2

Holiday happenings at Clague Museum

by LYSA STANTON

The holiday season is upon us and the Westlake Historical Society continues to stay busy.

It is our pleasure to welcome visitors to The Clague House Museum throughout the year. Those wishing to set up an appointment to see the museum should call us at 216-

848-0680. Our museum store has several stocking stuffers and hostess gifts for the holidays.

Many years ago members of the Westlake Historical Society began placing wreaths on the graves of founding and pioneer citizens of early Dover (now Westlake) buried in Evergreen and Maple Ridge cemeteries.

» See **MUSEUM** page 4



Santa Paws returns to the Clague House Museum for pet photos on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tree shopping a family affair



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

The Wotsch family of Bay Village selects their Christmas tree from the Bay Village Kiwanis tree lot at Cahoon Memorial Park. Seven-month-old Nolan is held by his mother, Meghan, as 2-year-old Ahna inspects one of the trees with her dad, Jake.

Bay Village Kiwanis Club holds annual Christmas tree sale

BY KAREN UTHE

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! The Bay Village Kiwanis Club has set up its annual Christmas tree sale at the Cahoon Park Gazebo area with three Christmas tree varieties, including Fraser Firs, Douglas Firs and Colorado Spruces. Tree sizes range from 6-10 feet

tall. Prices range from \$40-140, depending on size and type. Cash or checks are accepted. Delivery is available within Bay Village for a donation, and outside city limits for a \$10 fee.

Tree sale dates are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 17, or until sold out.

Tree sale hours are:

- Fridays, 4-7 p.m.

- Saturdays, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Sundays, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

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

» See **BAY KIWANIS** page 2

FAMILY OBSERVATIONS

Getting there for the holidays

by RJ JOHNSON

I'd like to meet the person who said, "Getting there is half the fun," to ask him if he ever traveled with children. It's that time of year when families will be setting out to visit grandparents in some faraway place.

Our last car trip started out well, until from the back seat I heard, "I don't feel good."

My wife turned around to see what was wrong.

"What's that right beside you?"

"This?" asked the boy.

I heard the crumple of plastic. "Did you eat the whole bag of chips already?" my wife inquired. "That was supposed to be for everyone for the whole day. It's not even nine o'clock yet. No wonder you're sick."

"Do I need to pull over?" I asked, realizing the only thing worse than having to stop before we got to the Indiana state line might be not stopping before we got to the Indiana state line. Our hotel reservations were in Nebraska. This was shaping up to be a long day.

"I don't think I'll puke."

"Just give me some warning if you think you will."

» See **TRAVEL** page 2

SCHOLARSHIPS *from front page*

Lee Burneson Middle School PTA Scholarship

- Bradley Katcher
- Westlake High School PTSA Scholarship**
- Nathaniel Hofford
- Jessica Hook
- Elise Illius
- Harleen Shergill
- Jackson Routhier (Service)

Jackson Routhier also received the Ohio PTA Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Westlake Council of PTAs consists of 8 local PTAs organized under the authority of Ohio PTA for the purpose of promoting con-

ference, communications, leadership development, and the coordination of the efforts of its member PTAs. Since 1968, Westlake Council has continued the proud tradition of awarding scholarships to deserving Westlake High School seniors who plan to pursue higher education at a college, university or technical school. The Westlake Council and its member PTAs fundraise for these scholarships in many ways, including the annual Dollars for Scholars event, membership drives and programming. ●

BAY KIWANIS *from front page*

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

If you have questions regarding the Christmas tree sale, please contact Kiwan-

ian Russ Bauknecht at russbauknecht@gmail.com.

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

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

TRAVEL *from front page*

This was on our trip for summer vacation. One of the perks of being a priest is you don't have Christmas car trips. No one asks if I'm going anywhere for Christmas.

When I was growing up, we frequently drove from Colorado to North Central Minnesota. It was about a thousand-mile drive back in the days when the speed limit was 55 miles per hour. It was probably little more than 90 miles when my parents heard a voice from the back seat ask, "How much farther do we have to go?"

I tried not to ask this too early,

because for some reason unfathomable to my young mind, it irritated my parents.

"Why don't you take a nap," my mother would answer. "The trip will go quicker that way."

I tried to take a nap. I couldn't, so I just pretended to sleep for what seemed like hours. Then, I would stretch, pretending to wake up from a long slumber and ask again, "How much father?"

"Stop asking," my father would say, "we've barely started."

I would wait for what seemed like a few more hours, in reality, probably about five minutes, then ask, "How far have we gone?"

"I told you to stop asking," my father

said, with a little irritation.

"You told me not to ask how much farther. I didn't ask how much farther. I asked how far we've gone."

In my mind, there was a very clear distinction between these two questions. My father's sigh indicated he did not agree.

Getting there might not be half the fun, but when we got there, we had some of the most memorable times of my childhood.

If you have to set off across the country with your children over the holidays, hide the chips, and remember that in their minds, "How far is it?" and "How far have we gone?" are two very different questions. ●

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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 800+ 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 and list the photographer of photos.
- Don't use stories to promote a business – that's what ads are for.
- 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 online 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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**To advertise in the
Dec. 13 Holiday Issue**

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Holiday EVENTS

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African water walk raises funds for well

by KELLIE KEANE, fifth-grader at Bay Middle School

On Saturday, Nov. 12, a fifth-grade Bay Village Destination Imagination team held a walk to simulate how far women and children in Africa have to walk to get water. Participants walked 3.5 miles around Bay Village. The walk was to raise money and awareness.

All the people on the walk got to hear a story from a man named Dee and his family, who would retrieve water in

Africa. He also showed us pictures. It ended up being a very nice day for a walk, with temperatures in the mid 40s. Over 100 people

came out and walked. Our team raised \$1,035, enough to build a well in close proximity to an African village. ●



Bay Village fifth-grade Destination Imagination team during their African Water Walk simulation on Nov. 12.

MUSEUM

from front page

Individuals, groups, families and companies can sponsor a holiday wreath this year in memory of anyone buried in Westlake, not just a founder or pioneer. Westlake Historical Society volunteers will place the wreaths on the graves throughout the holiday season at both cemeteries. The requested donation for a wreath is \$15. Call the Historical Society at 216-848-0680 or go to westlakeohiohistory.org/holiday-wreath.html.

Santa Paws will return to the Clague Museum this year on Sunday, Dec. 10. The holidays aren't complete without a visit to the museum with your furry friend and Santa Paws. Photos with Santa will take place from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The whole family is invited to join in the fun. Reservations are being taken now, please call 216-848-0680 to schedule your pet for a photo. Photo shoots are only \$10. The money raised goes toward our outreach activities and Flag Fund. ●

Pondering Dec. 7, 1941

by MEL MAURER

The rat-a-tat-tat of the "Little Drummer Boy," had that song been in existence as Christmas music played on radios in Pearl Harbor on Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, would have been wiped out by the very real rat-a-tat-tat of machine guns on Japanese Zeros attacking the people, planes and ships at the U.S. naval base in Hawaii. The Empire of Japan had viciously declared war on America. (Germany and Italy declared war on us just days later.)

Just 17 days before that date which still lives in infamy, we had expressed our gratitude on Thanksgiving Day. (The last time it was celebrated on the third Thursday in November.) It would take four years, as sung in a 1943 chart-topping song, for "the lights to come on again all over the world." The world would never be the same again. The shock for those of us not alive or of age at that time must have been like what we experienced as a nation with the terrorist attack on Sept.

11, 2001.

The leaders of Japan and Germany and Italy would learn over the next four years what our motto – "Don't tread on me" – really meant. Their nations were destroyed and millions died. World War I was believed to be "the war to end all wars," but instead it was the prelude to another even more terrible conflict, World War II. If there ever is a World War III – with nuclear weapons – it will likely be the war to end all worlds.

I hope that all of us – of many generations – pause on Dec. 7 to not only remember what happened to our country – and to the world – on that day 75 years ago, but also what it still means today with the great sacrifices made to restore and maintain world peace. We were the only nation standing strong in a world of historic ruin. We led the way in winning and then led the way in reconstruction – Germany and Japan, along with most of the other countries, now thrive in peace. Other countries would still do us harm as do chains of terrorists.

As we mourn all those who gave so much in winning WWII, let those who wish us ill know that what we did then we can do even better now. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

Browns successful at one thing this year: lowering the bar

by JEFF BING

After nearly two decades of horrific football (which equates to 140 years in dog years; no, make that "dawg" years) the Browns in 2016 decided that a new approach was necessary. I mean, after the seemingly annual replacement of head coaches and front office personnel bore little fruit, Jimmy Haslam and company finally decided to go in a different direction.

This year, they decided to go "cerebral." In other words, since they couldn't beat the opposition with the talent on the field, maybe they could beat 'em at the brain game. You guessed it: we're talking "analytics," baby.

Now, if this is all beginning to sound a little too cerebral for you to take in one big gulp, let's try taking it in smaller bites. (I used that approach at Thanksgiving dinner and it worked wonders for me – it took me much longer than usual to get sick). But, let's not jump the tracks just yet.

First of all, Merriam-Webster defines analytics as "the method of logical analysis." Sounds rather Spockish to me, but loosely translated – in football terms, anyway – it is the hashing, re-hashing, and then re-hashing some more of boatloads of accrued statistical data as it relates to football players (or at least one would hope). It's the same math-based method I use to do my income taxes (and probably explains why

I get audited every year). Come to think of it, it might be what worked so well for Pilot Flying J a few years back, but that would only be speculation on my part. This is the first year of The Plan.

Suddenly, a record of 5-11 or 4-12, even 3-13 for that matter, doesn't seem so bad anymore, does it?

And what, you ask, do the Browns turn to if the seemingly foolproof "outsmart 'em" approach doesn't work? Not to worry; I'm sure they have a Plan B. A Plan C, too. Heck, they probably have a plan for the entire alphabet (or they should). They can try rabbit's feet, Ouija boards, and when those fail, have an organizational séance at FirstEnergy Stadium's 50-yard line if necessary. What the heck, it worked on Beetlejuice, didn't it?

Now, the first thing the Browns are asking us to do is be patient. And, since we are now in the 18th year of the 1999 rebuilding plan, if there's anything Browns fans know, it's patience, right? And we have to believe that since the law of averages are stacked so highly in our favor, this new approach can't be any worse than the others, can it? (Look away from the NFL standings before answering, please.)

There's one consolation, however: Maybe the Browns will never outsmart the opposition, but there will always be one patsy around they can count on outsmarting if the need arises.

Themselves. ●



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WestShore Lions members learn about USO mission

by DAVID SACCO

The WestShore Lions Club, which represents the cities of Bay Village, Westlake and North Olmsted, welcomed Tanya Karabanovs at their Nov. 3 meeting to give a presentation on the status of the Northern USO.

The presentation took place as part of the night's meeting agenda and was opened to the public. Those in attendance learned that the mission of the

USO is to strengthen America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation.

Additionally, that the USO of Northern Ohio is a congressionally chartered, private non-profit organization. They rely on the donations of individuals, organizations and corporations to provide the funding needed to support service members through programs and events.

Donations to the USO of

Northern Ohio can be made online at usonorthernohio.org.

If willing to donate, it is important to note that care packages are sent to active service members from Northern Ohio who are serving overseas. These little "parcels of home" are filled with everyday items we take for granted: toothpaste, deodorant, toilet paper, socks, body wipes and sandwich bags.

They also provide treats through the Care Package Program like reading material, play-



PHOTO BY DAVID SACCO

Pictured, from left, are WestShore Lions representatives Linda and Kevin Barrett with Tanya Karabanovs, event/volunteer manager for the Northern Ohio USO.

ing cards, video games, DVDs, peanut butter and jelly, powdered drink mixes and beef jerky.

Please contact Tanya Kara-

banovs at: 216-433-7313 or tanya@usonorthernohio.org if you would like to volunteer, donate or provide a service. ●

BAY VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Nominations open for Bay Village citizen, project of the year

Do you know of a Bay Village resident whose service to the community is worthy of recognition? Has a special project made a difference in the city? The Bay Village Community Council is now accepting nominations for the 2017 Bay Village

Citizen of the Year and Project of the Year. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 20, and selections will be announced by the Community Council soon afterwards.

Citizen of the year nominees, either individual or couple, must be

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

Electronic nomination forms are available online at wbvobserver.com or by emailing tara@wbvobserver.com. Mail-in forms can be picked up

at City Hall or the Bay Village Branch Library.

The Bay Village Community Council is where Bay's civic groups come together. Representatives from member groups meet quarterly to discuss upcoming events and initiatives, share ideas and look for collaboration opportunities. Annual dues are \$20 per organization. For more information about the Bay Village Community Council or the Citizen of the Year/Project of the Year awards, please email tara@wbvobserver.com. ●

Foundation scholarship now available

by EILEEN VERNON

The Bay Village Foundation is pleased to announce that the application for the Bay Village Foundation Scholarship is now available on the Foundation's website at thebayvillagefoundation.org. The application is also available on the Bay High website, bay-villageschools.com, and can be found under the Guidance tab listing local scholarships.

This \$2,000 scholarship is open to all graduating high school seniors who live in Bay Village and

is to be used toward tuition for students enrolling in a full-time college or trade school program. Scholarships may be awarded to multiple students.

Completed applications must be submitted to the Bay High School guidance office by Friday, Jan. 13.

The scholarship committee, chaired by Ellie Bricmont, gives considerable weight to student essays related to volunteerism, academic and professional goals and proposals for projects that would improve life in Bay Village. The commit-

tee also considers the student's academic record.

The Bay Village Foundation exists to provide support for projects and programs fostering Bay Village's historical, cultural, social, and educational heritage. Through gifts to the Foundation, Bay Village's citizens and businesses are encouraged to help perpetuate the traditions that make our city a special place to live and work.

For additional information, contact the Foundation at villagefdninfo@att.net. ●



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Join the Bay Kiwanis and Bay Village Historical Society in welcoming Santa Claus to town!

4th annual Cahoen Christmas

Sunday, Dec. 4 ★ 2-4 p.m. Tree Lighting 4:30

Bay Village Community House

- ★ Watch for Santa as he tours Bay Village in a city fire truck!
- ★ A special presentation of "Twas the Night Before Christmas"
- ★ Santa will light the official Bay Village Christmas tree at 4:30 pm!
- ★ Something for everyone in the family, from buying your Christmas tree to touring Rose Hill museum!
- ★ Free refreshments!
- ★ Children's gingerbread house contest at Rose Hill Museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Santa's Route

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

For more information, email baykiwanis@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

Kiwanis Club of Bay Village

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Enjoy shopping and the solstice

BAYarts and Lake Erie Nature & Science Center host Dec. 18 events

by JESSICA STOCKDALE
AND MORGAN PASKERT

On Sunday, Dec. 18, families can spend a great day in the Huntington Reservation between two local organizations: BAYarts and Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Nestled in the woods and across from Lake Erie, the arts campus and nature center are a short walk from each other.

First, visit BAYarts between noon and 5 p.m. for their Kid's Shopping Day. Children will get a chance to walk around the festive Holiday Shop with a personal shopper (or their parents) to pick out gifts for people on their list. A free gift-wrapping station will be available for kids to decorate their gift bags with stamps and stick-



Kids love selecting special presents for the holiday's.

ers. Then, take a photo in front of the red caboose and head into the cozy cafe for the hot chocolate bar and home-made bakery items.

Later, visit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for their Winter Solstice Celebration. Celebrate the longest night of the year with great family fun including hikes on a wintry trail, visits with nighttime animals and a family holiday



Families will get to visit with nighttime animals.

activity. Then, visit the Walter R. Schuele Planetarium to learn about what a solstice is and experience the night sky. Be sure to find a few minutes to relax by the crackling fire. Please dress for the weather. Cost is \$7 for adults and children ages 3 and up. Children under 2 are free.

BAYarts is located at 28795 Lake Road; Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is located at 28728 Wolf Road. ●

BAYarts Trunk Show set for Dec. 8

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

Have you been to the BAYarts Holiday Shop this year? It's a good time to look because new shop manager Linda Goik has brought in 30 new artists to join the fun. To visit the shop and enjoy a bonus of refreshments and friends, save the date for the annual Trunk Show that takes place on Thursday, Dec. 8, from 6-9 p.m.

What can you expect to see? Goik is excited to share the array of works, saying she loves to give a spotlight to new (and established) local businesses who could not afford their own storefront. Some of these new items include wood prints of Cleveland landmarks, hand-stamped bracelets and Ohio handbags.

When asked about the importance of shopping small, Goik's answer is quick and precise. "Why buy local? You are helping to

establish entrepreneurship within your community. Developing close relationships with businesses and their owners and feeling part of their successes as you see them grow. Dollars stay in the community and everyone benefits."

Featured artists and friends (bringing lots of goods) to the Trunk Show include Meg McIntyre of M2 handbags, Jen Murray of Freckle Face jewelry, Maureen Koopman of All Spelled Out (with words for your walls), Michelle Liller of Furbish & Fire (personalized candles), Amy Bennett of Mod Lux (with wordy scarves for bookish people), Erin Stack (with lake ornaments and wooden signs), Beth Martin of Beach Glass Jewelry, Ramage Art Ceramics, and Anne Harrill of Oceanne Jewelry.

For more information on holiday shopping and events, visit bayarts.net. ●

Upcoming programs at Bay Village Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

For over 35 years Neil Zurcher has been sharing his One Tank Trip ideas on TV, radio, and in print. His choices have been compiled in a series of books and, on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., he will join us at the Bay Village branch library to present his favorites featured in his newest book, "The Best of One Tank Trips." Please join us and get a signed copy for yourself or to give to your favorite traveler this holiday season.

CHILDREN

Storytimes are on hiatus for the month of December. Please join us again in January. Meanwhile, check out our seasonal and children's programs for this month..

Saturday, Dec. 3 (2 p.m.) ALL ABOARD THE POLAR EXPRESS

Join us for a craft, hot cocoa and cookies and a special screening of "The Polar Express." Feel free to wear your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow or sleeping bag. A parent/guardian must sign a release form before the program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library.

Sunday, Dec. 4 to Thursday, Dec. 22 (all day) MAKE AND TAKE CRAFT

Drop in to make a seasonal craft.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 (7 p.m.) HOUR OF CODE

Grades 3 & 4: Celebrate Computer Science Education Week by coding your own game.

Thursday, Dec. 8 (10 a.m.) CODING TO KINDERGARTEN

Ages 3-5 with a caregiver: Learn the basics behind coding including problem solving, sequencing and patterning through stories and activity stations.

Friday, Dec. 9 (10 a.m.) TOTS DANCE

For ages birth-5 years with a caregiver. Join us for a rock-

ing good time as we share books, rhymes and dance!

TEEN

Thursday, Dec. 1 (3 p.m.) WRITE ON!

Grades 5-8: Join us for fun, quirky and challenging writing exercises and activities to get your creativity flowing. Registration required.

Monday, Dec. 5 (10 a.m.) HOME-SCHOOL: ROBOTIX BLOX CAMP

HALFBOT CHALLENGE - Grades

4-8: Help your robot slip past the Minotaur, avoid the Gorgon, and master the other challenges Percy, Grover and Annabeth encounter in Rick Riordan's popular Percy Jackson and the Olympians series.

ADULTS

Friday, Dec. 2 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS BOOK DISCUSSION

Join friends, neighbors and library staff for this monthly book discussion on the BAYarts campus in the Sullivan Gallery. Copies of this month's book, "Be Frank with Me" by Julia Claiborne Johnson, will be available at the library and BAYarts one month prior to the discussion. No registration required.

Thursday, Dec. 8 (7 p.m.) NEIL ZURCHER: THE BEST OF ONE TANK TRIPS

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Westlake Kiwanian recognized with proclamation

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Robert Clancy, a long-time Westlake Kiwanis member, was surprised with a special presentation at a recent Kiwanis meeting. State Representative Nan Baker presented Bob with a proclamation of recognition for his recent induction into the Dover/Westlake High School Alumni Association Distinguished Hall of Fame.

The proclamation cited Bob's many achievements since graduating from Westlake in 1965. Among the impressive

credentials were serving as a Westlake police officer for 38 years, where he assisted with Safety Town and also served as a community service officer. He continues to serve as Westlake High School Kiwanis Key Club advisor.

The proclamation stated that Bob deserves the highest praise for remaining active in his community. The respect and admiration he has earned through his lifetime is evident by his selection for this honor. His accomplishments are a justifiable source of pride and an excellent reflection on Bob and

his family, alma mater and his community. His praiseworthy record of personal and professional achievement stands as a hallmark worthy of emulation. He has inspired countless individuals to excel in numerous endeavors.

The 131st General Assembly saluted Bob on his recent induction and extended their wishes for continued success. The Westlake Kiwanis have known of Bob's accomplishments for years and are glad that he is now recognized by the State of Ohio. ●



Bob Clancy was presented with a proclamation by State Rep. Nan Baker in honor of his many years of service to Westlake.

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Deal of the day

by TAK SATO

Black Friday has been part of the fabric of our culture for a long time, marking the start of the Christmas shopping season. In recent years, Black Friday festivities have started earlier and, to the discontent of some, retail employees have to spend part of Thanksgiving Day at their jobs instead of with their families. So when a handful of retailers announced that they were not going to be open on Thanksgiving Day this year, it must have been a welcome news to many.

There may be other reasons why the

tradition of lining up well before midnight on the eve of Black Friday, dressed to the nines (more like dressed with nine layers of clothing to stay warm), to snag that limited-stock doorbuster deal may have lost its allure for many consumers.

The internet, aka the cloud, has changed many aspects of how we go about our daily chores, and "shopping" is definitely one of them. Introductions are not required when describing Amazon's "e-commerce" success or how Walmart, the 500-pound gorilla of retail commerce in the real world, agreed to acquire Jet.com this past summer (I think to challenge Amazon's e-commerce prowess). Competition should ultimately be good for consumers.

This year I noticed how many of the Black Friday doorbuster deals could be snagged from the warmth and comfort of

our own abodes through online shopping. Although such convenience may be considered sacrilegious to Black Friday die-hards, to retailers capitalizing on the start of the Christmas shopping season, "a sale made is a sale earned" regardless of whether the profit was made in the real or digital world.

The important take-away here is not whether Black Friday continues to be a retail tradition in the future. As the popularity of e-commerce gained momentum, retailers were quick to spawn another shopping tradition called "Cyber Monday" to capitalize and move merchandise in the digital world, thus holiday sales battleground had already moved into the digital world years ago!

Although it is easy to become excited about Black Fridays, Cyber Mondays and whatever sales tradition they can concoct to entice you to open your wallets, the real-

ity is that digital world-based tools such as computers, tablets, smartphones and other gadgets are on an accelerated product life cycle where they go into the "maturity" and "decline" phases more quickly due to technology's built-in obsolescence. In other words you can almost always count on something being on clearance pricing at any given time of the year as long as you don't seek the newest when shopping for these technology-based devices.

So if you were busy attending to more important things in life this Thanksgiving Day, like having a wonderful time with family and friends, do not fret that you may have missed a "deal" on a Power of One device you wanted to get for yourself this Christmas. Just "google it" and you may be surprised to find out that the supposed deal of the year was only a deal of the day! ●

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FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Creating a garden haven

by KAREN PETERSON

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church's monthly workshop series on connecting with God continues in December with landscape artist Julia Shutt. On Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-noon, learn to take a portion of your yard and make it a place to rest and observe nature. By creating a space to just be and not do, we also allow a connection with God and nature. It is through this divine connection that the creative power of the universe will bless us. Gardening is really learning how to co-create with love. A \$10 donation is appreciated but not required.

Bay Village resident Julia Shutt has art in her blood. She was born into a family where both of her parents were professional artists. She attended her first art class at the age of four. Julia has always worked as a creative artist and her career began in advertising as a photo-stylist doing hair, make-up and wardrobe. Over the years her work turned to film spots and working on notable celebrities like President Barack Obama, the Duchess of York, John Glenn,

Al Gore and Donny Osmond.

Julia's love of gardening and knowledge of art opened doors to an additional career as a garden design consultant and landscape designer. She has joined talents with her husband, Byron Shutt of Maple Leaf Landscaping, and they work together as a dynamic design team. Julia has won numerous awards for commercial and residential landscape design on Cleveland's west side, along with honors for container designs at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens.

Byron and Julia's personal gardens made the cover of Fine Gardening Magazine when her article about designing with annuals was the featured story. She also writes for the Westlake | Bay Village Observer and speaks at OSU's Master Gardener symposiums and for garden groups throughout Northeastern Ohio. You can see Julia and Byron's work on their website, maple-leaf-landscaping.com, or on Facebook.

Please register for the workshop by phoning the church, 440-871-6200. St. Barnabas is located at 468 Bradley Road. ●

THE MEDICAL INSIDER

Cutting Drug Costs, Part 2: Seeking out safe online options

by DIANA PI, M.D.

Part two of a three-part series on ways to manage drug costs.

Writing this piece, on the problems and possibly a very effective solution to rising drug costs, has given me an epic, ethical headache.

The good news: Earlier this month, Bloomberg reported U.S. prosecutors are going after generic drug companies in "a sweeping criminal investigation into suspected price collusion." They won't name names, but I can easily guess three.

EpiPen, whose active ingredient epinephrine was isolated in 1901, went from \$100 in 2007 to \$609 in 2016. In 2013, a bottle of doxycycline, an antibiotic, went from \$20 to \$1,849 in seven months. About the same time, digoxin, a century-old heart medication derived from foxglove, went from 17 cents per pill to \$1.18.

And that list doesn't include generic drugs that have undergone minor facelifts and major price hikes. The albuterol inhaler, a must for asthmatics, is one such industry fairytale. Some of us might remember when a generic inhaler cost \$5.

In the mid-2000s, a mandated phaseout of ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbon gas (the inhaler propellant) thrust a golden goose into Big Pharma's clutches. Why? Redesigning the inhaler, as minor as the changes may be, provided new patents – and a decade of name-my-own-price protection.

Unfortunately, the substitute, hydrofluoroalkane (HFA), is a heat-trapping greenhouse gas. But no matter, by 2008, the new Cinderella inhaler debuted in a ball gown of impenetrable patents, expelled greenhouse gas and cost up to \$60.

Today an estimated 5 million Americans are looking to buy prescription drugs overseas.

Surprised? No. Is it legal? No.

Does it save money? Well, I tried it out a few months ago. I picked a Canadian online pharmacy listed on PharmacyChecker.com.

Typing in a brand-name inhaler, I got the following results: the brand-name inhaler cost \$56-\$70 domestically. Online from Canada, the same inhaler cost \$19-\$38. A generic albuterol inhaler cost \$13-\$25. Not included was a flat fee of \$10 for shipping.

Filling out some basic health

information, I faxed my son's prescription. In a few hours, a pharmacy representative called and politely declined the prescription because – get this – the date was missing from the prescription. The date was missing!

Usually bureaucracy turns my face into some 50 shades of emotional incontinence. But this time, the "we must do everything by the book or we'd rather not do business with you" stickler removed any reservations I had about buying drugs from them.

I provided the date and in two weeks the inhalers arrived. They worked fine.

Here is my splitting headache: I respect the FDA, but if the choice is between breathing and eating, please follow these precautions:

1. Only get drugs prescribed by your doctor.
2. Use a pharmacy that insists on legitimate U.S. prescriptions – with perverse obsession.
3. And never, ever dabble with pharmacies selling controlled substances (narcotics, sleeping pills, etc.).

In this last election, one of the few issues both presidential candidates agreed on was "the importation of drugs from overseas" that are safe and of lower cost, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. But I'm not holding my breath. The Center for Responsive Politics reported that the pharmaceutical industry spent \$240 million last year alone in lobbying. ●



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Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Friday, Dec. 2 (10:30-11:15 a.m.) PAINT YOUR STORY – Westlake’s Over the Moon ceramics studio will host this special preschool program. We’ll share a story about Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons, and then we’ll decorate a groovy ceramic button to take home! Ages 3-5. Please register.

Friday, Dec. 2 (4-4:45 p.m.) FUN SCIENCE FRIDAY: EVERGREEN TREES – Join Mrs. K as we explore the wonders of the world. This month we’ll observe pine cones of all sizes while learning about evergreen trees! Ages 4-6. Please register.

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

Sunday, Dec. 4 (3-4 p.m.) ART SMARTS – Explore some works of a well-known artist and then use what you’ve seen to create an art piece of your own!

Grades 3-5. Please register.

Monday, Dec. 5 (1-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Monday, Dec. 5 (6:30-8 p.m.) SPA LA LA LA LA: HOMEMADE HOLIDAY GIFTS – Get into the holiday spirit as we make scented body scrubs, foot soaks and bubble baths that will be perfect gifts and treats for yourself or someone else! Please register.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: NETWORKING EFFECTIVELY – Your network helps you gain information about industries, trends and new career fields to present yourself effectively to your next employer. Learn how to build and maintain business relationships that will assist you in your job search and your career.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) HORROR FILM CLUB – Join us as we explore some of the classic films from the genres of horror, science fiction and suspense. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult. Please register.

Thursday, Dec. 8 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The December selection is “The Wright Brothers” by David McCullough.

Thursday, Dec. 8 (7-8:30 p.m.) THE GOLDEN AGE OF SHOPPING IN CLEVELAND – Which was more glamorous: riding the elevator (with an operator!) or your first few tries on the escalator? Reminisce about Halle Brothers, May Co., Higbee’s, and the Sterling-Lindner Christmas Tree! Please register.

Saturday, Dec. 10 (11 a.m.-4 p.m.) ELF ACADEMY – Santa is extra busy this year and needs your help. Join in our reindeer games and train to become a “Certified Elf” by completing several elf-ercises. No registration required; just drop in! While supplies last.

Saturday, Dec. 10 (1-2:30 p.m.) ESSENTIAL OILS FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS – Kristin Scott will discuss the benefits and uses of essential oils. Patrons will get a hands-on, sensory experience of Kristin’s top 10 oils. Please register.

Saturday, Dec. 10 (4-5 p.m.) FULL STEAM AHEAD – STEAM = Science & Technology interpreted through Engineering & the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements. This month: Bridges. Grades 3-4. Registration begins Dec. 3.

Sunday, Dec. 11 (2-3 p.m.) AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLUB: MYSTERY PARTY – We need your help! We have several American Girl mini-mysteries to solve. Bring your dolls and join us to crack these cases. Ages 6-11. Registration begins Dec. 4.

Monday, Dec. 12 (2-3:30 p.m.) OPERA

AS AN ART FORM: MONTEVERDI – Dr. Keller returns to explore opera composers with a special emphasis on Monteverdi. No prior opera knowledge is required. Join us to enjoy some classic music. Please register.

Monday, Dec. 12 (7-8:30 p.m.) MAKER MONDAY: FUN THINGS TO 3D PRINT – So many fun things can be 3D printed! Come and see the possibilities, and even go home with a souvenir. Please register.

Monday, Dec. 12 (7-8:30 p.m.) ROAD TO WEALTH: HOW TO MANAGE YOUR FINANCIAL LIFE – Transitioning from Saver to Investor. Explore your investing style and learn about investing concepts: asset allocation, sector rotation, fundamental and technical analysis. Discuss investment portfolios. Please register.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 (9:30-10 a.m.) STORIES AND SIGNS – Enjoy an interactive storytime while learning a few words in sign language! Ages 0-3, siblings welcome.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: JOB SEARCH PLANNING & TIME MANAGEMENT – Most job seekers do not spend time efficiently to get the best outcome for the time invested. Learn how to plan your work and work your plan, and the ABC method for overcoming obstacles to success!

Tuesday, Dec. 13 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – In December we’ll discuss “The Girl on the Train” by Paula Hawkins.

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

Oral surgery practice develops vacant land on Crocker Road

by KORDRICE SIVAK

North Coast Jaw & Implant Center, the longtime practice of Dr. John Blakemore and Dr. William Blood, will move to Westlake after 39 years of practicing in North Olmsted. Dr. Raymond Plona joined the practice in 2013 and Dr. Gregory Plona joined in 2015.

“The practice has grown and we were in need of a larger space,” said Dr. Blood. “The new location will give us the opportunity to build a state-of-the-art facility, while focusing on providing the quality patient experience that our office strives for and that all of our patients deserve.”

The doctors considered many locations and ultimately decided that the southwest corner of Crocker and Center Ridge roads met their patients’ needs perfectly. “We have patients that drive from all over, being accessible to both interstates just felt like the right decision,” Dr. Ray Plona said.

All of the doctors at North Coast Jaw

& Implant Center have lived in Westlake for many years and are very active in the community. “We are happy to bring our business to Westlake and feel very fortunate to live in such a wonderful, vibrant community,” said Dr. Blakemore.

The facility was designed by Davidson Smith Certo Architects, also of Westlake, and is slated to be finished in August 2017. The 23,000-square-foot building will house the offices of North Coast Jaw & Implant Center, Retina and Associates and will have an additional 5,000 feet of office space. The design of the building is sleek and modern, yet classic, with glass and stone work that will enhance the clean lines and basic geometric forms.

“Our fundamental goal has always been to provide the best medical care for our patients. Now we will get to practice in a beautiful new facility, that will not only be a wonderful environment for our patients, our staff and the doctors, we believe, it will be a nice addition to Westlake,” said Dr. Greg Plona. ●

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Taking time to enjoy each holiday

by EILEEN VERNON

We can hardly wait to get the Halloween candy off the counter before rushing in with Christmas candy and all that goes with it. This came home to me when on Halloween morning I went to the store to buy candy to hand out at the door that evening. Imagine my surprise when I was told there was none. They had a big weekend sale and it was all gone. The only candy on the shelf on Halloween day was for Christmas.

It seems everything is geared toward “what’s next.” Hopping over one holiday, pouncing on the next. I thought of all the past holidays spent laughing and talking around the table. If I could do it over again, I would listen more and talk less, especially when my great-grandmother was at our table.

Fall and winter holidays weren’t rushed. We spent days on homemade Halloween costumes. We waited for the smell of the Thanksgiving turkey. No worrying about what gifts to buy, no trees or

holiday decorations. We didn’t bolt out the door the next morning to take advantage of Black Friday.

Just us, our grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles and friends – so many of them gone now – all coming together to enjoy a great meal with leftovers that we ate for days. Thanksgiving lasted the whole weekend. Family headed home, and it was only then, back to work and school did we begin to think about Christmas.

In those days, Santa brought the

Christmas tree and we kids woke to see an overnight miracle. Santa left the tree, filled our stockings and left us modest gifts by today’s standards. The holiday lasted for the full 12 days of Christmas. Those days were spent hosting parties, visiting and having meals with friends. Then there was the New Year’s celebration. Finally, on the 12th day of Christmas, trees would come down and be burned to celebrate the end of the Christmas season. It was an unhurried holiday season, from Halloween through New Year’s Day, always stopping to enjoy each holiday before moving on to the next. That is a good reason to say, Happy Holidays! ♦

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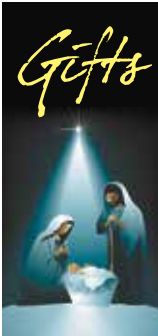


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SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Musical memories at Bay High School

by KAY LAUGHLIN

The first musical memory I have is playing the wood blocks in Mrs. Marie Ranny's kindergarten class at Parkview School. I remember many pleasant moments singing in school. I always enjoyed music, especially the high school choir.

When I was growing up in the 1940s, Miss Mabie was our music teacher at Parkview School. (The portables on the west end of Parkview School were my home for the second and third grades.) She would come into the classroom with her pitch pipe, and we would pass the music books around and sing in our seats. I remember the books were green with a picture of the world on the cover. I remember because while in Miss Lineberry's third-grade classroom during music, a classmate threw up all over "the world."

Miss Mabie had girl and boy glee clubs at the high school level and put on musical programs. She wrote the Bay High alma mater and maybe also the fight song. When the Class of 1949 had their 40th class reunion, Dan Marsalek asked his classmates if they remembered when Miss Mabie taught them how to sing "Little Ducky Duddle" in the first grade. They said they did, and they proceeded to sing the song. They still remembered all the words. It was quite a memory.

During my sister Barbara's high school years (she graduated in 1949), Miss Mabie was replaced by Miss Joyce Rowbotham. Miss Rowbotham had just graduated from Baldwin Wallace College and everyone loved her. She had a classical singing voice. She told the girls to sit up straight and project through the bridge of their

nose by putting their finger on their nose. They thought, "What is she talking about!" Miss Rowbotham started the first choir and choraleers group in the high school. She began the tradition of singing "The Lord Bless You And Keep You" at the end of the musical programs. She took us to contest.

My twin sister, Gay, and I couldn't wait to be in the choir with Miss Rowbotham. The seventh and eighth grades were in the high school building at the time, so we saw the high school students every day. Miss Rowbotham was our music teacher too. Finally we were ninth graders and next year could try out for Miss Rowbotham's choir. Then she told us she was leaving to get married. We were devastated.

The next fall, tenth grade, we could audition for choir. We had a new music teacher, Curt Crews, just out of Baldwin Wallace and Northwestern. Everyone was a little skeptical about this. Gay and I auditioned and made choir that year. Mr. Crews turned out to be just like Miss Rowbotham. He kept us singing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" and added Fred Waring's "Twas the Night Before Christmas" each year. We went to contest and won first place. In 1955, I graduated.

In 1959, Curt Crews started another tradition, the Singing Christmas Tree. The Singing Christmas Tree was unveiled to "oohs and aahs" at the Christmas program that year. Donated to the choir by the Danco Metal Company, the metal tree was 21 feet high and 14 feet at the base. At the top was a glistening star, and it was



Bay High School music teacher Curt Crews in front of his Singing Christmas Tree.

surrounded by choir members in green robes with gold collars and holding dancing colored lights. The tree was truly awe-inspiring.

The memories of Bay High students singing and being in choir, performing for the folks, never go away. Most of us can still sing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." What wonderful memories and traditions we have made here at Bay High. Get out and visit one of the many musical programs our students provide us this Christmas season. Make yourself a musical memory. ●

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Christmas Cantata - Dec. 18, 10:30 a.m.
CHRISTMAS EVE- 5:30 p.m.-Family Service
7:30 p.m.-Candlelight Holy Communion



Join us!

CHRISTMAS EVE 2016

4:00 & 5:15 pm
SANCTUARY/Family & children

6:30 pm
SANCTUARY/Classic
AUBURN HALL/Contemporary

8:30 pm
SANCTUARY/Contemporary
AUBURN HALL/Classic

(all services live)

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St. Raphael Catholic Church
525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

Christmas Mass Schedule

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

440-871-1100



COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Thursday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Free Medicare Check Up Days

Counselors from the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIIP) will help you review your insurance and answer any questions about your Medicare coverage. Schedule an appointment to make sure your current health or drug plan is the most cost effective for you and learn about the different coverage options. By appointment only; call Kathy Bultema at 440-250-2300, ext. 4402, to reserve your spot.
Devon Oaks, 2345 Crocker Rd., Westlake

Thursday, Dec. 1, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Senior Resources Health Fair

Learn about the newest healthcare resources available in skilled nursing, assisted living, memory care, home health, hospice, elder law and more.
University Hospitals St. John Medical Center, Bldg. 2, Aud. A & B, 29000 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Thursday, Dec. 1, 7-8 p.m.
Westlake Toastmasters Meeting

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

Friday, Dec. 2, 6-8:30 p.m.
Holiday Night Tree Tradition

Celebrate the heartwarming story of The Night Tree – one family's tradition of sharing the spirit of the holidays with nature. Santa will be celebrating too so bring those cameras! Create a holiday craft, enjoy a close encounter with some of the animals featured in the story and take home a special treat for the wildlife in your own backyard. For all ages. Dinner is provided. Fee: \$12/adults; \$8/children ages 2+; children 1 and under free.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Saturday, Dec. 3, 9 a.m.
Breakfast with Santa

Bring the kids for a pancake breakfast and to meet Santa. Caroling by the Normandy Daisy Troop! The breakfast is \$3.50 and includes pancakes, sausage and juice.
Knickerbocker Apartments, 27100 Knickerbocker Rd., Bay Village

Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bay Village Early Childhood PTA Santa Shop

Santa's elves will help children find gifts for Mom, Dad, grandparents, siblings, teachers and even pets. All items are priced under \$5 and will be gift wrapped and tagged. While the little ones are shopping, parents can enjoy a cup of coffee and tempting treats
Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2-4:30 p.m.
Cahoon Christmas

This annual kickoff to the holiday season features the reading of holiday stories, caroling and crafts for kids, a visit by Santa and the lighting of the community tree in the Cahoon Park gazebo. Free and open to all.
Bay Village Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.

Monday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.
Music Morsel and More

At 10 a.m., Bette Lou Higgins will celebrate Cleveland's first Christmas tree and present tales from past holidays. At 11 a.m., Jack Hogue entertains on the piano. Lunch is served at noon. Admission fee is one family-sized box of cereal for Westlake residents in need.
Westlake Community Services Center, 29694 Center Ridge Rd.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m.
Christmas Cookie Walk

Treat your family and friends (and yourself) to a delicious assortment of homemade Christmas cookies without even turning on your oven! Cookies are \$8 per pound. The sale lasts until cookies are sold out; come early to ensure the best selection. Proceeds will be used to purchase raised gardening

beds for use by residents next summer.
Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve, 2116 Dover Center Rd., Westlake

Thursday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.
SkyQuest: Cosmic Castaways

There are places where the night sky has no constellations. No Orion, no Big Dipper; nothing but a few, isolated stars and some faint, ghostly patches of light. Most stars lie within the crowded boundaries of galaxies, but those we find deep within voids between the galaxies are the cosmic castaways, illustrated in a dome feature show followed with discussion. Fee: \$5/person.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Sunday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m.
Christmas Cantata

The Westlake UMC Chancel Choir will present J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 63, known as "Christians, Engrave this Day!" This cantata features four trumpets, three oboes, bassoon, timpani and strings in addition to a full choir and vocal soloists. "Cantata No. 63" is the first of many cantatas that Bach composed for Christmas, but this may be the grandest of them all! Come feel the power of one of Bach's greatest compositions in the Christmas spirit.
Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:30-8 p.m.
Sleep Issues

Learn strategies for getting a good night's sleep. For individuals and families touched by cancer.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 7-9 p.m.
VFW Post 9693 Holiday Social

Active post members and their families, as well as any Westshore active military members and their families, are invited for refreshments, raffles and holiday cheer. RSVP to Debbie Green, 440-899-7416, by Dec. 8.
Bay Lodge, 492 Bradley Rd.

Bay theater group ends readings with Christmas theme, announces March show

by JOHN HNAT

Bay Village Community Theater is ending its 2016 "All the World's A Stage[d Reading]" series on a holiday note. BVCT will be performing two readings that will bring audiences back to simpler times: Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory" and Dylan Thomas' "A Child's Christmas in Wales."

We will be reading both pieces at Mojo's Coffee and More, 600 Dover Center Road, on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 5 p.m. Admission is free. We will also be reading at O'Neill Healthcare's Main Lounge, 605 Bradley Road. "A Christmas Memory" will be read on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. "A Child's Christmas in Wales" will be read on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. Admission is also free and the general public is encouraged to attend the readings at O'Neill. Free tickets to all readings are available online at baytheater.yapsody.com.

We plan to continue the staged reading series in 2017; we will be announcing a partial list of performances by the end of the year.

BVCT would also like to announce auditions for our first full length show, "Almost, Maine," which will be performed in March 2017. Auditions will take place at O'Neill Healthcare in the main lounge beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11, and Monday, Dec. 12.

For more information on our staged reading series or auditions for "Almost, Maine," please email us at bay.village.community.theater@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page, Citizens for Bay Village Community Theater. ●



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