

Bay High raises another \$20,000 for St. Baldrick's

by KAREN DERBY

Bay High School raised a total of \$20,000 this year for the St. Baldrick's Foundation in the fight to find cures for childhood cancers. This year's effort brings the school's total four-year contribution to more than \$75,000.

The annual event, held around St. Patrick's Day, has participants solicit sponsors with the promise they will have their heads shaved. The head shaving shows solidarity with children who often lose their hair during chemotherapy, but the tangible result is that many thousands of dollars are raised for lifesaving childhood cancer research.

» See BALDRICK'S page 4

Westlake charts path of 'controlled growth'

by TARA WENDELL

Controlled development and solid financial planning have played a major role in Westlake's decades-long evolution from a quiet farming community to a thriving suburb. One might even say, in this American Greetings town, that growth and planning have been the hallmarks of Mayor Dennis Clough's tenure. These topics always feature prominently in Clough's annual State of the City address to the business community, and this year's presentation was no exception.

Speaking before an audience of West Shore Chamber of Commerce members on March 14, Clough discussed his administration's approach to managing Westlake's transformation.

"We've had a history of good planning ever since I've been involved, for 32 years," Clough said. "I think that's one of the reasons why Westlake has become the very successful community it is today, because we didn't just let things happen. We controlled the growth in the community and we had a lot to say with how it grew and what type of businesses, what type of growth was going to happen."

Economic development has increased the city's total assessed valuation year after year – topping \$1.4 bil-

lion dollars in 2016, among the highest in Cuyahoga County. This allows Westlake to generate a healthy stream of revenue while keeping property and income taxes low.

"One mill [of property tax] raises a whole lot more money in Westlake than it might in another community," Clough said, while presenting a chart showing that Westlake's residential property tax rates are second-lowest in the county, its commercial rates the lowest.

Building permits valued at nearly \$75 million were issued last year for residential and commercial development, including 47 new single-family dwellings. Thirty-four businesses opened, expanded or relocated with the city.

While praising the growth that he has presided over, Clough asserted that his administration is not lax in representing the city's best interests.

"We once had Super K-Mart wanting to build on a site ... right next to the current library. We took a pretty good stance because we felt it wasn't the appropriate location. ... [W]e felt that if they were going to expand they



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough presented his annual State of the City address on March 14.

should do it along I-90. And that's the type of approach we've taken with a lot of development that's occurred in the city – if it's not in the right location, we try to offer other locations and if we can't do that then we're not afraid to go to court to make sure that we protect the community."

That 29-acre parcel of undeveloped land west of Porter Library was recently transferred to the Westlake City School District as part of a major land swap between the city and the district.

» See CLOUGH page 4

CIM stars will shine in free opera preview

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

The magnificent voices that captivated audiences at the Cleveland Institute of Music throughout its past season will perform excerpts from some of the world's most popular operas on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road. The Westlake-Westshore Arts Council has presented the FYI: Opera program free to the community for 26 years.

» See OPERA page 4



ROGER MASTROIANNI, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

Among the performers coming to Porter Library to preview CIM's Opera Scenes program will be Renée Richardson, seen here in "Cosi fan tutte."

Middle school safe boating program returns this spring

by GEORGE CHRIST

Bay Village Schools and the Spirit of America Foundation will provide a hands-on boating safety education program this summer for sixth- through eighth-grade students. The nationally recognized program, known as Spirit of America (SOA), provides students both classroom and on-the-water sessions to teach safe boating skills.

Participants will take the Ohio Boating Education Course on two Saturdays in May. This meets the Ohio law that requires "any person born on or after Jan. 1, 1982, to show proof they have completed an approved boating course if they are operating a power boat over 10 horsepower." This OBEC class

is mandatory and students must attend both days and pass an exam. Boy Scouts can earn their small boat sailing, canoeing, kayaking and motor boating merit badges by completing the course and some additional requirements.

The on-the-water sessions involve a pool session to help students understand the importance of wearing life jackets and to learn how to upright overturned sailboats, kayaks and canoes in a safe environment. The remainder of the on-the-water sessions will be held at Whiskey Island Marina where students will be receive hands-on instruction in power boats, canoes, kayaks, sailboats, personal watercraft, paddleboards and a large boat experience.

» See BOATING page 8

Westlake schools, city announce land deal

by KIM BONVISSUTO

The Westlake City School District and the City of Westlake announced on March 6 an agreement in principle on a joint land exchange and infrastructure improvement deal that best serves the entire community.

After passage of a combined 2.1-mill bond issue and permanent improvement levy, the school district and city agreed to an appraisal process to fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities to their stakeholders. That process is now complete and paved the way for this agreement.

The agreement, in summary, involves the following:

- Westlake Schools will take ownership of a 29.4 city-owned acres on Center Ridge Road next to Westlake Porter Public Library to build an elementary school for pre-kindergarten to Grade 4.
- In exchange, the City of Westlake will take ownership of 42 acres of district-owned property

on Bradley Road, as well as the former administration building at the corner of Dover Center Road and Hilliard Boulevard.

- The district also will sign over the deed to its Parkside property – which houses administrative offices and the Board of Education – to the city. The district will rent the property for \$1 per year with a buyback option over the next 10 years. The city retains the right to use the building's gymnasium, sports fields and auditorium for municipal events during the lease period. The district will maintain the grounds during the lease period.

This agreement is not limited to an exchange of land. The city agreed to fund about \$1 million in improvements on Center Ridge Road, including a traffic signal and turning lanes, to accommodate increased traffic. The city also is dramatically reducing permit fees for the new elementary project.

Discussions on this

agreement have been in process for a period of time with both sides working toward a solution that benefits the community as a whole. Westlake City Council and the Westlake Board of Education will soon vote on the deal.

“The mayor and City Council have been open and engaged in this process. In addition to properties being exchanged, this agreement contains beneficial considerations for the school district in the form of road upgrades, a traffic signal and a reduction of permit fees,” said Superintendent Scott Goggin, who praised the city for being “good partners.”

“It is a deal that provides benefits for the entire community – the city gains flexibility in its future planning and the district can move forward with our new elementary school.”

Goggin said the agreement means the school district will maintain its high school campus on Hilliard Boulevard, the Dover Center

Road, and the four elementary sites, while adding the Center Ridge Road elementary campus. In addition, the district retains the opportunity to reintroduce the Parkside property back into its portfolio.

“This agreement will provide the City of Westlake flexibility for future planning and projects as it relates to recreational and senior needs,” said Mayor Dennis Clough, who maintained that this will not only address current school needs but will assure a brighter future for the entire community.

With this agreement, the district can move forward on construction of a new PK-4 elementary campus. The goal is to create learning spaces that best serve the needs of our students while meeting the expectations of the community. The city gains more flexibility as they move forward with future projects. Construction is scheduled to begin in August, with a projected opening for the 2019-2020 school year. ●

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) meeting, March 8, 2017

by LWV observer MARY ANN GARVEY

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

The meeting took place at Westlake City Hall beginning at 9:30 a.m. The first half-hour was a closed session devoted to financial matters. The meeting adjourned at 10:39 am.

Present: Mayors Clough (Westlake), Koomar (Bay Village), Patton (Fairview Park), Summers (Lakewood), Kennedy (North Olmsted), and Bobst (Rocky River).

Also present: Renee Mahoney (fiscal officer)

Renee Mahoney reported on the newly formalized internet banking policy. The mayors have forwarded the proposal to their finance directors and the topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

2016 Financials: There is a total of \$300,000 in cash and the checking account. All items were within budget. The cities' contributions for 2017 will be the same as for 2016. Most income comes from seizures.

Mayor Summers testified before the state Ways and Means Committee

on the subject of tax collection. The state representatives want to simplify tax collections from businesses, but the proposed bill will not accomplish that. The House wants to enforce centralized collection by mandate. (Business filers currently have a choice.) This would create huge issues for companies in Columbus because of the number of business filings there. The city's top 50 employers could experience a \$400,000 loss. Only 8 percent of filings in Lakewood are business filings. No one from Cleveland has been part of the discussion.

Mayor Bobst reported on S.B. 331, which was passed in December 2016. Effective March 21, the law

allows micro wireless facility (MWF) operators, including public utilities and cable operators, to construct and operate facilities (antennas, accessory equipment, and other wireless devices or equipment) in a municipal corporation's public way. The city must permit MWF attachment to a support structure owned or operated by the city. Mayor Bobst is concerned that this will lead to a city's inability to control what happens on public right-of-ways. It may also result in maintenance issues for the city. Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Toledo are prepared to challenge the MWF provision in court.

Mayor Patton reported that Fairview Park has extended its moratorium on marijuana establishments. Mayor Summers reported that Lakewood has done the same. Rocky River has banned such facilities. Only 20 licenses have been granted in Ohio for the sale of marijuana.

Westshore COG meetings are open to the public. The next one will be Wednesday, April 12, at 9:30 a.m. in Westlake City Hall. ●

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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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OPERA *from front page*

The March 28 program will preview CIM's upcoming Spring Scenes presentation. CIM Opera's artistic director, David Bamberger, said the Westlake performance will include portions of such well-beloved works as "La Bohème," "Don Giovanni," and "Porgy and Bess."

Bamberger gave an overview of the recent performances of five talented singers who will be heard at Porter Library. He said, "Renée Richardson, Jennifer Robble and Daniel Fridley come fresh from their triumphs as Fiordiligi, Despina and Don Alfonso in Mozart's comedy 'Così fan tutte.' Last fall, Caroline Bergen sang the title role in Gian Carlo Menotti's 'Amelia Goes to the Ball.' Coraine Tate is remembered for the moving portrayal of the Countess in Mozart's 'The Marriage of Figaro.'"

Porter Library's program will be narrated by Bamberger and the Scenes program music director, John Simmons, will accompany the singers at the piano.

The March 28 FYI: Opera program offers an inviting sample of the Cleveland Institute of Music's fully costumed production of "Spring Scenes," which will be performed April 21, 22 and 23 at CIM's Kulas Hall. ●

CLOUGH *from front page*

It is slated to become the site of a new elementary school. In exchange, the city obtained 42 acres next to Meadowood Golf Course, the Parkside Intermediate school property, and the former Board of Education building.

Clough said that city will explore adding athletic fields, walking and biking trails, and a sports complex on the newly acquired land. A new aquatic center at Peterson Pool is part of the Recreation Master Plan. Another project being developed is a new community center.

Responding to a question posed earlier by Jim Chillemi, president of the West Shore Chamber, Clough claimed that his proudest accomplishment during the past 32 years has been the Westlake Recreation Center.

"I tend to believe that the quality of life in our

community couldn't be as good as it is without the recreation aspect," Clough explained.

Membership in the center, open to residents and employees working in the city, has remained strong – 10,000 members making more than 600,000 visits last year – in spite of the many private fitness facilities opening in Westlake.

The city completed several major roadway projects in 2016, notably on Detroit Road running the length of the city and on Bradley Road between Center Ridge and

Hilliard. This year will bring more orange cones – farther north on Bradley, at the intersection of Canterbury and Center Ridge, and on Columbia south of Center Ridge. The interchange at Columbia and I-90 will be reconfigured to improve traffic flow.

Clough, already the city's longest serving mayor by a wide margin, will likely have another four years to continue the strategy of controlled growth backed by sound fiscal management. He is unopposed on the November ballot. ●



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Westlake transferred ownership to the school district of 29 acres of land next to Porter Library. A new elementary school is planned for the site.

BALDRICK'S *from front page*

Seniors Will Huntington and Kyle McPhillips have been co-leaders in bringing the St. Baldrick's effort to Bay High since they were freshmen. Back in 2014, the pair introduced the fundraiser to their fellow students. It was a memorable first-run effort, as the original goal of raising \$10,000 was met and then doubled to \$20,000. A top motivator that year was the promise of art instructor Thomas Schemrich to shave off his longtime ponytail hairstyle, which he said he had worn almost always

since he was 15 years old.

Now, the effort can count more than 40 "shavees" as alumni of the Bay High effort thus far, including students (six have been girls), staff members and Principal Jason Martin. Veterans of every one of the past four years include senior Jared Hengst, as well as Huntington and McPhillips.

Martin pointed out that the initial fundraiser in 2014 coincided with the schools' adoption of the "One Rocket Nation" motto. "The motto represents our pride, spirit and unity," he said. "All of these come together with this student-led effort, and the end results have been amazing!" ●

Bay High St. Baldrick's fundraiser participants, pictured left-to-right: (kneeling) John Pim, Cory Scobee, Ben Klaus, Jonah Krueger, Will Huntington, Kevin Linder; (standing) Arabelle Skelly, John Mosier, Ivan Marlin, Rick Manderine, Thomas Saccany, Bill Downey, Jared Hengst, Anthony Tabasso, Kyle McPhillips and Dave Adams. Not pictured are James McPhillips, Ivan Marlin and Duncan Ward.



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

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Cahoon Creek gets clean bill of health

by KHALED HAMIL,
LEO CAVALIER and
NICK LAROSA

This past winter the Sea Scouts, along with the middle school Marine Environment Explorer Club 360, conducted a study to determine the effects of runoff and storm water on the Cahoon Creek. We set out to determine if the creek was being affected by anthropogenic pollution. The study included analysis of the soil, water, over cover density and macroinvertebrate at the source of the stream (the Metroparks, Bradley Woods Reservation), at the mid-point, and at the mouth (Bay Boat Club).

The soils ranged from sandy to silt/loam to clay at the mouth. This difference helped explain the higher level of phosphorus at the source. A clay soil has great phosphorus ion holding capabilities whereas a sandy soil would allow phos-

phorus to easily flow into the stream. The over cover density or amount of tree growth along the stream, studied by looking at Google Satellite views on the web, averaged above the 100 feet width recommended by the experts. Other anomalies such as an acidic pH level of 6.0 and a low level of macroinvertebrate at the mouth could be explained by sampling later in the day with an overcast sky and limited sample size.

In conclusion, our results indicate a healthy Cahoon Creek. This was confirmed on a warm, sunny Sunday in February when sheepshead and a shoal of shad were seen swimming upstream by the mouth of the creek at Bay Boat Club.

We had a great team and fun participating in the project. Since the project is over, we look forward to sailing on Lake Erie this summer!

Sea Scouts is a co-ed

group looking for adventures in or on water. For additional details

contact Richard Gash at skipper@seascoutship41.org or 440-871-6106. ●



PHOTO BY RICHARD GASH

Khaled, Leo and Nick perform water chemistry testing on samples from Cahoon Creek.

Meet the Romanovs in Westlake this spring

by JOAN GRACE

The Case Western Reserve University Off-Campus Studies program will study Nicholas and Alexandra with leader-teacher Betty Zak on Thursdays, March 23 to May 11, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Road.

Nicholas and Alexandra have been called saints, innocent victims, harbingers of revolution among many other names. What really happened? Was it a love that extended beyond each other? Was it a love that ended an empire? Discover their passion, their strengths and their weaknesses in a new light. We begin with the traditional reading of Robert Massie's "Nicholas and Alexandra" followed by summaries of newly Russian released documents involving Rasputin, Alex and Nicky and Alexandra's lady-in-waiting. We'll then extrapolate possibilities through our second book, "The Kitchen Boy: A Novel of the Last Tsar," by Robert Alexander.

The Off-Campus Studies program is offered in collaboration with the Association for Continuing Education (ACE). These book-discussion courses provide an open environment for lively discussion based on meaningful examination of shared texts. There are no written assignments or exams. Leader-teachers facilitate discussion and provide academic background and context. The fee for each course is \$82 for members, \$97 for non-members.

For questions, call one of the co-coordinators, Sandra Berendt at 440-892-4931, or Joan Grace at 440-777-9381. To register, visit case.edu/lifelonglearning/courses/off-campus-studies, or call 216-368-2090. ●

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Hats, gloves and the DAR

by DEB MARISCH

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently traveled back in time by means of a vintage hat fashion show and afternoon tea. Bay Village's Martha Devotion Huntington Chapter co-sponsored the event with Strongsville's Hannah Luther Bosworth Chapter and Western Reserve - Lakewood Chapter on March 4 at LeCentre in Westlake.

Eighty members from 11 Ohio DAR chapters and their guests dressed in period attire from the 1900s and earlier to present day. Hats and gloves were a must!

Before the tea, funds to support the upkeep of Christian Waldschmidt House near Cincinnati were raised for the Ohio Society DAR by means of a quilt raffle and sale of State Regent DAR items.

The afternoon tea offered finger sandwiches, deviled eggs and delicate



Jane Baran models her 1900s-era attire.

cake as well as a variety of tea. Afternoon tea was introduced in Britain in the early 1840s as a mini meal to stem the hunger before the 8:p.m. evening meal. According to the "dos and don'ts" of afternoon tea, it is polite to look into – not over – your teacup when sipping!

The program following the tea was a vintage hat fashion show, "Fashion Through the Decades," presented by the Westshore Ladies whose programs support the mission. Models wore hats



Bay Village DAR members at the March 4 afternoon tea at LaCentre.

from the 1900s to present day. There were bonnets, head bands and hats requiring hat pins.

The hats were adorned with plumage and lace veils and were described as "pancake, cloche, pillbox and tulip hats." The styles reflected the time, with the most ornate hats being worn before World War I. Hats also changed with the hairstyles. Movie stars as well as first ladies set trends in hats.

Presiding officer Leanne McGann,

Martha Devotion Huntington Chapter regent, concluded the meeting. Chapter chaplain Cheryl Distin provided the gathering with a benediction, bringing to a close an afternoon of delight.

Daughters of the American Revolution have proven lineal descent from a Revolutionary War ancestor. For membership information, contact Martha Devotion Huntington Chapter registrar Doris Gorgas, lablady76@wowway.com. ●

LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Backyard astronomy guide to visible planets

by MORGAN PASKERT

Kee an eye out for visible planets in March and April's evening skies with the help of Katy Accetta, astrophysicist at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.

Mercury

Mercury, the smallest and innermost planet in the Solar System, is never too far from the sun in our skies. Mercury orbits the sun in 88 days, the shortest orbital period in the solar system, and spends most of its time behind the sun, in front of the sun or right next to the sun. When Mercury's position and the sunset coincide, it becomes possible for us to see the often-hidden planet. Now is the best time of the year for ambitious sky watchers to catch Mercury as the planet will be set low in the western sky now through April 1. An especially

great evening to catch Mercury, Mars and a crescent moon all in the western sky is March 30, where Mercury will resemble a bright star next to the setting sun.

Jupiter

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system and is mostly composed of two elements: hydrogen and helium. The "gas giant" is fairly close to Earth, so it often appears bright in our evening sky. Jupiter will reach opposition on April 7. Opposition, or when a planet is at its nearest point to Earth and in its full phase, will allow Jupiter to receive maximum sunlight and shine extra bright in the evening sky. Look for Jupiter throughout early April in the east-southeast at dusk and west-southwest at dawn.

Venus

Some people may have heard the phrases "Morning Star" and "Evening

Star," but did you know that both nicknames are referencing the same planet, Venus? The densest of the four terrestrial planets is incredibly bright in our skies due to its proximity to Earth and the high reflectivity of its atmosphere. Often the first object people notice when visible in the sky, Venus orbits the sun faster than Earth and changes its position in our skies relatively quickly. Venus will return as our "Morning Star" by mid-April and, with binoculars, one can see its crescent shape this time of year. On April 30, Venus will be at its greatest illuminated extent in the morning sky.

Save the date for the Great American Eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017, when the moon will reach its maximum eclipse at 2:30 p.m. with 80 percent totality!

To learn more about our solar system and all it inhabits, explore the many astronomy programs offered at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Open registration for Summer 2017 begins on March 20, where you can sign your children up for space camps, rocket camps and more! The Center also offers astronomy programs for all ages. Next up: Telescope



PHOTO BY MAGGIE WATSON

A young stargazer observes Venus in the night sky.

Night (for all ages) on March 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Hitchhiker's Guide to the Inner Planets (for adults) on March 29 at 10 a.m. ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

What missing bumblebees are telling us

by DIANA PI, M.D.

Months ago, the rusty patched bumblebee became the first bee species to be placed on the endangered list by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ohio is one of its last sanctuaries.

For years, to attract bees I’ve flooded my yard with flowering plants. By June, tree-size honeysuckles choke the eaves with white, pink and yellow blossoms. Last year, I saw one or two bees inconsistently. And it’s not just bees, I

rarely see butterflies and dragonflies around our neighborhood anymore. It hasn’t always been this way.

Two streets over, a neighbor keeps a beehive in his backyard, an optimist who despite losing hives two years straight is still trying. He described the day his bees came home, staggering like drunk, and died en mass.

What does science say?

The European Union spent hundreds of millions of dollars studying honey bee colony loss and decided that neonicotinoids, a class of nerve-poison pesticides, is partially responsible and has, since 2013, tightly regulated this class of chemicals.

But what I worry about is that missing bees are the tip of the iceberg. Bees, the yardstick of a healthy environ, are the first casualties of our chemical roulette. Annually, 80 million pounds of pesticide are pumped into our lawns, at a concentration that’s 10 times

more than what farmers use on crops, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Pesticides by nature are poisons. Neonicotinoids, for example, can persist for years in soil and are absorbed into plant tissue and flowers, killing bees by paralysis or by weakening their immune system. There’s a paucity of data on the long-term health effects on humans. From what I can dig out, a small review published in 2016 in Environmental Health Perspective shows exposure is linked to multiple neurological disorders like autism, memory loss and birth defects.

Furthermore, half of the most commonly used pesticides may be associated with cancer. Currently riding the hot seat is Roundup. Monsanto, its parent company, allegedly tried to cover up a possible link between glyphosate, Roundup’s active ingredient, and non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

I think the EPA ought to warning-label pesticides the way the FDA labels cigarettes. “WARNING: Pesticides may cause leukemia, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, prostate cancer, autism, memory problems, depression, Parkinson’s disease, respiratory problems, birth defects and low sperm counts. P.S. Give us another 10 years; we’ll know more.”

I’ve lived to witness the infamy of DDT, DES, and Agent Orange. While I understand and respect the limits of science, waiting for the EPA to react is, for some of us, too little and too late.

My choice is to forgo lawn chemicals, pull a few weeds by hand. My grass is dotted with moss, clover, dandelion and whatever. Cut and trimmed, it looks fine. It’s green, drought resistant, low cost, low maintenance, and friendly to children, pets, birds and pollinators.

No lush lawn is worth risking our health. In the process, we save bees, one lawn at a time. ●

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Hasta la VISTA, baby!

by TAK SATO

According to Wikipedia, the above Spanish term is translated as “Until the (next) sighting” and means “See you later” and “Goodbye.” The phrase has been made famous in our pop culture by Arnold Schwarzenegger in the movie “Terminator 2: Judgement Day” and also by several musicians.

In this case, it seemed the perfect

way to say goodbye to Microsoft’s Windows VISTA operating system.

Microsoft is ceasing support for Windows VISTA on April 11. Using a computer running on Windows VISTA after that date, although functional, will increase your risk exposure especially when connected to the internet as Microsoft will NOT be releasing patches to cover up newly found vulnerabilities.

At this juncture a supported Windows operating system will be Windows 10; most newer Windows systems on the market come with Windows 10 pre-installed. You have other options, such as performing an in-place upgrade, i.e. using the same hardware and just upgrading the operating system to Windows 10 or even Windows 7.

This option may have lost its luster

as computers have become commodities. Since Microsoft ended their free upgrade to Windows 10, a license will cost you \$120. In doing that, you may also want to plan for possibly replacing hardware components that are too old and by the time you figure in parts and labor, whether you do it yourself or pay someone, it may easily surpass the cost of a new PC that you can find on sale starting at around \$400. You may even find a cheaper, Windows 7-based system but Microsoft will again say, “Hasta la vista, baby!” to Windows 7 in early 2020 so keep that in mind. Finally, if budget permits, you can jump ship to an Apple product.

As many of my readers know, I believe the “Power of One” devices, aka tablets and smartphones, can be

appropriate replacements. Whereas computers are known to do everything and the kitchen sink, many people may find tablets and smartphones are more intuitive to use for basic tasks like communicating through email and video chat, browsing the internet, reading news and shopping. Even I find myself reaching for a Power of One device 70 percent of the time, while using personal computers for tasks involving creation of documents, spreadsheets and projects for my professional responsibilities.

The most important takeaway is that if you use a personal computer running Windows VISTA, take action before Microsoft says, “Hasta la VISTA, baby!” on April 11 to manage your risk exposure! ●

READER’S OPINION

Browns continue improving via free agency

by GREG SCHWERT

I was pleased that the Browns traded down in last year’s draft and added high-round picks in this year’s draft. I think they are finally headed in the right direction.

Free agency is now in progress and, once again, the Browns have made a move that will enhance their draft positioning. This time it is for next year, 2018. They have added another second-round pick from the Houston Texans with a creative move. They used a technique that happens frequently in the NBA of absorbing an under-producing, high salary player contract and being compensated for it with the high-round draft pick. They now have their own first- and second-round picks for 2018, along with the second-round picks obtained

from both the Texans and the Philadelphia Eagles.

The Browns do seem to have some problems in free agency though. This would be with their own players that they could have and should have re-signed. Last year it was offensive tackle Mitchell Schwartz and this year it was wide receiver Terrelle Pryor. The loss of Mitchell Schwartz last year played a role in the numerous injuries to Cleveland quarterbacks and the resulting 1-15 record. Terrelle Pryor was one of the few bright spots on the team last year. He is sure to be missed this year.

Heading into the free agency period, it was expected that the Browns would re-sign Terrelle Pryor, add an offensive lineman and a defensive back and, if possible, address their quarterback situation. They were able

to sign Kenny Britt as a replacement for Terrelle Pryor. They have also bolstered their offensive line by signing two offensive linemen, guard Kevin Zeitler and center JC Tretter. They did miss out on the numerous defensive backs that were available. This included Stephon Gilmore from the Buffalo Bills, who was signed by the New England Patriots. He would have been ideal to line up at cornerback along with Joe Haden, especially since the Browns are expected to improve their pass rush by drafting Myles Garrett with their first selection this year.

Although there have been some disappointments with free agent signings, the addition of the offensive linemen is significant since this year’s draft is lacking in quality offensive lineman prospects. Conversely, the draft is very deep with defensive back prospects. Even with this being true, Stephon Gilmore would have been a great addition to the team. ●

Tri-C to host screening of documentary on Middle Eastern immigrants

by JOHN HORTON

“A Thousand and One Journeys: The Arab Americans,” a documentary on the contributions of Middle Eastern immigrants to the United States, will be screened from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, at the Corporate College West facility of Cuyahoga Community College.

Filmmaker Abe Kasbo will attend the showing and participate in a question-and-answer session with the audience. The movie, released in 2015, tells the stories of immigrants from the Middle East, North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula who left their homeland in pursuit of the American Dream.

“Arab Americans have proudly ventured beyond their ethnicity, language and religion to make noteworthy contribution to both the immigrant experience and ultimately the American experience,” Kasbo said. “They served this nation with significant contri-



Abe Kasbo

butions throughout the spectrum of society – as politicians and public servants, entertainers, physicians, business leaders and educators. It is this extraordinary and uniquely American story of people and places that must be told.”

The event is free and open to the public and will be held in room 112 at Corporate College West, located at 25425 Center Ridge Road in Westlake. To learn more about the film, visit www.arabamericandoc.com.

A film screening and discussion with Kasbo also will take place that day from 1-3 p.m. at Tri-C’s Western Campus in Parma. ●

BOATING

from front page

The Bay Village Schools have been associated with the program for 18 years and are the fiscal organization for the program. The program is open to registered students who live in Cuyahoga County. Registration will be held in March and April and the classroom sessions are from

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, May 6 and May 13. The on-the-water sessions at Whiskey Island Marina will be held from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on June 12, 19 and 26. There is a \$20 registration fee. Brochures are available at libraries, local schools and on the Bay Middle School web page. For additional information or questions, visit spiritofamerica95.org or email cuyahoga@spiritofamerica95.org. ●



Students in the safe boating program learn to canoe at Wendy Park.

PHOTO BY GEORGE CHRIST

'Oklahoma!' at Bay High March 23-25

Bay High School students will perform Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 23-25, in the Bay High School auditorium. All performances begin at 7 p.m. Tickets can be ordered online at: bit.ly/BHSOklahoma. The ticket link is also available on the school district website at bayvillageschools.com. Reserved seating is \$12, plus a service fee of \$1.95. General admissions seats are \$8, with a \$1.30 service fee. Tickets will also be available at the door on a first-come basis. ●

From left: Carolyn Carter (as Aunt Eller), Salem Stacey (as Laurey Williams), and CJ Hyland (as Curly McLain)



"It's a scandal. It's an outrage," sing the farmers and the cowmen while Ado Annie Carnes (the girl who can't say no!), played by Sara Brumagin, points to her beau of the moment, the peddler Ali Hakim, played by Drew Ware, in Bay High's production of "Oklahoma!"

PHOTOS BY DENNY WENDELL

8 Westlake Scouts earn Eagle rank

On Saturday, March 4, Boy Scout Troop 208 from Westlake held an Eagle Court of Honor, awarding the highest rank of Scouting to eight boys from Westlake High School. Chartered by Dover Congregational United Church of Christ since 1928, Troop 208 has a storied history in the Greater Cleveland Council. Special proclamations were awarded during the ceremony from Mayor Dennis Clough, County Councilmember Nan Baker, State Sen. Matt Dolan, State Sen. Tom Patton, State Rep. Dave Greenspan, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman.

To achieve the rank of Eagle, the Scouts each completed an extensive community service project:

- Daniel Alfes: Refurbished 12 picnic



Westlake's newest Eagle Scouts, pictured left-to-right in front of their parents: Daniel Alfes, Erik Hoke, Nicholas Kronz, Sean Rossander, Sean Dunphy, Owen Dunphy, Connor Harte and Zain Mohammad.

- tables at the Achievement Centers for Children in Westlake;
- Erik Hoke: Built a firewood shed for Cuyahoga Valley National Park Outdoor Environmental Education Center;
- Nicholas Kronz: Planted chestnut trees in Westlake as part of a repopulation project for The American Chestnut

- Foundation;
- Sean Rossander: Refurbished picnic tables at the Knickerbocker Apartments in Bay Village;
- Sean Dunphy: Replaced outdoor stairway boards at Dover Congregational Church in Westlake;
- Owen Dunphy: Built two park benches

- for Achievement Centers for Children in Westlake;
- Connor Harte: Built a wooden bench and wooden message board at the Clague House Museum;
- Zain Mohammad: Cleaned up the shed at St. Paul Lutheran Hunger Ministry. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

Injuries can be a real pain

by JEFF BING

What attracts us to sports? The magnetic effect which draws us to sports is its inherent unpredictability; hence the ever-famous “Wait ‘til next year” phrase, probably repeated more in this city than anywhere else in the civilized (and uncivilized, for that matter) world. The sport doesn’t really matter; for after every contest in any sport, there is a winner and there is a loser. (And yes, I know about “ties” in football, hockey and soccer, but stay focused here or you’ll miss the point).

The promise (often confused with hope: see Cleveland Browns) that this year will be much better than the previous one is what compels a typical sports fan to continue following his/her team(s) even after a year (or years) of “entertainment” that is usually more easily equated to excruciating torture. Just the mere chance of players improving upon their previous season’s performance is what gives that fan the inner strength to soldier on, no matter how depressing the odds might be. And in reality, those odds are pretty long, because generally, when one player improves, another one struggles, which typically results in a “wash” anyway.

So, if the talent level remains relatively stable over the short term, what makes a good team quickly go bad, and similarly, a bad team become more competitive in a relatively short period of time? Simple, Simon: injuries. Injuries are the “X” factor in sports, which turn promising seasons into nightmares, cause managers/coaches to

be fired, and convince potential ticket buyers to stay away from the box office.

Look at the Cavs for example: One minute they look like they have completely loaded up for the playoffs with the signing of Deron Williams and Andrew Bogut, to coincide with the return of Kevin Love and J.R. Smith from – you guessed it – injuries, and what happens? Bogut does a deep six to his season (and possibly his career) with a nasty injury. The same night Kevin Love returns to the lineup, Iman Shumpert and Kyrie Irving go out indefinitely with injuries. Make no mistake: The Cavs are still loaded with talent and will go deep into the playoffs unless something catastrophic happens to LBJ (in which case they probably couldn’t beat the Brooklyn Nets), but it will be more difficult.

And that brings us to my beloved Tribe. No sooner do I predict 96 victories and a return to the World Series, than Jason Kipnis’ problems with his rotator cuff are more serious than expected. (Note to Tribe medical staff: You should have sat him the first day of spring training; rotator cuff problems take a long time to heal. Heck, Dr. Phil could have diagnosed that one.) And now Carlos Carrasco is shutting down for an indefinite period? What next?

I’ll tell you what’s next: a return trip to the World Series. That’s how good these guys are going to be. And I’ll bet you thought I was going to try and cover myself for my optimistic prediction of the Indians last issue, didn’t you? Not to worry folks, for the Indians will be, as Tony the Tiger used to say, “G-r-r-r-e-e-e-a-a-a-t!”

THE GREEN REPORT

Composting at home

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

Have you thought about starting to compost at your house and then you chicken out because you think it will be smelly or gross? If so, that’s what I thought for a long time, until I bit the bullet one day and bought a compost bin for my backyard. For the record, my husband was not thrilled, as he was afraid of the same thing, as well as attracting animals. I’m happy to report that it has been over a year, and we have not had any problems with gross-ness or animals!

When you Google “composting at home” it can be a little overwhelming, as there seem to be a million websites about methods, ratios, etc. Trust me, it is not that complicated; it’s actually quite easy!

I purchased a repurposed food barrel, turned into a compost barrel, from Rain Barrels N’ More in Westlake. I went to the store with the intention of getting a rain barrel, and I walked out with both a rain barrel and compost barrel. To be honest, I was feeling a bit intimidated by the entire thing, however, Ann (the owner) ensured me it’s a simple thing to do.

The compost cylinder (barrel) that I have is open on the bottom to the ground, allowing worms to crawl into your waste and compost. Additionally, the top, which is removable, has holes in it to allow air and rain water in, which are both important for composting. There are many different containers available for composting, including ones you can turn, and other types. It’s a good idea to check a few kinds out to see what would work best for your lifestyle.

After I bought the compost barrel, I wondered what I would keep the food scraps

in until I wanted to dump them in the barrel in my backyard. I quickly searched my house and found one of those plastic cereal containers that I never use and decided that would be a good kitchen container: It seals at the top and was big enough for a couple days’ worth of scraps. It has worked perfectly. I throw the compostable waste into that, and when it’s full, I walk it into my backyard and dump it in the barrel.

What is compostable? Raw fruit and vegetable waste (but not citrus; citrus kills bacteria, you want to grow bacteria), egg shells, coffee grounds, black and white newsprint, fireplace ashes, dryer lint, and yard waste (leaves, sticks, etc.). When adding these materials, the smaller they are, the quicker they will break down, so crumble your egg shells and chop up vegetable/fruit scraps as much as possible. What shouldn’t you put in there? Do not put any meat, bread, dairy products or cooked food in your compost. If you follow these simple guidelines, animals will not be attracted to your compost.

How will you know when your compost is ready? You’ll know – it will look like dirt, dark and crumbly. When it looks like this, you can take it and spread it around your garden beds. It’s very good for your plants. Also, as my barrel



This backyard compost barrel has a removable lid for adding food scraps, ventilation holes to allow for faster decomposition, and an open bottom so worms can aid in the composting process.



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HARTZELL

A tight-sealing plastic container is perfect for holding food scraps until you are ready to take them out to the compost barrel.

gets full, I like to take a shovel and mix it up a bit, it seems to speed the process.

I hope I have helped make home composting seem a little less intimidating, and I hope you will consider trying it! If you are thinking about composting, Rain Barrels N’ More is hosting a free composting class on Earth Day, April 22, 2 p.m., at their new location in the former Bonne Bell building on Crocker Road.



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Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesdays, March 22 and 29 (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, March 22 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTER-NOON BOOK DISCUSSION – The March selection is “The Boston Girl” by Anita Diamant.

Wednesdays, March 22 and 29 (4-5:30 p.m.) and Thursdays, March 23 and 30 (6:30-8 p.m.) BOW WOW BOOKS – Stop by the Youth Services Department and sign your child up for a 10-minute reading time with a reading therapy dog! Bring your own book or choose one of ours. Registration begins Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Thursday, March 23 (noon-1:30 p.m.) SMALL BUSINESS LUNCH & LEARN: BUSINESS LAW – This seminar will cover the legal topics that most entrepreneurs and business owners will come across in the starting-up and running of his/her business. Please register.

Thursday, March 23 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) THE CLEVELAND INDIANS AND BASEBALL IN THE DEPRESSION – Author, baseball historian and lifelong Indians fan Scott Longert will discuss his latest book, “No Money, No Beer, No Pennants: The Cleveland Indians in the Great Depression.” Please register.

Friday, March 24 (10 a.m.-noon) FIBER FANATICS – A time for needlecrafters to share, solve problems, and show off.

Friday, March 24 (10:30-11:15 a.m.) SENSORY STORYTIME – Features an adapted storytime for children with special needs and their caregivers. Siblings welcome. Includes time for social play. Content is geared to ages 3-7. Registration begins one week before each session.

Saturday, March 25 (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.

Monday, March 27 (1-7 p.m.) AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Tuesday, March 28 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: IMPROVING INTERVIEWING SKILLS – Preparation is the essential ingredient for a successful job interview. It starts with research about the job and the company and includes preparing to answer difficult questions.

Tuesday, March 28 (7-8 p.m.) HISTORY OF WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS – A non-technical talk on the patterns found in the lives of women whom have made significant contributions in the mathematics field. Please register.

Friday, March 31 (9:30 OR 10:30 a.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS: MUSIC THERAPY & MORE – Designed for children ages 1-6 who are struggling in an area of development. Join us for a program designed to model and teach families how to use music to improve their child’s skills. Each session is 30 minutes. Register at connectingforkids.org/register or by phone: 440-250-5563.

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

Author Amanda Flower is coming to Porter Library on March 30

by DEBBIE LOIACONO

Cozy mysteries are fun reads that engage the mind and provide entertainment. The cozy mystery heroine is usually a very intuitive, intelligent woman with an interesting occupation, who just happens to also be an amateur sleuth. The story unravels in a small town where everyone knows everyone else’s business. Although the local police force doesn’t take her seriously, the cozy mystery heroine delves deep into clues amid a clever plot and well-developed characters.

Sound irresistible? We think so too. That’s why we are delighted to welcome national bestselling and Agatha Award-winning cozy mystery author, Amanda Flower to Porter Library on Thursday, March 30, at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Flower started her writing career in elementary school when she read a story she wrote to her sixth-grade class. Her description of being stuck on the top of a Ferris wheel made everyone

laugh, and a writer was born. Her debut mystery, “Maid of Murder,” was an Agatha Award Nominee for Best First Novel. Ms. Flower writes the India Hayes Mystery Series which features a college librarian and part time sleuth. She writes the Appleseed Creek Mystery Series which takes place in Ohio Amish country. Her Amish Candy Shop Mystery Series stars a chocolatier. Ms. Flower is known for her Magical Bookshop Mystery Series and the Living History Museum Mystery Series, also set in Ohio. Under her pen name, Isabella Alan, she writes the Amish Quilt Shop Mystery Series. In addition to adult cozies, Ms. Flower writes the Andi Boggs Mystery Series for children.

One more reason for Porter Library staff to love Ms. Flower is her occupation. When she isn’t plotting murder, she can be found in a library where she is of all things, a librarian!

Please join us on March 30 when Ms. Flower will share her writing secrets with all of us. ●

Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

MLB baseball is starting, the Indians home opener is almost here, and we’re ready to cheer on the Tribe in hopefully another exciting season. In the meantime, join us for some baseball talk at the Bay Village branch library on Tuesday, April 4, at 7 p.m. Local author Scott Longert will discuss his book, “No Money, No Beer, No Pennants,” which tells the history of the Cleveland Indians through the turmoil of the Great Depression. A book sale and signing will follow the talk.

CHILDREN

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

Monday, March 27 (7 p.m.) MAKEY MAKEY – Grades 3-5: Learn to turn everyday objects such as bananas and clay into touchpads using Makey Makey invention kits. Registration required.

Monday, April 3 (11 a.m.) HOME-SCHOOL PEEP SCIENCE – Grades 4-8: Chill with your Peeps at the library for a program using marshmallow Peeps for hands-on science experiments. Do Peeps float in water or blow up in the microwave? Can Peeps change color or size? What happens when a Peep is frozen? Come explore Peep Science and find out!

Thursday, April 6 (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.

Thursday, April 6 (7 p.m.) WHAT A DISASTER: TITANIC – Grades 3-4: Learn about the Titanic shipwreck with hands-on science activities.

TEEN

Wednesday, March 29 (3 p.m.) LED CLOUD WORKSHOP – Ages 11-18: Join Progressive Arts Alliance for an exploration of simple circuits and art making. This workshop will allow students to learn about simple circuits while creating a small cloud sculpture. Participants will each create their very own cloud, lit by an LED, that they can clip on to their

collar or backpack and take home.

Wednesdays, March 22 and April 5 (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE – Grades 5 & up: Chill with something fun to do after school – gaming, art, movies, experiments and more! Registration required.

ADULTS

Wednesday, March 29 (7 p.m.) HISTORY OF AVIATION SECURITY – Join us as Robin “Chuck” Burke, Federal Security Director for Department of Homeland Security/Transportation Security Administration in Richmond, Virginia, presents the history of security in aviation. The mission of the TSA to protect the flying public has evolved through the last 45 years. This talk will also provide information on how to make travel by air more convenient and traveler friendly as well as address current myths about air travel and why safety and security measures are necessary. This event is presented in partnership with the Bay Village Historical Society.

Monday, April 3 (1:30 p.m.) COLORING FOR CALMNESS – Drop in and experience the latest trend in relaxation: adult coloring books! Studies show coloring can have a calming effect on the adult mind and help to promote overall wellness. Coloring pages from books designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils, markers or crayons will be provided. We’ll color to some relaxing music. Refreshments will also be available.

Tuesday, April 4 (7 p.m.) CLEVELAND INDIANS AND BASEBALL IN THE GREAT DEPRESSION – “No Money, No Beer, No Pennants” by Scott Longert.

Wednesday, April 5 (7 p.m.) BEE-KEEPING ESSENTIALS – Amalia Haas, beekeeper and environmental educator, will lead an interactive series on beekeeping. Learn about honey from flower to bee, crystallization, fermentation, and how terroir affects a honey’s sensory qualities. Changing landscapes, modern agriculture, climate change and globalization all play a role in pollinator decline. Learn steps we can all take to ensure our food security and help bees thrive in today’s challenging environment. Week 1: From comb to bottle; Week 2: Planting a pollinator garden; Week 3: Making nature’s cosmetics from hive products.

Friday, April 7 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS BOOK DISCUSSION – Join friends, neighbors and library staff as we discuss “The News of the World” by Paulette Jiles on the BAYarts campus in the Sullivan Gallery. Copies of the books are available at the library and BAYarts.

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

3RD ANNUAL SPRING BOUTIQUE
Saturday, April 8 • 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Rocky River Civic Center
21016 Hilliard Blvd.
Come support Angels on the Avenue with raising money for the residents of St. Augustine Health Campus.
Over 35 vendors and crafters, Chinese raffle, food and baked goods.
Bring the kids to enjoy activities at the Kiddie Corner and see the Easter Bunny!

WESTLAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Celebrating Westlake's most senior citizens

by LYDIA GADD

What do Columbo, Alfalfa and James Bond (portrayed by Roger Moore) have in common?

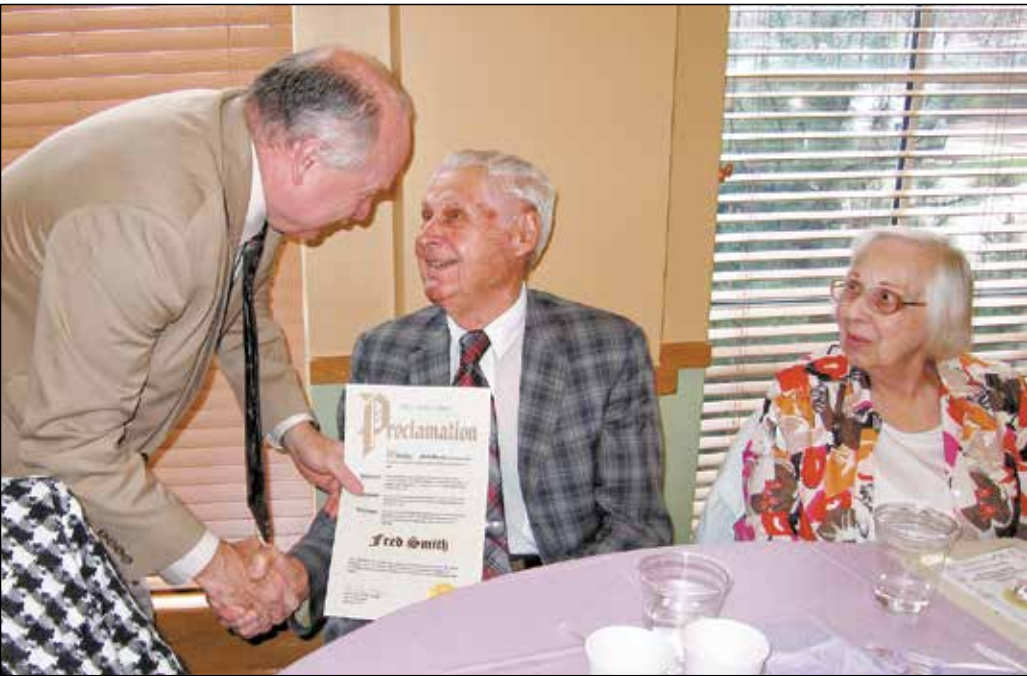
Besides being famously quirky characters, probably not a whole lot except that the actors who portrayed them were all born in 1927. This means that they would be turning 90 this year. Roger Moore is the only one of this trio who is still living (although “fake news” wrongly reported his death earlier this month). If he lived in Westlake, we would be happy to add him to our Over 90s Birthday Celebration guest list; a list that grows year after year.

This year, the Westlake Community Services Department mailed 109 invitations to the 90-plus-year-old Westlake residents we know who live independently. Three of the invitations included couples who are both

over 90. Additionally, we sent invitations to the Westlake-based assisted living facilities, as each of them bring a healthy contingent of nonagenarians and centenarians to the table. Of course, we don't know everyone, so please contact us if your nonagenarian didn't receive an invite, and we will happily add them to our guest list.

The annual event is jointly hosted by the Westlake Women's Club and the Westlake Community Services Department. For capacity reasons, it is held in the large Community Room at the Westlake Recreation Center.

This year's celebration is scheduled to occur on Wednesday, April 26, at 11:30 a.m. There is entertainment, brunch and birthday cake (without the candles!). Cameras are encouraged



Mayor Clough congratulates Fred Smith, as well as Lois Durst to his right, at the Over 90s Birthday Celebration last year. Fred and Lois are siblings, both in their 90s and lifelong Westlake residents.

as Mayor Dennis Clough is on hand to individually deliver each guest-of-honor a Mayoral Proclamation. We later deliver proclamations to those who live in nursing facilities and are unable to be out and about with us that day.

All in all it is a remarkable celebration honoring our most senior

residents who have some great stories to tell. There may even be a few quirky characters there (not portrayed by actors). It is a most enjoyable event that the Community Services staff looks forward to year after year.

To add a name to our guest list, please call the Westlake Center for Community Services at 440-899-3544. ●



Lenten

Fish Fry

Fridays from Mar 3rd thru Apr 7th

Parish Activity Center

5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Entrée choices include fried Perch, baked Haddock, macaroni & cheese, or Pierogies. Sides: macaroni & cheese or Pierogies. All meals include French fries, coleslaw, roll w/butter and dessert. Iced tea and lemonade served. Soda available for purchase.



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BMS girls basketball team caps perfect season with trophy

by JENNIE KOOMAR

This year the Bay Middle School seventh-grade girls basketball team finished with a perfect season – 12 wins and no losses! They won the championship game at Hillside Middle School on March 7 with a final score of 33-30. The girls were down by nine in the third quarter but worked together to win the championship. The team was composed of Iris Hunt, Emily Edman, Rachel Rankin, Sydney Brabant, Abby Smith, Lydia Erwin, Carli Mendelow, Chaeli Ziebarth, Emily Martin, Myka Evenhouse, Emma Fox and Macey Ault.

But the team could not have won on their own. Along with the players, the team also included two amazing managers, Lia Vizdos and Lauren Cseh. The girls thought they had an incredible coach, Coach Mont, who inspired all of them to play their best! They

truly could not have won the championship game without her. During the championship game Coach Mont gave an inspiring halftime speech that made them believe that they could win.

In addition to the talented players, managers and coach, other Bay Middle School students contributed to the successful season by cheering the team on to victory. As each game of the season went by, the size of the student section grew, along with the excitement and enthusiasm of the fans. At the championship game the school got a spirit bus to get the loyal fans to Parma to help cheer on the team!



PHOTO BY BOB ZIEBARTH

The Bay Middle School seventh-grade girls basketball team celebrates their championship win.

The players said they loved the fans' support and it helped motivate them to give it their all. Chaeli Ziebarth commented, "The student

section helped us play better and improved the mood of the game."

It was awesome to see the seventh-grade students

support and encourage their friends! We are looking forward to watching some exciting basketball games in the years to come. ●

HEALTH & SAFETY

Keeping kids safe in parking lots

by LORILYNN WOLF

Have you had a scare in a parking lot or driveway? You are juggling bags of groceries, responding to a text or maybe getting your baby out of the car seat. You are distracted for a second – the amount of time it takes your toddler or preschooler to run away from your vehicle and into a busy area. Many of us can relate to this occurrence that happens all too often. In fact, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, on average, 96 fatalities and 2,000 injuries in children occur every year due to being

backed over.

Connecting for Kids is launching a Parking Lot Safety Awareness Program to help change this statistic by offering families free safety kits to educate children about the dangers of running away from a car without holding an adult's hand. The key part of this program is a free magnet that families can put on their car where the child exits. These magnets give children a visual place to put their hand to wait until an adult can safely take their hand and lead them to the next destination.

Be one of the first to obtain these kits at the Connecting for Kids Meet and Greet held on Wednesday, April 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River.



The Connecting for Kids Parking Lot Safety Kit comes with a special magnet to show children where to place their hand and safely wait for an adult.

The Meet and Greet is a free, public event where families can learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis). Participants can visit with representatives from more than 70 organizations to discuss services and explore program options. Along with

the magnet, the Parking Lot Safety Awareness Program also features:

- A parent guide for teaching children parking lot safety strategies by using S.T.A.R. (Stop, Touch, Attention and Ready).
- A Parking Lot Safety S.T.A.R. certificate a child can hang in his/her room or on a refrigerator.
- A children's social story with step-by-step visual instructions for staying safe.

Starting on April 13, visit connectingforkids.org/ParkingSafety to fill out the form to receive the magnet and to download supporting materials. For more information and to register for the event, visit connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet. For questions about the event, contact Laurie Demchak at lauriedemchak@connectingforkids.org or 440-250-5563. ●


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BAYarts juried show winners unveiled

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

With nearly 300 pieces of art received, the BAYarts juried show was a popular choice for submissions this year. Judges Kristen Cliffl and Daniel Levin spent hours looking over each piece, seeing which would make it to inclusion. And the result is a spread of art in many mediums gracing the entire first floor of the Sullivan Family Gallery at BAYarts.

Cliffl, a Cleveland Arts Prize winner, enjoyed the judging process. “Jurying an exhibition is always so exciting because you get to see such a breadth of work that is being produced, sometimes by artists you are familiar with but many times, by artists that you haven’t seen.”

Levin, an associate professor of visual communication and design, hoped their gallery selections will enhance a certain feeling. “I feel it’s important to give the viewers an experience as they work their way through the gallery. I see a juror’s role to be quite similar to a better

disc jockey’s. Beginning with the first piece selected, one should build an experience for the viewer. The second piece should complement the first, avoiding redundancy.” Within those guidelines, Levin never wants to compromise talent. “It is important to share the variety of works within the community while keep standards on the high side regarding the integrity of the works.”

Of course, many fine works of art don’t always find a home in a juried show.

For those who submitted without achieving a slot, Levin had encouraging words. “It is important to me for those who submit, but do not get their work selected, to not in any way be discouraged. There is only so much space and keeping in mind any juror’s approach, there is an excellent chance that a piece not accepted one year can very likely be chosen the next, due to the other works submitted. In other words, a work not being accepted is not necessarily a measure of its quality.”

A give-and-take is



“Rescued from Petland” by Martin E. O’Connor won Best of Show in BAYarts’ juried show this year.

important for the judges to have. “Daniel is a staunch supporter of the arts here in Cleveland and also a very fine artist with innovative ideas and solutions in his own practice,” complimented Cliffl. And the artistic admiration goes both ways.

“I admire (Kristen’s) work very much,” remarked Levin. “The craftsmanship of her pieces is always extremely high, but it’s the humor that she’s not afraid to include that I especially enjoy.” And that humor is present in the juried show, as seen in a piece by Sharon Pomaes that shows a Cabbage Patch doll holding a cell phone.

Also displaying some quirky fun is the Best of Show

winning piece by Martin E. O’Connor. It is titled “Rescued from Petland,” and is a tiny Chihuahua wearing a large studded collar and making a face with a peek of its startling pink tongue. The first-place piece by Michael Romanik features a bird, and the second-place piece by Derek Brennan displays yet another beloved creature – his wife.

Portraits are another common theme – both traditionally done and those with modernized takes. Fiber art, lithographs and ceramic pieces also are included.

This marks another successful Juried Exhibition on the BAYarts campus. Many people come from all over to see the wide variety of artists on display, which gives them all a chance to experience all that BAYarts offers. Speaking highly of BAYarts is something the two judges share.

“BAYarts is an amazing asset to the whole community it serves,” says Cliffl. “The ability to drop in to view an exhibition, commune with other artists in a class, shop in the lovely store and hear music and dance on the lawn in the warmer months are some of the many reasons I love BAYarts.”

Levin also feels the vibe

of the Metroparks adds to the allure. “If I were ever asked to describe BAYarts to someone who has never been on site before, I would likely describe it as a small Chautauqua Institute, beginning when one enters the property,” he says. “It’s set back among the trees. It’s a campus with historically interesting structures, twinkly lights, a cute restaurant, a pottery studio that any other art center would be envious of, and lovely galleries.”

The Juried Exhibition will be on display in BAYarts’ Sullivan Family Gallery until April 1. ●

JURIED AWARDS:

Best of Show: Martin E. O’Connor, “Rescued from Petland”

1st Place: Michael Romanik, “Aviarium-Cedar Waxwing”

2nd Place: Derek Brennan, “Wildflower”

3rd Place: Michael Jackson, “Marble Jar”

Artistic Director’s Choice: Chris Benavides, “Pioneer Daughter”

A People’s Choice selection will be posted via the Juried Exhibition page on bayarts.net.

Students named National Merit Finalists

Bay High’s Will Huntington is National Merit Finalist

Bay High School senior Will Huntington has been named a National Merit Finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Program. He earned the prestigious academic distinction with his score on the 2015 Preliminary SAT (PSAT), taken during his junior year in high school.

Will plans to major in economics, and he has narrowed down his choice of schools to Vanderbilt, Northwestern, Harvard and Yale. The Rockets baseball player would like to coach baseball, but he also has a strong interest in the non-profit world.

He has been his school’s leader each year in organizing the St. Baldrick’s fundraiser. “I’ve been involved with St.

Baldrick’s, shaving my head, since seventh-grade,” he said, and noted that he will be leading the effort again this year at Bay High. He has held leadership positions in Bay High’s Youth Philanthropy Fellowship and Student Council.

The nationwide pool of National Merit Finalists represents less than one percent of the 1.6 million students from 22,000 U.S. high schools who take the PSAT in their junior year. ●



Westlake High has 4 National Merit Finalists

Westlake High School has four students named National Merit Finalists.

Seniors Emily Schor-dock, Alexander Lathem, Anna Craven and Hong Liang are among 15,000 students to achieve Finalist standing. They will move on to compete for about 2,500 National Merit Scholarships worth \$2,500 each, corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards and 4,000 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards. ●



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9

8 a.m. Early Eucharist
9 a.m. Mostly Jazz Mass
11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

6 p.m. Tenebrae Service
Trinity Chamber Singers sing music by Allegri and Victoria

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 13

12:10 p.m. Eucharist & Healing Service
6 p.m. Contemplative Service & Eucharist
7 p.m. Potluck Dinner

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14

12 p.m. Solemn Liturgy
1 p.m. Good Friday Blues & Lamentations
Music by the Gateway Band
1 p.m. Children’s Good Friday Program
(Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert
Allegri: *Miserere*
Mozart: *Ave verum corpus*
Liszt: *Evocation of the Sistine Chapel*
Mozart: *Requiem*
Trinity Chamber Singers, Cathedral Choir and Chamber Orchestra
Nicole Keller, organ; Todd Wilson, conductor

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
9 a.m. Contemporary Festival Eucharist
Music by the Gateway Band
10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children grades preK-5
11:15 a.m. Festival Eucharist
Music by Hancock, Bach, Billings and Widor
The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani

PHOTO CREDIT: SAM HUBISH



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Westlake resident earns hospice associations' top administrator award

by LAURIE HENRICHSEN

Recently, Westlake resident Bob Phillips-Plona was nationally recognized by his peers by being named "Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Administrator of the Year." The award was presented at the annual assembly of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

Phillips-Plona, Director of Residential Services at Hospice of the Western Reserve, has dedicated his entire career to serving some of the most vulnerable residents in our com-

munity. Over the past 20 years, more than 30,000 terminally ill patients and their families have benefited from his operational and administrative management skills at Ames Family Hospice House in Westlake, David Simpson Hospice House in Cleveland, and the Hospice of Medina County Inpatient Care Center.

Phillips-Plona participated in the feasibility studies for the building of Ames Family Hospice House and played an integral role in its design and development, actively seeking out and incorporating input from patients, families, staff clinicians, decorators, vendors and national sources to make it a state-of-

the-art facility.

"This honor is really a reflection of the people who have invested in me," he said during his acceptance remarks. "In this award, I see those who have taught me, coached me and mentored me. I see the reflection of my colleagues, who daily attend to the complexities of care at the bedside. This award also reflects the invaluable lessons that my patients and families have taught me. Without those real-life lessons, I couldn't do the work that I do today."

"Our ability to manage a multitude of complex conditions and treatments is due to Bob's belief that we can do anything when we all work together as



Bob Phillips-Plona was integral in the development of the Ames Family Hospice House in Westlake.

a team," said Judy Bartel, Chief Clinical Officer. "His clinical judgment and systems thinking have led to Hospice of the Western Reserve being recognized nationally as a premier provider of inpatient hospice care. His focus is always on providing the best quality of care to our patients and their families."

Since 2008, Phillips-Plona has also been a member of a volunteer medical team that

provides healthcare to rural communities in Honduras. He leads a team of nursing and allied health professionals responsible for triaging patients prior to medical dental and eye exams and care. ●

READER'S OPINION

Noticing ham radio antennas years ago

by DAN HIRSCHFELD

A recent drive on Lorain Road in Fairview Park managed to spark a feeling of nostalgia in me (not terribly difficult to do).

Traveling westbound on Lorain Road from Cleveland I happened to recall a very large amateur radio antenna, now long-gone, had once proudly presided over the northwest corner of Lorain Road and one of its intersecting side streets, near Fairview Park's eastern limit. On my recent drive I didn't recall the exact side street. Clearly recalled from a significant amount of time ago was the fact the amateur radio call sign of the antenna's owner was prominently displayed on its support structure.

Using the same sort of research techniques I've employed in writing previous Westlake / Bay Village Observer submissions, I found just where the antenna once stood and that the amateur radio operator who owned it was once a very well known ham and long serving Fairview Park Fire Chief, of which I had no idea.

Establishing relevance to this publication, having grown up in the city, I came to notice several impressive amateur radio antenna installations in the western part of Bay Village as I ventured on numerous bicycle rides through the

area as a youngster. And yes, I likely was much more aware of antenna installations, amateur radio and otherwise, than most kids my age.

I spent my youth well before general use of the Internet was available to the public (the old ARPAnet was just being developed then). At that time the options available for most people to communicate over long distances were either physically mail letters, pony up often significant amounts of money for long distance telephone calls or earn an amateur radio license and commu-

radio option listed above is now obsolete and unnecessary. To the contrary, it's arguable that amateur radio is as relevant and useful as ever.

At the risk of sounding cliché, there are still numerous occasions of amateur radio initially being the only form of communication available into and out of disaster stricken areas. With cellular and other telecommunication systems either damaged or overloaded, amateur operators can bypass local infrastructure and directly communicate radio to radio.

Technically speaking, many amateur radio operators are utilizing a wide range of modern digital communication formats over the air as well as experimenting with software defined radio, where a computer is integral to signal reception and transmission. One can elect to be a very casual and recreational amateur operator or delve deeply in technical and experimental aspects of radio. As in the past, amateur radio remains a great training ground for people interested in electronics and communication. ●



A 1990s-era Cushcraft amateur radio antenna sales brochure, featuring a wide range of antennas employed in the amateur radio field.



This tower is installed at a nonprofit agency in order to facilitate amateur radio communications.

Plant Crafters' last sale: Liquidation auction to be held April 1

The Plant Crafters era in Westlake is over. After 30 years on Center Ridge Road, the Burnett family decided to close their garden center and retire.

Known for their high-quality home decor and gift items, owners Molly and Bruce Burnett will miss the generations of customers they served. "Plant Crafters was a labor of love," said Bruce. "We truly enjoyed providing our buyers with items you couldn't find in the big box garden stores."

A live public auction will be held on Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m., to liquidate everything remaining in the Westlake store. Items include nursery stock and related

horticultural items, firewood, a forklift, vintage and antique furniture and thousands of home and gift items.

The timing is perfect with spring just arriving, and everything will sell to the high bidders regardless of price.

Auction goers can preview the facility located at 26185 Center Ridge Road from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, March 30 and 31, or beginning at 8 a.m. the morning of the auction.

For more information on the auction, hosted by Rosen & Co. Inc./Buddy Barton Auctions, visit bidrosen.com or call 440-519-1860. ●

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SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

The Oviatt Manufacturing Company, Part I

by KAY LAUGHLIN

Bay Village has a West Oviatt Road and an East Oviatt Road, both located off Dover Center Road near the railroad tracks. In Lakeside Cemetery there is a small footstone that reads, “Eugene C. Oviatt, died November 3, 1864 – 1 mo., 10 days.” So who were the Oviatts?

Our Oviatt family started in America with Thomas, who owned a tallow chandlery in Milford, Connecticut, in 1690. Four generations later, Benjamin and Elizabeth Carter Oviatt lived in Goshen, Connecticut. Benjamin Oviatt, Stephen Baldwin and Theodore Parmele jointly invested in one-eighth part of Hudson Township in 1800, one year after David Hudson established the village of Hudson.

Heman Oviatt, Benjamin's son, settled in Hudson in 1801 on land south of the village, a gift from his father. Benjamin's second child, Luman, married Rhoda Norton and later Aloria Sanford in Goshen. He fathered 15 children. Some of his children settled in Parma Township and some in Richfield in Summit County. Although Luman spent his life in Connecticut, he was in Richfield when he died in 1838 and was buried in Fairview Cemetery. The second child of Luman and Rhoda is Nelson G. Oviatt.

We know the family of Nelson G. Oviatt was living in Dover Township in 1825, as his daughter, Mary, was born here in April of that year. His name appears on the 1852 Dover Township map (oldest one we have).

Nelson owned land in Lot # 86. This land is located south of the Cahoons, Camps, and Humphreys on the 1852 map. Nelson married Melinda Humphrey and then Lucy Wilcox. (Loyal Humphrey owned part of Lot #96 north of Nelson and east of the Cahoons. Melinda may have been a sibling or



This 1886 map section shows Dudley L. Oviatt's land spanning Cahoon Creek.

daughter.)

Nelson's land ran east and west of Dover Center and Cahoon roads (along the north side of the railroad tracks today.) This included Cahoon Creek. He built a house above the valley facing Cahoon Road. (Cahoon Road ran through to Detroit Road, Dover Center Road ended at the Oviatt property.) He farmed in the valley below and on the west side of Cahoon Road while operating his mills.

Next to his house on Cahoon Road Nelson built a bridge across the creek for access to his two mills. He ran a gristmill south of the bridge and a sawmill north of it. He dealt largely in cutting lumber and grinding oats. The mill pond in the valley went from the bridge to where the Nickel Plate Tracks are today, providing power for both mills. It is said Benjamin Tuttle built the sawmill, which contained reciprocating saws rather than circular ones. Nelson named his business the Oviatt Manufacturing Company.

Nelson and Melinda's sixth child was Dudley Luman, born at home in Dover Township in 1832. Dudley married Almira Abigail Phinney. They lived with or near Nelson and Melinda and Dudley did a lot of farming. In 1870, the census notes Dudley Luman's worth: \$8,000 real estate, \$2,500 personal.



This photograph from the 1870s shows one of the Oviatt mills on a large millpond near the old Cahoon Creek bridge.



Nelson Oviatt built this bridge, pictured in the 1890s, to connect his house on Cahoon Road to his mills on the east side of Cahoon Creek. His path became West Oviatt Road.

Living with them was a domestic servant and two laborers.

Dudley had 40 acres tilled, including fallow and grass, five acres of meadow, 35 acres of woodland, five horses, six working oxen, two milk cows, eight cattle, two swine, 30 chickens. His farm produced 100 dozen eggs,

15 tons of hay, 240 bushels of wheat and 25 bushels of potatoes. He had two orchards with 20 fruit-bearing trees. Dudley and Almira had six children: Clarence, Lillian, Eugene, Arthur, Rena and May. Lillian and Eugene were twins. It is Eugene that is buried in Lakeside Cemetery. ●

HEALTH & WELLNESS

MS symptoms can mirror other diseases

by MEL MAURER

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a disease that attacks a person's nerve fibers leading to the destruction of the myelin that insulates the fibers in the brain and spinal cord. It's the myelin that facilitates electromechanical transmissions between the brain, the spinal cord and the rest of the body. In oversimplified layman's terms – MS causes short circuits in the nervous system, disrupting whatever function is controlled by the affected nerves.

March is MS Awareness Month. It's designated to help make aware those who may be enduring symptoms of the disease without knowing what they may have. There is no cure

for MS but there are treatments for it that can slow its progress, making early detection essential for its victims.

Its symptoms include: blurred vision, sometimes with pain; tingling and/or numbness; pain and involuntary muscle spasms; fatigue and weakness; problems with dizziness, balance and coordination; bladder, bowel and sexual dysfunction; cognitive problems (memory, attention span, language); and emotional difficulties including depression. Other problems may include loss of hearing, seizures, shaking, breathing problems and slurred speech.

The effects of MS may be mild or severe, of short or lifelong duration. To know MS is to know its many and various symptoms, most of which it has in common with other illnesses, making it difficult at times to correctly diagnose. Any place in the body served by nerves may be affected by MS. Once thought to primarily attack young adults, it's now known to affect people of all ages. And, for whatever reason, far more females have MS than males.

The disease is not specifically hereditary but one does have a higher chance of developing it if a close relative has it. The general population has one-tenth of a percent to develop it while that goes up to one percent to 3 percent if a sibling or parent has it. There is also some sort of environmental factor with MS – it's far more common in northern climates than southern. Ohio has more people with MS than almost any other state.

I have written a number of pieces such as this over the years letting readers know of multiple sclerosis during this special month in Ohio, while always hoping I will never have to write another one. That day will come but until it does we need to get the word out so symptoms may be recognized, diagnosed and treated as soon as possible.

We don't know how many people may have been or will be helped with special months like this but even if only one person, it will be worth it. That person may even be you or someone you know and love. I recommend the website msconnection.org to those seeking further information. ●

Tickets available for Bay Village benefit party

by ERIC EAKIN

Tickets are going fast for a party to benefit Bay Village's historic district, specifically much-needed renovations to the Community House.

The event is set for Saturday, April 29, at Lakewood Country Club in Westlake.

“Back to Bay's Future” will be a 1960s-themed dance party to raise money for the city's historic district, which includes the Rose Hill Museum and Library, the Reuben Osborn Learning Center, the Cahoon replica log cabin and the Community House. The event will include live music, a wine pull, side boards, dance contest and more.

Tickets are \$100 each and registration forms are available at City Hall. Corporate sponsorships also are being solicited.

For more information call 216-386-5997. ●

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

Tuesday, March 21, 6-7:30 p.m.

Welcome to Medicare

If you are a new or soon-to-be beneficiary, come to the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program and learn about Medicare benefits, supplemental insurance policies, Medicare Advantage plans and prescription drug coverage. OSHIP is a free service through the Ohio Department of Insurance and provides unbiased answers and insurance counseling on issues important to people of any age on Medicare. Call to reserve your spot as seating is limited. Contact Kathy Bultema at 440-250-2300, ext. 4402. *Devon Oaks Assisted Living, 2345 Crocker Rd., Westlake*

Wednesday, March 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
SweetArts Cafe

A socialization and art experience. It begins with lunch, either brown bag or ordered from Panera, and is followed by an art, music, storytelling or dance activity. No cost. Pre-register and/or order lunch at 440-414-0434, ext. 2. *26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake*

Wednesday, March 22, 12:30-1:45 p.m.
Robyn Ochs, "Beyond Binaries: Identities and Sexuality"

This program explores the landscape of sexuality and how we "map" sexual orientation. No two people are alike. Given that, how do we assign labels to our complicated and unique experiences? Join us for this interactive workshop with Robyn Ochs. The event will be live at Tri-C's Western Campus in Parma, and livestream to all campuses. For more information, call 216-987-0204. This event is free and open to the public. *Corporate College West, 25425 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

Wednesday, March 22, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
North Coast Chapter, Embroiderers' Guild of America

The group will be working on their philanthropy project, making small stuffed bears which are then donated to local hospitals. These bears are popular; last year the Chapter distributed over 700 bears! Please join us to meet fellow stitchers and to have fun. For more information, please call 440-835-5183 or 440-734-2383. *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Wednesday, March 22, 7 p.m.
Bay Village Community Council

Representatives from Bay Village's nonprofit and civic groups are encouraged to attend and network with each other, share ideas and event schedules, and promote activities. Email tara@wbvobserver.com with questions. *Bay Village Library, 502 Cahoon Rd.*

Wednesday, March 22, 7 p.m.

Sharing Culture and Story Through Art

In this world, we are exposed to a variety of cultures and values. Art gives us the ability to express ourselves differently. We can teach others about our culture while promoting unity and equality. Join local artist Hector Castellanos Lara in discussing the importance of sharing culture and story through art. Free. *Tri-C Westshore Campus, 31001 Clemens Rd., Westlake*

Friday, March 24, 2-4 p.m.
Creative Connections

Arts sessions for individuals with memory loss and their care partners. Participate in visual art activities, music, storytelling, poetry, and dance. No cost. Pre-register at 440-414-0434, ext. 2. *26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake*

Saturday, March 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Westlake Rain & Garden Show

The event will feature 25 local vendors as well as several of the City's departments, the Westlake Watershed Group, Westlake Garden Club, and Westlake Historical Society to raise awareness on storm water quality and promote eco-friendly products and healthy living. The organic cooking demonstration will be at noon. Attendees can also enter a free raffle for a special prize. The Creative Recycling Competition and Kid Zone will be available for children. Free and open to the public with free parking nearby. *Market Square at Crocker Park, Westlake*

Saturday, March 25, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Spring Craft Show

Beautiful selection of local art and craft work: oil paintings, ceramics, glass work, woodcrafts, metal work, leather artwork, jewelry, skin care products and much more! Get some shopping done while supporting local artists. Free admission. *St. Bernadette School, 2300 Clague Rd., Westlake*

Saturday, March 25, 4:30 p.m.
Free Community Meal

Our meal is hosted by Church of the Redeemer, Westlake and Clague Road United Church of Christ. The church is accessible to the physically challenged. No carry outs. *Clague Road UCC, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted*

Saturday, March 25, 6:30 p.m.
Westlake Early Childhood PTA Fundraiser

Get revved up for our annual fundraiser, a casual night out cheering on your March Madness bracket for the Sweet 16 games. Sporting your favorite team or alma mater gear, attendees will enjoy games, fun and some '90s throwbacks! Appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$20/person; contact Syma

Dar at symadar123@yahoo.com or Jamie Martinez at j.marcone.martinez@gmail.com. *The Copper Cup, 680 Dover Center Rd., Westlake*

Saturday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.
Telescope Night

Join our resident telescope expert, Bill Reed, a former docent at Mt. Wilson and leader of classes on telescope building, for evenings under the stars. We will begin in the planetarium for an update on the sky then head out to see the view. In case of inclement weather, we'll do our viewing on the planetarium dome! For adults and children ages 6+. Fee: \$5/person. *Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village*

Monday, March 27, 11 a.m.
Edible Landscapes

Ron Dzurec of the Cleveland Botanical Gardens will introduce the concept of creating edible landscapes. Many fruits, vegetables and herbs have an ornamental value in addition to the food they provide. Luncheon served at 11:30. All interested gardeners are welcome. There is a \$5 fee for guests. Please make reservations at bayvillagegardenclub.com or by calling Sharen at 440-871-9098. *Bay United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 29931 Lake Rd.*

Monday, March 27, 6:30-8 p.m.
Bay Village Green Team Meeting

All are welcome to join a group of volunteers working to make Bay Village a more sustainable community. *Bay Village Community House, 303 Cahoon Rd.*

Tuesday, March 28, 3-5 p.m.
Forget-Me-Not Cafe

Free arts enrichment and socialization cafe to engage individuals affected by dementia along with their care partner (spouse, child, caregiver). Each session will include either music, dance, poetry, song, or TimeSlips storytelling. Preregister by calling 440-414-0434. *26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake*

Tuesday, March 28, 6-8 p.m.
Film Screening and Discussion: "A Thousand and One Journeys: The Arab Americans"

Join us for a film screening and Q&A with the filmmaker following the film. This film is the untold story of almost 200 years of contributions of those who immigrated to the United States from the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf have made to the American fabric. *Corporate College West, 25425 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

Saturday, April 1, 8 a.m.-noon
WECPTA Kiddie Kioset resale

The sale will feature gently used baby items, baby/kids/maternity clothes, toys & games, baby & kids furniture. \$5 Early Bird Admission from 8:00-9:00 a.m.; \$1 from 9 a.m.-noon. Cash sales only. *Westlake High School, 27830 Hilliard Blvd.*

April 3-8, see hours below
Westlake Computer Round-Up

Drop off your unwanted CPUs, monitors, peripherals, printers, software, inkjet cartridges, cell phones and accessories. Also accepted are stereo equipment, microwaves and cameras. Hours: April 3-7, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; April 8, 7:30 a.m.-noon. This service is for Westlake residents only (no businesses, churches or schools). For more information, call the Service Center at 440-835-6432. *Westlake Service Center, 741 Bassett Rd.*

Monday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.
Bay Village Town Hall Meeting

Join the city's elected officials for a Town Hall meeting when the completed Master Plan will be presented to City Council and the public. *Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane*

Wednesday, April 5, 10 a.m.
League of Women Voters Program on Redistricting

The Westlake-North Olmsted and Fairview Park Chapters of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland will present a program on redistricting. The speaker will be Mary Kirtz Van Nortwick, co-president of the League of Women Voters of Ohio. The public is invited to participate. *North Olmsted Public Library, 27403 Lorain Rd.*

Wednesday, April 5, 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. Please bring pedigree and/or family group sheets to aid the volunteers in helping you. *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Wednesday, April 5, 7-9 p.m.
Open Discussion on Race Relations in Cleveland

This open discussion features Dan Moulthrop, CEO of The City Club of Cleveland, and RA Washington, local artist, poet and entrepreneur, along with contributors to their new book, "A Race Anthology: Dispatches and Artifacts From a Segregated City." *Tri-C Westshore Campus, 31001 Clemens Rd., Westlake*

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