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WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE Observer

VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 23 | **Community News Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village** | DECEMBER 5, 2017

Town Criers crown Mr. and Mrs. Westlake



Cristina and Tery Kennedy, 2018 Mr. and Mrs. Westlake, pose for a photo at Westlake City Hall on Dec. 3 with their children, Erin and Tom. See more photos on page 8 and at wbvobserver.com.

by MATT NOVAK

After a several year hiatus, on Sunday, Dec. 3, the announcement of Mr. and Mrs. Westlake made its return to

Westlake City Hall. Mayor Dennis Clough announced the 2018 Mr. and Mrs. Westlake as the rotunda's holiday lights were fired up for the first time this season.

This year's winners

are Cristina and Tery Kennedy.

The Kennedys are active members of the community with heavy involvement in the Westlake City Schools.

» See TOWN CRIERS page 2

Santa comes to Bay Village



PHOTOS BY LARRY BENNET



TOP: Thaddeus Bzdafka, age 4, recites his Christmas list to Santa; BOTTOM: Seven-month-old Henry Gushue marvels at the jolly old elf during his visit to Bay Village's fifth annual Cahoon Christmas on Dec. 3.

Bay's best sought for annual honor

by TARA WENDELL

The last six weeks of the year are an opportune time for reflection and appreciation. The holidays bring friends and family together and give us a reason to celebrate. This season of good cheer offers us a chance to look back on the year and acknowledge those who have influenced our lives.

It is no coincidence that the Bay Village Community Council has recently opened the nomination period for the annual Bay Village Citizen of the Year and Project of the Year awards, to recognize those who have made a difference in the community.

The Community Council will accept nominations until Monday, Jan. 22, and selections will be announced soon afterward.

Citizen of the year nominees, either individual or couple, must be Bay Village residents that have provided significant community service without monetary reward. Although not necessarily an annual designation, special projects will be considered based on community impact and the involvement of volunteers and organizations.

Nomination forms are available at wbvobserver.com, City Hall, the Bay Village Branch Library, and from members of the Bay Village Community Council. Completed forms may be submitted via email to tara@wbvobserver.com or mailed to Bay Village Community Council, 350 Dover Center Road, Bay Village, OH 44140.

The Bay Village Community Council is where Bay's civic groups come together. Representatives from member groups meet quarterly to discuss upcoming events and initiatives, share ideas and look for collaboration opportunities. Annual dues are \$20 per organization.

For more information about the Bay Village Community Council or the Citizen of the Year/Project of the Year awards, please email tara@wbvobserver.com. ●

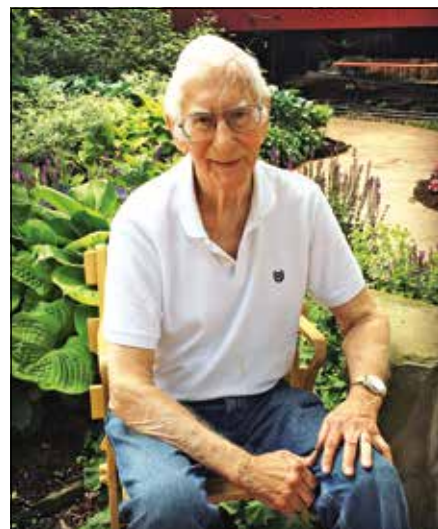
Memorial garden to honor late watercolorist

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

To honor the recently passed teacher, mentor and artist, BAYarts is putting together a memorial garden to be called the Bob Moyer Watercolor Garden.

Moyer loved the BAYarts campus which lent inspiration to much of his own work in later life, so a garden is planned. What better way than to remember Moyer than with a garden on the campus that gave him so much inspiration and where he inspired so many for over 30 years?

The Bob Moyer Watercolor Garden will be made possible through contributions to a dedicated ongoing fund.



Bob Moyer was a teacher, mentor and artist at BAYarts. He will be memorialized with a garden on the arts campus.

The garden will feature many of the flowers he painted – roses, daisies and sunflowers – and will be professionally maintained by Cleveland Metroparks with loving assistance from BAYarts volunteers.

To honor the memory of Moyer and contribute to the fund, please stop by BAYarts or call 440-871-6543. ●



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Giant menorah to light up Crocker Park on Dec. 13

by RABBI MENDEL JACOBS

For the third year in a row, locals of Cleveland's western suburbs will enjoy Hanukkah celebrated in style with a giant menorah lighting and grand Hanukkah party at Westlake's Crocker Park.

With crowds growing from year to year, a new venue will be hosting this year – the new Market Square at Crocker Park. Attendees will enjoy great music, traditional Hanukkah treats, and lots of games and crafts, including a moon bounce, air hockey and much more.

For more than 2,000 years, the menorah has symbolized the triumph of light over darkness and spirit of religious freedom towering over oppression. In recent years, giant menorahs have sprung up all over the United States and around the world, bringing the timeless message of light and freedom to people everywhere.

Westlake's Hanukkah event, sponsored by Chabad of the West Side, a local Jewish organization, will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 13. The party at



Mayor Dennis Clough, left, and Rabbi Mendel Jacobs participated in last year's Hanukkah menorah lighting at Crocker Park. This year's event is Dec. 13.

Market Square starts at 5:30 p.m.; lighting of the giant menorah with State Rep. David Greenspan will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. We hope you'll join us and celebrate this great holiday together with our community! More information can be obtained at www.jewishwestside.com. ●

TOWN CRIERS

from front page

They are members of various Westlake P.T.A. organizations, Citizens for Westlake Schools, and the Westlake City Schools Strategic Planning Committee.

They also have dedicated time to the Westlake Soccer Association, local Cub Scout Pack 77, and St. Ladislav Church.

For over 35 years the Westlake Town Criers have selected a Mr. and Mrs. Westlake based on nominations from the community. Winners are

then chosen based on their dedication to service of the Westlake community.

As Mr. and Mrs. Westlake, the Kennedys will be guests of honor during Westlake's Fourth of July and Memorial Day parades. The Town Criers will also host a dinner in their honor in the fall of 2018.

The Westlake Town Criers is a non-profit organization of men who are members of civic and business professions within Westlake and neighboring communities. The Criers are dedicated to aid and assist worthy causes in Westlake, providing benefits to citizens, schools, civic and community organizations. ●



Bay Village Schools launches new mobile app

by KAREN DERBY

After unveiling an updated, mobile-responsive website this fall, the Bay Village City School District has launched a new mobile app geared to the needs of parents and students. Members of the public will find it useful, too.

"People who do not have children in our schools can receive important notifications, like those about school closings, through the mobile app," said Clint Keener, superintendent of schools. "The app is a perfect companion to our new website and all the information it offers."

Users can filter calendar events, news and notifications by school building. Quick contact information such as office and attendance phone lines, school hours, bell schedules, and other frequently used information can be found under the Schools icon. Lunch menus, PowerSchool log in and a searchable staff directory are front and center. Individual school logos take users directly to the mobile version of each school's website.

The free mobile app is available in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. (Those who have the district's old app on their phone should remove it before downloading the new app.) ●

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The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a hyperlocal community newspaper and website written by, for and about the residents of Westlake and Bay Village, providing perspectives and information about topics and events in our community. The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through citizen participation of the 900+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate.

Observer Guidelines

Want to submit an article to the Observer? We'd love to hear from you! Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when writing for the Observer:

- Anyone who lives or works in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 word articles.
- Photos should be jpegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes in size.
- Submit original stories and photos. Don't copy others' work and remember to credit your sources and list the photographer of photos.
- Don't use stories to promote a business – that's what ads are for.
- Review our Observer FAQs on our website at: wbvobserver.com.
- Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process. Staff contact information is listed below.

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

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

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

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

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WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

Westlake Schools staff honored with excellence awards

by KIM BONVISSUTO

Two Westlake Schools staff members were honored by their peers with staff excellence awards at the Nov. 27 Board of Education meeting.

The Excellence in Teaching award went to LaVonne Szafranski, a sixth-grade science teacher at Dover Intermediate School. The Excellence in Classified Service awards went to Judi Spitzer, a teacher assistant at Dover Elementary School.

Szafranski is described by her colleagues as a dedicated educator who always goes above and beyond for her students and teammates. She

meets challenges or change with determination and the desire to be the best. She builds relationships with her students and is always communicating with families.

“I have always admired her ability to communicate and get along with others,” one colleague wrote in her recommendation. “She is enthusiastic about her job – the kind of teacher that is thinking about students and grading papers/planning lessons at home. She is a colleague that demonstrates what educating for excellence looks like.”

Spitzer is credited with contributing professionalism to Dover, but also creates a welcoming environ-

ment through her caring demeanor and actions.

“Judi is kind, empathetic, responsible and hard working,” a coworker wrote in her nomination. “She takes an interest in our students and what’s going on in their lives.”

Spitzer noted that Szafranski taught both of her boys and remains one of their favorite teachers. Years later, Spitzer was hired as an aide and worked with Szafranski at the former Parkside Intermediate School.

Both winners will have their names inscribed on a plaque to be permanently displayed at the Administration Building. ●



Judi Spitzer and LaVonne Szafranski were honored by their Westlake Schools peers at a recent school board meeting.

Bay Village Foundation calls for scholarship applicants

by LORETTA TINDALL

The Bay Village Foundation is pleased to announce that the application for the Foundation's scholarship is now available on the Bay

High School page of bayvillageschools.com, under the Guidance tab listing local scholarships.

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

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

Completed applications must be submitted to the Bay High School guidance office by Friday, Jan. 29.

The scholarship committee gives considerable weight to student essays related to volunteerism, academic and professional goals and proposals for projects that would improve life in Bay Village. The committee also considers the

student's academic record.

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

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

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Village Bicycle Cooperative cranks up the holiday spirit

by DONNA WILSON

Village Bicycle Cooperative has been busy spreading holiday cheer by donating 29 bikes and two tricycles to the Salvation Army. That brings the yearly total of donated bikes to 53. These gifts were made possible by donations of bikes, volunteer time and monetary contributions to VBC's Fix-It-Forward program. These bikes help many disadvantaged families as their main source of transportation to jobs or school.

This was the sixth year of VBC participating

in Cranksgiving, a food and personal hygiene drive to benefit disadvantaged and senior citizens sponsored by Bike Cleveland and Bike Lakewood. The participating bicyclists are given maps and then ride to four stores and purchase one or more suggested items. Everything purchased must be hauled by bicycle. Donated food is given to Lakewood Community Services Center. This year VBC raised over \$300 in donations!

Village Bicycle Cooperative is dedicated to helping families and individuals with many different aspects of

biking through the Fix-It-Forward and other educational programs, and bike donations to charities. VBC will be partnering with bike shops in Lakewood, Fairview Park and North Olmsted from January to March to refurbish many more bikes and get more people cycling in the spring.

If you would like to know more about this very worthwhile organization, please visit our website at villagebicycle.org. We welcome your help, donations and bikes. Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday! Ride on! ●



Village Bicycle Cooperative members participated in the annual Cranksgiving charity event to benefit disadvantaged and senior citizens.

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

Oh, Christmas Tree

by CAROLYN STEIGMAN

As the last ornament was hung on the Christmas tree in the Westlake Porter Public Library by the Westlake Garden Club, it drew the attention of Jensen Costa, age 2, who admitted that he was looking forward to a visit from Santa. Jensen was at the library with his mom, Yoon Costa, of Westlake.

This year the tree's decorating theme is candy canes and sparkle. It was planned by garden club member Robert Pearl who was assisted by club members Margaret Schulz, Carolyn Steigman, Carol Lewellen and Kathy Bruening.

The tree is located in the lobby across from the gift shop and will remain up for the month of December. ●



PHOTO BY CAROLYN STEIGMAN

Jensen Costa checks out the Porter Library Christmas tree, decorated by the Westlake Garden Club.

WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Corgi selected as Westlake's Cutest Pet for 2018

by LYSA STANTON

The Westlake Historical Society would like to congratulate the Nutter family and their corgi, "Harry." He has been selected as Westlake's cutest pet for 2018 by a panel of judges including celebrity judge Tiffani Tucker from Channel 19 news.

"Harry was born on Thanksgiving Day 2009," the Nutter family wrote. "He is a great fan of all food, is a super nosy and friendly guy that loves to go for walks. He loves to check out the neighborhood and say hello to everyone. Harry loves to play in the snow, as well as inside with his toys. He especially enjoys his squeaky tennis balls and platypus. When Harry is tired, he is

a fan of curling up on a blanket or pillow on the couch. He hates loud noises and the hiccups make him crazy; both send him straight into the bathtub to take cover until he decides it's safe.

"Harry has been a joy as a pet. He really is the best therapy after any type of stress as he is so loving, snugly and loves to be petted. He will actually stop what he's doing to be pet."

The money raised from entry fees in this annual contest goes to help fund the "Life In The Past Lane" program for the Westlake Historical Society.



Harry has been selected as the Cutest Pet in Westlake for 2018 in a contest hosted by the historical society.

This program takes a little bit of our museum on the road to local schools, groups, businesses and churches.

For more information about the Westlake Historical Society, visit westlakeohiohistory.org. You can also find us on Facebook or on Twitter @claguemuseum. ●

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BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Bay Village classroom grants awarded

by KAREN DERBY

There is no shortage of problems facing our upcoming generations, and the approach to learning is becoming more and more problem-based for Bay Village Schools students.

The Bay Village Education Foundation has awarded classroom grants totaling more than \$18,000 that encourage development of skills to help students learn to solve problems of all kinds, whether the solutions address the environment, humans or robots. Another \$2,000 in grants was provided by Bay Village Kiwanis in partnership with the Foundation.

“We were thrilled with the quality of grant applications we received,” said Ellie Bricmont, vice president and grants chair of the Bay Village Education Foundation. “We require a significant level of research and detail from our grant applicants. As usual, our teachers were impressive in their planning and creativity. They will provide our students experiences that make learning interesting and fun.”

Technology is now a key tool to solve problems, and the seventh-grade teaching team of Colleen DiLallo, Theresa Flamos, Elizabeth Gehran, Bill Goepfert, Kristi Stannert and Lauren Stanislav were awarded \$520 for four, programmable Sphero SPRK+ Robotic balls. Students will program the spheres to change colors, navigate floor routes, flash lights and more to meet challenges.

Normandy Elementary Spanish teacher Kelsey Wermer and district technology coordinator Brian Reynolds were awarded \$4,000 for a classroom Google Expedition set that allows students to experience 3-D virtual tours of Spanish-speaking locals and much more.

Bay High science teacher Michael Clifford was awarded \$1,000 to have students participate in the FIRST Robotics competition. Bay High technology instructor Ron Rutt will purchase 3-D printers with his \$1,200 award from Bay Village Kiwanis, allow-

ing his students to fabricate models for testing and evaluation from their CAD design projects.

Solving problems using physical materials remains exceptionally important, and Bay High science teacher Sam Assad and intervention specialist Kristyn Webber received \$840 for environmental water/soil testing backpack kits. Students will capture and record testing data and present their findings.

and robot-like machine kits provided by a grant awarded to Principal Dan Sebring and Grade 1 teacher Laura Godfray for \$2,650.

Bay Middle School students will also find ways to “break out” of their classroom and other situations, using clues to discover how to open locks, boxes and other barriers thanks to a \$750 grant awarded to Grade 6 teacher Amanda McLin.

The arts are addressed through a number of grants, such as a visit by a guest composer/conductor to Bay High through a grant for \$500 by choir director Devon Gess. Bay High visual arts students will also benefit with new dis-

Shiry and art teacher Jama Jennings.

Bay Middle School students will get the latest school news from fellow students who are using video production tools from a \$300 grant submitted by educational aide Brandon Jones. And special needs students at Bay Middle School will learn about different cultures each month, including experiencing various cuisines, made possible by a \$500 grant submitted by intervention specialist Colin Lackey.

Bay Middle School intervention specialist Colleen DiLallo will address her students’ needs for wiggling with special seats that allow fidgeting with a \$625 grant from Bay Village Kiwanis.



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

Grant recipients, left-to-right: seated, Brian Reynolds, Michael Clifford, Amanda McLin; standing, Martha Fisher, BVEF grants chair Ellie Bricmont, Kelsey Wermer, Laura Godfray, Kristyn Webber, Beth Shiry, Rob Grossman, Kiwanian Patrick Mosier, Colin Lackey and Tom Schemrich.

Third-grade teacher Martha Fisher will use her \$315 grant for materials that let students apply math and science skills to engineering problems.

Bay Middle School intervention specialist Lauren Hill will use the \$280 grant awarded by Kiwanis for Magna-Tiles, which will help students understand math concepts like area, perimeter and volume in a more tactile way.

Normandy Elementary’s new learning space, The Hive, will be enhanced with many more Legos, robotic spheres

play boards for their creations thanks to a grant of \$2,025 requested by art teachers Tom Schemrich, Cherie Bauer and Greg Hildebrandt.

Normandy music teacher James Kotora received \$400 for books to be used in music class, integrating reading with music. Students and community members alike will also be encouraged to read with the Little Free Library erected on Normandy Elementary grounds thanks to a grant of \$550 submitted by kindergarten teacher Beth

Sixth-grade teacher Amanda McLin will also offer flexible seating to her science students with a \$1,200 grant so they can sit, stand and lounge in different positions as they ponder those science puzzles.

Finally, Bay High students will find an intimate performance stage and portable sound system in the school’s newly refurbished courtyard, where music, speakers, readings, etc. will continue the “Relax, Refresh, Recharge” theme of the new space. ●



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Bay Village Foundation bronze plaque makes a great holiday gift and remembrance

by ELIZABETH MILLI

The holidays are a great time to step back from our busy lives, reflect on the past year and set goals for the future. It's an opportunity to spend time with family and friends and celebrate long-standing traditions and also introduce new ones.

I was walking along the Cahoon Park trail enjoying the unseasonably warm weather and thinking about the upcoming holiday season. When I reached the T. Richard Martin footbridge, I stopped to read the names commemorated on the bronze plaques there. It occurred to me that this would be a wonderful way to celebrate family, while at the same time giving back to the community.

When honoring someone with a bronze plaque,

families make a gift of \$2,500 to The Bay Village Foundation, and then work with the Foundation to produce an appropriate card or announcement to be given to the recipient during the holidays or other special occasion.

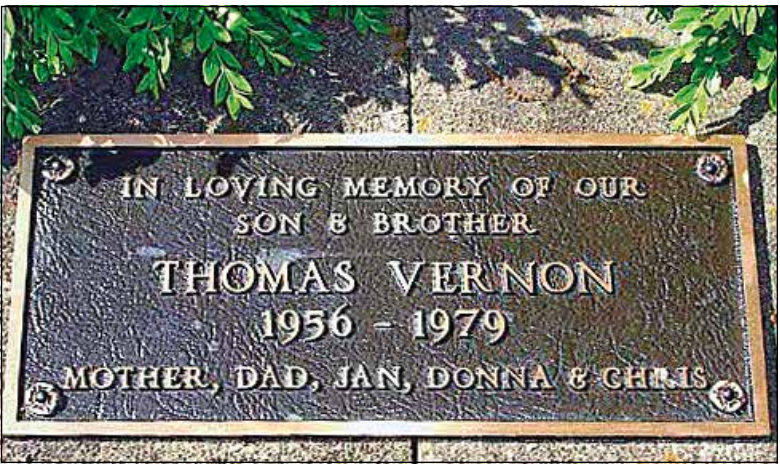
Each Memorial Day, the Foundation hosts a public ceremony celebrating those who have been honored by friends and family with a bronze plaque. The plaques are engraved with personalized text and are installed on the T. Richard Martin Footbridge in Cahoon Memorial Park. The Memorial Day program is a beautiful outdoor service featuring the String Ensemble of Bay High School and television personality Jon Loufman, who serves as emcee for the annual event.

The public is invited to attend the Memorial Day

program that takes place following the Bay Village Parade and Veterans Memorial Service.

I hope Bay residents will consider initiating a new holiday tradition by purchasing a bronze plaque. All contributions to The Bay Village Foundation are used to support grants to Bay Village organizations, and scholarships for Bay high school seniors. All of the awards serve the Foundation's mission of helping to make Bay an even better place to live, work and play.

For more information about the Bronze Plaque program, call Foundation trustee Eileen Vernon at 440-835-2243 or visit the Foundation's website at www.thebayvillagefoundation.org. The deadline for ordering a bronze plaque for Memorial Day 2018 is March 31, 2018. ●



PHOTOS BY DENNY WENDELL

A Bay Village Foundation memorial plaque installed on the T. Richard Martin footbridge honors a loved one.



Bronze plaques line the T. Richard Martin footbridge in Cahoon Memorial Park.

BVPD, Kiwanis bike registration drive ends with raffle drawing



Bay Kiwanis President Foster McMasters and BVPD Lt. Calvin Holliday draw the winning name from the bike registration raffle.

by STAN GRISNIK

Dec. 1 marked the end of the Bay Village Kiwanis Club bicycle registration contest. A \$100 gift certificate to Dick's Sporting Goods was awarded to the Deel Family of Bay Village for registering their bicycle at the Police Department. Their name was drawn from a list of names of those who registered their bicycle between September and Dec. 1. The winning name was selected by the Bay Village Kiwanis Club President Foster McMasters and Lt. Calvin Holliday of the Bay Village Police Department.

The Bay Village Kiwanis Club in cooperation with the Bay Village Police Department has been encouraging residents to register their bicycles. Registration ensures that bikes will be returned to their owners if lost or stolen and recovered by the police.

Each year the Police Department recovers 40 to 60 bicycles that sit unclaimed. After holding them for a while, they are donated to the Village Bicycle Cooperative where volunteers inspect, repair and either sell or donate them.

Registering a bicycle is free and simple. Take your bicycle, or the serial

number stamped underneath the frame, to the Bay Village Police Department to receive a Registration Certificate to adhere to the frame. The certificate contains information to assist police in returning it to the rightful owner.

The Bay Village Kiwanis Club supports people in need here in our city, and around the world through our funding and actions. Bay Village Kiwanis club meets most Tuesdays at the Bay Village Methodist Church on the corner of Bassett and Lake roads. Join us for dinner and one of our meetings; visit bayvillagekiwanis.com for more information. ●


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Limnology of Porter Creek studied by Explorer Club 360

by RICHARD GASH

Porter Creek’s ecosystem this winter is going to come under the scrutiny of three teams of Explorer Club 360 and Sea Scout youth as they study the creek’s health. The limnology – a study of the biological, chemical and physical features of a body of fresh water – will be comprised of components that include visual assessments, a macroinvertebrate biotic index and a chemical analysis at various locations along the creek’s course.

The study is pending a \$25 permit from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Department of Wildlife that will allow the gathering of water samples and invertebrate.

From its discharge into Lake Erie at Huntington Beach in Bay Village, the creek winds through residential, commercial and recreational properties in Westlake and Avon to its headwaters at the corner of Crocker and Hilliard roads.

Our exploration of the creek follows on the heels of a \$247,518 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the Cuyahoga Board of Health and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District, to conduct a study titled, “A Holistic Water-

shed Approach to Health at Huntington Beach,” conducted from 2011 to the spring of 2014. The field component of this research showed an abundance of E. coli and a significant number of “hot spots” in various land uses.

The results showed there were strong similarities between the bacteria found within Porter Creek and the bacteria found at Huntington Beach. Despite these results Huntington Beach is not a “bad” beach.

In fact, it was the first in Ohio to receive Blue Wave certification from the Washington, D.C.-based Clean Beaches Coalition. It does, however, average 16 swimming advisory days during the annual swim season.

The Sea Scouts and Explorers plan to gather and analyze their Porter Creek results and submit them in the spring of 2018 as part of the eCyber Mission competition sponsored by the U.S. Army. Future articles will detail the components of their study.

Explorer Club 360 and Sea Scout Ship 41 are co-ed groups for middle and high school students interested in activities in, on and under the water. To offer suggestions or request further details, please contact Richard Gash, skipper@seascoutship41.org or 440-871-6106. ●



Explorer Club 360 members Alison Hartzell, Norah Hamil and Erin Vanderkarr on the bank of Porter Creek.

PHOTO BY RICHARD GASH

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Bay Men's Club members aid neighbors

by ERIC EAKIN

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

Participants included Dwight Clark, Pete Winzig, Sean Riley, Matt Mowchan

with his two sons, Rob Spies, Matt Williams and Eric Eakin.

"Bay Men's Club members have volunteered to rake and clean the yards of worthy Bay Village residents for many years, and we are glad to be able to help, to give back a little something to the community," BMC President Dave Blevins said. "It's a great opportunity to assist those who can use our help." ●



Let's rake! Bay Men's Club volunteers pose for a photo prior to raking leaves for Bay Village residents.

PHOTO BY ERIC EAKIN

Herb Guild displays tree at Cleveland Botanical Garden

by BARBARA ARMSTRONG

The Herb Guild Garden Club has entered a tree in the "Glow" display at the Cleveland Botanical Garden in University Circle. Every year area clubs are invited to decorate Christmas trees at the botanical garden to exhibit to the public during the holiday season.

This year's Glow theme, decided by the botanical garden, is Woodland. The Herb Guild picked the sub-theme "Who's Hoo in the Woods" and decorated the tree with many types of owls, using various natural items.

Visitors can see our tree, as well as other clubs' trees, from now until Dec. 31. The hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sundays, noon-6 p.m.

The botanical garden will also be open Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is \$16 for adults; \$12 for children ages 3-12. Tickets can be purchased online at cbgarden.org or by calling 216-721-



The Herb Guild's owl-themed tree is on display at the Cleveland Botanical Garden through December.

1600, ext. 100.

Besides the trees, there will be a gingerbread house display and activities for the children. The museum has a cafeteria where you can grab some decent food and a gift shop to get last-minute gifts. ●

Town Criers honor Mr. and Mrs. Westlake

Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough poses with the Westlake Town Criers at the naming of Cris and Tery Kennedy (center) as Mr. and Mrs. Westlake 2018 during a presentation and tree-lighting ceremony at Westlake City Hall on Dec. 3.

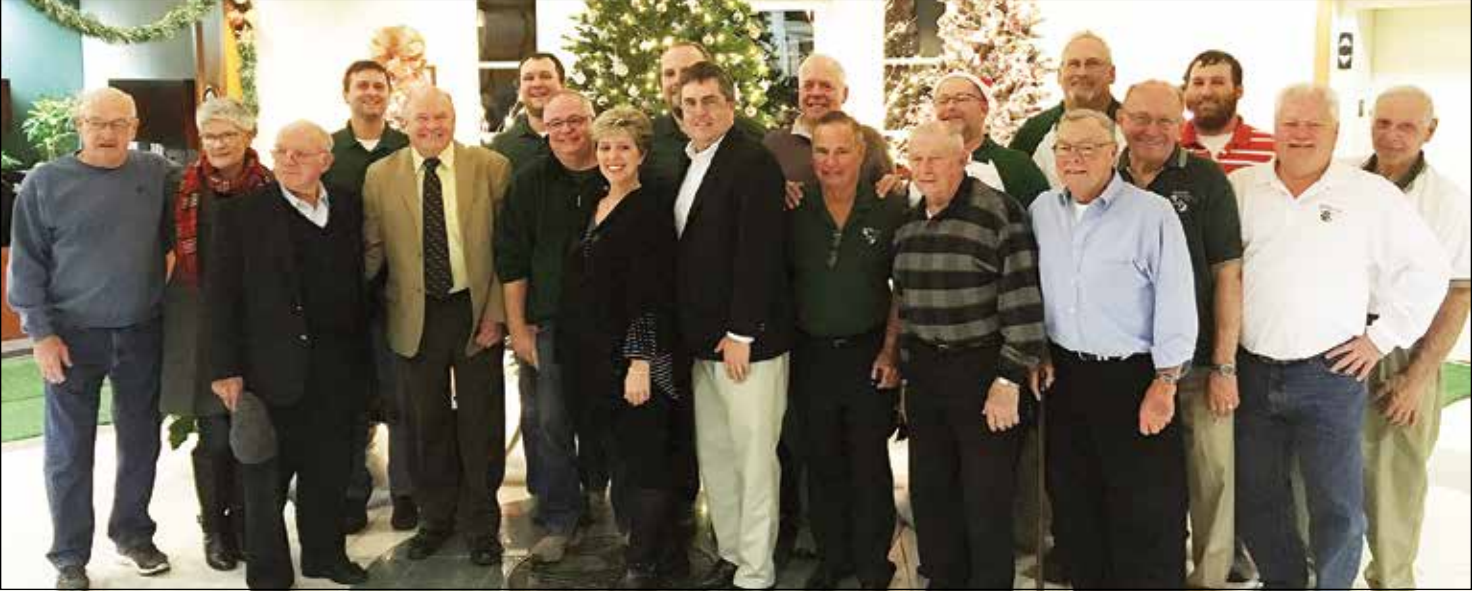


PHOTO BY MEGAN MOUTOUX

First National Bank donation supports Westlake school programs

by KIM BONVISSUTO

First National Bank presented a \$5,000 check to the Westlake City School District on Nov. 30 to support a college and career readiness software program, as well as the expansion of the high school Beekeeping Club project.

FNB opened a new Westlake branch in the Promenade this summer and approached the school district about giving back to the community. Discussions with school administrators led to a \$5,000 donation to expand the Naviance program to include middle school students, and the creation of a pollination garden to complement the Westlake High School apiary.

FNB committed \$2,000 to expand the Naviance program, which is now used with high school students. Naviance for Middle School is a college and career readiness program that helps students discover their strengths and

interests, and what they need to do to reach their goals. It also enables individual learning plans to be aligned to students' goals.

At the high school, the Beekeeping Club will install a pollination-friendly learning garden. The \$3,000 from the donation will be used to purchase gardening materials including soil, native plants and signage for the garden, which will be a resource for science classes and elementary students.

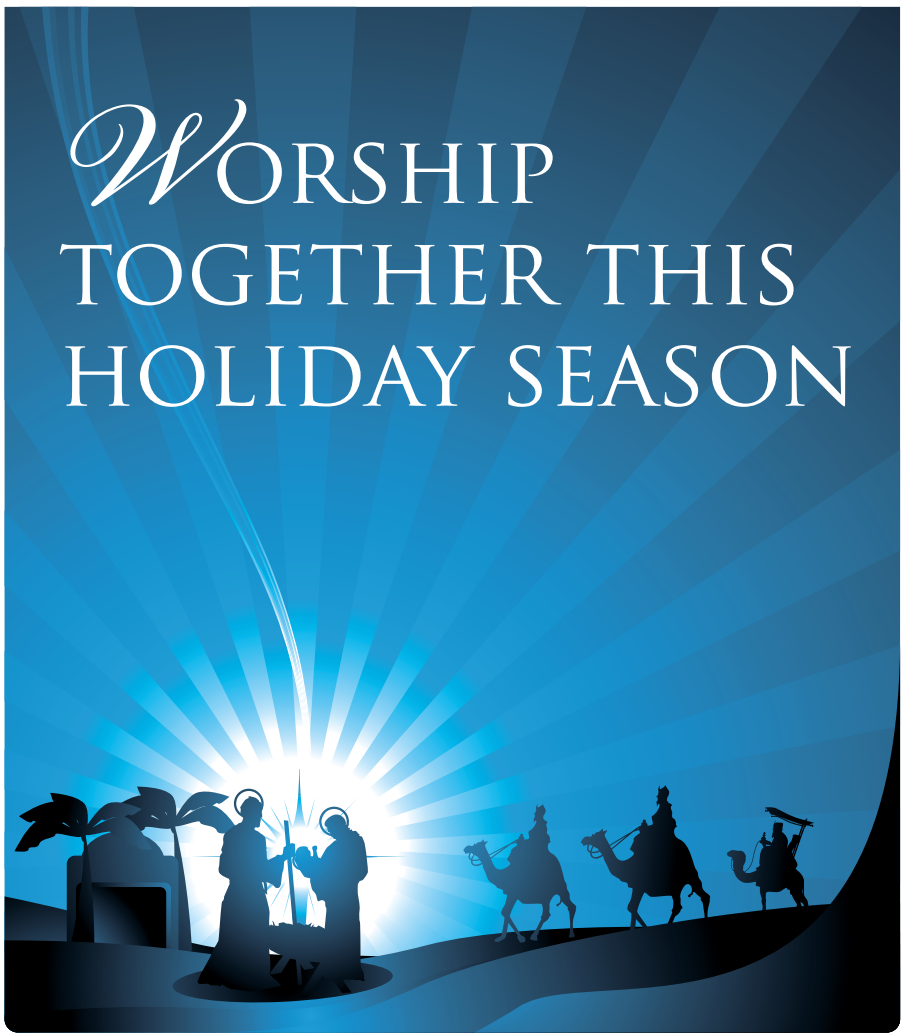
The Beekeeping Club was started by junior Henyah Dardir last school year. WHS science teacher Melissa Barth oversees the club and uses the bee hive as an environmental studies learning tool for students. Henyah and fellow club officer Claire Brewer accepted the check from FNB, along with Barth and WHS Princi-

pal Paul Wilson. Representing FNB was Regional President Boyd Pethel, Retail

Banking Executive Todd Hays and Westlake branch manager Johnny Sikora. ●



Claire Brewer, Melissa Barth and Henyah Dardir hold a check for \$5,000 presented by First National Bank employees.



Bay United Methodist Church



Christmas Eve Services

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

7:00 and 11:00 p.m.
Hymns, Special Music, Christmas
Meditation and Candlelighting

29931 Lake Road
440-871-2082 | www.bayumc.org

St. Raphael Catholic Church

525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:

4:00 pm Church/PAC
8:00 pm Church
10:00 pm Church

Christmas Day:

8:00 am Church
10:00 am Church
12:00 pm Church

440-871-1100

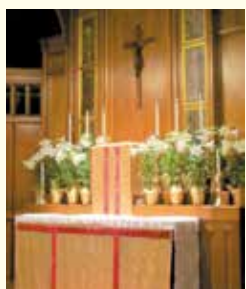


The Gift of Jesus Christmas Service
Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Carols & Candlelight Service
Sunday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Parkside Church of the Nazarene
23600 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake
(Corner of Clague & Hilliard)
www.parknaz.org

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10:00 a.m. One combined Sunday
morning service.
5:00 p.m. - Special Christmas Eve service

MONDAY - CHRISTMAS, Dec. 25
10:00 a.m. - Special Christmas Day service

SUNDAY - NEW YEAR'S EVE, Dec. 31
9:00 and 11:00 a.m. - Burning Bowl and
White Stone Ceremony service



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3pm - Traditional
5pm - Family
9pm - Traditional



westlakeumc.org

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CHRISTMAS EVE

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

11 p.m. Choral Worship

CHRISTMAS DAY

10 a.m. Service with Carols



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FREE PARKING

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesdays, Dec. 6 and 13 (10:15 & 11 a.m.) LET'S SING AND DANCE! – Sing and move to the music with Miss Nancy! For children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Please arrive early to receive a ticket.

Wednesdays, Dec. 6 and 13 (4-5:30 p.m.) and Thursdays, December 7 and 14 (6:30-8 p.m.) BOW WOW BOOKS – Stop by Youth Services to sign up for a 10-minute reading time with one of the reading therapy dogs! Registration begins each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and Thursday at 6 p.m.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 6 (7-8 p.m.) and Saturday, Dec. 9 (10-11 a.m.) TECH GIFTS FOR HOLIDAY 2017 – Take a look at some of this season's most popular gadgets and tech gifts. Please register.

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

Thursdays, Dec. 7 and 14 (4-5:15 p.m.) CODE CLUB! – Learn how to build an app, design a video game and change the world through code! Grades 3-4. Registration begins one week before each session.

Friday, Dec. 8 (9:30 and 10:30 a.m.) and Saturday, Dec. 9 (9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS MUSIC THERAPY & MORE – For families and their children (ages 0-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Siblings (ages 0-6 years) are welcome to attend. Join us for a program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. Each session is 30 minutes. Register at connectingforkids.org/register or by phone: 440-250-5563.

Friday, Dec. 8 (10-10:45 a.m.) COME PLAY WITH ME! – Open playtime with age-appropriate toys. For children ages 2-5 with a caring adult. Siblings welcome.

Saturday, Dec. 9 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) POKEMON FUN! – A fun morning of

Pokemon-themed play, prizes and crafts! Ages 6-11.

Saturday, Dec. 9 (2-3 p.m.) SAVVY SHOPPER FEATURING JOE "THE COUPON GUY" – Learn how to consistently save 70% and even earn a profit through couponing, sales and rewards programs on groceries and toiletries. Find out new ways to save money on restaurants, utilities, cell/smart phones, travel, gas, prescriptions, clothes and more! Please register.

Saturday, Dec. 9 (2-2:45 p.m.) GINGERBREAD FUN! – Create your own gingerbread house with us! Just bring your sweet imagination, and we'll supply all the necessary parts and pieces! Ages 8-10. Please register.

Saturdays, Dec. 9 and 16 (3-4:30 p.m.) TWEEN CODE CLUB – Learn how to build an app, design a video game, and change the world through code! Registration begins one week before each session. Grades 5-8.

Saturday, Dec. 9 (3:30-4 p.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME – An interactive family storytime featuring books, rhymes, songs, movement and a small craft. For families with children ages 2-6.

Sunday, Dec. 10 (2-3:30 p.m.) BOREDOM BUSTERS! – Are you bored? Drop by the Storytime Room and join in the fun! We will have different activities available each month. All ages welcome.

Sunday, Dec. 10 (3-4 p.m.) ART SMARTS – Explore works of a well-known artist and then use what you've seen to create an art piece of your own! Grades 3-6. Please register.

Monday, Dec. 11 (1-1:30 p.m.) YOGA RHYME TIME! – This is a perfect way to introduce yoga and practice simple poses with rhymes that imitate animals and nature. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a towel or yoga mat. Ages 3-5 with a caregiver.

Mondays, Dec. 11 and 18 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) TEEN LOUNGE – Need a place to hang out after school? We have computers, video games, board games, snacks and more! For grades 7-12 only.

Monday, Dec. 11 (7-8 p.m.) TAI CHI FOR A HAPPIER HOLIDAY – Susan Cady returns to teach the skill to chill even in the holidays. Movement therapy

to ease your mind and body from seasonal stress. Dress comfortably. Please register.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 (9:30-10 a.m.) STORIES AND SIGNS – Enjoy an interactive storytime while learning a few words in sign language! Ages 0-3, siblings welcome.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: JOB APPLICATIONS AND COVER LETTERS – Most job applications are done online. Computers scan them looking for the keywords for skills, education or experience important to the employer. Learn how to manage an application so yours will be read, how to prepare effective cover, marketing and follow-up letters, and the proper use of email.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 (2-3 p.m.) CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH – Spanish is the most popular second language learned in the United States. Please join us to learn Spanish vocabulary and pronunciation with an expert instructor.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – In December we'll discuss "Rogue Lawyer" by John Grisham.

Thursday, Dec. 14 (10 a.m.-noon) KEEPING IN TOUCH ONLINE – Learn about ways to stay in contact using online tools like Skype, FaceTime, Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook and more. The first part of class is a lecture, and the second part is an open lab for trying these technologies. Please register.

Thursday, Dec. 14 (2-3 p.m.) GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION PROGRAM ON WORLD AFFAIRS – Discuss critical global issues facing America today. At the beginning of each month, a copy of the article may be picked up at the Ask Us Desk. Please read the article prior to the meeting. Please register.

Thursday, Dec. 14 (5:30-8:30 p.m.) CPR TRAINING – CPR and AED certification for adult, child and infant. Instruction by certified instructor/paramedic Ken Hehnen. Please register.

Thursday, Dec. 14 (7-8 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The December selection is "Grit: Passion, Perseverance and the Science of Success" by Angela Duckworth.

Thursday, Dec. 14 (7-7:30 p.m.) PARACHUTE PLAY – Get ready to jump and move with music, stories and the parachute! Bring your energy and mom, dad or other caregiver. Ages 4-6. Registration

begins Dec. 7.

Saturday, Dec. 16 (10-11 a.m.) CREATING A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY WESTSHORE COMMUNITY – The Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation will present a program to share methods that enhance quality of life for individuals touched by dementia/Alzheimer's along with their care partners. Please register.

Saturday, Dec. 16 (2-4 p.m.) CARRY OUT CRAFTS – Stop by the Youth Services Department to see what our featured craft is this afternoon. We have all the supplies you'll need to create something fantastic!

Saturday, Dec. 16 (3-5 p.m.) ANIME CLUB – A great club for anime and manga lovers! All otakus and newbies welcome! Grades 7-12 only.

Sunday, Dec. 17 (2-3 p.m.) SPA 2.0 – In our second Teen Spa program, we will make our own beauty products. We will be making lip gloss, make-up remover, a make-up brush cleaner and another lip scrub. There will also be an opportunity to apply a face mask during the program. Grades 7-12. Registration begins Dec. 10.

Monday, Dec. 18 (6:30-7:15 p.m.) ADAPTED STORYTIME – Children with varying learning styles and abilities learn in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences are encouraged. This 30-minute storytime, followed by time for socialization, is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience. Content is geared toward ages 3-7, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend, but must register separately. Registration begins one week before each session.

Monday, Dec. 18 (7-8 p.m.) HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY – Science is now able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Join us to learn about research in diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. Please register.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 (6:30-8:45 p.m.) ANIME MOVIE CLUB – Enjoy and discuss all your favorite anime movies from Studio Ghibli and beyond! Grades 7 to adult.

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



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SPORTING VIEWS

Ho-Ho-Hopeless

by JEFF BING

I have a bit of a dilemma. The last two columns that I've written have pretty much been trash pieces about the Browns. That unto itself is not a problem since I rather enjoy regularly taking shots at those yokels. However, three similar articles in a row would make me appear either angry and/or vindictive, or *egads*: every writer's worst nightmare, which is being accused of lacking in imagination.

We all know that if anyone exudes the Happy-Happy-Joy-Joy persona, it's me. We also know that for me to write the previous sentence, I have to be pretty comfortable in the fabrication department.

The problem lies in the fact that I can't really write anything about the Indians, because those wounds haven't healed yet (which probably makes me appear angry and/or vindictive, but let's not go jumping to conclusions – it's probably just coincidence), and the Cavs season is merely in its infancy, since they don't start their real season (a.k.a. the NBA playoffs) until the Indians season is underway.

Besides, I've already trashed the Cavs. And the *last* thing I want for people to think is that – when strapped for witty column content – I resort to the sports franchise corporate equivalent of character assassination. Good thing I'm too witty to resort to those kinds of shenanigans.

So what this calls for, my friends, is a "feel good" column. Besides, it's already the time of year when we reflect on the good

things we have in life: friends, family, the Kardashians, etc., and demonstrate our love with gifts that are given at Christmas.

So, with that thought in mind, let me get the ball rolling with some Christmas wishes for local sports celebrities.

Browns owner Jimmy Haslam: Good lawyers (for the Pilot Flying J mess which appears to be getting worse by the day).

Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon: A slightly altered version of "The Little Engine That Could" which becomes "The Little Engine That Could Just Say No."

Browns head coach Hue Jackson: A copy of the "The Peter Principle" which might help clear things up for Hue (while he's updating his resume).

Browns ticket sales department: The inspirational soundtrack to "Rocky" which will need to be played endlessly while employees try to sell season tickets to the Browns' fan base (if there are even any fans left) after this season comes to a merciful conclusion.

Indians pitching ace Corey Kluber: A big empty space on his trophy shelf – between his two Cy Young awards – with a plaque that reads "Cleveland Indians – 2017 World Champions." Let's hope he understands the significance.

See, that wasn't so hard now, was it? It feels good to spread some Christmas cheer. I know I feel much better having done so. Perhaps you should try the same approach with loved ones over the holidays ...

Just don't forget to duck!
And a Holly Jolly Christmas to you. ●

READER'S OPINION

Taking time to make birthdays special

by SHIRLEE MANGAN

Residents of the Knickerbocker Apartments have been so fortunate in having our very own pianist, for many years now, who never forgets a birthday, and every single month makes sure that each person on the birthday list gets recognition. Frank Barkdoll has fought illness, been hospital-

ized many times, struggled with his illness, and by the grace of God just keeps on coming back to do his artistry on the piano, teach Bible study once a week, and show his courage to give others hope in recovery of their own problems!

A common birthday practice is to pass out music, so all join in, take requests, and then have a round of applause for those celebrating their birthdays. Frank has recruited Carol, we call her "Pineapple Cake Carol," to bake for the event. This lady has an awesome cake recipe that everyone seems to want a copy of, a delicious triumph of a culinary art. There is so much talent here at the Knickerbocker, not to mention kindness, love and genuine concern for one another. ●

THE GREEN REPORT

Real or fake?

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

Yes, I'm wondering if you have real or fake ... Christmas trees. This is definitely a topic that causes a lot of confusion, and I get it. Some people think: I'm going to buy an artificial tree so I don't have to keep cutting down a real one every year. However, this is not the answer, environmentally speaking. The most environmentally friendly way to have a Christmas tree is to buy a real one year after year.

There are many reasons why having a real tree is better for the environment. Most artificial trees are made from toxic, non-recyclable materials, so someday that tree will end up in a landfill. A study found that an artificial tree has three times more impact on climate change than a natural tree.

You're probably thinking, "But cutting down so many trees every year can't be good either!" Real Christmas trees are grown for that purpose: to grow to be a certain height, cut down, and sold as Christmas trees. There is very little harm to the environment to do that. There are 350 million trees growing on Christmas tree farms in the United States, with about 30 million being harvested annually.

Furthermore, after Christmas you drag your real tree out to the curb and the city will pick it up for you. The city takes the trees and recycles them into mulch or chips.

In Bay Village and Westlake, all yard

compost including Christmas trees is taken to the compost facility on Ranney Parkway in Westlake. In fact, you may purchase leaf humus and shredded wood through the Bay Village and Westlake service departments; see details at cityofbayvillage.com under "Departments" – "Service" – "Compost"; or cityofwestlake.org under "Government" – "Service" – "Collection & Drop-Off."

Once the tree is composted, it goes back into the earth without creating much pollution. I say "much" because if the tree is shipped from somewhere far away, there is a carbon dioxide emission that has to be assigned to the tree as an environmental impact, however the impact is far less than an artificial tree.

The artificial tree will eventually take up space in a landfill and release harmful toxins for hundreds, maybe thousands, of years.

What is the MOST environmentally friendly way to have a Christmas tree? Buy a live tree, meaning it still has its root ball intact. You can plant it in your yard after use. This is not realistic for most people as the tree can only be used for a very short time indoors because they need to be planted soon after purchase.

The second most environmentally friendly Christmas tree is one you get that was raised and harvested locally, therefore having a small carbon dioxide emissions impact as its travel time is less. If you are not interested in a live tree that can be replanted and you are unable to find a locally raised tree, please just buy any real tree you want and know that you are making an environmentally sound choice.

Happy tree hunting! ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

When you are not the depressed one

by DIANA PI, M.D.

First in a three-part series on depression.

Jo's father was quiet, distant, worked hard and drank harder. After he stopped working, he drank less; instead, he sat in the living room and stared at a blank TV screen all day. One day, he lurched from the sofa, vigorously "beating bugs" off his arm, collapsed and died.

So when her son told her that he was an alcoholic – at 21 – she didn't believe him. He was sweet, outgoing and funny as hell. Their family, including his three older sisters, doted on him. Then calls started coming: from friends, EMS, police. Soon long sleeves, caps and sunglasses couldn't cover the cuts and bruises from falling.

Today she realized both men had been severely depressed. Liquor simply worked better than Prozac.

"For someone living with depression, talking to a person they trust is often the first step towards treatment and recovery," said Dr. Shekhar Saxena, director of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse at the World Health Organi-

zation. I couldn't agree more. But where's the "recovery" for this trusted person?

Jo said, "They're nice and sweet people. I love them and I hate it."

To support loved ones with depression, here's how you stay afloat:

1. Self-preservation

As they teach in Lifeguarding 101: Don't drown with the person you're saving. "Doing what you can" isn't selfish. It's OK to walk away if you can't listen anymore. Don't pick up the phone. Garden, walk, run, row, start a diary/blog, drink a kale smoothie, anything to stay active and healthy. Give yourself room to breathe.

2. Humor

Got your own Pandora's box of negative feelings – all that worry, anger, guilt, fear, hurt, sadness, frustration? Well, think funny. Humor provides surprising insights, bridges hurtful divides and diffuses tension. We'd totally avoid a nuclear apocalypse if either North Korean leader Kim Jong Un or President Trump had a nano-ounce of humor.

3. Enough is enough

While Jo hesitates to put demands on her son, her daughter-in-law doesn't. She works and

has to deal with the ups and downs of his mood. She goes to Al-Anon meetings. They help to understand when aiding becomes enabling.

4. More ears, less lip

My mom said we have two ears and one mouth to remind us (or maybe just me) to listen more and talk less. Depressed people get plenty of everybody-knows-better-than-me advice. First off, you're not getting paid – the pressure's off. Second, if you don't walk in their flip-flops, it's hard to appreciate how life can drag. Remember you are *not* the problem – or the solution. There's much to be said for just being there and listening.

5. Patience

In living with her son's depression, Jo imagined herself as a girl again in her aunt's farm out in Pennsylvania, where she and her sister spent many bright summer days hunting for crayfish. Because any abrupt movement could stir up silt and muddy the water, the girls moved ever so gently, turning over rocks one at a time.

And that's where Jo is now, slow and steady, sharp-eyed and hopeful, wading and waiting and wishing for small triumphs. ●

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Pictures are worth a thousand words

by TAK SATO

Has this happened to you? Your car is constantly making clunking noises but when you take it to the mechanic, the noise goes away and you can't replicate it.

Having lived in the digital world for decades I have encountered analogous situations, both as the instigator and as the person providing assistance, where tools such as computers, tablets and smartphones act up but, when needed, can't replicate the issue. Also we often have a hard time explaining the error message on the screen to another person.

With the ubiquity of smartphones and tablets, we can of course take a picture of the error (or record that clunking noise) but what if you don't have a smartphone or digital camera at your disposal? Or what if the error message is on the smartphone itself?

Fear not! Most digital world tools have functionality to take screen snapshots and attach to emails so the helper can see exactly what you saw. My baseline assumption here is that you have access to email.

• Microsoft Windows 7, 8 and 10:

The "Accessories" folder holds a program called "Snipping Tool." When you start the program and hit the "New" button, you will be able to use your mouse and select the area on your screen that you want to take a snapshot of. If you can't find the Snipping Tool, just hit the "PrtSc" key (short for "print screen") to take a snapshot of your entire screen.

• **Apple OSX (Macs):** While holding down the "Shift" and "Cmd" keys, tap the number "4" key. This will let you use your mouse to select the

area on your screen that you want to take a snapshot of. Alternatively, tapping the number "3" key while holding down the Shift and Command keys will take the snapshot of your entire screen.

• **Apple iOS (iPhones & iPads):** Newer vintage iPhones and iPads may have other ways to take snapshots so I'm going to cover the common denominator process that should work regardless of your device's age. From experience I warn you that it may take several tries to get it right: Press the round circle button at the bottom of your screen and the power button at the top of the device simultaneously.

• **Google Android-based smartphones & tablets:** Just like Apple's iOS based devices, from experience, I can tell you that it may take several tries to get the timing right; newer devices may also have other means to take a snapshot. The common denominator procedure here is to press your "Power" and "Volume Down" buttons simultaneously for a snapshot.

After you have the snapshot, just open a new email, address it, fill the subject line and then paste the snapshot into the email body.

For computers, pasting the snapshot you just took is as easy as holding down the "Ctrl" key ("Cmd" key in Macs) and tapping the letter "v" key. For tablets and smartphones, you actually go into your Photo album to attach the snapshot you just took.

Pictures are worth 1,000 words and increase the chance that you can get your point across! ●



Secure Memory Care Available

The holiday season is upon us and one of mom's favorite things to do is to go Christmas shopping. The simulated boutique at O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village allows us time for shopping while we visit. What fun and laughs we have trying on old-fashioned jewelry, hats, gloves and shoes. It is exciting to reminisce with mom as we shop.

The simulated boutique is just one of many areas specifically created within O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village to help evoke positive memories along with providing the highest quality of care.

If you have a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia, come see the exceptional environment O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village has to offer. Please contact Candy Sanson at (440) 871-3474 to arrange your personal tour.

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DIGGING DOVER

Meet the Clagues, Part I

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

As mentioned in a previous article, the Clagues of Westlake may have been inspired by the Cahoons of Bay Village to donate their land and home for use as a public park and library. It seems to me that Ida Cahoon and her sisters may be better known to the residents of Bay than the Clagues are to Westlake residents. Hopefully this continuing series of articles will rectify that.

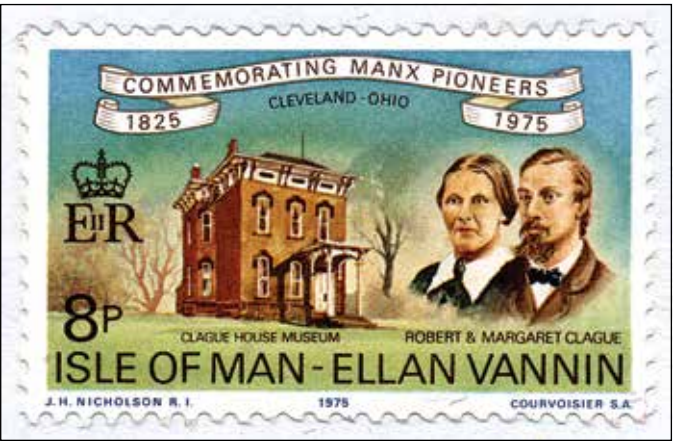
The Clagues were from the Isle of Man. Readers may be familiar with the Manx cat, a tailless breed which harkens from the same island. According to Encyclopedia Britannica, The Isle of Man is one of the British Isles, located in the Irish Sea, situated off the north-west coast of England. The island is only approximately 300 square miles in size (Cuyahoga County is larger, at approximately 450 square miles).

The island lies roughly equidistant between England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Isle of Man is not part of the United Kingdom but rather, since 1828, is a crown possession that is self-governing in its internal affairs. During the 18th century, the island became a major center for the contraband trade, thus depriving the British government of valuable customs revenues. In response, the British Parliament purchased sovereignty over the island in 1765 and obtained exclusive rights over the island by 1828.

It is interesting to note that some of the published research on the family, has Robert Clague, the patriarch of the Westlake Clague family, first arriving in Dover Township, Ohio, one year later, in 1829. Robert was 27 years old in 1829, specifically why he emigrated is unknown, but evidence later in his life suggests that he did not take kindly to control.

Seven months of research done by local genealogists Carol Coe Green and Mary M. Coe in 1968 yielded many nuggets of information presented to the Westlake Antique Club that same year. According to their research both Warrensville and Newburgh, Ohio, were Manx settlements. The way was opened by a Mr. William Kelly who emigrated from Man in 1826. He wrote letters home, which were published in the Manx local papers. By 1890 the Manx population in Cuyahoga County numbered 2,000. In 1968, the genealogists identified five distinct families in the Cleveland area descended from five different early male Cuyahoga County settlers named Clague, all from the Isle of Man. ●

According to the researchers, “Clague” is the earliest known surname on the Isle of Man. It has been found in the form of “Magleog” (Macleog) on a sixth-century Ogham stone. Ogham is the earliest form of writing in the Irish



A commemorative Isle of Man stamp issued in 1975 honors 150 years of Manx settlement in America with a picture of the Clague Museum and Robert and Margaret Clague.



The Isle of Man, circled in red, is located in the Irish Sea.

Sea area. The name is of Celtic origin, meaning “Leech’s son.” This goes back to Pagan times when the Liag (Leech) belonged to the Druids “whose charms and incantations formed part of the means of the cure.” In other words, a physician or healer. The position assigned to the Leech by laws in the Middle Ages was a very high one, he ranked with the goldsmith and silversmith.

Robert Clague’s name first appears in the Cuyahoga County deed records in 1834 when he purchased 65 acres of land

from John Hall for \$162.50 (\$2.50 per acre). This 65-acre purchase most likely includes the 12 acres of Clague Park land currently on the east side of Clague Road, where the Clague Museum is located. It has been recounted elsewhere that he cleared a mile-long swath of the heavily timbered land himself and petitioned Cuyahoga County to accept it as right-of-way, creating what is now Clague Road.

Robert Clague was baptized in Lonan Parish, Isle of Man, on May 22, 1802. He was the son of Robert Sr. and Ann Quayle

of Ballacregga, Agneash, Lonan Parish. Ballacregga is the name of an estate. He returned there from Dover after 1834, and married Margaret Cowles on April 8, 1836. Family history states that he was the son of a wealthy landowner and she was the gate keeper’s daughter. Margaret was the daughter of John and Jane Quayle Cowell. She was born July 30, 1810, and baptized Aug. 5, 1810. The depiction of the family tree recently produced for the Clague Museum may indicate that Robert and Margaret were cousins.

Their first child, Ruth Ann, was born in Lonan Parish on April 27, 1837. Their second child, Victoria Eliza, was born March 10, 1839, in Dover. Family legend has it that they came to Dover when Ruth Ann was six weeks old; if so, that would place it about the middle of June 1837. According to the 1968 researchers they were 10 weeks in coming by sailboat and came down the Erie Canal to Buffalo, then by lake steamboat or 40 hours of stagecoach travel to Cleveland, then by boat to Rocky River. Alternatively it is said that Margaret walked from Cleveland to Dover carrying her daughter in her arms in 1837.

The family stories also say that Robert Clague stayed several weeks at the Sperry Inn, which was located where Pebblebrook intersects Center Ridge Road, while he erected a log cabin in which the other eight Clague children were born. It is possible that the log cabin was constructed during his first trip to Dover after he purchased the land in 1834 and that Margaret Clague actually stepped off a stagecoach at the Sperry Inn to begin her new life in America. ●

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www.northcoastpromo.com; 216-570-8201.

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Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

Books make wonderful and appreciated gifts. Cuyahoga County Public Library's Great Books for Kids – an annual list of the best recent publications for kids of all ages – can give you some ideas on what titles to give to children and teenagers this holiday season.

Our library will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 31, and Jan. 1 to celebrate the holidays. Our digital collection is always open, so don't forget to browse ebook, emagazine, movie and music selections.

CHILDREN

Friday, Dec. 8 (10 a.m.) TOTS DANCE – Join us for a rocking good time as we share books, rhymes and dance!

Wednesday, Dec. 13 (7 p.m.) MAD SCIENTISTS: HOUSE OF CARDS – Join us for a hands-on science program where we will build a two-story house of cards and test its strength. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library.

Registration required.

Friday, Dec. 15 (10 a.m.) MAKERSPACE FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS – Foster your child's curiosity and creativity at our hands-on imaginative maker stations.

TEEN

Thursday, Dec. 7 (3 p.m.) WRITE ON! – Join us for fun, quirky and challenging writing exercises and activities to get your creativity flowing. Registration required.

Saturday, Dec. 9 (2 p.m.) WONDERS OF WEATHER WITH JON LOUFMAN – Grades 5-12: Have you ever wondered why the wind blows, how a storm forms or why the seasons change? Find out from Cleveland 19 News meteorologist Jon Loufman! It's a fun, hands-on, interactive, sky-high presentation. Get ready to boldly sojourn over the rainbow for a hitherto untaken atmosphere adventure. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Library. Registration required.

Wednesday, Dec. 20 (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE – Grades

5 & up: Chill with something fun to do after school – gaming, art, movies, technology and more!

ADULT

Thursday, Dec. 14 (7 p.m.) PEANUT BUTTER DOGS AND PET PHOTOGRAPHY – Join us as Greg Murray, the author of "Peanut Butter Dogs," discusses how he became a pet photographer and created his book that is sure to make you smile! A book sale and signing will follow the presentation sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library.

Saturday, Dec. 16 (2 p.m.) DIY SPA & BEAUTY PRODUCTS – Learn how to make your own spa and beauty products with natural, safe ingredients. All materials will be provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library.

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. ●

Compassionate friends at Unity

by SHARON FEDOR

What comes to mind, what song plays on your heart strings when you hear the word "loss"? Does your mind go blank? Or does a list of names of those you've lost rise up?

Have you lost a loved one, or know someone who has this year? Is the one you've lost a mother, daughter, child, brother, a dear friend, close cousin, husband, mentor, or beloved pet? Do tears still fall, and your heart still ache as you think of this beautiful one? Did they leave a crater in your soul that has left you feeling numb, or lonely or depressed?

No matter who you've lost, how they died, or when they passed, the combination of love and loss needs special care and compassion. Losing a loved one needs honoring the feelings you feel after experiencing the loss of someone you have cared for deeply with a true heart.

The Compassionate Friends will hold their annual Worldwide Candle Lighting at Unity Spiritual Center of Westlake on Sunday, Dec. 10, starting at 6:30 p.m. with sharing and support. At 7 p.m. the candles will be lit, while across the globe, family and friends gather to honor and remember children, grandchildren or anyone who left too soon. Millions of candles will illuminate

this world with a glow so vivid, that not even a thousand shed tears can extinguish them. The light will extinguish the darkness of the soul.

This is the 21st annual Worldwide Candle Lighting, believed to be the largest of its kind. What began as a small internet observance has grown to hundreds of formal candle lighting observances, and thousands of informal, in-home, family observances for those who will never be forgotten. A Remembrance Book will be available online during the event at compassionatefriends.org, and you are invited to post a message.

You are welcome to bring a photo or other memento of your loved one to the USC candle lighting. Come be a part of this wave of light as it travels in 24 hours from country to country through the time zones. The second Beatitude tells us, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4.)

We will gather together and honor each other's losses, in honoring each loss we shall find some comfort here. Our losses have occurred in many forms, from cancer to car accidents to opioids. Please include in your prayers anyone who has been affected by the opioid crisis.

Unity Spiritual Center is located at 23855 Detroit Road. ●

SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Bay Recreation dances, 1946-47

by KAY LAUGHLIN

I found a letter in some of my dad's papers. It is a report by the chairman, my dad, J. Ross Rothaermel, of the Youth Dance Committee for the school year of 1946-47.

My folks volunteered to lead the Recreation Youth Dance Committee for the Bay Recreation Department in 1946. The recreation department offered dances in the Community House, for the high school students during the school year. Dances were held on Friday nights, often after a game. The high school students looked forward to the dances and they were well attended.

The year my dad and mom volunteered, Dad had the idea of including some of the high school students in the planning. "Afterall, the dances are held for the students and if they help



Bay students enjoy a formal dance during the 1954-55 school year.



Students gather for a photo during a formal dance in the Community House in 1948.

plan them they can't complain that we don't run the dances to suit them," he said. Dad formed the following committee for the year 1946-47: seniors Madelon Herdtner and Peter Wolf, juniors

Charlotte Thompson and Tom Larson, sophomores Sally Irwin and Art Hook and freshmen Janet Smith and Roger Alexander.

The new committee proved to be very helpful. The commit-

tee decided they didn't want to refer to the dances as "Rec" dances, so another new idea that year was to give each dance a name. They selected the dance records and trimmed the Community House for each dance. Each dance was run as a separate party. The committee also helped publicize each dance by advertising the dances on the blackboards in the home rooms and making posters for the bulletin boards in the halls.

The following dances were held: The Autumn Whirl, Halloween Party, Kandy Kane Kapers, Bubble Bounce, Cupid's Capers, Lady Shamrock Shuffle, April no dance, Easter Weekend and the Spring Fever Semi-formal.

Twelve dozen balloons were blown up, lucky numbered shamrocks were handed out at the door with door prizes on them, and

for the semi-formal, my mom with some help from one of the chaperones, made 100 corsages with yellow jonquils and green ribbons. Each girl was presented

with a corsage as she arrived at the dance.

Besides Mom and Dad, two other groups of parents from each class chaperoned the dances. Refreshments were served, selected by the students. James O'Neil supplied the cola. He trucked the Coke in and returned the empties in his truck after each dance.

Dad ends his letter to the Recreation Board with, "It would be nice if the committee had a budget and let the students spend it the way they wanted. Spend the money on door prizes rather than an orchestra when the students would rather play records." My folks then say how much they enjoyed chaperoning the dances and how well behaved the students were. It made their job easy.

Dad and Mom continued on through the summer with the new idea of summer dances, again with a student committee. This was an experiment to see if the students were interested during the summer months. I don't know how that turned out.

My sister Gay and I got dragged along to many of these dances. Truly, we loved going. Today, I feel I know the students who graduated around this time better than the ones who came after. There was so little to do in Bay at the time, this was a "big deal" as you would say today. ●

LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Two new exhibits on display for children

by MORGAN PASKERT

Among the many live animals, the make-your-own constellation display and the ever-popular log, children and families visiting Lake Erie Nature & Science Center will have even more to enjoy. Two new exhibits have been installed to encourage children and adults to learn about our native species overhead and underwater.

"What is Your Wingspan?" invites children to

compare their own arm span with the wingspans of native birds such as blue jays, mallards, red-tailed hawks and eagles. Positioned at a young learner's level, the exhibit creates a colorful hands-on learning experience and a fun photo opportunity.

"Native Fish of Lake Erie" highlights many of the species living in our Great Lake, along with their size, ecological region and other fun facts. The display was designed in collaboration with Ohio

Sea Grant to encourage reading and conversation as young children explore the Center's live animal exhibits with their families.

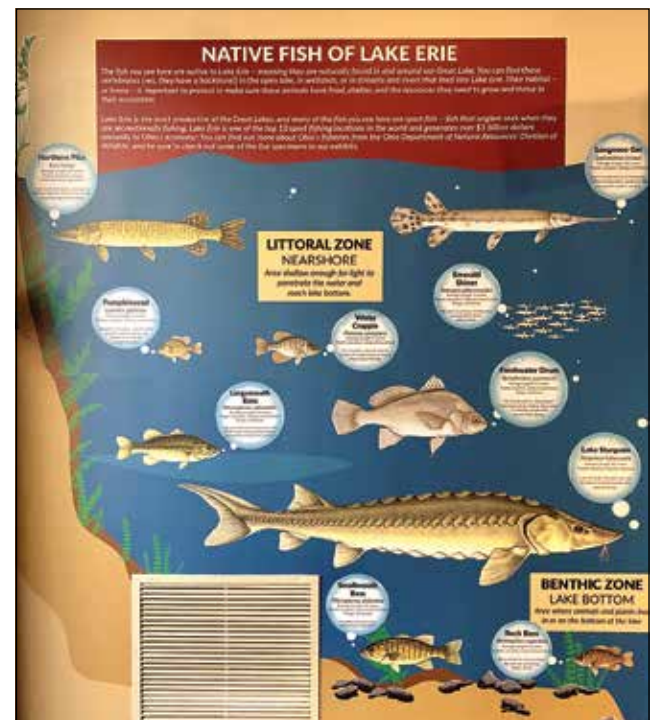
Visitors will also notice improved content for all indoor live animal displays including the habitat and diet of the animals.

Both exhibits were made possible through the support of the Cleveland Foundation and individual donors.

"The exhibits have been readily welcomed and enjoyed by children

and families visiting the Center every day," says Executive Director, Catherine Timko. "They are a perfect complement to our preschool classes, school field trips and seasonal events."

The Center educates and inspires children and families to understand, appreciate and take responsibility of our natural world. Among the 166,000 people the Center serves each year are walk-in visitors who enjoy its indoor and outdoor exhibits with free admission. ●



The "Fish of Lake Erie" exhibit offers facts about many of the species of fish in the lake.



RIGHT: A young visitor to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center tries out the new "What is Your Wingspan?" exhibit.

BAYarts Sullivan Gallery gets festive

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

Currently, the Sullivan Gallery is decorated with the bold rosy pinks, canary yellows and aquamarine of artwork by Cleveland local Dana Depew. Along with the handful of textile-based artwork are two light installations, which are, in a word, "funky."

Embellished with some additional decorations in silver, handmade furniture by Diana Brewer, and upcycled light fixtures by Robert Love, the artwork makes a fun atmosphere for the Fuller Cafe. During the holiday season, the coffee area features a hot chocolate bar and additional home-made bakery by Rosa's Peasant Cookies.

"It makes a perfect spot for people to sit and talk after shopping at our gift shop," said Executive Director Nancy Heaton. "People can't stop compliment-



Artwork by Dana Depew is seen in both on the walls and hanging from the ceiling of the Sullivan Gallery. The hot chocolate bar is complemented by old-fashioned sweets.

ing this unique art that Karen Petkovic, our artistic director, selected for us. It's been a big hit with visitors who smile as they sit surrounded by such large, colorful pieces of art in the gallery."

Of the artist, education assistant Melanie Harlan can't stop saying what a "truly nice, and genuine person" the artist, Depew, is. "My family owns a piece of his and we love it," she says. "The colors are magnetic."

The Sullivan Gallery is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. ●

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

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
SWEET ARTS CAFÉ

A socialization and arts experience for those with memory loss/dementia and their care partners (spouse, child, caregiver). It begins with lunch, either brown bag or ordered ahead of time from Panera or D'Italia Foods (fee), and is followed by and arts, music, storytelling or dance activity. No cost. Pre-register and/or order lunch at 440-414-0434, ext. 2.
The Center for Artful Living, 26633 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Thursday, Dec. 7, 6-9 p.m.
HOLIDAY TRUNK SHOW

BAYarts brings together several of your favorite local vendors for a night of shopping, cocktails and friends. Featured artists bring a special selection of handmade goods to this event. The Holiday Shop in the Huntington House will be open extended hours during the Trunk Show.
BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd., Bay Village

Thursday, Dec. 7, 7-8:30 p.m.

WESTLAKE UNITY TOASTMASTERS
Learn to overcome your fears of speaking, develop better speaking and presentation skills, think quickly and clearly on your feet, build strong leadership and mentoring skills, and open doors in your

personal and professional life. Contact: Mary Anne, 216-374-3205.
Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Friday, Dec. 8, 6:30-8 p.m.
BAY REC DEPT. HOLIDAY FUN NIGHT

Featuring games, a visit with Santa, dancing, crafts, face painting and a balloon maker. Free for Bay residents.
Bayway Cabin, 400 Bryson Lane

Friday, Dec. 8, 7-8:30 p.m.
BAY VILLAGE COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT

The annual Yuletide Celebration features the sounds of the season. With sing-a-longs, carols and more, this performance will help bring you joy to the holiday season. Free.
Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

Saturday, Dec., 9, 9 a.m.-noon and Tuesday, Dec., 12, 6-8 p.m.
WESTLAKE DEMONS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS SPIRIT WEAR HOLIDAY SHOP

WDAB will offer fan favorites and new merchandise including youth apparel, spirit gear, hoodies, blankets, hats, outerwear and great stocking stuffers for everyone in Demon Nation. For more information go to

westlakeathleticboosters.org.
Westlake High School, 27830 Hillard Blvd.

Saturday, Dec. 9, 7:30-9 p.m.
CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA YOUTH CHORUS

The 80 members of the Youth Chorus will present a varied program of American music and holiday favorites. The concert is open to the public at no charge; a freewill offering will be received. The church is handicap accessible, and there is ample parking.
Rocky River Presbyterian Church, 21750 Detroit Rd.,

Sunday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m.
SONGS OF THE SEASON

The Rocky River Community Chorus will sing along with a concert by the Olmsted Falls High School Chorale. The event will be followed by a reception for all. The venue is wheelchair accessible and the concert is free. For information call 630-901-0564.
Advent Episcopal Church, 3760 Dover Center Rd., Westlake

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
AMERICAN GREETINGS TOASTMASTERS

Learn to overcome your fears of speaking, develop better speaking and presentation

skills, think quickly and clearly on your feet, and build strong leadership and mentoring skills. Contact: Anand.More@amgreeting.com; 314-258-2264.
American Greetings, One American Blvd., Westlake

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
WHAT CAN AN ANTENNA DO FOR YOU?

Join NEOPC (Northeast Ohio Personal Computers) as we explore another option for "cutting the cord" by learning about antennas, an alternative to that costly cable connection. Refreshments and conversation at 6:30 p.m. Business meeting and program follow at 7:00 p.m. For more information, go to neopc.org.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Friday, Dec. 15, 11:30 a.m.
DWYER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Join us as we gather to celebrate and send tidings of comfort and joy to all during the holiday season. Enjoy a delicious meal and listen to the sweet sounds of the holiday season played on the piano. Sheila Wayne from Gold & Silver Events will be here from 9-1:30 to purchase your unwanted gold, silver and platinum jewelry and housewares. Free; RSVP to 440-835-6565.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane

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