

Westlake students connect through fairy tales



PHOTO BY KIM BONVISSUTO

Lee Burneson Middle School student Kasandra Reimer works with Superintendent Scott Goggin on her fairy tale project.

by KIM BONVISSUTO

Deb Schrembeck's seventh-grade language arts classes spent the last five weeks researching and writing fairy tales customized to second graders at Dover Elementary School.

The Lee Burneson Middle School assignment requires stories to be at

least five pages, include images and an About the Author page, and focus on the child receiving the story. Students created their fairy tales based on questionnaires that second-grade students filled out about themselves, including their desired vacation spots, a list of family members, and favorite books and movies.

» See FAIRY TALES page 2

Bay Village Community Theater kicks off 2018 season

by MARGARET HNAT

Bay Village Community Theater explores love and sex in life's golden years in its "All the World's a Stage[d Reading]" series featuring two sketches from Robert Anderson's comedy, "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running."

The first sketch, "In the Footsteps of Doves," focuses on a couple married 25 years who have come to a store to purchase a new bed. A touching, comic debate ensues regarding the merits of twin beds versus a double bed.

The second sketch, "I'm Herbert,"

shows an elderly couple reminiscing on previous marriages ... and perhaps a few flings. Hazy on the details, the couple don't realize, of course, how funny they are! First produced on Broadway in 1967, the New York Post wrote that Anderson's "notably fine comic and dramatic episodes" are "written with skill and insight."

Performances are Saturday, Feb. 17, at 2 p.m. at O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village, 605 Bradley Road; and Sunday, Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Bay Village Community House, 303 Cahoon Road. Both performances are free and open to the public. ◆

DIGGING DOVER

Historic Cooley barn wood, contents to be salvaged

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

A familiar sight to Westlake and Bay Village residents was the vegetable farmstand inside the old red Cooley barn on the east side of Dover Road across from the Porter Library drive. Robert Power Sr. was the proprietor who grew produce on the fertile land behind the barn.

The vegetable stand is now closed

due to the declining health of Mr. Power. His son, Rob Power, who owns the property, has had the circa 1828 Asher Cooley house, the barn and 2.3 acres of property for sale for several years.

Preparations to remove the barn started several weeks ago. The property can be divided into at least two lots once the barn is removed. The barn siding wood will be upcycled into

large, stylized American flags by an artisan. The artisan is exchanging his labor to remove the barn for the wood siding and timbers he is salvaging.

» See BARN page 4



PHOTO BY WILLIAM KRAUSE

The Cooley barn, as seen from Dover Center Road, housed a vegetable stand for years. It is being disassembled but much of the wood will be upcycled into artwork.

Moving forward together Bay Village leaders meet to discuss city affairs

by TARA WENDELL

Bay Village Mayor Paul Koomar, his administration and heads of the city's boards and commissions held an organizational meeting Jan. 8 to brief City Council members on 2017 activities and plans for the coming year.

The three-hour discussion, held at 583 Bistro, was the second such meeting since Koomar took office in January 2017.

"We did this last year with the boards and commissions and found it very helpful to integrate and talk amongst one another. Especially this year ... we have three new council members

so we thought it would be important to continue that practice," Koomar said.

The public meeting is part of Koomar's pledge to make City Hall activities more transparent, not only to residents but to members of council as well.

It helps that the mayor has a friendly relationship with the council president, Dwight Clark, which has not always been the case in the past.

"One of my primary goals as president is to help bring people up the curve here," Clark said, referring to the new council members. "But also move legislation in an effective and efficient way, yet do so pragmatically,

increase the partnership we have with the administration and moving their agenda forward, while also respecting the checks and balances we need to have as the legislative part of government."

Each director provided an overview of their department's activities, followed by reports from the chairs of the city's boards and commissions.

Finance

Director Renee Mahoney discussed the staff changes made last year. The department was reorganized to three full-time employees, from a mix of two full-timers and two part-timers, saving the city \$20,000 in wages.

» See AGENDA page 10

FAIRY TALES

from front page

Stories will be assembled into hardbound books that the LBMS students will present to their Dover students on Feb. 2.

Salem Herbawi wrote a story for Logan, using his favorite vacation spots or places he'd like to visit as key locations in the fairy tale.

"I found all of the information in his interview sheet and I want him to know it's about him," Herbawi said.

Stella Davisson is writing a story for a girl who wants to be a teacher and travel to Egypt and Walt Disney World. She also wove in scenes about trolls since her second-grader likes the movie "Trolls."

Schrembeck started the fairy tale unit in 2009 but took a break in 2014 because of the amount of work required. She started it back up this year after a fellow teacher – who has a second-grade student – reminded her of the impact of the books even years later. She also wanted to give her students a break from state testing preparation to nurture their creative sides.

"I know the books will be keepsakes," Schrembeck said. "I've received emails from as far as Jordan from family members who appreciated their family's details being shared in a book."



LBMS language arts teacher Deb Schrembeck works with Salem Herbawi on his fairy tale for a Dover Elementary School second-grade student.

Guest editors helped students polish their writing before completing their books. Board of Education President Joseph Kraft, Superintendent Scott

Goggin, board members Barb Leszynski and Carol Winter, and associate Superintendent Kathi Maxwell all volunteered their time as guest editors. ●

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Find your path to prosperity

by SHARON FEDOR

Hurrah. It's a new year, and a few days ago, a new moon. Think about two words for your life plan, sustainability and prosperity. What do you think of when these two words circulate your cortex? Money? Many would answer so.

What if money is only part of the answer, only a small slice of this sweet pie? Would you eat just one slice of your pie and throw the rest away? That's what it's like when you think of prosperity as money only.

Thinking and acting differently in regards to your perspective on prosperity will take time. Change takes time. The fullness, the completeness of what prosperity is, and can be, will take time to learn and blend into your every day

living. Do you really know something if you know it half way? Do you really understand something, or someone, if you have just scratched the surface?

Starting Sunday, Jan. 21, 1-3 p.m., Reverend Joanne Rowden of Unity Spiritual Center of Westlake will offer a fabulous course called "Sustainable Prosperity 2018." This course will be taught once a month for 11 weeks, spanning one year's time, and finishing up just before the Christmas holidays.

This thorough, year-long program will support you in practicing the presence of God in your experience of prosperity. This unique program brings together the spiritual side of abundance as well as the practical application in one's day-to-day existence.

Being taught over the

course of a year allows for total transformation regarding your attitudes, perspectives and relationship with money, and your personal prosperity.

These lessons learned will not be quickly forgotten. There is ample time to learn, absorb, practice and practice some more, before a new concept comes along.

If Sunday afternoon doesn't work for you, the same program will be offered Thursday evenings, 7-9 p.m., starting Jan. 25. Both times will be offered at Unity of Westlake, 23855 Detroit Road. A freewill offering will be received with gratitude at each class. After the second class, the program will be closed to new participants. The materials fee is \$45.

Donna M. took the class, and felt it was far superior to any other pros-

perity class she had taken prior. She said, "It is bigger than money alone, this program is about changing your mindset, and opening to all the possibilities and good to come to you. You talk about your values, your dreams, your goals, even budgets.

Attending one time a month allows you to think about it, and put it to work in your daily life. A year allows you to see, and feel the changes."

When I asked my friend Larry what prosperity meant to him, he had to stop and think for a moment. He said, "It's about living life to the fullest. I used to take I-480 to get to work, now I take the road through the Metroparks. I see deer and heron, and am surrounded by nature's bounty. It takes 3 minutes longer to get to work, but my life is fuller, more abundant."

Register at unityspiritualcenter.com and find your road to true prosperity! ●

Wonder no more about the weather

by CATHLEEN SAMIEC

"Don't knock the weather. If it didn't change once in a while, nine out of ten people couldn't start a conversation."

– Kin Hubbard

The extremely cold temperatures, snow and ice have certainly provoked a torrent of weather-related exchanges, but is there anything that can be done to make these discussions more interesting?

Yes! Learning about weather, such as what makes the wind blow or why Cleveland is considered a "snow belt," will certainly make your weather-related conversations more

intriguing ... and it will make you the expert!

CBS-TV meteorologist Jon Loufman will be at Westlake Porter Public Library on Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 7-8:30 p.m., for a program called "Wonders of Weather." Jon has been a Cleveland weather anchor since 2002 and has taught meteorology at Case Western Reserve University and Lakeland Community College. With Cleveland being his hometown, he certainly understands



Meteorologist Jon Loufman will present an interactive program at Porter Library on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

visit the WPPL website at westlake-library.org or call the library at 440-250-5462. ●

our weather.

Wonders on Weather will be an interactive, hands-on presentation for the whole family. The library welcomes children and teens, with an adult, to this program and to assist Jon as he brings the science of meteorology into the library. To register for the program, please

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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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LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Cure your family's cabin fever

by MORGAN PASKERT

Feeling cooped up due to frigid temperatures and continuous snowfall? The best way to cure cabin fever is to get moving and find engaging activities in your community for the entire family.

Providing free admission seven days a week, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center offers quality nature, environmental and science experiences through native wildlife exhibits, daily planetarium shows and more. Special family programs are offered each month, for just \$5 to \$8 a person.

Upcoming family programs at the Center include:

Family Astronomy Night

Friday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. Spend an evening under the stars and observe the beautiful

winter night sky in both the natural elements and inside Schuele Planetarium. Fee: \$8/person; children 2 and under are free.

Groundhog Day

Sunday, Jan. 28, 1 p.m. Join the Center in celebrating Groundhog Day with special guest Molly Ryan, who will give you an up-close look at some of her groundhog friends. Fee: \$5/person



Explore the winter sky at the Schuele Planetarium on Friday, Jan. 26, at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.

Owl Prowl

Friday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. A magical evening at the Center celebrating owls of all shapes and sizes. Enjoy a captivating live owl program and go on a night hike in hopes of spotting wild owls in the forest of Huntington Reservation. Fee: \$8/person; children 2 and under are free.

To register for Lake Erie Nature & Science Center events, visit www.lensc.org.



Join the Owl Prowl on Friday, Feb. 23, for a chance to see a barred owl.

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BARN *from front page*

Some of the contents of the barn are to be donated to the Westlake Historical Society for future display at the Lilly Weston museum of early Dover history

A recent visit to the barn was like walking into a time capsule, a hundred years and seemingly a “million miles” from Crocker Park. A BB gun (to scare off marauding critters which used to try to decimate the vegetable crop) sits next to an old Bone Cutter (patented in 1890) which was probably once used in the butchering process. There is an old wooden horse trough, an ox yoke and homemade ski poles.

Most intriguing is what looks like an over-sized hamster wheel mounted in the rafters. It still rotates on an axis with a large pole sticking out of its side. Was it used to separate grain from chaff? To lift heavy objects into the barn's attic? We don't know (and if anyone does know, please contact me at wrk295@aol.com). Westlake Historical Society board member Ken Coeling posits that “if a rope or cable is attached to an extension of the axis, a force on the outside of the wheel will have a very large mechanical advantage and could lift a heavy object.”

At first glance the barn has a Victorian-era look about it. The Ohio Historic Inventory form

filled out for the property years ago deemed the barn “circa 1890.” The scalloped wood siding and trim around the windows look late-19th century. However, inside, the post-and beam-construction, including logs used for some of the structural members looks older.

A local historic preservationist from Trumbull County was consulted about the age of the barn and the use of the “hamster wheel.” His guess was that it was a “tumbler” used to separate grain, though he had never seen anything quite like it. He also observed the tightly fitted boards on the wall beside it and posited that this part of the building was once part of a grainery because the effort expended to fit the boards together would have been in order to prevent air flow in this part of the building from blowing the winnowed grain away. His guess was that the current barn was a mash up of several

older structures, jacked up above a brick base later constructed beneath them.

Another interesting feature not apparent from the road is a face figure carved into the peak of the south-facing gable. It may be a whimsical Victorian touch or perhaps something to scare the birds or evil spirits away? I have never seen anything like it though someone has suggested that they have seen similar carvings in Amish barns. This folk art piece will find a home in the collection of the Westlake Historical Society, thanks to the generosity of Rob Power.

We would also like to thank Jim Gearhart and Bob Lamb, members of the Olmsted Historical Society Frostville Museum who were willing to help us evaluate the contents of the barn on one of the coldest days of the winter. ●



The south facade of the Cooley barn, as seen from the inside (left) and outside, features a face figure carved into the peak.



PHOTOS BY WILLIAM KRAUSE

The Cooley barn, which is listed as being built in 1890, features post-and-beam construction that appears older.



This large “hamster wheel”-looking contraption inside the Cooley barn may have been a grain tumbler.



A view of the Cooley house and barn from southeast.

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SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Bay Village Historical Society offers ‘good reads’ for a cold winter’s night

by KAY LAUGHLIN

While growing up in Bay Village in the 1940s and ‘50s, I never really thought a lot about the history of our town. I knew I lived on David Foote’s farm in his former apple orchard. We had 8 different kinds of apple trees in our back-yard. The Foote farmhouse across the street had my best playmates living in it.

I remember, along with the Foote farmhouse (Wieland) at 30906 Lake Road, playing in the William Aldrich II farmhouse (Paul Hook) at 366 Bassett Road. My thoughts on Bay history didn’t go much further than that. (Unless I noticed Mr. Wells sifting through the trash at the Bay Dump on Wolf Road.)

At that time, Dover Township’s history was not taught in the Bay schools like it is today. Here I was, going to school with grandchildren and great-grandchildren of our first settlers and I didn’t even know it. Bill Sadler graduated with me.

In 1971 my sister, Gay Menning, and I decided it was time for a written history of our hometown. We named the book, “Bay Village: A Way of Life.” At the time, the Bay Village Historical Society did not have a lot of money. Marvel Sebert, our Bay High School English teacher, on receiving her flyer announcing a history book being published, sent the society \$1,000, and Nick Avellone, owner of Avellone’s Drug Store, offered to print all of our pictures free of charge. Roger Williams, in Lakewood, became our printer.

Gay and I would travel to the printing company and check proof sheets he would have ready for us to approve. In December 1974, a sold-out first printing was distributed just in time for Christmas. Although we have found a few minor errors, the book is still the bible of Bay Village history.

In 2006, Virginia Peterson and Sally Price signed a legal contract with Arcadia Books to produce a picture book of Bay Village, as part of the publisher’s Images of America series. In March of that year, Ginny called me asking if I would collect the pictures and write the captions for the book. I said yes.

Ginny and I sat in front of my computer and picked the best pictures for each section of the book. We wrote and fact-checked the village his-

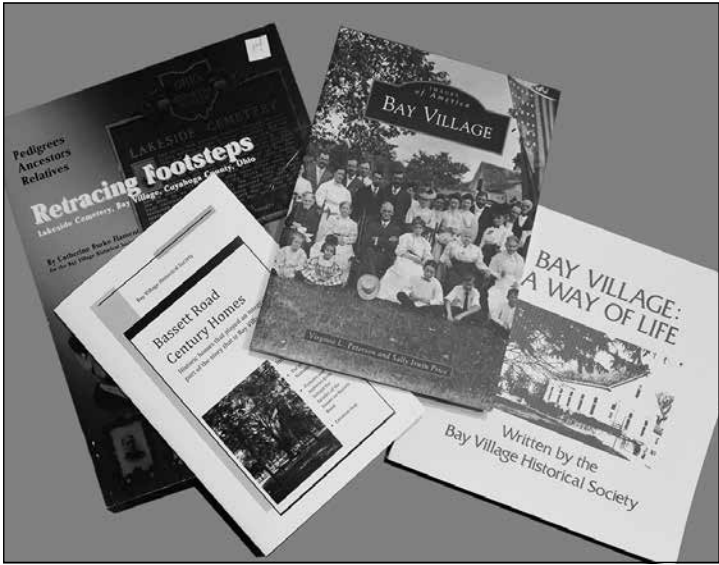


PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

tory and early settlers’ stories.

The hardest part of this book was the request from Arcadia that the pictures and written word arrive separately. Ginny worked tirelessly in front of her computer, split screen, numbering and separating each picture from the written word which was then sent to Arcadia on CD disc, thumb drive and floppy disc. Arcadia compiled the book.

For years, Dean Brennan held a fascination with the century houses on Bassett Road. She approached the historical society to see if they would be interested in publishing a pamphlet on the houses. Will Krause offered to help. In 2016, Dean Brennan and Will Krause produced a pamphlet on the Bassett Road century homes.

Dean and Will spent countless Saturday hours at the county archives looking through old tax record books for the details that would explain when a house was built or when a property was purchased. They were adamant that this book’s facts on each house would be correct. Using her computer, Cindy Lindgren typed the information and assembled the pictures for this colorful pamphlet. It is a lovely addition to the history of our village.

Catherine Flament researched and compiled a genealogical study published in 2006 of all those buried in Bay Village’s Lakeside Cemetery. The book, Retracing Footsteps,” includes photos of families and gravestones, notes from vital records and newspaper snippets.

These materials are available at Rose Hill Museum and the Rueben Osborn Learning Center; the books are included in the Local History Collection at the Bay Village Library. Any one of them would be “a good read” on a cold winter’s night with a cup of tea or beverage of your choice. ●

THE MEDICAL INSIDER

The surprising reason you need a flu shot

by DIANA PI, M.D.

When I offer flu shots, most people refuse. “Never had the flu, I’ll take my chances.” I’m told. “I know someone who got the flu from the shot.” (You can’t.) And this year, “I heard flu shots don’t work.”

We need better flu protection. The measles vaccine, for example, struts a consistent, robust and reassuring 97 percent protection rate. The flu vaccine, with its “maybe we got it this year – or not” protection rate, makes science look like the fumbling guesswork of a colorblind chameleon.

Personally, I have two irrefutable reasons to get vaccinated.

First, as a physician, I pride myself on taking one for the team. It shows patients that I care. After my flu shot, I wear my Hello Kitty Band-Aid like a keloid war wound.

My second reason is now 19 years old. When my son was young, I spent many hair-raising hours, watching helplessly, as he wheezed and choked on snot. It was Russian roulette; any simple cold could trigger a severe asthma attack.

So if you’re healthy and you want to take a chance, the question then becomes, “Can those around you take a chance with you?” In the world of preventive medicine, keeping one person from getting sick can prevent many more from getting sick, like a chain reaction.

At any given time, multiple flu viruses circulate. Some respond to vaccines better than others. Currently, three types of flu viruses are circulating in Cuyahoga County. Our season usually peaks the weeks before and after New Year, and may go on until spring.

And the flu vaccine is still the “first and best way” to prevent flu, according to the CDC. A recent study published in the journal Pediatrics showed that flu vaccines significantly reduced flu-related deaths among children. For those considered high risk, the risk was halved.

Like other infections, even with the best hygiene practices, once flu starts, it’s hard to contain. Let’s say a 7-year-old starts a fever and cough on Wednesday; the little cesspool, who’s been hugging and kissing Nana, spit-balling her brother and fellow first-graders, has effectively been spreading H3N2 flu virus since Tuesday.

Oral oseltamivir (brand name Tamiflu, \$52 to \$160 on GoodRx) and inhaled zanamivir (Relenza, \$65 on GoodRx) might reduce Nana’s chance of coming down with the flu. But if she’s already developed flu-like symptoms, starting these medications within two days of onset might reduce her symptoms by a half day. It’s unclear if these medications reduce severe complications.

Flu shots are one of many “pneumonia” vaccines. Ask your doctors about vaccines for pneumococcal infection, zoster (shingles) and pertussis (whooping cough). For example, in adults, pertussis is a frequent cause of protracted cough that lasts weeks or months.

Now in college, my 19-year-old has recently adopted a new lifestyle (vegan), developed a new allergy (to any classes that begin before 10:30 a.m.) and declared a new major (as in “Saving the World by Sustainability”).

I wonder quietly if he wouldn’t consider a major that sustains himself first. But you know what: He’s happy – and snot-free. Let it go. ●

SENIOR LIVING

Teamwork and compassion help weather the storm

by BARB WOODBURN

I recently learned about something very special that occurred on the campus of Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve. A couple weeks ago, many of the staff members of this senior living campus in Westlake were keeping a close watch on the winter storm warning for northeast Ohio. A bad wintry mix of rain turning to ice, plus 8-12 inches of snow-

fall was possible. Those icy conditions and snowfall can cause power outages and hazardous road conditions.

The daily challenges of operating a senior healthcare facility intensify during bad weather, especially if deliveries are late, staff cannot safely drive to work or there is a sudden loss of power. CEO Charlie Rinne, administrator Kevin Kilbane and a team of managers began planning for the worst conditions and

how to ensure the safety and well-being of its 152 residents.

Utmost on their mind was making sure that the campus was fully staffed for all three shifts. What I found to be particularly special is that eight managers and five additional staff members offered to stay and assist if necessary. Most of those non-clinical managers cannot provide any direct patient care but they were voluntarily willing to assist with a multitude of other tasks outside of their normal workday responsibilities.

From what I learned, it seemed like they had thought of everything! The facility provided Subway sandwich platters for the evening shift staff. Alternative meals were planned in case of a power outage that would prevent the kitchen

staff from preparing its regular menu. The housekeeping staff made sure that staff members staying the night would have freshly cleaned places to rest and sleep. A team of drivers made up of staff members were ready and on call to pick up any staff member within a 10-mile radius who didn’t feel comfortable driving to work in the bad weather. They were also able to help anyone on campus who might be experiencing car trouble.

I was impressed that 13 staff members were willing to stay at work on a Friday night during a winter storm. What a great example of teamwork and compassion. They not only kept a close watch on a bad winter storm, but they kept a close watch on the needs of their residents, colleagues and friends. ●



A view of the ice cover on Lake Erie from Columbia Park on Jan. 2, with downtown Cleveland in the distance. On Christmas, the ice cover was at 50 percent. The frigid blast in the following 2 weeks increased the ice cover to 95 percent. The good news is that the lake-effect snow machine is now shut down. And, spring is only 2 months away!

BAYarts exhibition: 'Generations' by Mike and Keegan Adams

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

Inspired by familial bonds, two Cleveland artists are using their history and passion to inform the DNA of their current work.

Father and son duo Mike and Keegan Adams are the focus of the latest gallery exhibition in the Diane Boldman Education Gallery at BAYarts. They are part of a family printmakers, which includes Thomas F. Chouteau (father to Mike) and Kaden James Adam (nephew to Keegan) who is 5 years old. Both of these family members are honored with a piece each in the exhibition.

As graphics design teacher at BAYarts, Mike Adams also has a connection to the community by being a Bay Village resident. Both he and his son are accomplished artists who have been in several galleries and garnered awards.

Intaglio, woodcut and monotype work by Keegan explore his identity. "An investigation into my family history," is how he explains the groundwork for his art. Influences he cites also include his Shawnee Native American heritage.

Keegan uses reflection as a guide. "Each of my images is done in a journalistic mode to document and distill events and experiences during my life that have deep emotional resonances. It is an ongoing process of change and revelation, due in large part to early deaths of important family members, and the mystery of that lack of history."

While tracing these historical pathways, Keegan continues to explore the progression of his own life. "I am trying to understand different philosophies of identity while trying to write my

own history. My work is deeply personal, but I hope that by focusing on myself, by exposing my narratives, I invite others to reflect on what shapes them."

The shaping of self is seen in work that features a juxtaposition of deeply mature, detailed and graphic layered imagery under loose scrawls of crayon. The composition of human anatomy and the zodiac are also explored.

The digital prints created by Mike have the remarkable quality of being done in an environmentally friendly way without employing solvents, inks or acid. It is nearly pollution-free. These large pieces boldly feature animals in urban environments. There's a canary on a gas pump, deer in someone's yard, and elephants in a street. Presented in muted, earthy colors there's a placidity to the animals that are contrasted by the in-your-



Mike and Keegan Adams are the latest in a line of family artists.

face presentation of them in the compositions.

Mike worked on wildlife pieces 30 years ago but has returned to the subject, because "I have come to realize that we are living in the greatest extinction period in the history of the planet. I want you to see the

creatures in their natural beauty, yet with mankind omnipresent." He hopes images such as these will encourage discussion on changes people can make to coexist with wildlife.

The "Generations" exhibition is on display through Feb. 17. ●

Great Lakes Theater brings 'Huck Finn' to Clague Playhouse

Great Lakes Theater will bring its free outreach touring production of "Huck Finn" to Clague Playhouse in February.

Based on the novel "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain, it has been adapted by Eric Schmiedl. Two runaways – a boy and a slave – team up for adventure on the mighty Mississippi. Huckleberry Finn finds freedom on the run, out-thinking colorful con-men, narrowly escaping a family feud and even passing as a girl as he and Jim make their way down the "big river."

On the journey, they learn lessons of integrity, dignity and friendship.

At turns dramatic then hilarious, two performers and one storytelling troubadour play a dozen characters in this timeless tale, uniquely adapted from Twain's classic American novel. Recommended for students in Grades 3 and up.

The free presentation is Saturday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m., at Clague Playhouse, 1371 Clague Road in Westlake. There are no reserved tickets available; entry is first come, first served. ●



GREAT LAKES THEATER



PHOTO COMPOSITION BY DENNY WENDELL

BAYarts gets a hand from the Bay Men's Club

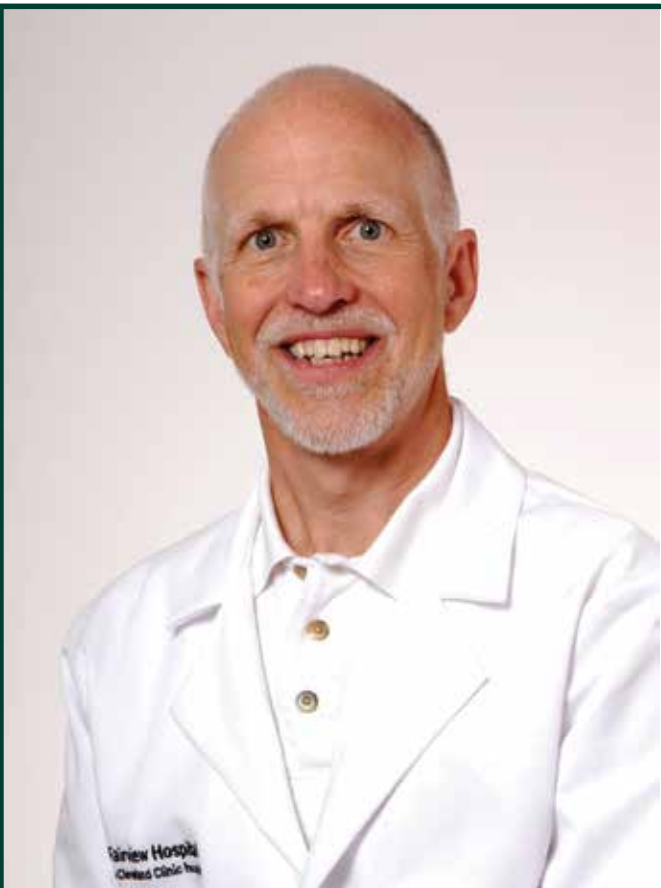


Two dozen volunteers from Bay Men's Club, led by BAYarts board president Pete Winzig, helped clean up what remained inside the Huntington Playhouse. Pictured: Dave DeCapua, Mike Ernie, Beth Milli (BAYarts operations manager), Dwight Clark, Jack Sebold, Tom Jelepis. Prior to this, a truck had come to take item donations to City Mission.



Families enjoy the sledding hill at the Westlake Recreation Center on Dec. 31.

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL



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Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesdays, Jan. 24 and 31 (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, Jan. 24 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – “All By Myself, Alone” by Mary Higgins Clark.

Wednesdays, Jan. 24 and 31 (4-5:30 p.m.) and Thursday, Jan. 25 (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.

Thursday, Jan. 25 (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, Jan. 26 (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.

Friday, Jan. 26 (10 a.m.-noon) FIBER FANATICS – A time for needlecrafters to share, solve problems, and show off.

Saturday, Jan. 27 (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.

Saturday, Jan. 27 (10:30-11:15 a.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.

Saturday, Jan. 27 (2-3 p.m.) BRICK BUILDERS – Love those bricks? Bring your ideas and imagination! Lego and Duplo bricks provided. For ages 3-12.

Saturday, Jan. 27 (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.

Sunday, Jan. 28 (2-4 p.m.) CHESS CLUB – Hone your chess skills or learn how to play the game. Recommended for ages 6+, but all ages are welcome. If you have a chess set, please bring it with you.

Monday, Jan. 29 (1-1:30 p.m.) YOGA TIME! – This is a perfect way to introduce yoga and practice simple poses that imitate animals and nature. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a towel or yoga mat. Ages 3 and up with a caregiver.

Monday, Jan. 29 (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.

Tuesday, Jan. 30 (10-11:30 a.m.) EBOOKS AND DIGITAL CONTENT – Whether you want to be tech savvy or pack light for vacation, digital content is for you. Learn how to access the library’s eBooks, eMagazines, digital music, streaming movies and more! Patrons are encouraged to bring their own devices. Please register.

Tuesday, Jan. 30 (2-3 p.m.) TRAVEL CLUB: HAWAII – Our speaker will show highlights of both Oahu and the Big Island of Hawaii. Please register.

Wednesday, Jan. 31 (2-3 p.m.) KANOPY MOVIE DISCUSSION CLUB – We’ll discuss the movie “Le Samourai,” available for viewing with a Kanopy account. Watch at home, then meet and discuss! See the library’s website for details on setting up an account and viewing the movie. (Click “Research Resources” then “K” to find the Kanopy link.) Please register.

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

Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

Plain Dealer reporter/author Laura DeMarco will join us at the Bay Village branch library on Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. to present and sign her book, “Lost Cleveland.” These lost places of Cleveland include architectural gems, elegant theaters, famous concert halls and stadiums, grand department stores and bustling factories that helped turn Cleveland into America’s fifth biggest city and one of its most prosperous. Books will be available for purchase and signing following the program.

CHILDREN

• **Mondays & 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

Wednesday, Jan. 24 (3:15-4 p.m.) STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER – Drop off your stuffed animal at the Bay Village Library on Tuesday, Jan. 23, anytime between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Join us for a stuffed animal sleepover party on Jan. 24 at 3:15 p.m. for stories crafts and activities when you pick up your favorite stuffed friend. One stuffed animal per child. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library. Registration required.

Monday, Feb. 5 (11 a.m.) HOME-SCHOOL: WINTER OLYMPICS – Grades 4-8: Get ready for the Winter Games by learning about Olympic sports, Pyeongchang, South Korea, and more. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library. Registration required.

Wednesday, Feb. 7 (7 p.m.) MAD SCIENTISTS: UNDER PRESSURE – Join us for a hands-on science program where we try to support a book using

only one piece of paper. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bay Village Branch Library. Registration required.

TEEN

Wednesdays, Jan. 24 and Feb. 7 (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE – Grades 5 & up: Chill with something fun to do after school – gaming, art, movies, technology and more!

Wednesday, Jan. 31 (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE: PAINT LIKE JACKSON POLLOCK – Did you know Jackson Pollock’s greatness lies in developing one of the most radical abstract styles in the history of modern art? Find out more about this American artist then create an abstract expressionist painting with artist JoAnn DePolo. Teen Zone registration required available in the library. This program will be limited to 15 participants.

Saturday Feb. 3 (9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.) SAT PRACTICE TEST – Take a timed SAT practice test administered by Sylvan Learning Center of Westlake. Teens should bring three No. 2 pencils and a non-phone graphing calculator. Receive your results and discuss the exam on Monday, Feb. 5. Registration required.

ADULT

Friday, Feb. 2 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS BOOK DISCUSSION – Join friends, neighbors and library staff for a monthly book discussion in the Sullivan Gallery on the BAYarts campus. This month’s book, “Behold the Dreamers” by Imbolo Mbue, is available at the library and BAYarts. No registration necessary.

Tuesdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27 (10 a.m.) TAI CHI – This 4-week series is specifically designed for people with arthritis and related disorders. It is based on the Sun-style Tai Chi which includes agile steps and gentle movements which have higher steps making it easier for people with arthritis and related disorders and people with impaired strength. It has been shown to improve mobility breathing and relaxation.

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. ●

Save the date for Village Project’s Nourish fundraiser

by DIANE FRYE

Happy New Year! Make room on your fresh, new 2018 calendar for Village Project’s third annual Nourish event on March 3. For the second year in a row, it will be held at Hyland creator of OnBase, Building 3 in Westlake from 6-10 p.m. Enjoy delicious food, bid on fabulous auction items and win a \$3,000 dream vacation of your choice as you socialize the night away with fun people.

Tickets may be purchased at

ourvillageproject.com, where you may also learn about event sponsorship opportunities and myriad ways to help, including donating auction items and services, gift cards for a Gift Card Drawing and bottles of wine for a Wine Pull.

An event ticket to Nourish includes dinner, beer and wine, music, entertainment and free valet parking for \$100 each or 12 for \$1,000. Please order your tickets by Feb. 24.

Keep an eye out for more tantalizing details in the next few weeks. ●

Bay Village Scout earns Eagle rank

by RANDY RISCH

Maximillian X. Schell, Bay Village Troop 41, earned the Eagle Scout rank on Dec. 28, 2017. Max becomes the Troop’s 155th Eagle Scout since 1964. He is the son of Cassia and Greg Schell of Bay Village.

For his Eagle service project, Max’s

team constructed a large SCUBA table and bench made of recycled plastic lumber. The table and bench are placed at the Whitestar Quarry in Gibsonburg, Ohio, where they are used by professional rescue and recreational divers. Visit troop41.wordpress.com for more information about Boy Scout Troop 41. ●



Eagle Scout Maximillian X. Schell of Bay Village Troop 41.

Strong showing for Bay High students in Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

by KAREN DERBY

Bay High School students took away 12 Gold Key, 15 Silver Key, and 23 Honorable Mention awards in the 2018 Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Gold Key winners will be forwarded to New York for judging at the national level.

Seven Gold Keys in the Art category go to four Bay High seniors: Maria DiLallo (paintings, "The Little Things" and "Family Is Not Always Blood"), Celia Reid (photography, "Desertion"), Amelia Robinson (painting, "Flash") and Megan Sjoquist (comic art, "City-walkers"; drawing and illustration, "Paper Monsters"; and art portfolio "Full of Life").

Five Gold Keys in the Writing category go to four Bay High seniors: Carlen Goebel (short story, "Solitary Confinement"), Emma Legeay (poetry, "Ms. Plath"), Sara Sirignano (poetry, "My Middle School Journal") and Roman Vatolin (poetry, "Normalcy With Chaos"); and sophomore Elizabeth Holup (flash fiction, "Anatomy of Our Mothers").

Twelve Silver Keys in the Art category go to seniors Abby Coe (paintings, "The Race" and "For My Mom"), Maria DiLallo (paintings, "The Side of Jamaica You Can't See" and "Yeah Mon!"), Audrey Goebel (painting, "San Francisco"), Christine O'Hare (photography, "Chipped Away"), Celia Reid (photography, "Into the Wild"), Amelia Robinson (painting, "Bones") and Megan Sjoquist (drawing and illustration, "Death Be of The King" and sculpture, "Fear"); and junior Jenna Goff (painting, "Human Architecture" and drawing and illustration, "Just Playing").

Three Silver Keys in the Writing category go to senior Chloe Roberts (writing portfolio, "In My Voice: A Collection of Works"), junior Maggie Allan (poetry, "Only Silence") and sophomore Elizabeth Holup (flash fiction, "Ode to Online Dating").

Fourteen Honorable Mention awards in the Art category are awarded to seniors Maria DiLallo (painting, "Thirsty for Hope"), Audrey Goebel (painting, "Spring"), Allison Maust (painting, "Montana Mountains"), Celia Reid (photography, "Abandoned Cleveland"), Amelia Robinson (painting, "Hand"), Megan Sjoquist (painting, "Spark"), Brynna Sooy (ceramics & glass, "Demons"; paintings, "Self Portrait" and "Beach Day") and

Tera Vangelos (film & animation, "The Lost Soul"); and juniors Jenna Goff (painting, "This Is My Dog Isis" and comic art, "Racket and Jimmy Comic"), Lauren McClure (ceramics & glass, "Rat Butt") and Brynne Ramella (photography, "Blossom").

Nine Honorable Mention awards in the Writing category are awarded to seniors Bennett Andrassy (poetry, "DON"), Jackie Melaragno (poetry, "Silly Me"), Sara Sirignano (poetry, "Rapid Thoughts From A Girl With Half Her Face Paralyzed") and Arabelle Skelly (poetry, "World of Error"); juniors Maggie Allan (flash fiction, "Parallels"), Anne Beckwith (poetry, "Home"); and sophomores Elizabeth Holup (poetry, "The Spot"), Audrey Ray (short story, "Back Again") and Elisa Renerts (flash fiction, "Matches").

The Bay High student award teachers of record are art instructors Cherie Bauer, Gregory Hildebrandt and Thomas Schemrich; and English instructors Erin Beirne, Colleen Lanning and Kristen Srsen Kenney.

These regional winners will have their work exhibited at the Cleveland Institute of Art, Reinberger Gallery, through Feb. 2. A panel of local professional artists, art educators, writers, and writing educators jury the exhibit and select the awarded pieces from nearly 3,000 entries.

A slideshow of Gold Key and Silver Key awards can be found at: bit.ly/Bay-HighScholasticArtWritingAwards2018. ●



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

Bay High Gold Key award winners, from left, front row: (winners for Writing category) Carlen Goebel, Roman Vatolin, Sara Sirignano, Emma Legeay and Elizabeth Holup; back row: (winners for Art category) Megan Sjoquist, Maria DiLallo, Amelia Robinson and Celia Reid.



"Family Is Not Always Blood" by Maria DiLallo



"Paper Monsters" by Megan Sjoquist



"Flash" by Amelia Robinson



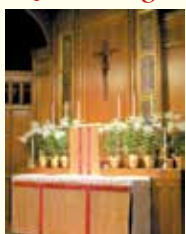
"Desertion" by Celia Reid

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PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Bay Village City Council members met with Mayor Paul Koomar, and heads of the city's departments, boards and commissions on Jan. 8 to discuss recent and upcoming projects.

AGENDA

from front page

A goal for 2018 is to find a new finance/HR/payroll system to replace the outdated server and software currently in use. Mahoney plans to continue being aggressive in investing the city's reserve funds; during her five years as finance director investment income has grown to \$173,000 in 2017 from \$94,000 in 2012.

FIRE

The city's firefighter/paramedics responded to 1,020 EMS calls and 460 fire/other calls in 2017. The mayor and members of both safety forces are wrapping up a revision of the citywide disaster plan.

Fire Chief Chris Lyons shared the results of patient satisfaction surveys, showing a community very pleased with the BVFD. In each quarter last year, Bay placed first or second out of the roughly 140 agencies nationwide that employ the third-party company EMS Survey Team.

In 2018, the department will move forward on a project to transition the monitoring of the fire protection systems in city buildings to Westcom. The move is expected to save the city around \$20,000 annually. A new ambulance equipped with the latest technology will be delivered in April.

POLICE

In what police Chief Mark Spaetzel termed "a year of growth," calls for service in 2017 increased 20 percent to 13,495. The hiring last July of the department's 23rd officer brought the BVPD to a full staffing level for the first time since 2011. The full complement of officers saved the city \$53,000 in overtime last year.

Spaetzel expects to wrap up work on the deer management plan and animal control ordinances in 2018. Two to four more part-time dispatchers will be hired. Police officers will be provided career path training to encourage a transition to upper management and detective positions. Community engagement initiatives will remain a priority.

SERVICE

Road and sewer crews were busy in 2017 as the department continued with street overlays, a storm sewer replacement on Osborn and a sewer interceptor cleaning. Director Jon Liskovec reported that the city is working with ODOT on engineering plans to replace the bridges on Lake Road over Cahoon Creek and on Queenswood. Indoor and outdoor lighting on city property is being converted to energy-saving LEDs.

Work will continue in 2018 to eliminate the remaining sanitary sewer overflows and improve equipment in the city's lift stations. A grant-funding strategy is being developed to address the Sunset improvement project. A 500-600 foot section of sanitary sewer will be replaced on Lake Road, as will the culvert that runs under Columbia Road.

RECREATION

The department's top project of 2017 was the Play in Bay playground renovation. The restrooms at Reese Park were renovated. The 15-year-old pool, which director Dan Enovitch called the "crown jewel of the community," received updates including a new boiler and averaged 800 swimmers per day in the summer. New sheds were installed in Bradley and Cahoon parks.

Bradley Park will be the focus in 2018. It will get new

restrooms and the tennis courts will be repaired and resealed. The city is working with a resident who has started a fundraising project to replace the Bradley playground.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

In 2017 the city received a \$50,000 grant to install a generator at the Dwyer Senior Center. A senior produce market was launched in partnership with the Cleveland Food Bank and Knickerbocker Apartments, providing free food to 70 Bay seniors once a month.

Director Leslie Selig's biggest goal for 2018 is to complete the 5-year strategic plan for the senior center. The four focus areas are communications, building, volunteer participation and programming. In particular, the department is looking to serve the 60-70 age range, many of whom are still working and have different needs than older, retired residents.

LAW

Director Gary Ebert explained to the new council members the purpose of using the emergency clause when passing certain legislation, as well as the Cahoon Will and trusts. The department is looking to hire an in-house secretary, potentially one who can double as a project leader for the city.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Jennifer Demaline, the part-time director and only employee of the department, said the biggest accomplishment of 2017 was the implementation of the salary and wage administration program. Nearly half of the city's employees participate in a wellness incentive program.

The hiring cycle will be standardized in 2018. The job application and employee handbook will be revised. The city is prepar-

ing for collective bargaining negotiations this fall.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Planning Commission chair Mark Barbour explained the differences between the "old" and "new" versions of codified ordinance 1158, which deals with multi-family dwellings.

Mayor Koomar and Council President Dwight Clark thanked chair Jim Potter for his 30 years on the Civil Service Commission. Potter retires at the end of January.

Architectural Board of Review chair Greg Ernst said the board will be looking at the Liberty Development proposal for attached housing on the former Shell property.

Board of Zoning Appeals chair Jack Norton voiced his support for the city to reverse the 2013 outsourcing of the building department, a process that has been in the works for several months. He also encouraged the appointment of more women to the city's boards and commissions.

David Tadych, the council representative to the Tree Commission, presented remarks prepared in consultation with former chair Leo Mahoney, who recently retired. The commission will continue its tree lawn tree planting program and would like to digitize its design book that identifies the types of trees suitable for each tree lawn in the city. A tree protection ordinance has been written and submitted to the administration for review.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, chaired by Jeff Walters, reviews the rec department's programs, fees and needs, and acts as a sounding board for new ideas from the mayor and the city. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

The glass is half full ... until it freezes and cracks

by JEFF BING

I was talking to a friend of mine last week about the current state of our pro sports teams. I was feeling pretty upbeat about the Tribe and spring training, the new Browns management, and the Cavs (remember, they've been to the Finals the last three years).

My friend, who I shall call "Jim" – primarily because that's his real name – was complaining about not one, not two, but all *three* teams. Just what one needs on a cold winter day, right?

I started out our conversation espousing my excitement about the Tribe starting spring training in a few weeks. It quickly became clear that Jim did not share my enthusiastic mindset.

"Hey, we lost the best set-up guy in Bryan Shaw, a decent bat and excellent first baseman in Carlos Santana, and the only guy who hit for us in the play-offs, Jay Bruce."

Stunned by the unexpected verbal lambasting, I retorted with a quizzical

"So?" and raised my fist as if ready to present an argument that would send Jim reeling. The problem was, there were no bullets in my snappy retort arsenal. I had nothing. *Nothing*. Apparently, I required a little more time to present my case.

Jim snorted much like a district attorney who knows he has the defendant on the ropes.

"Oh and by the way, right after they announced that Jason Kipnis will be the second baseman, we found out they had a deal to send him to the Mets which fell through at the last minute."

Hoping that Jim wouldn't notice that my vocabulary had evidently shriveled to a size along the lines of that of an articulate 6-month-old, I once again fired another witty response of "So?" in his direction. (Since it backfired the first time, I decided raising my fist again would be counter-productive – maybe even hurtful – since Jim is much bigger than me).

"Yeah, well, at least we signed Michael Brant-

ley." I gave myself an imaginary pat on the back for spitting out a sentence that included a couple of words consisting more than one syllable.

Jim snorted again, this time with more force, and I realized that snorting was Jim's weapon of choice. Hey, you go where your comfort level is, right?

Jim laughed as he said, "Yeah, they gave Brantley – a guy who will probably play 50 games before he gets hurt again – the money they could have used to sign Santana or Bruce. *Idiots*."

Fairly disheartened by the conversation – as well as all of the realities Jim brought up which I had tried to avoid facing all winter – I sat back down and looked glumly at the snow falling outside.

"But cheer up," Jim added, "because the Tribe still has the best starting pitching staff in baseball."

"Darn right," I replied.

It will be a long time before Jim tries to engage in a verbal battle with the master. I'll try not to be so hard on him next time. ●

Bay alumni invited to class bowling competition

by CRISTINE HOFFMANN

What do you most hear at class reunions? We need to get together more often! Bay alumni are invited to return to Bay Lanes for a light-hearted class bowling competition on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m. Bay Lanes will be closed for this private event and you must be 21 to attend. Advance registration is encouraged. Register online or download a form at: bayalumni.com/events/alumni-madness-2018.

Bowl with classmates, friends or family. Knock down pins for your class, your friend's or a family member's class. The class with most pins wins. The class raising the most funds are King Pins for the year. The top classes to beat from last year are '66, '75, '78 and '83. The Class of '75 took it all and trophies have been displayed in the sports hall of the high school. Take them on! A bowling ticket is \$35 and includes two games, shoe rental and food.

Don't bowl? Come and socialize and you can still help your class win! Just like school, attendance counts and will help your class win the King Pin title! A social ticket is \$25 and includes food and fun! Cash bar. Funds raised will help support the Bay Alumni Foundation Scholarship

Program. Last year, Alumni Madness raised funds for two \$500 scholarships. There's not a moment to spare!

Can't make it? Donations helps your class win the King Pin title! Donations can be sent to Bay Alumni Foundation, 377 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140. Be sure to mention Alumni Madness and include your class year. ●



Trophies won by the Class of '75 in last year's Alumni Madness bowling competition are on display in the high school sports hall. Bragging rights are up for grabs in this year's event, Jan. 27.

Westlake Athletic Boosters to host spaghetti dinner

by MELISSA GRIMES

The Westlake Demons Athletic Boosters (WDAB) will host an evening of Demon tradition with the Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, Feb. 2. The event will be held in the Westlake High School Rotunda from 3:45-7:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$8 and include pasta, sauce, salad, bread, soft drink and dessert. Tickets may be purchased at the door or online at www.westlakeathleticboosters.org.

Westlake families, athletes, staff, community, coaches and alumni are encouraged to attend. All proceeds from the dinner will benefit WDAB and our student athletes in grades 7-12. There is a large list of events happening that evening: Demon boys basketball games begin at 4:30 p.m.; a ribbon-cutting for the new spirit wear store "The W Shop" is at 5:45 p.m.; opening night of the play "Faith

County" begins in the Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.; and our 2018 Hall of Fame inductee class will be introduced during halftime of the boys varsity game. Grab dinner before or after the festivities!

WDAB is a community-based organization established with an "All Athletics/One Goal" approach of supporting Westlake City School athletic teams in grades 7-12. WDAB strives to provide equipment, uniforms, scoreboards, athletic structures, etc. via the fundraising efforts of its members, parents, the greater Westlake community and local businesses.

While WDAB is a separate entity from Westlake City Schools and its athletic departments, it supports the activities and needs of our interscholastic athletes and athletic programs. WDAB is a not-for-profit charitable organization and run by a group of dedicated volunteers. ●

Lee Burneson writers recognized in Library of Congress contest

by KIM BONVISSUTO

Five Lee Burneson Middle School students were named semifinalists in Ohio in the Library of Congress' Letters About Literature Contest.

Deb Schrembeck's language arts classes participated in the reading and writing contest. Students are asked to read a book, poem or speech and write to the author (living or dead) about how the book affected them personally. Letters are judged on state and national levels.

Five seventh-grade students earned semifinalist certificates for Ohio for their letters:

- Ashley Rocky wrote to R.J. Palacio, author of "Wonder"
- Xiomara Flores wrote to Jennifer

Jacobson, author of "Paper Things"

- Kylie King wrote to R.J. Palacio, author of "Wonder"
- Natalie Farrag wrote to Raina Telgemeier, author of "Ghosts"
- Alexis Hamilton wrote to Dan Gemeinhart, author of "The Honest Truth"

Last year in Ohio, 1,340 letters were received from grades 4-12 students from 12 counties. The top 20 percent are selected as state finalists. Nationally, about 8,000 letters make it to state-level judging.

Only first-place state winners advance to national competition. Judges include authors, publishers, librarians and educators from all 50 states. All of the state finalist letters will be forwarded to living authors in hopes of a personal reply. ●



From left: Alexis Hamilton, Xiomara Flores, Natalie Farrag, Ashley Rocky and Kylie King were named state semifinalists in the Library of Congress' Letters About Literature Contest.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
NORTH COAST CHAPTER OF EMBROIDERERS' GUILD OF AMERICA
The members will be learning huck weave taught by several members. Please come to join the fun and to meet fellow stitchers. For more information, call 440-835-5183 or 440-734-2383.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 6-7:30 p.m.
THE DEMENTIA TOOLBOX SERIES: "UMBRELLA OF DEMENTIA"
Not all dementias are the same. Learn background information regarding the different forms of dementia and how each dementia affects the brain, along with caregiving tips for the challenging behaviors that may occur. RSVP: 440-808-9275.
UH St. John Medical Center, Ste. R, 29160 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

Friday, Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
DWYER SOUP COOK-OFF
Ten local chefs will be competing for your vote at our 10th annual Soup Cook-Off. A \$7 donation includes soup, rolls and beverages and a chance at a drawing for door prizes. This popular event is always a sell-

out and seating is limited, therefore, all tickets must be purchased in advance. Phone reservations will not be accepted. A \$7 check made payable to The City of Bay Village will hold your reservation. All proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the Dwyer Center.
Dwyer Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane

Saturday, Jan. 27, 4:30 p.m.
FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
Our meal is hosted by Church of the Redeemer, Westlake and Clague Road United Church of Christ. Our church is accessible to the physically challenged. No carry outs. Come for great conversation and a warm place to enjoy dinner!
Clague Road UCC, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted

Sunday, Jan. 28, 1-2:30 p.m.
GROUNDHOG DAY
Join us in celebrating Groundhog Day! Special guest Molly Ryan will be here with her groundhog friends to give you an up-close look at these ground dwelling hibernators. Learn all about why they have their own holiday and how they earned the nicknames woodchuck and whistlepig. For all ages; fee: \$5/person. Advance registration available at lensc.org.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Saturday, Feb. 3, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
BAYARTS SOUPER BOWL
Chase away the winter chills and taste-off delicious soups by local restaurants and chefs. Handmade bowls created by BAYarts faculty and students. First come, first serve. All ages! Limited, advance tickets only. \$18 includes bowl and soup. Drinks, dogs, snacks offered a la carte.
BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd.

Saturday, Feb. 3, 5-7 p.m.
SOUP SUPPER
Bay United Methodist Women's annual event includes homemade soup, salad, beverage, rolls and dessert for \$10. Please join us for good food and fellowship. Proceeds benefit several worthy causes.
Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1-2:30 p.m.
FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH ASSISTANCE
Members of Cuyahoga West Chapter, OGS will offer free family history research assistance to the public. If you have data recorded to pedigree and/or family group sheets, bring these forms with you.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Friends of Bay Village Library book sale Jan. 27-30

BY LINDA LAMB

The Friends of the Bay Village Library's fall used book sale begins Saturday, Jan. 27, and runs through Tuesday, Jan. 30. The sale is held in the meeting room of the library.

There is a large selection of books for readers of all ages as well as magazines, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks and more. All materials have been categorized for easy shopping. Tuesday, the last day of the sale, is bag day when a full bag of books costs \$1. Bags are provided by the library. Proceeds from the sale are used to support upcoming library programs and activities.

For more information on the book sale, volunteering to help with sale, or becoming a member of the Friends of the Bay Village Library, visit the library at 502 Cahoon Road or call 440-871-6392. ●

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