

## Becoming a Bird Brain

A fun way to spend time while you stay at home

by MARYANN FITZMAURICE

We're all looking for ways to spend time and enjoy ourselves while staying at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. Becoming a "bird brain" is one way to do it – learning to spot, identify and appreciate birds.

**Who can look?** A bird brain – or birdwatcher – is just someone who enjoys looking at birds. You don't have to take it too seriously. It can just be a fun, relaxing way to pass the time. You are never too old or too young. You can do it alone or with family or friends.

**When to look.** The early bird may get the worm, but you don't have to be an early riser to watch birds. Early morning is a good time, but so is late afternoon-early evening. Anytime really. You just have to look and listen.

**Where to look.** We have many kinds of bird habitat nearby, forested neighborhoods and parks (after all Cleveland is the Forest City), rivers and streams and the lake shore. But a good place to start is right in your own backyard. And the sky above it.

**How to look.** There are as many ways to birdwatch as there are people. You can find a comfy seat by a window or sit out on your front porch or deck.



PHOTO BY MARYANN FITZMAURICE

**A backyard bird you may never have noticed: a catbird with its black cap and cat-like meow.**

But be careful. Too much noise or movement may scare the birds away. But if you keep still, they will likely come back. Or take a walk around your neighborhood or favorite park. Just keep a safe distance – from the birds and from each other.

If you have a bird feeder, that's great. But don't forget to look on the ground underneath it. Some birds prefer to eat seed that has fallen on the ground. And don't forget to look in the trees and shrubs nearby. Birds will perch there and wait their turn at the feeder. If you run out of bird seed, try putting scraps of yarn, thread, twine, etc. in your feeder (or another container) for the birds to steal to "feather" their nests.

► See BIRD BRAIN page 4

## Vote now! Ballot applications due April 25

by JANE BLACKIE

The 2020 Ohio Primary Election is still in progress, and your vote is more important than ever. Due to the closing of in-person voting on March 17 due to the coronavirus contamination, many people have not yet voted. If you already sent in an absentee ballot or voted in-person at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections (BOE), your vote will be counted and there is nothing you need to do.

However, if you are a registered voter and were planning on voting in-person at the polls on March 17, here are the two steps you should take to vote by mail for the April 28 deadline.

**Step 1:** Request a ballot. April 25 is the deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot. You should do this now by going to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website to print an application: [www.443vote.us](http://www.443vote.us). If you don't have a printer or postage, you can call the Board at 216-443-8683, follow the automated prompts, and they will mail you an application.

Once you have the application that will have pre-paid postage, complete it, using March 17 as the election date although any date will be accepted. You can also write the application by hand as long as it contains the necessary information and the voter's signature.

Send the application through the U.S. mail or place the application in the secure drop-box in the parking lot of the BOE which is at 2925 Euclid Avenue. (The mailing address is PO Box 89448, Cleveland, OH 44101-6448.)

► See VOTE NOW! page 2

## Bay Schools virtual learning

Morning announcements at Bay Schools are a fun part of eLearning routine

by KAREN DERBY

Most of us can remember scooting into a school desk seat early in the morning. The tardy bell would ring, the teacher would make a sign to be quiet, and morning announcements would come over the public address system. It was a routine that

let us know the school day had begun.

Fast forward to 2020, where students in the Bay Village Schools, like those throughout much of our country, now attend school virtually from their homes due to the COVID-19 virus. Social distancing has closed the school buildings and silenced those public address system.

► See BAY SCHOOLS page 2



Bay High's Ground Control video announcements, anchored here by teacher Anne Ashley and counselor Kerry Walukas, mix mini-lessons, news and comedy.

## WESTLAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES

## 100 bags of sunshine

by LYDIA GADD

In mid-March, two weeks prior to Governor Mike DeWine's order, the West Shore senior centers proactively suspended all senior activities. That being said, we are all busier than ever creating physically distant avenues to serve the public, especially seniors, during this time of greater need. And, although we have all pared down our services, observing rules on essential versus nonessential employees, we are still open via phone and email, often handling inquiries on a case by case basis.

An obvious need is food. Thankfully we have been hearing that neighbors and families have been dedicated to helping their elder loved ones get the supplies they need and thus limiting unnecessary trips to the store. As for folks who do not have help, we are working with them on a case by case basis. In Westlake, we also operate a food pantry which is available to all Westlake residents in need (regardless of



PHOTO BY CINDI LINDGREN

**Westlake Senior & Community Services employee Joe Starin's smile is a ray of sunshine. He is shown packing food and supply baskets.**

age). Our food pantry requests have increased by over 25% in these first weeks as so many have faced a loss of income after being laid off.

Another need that we all have is emotional support. We are trying our best to help people feel connected and positive through phone outreach and interactive emails we send out twice a week.

► See 100 BAGS page 4



# Porter Library extends coronavirus closure

by ELAINE WILLIS

In the interest of public safety and to follow the guidelines provided by Governor DeWine, Westlake Porter Public Library is now targeting April 30, 2020, as its re-opening date. The library had previously announced it would be closed until Monday, April 6. Programming, events and

meetings originally scheduled through April 30 are also canceled. WPPL's Board and Management Staff will continue to evaluate the situation and take the recommendations of local, state and federal government and health agencies into consideration when making any decisions regarding the library's closure.

"We are certainly aware of how much

people rely on their public library for reading, listening, and viewing materials as well as Internet connections and meeting spaces," said Director Andrew Mangels. "However, we believe the risk of helping to spread the virus, even with proper social distancing practices in place, is too great to reopen at this time. We appreciate the community's continued understanding and we look forward to opening as soon as it is safe to do so."

Mangels suggested that library users

continue to visit westlakelibrary.org for updates. WPPL provides access to digital content such as ebooks, audiobooks, streaming video and much more. Visit the Download & Stream and Shelter in Place pages for resources. He also suggested that members of the community like WPPL on Facebook (WestlakePorter-PublicLibrary) and follow the library on Twitter (@WestlakePorter) for live and streaming content such as storytimes, recommendations and more. ●



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## BAY SCHOOLS

from front page

But thanks to the internet, students can begin their days watching videotaped morning announcements featuring their school principals, teachers and news about fellow students.

Normandy Elementary Principal Dan Sebring often tells a joke of the day, gives an update on the numbers of words students have read through their Accelerated Reader Program (it's up past 37 million for this year), and reports on which students have decided to become experts in what. He might note that it's a special day, like when he reminds students to wear their crazy socks for Wacky Wednesday.

"I've heard from many families that their child appreciated starting the day with morning announcements, just like we do in school," said Mr. Sebring. "I think duplicating some of that same routine is helpful for students as they transition into learning at home."

Principal Josie Sanfilippo at West-erly Elementary stands as she leads students in the Pledge of Allegiance. She announces numbers of words read and typing lessons completed. Recently students have been researching various Olympic sports and athletes, and Ms. Sanfilippo shares those topics and activities. She has also introduced her dog, Latte, and her daughter, Gabby, who is also doing her high school work from home.

"I know the children love to see their friends' faces and hear what everyone is working on," said Ms. Sanfilippo. "We've heard that parents also enjoy the videos. I think it makes everyone feel connected even though

we're apart."

At Bay Middle School, Principal Aaron Ereditario and Assistant Principal Tom Grodek make important announcements about school, like the planned full-class assemblies being held online using the Zoom conferencing program. They also share some fun interviews with teachers that explore information about them maybe no one at school knows. The program, as Mr. Ereditario reveals, is coming from "some-where in Bay Village."

Bay High's student-run news program, Ground Control, still airs each day with teachers giving entertaining mini-lessons. The show might include an exercise of the day. Daily doses of poetry, French, Spanish, history, and math are creatively presented. Business and art tidbits have been featured. Students are sending in video features. And Assistant Principal Ramsey Inman interrupts the lighthearted programming with more serious information (although his dad jokes are slightly funny).

Mr. Luke Kieffer, technology education teacher at Bay High, made the decision to continue the program in spite of Bay High's video studio being closed. "The staff and I made several segments before we left," he said. "We also have students creating content and editing from home. I hope that this will be a great way to keep a sense of community in the school while we are away."

Everyone longs for the day when the public address systems are fired up again as students listen in the physical presence of one another. Until then, the faces, personalities and caring come through the computer screen at the start of every eLearning day with morning announcements at the Bay Village Schools. ●

## VOTE NOW!

from front page

The last option is to go to the BOE where you can go in the back door, get an application, complete it, and leave it there.

**Step 2:** You will receive your ballot in the mail. You can use the League of Women Voters website VOTE411.org for information that will help you make an informed choice. Send in your ballot as soon as possible, either through the U.S. mail or by placing it in the secure drop-box in the parking lot of the BOE. Your ballot must be postmarked by April 27 and received no later than 10 days after the election date of April 28. The

ballot can also be delivered in-person to the Board of Elections by 7:30 pm on April 28 by the voter or a close family member.

Additional information can be found on the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland website, lwvgreatercleveland.org. Click on "Articles" to read a blog post about the primary election, including a link that gives information on how to track your ballot once it's mailed.

The only voters who will be allowed to vote in-person on April 28 at the BOE are those who are disabled and need special accommodations or are homeless between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The best option is to vote now. ●

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# Bay Village community supports seniors during pandemic

by LESLIE SELIG

Bay Village is a community that comes together to support those who need help in times of need, and the COVID-19 crisis is definitely one of those times.

As seniors are particularly at risk with the coronavirus, several community programs have been created to help our seniors stay at home to reduce their risk:

- More than 40 residents have stepped up to volunteer by shopping for groceries or

prescriptions, or by making “checking in” phone calls to help with the loneliness that the quarantine brings. Bay Village Community Services is coordinating this effort. Anyone who needs help should call Community Services at 440-899-3442, and we will contact a volunteer to help fill your need.

- All of the Bay Village churches are reaching out to their congregations to offer similar help. If you are a member of a church and are more comfortable calling them for

help, they will be ready.

- Bay Village Family Services is helping to connect students to their community while they are out of school with the Connecting Through Doors program. Via Zoom online technology, the students will learn how to make greeting cards, then will drop them off at the police station when complete. Bay Family Services will then deliver the cards to homebound seniors to add some brightness to their day. Community Services has provided a list

of 150 residents who will receive the cards.

In addition to these special programs, Bay Village Community Services also operates a year-round Emergency Fund for residents in financial crisis. The City will pay up to \$250 for utility bills, rent/mortgage or medical expenses. Residents should call 440-899-3409 to learn more about this program. Emergency Funds are funded entirely by donation. If you are looking for a way to help the community, donations are always welcome. ●

## Bay Village hosts blood drive April 16

The Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage due to the coronavirus. Please join us for a blood drive at the Bay Village Dwyer Senior Center on Thursday, April 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code “BayVillage”, or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). ●

## LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

# 4 myths about baby wildlife

by MORGAN PASKERT

Spring is here and soon you will see baby animals in your neighborhood. Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is here to debunk four of the most common myths related to baby wildlife.

### MYTH: “Mothers often abandon baby wildlife in nature.”

Baby wildlife is rarely abandoned in nature. Mothers will often leave their young unattended for hours for a variety of reasons.

For instance, a fawn lying quietly by itself is perfectly normal. Deer do this to protect their young, as the presence of an adult would attract the attention of predators. Raccoons and squirrels will frequently retrieve their babies when they end up out of the nest too early. They often maintain more than one nest or den site and will move their babies as needed.

### MYTH: “Baby wildlife must be protected from natural dangers.”

Eastern cottontail rabbits often build their nests in yards and open spaces. If you stumble across one, do not move the baby bunnies because their mother will be unable to find them. She will return at dusk and dawn to feed and groom her babies.

Baby animals are vulnerable, yet resilient. Pets, predators and automobiles are all a natural part of their urban and suburban environments. Baby wildlife must grow up among these circumstances in order to learn how to successfully co-exist with them. Growing up in the wild is dangerous, but removing animals from their parents can be equally as detrimental to their survival.

### MYTH: “Wild animals will abandon their babies if the smell the scent of humans.”

Wild animals will not abandon their

babies due to the scent of humans. In fact, most birds have little sense of smell! While mammals have a strong sense of smell, human scent is not nearly enough of a danger signal to cause mothers to abandon their hormonal and maternal behaviors.

A baby bird with skin still visible or only covered in downy feathers should be placed back in the nest or in an artificial nest. If fully feathered but unable to fly, the bird is a fledgling that should be left alone as it is in the process of learning critical survival behaviors.

### MYTH: “Baby wildlife can receive the same quality of care from humans.”

Baby wildlife will never receive the same quality of care from humans as they would receive from their natural parents. Each species requires a specialized diet, and feeding an animal the wrong food can be harmful to its health. Human care can cause serious damage to the animal and should be seen as a last resort.

If you have questions about baby wildlife this spring, please contact the Center’s wildlife staff before intervening. The Center is temporarily closed due to COVID-19, but its wildlife staff are still available to answer your questions. Please email [wildlife@lensc.org](mailto:wildlife@lensc.org) or leave a voicemail at 440-871-2900 to connect with an expert.

The nonprofit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is the only wildlife rehabilitation facility in Cuyahoga County and performs wildlife rehabilitation as a free service to the public. The Center is able to perform wildlife rehabilitation services under permits from the United States Fish & Wildlife Service and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. ●



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## A (frozen) blast from the past

Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014, Huntington Beach, Bay Village.

The intense cold snap that gripped much of central Canada and the United States in early January 2014 brought thick and widespread ice to the Great Lakes. Though parts of the lakes freeze every winter, several news media and meteorologist accounts suggested that the January ice cover was thicker and more widespread than it had been in nearly two decades.

## Community is everything at BAYarts

by NANCY HEATON

**B**AYarts' initial (optimistic) response to the COVID-19 news was to remain open – a request by many students and families – even if local schools closed, providing a sanctuary for the community to gather. But of course, as the information about

the virus became more grim and restrictions were rolled out, the doors were closed and financial cuts had to be made with the hope that the organization will reopen on solid footing in time for the usual summer “Stay-cation” that locals have come to love.

This is where the true meaning of community shines: every-

one, including (unpaid) staff members, faculty, board and volunteers have been devising ways to engage students and keep the community intact.

Projects such as Art to Go kits, connecting to through videos and chat groups, writing positive chalk messages around the campus and more – are keeping us connected in new ways. The annual juried show opening, traditionally attended by hundreds of artists and their guests each year, was cancelled, but can be seen virtually on BAYarts' social

media and will remain open for an extended period (other shows have been rescheduled for later in the year). Students send photos of what they are working on, stay in touch with their teachers and drop notes of support and encouragement to the staff every day.

For now, the future is uncertain, but BAYarts has been around since 1948, the phoenix that keeps rising from the ashes and will be around for years to come. In times like these, community is everything. ●



Reece Cottle stretches his imagination with a BAYarts Art to Go kit.

## BIRD BRAIN

from front page

**What to look for.** We are all familiar with the red-breasted American robin, the shockingly-blue blue jay, brilliant red northern cardinal and noisy flocks of house sparrows. The big backyard bullies – crows, grackles and European starlings. And bald eagles. Did you know we have an active bald eagle nest in Avon Lake that you can watch on a live eagle cam at [www.youtube.com/c/AvonLakeEagleCam](http://www.youtube.com/c/AvonLakeEagleCam). And don't forget the turkey vultures – they are vultures, not buzzards – circling in the sky as they ride the thermals. And hawks showing a flash of red tail as they soar overhead.

But have you noticed the pesky little black-and-white chickadee, whose call sounds like chick-a-dee-dee-dee? Or red-breasted nuthatch that hangs upside down when it feeds? They're there. And even the

most familiar birds have nuances you may have overlooked. Have you noticed that robins have white rings around their eyes? Or the blue jay's black necklace? They are field marks – things to look for to help identify a bird – like its size, shape, color, behavior and habitat.

**What to listen for.** Listening to the birds can be a good way to de-stress. Just throw open the windows in your house or car and keep your ears open on your walk. Listening is also a good way to find birds to watch. The pesky little things may be hard to see once the trees leaf out. Fortunately birds sing more often in spring than any other season – its breeding time and they want to attract a mate. And there is the incessant chirping of hungry baby birds.

Some bird sounds you may hear in your backyard are the conk-la-ree trill of a red-winged blackbird, whistle-like call of a cardinal, scolding jeer of a blue jay or drumming of a woodpecker. Hear a cat? It

might be the meow-like call of a catbird. By the lake? You might hear the squealing of gulls or honking of Canada geese overhead. Listening in the evening or late at night? You might hear the who-cooks-for-you of the barred owl or hoot-hoot of a great horned owl.

**What do you need?** You don't really need anything to birdwatch, just your eyes and ears, your curiosity and maybe a sense of wonder. You can use binoculars and a field guide if you have them, but you don't really need them. Need help? Just download the FREE Cornell Lab of Ornithology Merlin Bird ID app at [merlin.allaboutbirds.org](http://merlin.allaboutbirds.org). And keep a notebook and pencil handy to jot down what you see, so you can brag about it later.

For more fun birdy things to do, go online to Audubon's Joy of Birds page at [audubon.org/joy-of-birds](http://audubon.org/joy-of-birds).

**What to do now?** Become a bird brain and relax and enjoy the birds! ●



European starling



Red-bellied woodpecker

PHOTOS BY DENNY WENDELL

## 100 BAGS

from front page

These emails include often include links to virtual tours, exercise classes, inspirational words, puzzles and pictures of some of our past activities. Last week's email took us on a spectacular tour of Hawaii. Our latest edition gives instructions to our subscribers to participate in a Spirit Week, where we are encouraging folks to dress up in a specific theme every-day (mismatched Monday for example) and email us their pictures so we can share. Our regular patrons will enjoy seeing the faces of friends that they haven't been able to see these few weeks.

Our 100 Bags of Sunshine project was also geared to randomly surprise some of our residents and let them know we are thinking of them. Inspired by two of our program sponsors (Brookdale Senior Living and Foundations Health) who

**“Thank you for the bag of Sunshine. The best part of the delivery was the cute officer who knocked on my door. It made my day!”**

asked what they could do to help, we came up with the idea to put together these bags of sunshine filled with random things to brighten the day. Our sponsors immediately worked on procuring donations. Cookies by Cris heard about our project and joined as a donor.

The project became intergenerational as we also asked our community's youth to

get involved by drawing pictures or making cheerful cards. In addition to sweet treats and cards, items in the bag included word search and crossword puzzles, gratitude and meditation worksheets, bubbles and yes, even a roll of toilet paper! The bags were delivered by our Westlake police.

The comments that came in from the surprised recipients made everybody's day, proving that by giving you also receive. Here are a few of the comments:

- “The officer asked if I was okay and if I needed anything. He was so kind when he dropped off the bag. This bag makes me so happy...”
- “I am so touched with all of my heart. I thank you all. I miss you all. Please stay safe.”
- “Thank you for the bag of Sunshine. The best part of the delivery was the cute officer who knocked on my door. It made my day!”
- “Thank you for the bag. I really appreciated the bubbles! I haven't blown bubbles

since my grandchildren were little and it just brought such a smile to my face!”

- “Thanks so much for the bag. I haven't looked at everything yet, but I saw the toilet paper. It was on my list. You really saved my butt!”
- “Thank you so much for these inspiring communications and for the very thoughtful gift bag. Keep up the great job of helping our residents to feel involved and cared for.”
- “You make us old folks happy! I won't get depressed because of this. I want to hug each and every one of you but I can't, so take this call as a hug!”

While real hugs and contact aren't available to us all right now, the virtual hug really did feel good! There's so much in this world that we can't control, but we can control our own acts of compassion and kindness. Each and every one of us can spread a little sunshine just by our words, and we all could use a dose of sunshine. ●





PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL ©2014 WBVOBSERVER

THE DIGITAL WORLD

# WFH? Be vigilant to protect your computer from another type of virus – malware

by TAK SATO

In the infancy of personal computing, and predating the consumerization of the internet, nefarious entities like computer virus authors were likely not financially motivated. They were probably driven by mischief and the resulting notoriety by claiming “I did that.”

For example, I remember being infected by a computer virus in early 1992 that simply made the noise of water going down the drain with the author’s name prominently displayed as ending credits while his laughter as background music.

Today, it’s usually run like a business, albeit illicit and surrounding illegal activities like extortion through ransomware attacks. Just like any other business, they go for maximum ill-gained returns. Their weapon is not just viruses but an arsenal known as “malware” (concatenation of the words “malicious” and “software”).

This superset includes viruses and introduces a slew of other damage-inflicting weapons such as adware and spyware that can be delivered through the browser that fueled the consumerization of the internet in the first place.

If you have been practicing Internet Street Smarts, i.e. nurturing good habits when using digital world devices, this is a good time to review and be extra vigilant. Why? The pathway to being able to work from home remotely (aka “WFH” in popular lingo), or for your children to go to school without actually leaving your house, is the internet.

The current social distancing measures, such as working remotely from home, your children learning from home, and even ordering groceries for home delivery, relies on the internet, aka the cloud. The result? Nefarious entities see the skyrocketing internet usage and, just like a business would want to capitalize on the potential customers, the bad guys want to capitalize

on potential victims.

Computer usage in schools can be fenced in so that the chances of something nefarious reaching their computers or pupils visiting inappropriate websites can be minimized. Whether that same protection can be extended when your children bring them into the home environment depends. You would be wise to look over their shoulders from time to time.

Not answering unsolicited emails, texts, and phone calls is one of the easiest habits you can nurture as part of the Internet Street Smarts paradigm. Keeping your anti-virus and anti-malware definitions up-to-date is another. Timely applications of operating system security updates and application software updates, although many may be set to automatically update, are also important.

When working from home, be cognizant that additional good habits such as backing up your computer’s data may become your responsibility. Many companies, especially small businesses, may not have had the time nor resources to fully prepare an office-use desktop computer for work from home use.

Please continue to nurture good habits as part of your Internet Street Smarts, especially this time of social distancing when the number of illicit attempts can be expected to increase! ●

POETRY

## Stay Away

by DIANNE BOROWSKI

*I stand,  
Unable to move,  
Barely breathing.*

*I live with fear,  
If you come too near  
I may disappear.*

*Or I might shatter  
Into a thousand tiny pieces,  
Broken, like glass.*

*So for now  
Please, please,  
Stay away.*

*Remember, social  
distancing saves lives!*

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SPORTING VIEWS

Let's play ball! (COVID-19 style)

by JEFF BING

You say they canceled your baseball season? You say they took away your American pastime of baseball, apple pie, and Cracker Jack? You say you miss it so much you don't even recall the Dolans ever being "cheapskates?" Is *that* what's troubling you, Bunky?

Well, we're about to change all of that. We're changing the rules just a bit to adapt them to today's world, but you can still play ball and maybe even save your (and perhaps someone else's) keister in the process. Here's the deal:

You are your own team. First, make up a team name. Sure, you can go with Indians or Tribe or, yikes... *Yankees*, but this is your chance to be creative. How about the Vaccines, or the Social Distancers, or, if you're feeling particularly frisky, call yourself the Charmins, and your tag line can be something like, "We'll wipe out the opposition!" (Who knows ... the trash talking might be more fun than the game.)

A "game" consists of your actions from dawn to dusk for a day against one of the other members in your household or group. Rotate against other

family members/group as the numbers allow. When you have played a game against every family member, repeat the schedule. Play through the end of April (or longer if desired). Here's how to "score," as it were, using common baseball terms:

If you catch your opponent \_\_\_\_ "A" \_\_\_\_ then it means \_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_ and give yourself \_\_\_\_ "C" \_\_\_\_.

1. A) "going yard"; B) they've been caught chatting with a neighbor in the back yard; C) a run scored. Nice job!

2. A) guilty of "touch 'em all"; B) they are ignoring social distancing rules and fraternizing with the enemy; C) 3 runs! Your opponent is not very smart!

3. A) attempting "hit and run"; B) they grabbed someone's personal bottle of hand sanitizer and took off; C) a run scored! Well played!

4. A) "tied up"; B) they are guilty of lagging in their COVID-19 procedures (i.e. ignoring the basics of coronavirus prevention); C) 2 runs! Your opponent is a loser.

5. A) guilty of a "balk"; B) they momentarily stopped mid-sneeze, but failed to sneeze into a tissue and decorated the family with a spring shower (also known as a "rain

delay"); C) give yourself a run and your opponent a box of tissues. Perhaps a few choice words wouldn't hurt either.

6. A) being a "closer"; B) they are ignoring the 6-foot rule and subjecting you to potential sickness; C) a run. And take *away* a run from your opponent for being a doofus. No wonder we're in trouble, with yo-yo's like this!

7. A) committing a "suicide squeeze"; B) they are a chronic "hugger" and simply must hug every relative, kid, or stray cat they lay their eyes on; C) Take away a run from yourself for having a mental lapse and letting this psycho into your house in the first place! You might *all* be infected now!

Okay, you should have the general idea now. These are only suggestions and the best part will be customizing the game specifically to your family or group (of 5 or less, remember). You need to remember to take this seriously – the saying, "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link" has never had a better application than what we are all facing today – but having some fun with it can help ease the strain of compliance for some folks.

Stay safe – and *healthy* – folks! ●

Westlake Kiwanis host program on Safety Town

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Olivia Kostecke, director of Safety Town for Westlake, was the guest speaker at the Feb. 25 Westlake Kiwanis meeting. Olivia spoke on the history of Safety Town and their future plans.

Safety Town is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Safety Town is a two-week summer learning experience for children entering kindergarten and teaches youngsters street safety and introduces them to the police department as their friend. It was conceived by Westlake Mayor Alexander Roman and Service Director Lloyd Barnes and was opened on June 22, 1970.

The program began behind City Hall and continued there until 1990. In 1990, Safety Town was moved to a location behind Dover Elementary School during the construction of the new police station. It has since been returned to the City Hall complex.

According to Westlake Police Chief Kevin Bielozer, "The Safety Town program is our original Community Oriented Policing program here in the City of Westlake has served as a model for other cities'



PHOTO BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Olivia Kostecke and Kiwanis President Ray Budoi.

Safety Town programs. The program reaches over 600 students and youth volunteers each year. The program establishes the foundation of a positive relationship between the students and parents within the community and the police officers that serve these families."

Olivia said that she is a graduate of Safety Town and she later became a volunteer and now is the director of Safety Town. They are looking to replace many of the buildings and add some new buildings for Safety Town. Anyone wishing to construct a building, donate materials or money, please contact Olivia Kostecke at 440-892-3156.

More information about Safety Town is available at [www.cityofwestlake.org/safety-town](http://www.cityofwestlake.org/safety-town). ●

DIGGING DOVER

Then and Now in Dover, Part 6

Part six in a series on the "real photo postcards" (RPPCs) of early 20th century Dover, now Westlake and Bay Village.

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

Previous Pandemics in Dover

According to the CDC, in February 1957 a new influenza A (H2N2) virus emerged in East Asia, triggering a pandemic ("Asian Flu"). It was reported in the coastal areas of the U.S. in the summer of 1957.

It was during the election of November 1957 that 5,000 residents registered to vote in the Village of Westlake. Having 5,000 voters was one way to achieve city status in Ohio and Westlake was declared a city in December of that year.

How many residents in Westlake and Bay Village were sickened or died from this flu is unknown to the writer but the CDC states that the pandemic continued into 1958, therefore this pandemic and the cre-

ation of Westlake as a city were simultaneous (but not "hand-in-hand," if social distancing was in place).

The more well-known pandemic occurred in 1918 and 1919. It was another deadly influenza, called the "Spanish Flu." According to Bill Robishaw, the author of "You've Come a Long Way, Westlake" published in 1993: "The Board of Education voted in October of that year [1918] to close the schools indefinitely. The schools were reopened in December [1918] but only after all rooms were thoroughly cleaned and fumigated." Sound familiar?

According to Cleveland.com, the city of Cleveland had nearly 800,000 residents in 1918. Between September and December of that year nearly 23,600 were sickened and 3,600 people died from the pandemic. By the time it was over in 1919, more

than 4,400 Cleveland residents died of the flu.

The combined population of Bay Village and Westlake was about 2,500 persons in 1918. If they were sickened and died at the same rate as Cleveland residents this translates into 74 sick with the flu and 14 people dead. To put that in perspective based on today's populace, based on the 2018 population of the combined cities this rate would result in 1,402 sickened residents and 261 fatalities in 2020.

Bay Village and Westlake were settled by Yankees from New England just two centuries ago. Native Americans entered Ohio approximately 14,000 years ago (140 centuries)! Based on artifacts found here, they probably occupied Dover as much as 100 centuries ago; that is 50 times longer than "us." Stone tools found in Dover date to the Archaic period which lasted

from 2,000 to 10,000 years ago. Even if they are only 2,000 years old, Native Americans lived here 20 centuries, which is 10 times longer than "us."

Archaeological sites in Bay Village represent the western extent of the Whittlesey culture of Native Americans who occupied the northeastern part of Ohio along Lake Erie and nearby stream valleys from about 10 centuries ago until 1640 A.D. No-one knows exactly what happened to them after 1640, but they disappeared.

According to archaeologists they were not the Erie Indians who were wiped out by the Iroquois because the Erie Indians only lived along the Lake Erie shoreline as far west as Erie, Pennsylvania. Based on their artifacts, the Whittlesey culture did not have contact with Europeans. Disease played a factor in their demise and it

may have been a virus passed from those Native Americans who did have contact with Europeans, who unwittingly passed viruses to which the Whittlesey culture and other Native Americans had no immunity. Similar to our lack of immunity to COVID-19. ●



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAULA SHORE

This Leiter postcard shows an early view of the Old Red Brick School on Dover Center Road, which was constructed 10 years before the 1918 flu pandemic. The school was closed for two to three months during the pandemic. The building was torn down in 2010.



Lee Burneson Middle School now occupies the location where the Old Red Brick School used to sit.



# Holy Week and Easter Services

# HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

Join us in celebration of our risen Lord!

**Online Traditional Service**  
**Easter Sunday at 8:30am**

Stream live on Facebook or [www.stpaulwestlake.org](http://www.stpaulwestlake.org)



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**Worship services are currently canceled.**

During this challenging time, we have Jesus who suffered for us and suffers with us. In this time turn to Him ... our utmost source of grace and guidance.  
**May God bless you all.**

We will keep the congregation updated on what will happen in the future. Staff is still available so please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns. If you are in need of assistance, please call.



# Experience EASTER AT UNITY

**Palm Sunday, April 5 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Good Friday Experience, April 10**  
Stations of the Cosmic Christ - online all day

**Easter Sunday, April 12 - 11:00 a.m.**

All services are presently virtual.  
Go to [www.uscwestlake.org](http://www.uscwestlake.org) and click on the home page Easter banner.



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## CELEBRATE OUR RISEN LORD

**Good Friday, April 10:** Live Stream at 3:00 p.m.  
**Easter Scavenger Hunt, April 11:** Live Stream beginning at 10:00 a.m.  
**Easter Sunday, April 12:** Live Stream at 10:00 a.m.

**PARKSIDE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Live Streams available on:  
[www.facebook.com/parknaz/](https://www.facebook.com/parknaz/) and [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)  
(search Parkside Nazarene Church)



**Come and share in the joy of Easter!**

**Virtual services via Zoom (online or by phone) until further notice.**

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**Sundays including Easter:** 9:30 AM Sunday School, 10 AM Worship.

**Maundy Thursday service April 9, 6 PM**

**Good Friday service April 10, 6 PM**

Call or email the office for the Zoom password and more details. Check us out on Facebook for devotions, news, and inspiration.  
440.871.2276 • [info@bethesdaonthebay.org](mailto:info@bethesdaonthebay.org)



**Dover Congregational UCC & Westlake Christian Church**

Please join us at our Easter Sunday virtual service

**Easter Sunday - 10:00 a.m.**

**Livestreamed only on Facebook:**  
**Dover Congregational UCC**

2239 Dover Center Road, Westlake | 440-871-1050  
[www.doverucc.org](http://www.doverucc.org)  
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**Easter**

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Worship with us in this season of Social Distancing on [WestlakeUMC.org](http://WestlakeUMC.org) and on Facebook

**Holy Week Events**

**Maundy Thursday - April 9 at 7 pm**  
Online Taize Service

**Good Friday - April 10 at 7 pm**  
Online Tenebrae Service

**Easter Sunday Worship**  
April 12th  
**10 am Live Stream Worship**



SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

# A Bay Village timeline

by KAY LAUGHLIN

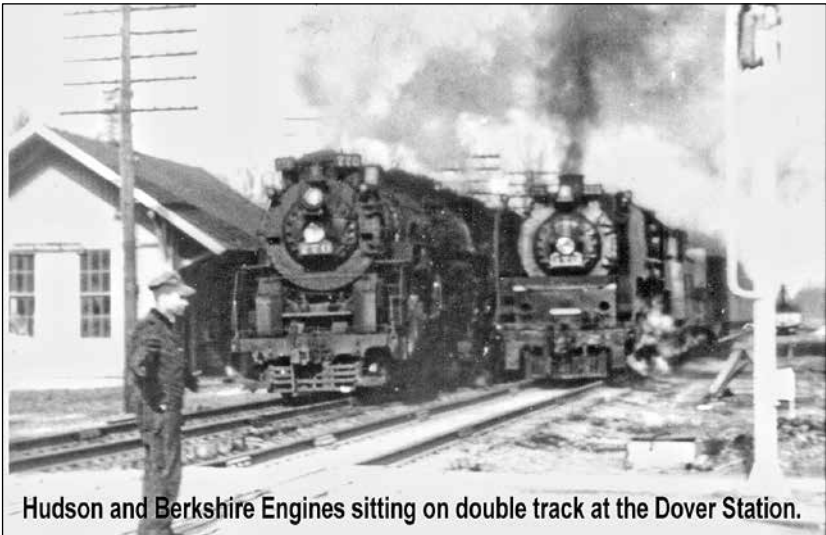
Back in 2010, when our town was celebrating its 200th birthday, I was asked to put together a timeline of the history of Bay Village. The events that brought us to where we are today. Each event in our history reflects a

change in the growth of our town. Which ones spurred us on to the next one worthy of being mentioned? Which ones were the most meaningful? What changes affected us the most? I started writing down my thoughts on this important topic.

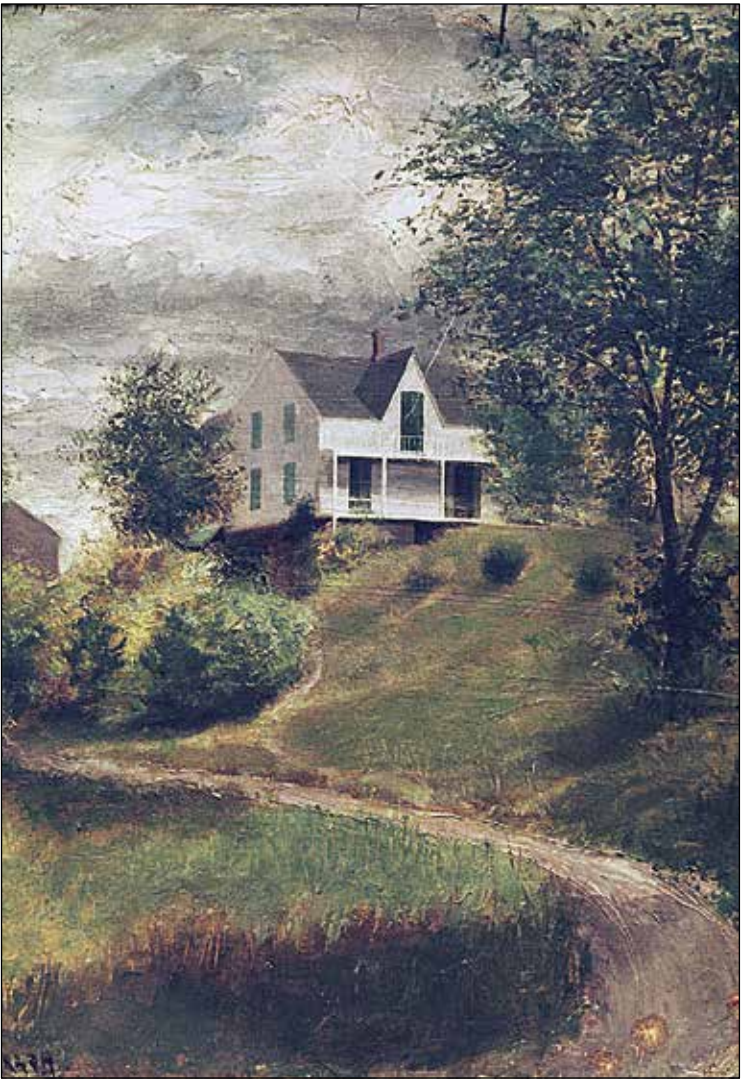
Here are some of the highlights.



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN: An 1842 map of the Western Reserve. Dover is shown in blue.



NEW YORK CENTRAL AND ST. LOUIS RAILROAD: The laying of the train tracks through the township and the train station were life altering and brought in a new era of advancement and prosperity. Citizens and products came and went on the train. The summer cottage industry grew and the look of North Dover as a sleepy farm community changed.




CAHOON HOME: On the morning of Oct. 10, 1810, the Cahoon family entered Dover Township. Later the same day, in the afternoon, the Porter family along with Reuben Osborn and Leverett Johnson entered the township. This painting shows the eventually constructed Cahoon home.



GERMAN FAMILIES: The German families that entered the township, including the Hagedorns pictured here, settled along Bassett, Bradley and Walker roads and changed the face of our town. They introduced the German culture, the grape industry and fruit orchards.

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