

Fall leaf collection begins



CITY OF WESTLAKE

The Westlake and Bay Village service departments will be collecting leaves from residential tree lawns through mid-December, weather permitting. Westlake collection began Oct. 19; Bay collection starts Oct. 26.

Residents can see when collection crews will be on their street by checking the location of leaf trucks on the city's websites, www.cityofwestlake.org or cityof-bayvillage.com, throughout the season.

In Westlake, there will be no more than two weeks between collections. However, poor weather conditions or heavy collection volume

may cause longer delays.

In Bay Village, the service department aims to provide weekly collection to residents. If crews are slowed by weather or heavy volume, crews will work longer hours and weekends.

Residents are reminded that only leaves will be collected; do not mix branches, grass cuttings or other debris with leaves. Place leaves on the tree lawn. Do not place leaves in the street! Keep catch basins, in front of house and in the street, clear of leaves and debris to reduce flooding during heavy rains.

Please do not park vehicles in front of leaf piles. ♦

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Superintendent grateful for support during pandemic

by JODIE HAUSMANN,
Bay Schools Superintendent

As the Bay Village City School District nears the end of the first quarter, I write to our community to convey my gratitude during this uncertain time. My family and I love living in Bay Village and we would not want to be anywhere else. What sets our community apart are our hometown values: family friends through generations; children riding bikes to school; meeting friends at

Friday night Rocket football games and supporting organizations like The Village Project, who heal through giving. The heart of our village touches so many lives.

When COVID-19 disrupted our world, I knew this would change our daily routines significantly. It was hard to imagine how to reopen schools while addressing difficult budget decisions; especially since we were required to refund monies to the state of Ohio due to state cuts.

► See SUPERINTENDENT page 2



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Chip Aschenbrener and his son, Cullen, stand among skeleton students in a Halloween-themed classroom on their lawn at Wolf and Bradley roads. The Bay Village family has done a different display every Halloween for years. Aschenbrener said his wife comes up with the ideas and he builds the displays that they feel are relevant to each year.

DIGGING DOVER - WESTLAKE

New homes to be built in antiquated subdivision

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

One definition of an antiquated subdivision is a subdivision that consists of building lots which do not meet current development standards. In 2017 it was estimated that Florida has 2.1 mil-

lion vacant lots in antiquated subdivisions. Westlake had at least 49 such vacant lots in one subdivision named Lagrange, southwest of Meadowood Golf Course, until the city's Planning Commission recently voted affirmatively to assemble four of the narrow 40-foot-wide sublots into

one nearly acre-sized lot, and five other 40-foot-wide lots into two nearly half-acre lots.

The developer is a master at finding bits and pieces of undeveloped, sometimes unusable land, and entering into purchase agreements with the current owners to make something useful out of them. One of the problems with antiquated subdivisions is that often the individual sublots are owned by many different individuals who are not interested in working together.

► See SUBDIVISION page 4

THE GREEN REPORT

Political Signs: What do we do with them after the election?

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

Driving around Bay Village and Westlake, I am heartened to see so many political signs as it indicates an enthusiasm and energy for participating in this November's General Election. Voter engagement is critical for our democracy and everyone should

take part in our civic duty.

After an election I am always concerned about what happens to those signs which are used for only a matter of weeks. I know plenty end up in the landfill after every election and throwing them in the trash is the last thing people should do. So, what can you do with them?

► See SIGNS page 4



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SUPERINTENDENT

from front page

But, our team – who consisted of Board of Education members, teacher leaders, parents and administrators – worked for months to create several iterations of what teaching and learning is today. As expected, we experienced moments of intense, productive struggle, but we leaned on one another to develop a comprehensive plan.

Some of our reopening plan's highlights are:

- provide two teaching and learning pathways: virtual (7%) or in-building (93%);
- implement new technologies that are innovative and inclusive;
- move furniture (six semi-trailers) to storage to accommodate six-foot social distancing;
- invest in smaller class sizes so students receive the attention they deserve by voluntarily transferring 12 teachers;
- teach eLearners and in-building students via new technology – equitable access is essential;
- ensure safety precautions by installing every possible barrier to the virus, from masks to plexiglass desk barriers, signage reminders to hand-sanitizing stations;
- design a COVID-19 coordinator position and hotline to support our families;
- and most importantly, deliver a high-quality learning experience for all students.

And through it all, we continue to be encouraged by the community's positive support. I am so proud of our faculty and staff for their amazing work ethic as evidenced by their commitment to our students, passion for serving others, learning new technology and dedication to excellence in all they do.

Of course, it would be disingenuous to not acknowledge that we receive criticism during this time of great change. The schools are still required to meet



Superintendent Jodie Hausmann

many legal requirements even under these conditions, and the purpose of some administrative protocols, like daily attendance, commitment to a learning track and safety measures may not always be evident, but they are necessary. While supporting our students, we also need to prioritize care for our teachers as they manage this challenge. Without them, there would be no school.

Bay Village is a beautiful lake community, but it is so much more than that. It is a mindset, a way of life in which trusting relationships celebrate our strengths, forgive our imperfections, and accept our diverse beliefs and backgrounds.

There are great difficulties due to the pandemic, but we are working diligently to manage them in good faith and with the most up-to-date medical knowledge. Our community's strength can be a challenge now because our many connections can put us in jeopardy of contracting the virus and bringing exposure to our schools. Encouraging "pods" within our village helps us to stay closely connected with a few, and virtually connected with more.

We do not know day to day what tomorrow will bring, but I know that we are successful because our child-centered community strives for a better tomorrow. Thank you, Bay Village, for believing in us, and helping us ensure our children continue to be successful. ●



BAY VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Bay Village Schools' layered mitigation process is part of its Safe Reopening Plan during the pandemic, as modeled by this Normandy Elementary School class.

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St. Paul Westlake celebrates Pastor Appreciation Month

by LINDA LUECKE POTTER

Churches across the nation have set aside the month of October to acknowledge the essential work of the pastor in the local congregation.

At St. Paul Westlake, “We Love Our Pastors” is the theme for the celebration that took place at weekend worship Oct. 17-18. While the usual cakes and cookies were not part of the event because of COVID safeguards, the 162-year-old Lutheran congregation on Detroit Road in Westlake showed their gratitude with cards, letters and gifts during the four services and drive-up communion.

Pastor Jeff Smith and his wife, Melissa, have served since 2015 when they arrived fresh from the seminary. They were joined this year by new Pastor Josh Gremminger and wife, Anna. The enthusiastic ministry of these young men has merged with the experience of veteran Pastor David Buegler

and his wife, Sue, to create a vibrant congregation serving 2,500 souls with good Biblical teaching, traditional and contemporary worship options and personal ministry to all generations.

The congregation also provides outstanding education to students in its preschool 3-year-old through eighth-grade program. Accredited by the National Lutheran Schools Association (NLSA), St. Paul Westlake School is consistently recognized by NLSA as an “exemplary” school – distinguishing it as one of the finest Lutheran schools in the country. Under the direction of Principal Jeremy Loudon, St. Paul supports almost 200 students in achieving spiritual growth and academic excellence.

At a time of isolation and division in our nation it is paramount to keep community and our pastors have gone the extra mile to keep us connected, purposeful and comforted. They are our essential workers!

If you are feeling the need for community, St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, located at 27993 Detroit Road is a great place to find yourself! For more information contact the church at 440 835-3050, livestream worship on Facebook at Stpaulwestlake or the church webpage, stpaulwestlake.org.



PHOTO BY LINDA POTTER

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Westlake.



PHOTO BY MEGAN BROZ

St. Paul Lutheran Pastors Jeff Smith, Dave Buegler and Josh Gremminger.

Bay Village Community Services can help families in need this holiday

by LESLIE SELIG

The COVID pandemic has changed our lives in so many ways, and with the holidays fast approaching, it is important to reach out to those in our community who are suffering from financial insecurity as a result of the pandemic.

If you are a Bay Village resident who is or was laid off from your job and needs help this holiday season, Bay Village Community Services can help by providing:

- Gift cards for groceries
- Gift cards to purchase gifts for family members
- Personal care and cleaning items

We also can provide up to \$250 to help with utility bills, medical bills, rent or mortgage through our Emergency Funds program.

For more information, contact Leslie Selig, director of Community Services, at 440-899-3409 or lselig@cityof-bayvillage.com.

Do **you** have a good news story? Become an Observer and share it with the Westlake/Bay Village community at: wbvobserver.com/members



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SUBDIVISION

from front page

This is what has stymied previous developers over the years who have tried to build out Lagrange Subdivision.

Like the millions of antiquated lots in Florida, the ones in Westlake are the result of the land boom that occurred in the United States in the 1910s and 1920s. It was platted in 1915 by the S.H. Kleinman Realty Co. The original plat included 50 approximately 40-foot-by-250-foot lots flanking a 45-foot-wide Carlton Avenue. What today we would call “bowling alley lots” (long and thin).

Carlton Avenue dead-ended into a 20-foot-wide Leroy Road. Lots of only 40 or 50 feet in width, were and are common in places that developed at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. In places like Lakewood they could be even narrower because this was a time when people took streetcars and cars were a newfangled invention. If there was a garage (or outhouse) it was detached and set back deep on the lot.



Carlton Avenue “paper street” looking east from Bradley Rd.

Today, a minimum lot in Westlake needs to be 100 feet wide and 20,000 square feet (nearly a half-acre) to accommodate the size of houses currently being built with an attached side loaded garage with a now-typical three car bays.

You may have never noticed Carlton “Avenue” because it is what is called a “paper” street. It was platted in 1915 on paper but it remains unpaved to this day with only some gravel covering buried utilities which were installed years ago to service adjacent subdivisions. It looks like a deserted country lane running east between 4209 and 4233 Bradley Road. It is south of

and opposite of Park Avenue and north of Mallard Cove.

The area around Bradley and Center Ridge roads was known as Puthville at one time. This is because there was a post office in the Puth General Store which was located on the southwest corner of this intersection. The 17.5 acres that the Lagrange Subdivision was platted on was owned by Joseph Puth until he sold it to the S.H. Kleinman Realty Company.

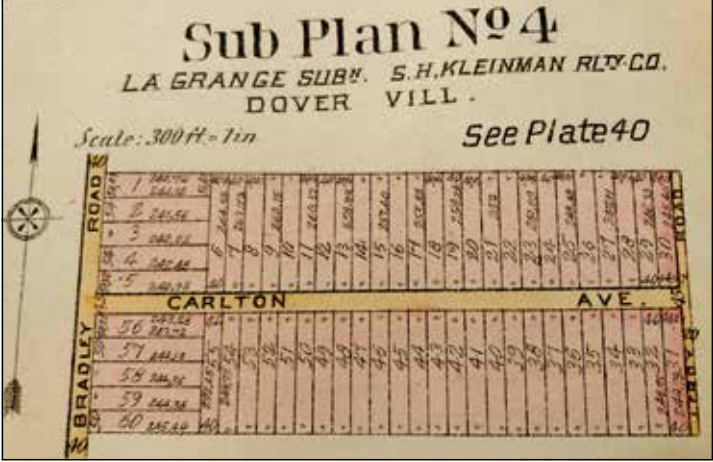
This company, founded by Samuel H. Kleinman, had well over 2,300 real estate transactions in Cuyahoga County, with the bulk of these occurring between 1924 and 1960. Most of his subdivisions were on the east side of Cleveland, or in Cleveland Heights and Lakewood. However, in Bay, he platted East Oviatt Road between Dover Center and Glen Park, Parkside and the east side of Kenilworth south off of Lake Road and 53 acres off of Butternut Ridge in North Olmsted, west of Stearns. The streets Elmhurst, Wellesley and Whitehaven in North Olmsted were part of this development.

At about the same time, he developed “Regal Park,”



PHOTOS BY WILL KRAUSE

One of Kleinman's Bay Village subdivisions with 50-foot-wide lots, north side of East Oviatt looking west.



Lagrange Subdivision in 1920 Hopkins Plat Book.

“Glenmore Gardens,” “Forest Lawn,” “Kenwood,” “Yorkshire Heights,” “Irvington” and “Pelham Manor.” All very British sounding names. Why he chose the French name “Lagrange” for this subdivision and French “Leroy” for one of the streets is unknown. Perhaps the township named LaGrange in adjacent Lorain County provide a clue? “Carlton” is a place name from England.

More than 65 years after the subdivision was platted, the city's Guide Plan called for Carlton Avenue and Leroy Road to eventually interconnect with subdivisions to the south and east to form a small network of streets. The access for these newly assembled lots on Carlton will be

from the east. If homes are built on these lots in 2021, it will be 106 years after the subdivision was platted!

Why wasn't Lagrange Subdivision ever built out? Even today this area is the most remote in Westlake. Unlike the Kleinman subdivisions in Bay Village and North Olmsted there was no adjacent access to an interurban railroad. A planned interurban along Center Ridge Road was never built. The fact that the lots were only 40 feet wide rather than 50 feet probably hindered construction on them later when automobiles became more prevalent. In addition, the proximity to “Puthville” may have been a hard sell. ●



A city planner's dream, fulfillment of the 1980 City Guide Plan. Looking south from Center Ridge at the west end of Greenview Parkway and the east end of Mallard Cove with the east end of Carlton Avenue in the background.

SIGNS

from front page

First and foremost, if the sign is for a local candidate, you should contact them to see if they are collecting their signs back. This is actually quite common with local candidates, and many want their signs back. If giving the sign back is not an option but you know the candidate will likely be up for re-election at some point, please consider storing it for use the next time around. If neither of those are options, the next “greenest” choice is to reuse or repurpose them.

Political signs can be surprisingly useful. Signs can be painted white over and over and reused for different reasons: you can paint “Happy Birthday” on it and use it for family and friends' birthdays or

use it to advertise a yard sale. One idea I read about was to paint them white, then have kids decorate them and stick them in the yard of a grandparent for a birthday or holiday. I also love the idea of using chalkboard paint instead of white paint so that you can use chalk and erase it to reuse over and over with different messages – which I bet would be a big hit with kids.

Another idea is to turn the sign into a box. There are several DIY instructions online that show you how to make them into sturdy storage boxes that can be used for years. The metal stakes can be reused to anchor holiday decorations or used in the garden for plants that require staking. The internet is full of creative, fun, and simple ideas about how you can repurpose your signs.

If you have decided that you have


no use for the signs at all, please recycle them rather than putting them into your trash. This year in Bay Village, the Service Department will be collecting them for recycling. This is a wonderful service that is being provided this year so please consider thanking Mayor Koomar and the Service Department.

The Service Department will collect the signs at the Service Garage at 31300 Naigle Road on Nov. 4, 5, and 6 between the hours of 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you are in Westlake, as of this writing, the city is considering offering a similar service. If you would like to see this service offered, please email Mayor Clough and let him know. The phone number for the Westlake Service Department is 440-835-6432 if you'd like to inquire first about if they have made a decision to

collect signs for recycling yet.

You may also drop your signs off for recycling directly at the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District located at 4730 East 131st Street in Garfield Heights Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. They have a drop box located in the lobby.

Lastly, please tell your neighbors, family, and friends about how to ensure our political seasons stay “green”! Please let them know their options, as the fewer signs that end up in the landfill, the better. As always, my goal is to provide you with simple steps you can take that may seem small but absolutely make a difference in the health of our environment! Each of us can make a difference with our individual actions. My final plea to you: Please VOTE! ●



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A positive path for spiritual living

Zoom with Westside Advanced Toastmasters

by MARILYN MONGEON QUILL

The officers of Westside Advanced Toastmasters invite you to visit the club on Zoom, where you can learn techniques to improve your speaking, leadership skills and confidence ... and, it's an opportunity to expand your social network during these challenging times.

"There's a genuine camaraderie among members to support each other's endeavor to become a better speaker and more authentic leader," says VP of Membership Anna Ho, a North Olmsted resident.

Rocky River resident and VP of Education Linda Harvey concurs. "A friendly face, an encouraging word, and guidance to improve my speaking and leadership skills – that's what this club means to me."

"Member goals can vary with the individual," says President Bob Churilla, a Bedford resident. "Westside Advanced Toastmasters has provided me with a supportive environment to hone my professional speaking career as well as helpful feedback on how to improve," says Churilla.

"When I first joined, I came to meet new Toastmasters and gain insight into new skills with advanced techniques to be a better storyteller," says Secretary Louise DeBell of Rocky River.

Treasurer Monica Reusser, a Westlake resident, has been a Toastmaster since 2010. "I was a little intimidated before joining, thinking I wasn't 'good

enough.' But I took the plunge and discovered it wasn't about me being good, it was about improvement and growth," says Reusser. "It's a great club! The members are goal-oriented and responsible."

Our normal gathering place is the beautiful Westlake Porter Public Library. Meeting on Zoom during the pandemic has added a new dimension and offers the opportunity to polish online speaking skills.

The club welcomes all visitors, even "newbies" who have never been to a Toastmasters meeting. "As an advanced club, you need to give at least six speeches in another Toastmasters club before you can officially join. That sometimes intimidates people," says Reusser, "but it's all about improvement and growth. There is a lot of leadership, speaking and evaluation experience in this club, and we all benefit and support each other."

Sergeant-at-Arms Rosita Turner is a Downtown Cleveland Quadrangle resident. "If you like challenge, Westside Advanced Club is for you!" says Turner. "Here, you will be with veteran Toastmasters who will bring out the best in you, make you quiver sometimes, but at the same time be your friend as long as you want! I did it – it's your turn!"

Affiliated with Toastmasters International, you can reach Westside Advanced Toastmasters at westside-advanced.toastmastersclubs.org or email VP of Membership Anna Ho at vpm-7262@toastmastersclubs.org. ●

Cub Scout virtual open house Oct. 23

by RANDY RISCH

Families of boys and girls, grades K-5, are invited to attend a Virtual Open House hosted by Bay Village Cub Scout units! Register to attend an online presentation of the Cub Scouting program in Bay Vil-

lage on Friday, Oct. 23, 6:30 to 8 p.m.. Local units will provide information on their activities and meeting schedules. Learn more about the program at lecbsa.org/join-scouting. Access to the online meeting will be provided to all who register at this link: tinyurl.com/BVCubs2020. ●

Halloween parade of cars coming to Westlake Community Center

by ROBERT ROZBORIL

Older adults are invited to celebrate Halloween "2020-style" on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 10:30 a.m. (weather permitting) at the Westlake Community Services Center! The facility will open its parking lot to local trick-or-treaters who will be able to gather treats from the safety of their vehicles.

This "Halloween Parade of Cars" is just the latest in what has become a long list of drive-in events hosted at the

Community Services Center since June.

The parade will feature several stops for special treats along the way. The cost of admission is simply a family-sized cereal box for the city's Food Pantry.

Everyone is encouraged to dress up in some way and decorate their car to get in the Halloween spirit. Call 440-899-3544 to reserve a spot by no later than Thursday, Oct. 22 (limit of 28). The Westlake Community Services Center is located at 29694 Center Ridge Road. ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

COVID-19 virus does not want to kill me

by DIANA PI, M.D.

Note to COVID-19 virus: It does you no good to kill your host – me. I die: you die.

So encountering the same virus, why do some people experience minimal symptoms while others end up on ventilators? The toll of an infection depends not only on the type of virus but also our immune response to it.

Let's watch a movie: "Alien 5: Invasion of SARS-CoV-2."

An innocent breath: Viruses land on airway cells via moist microscopic droplets. They enter the cells. Hypnotized by viral gene coding, the host cells mass-produce more viruses. Straight out of "Alien."

Noting fishy business on the surface of infected cells, frontline defense cells are alerted. They recruit specialized cells. Some kill infected airway cells directly while others produce target-specific weapons – antibodies – which can neutralize the viruses directly or label them to be swallowed by other giant defense cells.

A movie of our immune system fighting alien life forms is slicker and smarter than "Alien." But in real life, all this fighting, killing and neutralizing creates a milieu of inflammation. Before our own tissues are unnecessarily and irreparably damaged in the crossfire, our body produces anti-inflammatory chemicals to rein in the hot-shot defense cells. The balance is exquisite and well-done, most times.

When the balance is off, in certain advanced stages of the infection, steroids,

potent anti-inflammatory drugs, might tip the scale.

These steroids are different from the muscle-building sex steroids. You most likely have taken them this summer, for a poison ivy rash or eczema. They're used in many autoimmune diseases and cancer treatments. Most asthmatics have been on a steroid inhaler or pill.

But the side effects of steroids are as numerous as their benefits. Given for the wrong infection or at the wrong time, they can worsen the original infection or predispose us to new ones.

For example, studies showed steroids might modestly improve COVID-19 infection, but they can make flu worse.

The first time I went on high-dose steroids for asthma, I took the first dose on Friday. On Saturday, I woke up with, according to my husband, a "crazed" look in my eyes. I declared I wanted to clean the house and laid out an impossible plan.

He mumbled something about a birthday party and disappeared with the children.

And clean I did: I swept and mopped the floors, vacuumed and SteamVac'ed the whole house, scrubbed the toilets, stripped the beds, did dishes between laundry.

Late afternoon, I called him to get the "grass machine" started. He popped his head in: Inside, the house smelled like spilled detergent; the poor dog was curled in a corner, trying to stay out of my way. Puff, he disappeared again, and didn't come home until I don't know when.

Later, I figured I had steroid-induced mania – such energy and impulsiveness. When I heard President Trump tweeted 120 times in three days while on steroids for COVID-19, I had to laugh.

Even now, I remember vividly the day when the army of me, myself and I mowed, scrubbed, rinsed – and puzzled: Well, this is *not* normal. And just couldn't figure out why.

Now I do. My house never looked that clean again. ●

Halloween thrills and chills for a good cause

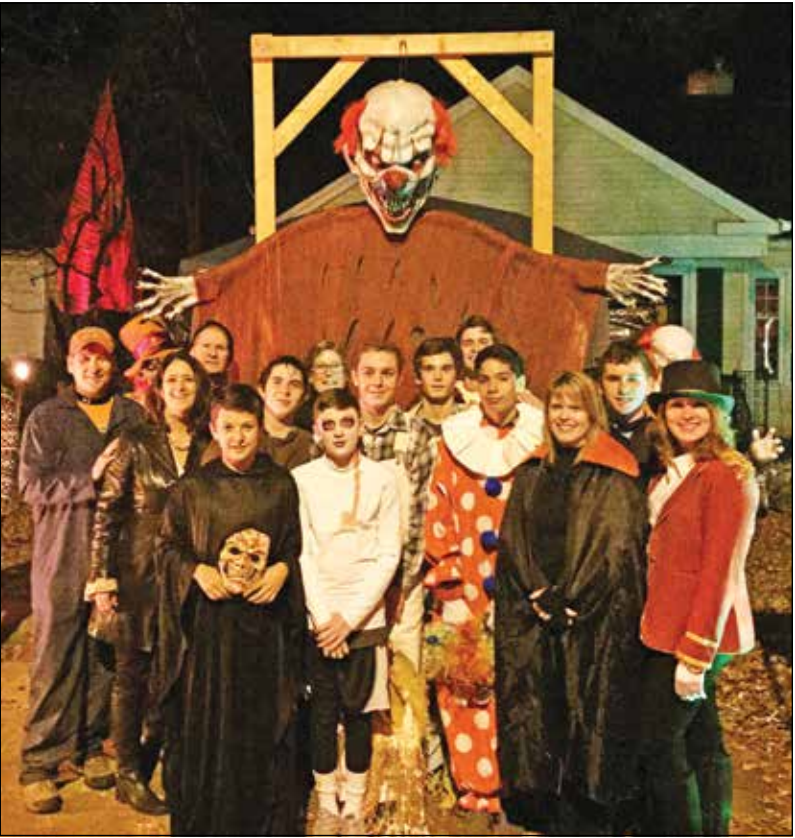
by RICHARD ARONSON

The 15th Annual Garage of Doom UNICEF fundraiser will be once again scaring trick-or-treaters this year on Halloween night! Located at 28002 West Oakland Road in Bay Village, the attraction will be open from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The Garage of Doom, staffed by an all-volunteer crew of high school students, is not recommended for children under the age of 10.

There is no admission fee, but

donations will be accepted. Over the past 15 years, the Garage of Doom has raised more than \$3,500 for UNICEF.

We're committed to holding our event safely and cautiously with respect towards current government COVID-19 guidelines. In addition to holding the entire attraction outside this year, patrons and volunteers will be required to wear safety masks at all times. Safe social distancing will be maintained in the line and throughout the attraction. For more info call 440-554-6234. ●



The all-volunteer crew of The Garage of Doom.

NATURE & ENVIRONMENT

Help birds while you drink coffee

by AMANDA SEBROSKY

Birds connect us to people in distant lands. The migratory birds that arrive every spring in the United States are the same birds that you would see in South America during our winter. We could talk to a farmer in Nicaragua about the rose-breasted grosbeak and he would see in his mind's-eye what we see. The sorrow we feel as the bird populations dwindle here is the same sorrow felt by birders in South America as losses of forests in Central and South America mirror the habitat loss in the U.S.

It's easy to feel helpless but here is something that you can do to help – and it's as simple as pouring yourself a cup-a-joe and kicking back to watch the birds.

The cheap, sun-grown coffee we buy in the stores ultimately has a very high price. Because farmers can produce sun-grown coffee at a much higher



Shade-grown coffee trees in bloom.

density than shade-grown coffee, vast tracts of forest, particularly rainforests, are clear cut, decreasing habitat for native plants and animals as well as altering the ecosystem locally AND

globally. Then, because birds and other insect-eating creatures no longer have the food source provided by the forests, farmers must use pesticides, i.e. poisons, on the plants to increase production. The world over, pesticides enter the water, air and soil and, ultimately, you and me as they circulate around the globe in the ocean and air currents.

The answer to the problems associated with our morning wake-up elixir is coffee certified as "bird friendly" by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. This designation ensures that the coffee farms raise the coffee organically so the soil is healthy and pesticide free. The designation also requires that the farms have a variety of native shade trees throughout the coffee plantation, providing habitat for dozens of species of migratory birds as well as soil stabilization.

Bird-friendly coffee fetches premium prices which provide a higher standard of living for the farm families;

this income contributes to an improved local economy as more products and services are purchased by the coffee farmers. But the benefits don't stop there! These farms also provide firewood, building materials, fruit and vegetables, medicinal and ritual plants, and other crops that maintain and sustain the whole communities throughout the year adding to the economic stability of the farmers and their community.

As you can see, by drinking Smithsonian certified bird-friendly coffee, you contribute to raising people out of poverty, a healthier global environment and a healthier you.

Birds And Beans Coffee is the only coffee brand in the USA that is 100% certified shade-grown, Smithsonian Bird Friendly, USDA Organic and Fair Trade. Prices vary by roast starting at about \$13.25 for 12 oz up to their best value of \$52 per five pounds. You can order bird friendly coffee from birdsandbeans.com and, if you order between Oct. 26 and Nov. 1, you can get free shipping by using the code "FREEOCT". This benefits you and Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society, which gets a small donation from the company for each order. ●

Questions about voting by mail? Here are some answers

by CONDA BOYD

Did you request a mail-in ballot and are wondering where it is? Track My Ballot has answers!

- Go to boe.cuyahogacounty.gov. In the upper left corner, click on Track My Ballot.
- Enter your last name and birth date, and click Search.
- Select your record and choose the November 3, 2020, election.
- If you requested a mail-in ballot, you will see the date your application was processed, the date by which it will be placed in the mail, and (if you have returned it) the date it was received by the Board of Elections.

Alternatively, call 216-443-VOTE (8683), select option 4, and follow the prompts.

Should you trust the Post Office to deliver your ballot?

Yes – but mail it early, on the off chance the postmark is unclear or absent. Ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 2 and received by Nov. 13.

Can you deliver it yourself?

Yes. You can deliver your ballot any day, any time to the Board of Elections (BOE), 2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. The drop boxes are off East 30th Street, with clear signage and 24x7 security. You can stay in your car. If it's busy, an election official may offer to take your ballot; just verify they have proper ID. Only you or a close family member may deliver your ballot, so if friends ask you to deliver theirs, take

them along.

What if you forget to affix \$0.70 postage?

Per Post Office policy, your ballot will be returned to the sender – the BOE – but it may be delayed or not properly postmarked. Check it twice, and mail it early.

Will your ballot count?

Upon receipt, the BOE will open the outer envelope and verify your information and signature on the inner security envelope. If there is a problem and you provided contact information, they will attempt to contact you. If there's no problem, they will open the inner envelope and scan your ballot. Within a few days, Track My Ballot will reflect that it has been received. On Election Night, mail-in ballots will be tabulated before any other ballots are counted.

Can you cancel your write-in ballot and vote in person?

The most straightforward option is to take your mail-in ballot to the BOE and vote early, in person. If you vote on Election Day, either at the BOE or your regular polling place, you will be given a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots are counted only after the BOE has verified no mail-in ballot was received – that is, after Nov. 13.

Questions?

Check the Board of Elections' website, boe.cuyahogacounty.gov, or call 216-443-VOTE (8683). Ohio has a long history of mail-in voting and excellent safeguards against errors and fraud. Rest assured that your mail-in vote is as safe and as sure as your vote at the polls. ●

Westlake City Council Notes

by DIANA PI

Notes from the Westlake City Council meeting, Oct. 15, 2020:

Salary Freezes for City Leadership:

In solidarity with those in hardship due to Covid-19, the Westlake City Council unanimously approved salary freezes: a 5-year freeze for the Council's members, a 2-year freeze for the mayor, and a 2-year freeze for the law director's base compensation.

Council members will receive a 2% increase in salary in 2021, then the freeze goes into effect; there is no corresponding salary increase for the mayor or the law director.

Halloween:

Trick-or-treating in Westlake will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8 pm. Westlake will follow the Ohio Department of Health's safety recommendations for celebrating Halloween. They can be found on the city's website at: bit.ly/344PK1S. ●

Kiwanis offers take-out spaghetti dinner

by WARREN REMEIN

The Kiwanis Club of Bay Village invites you to our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 7, between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. This will be a take-out only event. We will again feature Tony Dostal's award winning signature sauce.

Take home a spaghetti dinner for \$10 including salad, roll and sweet. Also available is sauce in quarts for \$10 each and 50/50 raffle tickets. Order online at bay-village-kiwanis-club.square.site and drive

thru at Village Project, 27378 W. Oviatt Road. Walk-ups are also welcome.

Please tell your friends and family, we need your support. We all hope we can soon rub elbows and socialize in person. Until then your participation will help us continue scholarships, youth leadership clubs, murals at BAY-arts, Thirst project for clean water, free neonatal tetanus vaccines and many more means to support kids in our communities. Our youth are the future. ●



ELECT Monique SMITH
State Representative
House District 16
www.MoniqueSmith.com
PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF MONIQUE SMITH



I will work for you.

Re-Elect Dave Greenspan

Paid for by Friends of Dave Greenspan

State Representative - District 16

Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) Meeting, Oct. 14, 2020

by LWV observer SUSAN MURNANE

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

Present: Mayors Koomar (Bay Village), Cooney (Fairview Park), George (Lakewood), Kennedy (North Olmsted), Bobst (Rocky River), Clough (Westlake); WCOG Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney.

Guests: RTA General Manager and CEO India Birdsong.

The meeting was held at Bay Village Police Station Community Room, Mayor Koomar presiding. It was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Clough introduced RTA's new General Manager and CEO, India Birdsong. Birdsong's background is in planning. She is adopting innovation and technology and has been successful in retaining employees over the Covid crisis. She is bringing in new staff, including a search for a new chief of police and creation of a new department for diversity and community inclusion. The 10-year strategic plan is in final draft and currently seeking public comment. Simul-

taneously, the RTA is working on service redesign which had been delayed by Covid. Currently, ridership is only about 55% of pre-Covid ridership. In the height of the crisis it was at about 30%. 93-95% of the RTA system is now in service.

RTA is planning to replace rail cars, a \$300 million project, with heavy rail first. The cars are on average 31 years old, the oldest in the industry, and each car costs \$4.5 million on average. \$132 million first phase financing will come out of the RTA budget and CARES Act grants. RTA will not have to ask for additional financing until 2022.

Some discussion occurred about the possibility of using local freight tracks for commuter rail service. It has been discussed at NOACA and there is a lot of interest but it is not currently feasible because of the cost. Maybe someday.

COMMISSION REPORTS

NOACA: NOACA is accepting applications from communities and public agencies for its Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative Planning Studies Program. More information can be found at noaca.org (under Community Assistance Center). Mayor Bobst also reminded the mayors that NOACA is still seeking public comment on a number of

issues. More information can be found at: noaca.org/about/contact-us/public-comment.

Land Bank: Mayor George will be appointed to the Land Bank.

County Planning Commission: Mayor Bobst announced that they have a short list of three excellent candidates for the position of executive director.

Planning Commission wants to be more active with NOACA and RTA. It does an incredible amount of work that could help inform decisions. For example, its Data Book series includes necessary information on local communities and lists sources to facilitate deeper inquiry; there is a Special Improvement District Guidebook that shows how to form SIDs by criteria like a lakefront access plan. NOACA works with SmithGroup JJR which also designed Bay Village's lakefront plan.

Cuyahoga County Mayors and Managers Association: Mayor Bobst announced that a subgroup is analyzing financial pressures on communities, such as changes in RITA allocations caused by employees working from home. She will get that information to WCOG.

Mayor Bobst also recommended the procedural justice seminar developed for all police officers available by Tri-C's Public Safety Training Center.

OLD BUSINESS

An update on the court expenses discussed at the September meeting was requested by early November.

MORE NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Koomar requested that WCOG re-consider mutual aid agreements involving watercraft rescues. Increased lakeshore recreation involving paddleboards and such and increased lake use in general have resulted in increased calls for water rescues. Some municipalities' safety forces including Bay have only inflatable Kodiak watercraft which may be unsafe when small craft warnings are in effect. Other municipalities have more equipment but lack trained staff. Mayor Koomar suggested a discussion on sharing larger, safer watercraft and personnel in a mutual aid agreement involving water rescues. This discussion was deferred until the November meeting because Mayor Bobst had to leave the meeting early.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15 a.m.

The next WCOG meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 2:00 p.m. in the Bay Village Police Station Community Room. All meetings are open to the public. ●

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

'Sukkah on wheels' brings holiday joy to Westsiders

by RABBI MENDEL JACOBS

With Covid-19 restrictions keeping many people at their homes, Chabad of the West Side found creative solutions to include as many locals as possible during this year's Jewish holiday season.

Sukkot, a sacred, week-long holiday celebrated outdoors inside man-made huts called "sukkahs," was celebrated this year at the beginning of October, with a pickup truck "Sukkah-mobile" trekking across the whole West Side.

This holiday is really all about

inclusion; because we're all created from the same creator, and everyone deserves a chance to celebrate – even in the current circumstances.

West Side families and individuals were invited on the Sukkah mobile to partake in traditional Jewish holiday customs. It was fun for the children and especially meaningful for the elderly; many of whom have not ventured out of their homes in the past few months.

In all, more than 100 westsiders were able to join in the celebration, from Lakewood in the east to Amherst in the west, to Medina in the south! ●



The traveling "Sukkah-mobile" was visited by more than 100 westsiders.

Holiday Caring & Sharing Program is seeking donations

by LESLIE SELIG

The Holiday Caring & Sharing Program, a Bay Village tradition for more than 10 years, is seeking donations to benefit the community in the coming year. There are two ways to contribute to this program:

- Cash donations for emergency funds for residents in financial need. The City will pay up to \$250 to a resident in financial crisis for:
 - Utility bills
 - Rent/mortgage
 - Medical expenses
- Gift cards for groceries, gas, drug stores or Target/Walmart/Amazon are also appreciated

Donations may be dropped off or mailed to the Bay Village Senior Center, 300 Bryson Lane. Holiday Caring & Sharing is sponsored by the Bay Village Department of Community Services. ●

10 WHS students recognized in National Merit program

The Westlake City School District announced that 10 students at Westlake High School have been recognized in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program, an annual academic competition for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships.

Luke Heberle, Rahul Jain, Colt Rujawitz, Macy Sinreich and Kevin Xu have been named as Semifinalists. Evan Cowin, Abigail E. Dumm, Arya S. Parikh, Hannah C. Powers and Sagan D. Woolner were recognized as Commended Students. The students were identified as Commended or Semifinalists based on their Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) scores.

Of the 1.5 million students who took the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT, only 16,000 earned Semifinalist status, putting the five Westlake students in the top 1% of students nationwide. Heberle, Jain, Rujawitz, Sinreich and Xu must submit an application to be named a finalist and continue on in the National Merit Scholarship competition. About 15,000 semifinalists are expected to advance to the finalist level, and more than half of those finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

"To have 10 students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation is awesome, and all of these students truly deserve to be commended for their academic achievements," said Westlake

High School Principal Paul Wilson. "They have worked very hard and have been dedicated to their studies so they all deserve to be recognized. Congratulations to each of them on this tremendous honor!"

Students who achieve finalist status will compete for more than \$31 million in scholarship awards. This year, there are three types of National Merit Scholarships that will be awarded. They include 2,500 National Merit Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis, about 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards, and around 4,100 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

"I would like to express my sincere

congratulations to all 10 Westlake High School students," said Superintendent Dr. Scott Goggin. "They should all be very proud of their accomplishments; I know I am! To the five who will be competing further, we all wish you the best. You deserve to be recognized for your effort, perseverance and determination to succeed in your academic journey!"

The 2021 National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. ●

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

‘Homeless Jesus’ draws attention in Bay Village



A sculpture of “Homeless Jesus” outside St. Barnabas Episcopal Church.

by ALEXANDER MARTIN, Priest-in-Charge at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

Through a collaboration with the Community West Foundation, a statue of “Homeless Jesus” was temporarily installed at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church adjacent to the walking path at Bradley Road Park in Bay Village.

The sculpture, created by Timothy Schmalz, depicts a man wrapped in a blanket and lying on a bench. Feet, protruding from beneath the blanket, bear the wounds of crucifixion. The work is a visual representation of Matthew 25:40, the verse quoted at the base of the sculpture: “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Homeless Jesus is currently on loan from the Community West Foundation – the largest provider of homeless services in Cuyahoga County – and will be installed at St. Barnabas until Dec. 1.

While homelessness is not a serious issue in Bay Village itself, we don’t have to drive far to find people living on the streets. It is my hope that the art installation will serve as a catalyst for conversation and an inspiration to serve those in need. In the Christian tradition, we believe that all people are created in the image of God – a belief reinforced by Matthew 25:40. Perhaps this sculpture will serve as a reminder of the sacred worth of all people, even those often discarded by society.

The installation is obviously meant to garner attention and spark conversation. However, it

has attracted far more media attention than the parish leadership ever anticipated. Much of the media focus has been on the fact that police were dispatched to the sculpture almost immediately after its arrival. This is apparently a common issue with various Homeless Jesus installations around the U.S. and Canada.

The caller surely contacted the police out of genuine concern and the responding officer was excellent: he was extremely professional and interested in learning more about the sculpture and its intended message. We have nothing but gratitude and respect for the Bay Village Police Department.

This reaction to the sculpture speaks to its power as public art. Seeing someone sleeping on a bench in our neighborhood is, without a doubt, jarring. Responses to Homeless Jesus will vary and we are pleased that the sculpture is sparking conversation about how we can best serve those in need.

Maybe seeing the Homeless Jesus will be a reminder that all people are beloved children of God. Maybe it will help us be a bit kinder and gentler with one another, less eager to pass judgment on others.

St. Barnabas is using this as an opportunity to raise funds to directly help our neighbors in need. Anyone interested in contributing may use this link: www.myegiving.com/App/Giving/stbarnabasbv. Select “Homeless Jesus” and every penny raised will be used to feed, clothe, and house those in need in Greater Cleveland. ●



Carol Maat of Westlake captured this beautiful mid-October scene in Bradley Nature Park.

Tip to Reduce

Consider what will happen to an item once you’re done with it. Reduce waste by avoiding single-use items like straws, plastic cups and utensils.

Recycle Better, Recycle Right

in Cuyahoga County, include only these items:



CANS
Empty and Rinse.



CARTONS
Empty and Rinse.
Replace Cap.



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS
Empty and Rinse.



PAPER & BOXES
Flatten Cardboard.



PLASTIC BOTTLES & JUGS
Empty and Rinse.
Replace Cap.



CuyahogaRecycles.org
CUYAHOGA COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Westlake Mayor and City Council publish materials on 2020 ballot issues

by ROBERT ROZBORIL

Among the issues Westlake voters will be asked to vote on in November 2020 are 11 proposed amend-

ments to the Westlake City Charter, including a 0.9 mill Police and Fire Levy.

Mayor Dennis M. Clough and City Council have distributed informa-

tional materials to voters about changes proposed by each of these issues, including ballot language and explanations of actions taken with regard to each

proposed amendment.

All of this information is available on the city's website: www.cityofwestlake.org/834/2020-Ballot-Issues. ●

Westlake Porter Public Library Upcoming October events

by ELAINE WILLIS

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's late October 2020 calendar of events. All programs are subject to change. Please check westlakelibrary.org or follow the library on Facebook and Twitter (@WestlakePorter) for the latest updates.

Tuesday, Oct. 20 (7-8 p.m.) **Currently Reading (Live)** – Bring a book to rave about or find your next favorite! An open discussion for Teens in grades 7-12 who love to read. Please register. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions, which will be sent the day of the program.

Tuesday, Oct. 20 (7-10 p.m.) **Moonlight Lantern Festival** – Drive by Westlake Porter Public Library this evening to experience the Moonlight Lantern Festival!

Wednesday, Oct. 21 (All Day) **Spooky Sounds Contest** – Do you have what it takes to send shivers down our spines? Submit your spooky sound creation by Oct. 26 for a chance at a Halloween grand prize! Grades 4-12. Visit westlakelibrary.org/events for rules, the submission form, and resources.

Wednesday, Oct. 21 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Academic Search Premiere/CRAAP Resource Share (Live)** – These two databases are excellent research companions for your teen or college-age student. Join us on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube to find out about them.

Wednesday, Oct. 21 (7-8 p.m.) **Vampires: A Bloody History (Live)** – Join us on Zoom for a spine-chilling talk on vampires with local author, actor and scholar Mark Dawidziak! Dawidziak is the author of vampire-centric books, including “The Nightstalker Companion.” He also teaches “Vampires on Film and Television” at Kent State University. Please register. Participants must provide an email to receive Zoom instructions for joining the meeting.

Thursdays, Oct. 22 and 29 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Storytime (Live)** – Tune in to Facebook, Twitter or YouTube and join the fun as we livestream a storytime!

Thursdays, Oct. 22 and 29 (3:30-4:30 p.m.) **WPPL Roblox Club** – Love Roblox? Then WPPL has a club for you! We have some private servers set up for Tweens in grades 4-6 to hang out with their friends and enjoy some of the most popular games via Zoom. Please register.

Friday, Oct. 23 (11-11:30 a.m.) **LGBTQ History Month Storytime (Live)** – Join us on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube as we share inclusive titles celebrating LGBTQ History Month.

Friday, Oct. 23 and Thursday, Oct. 29 (4-5 p.m.) **Westlake Art Reflection: Creation Session (Live)** – Work on your Reflections Arts Competition piece together during these calming Zoom creation sessions. Please register. Participants must provide an email

address to receive Zoom Instructions. You will also need to pick up supplies starting Oct. 16.

Saturday, Oct. 24 (11-11:40 a.m.) **Mystery STEAM Bag Challenge (Live)** – Join us on Zoom to share your Mystery STEAM Bag design! If you're interested in participating you must register to pick up your supplies bag which will register you to attend the Zoom program. Grades 1-2.

Sunday, Oct. 25 (2-2:30 p.m.) **American Girl Doll Club: Fall Fun! (Live)** – Join us on Zoom for this fun fall program. Ages 6-10. Supply kit for the program must be picked up starting Oct. 18. Please register. Registering for the kit also registers you for the Zoom program.

Monday, Oct. 26 (All Day) **Halloween Craft Pick Up** – Stop by Youth Services to pick up your Halloween Craft kit while supplies last. For kids through Grade 12. Call if you wish to pick it up at the Drive-Up Window.

Monday, Oct. 26 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Mix-It-Up (Live)** – Let's mix it up with some fun fall activities and crafts you can make at home! Ages 4-6. Program will be presented on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Tuesday, Oct. 27 (All Day) **Kinder Club** – Pick up your Kinder Club packet at the Youth Services Desk on or after Oct. 27! Each bag will contain 4 alphabet letter activities that will be featured weekly on our Kinder Club blog. Ages 4-6 While supplies last.

Tuesday, Oct. 27 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Library at 11 (Live)** – Join us on social media to see what family-friendly video we have in store for you today!

Tuesday, Oct. 27 (7-8:15 p.m.) **Horror Has Always Been Queer: The LGBTQ+ Roots of Horror's Foundation (Live)** – Join us on Zoom as filmmaker and prolific horror analyst and theorist BJ Colangelo dives into the rainbow roots of horror films. Colangelo's film criticism and analyses have been featured in various publications, including Bloody Disgusting, Cleveland Scene and Medium. She has also been a panelist and speaker at San Diego Comic Con and Flaming River Con. This program will be hosted on Zoom; please register to receive a ticket to the online event.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 (11-11:30 a.m.) **LGBTQ Film History: Part III (Live)** – Join us on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube for part 2 of our series on the history of LGBTQ inclusion in film.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 (4-5 p.m.) **Teen Writers Group (Live)** – A bi-weekly meet-up for writers in grades 7-12. In this workshop, we'll be prepping for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) in November. Please register. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions, which will be sent the

day of the program.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 (6:30-7 p.m.) **Family Storytime (Live)** – Join us on Zoom for an interactive storytime featuring books, rhymes, songs and movement. For families with children up to 2-6, siblings welcome. Registration begins Oct. 21. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions on the day of the program.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 (7-8 p.m.) **Things That Go Bump in the Night (Live)** – Join us on Zoom for an evening of scary stories! Get into the Halloween spirit with some classic chillers (and

some laughs, too)! Presented by Sara Showman of the Largely Literary Theater Company. Please register. Participants must provide an email to receive Zoom instructions for joining the event.

Friday, Oct. 30 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Yoga with Miss Jen (Live)** – Calm your body, mind and spirit in this live Zoom yoga class taught by Ms. Jen, certified yoga instructor. Recommended for kids and their families. Please register. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions..

To register for any of the programs, visit westlakelibrary.org/events. ●

Porter Library adds a shredding day due to demand

by ELAINE WILLIS

Westlake Porter Public Library has scheduled an additional Shredding Day event due to popular demand. The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. or until the 5.5 ton shredding truck is full.

Visitors are limited to two boxes per


vehicle and should stay in their cars as a COVID-era precaution. Large boxes or bags will not be accepted. While the truck scheduled is larger than the truck used during the Customer Appreciation Week shredding event, participants should still be prepared for heavy traffic.

The Westlake Kiwanis Club and the Westlake Police Auxiliary are assisting with the event. ●

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WESTLAKE



Porter Public Library

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Bay Village Schools brings in experts to ‘Respond to COVID-19’ in virtual town hall event

by KAREN UTHE SEMANCIK

About 130 Bay Village residents attended a virtual town hall – “Responding to COVID-19” – on Oct. 15, to learn how Bay Village Schools is responding to the virus since implementing its Safe Reopening Plan. The webinar event was hosted by Bay Village City School District, with expert panelists from Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH), MetroHealth, Recovery Resources and the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio (ESCNEO).

The virtual town hall was broken down into three sections: health symptoms and processes, mental health symptoms and school district-specific questions. Town hall guests submitted questions when they registered, or asked them through a live chat session during the webinar.

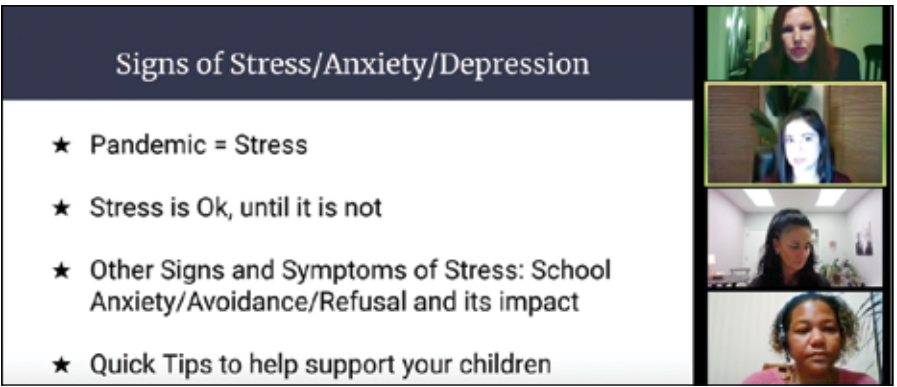
First up was the environmental public health team from CCBH, with Debbie Busdiecker, supervisor of the board of health’s prevention and wellness program, answering audience questions. Topics ranged from testing children for the virus (more tests are now being offered to those 2 years of age and up), to the difference between flu and COVID-19 symptoms (a key difference is the loss of taste and smell in COVID-19, but getting tested is the only real way to know since symptoms are similar), to explaining quarantine vs. isolation (quarantine separates those who may have been exposed to the virus, while people

in isolation are ill, whether they’re showing symptoms or are asymptomatic).

Bay Village Schools’ own Dr. Holly Schafer, director of human resources, and Dr. Michele Moore, the district’s COVID-19 coordinator, rounded out the health symptoms and processes section, sharing information on the district’s reporting protocol, student daily health check and rings of exposure video. The duo shared that a new daily health check app would be rolled out in the near future, and answered parent Jennifer Andrews’ question that, yes, all students should submit a health check whether they are in eLearning (7%) or In-building (93%) mode.

Questions then moved to the mental health panelists, with Mary Wise, student wellness coordinator at ESCNEO sharing that the virus may be causing students to experience school- and social-related anxiety. Wise said Bay Village Schools has partnered with many organizations to ensure students have mental and emotional support, and parents should reach out to school counselors and psychologists for more information. MetroHealth’s Dr. Lisa Ramirez, director of community and behavioral health for the hospital system, said middle school students are at extra risk for mental health concerns during COVID-19.

Ayme McCain, associate director of prevention services at Recovery Resources, offered tips on how to support children during the pandemic, including keeping routines in place to main-



A screen shot of the virtual town hall showing the discussion of student stress and anxiety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

tain a sense of normalcy. McCain also suggested trying a new family activity, limiting students’ consumption of news, staying in touch virtually (being separated doesn’t mean you have to be isolated, so try a virtual family movie night in separate homes), and check in with your children and ask how they’re feeling. Parents should manage their own anxiety and model the behavior they want their children to honor.

The town hall concluded with a section on district-specific information. Superintendent Jodie Hausmann shared the district’s revised data dashboard, which includes district, city and county information. Hausmann also answered parent Kristina Dreslinks’s question if the district would be switching to eLearning now that Cuyahoga County has moved into red alert for the first time since the district has been In-building mode. Hausmann said she and her team are closely monitoring

the data in case the district needs to pivot to eLearning, but for now will remain In-building.

Speaking of eLearning, the district’s Director of Teaching and Learning Char Shryock talked about the district’s streaming instruction model and the new equipment being used to assist students and teachers. Bay Teachers Association President and Bay Middle School teacher Lauren Stanislav shared what a typical day is like for students and teachers. Bay Village Schools’ Assistant Superintendent for Special Services Marty Patton discussed the district’s mask policy and special education services, and said the district is planning future town hall events that will be made available to the community.

The town hall ended with Hausmann and other district panelists discussing the district’s multi-layered safety mitigation process that’s in place in all district buildings, including photos. ●

Bay Village Board of Education seeks applicants for open seat

by KAREN UTHE SEMANCIK

The Bay Village Board of Education seeks applicants to fill the unexpired term of Board member Dr. Gayatry Jacob-Mosier, who resigned Oct. 13.

The Board is accepting applications through Tuesday, Oct. 27, for the open Board seat. Applicants must be residents of Bay Village and registered voters. Candidate interviews with the Board will take place following the application deadline. The Board expects to swear in the newly appointed member on Monday, Nov. 9.

The new Board member will be appointed for the term ending Dec. 31, 2021. He or she must run in the next general election – Nov. 2, 2021 – in order to serve the next four-year term, which would begin January of 2022.

Dr. Gayatry Jacob-Mosier has served on the Bay Village Board of Education since January of 2010. She was elected to her third four-year term in November of 2017. Since that time, Dr. Jacob-Mosier has served as president of the Board twice and vice president three times – the latter a role she is currently serving.

“I have enjoyed my tenure, and I will miss serving the Bay Village Schools community,” said Dr. Jacob-Mosier. “I sincerely thank all my past and present colleagues.”

During her 11-year tenure, Dr. Jacob-

Mosier has served on multiple committees, including the Curriculum, Policy, Human Capital Management, Wellness, Labor Management, STEM and Finance Committees.

Key projects and initiatives she has been involved with include superintendent and treasurer searches, bond issue work which allowed for infrastructure updates throughout the District (including additional classrooms at Normandy Elementary and a new media center wing at Westerly Elementary), levy campaigns and strategic planning.

She has also been active with Bay Village PTA, serving on the board of each PTA unit and as Bay Village PTA Council president for three years, treasurer and scholarship auction chair – roles she said helped her during her tenure with the Bay Village Board of Education. She also initiated a parent pledge for the entire District, and was honored by the PTA for being a key member of the math focus group.

Dr. Jacob-Mosier works as an adjunct professor at Cuyahoga County Community College and at Lorain County Community College, teaching organic chemistry. She also serves as a private tutor in math, sciences and test preparation. Dr. Jacob-Mosier has also worked as a researcher in the field of bio-organic

chemistry, and as a substitute teacher and home instructor for the Bay Village City School District. Dr. Jacob-Mosier holds a B.S. in chemistry from Purdue University, an M.S. in chemistry from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of Michigan. She and her husband, Dr. Patrick Mosier, have three grown children, all Bay High School graduates.

“Our entire District is grateful to Dr. Jacob-Mosier for her many years of ser-

vice on the Bay Village Board of Education,” said Board of Education President Lisa Priemer. “Her knowledge and experience will truly be missed.”

Application forms are available on the school district website at bayvillageschools.com.

Applicants are encouraged to review the duties and requirements of Ohio school board members available at getonboardohio.org provided by the Ohio School Board Association. ●



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