

Westlake LWV schedules ways to meet city council, school board candidates

by JANICE PATTERSON

“Voting month” (Oct. 4-Nov. 2) is almost here and the Westlake/North Olmsted chapter of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland has planned

several ways for voters to obtain information about the candidates for Westlake elective offices.

The first is an “in person” program Saturday, Sept. 25, 2-4 p.m., at Porter Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road, where

attendees can mingle for informal conversations with the candidates. All candidates for Mayor, President of Council, Council Member, Law Director and Board of Education have been invited to participate. This event will take place in the

Library Courtyard, but attendees must wear masks in order to enter the library.

The only contested race in Westlake for the Nov. 2 election is for the City Council representatives of Wards 2 and 4. A candidate forum via Zoom

featuring the four contenders will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. The Zoom webinar format has been selected to address COVID concerns and to broaden voters’ choices for learning about the candidates.

► See CANDIDATES page 2

BV Community Council honors Citizen and Project of the Year



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

The Bay Village Community Council honored this year’s Citizen of the Year, Nancy Trainer, and Project of the Year, the Bradley Park Playground renovation, in an outdoor ceremony Sept. 19 at the playground. Mayor Paul Koomar presented proclamations to Nancy Trainer for her decades of community service – specifically with the Women’s Club, Garden Club and League of Women Voters – and to the Drumm family for their efforts to raise funds to renovate the Bradley Park playground. Pictured, from left: Mayor Koomar; Nancy Trainer; Peggy, Elizabeth and Andrew Drumm; and BVCC officers Tara Wendell, Mary Kay Wilson and Peggy Ludwig.

THE GREEN REPORT

Composting service comes to Bay Village!



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Composting bins are located in the northeast corner of the Bay Lodge parking lot.

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

Great news! As a Bay Village resident, you can now sign up to compost your leftover food waste! The service will be provided by Rust Belt Riders and costs \$10 a month. For \$10 a month you can collect and bring ALL of your home food waste to the drop-off location, located in the northeast corner of the Bay Lodge parking lot. Bay Lodge is located on Bradley, just south of Wolf, and is adjacent to Bradley Road Park.

Why compost? The first answer is simple: to keep as much as we can out of the landfill. Why is that important? Compost

is a valuable resource so when it ends up in the landfill, it’s being wasted.

Second, it is in all our interest to keep as much as we can out of the landfill because we are literally filling land full of waste – and eventually we will run out of that land. When we do, we will have to pay more to transport our trash farther away.

And third, when food breaks down in the landfill it creates methane gas, which accounts for 10% of greenhouse gases emitted in the U.S. Waste in landfills break down anaerobically (without oxygen) which is why it produces methane gas. Methane gas is 25 times more efficient at trapping heat than carbon dioxide.

DEMON DISPATCH

A new school year begins

The Observer is proud to introduce “Demon Dispatch” a monthly column focusing on the Westlake Schools, penned by Superintendent Scott Goggin.

by DR. SCOTT GOGGIN
Superintendent, Westlake City School District

It’s an exciting time for Westlake City Schools, and the 2021-2022 school year will see us all continue our upward trajectory of being a leader in education in our area. As we embark on this foundational year, we lean on the attributes that provide opportunities for student growth intellectually, emotionally and socially.



Scott Goggin

When we crafted our Portrait of a Lifelong Learner, it was with the intent of providing the vision of what we expect from our students inside the classroom, and how we anticipate them contributing to the wider world outside of our hallways. Westlake City Schools offer our students a unique opportunity to learn with purpose, and our teachers and staff share the same ideals in providing a learning environment in support of this vision. This Portrait of a Lifelong Learner is a promise to our students, our families and the entire Westlake community.

► See DEMON DISPATCH page 2

Composting completes the cycle of food: it is grown from the earth and returns to the earth to enrich it.

So, you’re thinking to yourself: Great! I’ll compost! But why do I need to pay for the service and drive it over to a special location? Composting at home is different than industrial composting, which is what the new service is offering for \$10 a month.

You CAN compost at home and use your com-

post for your garden and beds. When you add it to your garden, you are adding nutrients to your soil and improving your garden. Compost takes the place of chemical fertilizers and helps soil retain moisture, meaning you don’t have to water as often! Compost releases nutrients that are long lasting, contrary to chemical fertilizers that provide a quick dump of nutrients which then wash

► See COMPOSTING page 4

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CANDIDATES

from front page

Advance registration is needed to participate in the Oct. 12 candidate forum. Go to bit.ly/LWV_westlake-council2-4 to register. Those attending the Zoom session will be able to submit questions for the candidates using the chat feature. The video of this event (and all other LWV candidate webinars) will be available afterward on the League's YouTube channel which can be selected at LWVGreaterCleveland.org. An additional way to obtain information about this year's candi-

dates is the League's national VOTE411 website. Those candidates who have chosen to participate have provided biographical information and answers to pertinent questions. The VOTE411.org website is available 24/7 until the polls close on Nov. 2. Oct. 4 is the deadline for registering to vote in November and for changing one's address. Requests for mail-in ballots can be submitted to the Board of Elections at any time until Saturday, Oct. 30. For details about these procedures and to learn about early voting times and places, see the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website, boe.cuyahogacounty.gov. ●

DEMON DISPATCH

from front page

A Westlake student has Integrity, developing empathy and social awareness. They listen to the perspectives of others and demonstrate the ability to take action for the greater good. Exhibiting courage and strength in the face of adversity or stress are just some of the qualities of a Resilient Westlake student. Our students show tenacity in the pursuit of goals despite the obstacles or challenges they face. Westlake students have Emotional Intelligence, possessing self-awareness and the ability to manage thoughts and feelings with maturity. An Innovative student engages in problem solving and remains resourceful while thinking critically. They promote intellectual curiosity while seeking new ideas and solutions to contribute impactful changes for themselves and others. Westlake students display Balance, expressing a connection between physical well-being and decisions leading to a healthy lifestyle.

Our students are listeners who exhibit understanding, formulating well-crafted and engaged responses rooted in well-researched ideas, making them exceptional Communicators. Our students are Globally minded, exploring the differences and diversity in the world. They contemplate how their actions impact the world and people around them. Our students will continue with Purpose, committed to future goals and pursuing them vigorously. Their lives are a constant display of determination, and they will make decisions based on self-fulfillment. This year, Westlake City Schools promises to provide a learning environment that not only nurtures these qualities, but also provides opportunities to put these qualities in practice for the betterment of our district and community. It's an important year for our students and we know Westlake teachers and staff will continue our focus on "empowering all students to achieve their educational goals, to direct their lives and to contribute to society." #WeAreWestlake ●

Westlake Historical Society's rubber duck race returns

by DAVE PFISTER

The Westlake Historical Society's rubber duck race, silent auction, and old-fashioned pie contest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Westlake Recreation Center. Rubber ducks can still be adopted on our website, www.westlakeohiohistory.org, or by calling 216-848-0680. The winner of the rubber duck race will be awarded cash and merchandise prizes. The event promises to be a lot of fun and begins on Oct. 2 at noon. The silent auction features over 30 themed baskets and items from different donors including theater tickets, movie night packages, event passes, adult beverages, and many other fantastic items. Donations for the silent auction are still welcome. Call Lysa at 216-848-0680 for information. Also, there is still time to enter the pie contest to be held in conjunction



with the duck race on Oct. 2. The pie contest was established in memory of Sophronia Clague, who loved to bake fruit pies. She especially liked peach pies, and was known for giving many of them away. The 2021 pie contest is only for amateur bakers entering homemade dessert pies. You do need to be a resident of Westlake, and you need to drop off your entry at the Westlake Recreation Center Community Room by 1:00 p.m. on Oct. 2nd. We will have separate divisions for students and adults. This is a free, family-friendly event with no admission charge. Proceeds benefit Clague House Museum utilities and maintenance expenses. If you have any questions, please call the Clague House Museum at 216-848-0680, or email us at westlakehistory@yahoo.com. ●

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The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a hyperlocal community newspaper and website written by, for and about the residents of Westlake and Bay Village, providing perspectives and information about topics and events in our community. The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through the participation of the 1,200+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate.

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Bay Village Schools adds new events to homecoming lineup

by KAREN UTHE SEMANCIK

The Bay Village City School District is big on tradition, including heritage Homecoming events such as the Thursday Night Bonfire and Friday Homecoming Parade (fondly known as the “candy parade” to many).

A few new events have been added to the lineup this year, including a chalk-fest, to bring even more families and residents out to celebrate Homecoming Week. Below is a complete list of events taking place throughout the week.

Wednesday, Sept. 22
"Where's Your Spirit Wednesday"
(Chalkfest)

3-4:30 p.m. – Bay Middle School students are invited to come to Bay Library to chalk the walking path in between BMS and the library with Homecoming spirit messages.

5:30-7:30 p.m. – Come show your One Rocket Nation spirit with the Sunshine Girls (Bay Village's own chalk artists Lizzie Durny and Stacey Gephert). Families are invited to share Homecoming messages and Rocket spirit messages in chalk along the south sidewalks of Wolf Road (Bay Middle School side) from Bay Middle School to Bay High School (which is also Friday's parade route). Buckets of chalk will be placed along the sidewalks for everyone

to use, or you can bring your own supplies.

Orange safety cones will be placed along Wolf Road (south sidewalks) to mark areas with chalk buckets.

Thursday, Sept. 23
Westerly "Walk to School with Dad/ Someone Special"

7:30-8:05 a.m. – Westerly Wolves will walk to school with Dad or someone special, and enjoy donuts and juice before the morning bell. Participants will meet at the playground.

Bonfire and Light the Night Walk

7-8 p.m.– Bay High School students and the community are invited to raise money for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society with a Light the Night Walk event and bonfire. Purchase Light the Night luminara through Sept. 22 at noon. Call BHS for details, 440-617-7400.

Friday, Sept. 24
Homecoming Parade & Football Game

5:45-6:25 p.m. – The Homecoming Parade steps off from the corner of Cahoon and Wolf roads, and makes its way down Wolf Road to Bay High



BAY VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Watching the Bay High School Marching Band is just one of the many activities taking place during Bay Village Schools' Homecoming Week this week.

School. Bring a lawn chair and bag to collect candy along the route! Bay Alumni Foundation's Hall of Famers will be riding in the parade, along with BHS Homecoming Court, local dignitaries and community/district organizations.

5:45 p.m. – PTSA Cookout between BHS and the stadium.

6:35 p.m. – Homecoming pre-game activities.

7 p.m. – Bay High School football game vs. Rocky River.

Saturday, Sept. 25
Bay Alumni Foundation's Hall of Fame Brunch

10 a.m. – Avon Oaks Country Club, \$40 per person. Visit www.bayalumni.com for more information.

com for more information.

BHS Homecoming Dance

8-10 p.m. – Homecoming Dance at Bay High School. ●

POETRY

By an Ohio Pond

by GEORGE J. RYAN

Soaring eagle, white head and tail
Hummingbird looking for nectar
Fish just jumped
Blue sky, scudding white clouds
What could be better.

PET CARE

Respect the dog! Respect the cat!

by NANCY BROWN

Many times we hear complaints about pet owners being rude and non-compliant to ordinances. Sometimes it's true. Here's a reminder of ways to care for our four-legged companions:

Please leash and pick up after your dog. License and provide identification

for your pets. Spay and neuter your pets. Microchip and keep that current. Foster, adopt and donate. Help educate and advocate for lost and homeless pets. Provide proper shelter.

If you are biking, walking or jogging behind or in front of a dog, give a shout or clear safe distance as to not startle or create a reaction. If you lose a pet, be prepared to provide current and sufficient proof of ownership.

Contact local police or animal control if you find an abandoned, lost, stray or injured animal. This is for your safety and the animal's safety.

Please be kind to animals. They are a beautiful gift and cherished by many. ●

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Sunday, September 26th
2-5 PM

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\$50 minimum donation

Program from 3:30 - 4:00 includes representatives from ACLU Ohio, AFL-CIO, Council of Churches and League of Women Voters of Ohio.

RSVP to Sherry at srose@lwvohio.org

Can't attend? Donate here: <https://bit.ly/bayvillagefairdistricts>



‘Blessing of the Pets’ at St. Raphael is back!



Maeve Stofko and her dog, Tully, took their blessings in 2019 very seriously!

by ANNE STRAITIFF

Lions, tigers and bears are still not welcome, but household animals and their families are invited to the 16th Annual Blessing of the Pets on Thursday, Sept. 30, from 6:30-7:00 p.m. on the front lawn of St. Raphael Church in Bay Village.

Individual blessings will be given to each animal. Dog and cat treats and give-aways from Hot Diggity Dog Pet Sitting will be distributed and a garden statue of St. Francis will be given away. The event is free and all are welcome.

The event was first held in 2005 to commemorate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals.

St. Raphael pastor, Fr. Tim Gareau, commented, “We missed seeing all our parishioners, neighbors, friends and their pets last year. We welcome everyone near and far to join with us on Sept. 30, to give thanks for all God’s creatures – especially our faithful animal companions – and ask for his continued blessings on our families, our community, and on all living things entrusted to our care.”

St. Raphael is located at 525 Dover Center Road. Parking is behind the church.

Please note: Dogs should be on leashes; cats and other pets in carriers or cages. The event will be cancelled if it rains. ●

COMPOSTING

from front page

away into our waterways, adding to the problem that causes the algae blooms in the lake.

Residential composting is typically comprised of raw fruits and vegetables, egg shells, coffee grounds, black and white newsprint, fireplace ashes, dryer lint, and yard waste (leaves, sticks, etc.). Adding meat, dairy, cooked food, and bones to residential composting will attract animals. Keeping those materials out of your home compost will ensure that animals are not attracted to it – I have been composting at home for years and have never had a problem with animals.

Industrial composting is beneficial because you can add ALL food scraps including cooked food, bones, meat, bread, and dairy. You can also add BPI-Certified compostable products (disposable plates, forks, cups, etc. are available using this material) so if you are hosting a party in which you want/need to use disposable products, if you use BPI-Certified products you can bring all of the party waste over to the new compost bins and guess what? You have a zero-waste party! What is not accepted at the compost bins is pure oil or pure liquid.

For more information or to sign up for the service, please visit bayvillagegreenteam.org and follow the link under “Green Your Waste” and “Drop-Off Food Waste Composting.” You can also download the free Better Bin app for a complete list of acceptable materials.

To collect your waste, Rust Belt Riders recommends using a 5-gallon bucket with a paper bag liner. That way, you can put the entire paper bag into the compost bin when dropping off. When you sign up for the service, you will be provided a 4-digit code that will be used to open the padlocks to access the composting bins.

Whether you decide to compost at home or use the new service, please know that you are making a difference. You are keeping a valuable resource out of the landfill, you are adding less to the landfill, you are helping limit methane gas emissions, and you are doing your part to create a more sustainable future for Bay Village and the earth. Each of our seemingly small acts add up to create a large impact. ●

NATURE & ENVIRONMENT

Fruit lovers and wine drinkers beware!

by PEGGY KRANYAK

On Sept. 21, 2021, a population of the invasive spotted lanternfly (SLF) was discovered in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, on the east side of Cuyahoga County. This is a deceptively beautiful “hopper” that likely hitched a ride on railroad cars to arrive here from Pennsylvania where the economic impact could total in the hundreds of millions of dollars, and hundreds of thousands of jobs, for those in the grapes, apple, hops, and hardwood industries.

From there, the SLF has traveled to a few other states, and now has three locations in Ohio, having arrived via river boat to Cincinnati, and presumed train to our home. No, they cannot drive, but they also do not fly; they hop from one area to the next, and lay their eggs on any flat hard surface where the eggs become traveling larvae and eventually adults, feeding on fruit and sap of many types of trees and plants.

The problem is, the eggs and larvae are very well disguised, and look like



Spotted lanternfly has bright red hind wings that are visible when its front wings are spread.

small pieces of mud or dirt on our car bumpers, park benches, and most disguised, on tree bark. Information on the SLF can easily be found with a quick Google search, but a good reference is the Ohio State University Extension page at ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-83.

Now through November is the best time to spot the SLF because it is in the adult stage as a colorful winged hopper, although the colors are only obvious when the wings are open. The favored host tree is Tree-of-heaven, an invasive tree native to China, but there are many other host plants and adults can be found individually or in masses numbering in the dozens.

The public is the first line of defense against the SLF, so be observant as you work in your yard or takes hikes through



Spotted lanternfly adults are approximately 1 inch long and 1/2 inch wide with their wings closed.

our many local woods. If you think you have seen an adult now, or an egg mass in the winter, please snap a photo and report to the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Plant Pest Control Division by emailing plantpest@agri.ohio.gov or calling 614-728-6400. I have heard that one positive ID is worth 100 false alarms because one adult can lay up to 400 eggs!

So please, keep an eye out for the adult Spotted Lantern Fly and egg masses, and help evade disaster for our beautiful vineyards, orchards, and trees that run across northern Ohio. Although the adults are visible now and through the end of November, the egg mass can be seen all winter, to become adults next spring! The sooner an infested area is quarantined, the better. ●

HUMOR

Bay Village snake hunters: Basement edition, Part 1

This is the first in a four-part series detailing the crazy adventures of a Bay Village homeowner faced with a serpentine crisis.

by KEVIN DAVEY

Imagine one day encountering your worst nightmare – one that makes your skin crawl and your body shudder. Then multiply that nightmare a whole bunch of times, and stick it in the creepiest part of your house – the basement. Could you handle it?

Well, my lovely wife, Amy, had to do just that. On Aug. 31, she encoun-

tered two 7-inch-long snakes (think very long, skinny pencils) in our Bay Village basement. These snakes were identified by wildlife biologists as Northern Water Snakes, probably recently born.

The following day, I found two more in the basement, bringing the total to four. One was gracious enough to show us his “school picture day smile.” I call him “Bitey.”

The day after that, I found another one, bringing the total to five (yes, FIVE snakes. All alive. In my basement. Over three different days. UGH!). The latest snake was still molting, so he is probably

a week old at most. (By the way, don’t tell Amy this, but these snakes apparently give live birth to 30 or more snakes – no eggs for these bad boys.)

So, after consulting with various experts, who suggested moving out of the house, selling the house, and/or burning down the house (not in that order), a pest expert suggested I place flour on the basement floor to at least track the movements of any new snakes (up to this point they have all been in one specific area – oh Lord how I hope that remains true!).

We will see how this works out – will we see slithery snake paths in the flour? Will I find the source of the snake factory? Will Amy and the kids move out? Will Kevin be committed to a snake-free mental hospital? Check the Oct. 5 issue for our next episode! ●



The fifth snake to show up in the Davey family’s basement was molting, or shedding its old skin.

DIGGING DOVER – BAY VILLAGE

Home to Jewish gangsters?

The history of 384 Fordham Parkway, Part 2

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

As outlined in Part 1 about this house, Dr. David Francati of Bay Dental, the current owner of 384 Fordham Parkway, told me a number of stories about his home. He said that it was built by one of the owners of a brewery which bottled Gold Bond beer. That it was once known as a “love nest” run by “Madam” Christine Ritchie, the “gray-haired widow of a former lake captain” in the 1930s. That it was then an orphanage where some of the kids crossed an open porch to sleep in the attic. That it had a fire and then was repaired and turned back into a single-family home.

Could all of this be true? Beyond the incredible stories, the research had many unexpected twists and turns, partly due to Bay’s habit of changing

addresses in that part of the city over the years. We covered the “love nest” part of the story in Part 1. Let’s go back to the beginnings of the house.

In 1914 Samuel Goldberg owned a nearly 40-acre slice of land which extended south from Lake Erie along the west side of Clague Road all the way to the Nickel Plate railroad tracks. W.H. Lawrence, the owner of the mansion that forms the heart of the Cashelmara development, owned over 40 acres to the west and 101 acres east of this parcel. In 1919 Mr. Goldberg subdivided the land to create the Bay Village Park subdivision and what became Cliff Drive, Fordham Parkway and lots on segments of the east/west Lake, Bruce, Russell, Wolf, Oakland and Knickerbocker Roads.

Tax records indicate that the subject home was constructed in 1921, when it was known as

23930 West Lake Road and was owned by Sol Peskind. The home was valued at \$16,000 that year. Sol had purchased 10 parcels from Realty Realization Co. which had purchased many of the undeveloped lots from Mr. Goldberg. Sol Peskind’s lots included all of the parcels west of Fordham Parkway and north of Lake Road in the subdivision as well as several more, farther east on the lake side of Cliff Drive.

Sometime after 1923 and before 1926 a second structure worth \$940 was constructed south of the main house on subplot 36 abutting Lake Road. This was most likely what Dr. Francati describes as a carriage house that once stood alongside a driveway west of his home that went directly to Lake Road. According to him it was converted to a house on Fordham Parkway and demolished about 30 years ago for a new house. By 1927 Sol Peskind’s lots, the house and carriage house reverted back to Samuel Goldberg. It was in 1928 when the decision was made to not extend Cliff Drive west past Fordham Parkway.

Were Sol Peskind or Samuel Goldberg connected to the brewery that brewed Gold Bond beer? It is entirely possible but I have not been able to confirm that. The story that Dr. Francati heard would suggest that it was Sol Peskind, the first owner of his home, that was affiliated with the brewery. Prohibition from 1919 to 1933 put many breweries out of business.

It was the Cleveland and Sandusky Brewing Company that brewed Gold Bond beer. They were formed from a merger of 11 northern Ohio breweries in 1897. During Prohibition in the 1920s and early 1930s they stayed in business manufacturing carbonated beverages and very low alcohol “near-beer.” Not a great time for brewery owners to be building large homes on the lakeshore, unless there is some connection to money changing hands “under the table”?

It was while Sol Peskind or Samuel Goldberg owned the home that Christine Ritchie may have begun operation of the “love nest.” Were these two men legitimate businessmen or, as the My Jewish Learning website states, part of “A little-known chapter of Jewish American history [which] concerns the Jewish gangsters of the 1920s and 1930s ... swept up in the speakeasy movement during Prohibition, they continued to make money off of bootlegged liquor, prostitution rings, gambling, [and] racketeering”? The website mentions a Jewish gang in Detroit involved in the distilling and brewing business in those years.

By 1937 the home was owned by Samuel Goldberg’s Home Centers Incorporated with offices located at 614 Engineers Building in Cleveland. As we know the subject home was occupied by Christine Ritchie’s “business” in 1938. It was occupied by Peter Edson sometime before 1939 and then by John and Cora Humphrey in 1939. Home Centers Incorporated then sold it to the Humphreys in 1943.

It was in 1945 when the address of the subject home was changed from 23930 West Lake Road to 394 Fordham Parkway.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM KRAUSE



A 1938 Cleveland News photograph of 384 Fordham Parkway. The photo is now part of the Bay Village Historical Society collection.

In 1919 Mr. Goldberg subdivided his nearly 40 acres of land to create the Bay Village Park subdivision and what became Cliff Drive, Fordham Parkway and lots on segments of the east/west Lake, Bruce, Russell, Wolf, Oakland and Knickerbocker Roads, just west of Clague Road. Photograph of a 1920 Hopkins plat book.

We will discuss the orphanage that occupied the home from 1939 until 1946 and subsequent owners in Part 3. ●

Oct. 4 is the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 2 General Election

For a registration form:

- Visit the library or high school main office;
- Print a copy from BOE.CuyahogaCounty.us; or
- Call the Board of Elections at 216-443-8683.



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Our programs create moments of self-discovery, self-realization, and self-empowerment to guide them as they thrive in God's Divine Love.

Pre-school to teens, classes are during the 11:00 a.m. service.

For more info, contact Scott Gessner, yfmdirector@unityspiritualcenter.com, uscwestlake.org



LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Fall migrations are underway

by MORGAN PASKERT

From birds to butterflies, wildlife is on the move. Ohio's geography of forests, grasslands and coasts, along with two large water sources – Lake Erie and the Ohio River – attracts a wide array of wildlife during fall migration. Here are Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's top migrations to observe this season.

Monarch Butterflies

One of the most fascinating creatures in North America is the monarch butterfly. Each fall, millions of monarchs leave their summer breeding grounds in the northeastern United States and Canada to travel upwards of 3,000 miles to reach their overwintering grounds in southwestern Mexico.

To spot these winged migrants, look in lakefront woodlots or areas with plants still in flower such as asters or goldenrod.

Bats

Depending on the species, some Ohio bats such as the eastern red bat, hoary Bat and silver-haired bat migrate south in the cooler months when food sources become scarce. The best time to see them is around sunset or sunrise when it is warm and dry. While some bats fly relatively high, others are found closer to the ground and tree line.

Hummingbirds

The most common species of hummingbird in Ohio is the ruby-throated hummingbird. Weighing an average of 3.5 grams, these birds migrate from Ohio to their winter homes in Central and South America which includes a 500-mile non-stop flight over the Gulf of Mexico.

You can attract hummingbirds to your yard by hanging a nectar feeder with ¼ cup pure cane sugar per 1 cup water. Remember that during hot weather, sugar water ferments rapidly to produce

toxic alcohol and should be changed daily.

Songbirds

Every fall, millions of birds migrate through Ohio on their way to overwintering grounds. During migration birds can travel hundreds of miles in one night. Birds migrating to Central America will fly the 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico nonstop, leaving at dusk, which takes between 18 and 22 hours.

Local spots to observe songbirds during fall migration include Huntington Reservation and Wendy Park of Cleveland Metroparks and Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve.

Migration Challenges

The migratory journey presents several challenges for wildlife, especially songbirds. Most species of songbirds migrate at night and the lights on tall buildings can be disorienting. Collisions with buildings are a leading cause of bird fatalities during migration, and it is estimated that up to half a billion birds die each year from building collisions.

Lights Out Cleveland aims to protect migratory birds through volunteerism and advocacy. Since mid-August, volunteers have scanned the sidewalks surrounding downtown buildings to collect injured and deceased birds. Injured birds are brought to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's wildlife rehabilitation facility for treatment and eventual release back to the wild. To learn more about Lights Out Cleveland and ways to protect migratory birds, visit www.ohiolightsout.org.

The nonprofit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is the only wildlife rehabilitation facility in Cuyahoga County and provides its services 7 days a week at no charge to the public. For wildlife assistance, please contact 440-871-2900 or wildlife@lensc.org. ●

READER PHOTOS

Deborah Arcaro spent a day at the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center pollinator habitat to capture these photographs of nature.



BAY VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bay groups plan fall activities

by BETH ZELLERS

Members of the Bay Village Community Council met via Zoom on Sept. 13 to share news about the recent and upcoming activities of their community groups. Here are some highlights:

The **Bay Village American Legion** welcomed Brendan Knapp, who was the Legion's Delegate to the 2021 Buckeye Boys State Program. Brendan is a senior at Bay High and is the captain of the school's hockey team and the president of the youth group at St. Raphael Catholic Church. Brendan related his nine-day experience at Miami University with 800 Delegates from around the state. During the sessions, he organized a group of five boys who put together a Blood Drive from the Delegates that netted over 170 pints of whole blood. For their efforts, the boys received Special Recognition at the conclusion of the week. The Legion's semi-annual flag drive is Nov. 12.

Bay Village Schools will launch the Purple Star program to support military families in the district. Homecoming Week events will be held Sept. 20-25.

The **Sabrina Noelle Foundation**, founded by Bay resident Kristin DuPrey in memory of her daughter, Sabrina Noelle, who passed away by suicide on Jan. 8, 2021, aims to promote and provide fitness activities to address mental well-being for young people. The Foundation funds scholarships,

gym rental, trainers, art supplies and events. The next fundraiser will be Saturday, Oct. 16, 4-8 p.m. at Smokin' Rock 'n' Roll in Reese Park, 605 Clague Parkway. The event will feature live music, food trucks, and Sabrina's Lil Boutique (featuring locally made jewelry and apparel).

The **Kiwanis Club** inducted new officers Linda Cleary, president, and Warren Remein, president-elect. Mayor Koomar is giving State of Bay briefing at the Kiwanis meeting at Bay United Methodist Church on Oct. 19.

The **Bay Village Foundation** will hold its 11th annual benefit run on Saturday, Oct. 16. The 5K run/1 mile walk begins at Bay High School at 9 a.m. Pre-register online or in-person on race day for \$30. First 200 to register will get a free set of cat ears! And the first 300 participants will receive a cool, dry-tech run shirt. The top three male and female finishers in each age group will receive a medal and great prizes. Visit thebayvillagefoundation.org for a link to the registration site.

The **Bay Village Green Team** has been working with Rust Belt Riders to bring drop-off food waste composting to Bay Village. For \$10 a month, residents can access a locked composting bin in the northeast corner of the Bay Lodge parking lot. See the story on page 1 for more information.

Halfway through construction on the new **Bay Village Branch Library** building, everything appears to be on schedule to open in April 2022. The library will not hold

a quarterly book sale for a little while longer due to pandemic, but some in-person events have begun. Visit cuyahogalibrary.org to see a calendar of events.

The **Martha Devotion Huntington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution** is participating in a Wreaths Across America fundraiser to place donated wreaths on the graves of veterans at our local Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman on Dec. 18. Wreaths cost \$15 each. The Chapter will receive \$5 per wreath to be used to help local veterans. The wreaths can be purchased at wreathscrossamerica.org/OH0132P. Chapter members and volunteers will either participate in the wreath laying or the wreath removal. Please consider volunteering. The chapter, based in Bay Village, is looking for new members. The DAR is a national service organization open to any woman, 18 years or older, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. For more information, contact Mary Kay Wilson at MKW50@yahoo.com.

The **Bay Village Garden Club** provided two gorgeous fall floral arrangements for the Citizen of the Year and Project of the Year honorees. The club will meet on Sept. 27. To join the club, call Sharen at 440 871-9098.

The **Lake Erie Nature & Science Center** continues to offer free general admission to indoor and outdoor exhibits. The Center is open for general admission on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is available at www.lensc.org. Free wildlife services are offered seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Members of the community are encouraged to call 440-871-2900, ext. 204, or email wildlife@lensc.org with wildlife questions and concerns.

Fall Scout programs, on-site and virtual field trips, and adult and family programs are scheduled. Visit lensc.org to learn more.

The **Bay Village League of Women Voters** is busy preparing for election season. A Voter Guide with information on candidates for city council and school board will be printed in the Observer on Oct. 5. A Q&A forum with candidates for school board will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 6:30 p.m. in the Bay High auditorium. A forum with city council candidates will be Monday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. in the Bay High auditorium. A fundraising event for Fair Districts to help end gerrymandering will be held at the Lake Road home of Tom Norton and Karen Bradley on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2 p.m. Minimum \$50 donation requested. RSVP to rosel@lwwohio.org.

The **Bay Men's Club** is meeting again the first Thursday of every month, 7 p.m., at the Bay Lodge. All area men are invited and encouraged to attend.

Village Bicycle Cooperative mechanics continue to "crank" out bicycles for sale and donation. VBC is making bike donations to Afghan refugees through the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. The process will be ongoing as there is a genuine need for bikes to help in transportation. Bike donations will be accepted during on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Email bobpiccirilli@gmail.com or visit villagebicycle.org for shop hours and updates.

The Bay Village Community Council will meet again in November. All civic organizations in the city are encouraged to send a representative to share their group's news and events. Email BVCC president Tara Wendell, tara@wbvobserver.com, for more information. ●

Westlake Porter Public Library's early September calendar of events

by ELAINE WILLIS

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's early September 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.

Wednesday, Sept. 22 (4-5 p.m.) **Fall Teen Writers Workshop (Live)** – A twice-a-month meet-up for writers in grades 7-12. In this workshop, we'll be prepping for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) in November. Hit the ground running by getting organized and brainstorming within a supportive group of young writers. We'll also share tips and tricks to maintaining a productive writing environment. Please register. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions.

Wednesday, Sept. 22 (7-8 p.m.) **Adult Creative Writing Group** – Join us in person for an hour of creative writing prompts to inspire you to start and keep writing. Creativity is more than putting pen to paper. It's about breaking away and trying something new! Please register. Please provide an email address when registering.

Thursday, Sept. 23 (3:30-4:30 p.m.) **Roblox Arcade (Live)** – Love Roblox? 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, Sept. 24 (4-4:45 p.m.) **Fun Science Friday: Dinosaur Discovery** – Let's explore the world of dinosaurs, from fossils and eggs to carnivores and herbivores. Discoveries will be made through hands-on experiments, active participa-

tion and a simple take-home project. Ages 4-6, through kindergarten. At this time, caregivers must stay with their child(ren) during programming. Please register every person attending, including children and adults.

Saturday, Sept. 25 (11-11:30 a.m.) **Adapted Storytime (Live)** – Join us for this Zoom storytime designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime. Content is geared toward ages 3-7 years. Pick up a kit for a hands-on experience! Please register. Participants must provide an email address to receive Zoom instructions.

Monday, Sept. 27 (1-7 p.m.) **American Red Cross Bloodmobile**

Tuesday, Sept. 28 (6:30-10 p.m.) **Indoor Movie Night** – Enjoy a presentation of the award-winning film about a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in the early years of NASA's space program. Please register every person that will be attending.

Wednesday, Sept. 29 (7-8:30 p.m.) **Comics and the Clinic: History of**

the Comic Book and Mental Health (Live) – Join us on Zoom as Valentino Zullo discusses the portrayal of mental health in comics, and how this medium offers unique insight into the minds of its characters. Mental health practitioners have long been invested in comics: from psychologist William Moulton Marston's creation of Wonder Woman to psychiatrist Fredric Wertham's infamous attack on comics as a corrupter of youth, to the current burgeoning of comics that chronicle stories of mental health treatments. Zullo is a Ph.D. candidate at Kent State University and licensed social worker practicing as a Maternal Depression Therapist at OhioGuidestone. He is the American Editor of the "Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics." Please register.

Wednesday, Sept. 29 (8-9 p.m.) **Discovery Box Sign-Up** – Teens in grades 7-12: You'll receive a survey to fill out, and we'll use your responses to create a custom Discovery Box! Pick-up begins Oct. 6 (8-9 p.m.).

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

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Digital deadbolt for your vaccination card

by TAK SATO

Just last week I helped an alumni of our Discover Digital Literacy! program store her vaccination card on her smartphone. Before we started, she already knew that taking a picture was the easiest option. She can keep the picture on the smartphone's digital photo album app.

Basically, she didn't want to carry around her original vaccine card and lamination wasn't a viable option either since it may make it difficult to update the card with newer information (like when she gets the booster shot). Some restaurants, for example, are requiring proof of vaccination, she said.

She showed me a newspaper clipping of an article mentioning/ comparing three vaccine card storage apps available in the App Store or Play Store (Apple and Google respectively). Unfortunately, the downside of all these apps was how different jurisdictions – counties, states, and even countries – use/standardize on an app that may be different from what you install.

Of course, one can load their vaccine card on every vaccine card storage app available but I reminded her of my "You are the product" article from earlier this year (wbvobserver.com/read/2021/01/19/you-are-the-product) that can bite into people's right to privacy in the digital world.

I love to use the K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple, Stupid) approach to problem solving. My recommendation was to build on her idea of taking a digital picture of the vaccine card but additionally "hiding" the digital picture so it doesn't automatically show in the Photos app alongside your grandkids' pictures. FWIW (for what it's worth), the Photos app is already

installed when you buy an iPhone/iPad made by Apple or an Android-based smartphone/tablet made by various manufacturers like Google, Samsung, and LG.

In both iPhone/iPad and Android-based smartphone/tablet, their implementation of "hiding" is not as secure as a deadbolt on the front door to your house in the real world. So is there something akin to the deadbolt for your smartphone/tablet? The answer is a resounding "yes!"

If you are not already using the "Passcode" (iPhone/iPad) or "Screen Lock" (Android-based smartphone/tablet) feature that will challenge you to enter a PIN (Personal Identification Number) before being able to use, aka "open," your smartphone/tablet, I highly recommend enabling it:

- For iPhone/iPad, tap on the "Settings" icon -> select "Touch ID & Passcode" -> tap on "Turn Passcode On" -> when prompted type in a six digit PIN of your choice -> write it down in your password notebook that I hope you keep -> when prompted, type that PIN again to verify -> enter your Apple ID password if requested.
- For Android-based smartphone/tablet, tap on the "Settings" icon -> select "Security" -> select "Screen Lock" -> select "PIN" -> when prompted type in a PIN that is at least four digits -> tap "Next" button -> re-enter your PIN -> tap "Confirm" button -> select how much notifications are shown before you type the PIN -> tap "Done" button.

In the next column, I'll cover the steps to put the selected pictures in the hidden folder that doesn't automatically show in the Photos app and also tie up loose ends. ●

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Saturday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
VILLAGE PROJECT'S PROJECT SHOPPE
ANNUAL SIDEWALK SALE

Enjoy up to 75% off select items. All proceeds support Village Project's mission.
27378 W. Oviatt Rd., Bay Village

Monday, Sept. 27, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
HEAVENLY HYDRANGEAS

Bay Village Garden Club opens its 2021-2022 season with a fresh look at an old favorite.

Cathy Wheeler, Master Gardener, will discuss the variant *Hydrangea* species, and instruct us how to grow and care for the stunning shrubs that delight us with their abundant blooms. During the pandemic meetings are limited to members. We regret walk-ins and guests cannot attend, but it is easy to join. Contact Sharen Svec by phone 440-871-9098 or email rjsvec@sbcglobal.net. Membership applications also available at bayvillagegardenclub.com.

Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Thursday, Sept. 30, 10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.
WONDERS OF WILDLIFE

Learn about the wonders of wildlife through up-close encounters with a variety of the Center's resident animals in this 30-minute program. \$5/person. Children 6 months and under are free.
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 13, 10:00 a.m.
HERB GUILD GARDEN CLUB MEETING

A staff member at Petitti's Garden Center will

talk about gardening through the seasons. Guests are welcome to this meeting, but **MUST** register with Fran Wilhelm, 440-353-9764, by Oct. 4. Please call Fran for more details. Members and guests will need to wear a mask during the presentation, even though it will be outdoors. For more information, visit theherbguild.org.

Petitti's Garden Center, 33777 Chester Rd., Avon

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Thank you to our kind readers who have donated to help keep the Observer's presses rolling and to support a free press.



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