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# WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE Observer

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VOLUME 14 • ISSUE 8 | Community News Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village | 19 APRIL 2022

## BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

### Bay Village Schools recognized as Purple Star District

by KAREN UTHE SEMANCIK

On Monday, April 11, the Ohio Department of Education announced its Class of 2022 Purple Star Schools, which included all four of Bay Village City School District's schools: Normandy Elementary School (grades K-2); Westerly Elementary School (grades 3-4); Bay Middle School (grades 5-8); and Bay High School (grades 9-12). This is the first year the district has applied for and received this distinction, and Bay Village Schools is the only district in Cuyahoga County to earn this distinction this year. The designation is for 2022-2025.

The Ohio Department of Education announced that only 94 schools received the esteemed award for the first time. Overall, 263

Ohio schools received Purple Star designations. Purple Star schools show a significant commitment to serving students and families connected to our nation's armed forces.

Bay Village Schools started the Purple Star initiative this school year under Interim Superintendent Char Shryock, who saw the need after personally meeting with stakeholders and realizing how many military-connected families live in Bay Village.

"I was surprised at the depth of experience we have within our many military-connected families, both active and retired," said Shryock. "I am beyond pleased that our team was able to share with the Ohio Department of Education how important our military families are to our district."

► See PURPLE STAR page 4



PHOTO COURTESY BAY VILLAGE SCHOOLS

The Powers, a military-connected family within the Bay Village City School District, serve on the district's Purple Star Committee. Left to right: Madeline, Mike, Bernadette and Thomas Power. Madeline and Thomas are students at Bay Middle School and dad Mike is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard.

## BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Rapid post-war community growth prompted a library move

by CYNTHIA EAKIN

*This is the second in a series of articles on the history of the library in Bay Village, in celebration of the opening of the new Bay Village Branch Library on April 30.*

After World War II, Bay Village developed so rapidly that municipal, religious, educational, shopping and residential facilities became inadequate and a period of rapid construction began.

In addition to homes, churches and schools, a new Colonial-style shopping center, a professional building and a post office were built. The village government had many added duties, including increased police and fire protection, the building of new roads and the improving of water and sewage systems.

Since there were so many responsibilities to be met, the village adopted the charter

form of government. In 1950, the Village of Bay became the City of Bay Village, the legal name required by Ohio law after a village has attained a population of 5,000 or more.

The growth of Bay Village was soon reflected in the library program. More

books were being read, circulation increased and there were more requests for meetings to be held in the library. The library board was convinced that some measure had to be taken to relieve the situation. Many pros and cons were considered, but the final decision was to join the county library system.

In 1946, Mrs. Eve T. Gleeson succeeded Mrs. Julia Osborn Scott as librarian, after Mrs. Scott had served for 24 years. In her annual report that year, Mrs. Gleeson noted that the lack of heat in the library during the winter caused meetings and children's story hours to be rescheduled.

► See LIBRARY page 2



BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The interior of the new library at 377 Dover Center Road on opening day, Jan. 18, 1960.

## DEMON DISPATCH

### Globally-minded Westlake students prepare for new adventures

by DR. SCOTT GOGGIN, Superintendent, Westlake City School District

As we approach the end of the school year, many of us eagerly look toward the future. Our soon-to-be graduates prepare to head off to college or embark on entirely new experiences in new careers. They will be living on their own for the first time and meeting peers from varying cultures and backgrounds. Their worldview will continue to expand.

Our younger students are experiencing transitions of their own. They may be trying out new hobbies or planning to participate in summer activities that will expose them to individuals outside of their traditional social circles. Many will be traveling with their families and exploring foreign destinations. Some students may even look farther ahead to the next school year when they shift to a new grade level or academic building.

Some of these life changes may seem overwhelming, but our globally-minded Westlake students welcome all challenges with open arms.

► See NEW ADVENTURES page 3



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# LIBRARY

from front page

Circulation was dropping and newcomers to Bay Village were going into Lakewood for their books.

Beloved as Rose Hill was by old and new residents, it could no longer serve as a public institution for a city now totaling 13,000 residents. Another disadvantage of having the Dover-by-the-Lake Library housed in Rose Hill was its isolated location. Because of its distance from the schools, the library was inaccessible to younger children due to a lack of public transportation. Heavy motor traffic made it too dangerous for children to attempt walking to the library.

Ever since becoming affiliated with the Cuyahoga County library system, groups within the community had pressed for a new library in a new location. A new Library Advisory Board was formed in February 1957, and a site committee was appointed at the very first meeting. Their first selection was a plot of land behind the Bay Village City Hall and across from the Wolf Road shopping center. But, because this was part of Cahoon Memorial Park, the title of which had been left to the people of the community through the mayor and city council, the title could not be transferred to the Cuyahoga County library as required.

In the midst of these discussions, Mrs. Gleeson resigned as librarian. Mrs. Helen M. Casey, then librarian at Fairport Public Library, was appointed to succeed Mrs. Gleeson. By the time Mrs. Casey assumed her duties in Bay Village in August 1957, the site search for a new building had been settled. It was the southeast corner of Wolf and Dover Center roads.

The circulation of the library showed a sharp increase under Mrs. Casey's leadership.

According to city hall estimates, the 1957 population in Bay Village was 13,500, and the librarian's annual report showed a total circulation for that year of 45,607 books, an increase of 10,248 over the preceding year. Much of that increase resulted from an accelerated program of work with children, made possible by the appointment of a part-time children's librarian. In addition to story hour at the library, book talks were given at the schools and a summer reading program was established.

Adult library services were also increasing, with many more books, film strips and recordings being borrowed from the regional library. The



Branch librarian, Helen Casey, in January 1960.



Librarian Eve Taylor Gleeson, circa late 1940s.

Baycrafters continued to occupy space in the library, bringing in people through their art classes. The League of Women Voters continued to meet at the Dover-by-the-Lake library, as well as the Lake Erie Junior Museum, now the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, under the direction of Mrs. Elberta Fleming.

By the end of 1957, there were several part-time assistant librarians and one full-time desk worker. The mayor's report for the year indicated that the proposed site for the new library building had been purchased and bonds issued. The title to the land was transferred to the Cuyahoga County library in early 1958. After the bids for construction went out, work on the building plans proceeded under the supervision of the architectural firm of Mellenbrook, Foley and Scott of Berea.

The year of 1959 saw a new library under construction, and also saw a critical re-evaluation of the book collection. Many outdated volumes were cancelled and purchases of newer books were made. Several part-time assistant librarians were added to the staff in anticipation of the move to new quarters. The Library Advisory Board and civic groups worked to raise additional funds for furnishings, landscaping and parking lot paving.

In January 1960, the new library building was ready for occupancy, and dedication ceremonies were held on Jan. 31. Dover-by-the-Lake Library slipped into the past, ever to be associated with Rose Hill, and the Bay Village Public Library took its place at the hub of the community's life.

*The information in this segment of the series on the history of the Bay Village Library was gathered from "Evolution of a Library: Bay Village, Ohio" by Marjorie Corey.* ●

PHOTOS COURTESY BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**NEW ADVENTURES**  
*from front page*

They understand that each life transition exposes them to exciting new ideas and experiences. They embrace the possibilities.

As our Westlake students move through their academic careers and lives outside of school, they remain **globally-minded**. They explore and accept differences and diversity in the world with sensitivity. They are eager to embrace alternative approaches, instead of being fearful of change or reticent to try new things.

Our **globally-minded** students find ways to collaborate and work together to reach united goals, learn from one another and achieve more substantial results. They are curious, empathetic and thoughtful, contemplating how their actions impact the world and the people around them.

Thanks to their Westlake education, our students are prepared to venture into the world outside of their community after graduation. They have the tools they need to work alongside others from different backgrounds, a thirst for new knowledge and unparalleled compassion for others. They are ready to explore various career fields and put all they've learned into practice, free of trepidation.

Thinking globally can sound like a lofty goal, but it begins with small steps; ones our students take each day. It is how they bravely venture outside of their comfort zones and open themselves up to new relationships and opportunities. It is the way they instinctually help others who need assistance or team up to achieve something bigger than themselves.

Our students lead the way and set an example for us to follow. When we all think globally, we become better citizens. We are more prepared to take on challenges and support one another. We are part of a shared mission, moving toward a more united future. ●

THE GREEN REPORT  
**Is your lawn a healthy lawn?**

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

**I**s your lawn healthy? Truly healthy? Please read on to find out. Having a healthy lawn is not only important for the health of you and your family, but for the health of wildlife and Lake Erie.

Weed-free, lush, green lawns. Many people strive for this; I tell my kids not to play on them and I actively avoid lawns while walking that have the little “chemical lawn application” sign posted. Why? I have many reasons for avoiding “perfect” lawns. Lawn perfection typically comes at a high cost. A cost to Lake Erie, a cost to wild animals, and a cost to our health. It is estimated that more than a billion pounds of pesticides and herbicides are used by homeowners in the United States each year.

When chemical fertilizer is applied to lawns, the excess nutrients are carried away by rain waters into Lake Erie. Chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides contain nitrogen, and when too much nitrogen (and phosphorus) get into the lake, it causes an imbalance, which in turn can trigger an algae bloom. This is the cause of the toxic algae blooms we see in Lake Erie in the summer time, especially in the western Lake Erie basin.

The microcystin algae is not just gross looking and smelly, it is highly toxic to humans. When swallowed, it can cause nausea, fever, stomach pain, and severe headaches. Further, when the algae die, they sink to the bottom of the lake, and decompose in

a way that removes oxygen from the water, creating “dead zones” in which fish and other aquatic species can’t survive.

Seven million birds die a year from exposure to residential lawn chemicals. Seven million. When I think about that number, it blows my mind, and then I think, if it’s killing seven million birds a year, why would we ever think it’s not slowly killing us?

Turns out, those chemicals are very dangerous to human health and most likely are killing us too. The dangers of synthetic pesticide use have been known for decades. The National Coalition for Pesticide Free Lawns reports that of 30 commonly used lawn pesticides, 19 are linked with cancer or carcinogenicity, 13 are linked with birth defects, 21 with reproductive effects, 26 with liver or kidney damage, 15 with neurotoxicity, and 11 with disruption of the endocrine (hormonal) system. Pesticides have also been linked to attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children. Yikes!

Poisons from lawn chemicals are absorbed through the skin, by the mouth, or by breathing sprays, dusts, or vapors. If you or your children are present during lawn chemical application, you can be poisoned.

If you walk on contaminated grass, your shoes and clothing can become contaminated, and risk bringing it into your home. The same goes for dogs and cats – if they walk on contaminated grass not only can they become poisoned themselves, but they can then bring the chemicals inside your home

on their paws.

Children are at a much higher risk of poisoning because they are much more likely to put their hands in their mouths as they play on the grass with pesticide powders and granules. Children and pets are at higher risk for health effects from exposure to pesticides than adults because their internal organs are still developing and maturing.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in a study of 9,282 people nationwide, found pesticides in 100% of the people who had both blood and urine tested. The average person carried 13 of 23 pesticides tested.

Please do not think that when lawn chemicals have dried that they are safe. They’re not. Lawn chemicals can remain active from one month to a year.

Okay, I know you’re waiting for some good news – and I have some! Use organic lawn treatments. There is no reason you can’t obtain a weed-free, healthy lawn using safe alternatives to chemicals.

A simple “organic lawn care” Google search brings up lots of how-to websites, including one titled “Organic Lawn Care for the Cheap and Lazy” ([www.richsoil.com/lawn-care.jsp](http://www.richsoil.com/lawn-care.jsp)). That sounds good to me!

However, my family takes the **EVEN** lazier approach by hiring an organic lawn care company to service our yard. They do a wonderful job keeping our lawn healthy. I am also proud of the clovers and other scarce weeds I find. It means that I’m doing my best to keep my family healthy! And I tell my kids when they see those little signs that say “chemical lawn application” to steer way clear and to avoid those lawns in general whenever possible. ●

**Characters to help Porter Library celebrate Comic Book Day**

by MEL MAURER

**N**ow that the archvillain – Corona Virus – has been beaten down by superheroes in the medical field, my “Guys” – life size figures of other kinds of superheroes and cartoons characters – will be returning to Porter Library on April 24 to help celebrate Free Comic Book Day on May 7.

Several new figures have been added to the

roster since last displayed two years ago – Iron Man (will he be flying?), Sonic the Hedgehog and The Flash. They join Superman (who always flies), Spider-Man (in action), Black Panther, The Hulk (big as ever), Batman (of course) along with Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus, Snoopy, Sponge Bob Square Pants and Bob the Minion.

They all love the library, especially when pictures are taken with them. They look forward to meeting you there. ●



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# PURPLE STAR

from front page

Earning this distinction for all four of our school buildings on our first attempt is beyond what I had hoped for."

In November, the Bay Village Board of Education passed a Resolution in Support of Military-connected Children and Families. The district created a webpage for military families that provides resources and information, celebrated Veterans Day and Military Family Month in November with activities at each school and the mailing of care packages to alumni who are serving, and has been celebrating Month of the Military Child in April by sharing family photos on social media and during daily announcements within each building. These military-connected students will also be honored later this month with a special certificate and T-shirt to thank them for their own sacrifices.

The Bay Village Schools' Purple Star Committee consists of: Interim Superintendent Char Shryock; Board of Education member Dr. Scott Schulz; Mike and Bernadette Power; Dave Shah; Walter Topp; and April and Walter Harper.

Committee member Bernadette Power, a current parent with two students in the district, is appreciative for all the work Shryock has put into this initiative. Her family knows first-hand what it's like to move from coast to coast for her husband Mike's career as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard.

"As a military family, we know how important community support and resources are when moving to a new area," Power said. "Superintendent Shryock has worked tirelessly to bring this Purple Star designation to Bay Village Schools."

The district's Internal Military Points of Contact Team includes: Registrar Pat Reitz; Care Coordinator Megan Basel; Normandy Elementary School teacher Anne Hart; Westerly Elementary School teacher Patrick Kelly; Bay Middle School teacher Mark Kev- esdy; and Bay High School teachers Rob Grossman and Helen Petro. Each of these team members went through special training to qualify for this team. ●

## SPORTING VIEWS

# Does the Ramirez extension signal an about-face in Dolanomics?

by JEFF BING

So where were you the day the Guardians announced the contract extension for Jose Ramirez? On a quest to locate the Loch Ness Monster? Tracking Bigfoot? Working on the next iteration of the Hula Hoop?

I ask because people tend to remember where and what they were doing when something of great historical significance occurs, and the idea of the Guardians owners parting with many millions of dollars that *isn't* Monopoly money *definitely* qualifies.

I was at work, and several coworkers – who know all about my feelings regarding the Dolans and their Great Depression approach to spending on player salaries – told me that the Dolans had parted with big bucks (at least as is relative to the Cleveland Guardians) to extend the contract of Jose Ramirez.

My reaction? I laughed when I first heard the news and laughed a

little harder at each additional "No, it *really* happened" insistence from different coworkers as the day wore on.

Frankly, after the Browns' Deshaun Watson trade stunner, I suspected that my work besties figured I'd swallow *anything*. And to be honest, it would have been easier for me to believe that someone had captured Sasquatch rocking a Hula Hoop while riding on the back of Nessie about 500 yards out on Lake Erie other than to believe Ramirez had been extended through the year 2028. *By the Dolans?*

So, what brought about this sudden change of heart from a couple of guys who've been hiding for years now behind the "fiscal sanity" mantra (even though we all know there is no such thing in

professional sports)?

Well, the Guardians announced their 29th consecutive home opening day sellout a few days before the opener. While 29 consecutive home opener sellouts are impressive, the keywords here are "a few days before the opener."

It wasn't that long ago that the Indians/Guardians sold out shortly after the tickets went on sale, and the fact that it did not sell out quickly had to make the Dolans take notice.

After years of allowing a wealth of pitching and positional talent to leave (either through free agency or trades) many fans have verbalized their disgust in the apparent "As-long-as-we-make-a-profit-it's-all-good" approach to baseball in Cleveland, and ticket sales are start-

ing to indicate as such. I mean, if the opener isn't selling, how many tickets have been sold for the other less-desirable dates in April and half of May?

My guess is *not many*.

So, kudos to the Dolans for appearing to have acknowledged the need to hang on to some of their quality talents if they expect to sell tickets. My concern now is that they will stop with Jose Ramirez, claiming to be "tapped out," when they still have a lot of work to do.

If they don't get on the ball and sign the majority of their good young pitching talent, along with a few of their top young position players, the impact of the Ramirez signing will be relegated to that of a circus side-show.

In other words, at that point, no one will care. ●

# Become a Village Project volunteer

by LISA MCDANELS

Village Project is excited to invite incoming freshmen and current high school students to volunteer at Village Project this summer. Combining the experience of adults and the energy of youth results in an explosion of contagious enthusiasm. Village Project brings ordinary people together to make extraordinary differences. Volunteers are equipped, empowered and encouraged – reflecting the true strength of community.

- Volunteer opportunities for students include:
- Preparing/packaging meals under the supervision of encouraging adults

- Developing proficient culinary skills and gaining nutritional knowledge
- Learning the importance of kitchen cleanliness (vital to our clients)
- Assisting with fundraising and special events and other roles outside the kitchen (i.e., Project Shoppe, farmer's markets, gardening, and so much more)

You can help us achieve our mission to come together as a community of all ages to provide nourishing meals and extended care and service to our neighbors experiencing cancer.

Volunteer opportunities are available for students and adults as well. Whatever your skill, we generally have a fit for you. Sign up today! Visit our website at [ourvillageproject.com/volunteer](http://ourvillageproject.com/volunteer). ●

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# Celebrate the grand opening of Cuyahoga County Public Library's Bay Village Branch

Saturday, April 30 / 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
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**2:00 – 2:30 p.m.**

Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting  
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**2:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

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- Thyme Traveler Food Truck (\$)
- Hunny Bunny's Confections (\$)
- Bay Village Historical Society
- Explore CCPL's Toy Collection
- Demos of the Bay Village Branch's new Innovation Center





# Westlake Porter Public Library's late April calendar of events

by ELAINE WILLIS

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's late April 2022 calendar of events. All programs are subject to change. Please check [westlakelibrary.org](http://westlakelibrary.org) or follow the library on Facebook and Twitter (@WestlakePorter) for the latest updates.

Wednesday, April 20 (7-8 p.m.) **Women's Financial Planning Series** – Join us for the last of this three-part series exploring financial planning topics for women. This session's topic is "Finding Certainty in an Uncertain World." In it you'll learn how to create a retirement cash flow. Presented by Connie Costanzo with AFE – Association of Financial Educators. Please register.

Thursday, April 21 (10-10:30 a.m.) **JECC Presents Storytime** – Join the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland for a storytime that celebrates Judaism. Ages 2-5, siblings welcome. Please register.

Thursday, April 21 (1:30-3:30 p.m.) **Painted Wine Glasses** – Learn from a professional painter how to paint spring flowers on two wine glasses. After painting, you take them home and bake them in the oven. Please register.

Thursday, April 21 (4-5 p.m.) **Teen Craft: Hand-made Jewelry** – During this craft session we'll learn some basics of hand-made jewelry by making charm earrings. Please register.

Friday, April 22 (1-2 p.m.) **Earth Day Sensory Stations** – Engage your child's senses by scooping,

pouring, sorting, and more with a variety of fun materials. For children ages 2-7 with disabilities, their families, and their typical siblings or peers. Please register.

Saturday, April 23 (10:30-11 a.m.) and Wednesday, April 27 (7-7:30 p.m.) **Family Storytime** – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! For families with children ages 2-6. Siblings are welcome. Registration begins one week before each session.

Saturday, April 23 (2-3:30 p.m.) **Stuffed Animal Hospital** – Bring a soft toy of any kind that is in need of repair and learn basic sewing techniques to make your friend as good as new. Grades K-5. One of the best things we can do for our planet is limit the amount of waste that we produce. By fixing stuffed animals and dolls, participants will help keep these toys out of a landfill while practicing new sewing skills.

Sunday, April 24 (2-3:30 p.m.) **Hand Sewing for Literacy** – Learn basic sewing skills and create a sewn project while listening to a story with sewing as its central theme. Hand sewing helps kids develop fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, self-confidence, patience and focus – skills used in reading and writing. Caregivers are encouraged to stay for the program to learn the sewing techniques and assist their child(ren). Younger siblings are welcome and a simple stitching project will be available for them. Grades Kindergarten-2. Please register.

Monday, April 25 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) **Teen Lounge** – Need a place to hang out after school? Come to WPPL's Teen Lounge for video games, board games and more! Grades 7-12.

Monday, April 25 (7-8:30 p.m.) **Beginner's Guide to Spring Wines from Around the Globe (Virtual)** – There are so many wine varieties out there, it can be overwhelming to know where to begin! Join Certified Sommelier Wanda Haynes as she provides the scoop on which white wines to enjoy while spring begins to bloom. Please register to receive Zoom information.

Monday, April 25 (7-8:30 p.m.) **Crime Scene Investigation** – Sergeant Nathan Fox of the Westlake Police Department explains how police process crime scenes and gather evidence. What do crime scene investigators actually do? How do they start their investigations? How do they preserve evidence? Answers to these questions and many more will be explored. Please register.

Tuesday, April 26 (4-4:45 p.m.) **The Science of Magic Tree House: Afternoon on the Amazon** – Join Mrs. K as we explore the book "Afternoon on the Amazon." Discoveries will be made through hands-on experiments, active participation and a simple take-home project. Grades 1-2. Please register.

Wednesday, April 27 (3:45-4:15 p.m.) **Poem in My Pocket** – We will make a simple pocket craft and read a story and poems together. Children of all abilities welcome. Ages 6-12.

Wednesday, April 27 (7-8 p.m.) **Adult Creative Writing Group: Poetry Focus** – 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! This meeting will focus on poetry in honor of National Poetry Month. Please register.

Wednesday, April 27 (7-8 p.m.) **Gardening for a Concert: Creating Concert Halls for Nature's Music** – From bird songs in the spring and summer to an evening chorus of crickets and katydids in later

summer into fall, we can invite and welcome nature's chorus into our yards and gardens. If we know what the performers need to create their music, we can begin to provide a setting in which they will thrive. Lisa Rainsong holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition from the Cleveland Institute of Music and is a member of CIM's music theory faculty. Please register.

Thursday, April 28 (3:30-4:30 p.m.) **Roblox Arcade (Virtual)** – 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.

Thursday, April 28 (4-4:45 p.m.) **Ready, Set, Kindergarten!** – Children ages 4 and 5 are invited to rotate through skill stations in preparation for making the leap to Kindergarten.

Thursday, April 28 (6:30-7:15 p.m.) **Adapt-ed Storytime** – Join us for this storytime designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime. Content is geared toward ages 3-7 years. Registration begins April 21.

Saturday, April 30 (3-4 p.m.) **Illustration Creation** – Learn about a featured illustrator then create a project inspired by their art. Grades 1-3. Registration begins April 23.

To register for any of the programs, please visit [westlakelibrary.org/events](http://westlakelibrary.org/events).

## RECYCLING / TRASH SCHEDULE

### CURBSIDE COLLECTION Every Tuesday; delayed one day for holidays

Green recycle carts, blue trash carts, yard waste bags or cans marked "yard waste only." Yard waste collection begins April 12.

Branches and brush too large to fit in yard waste bags may be bundled and placed at the curb for pickup year-round.

*\*To schedule a free home pickup of textiles and small usable household items, go to [simplerecycling.com](http://simplerecycling.com)*

### CURBSIDE BULK TRASH COLLECTION Tuesday of the third full week of the month

Residents may put out 3 extra cans/6 extra trash bags, furniture and non-freon appliances. Please donate usable items.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & BULK DROP-OFF Last Friday of the month, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., and Saturday, April 30, 8 a.m.-noon Bay Village Service Garage, 31300 Naigle Road

Accepted items: oil-based paint, varnishes, paint thinner, pesticides, caustic cleaners, automotive fluids, adhesives, computers, furniture, non-freon appliances, bulk items and scrap metal. Please donate usable items

Not accepted: tires, latex paint, ammunition, smoke detectors, medical waste, fluorescent bulbs, electronics, appliances.

### SHREDDING/RECYCLING DAY Saturday, April 30, Cahoon Park parking lot

PAPER SHREDDING, 9 a.m.-noon: Secure, environmentally friendly paper shredding. No limit! Cardboard NOT accepted.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.: Donate gently used household goods, appliances and building materials.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING: 9 a.m.-noon: Secure, environmentally friendly destruction of computers, monitors, mobile devices, printers, flat-panel TVs, cameras, copiers, and more. Visit [mcpc.com/materials-we-recycle](http://mcpc.com/materials-we-recycle) for a complete list.



Made possible by a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, awarded to the City of Bay Village and administered by the Bay Village Green Team.

Bay Village City Hall 440-871-2200	Bay Village Service Dept. 440-871-1221	Republic Industries 800-433-1309	Cuy. County Solid Waste District 216-443-3749	Simple Recycling 866-835-5068
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APRIL 2022						
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JUNE 2022						
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## Spring blooms



PHOTO BY DEBORAH ARCARO

Hellebores, or Lenten Rose, are among the earliest perennials to bloom, flowering from February to May.



DIGGING DOVER – BAY VILLAGE

Willis Leiter Sawmill Postcard

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

Willis Leiter was the premier photographer in Northeast Ohio at the turn of the last century. Many of his photographs were printed on postcards at that time. Today, they are known as part of a genre of postcards called “RPPC’s” (Real Picture Postcards). They are very collectable.

Recently one came to light on eBay. It was purchased and donated to the Bay Village Historical Society. It is numbered 1384 and titled: “Scene from High Level Bridge near N. Dover O.” It was mailed Aug. 7, 1910, from the North Dover post office by a young woman named Neola to her friend Miss Aldyth Hawgood in Painesville, Ohio. Neola states that it is a picture of the old mill not far from Dover.

In 1910 the area near Dover Center Road and the Nickel Plate railroad tracks was known as North Dover. The High Level bridge was near the intersection of West Oviatt and Cahoon roads. It carried West Oviatt over Cahoon Creek at a time before the creek was contained in a culvert and soil filled around it.

The area where Cahoon Ledges is now constructed was a mill pond for the Oviatt saw mill which once existed along the west side of Cahoon Creek approximately where Aberdeen currently dead-ends into Cahoon Road. Comparing old maps places the mill approximately on the back property line of what is currently 27420 Donald Avenue. The creek

divides this portion of the parcel from the Donald Avenue frontage.

The photograph was taken probably sometime between 1900 and 1910. The 1914 Hopkins Plat book for this area appears to indicate that the mill was demolished by 1914.

“Bay Village: A Way of Life” states that Nelson Oviatt built a home near where Cahoon Road and the railroad tracks are today and farmed in the valley below while operating his mills. He had a gristmill south of the Oviatt bridge (the High Level bridge) and a sawmill north of it on his property. The mill pond went all the way to the Nickel Plate tracks.

At the time of the publication of the book (1974) they said the foundation of the Oviatt house was still visible as well as the mounded remnants of the dike that formed the mill pond. It was said that Benjamin Tuttle built this sawmill for Oviatt and that it had reciprocating saws instead of circular ones.

The book states that when Fred Hagedorn Jr. was a boy of 8 or 9 years old while living on Cahoon Road, his daily chore as the youngest of the family was to run to the combination general store and post office to get the German language newspaper. Since there was much lumbering being done in the valley this entailed running through the sawmill and over planks suspended on the dam and up onto Dover Center Road. This frightened him because he had to be careful not to trip on the rails used for



Willis Leiter postcard c. 1900-1910 showing the Oviatt sawmill from the High Level bridge near North Dover.

carts to haul the lumber. Why he didn’t use the bridge is not clear.

Page 37 of the book has a sepia-toned photograph of the Oviatt bridge and states that it replaced an earlier wood one that had been constructed in 1854. The photograph shows Oviatt farm buildings northeast of the bridge, one of which may be incorporated in the current house at 27408 West Oviatt Road.

The book also states that Nelson Oviatt provided the lumber for a Baptist church that was constructed on the southeast corner of Dover Center and North Ridge (now Detroit) roads. He was paid \$90 to construct the church.

The current owner of 1252 Dover Center Road in Westlake, just north of I-90 on the west side of the street discovered that buried within the shell of his current home are the remains of a Greek Revival structure (visible inside the attic). He believes it may be the former Baptist church building that was abandoned and then later moved down



Portion of 1852 map showing the location of the Oviatt Sawmill on the west side of Cahoon Creek near the center bottom portion of this photograph.

Dover hill and converted into a house.

It is intriguing to think that wood milled so long ago in a long-gone sawmill may “live on” in a house in 2022. ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

# Recognize the cancer troublemakers around us

by DIANA PI, M.D.

**W**e have trillions of cells in our body. They grow, multiply, and die following a strict genetic code. Damaged cells face three fates: repair, die, or get killed by our immune cells.

Cancer starts with one or a few cells with damaged genetic materials. One reason we don't get cancer daily: this cell needs to survive numerous rounds of mutations. Eventually it acquires the ability to evade our immunity and to multiply uncontrollably. The process is long and complicated. For example, from the time of infection, cervical cancer takes 10 to 30 years to develop.

Hereditary cancers are unusual (5% to 10% of all cancers are inherited). Most cancers develop because of environmental insults.

And carcinogens, environmental things that promote cancer mutations, are ubiquitous. They're in the air we breathe, the food we eat, the stuff we touch, the infections we

get, and the ground we walk on.

But good news: The worst of these are avoidable. I'll list a few – in no particular order – and try to give you a sense of the magnitude of their influence.

1. Everybody knows smoking causes lung cancer. But you may not know it causes over 10 types of other cancers. Smoking produces 70 known carcinogens (no, I didn't mess up my decimal point); there isn't a single organ in our body that smoking spares. Smoking, including smokeless tobacco, hookah, pipes, and second-hand smoking, contributes to 40% of all cancers.

2. Alcohol increases risk of multiple cancers such as throat, colon, liver, and breast. Alcohol contributes to about 6% of all cancer. Doctors recommend moderate drinking. But when it comes to cancer risk, there isn't a safe level of drinking.

3. Radiation in the forms of radon, sunlight, tanning devices, and medical imaging/treatment is a concern.

Imagine: Our genetic materials float safely in an enveloped enclosure called the

nucleus. Things can't just cross the nucleus, like you can't enter a bank vault by knocking and saying, "Open sesame."

But some radiation can penetrate cell walls and damage our genetic materials by chopping off pieces.

First, radon, a natural radioactive gas leaking from earth, is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. Outdoor levels are very low and not a worry, but radon trapped indoors can reach dangerous levels. Radon levels vary geographically – and can vary widely from one house to the next on the same street. Ohio Department of Health offers free radon kits. Check it out.

Second, sun. Skin is our first line of defense against sun damage, thus, the most vulnerable. Cancer Research UK reports, "Sunburn once every two years can triple the risk of melanoma." Tanning devices are just as bad. Combined, they contribute to 80% of skin cancers.

Finally, radiation for medical uses has varying degrees of risk. X-rays, like mammogram or dental film, use low-dose radiation and haven't been linked to cancer. CT scans and nuclear imaging studies use more radiation. But the risk is very low and does not outweigh their diagnostic benefits.

Unfortunately, high-dose radiation, which doctors use to treat certain cancers, can induce secondary cancers.

Ultrasound and MRI do not use radiation and will not cause cancer.

4. The next group of nasties – processed meats – include my favorites. Bacon, sausages, and prosciutto are certifiable carcinogens. Why? The carcinogens come from the preservatives and processing. But the overall risk is low, it contributes to an estimated 10% of colon cancer. Burnt food has not been clearly linked to cancer.

There is a list of other things I do that may or may not help me dodge the cancer bullet. I dash past idling cars and hold my breath next to diesel-fuel trucks. I use no chemicals on my lawn. The overarching theme of my front yard is "green"; my relationship with dandelions – live and let live.

What's on your list? ●

## Herb Guild meets May 11

by BARBARA ARMSTRONG

**T**he May meeting of The Herb Guild Garden Club will be Wednesday, May 11, at Westlake Porter Public Library. The business part of the meeting will start at 10:30 a.m., with the presentation following at 12:30 p.m. The Tea Lab, a Lakewood business, will share information on teas for building immunity. Guests are very welcome! The library has dropped the mask mandate until further notice.

For more information on the upcoming meeting, call 440-353-9764 or visit [theherbguild.org](http://theherbguild.org). You can also find us on Facebook under The Herb Guild. ●

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