

THE GREEN REPORT

Help! Invasive Species Alert

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

The USDA and Ohio Department of Agriculture need your help: The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is in Ohio and help is needed to find and identify where they have spread in order to help stop infestation. On Feb. 21, the Bay Village Sea Scouts hosted Terri Nagao at the Bay Village Library. Terri is a Plant Health Safeguarding Specialist with the USDA. She came to speak with the Sea Scouts and interested residents about the dangers of the SLF. One of the Sea Scouts teams is doing their project on this species and its effects on our environment.

First, what is the SLF? It is a plant-hopper insect that is native to China, India, and Vietnam.

How did it get to the United States? It was first found in a quarry in 2014 in Berks County, Pennsylvania. It is believed that insect eggs came over on imported stone. By October 2020, it was reported to have been found on the OH-PA border. Now, it has been seen and reported in Cuyahoga County, including our neighboring cities of Rocky River and Avon Lake.

► See LANTERNFLY, page 2



USDA.GOV

A spotted lanternfly egg mass and an adult.

Arts rule under new name and logo

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

As of March 1, 2023, the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council's name has been changed to Westshore Arts Council, WAC, to reflect the width of its membership and influence. Completing its 2023 update, the WAC has also adopted a revised logo.

For nearly four decades, the WWAC successfully promoted and inspired all areas of art with programs, shows, and much more. While the group formed in Westlake, people interested in promoting easy access to art came from many surrounding areas to participate. And participation from these communities has increased over the years.

Among the many and varied programs that



This new logo has been adopted by the Westshore Arts Council.

have become regular offerings to the community through the Arts Council's dedication and work are: FYI: Opera; Community of Fine Arts August Juried Art Show; Catch a Rising Star with Baldwin Wallace Music Theater majors; art lectures; musical recitals and much more.

WAC is deeply committed to continue providing scholarships in visual and performing arts for high school students in Westshore communities. As all of its programs are free and open to the public, membership dues and donations have made this possible. Membership is open to anyone.

Information can be found at www.westshoreac.org about its programs, memberships, and other ways to participate. ♦

Levy on May ballot for Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

On May 2 Westlake voters will be asked to approve a 2.8 mill operating levy renewal and an additional 0.6 mills for Westlake Porter Public Library. The current levy, which provides 70% of the library's operating funds, expires at the end of the year. Passage will ensure library funding for the five-year period of Jan. 1, 2024 to Dec. 31, 2028. The current operating levy mill-

age has been in place for 15 years.

Currently the levy is the library's primary source of operating funds, providing materials (books, magazines, digital/downloadable/streaming materials), resources (computers, software, digital databases, etc.), staffing, program support, supplies, and building operations (maintenance and utilities). The other major source of funding is the state's Public Library Fund (PLF).

► See LIBRARY LEVY, page 2

Bay Village appoints new Director of Community Services

by TARA WENDELL

On March 13, Bay Village City Council confirmed the appointment of Kathleen Messeri as Director of Community Services.

Human Resources Director Jennifer Demaline introduced her to Council, saying: "Kathleen recently has been working with the City of Brooklyn and has most recently been serving as their community services coordinator, which would be the similar job title to our community services director here. She has a lot of expertise and a lot of experience, and we're really looking forward to having



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Kathleen Messeri

her come on board."

Kathy grew up in Massachusetts before moving with her family to California where she attended high school and earned a bachelor's degree in business and marketing at Cal State Bernardino.

► See DIRECTOR, page 4

Rules changes described for May 2 Primary Election voters

by CYNTHIA WHITE, Chair,
Bay Village Chapter

KATHY WOOLNER, Co-chair,
Westlake-North Olmsted Chapter

NADIA ZAIEM, Co-chair,
Westlake-North Olmsted Chapter

League of Women Voters of
Greater Cleveland

Ohio's voting laws changed considerably in January 2023, when Governor Mike DeWine signed HB 458 into law. Changes are outlined here for Westlake citizens who want to participate in the May 2, 2023, Primary Election. (Bay Village's Primary Election will be held on Sept. 12, 2023.) Some actions need to be taken before April 3, 2023, the deadline for new and updated registrations for voters in the May 2 Primary.

The main changes involve the documents needed to prove identity when registering and voting. Also changed are the dead-

lines for mail-in-balloting actions and the schedule for early voting at the Cuyahoga Board of Elections, 2925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland.

The Board of Elections has scheduled information sessions at area libraries to assist residents in preparing to vote. The handiest such location for Bay Village and Westlake residents will be Westlake's Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd, on March 23 and March 30, 2-6 p.m. each day. (Note: Voter registration forms and mail-in-ballot applications are available at all libraries every day, for even greater convenience.)

► See ELECTION, page 4



LANTERNFLY

from front page

Why is the SLF so bad? They live on plants and trees and feed off their nutrients. The tree or plant is so weakened by its nutrient loss that it is not able to fend off other threats, and its life is threatened. The SLF can be found on ANY plant or tree, though they especially like the Tree of Heaven.

SLFs are voracious eaters and eat in swarms. The insect itself is 1-inch long and 1/2-inch wide at rest. It has a 2-inch wingspan when extended. The hind wings are red and black, and forewings are gray. They have black spots. Immature SLFs are all black with white spots.

The SLF does not have any natural predators or environmental controls. Some birds of prey will eat them, but this is not an effective method of control. Similarly, there is not yet an effective “lure” for them to kill them in mass quantities. This is why citizens must be vigilant and on the lookout for these insects and kill them when found (and report them – more on this below).

During Terri’s presentation, she showed video of an infestation on a tree. Please believe me when I tell you it was horrifying. The entire surface of the tree’s trunk was covered in Spotted Lanternflies. Early detection of these is vital for the protection of our environment and agriculture!

What can you do? Be on the lookout



NJ.GOV/AGRICULTURE

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) with wings open.

for the insects as well as egg masses. Egg masses, which hold between 30-40 eggs, can be found late September through May – if you find one, please scrape with hard plastic like a credit card and rubbing alcohol, diluted Clorox, or hand sanitizer.

Newly laid egg masses have a gray mud-like covering which can take on a dry, cracked appearance over time. Egg masses can be found on trees and

smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles and other structures.

If you find an egg mass or an insect, please take a photo and submit it to agri.ohio.gov/slf, email it to plantpest@agri.ohio.gov, or to Bay Village Arborist, Mike Polinski at mpolinski@cityofbayvillage.com. You can be part of the solution by being on the lookout for these invasive insects and reporting them as soon as you find evidence of them. ●



Spotted lanternfly’s life stages with size comparison to a U.S. quarter.

LIBRARY LEVY

from front page

In the five years since the current levy was passed, the library has begun offering new collections, such as the World Languages and Non-Traditional Materials collections, and significantly expanded its digital collection. The library constructed the Artwalk to connect to the Westlake Elementary School, added a Makerspace with state-of-the-art

equipment, created the Friends Outdoor Programming Pavilion, and completed a renovation in our Adult Services Department that included the addition of two small group study rooms and renovation of three existing study rooms. The upcoming levy will allow the library to continue to offer these services.

Westlake Porter Public Library is an independent library serving the community of Westlake. It was founded in 1884 through a bequest by Leonard G. Porter. ●

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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 1,400+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate.

To join in, sign up through the Member Center at wbvobserver.com/members to submit your stories, photos and events. (We don't share information)

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Letters to the editor (max. 300 words) may be sent to tara@wbvobserver.com. Please include full contact information.

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Demon Drama Club to perform ‘Legally Blonde’

The Westlake High School spring musical, “Legally Blonde,” will hit the stage for four shows beginning on Thursday, March 23. Based on the popular film starring Reese Witherspoon, the musical follows a sorority girl’s attempts to overcome stereotypes.

Elle Woods appears to have it all. However, her life is turned upside down when her boyfriend Warner dumps her so he can attend Harvard Law. Determined to get him back, Elle perseveres and is accepted into Harvard as well. While there, she struggles with peers, professors and her ex. With the support of some new friends, though, Elle quickly realizes her potential and sets out to prove herself to the world.

Performances will be held on March 23, 24, and 25 at 7 p.m., with a matinee on Sunday, March 26, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10. The Westlake Performing Arts Center is located at 27830 Hilliard Blvd. ●



The WHS production of “Legally Blonde” is double cast, with Audrey Morrison, left, performing as Elle Woods on Thursday and Saturday, and Reagan Imwalle, right, performing Friday and Sunday.

DEMON DISPATCH Innovation is driver of success at Westlake City Schools

by DR. SCOTT GOGGIN
Superintendent,
Westlake City School District

Of all the things we have learned over the past three years, one of the most important lessons has been the commitment to innovation. It has been essential for us to stay resilient and adaptive as we navigate the new landscape of education. We have come up with fresh perspectives on formidable challenges. Our resourcefulness has become our ultimate ally in tackling complex issues that arise.

To put it simply, we have been driven to innovate. Our Westlake students, teachers, and administrators show resilience when new challenges arise. They confront every obstacle with astounding grace and conviction.

To truly Innovate, we must break out of our routines, take different approaches, and act purposefully. When we’re Innovative, either individually or as a group, we can reach greater heights and make discoveries.

Sticking to the status quo is far easier than thinking outside the box. When faced with difficulties, it’s tempting to put your head in the sand and hope it gets better. At Westlake, we like to take the road less traveled and are focused on being innovators.

Here at Westlake, we strive to cultivate a spirit of innovation and curiosity in our students so they can become lifelong learners.

Our Innovative students strive to succeed by pursuing their passions and employing creativity, regardless of whether they participate in the drama program, play an instrument in a band, join a sports team, or become involved with an academic club. Through this enthusiasm for what they love doing, combined with hard work and dedication, these individuals are determined to achieve remarkable results.

When our students approach their lives with an eye toward innovation, they can accomplish great things. By nourishing their interests, remaining open-minded, and staying curious, they will undoubtedly uncover new ways to think innovatively throughout their academic careers and long after graduation. They will find unique, impactful ways to contribute to society positively.

Our Innovative Westlake students can make a lasting impact on the world when they learn to embrace innovation. Our students will unlock creative thinking approaches beyond their academic careers with an open mind. A crucial part of cultivating this innovative spirit is encouraging curiosity in all forms. Then our students’ bright minds become equipped with the tools to tackle any challenge confidently and make a positive difference in society. ●

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SPORTING VIEWS

The I'ds of March

by JEFF BING

You know, I've been thinking lately (yes folks, a miracle unto itself) about all the things that I'd hoped would go in one direction during my lifetime, but ended up going contrary to what I had wished.

So, being the sharing kind of guy that I am, here are the types of things I'm referring to:

I'd have preferred that the Guardians were still the Indians.

On the other hand, I'd have preferred that I didn't become so crotchety in my old age,

because the "Indians" who were so near and dear to my heart, were awful in the '60s, '70s, '80s and into the '90s, and I seem to recall wanting to sell my soul (dirt cheap) simply for a competitive baseball team. (If you're wondering, I did have several offers for my soul, which I turned down as I felt the little devil was low-balling me. However, some of my advisors have suggested that I'd have been better off taking the first thing he offered.)

So, what would I rather have? The Guardians, who have known nothing but suc-

cess in their first year of existence, or an Indians team that did nothing but torture me for the most part of four (count 'em, four) decades? That makes my statement above about the name change seem kind of irrelevant, doesn't it? Hey, nobody's perfect.

I'd have preferred to not regularly chastise Jimmy Haslam et al for subjecting myself and all the other Browns fans on this planet to his "guiding" of the team into football oblivion. But it is kinda fun.

I'd have preferred Art Modell not taking the Browns to Baltimore a quarter-century ago. Had he stayed put, we most likely would not have had to endure those mentioned in the

paragraph above.

I'd have preferred the Cavaliers, along with the rest of the NBA, played the style of basketball I so enjoyed in the '80s and '90s. Somewhere along the line, the "team" concept was banned from the playbook.

Similar to the above, I'd have preferred that politicians actually worked in the best interests of the people they represent, instead of focusing on the faults of the opposing party. Funny, but the "team" concept seems to have vanished for these jokers about the same time as in the NBA.

I'd have preferred that CBS would not cancel "Gilligan's Island" when they did. They were so close to getting off that

island, right?

In a similar vein, I'd have preferred that CBS would not cancel "The Beverly Hillbillies." Dang, that Jethro done taught me all I know 'bout writin'. Much obliged to Jethro, as I done graduated 4th grade (the second attempt).

I'd have preferred to see COVID-19 completely in the world's rearview mirror quite some time ago. But, much like high-speed internet salesmen, it keeps hanging around on a regular basis. Scram, dudes.

I'd have preferred (that someday) I could have viewed the readership number(s) of my Sporting Views column in the plural sense. Oh well. Maybe next year. ●

LAKE ROAD WALKING TOUR

Aaron and Elizabeth Aldrich House, 30663 Lake Road, c. 1830

The fifth in a series of articles to be published as a walking tour of Lake Road by the Bay Village Historical Society in 2025.

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

It was in 1816 that Aaron and Elizabeth Aldrich and a son moved from Rhode Island to Dover to live near Elizabeth's brother Henry Winsor. In 1822, they moved to New York for Aaron to take charge of a cotton factory.

In seven years, Aaron earned enough money to move back to Dover and purchase a 140-acre farm, extending from Lake Erie south to what is now Wolf Road, and build this very fine

frame house (in 1830).

Built as a double house it has a two-story west wing with a Federal style fan window in the attic and a single-story east wing. It eventually passed down to George Drake, their grandson.

Henry Winsor's 1785 desk which he had brought to Dover in 1813, was in this house, crammed with papers that became the foundation of the first written history of Bay Village, "Bay Village: A Way of Life." Today, that desk is part of the Rose Hill Museum collection.

The Aldrich house is very well preserved inside and out and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. ●

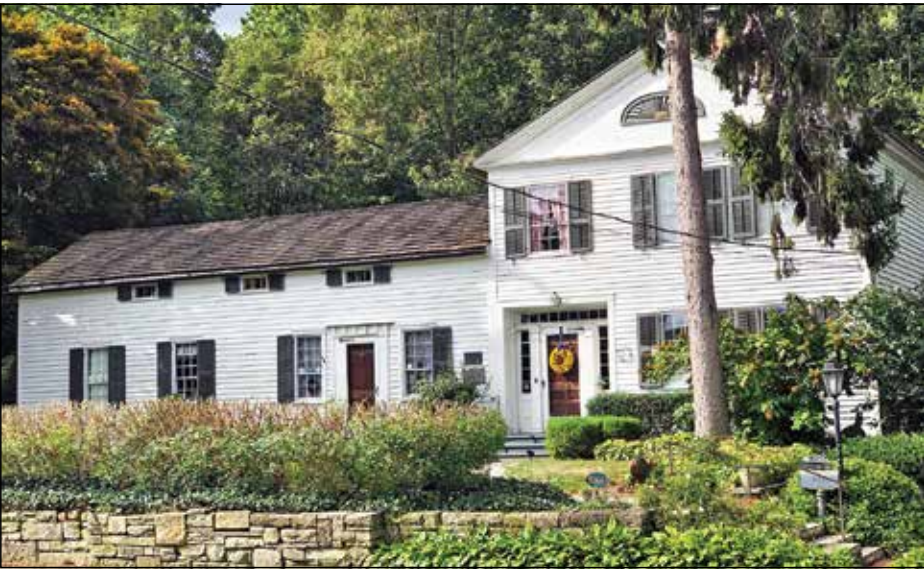


PHOTO BY WILLIAM KRAUSE

The Aldrich house at 30663 Lake Road.

DIRECTOR

from front page

After graduation, she moved to Portland, Oregon, to begin a career in banking. Kathy continued working as a loan officer after moving to the Cleveland area and worked as a reporter for several years before being hired by the City of Brooklyn, Ohio, in 2014.

She has four daughters and recently welcomed her first grandchild.

"I am so excited to become a part of Bay Village!" Kathy wrote in a letter for the Bay Village Senior Center's April newsletter. "I have an open door policy and encourage conversation, ideas and suggestions. I look forward to meeting you, building new working relationships, and establishing new friendships here."

Kathy takes over from former director Emily Goers, who resigned in February to rejoin her previous employer, Independence Village in Avon Lake.

Kathy's first day on the job will be March 29, followed by a two-day working conference with other city administration leaders.

A "Meet the Director" event is scheduled for Friday, April 14, at 10 a.m. at the senior center. The community is invited to attend; registration is required by calling 440-835-6565 prior to April 10. ●

ELECTION

from front page

Monday, April 3, is the deadline for registering as a new voter or for changing one's name or address in the voting records. The primary election will take place on Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at all precinct locations. Early voting can be done at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections office, 2925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, starting April 4 and ending April 30.

Here are the changes now in effect:

Registering to Vote:

- New registrations and name and address changes can be done online, on paper, and in person.
- The deadline for receipt of your registration is Monday, April 3. You need to allow delivery time if mailed in or plan to deliver in person to the Cuyahoga Board of Elections on or before Monday, April 3.

Vote-By-Mail (Absentee Ballot):

- Any registered voter may request a mail-in ballot. You need only the last 4 digits of your SSN to

request and vote with an absentee ballot.

- Requests for mail-in-ballots must be made on the official Secretary of State form (printable from ohiosos.gov and returned to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections office no later than Tuesday, April 25, at 8:30 p.m. Once received, you will be mailed a ballot to complete.

- Monday, May 1, is the postmark deadline for returning completed mail-in ballots.

- Completed mail-in ballots may be returned to the secure drop box in the Board of Elections parking lot no later than Tuesday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. (The new legislation limits drop boxes to one location per county; the drop box will be open 24/7 during early voting.)

In-Person Voting on Election Day, Tuesday, May 2, 2023:

- If you want to vote in person, you need to have a valid photo ID
- There are only 5 acceptable IDs for voting in person:
 - An Ohio driver's license
 - An Ohio-issued state identification card
 - A U.S. or OH state military ID
 - A U.S. passport

- If you do not have a valid ID, you should plan to vote with an absentee ballot using the last four digits of your SSN as your identification.

Curbside Voting:

Any voter with a disability who is physically unable to enter the polling place may vote curbside. Two precinct election officials from the major political parties will bring a ballot to you. You may sit in your car and vote, or you may vote at the door of the building.

Early Voting at Board of Elections, April 4-30, 2023:

- Bring your valid photo ID (see list above).
- 2023 schedule for early in-person voting:
 - April 4-21, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - April 24, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
 - April 25, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
 - April 26-28, 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
 - April 29, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
 - April 30, 1-5 p.m.

Please make a plan to vote in every election.

Be an early voter, or request your absentee ballot early and return your ballot promptly. ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

My first presidential order: Pay to exercise

by DIANA PI, M.D.

I'm thinking about running for U.S. president in 2024.

We, the biggest healthcare spender in the world, have little to show. For one, we have the highest death rate in avoidable and treatable conditions.

Today I'll give you my first declaration: "I will pay everybody \$30 per hour to exercise."

How do I justify this?

Exercise delays and mitigates 40 chronic diseases – anything from diabetes to depression to dementia to cancer. The question really is "What doesn't exercise benefit?"

When it comes to heart health, exercise capacity (how much you can do physically) is a more important determinant of health outcome than cholesterol number. For example, let's say two people have 3 identical blocked heart vessels, the one that can run would have half the chance of dying than the one that can't.

Exercise benefits are sustained. A study compared the impact of sedentary lifestyle and moderate exercise (walking 30 minutes 5 times a week) on developing diabetes. Even though the exercise intervention only lasted one year, the

rate of diabetes in the exercise group was half that in the sedentary group 10 years out.

To show you how serious I am, for those with complicated issues like recent heart surgery, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, etc., I will triple the amount to \$90 per hour. Study showed running reduces depressive symptoms as much as psychotherapy. Paying \$90 per hour, I'll still come ahead.

I don't care how fast or slow you walk. I don't care if you accrue the distance by running on a treadmill or walking in a Walmart parking lot. You keep moving, I keep paying.

Exercise answers another significant and under-addressed health determinant – social isolation. Loneliness



CARTOON BY MEGAN STEWART

increases the risks of dementia, depression, heart diseases, and mortality. A wonderful solution: group exercise.

Fifteen years ago, my husband and I joined the U.S. Masters Swimming. We swim in Lakewood High School with some 70 others. We've watched each

other's kids grow up, seen each other through bike accidents, cancer treatment, job changes, graying. I'd never have met this diverse group of friends if not for our common love of water.

Recently, I learned that my neighbors Eddie and Tina work out at the rec center every morning at 5 a.m. Eddie belongs to a large workout group that includes Mayor Clough. Afterward, they go to Panera Bread for bagels, discuss the mundane, and solve world problems. Unfortunately, the obscene early hour prevented me from doing any actual investigation. They say they love it. I believe them.

Today, half of Americans do not or rarely exercise. CDC states we can prevent 110,000 deaths yearly "if US adults increased moderate-to-vigorous physical activity by even 10 minutes per day."

To meet that goal, my proposal will cost \$2,000 per person per year. But look, according to a 2016 study from Journal of the American Heart Association, exercise can save \$500 to \$2,500 in health-care spending per person per year. The more complicated the heart diseases, the greater the saving.

I admit my plan needs work. My kids said that with that rate, they'd happily quit school and "exercise" for a living. But I'm a big-picture kind of leader. Exercise saves lives and money. I'll let Eddie's think tank take care the rest. ●

BAYarts juried show raises the bar

On March 10 the BAYarts Annual Juried Exhibition opened. This exhibition features regional artists in all disciplines. Artists were invited to submit online, and the work was reviewed by judges selected by Artistic Director Karen Petkovic.

The judges this year were Adrian Eisenhower and Chad Cochran. Eisenhower, primarily a painter, focuses his work on landscape and the human figure working out of the Walton Avenue Atelier located in Cleveland's Hildebrandt Building on Walton Avenue. Cochran, a photographer, describes himself as a late bloomer; he didn't own a camera until he was 40 and started with landscape. Now, 10 years later after being asked to take a photograph of a musician, he travels back and forth between Cleveland and Nashville.

The judges were selected based on the strength of their own work and their ability to review work with a critical eye. Both are residents of Bay Village, and both have close ties to BAYarts. Petkovic feels it is important at a community art center to make sure that the art of the community is well

represented. She was thrilled to see so many artists familiar to her from BAYarts make it into the show this year.

The Best of Show award went to ceramic artist Michael W. High for his piece titled "Behind the Mask." BAYarts instructor Erjon Hajnaj took home the First Place Award for his painting titled "Am I Strong Enough Now." Avon Lake photographer Jack Koch took home the Director's Choice Award. A list of all the winners can be found at bayarts.net.

The Juried Show will run through April 15. Gallery Hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. You still have time to vote for your favorite by visiting the gallery and completing a People's Choice Ballot. The winner will be announced on March 24. ●



PHOTO BY NANCY HEATON

"At the Easel," a painting by Tricia Kaman.

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Holy Week and Easter Services

Bay United Methodist Church

10 am on April 2 Palm Sunday
Easter Cantata by Chancel Choir

7 pm on April 6 for Maundy Thursday

6:30 am on April 9 for Easter Sunrise Service
at Huntington Park

10 am on April 9 for Easter Worship Service

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Easter Cantata performed on Palm Sunday at Bay Methodist

by JENNIE SEBRASKY

Leading up to Easter celebrations, the Bay United Methodist Chancel Choir, directed by Ron Muth, will perform their annual Easter Cantata at the 10 a.m. worship service on April 2, Palm Sunday.

The mixed choral ensemble blends voices in four-part harmony to Pepper Choplin's "The Body of Christ." Accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra, the performance will

inspire with its balanced and unified musical presentation of the Easter story. Ron Muth has been the Director of Music for Bay United Methodist since 1977 and continues to thrill with his ambitious and beautifully arranged holiday cantatas.

"The Body of Christ" leads the audience through three themes touching on ways the body of Christ can be defined. Each theme is powerfully portrayed in the movements of the

cantata – whether as the physical body of Jesus, the communion partaken in the upper room, or the church that came about from those who follow Jesus' teachings.

The 40-minute concert will take place during the regular Sunday worship on Palm Sunday at Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Road. All members of the community are welcome. The church and their pastor, Rev. Lisa Kropinak, will also share a Maundy Thursday

service on April 6 at 7 p.m., and both a 6:30 a.m. sunrise

service at Huntington Park and a 10 a.m. service at the

church on Easter Sunday, April 9. ●



Bay United Methodist Church's Chancel Choir

Musical about Jesus' life features local performers

by MARY BETH SCHNEIDLER

The cast and crew of "The Answer," a story based on Scripture, would like to invite you to special performances at St. Joseph Church in Amherst on March 18 and 19, St. Clarence Church in North Olmsted on March 24 and 25 and Crossroads Church in Mansfield on March 31. The shows all begin at 7:30 p.m. The cast and crew members are looking forward to presenting to you the story of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus set to contemporary music. The production is a wonderful way to devote time and

prayer during the time of Lent.

The Answer takes place in the Holy Land and focuses on the last 3 years of the ministry of Jesus including His death and resurrection. Throughout the musical, questions arise about the ministry of Jesus with the answers being revealed throughout the production.

This dynamic musical is a contemporary multimedia production with video, song, drama and dance. It is directed and produced by Christina Dupré. She was originally from France and came to the United States to earn degrees from The Ohio State University and The Cleveland Institute of Music.

Christina has performed throughout the world, including several World Youth Days and three papal performances. She currently is the Worship and Liturgy Coordinator at St. Joseph Church in Amherst.

The extremely taxing role of Jesus is professionally and powerfully done by Ernesto Alcantara, the Worship Pastor at Crossroads Church. He recently has performed in three Christian films and released his first single "Blown Away." His acting, singing and ability to convey the message of Jesus will leave you awestruck!

The cast and crew of 80 is primarily

composed of people from the area with many being from the parishes of St. Ladislav in Westlake, St. Joseph in Amherst, St. Mary of the Falls in Olmsted Falls, St. Clarence in North Olmsted, Crossroads Church in Mansfield and several other local parishes.

The performances are free but those in attendance will be given the opportunity to give a free will offering.

It is the sincere hope of the participants that all who attend will come and be transported back in time by The Answer and will experience a deeper understanding of their faith, especially during the time of Lent. ●

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Palm Sunday
11:00 a.m.

Good Friday
Noon/7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday
11:00 a.m.

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**St. Raphael
Catholic
Church**



Easter
Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 2
4:30pm Sat Vigil Mass, April 1
8am, 10am, 12pm Sun Mass

Holy Thursday, April 6
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Eucharistic Adoration until 11:30pm

Good Friday, April 7
12pm Stations of the Cross
3pm Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 8
1:00pm Blessing of Food
No Confessions
8:45 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday Masses April 9
7:30, 9:00, & 10:30am, 12pm

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on Sunday, April 9th
Services at 9:00 am & 11:00 am



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SUNDAY**

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WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

FYI: Opera proves some of the best things are free

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

Three talented voices from Oberlin Conservatory will present an FYI: Opera program on Tuesday, March 28, at 7 p.m. at Westlake Porter Public Library in the library's Porter Room. This programming by the Westshore Arts Council continues a three-decade free vocal gift to the community.

Oberlin Opera Theater Director Jonathon Field said selections from the operas "Candide" and "Elixir of Love" will be performed.

Morgan Wolfe, a soprano, from Suffern, New York, studying in her fourth year at Oberlin, will

sing a solo aria, "Glitter and be Gay" from "Candide" and a duet, "Oh Happy We Duet," also from "Candide." From "Elixir of Love," she will sing the aria "Prendi."

Senior Jared Cohen, from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, partners with Wolfe in the "Candide" duet "Oh Happy We Duet." He will also sing "Nothing More Than This," from "Candide" and "Una Furtiva Lagrima" from "Elixir of Love."

Evan Tiapula, who started his life in Brisbane, California, will sing "Dear Boy" from "Candide." His repertoire at Oberlin includes Snug in "Midsummer Night's Dream" and Count Robinson in "Il Matrimonio Segreto." ●



Evan Tiapula



Jared Cohen



Morgan Wolfe

BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Celebrating a state champ and other state-qualifying athletes

by KAREN MISCIAGNA

Bay High School celebrated a great winter sports season with a state swim champ and several state qualifiers in diving, wrestling and indoor track.

Congratulations to swimmer Nina LaRosa who won first place in the 100-yard Breaststroke at the recent 2023 Swimming & Diving State Tournament in Canton. This senior state champ broke her own school record with a time of 1:02.57. Nina also placed 6th in the State 100-yard Butterfly.

We also congratulate divers Charlie Vatolin (5th place), Bennett Bourn (21st place) and Belle Dent (24th place), who also represented Bay High School at the Canton state swimming and diving tournament.

Wrestler Anthony Rocco placed 8th at the recent Wrestling State Tournament at the Schottenstein Center in Columbus, and became the 25th state placer in the history of Bay High School Wrestling.

And finally, seven Rockets represented Bay High School at the Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches (OATCCC) Indoor State Track Meet at SPIRE Institute in Geneva: Jayden Perrine, long jump (9th place); 4x800m Relay of Will Dunstan, Connor Spellman, Kieran Ripley, Iain Ray (16th place); Payton Krafcheck, long jump (17th) and Michael Hanselman, 3200m (21st place). ●



PHOTO COURTESY BAY VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Bay High School senior swimmer Nina LaRosa was crowned state champ in the 100-yard breaststroke.

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Questions? Contact us at 440-409-0114
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Canals into the Great Lakes

by GEORGE RYAN

The Welland Canal is an important waterway in the Great Lakes region. It is a man-made canal that connects Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, allowing ships to bypass Niagara Falls. The canal is an important part of the St. Lawrence Seaway, which is a system of locks, canals, and channels that connect the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean.

The Welland Canal helps to improve shipping in the Great Lakes region by giving ships to access to valuable cargo in the Midwest. However, the major canal is in the St. Lawrence Seaway that is managed by The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) that was established in 1959 as a joint venture between the governments of Canada and the United States. The

system supports thousands of jobs and generates billions of dollars in economic activity. This cargo includes iron ore, coal, grain, limestone, cement, salt, sand, steel, petroleum products, and other commodities.

The Soo Locks (sometimes spelled Sault Locks but pronounced “soo”) are a set of parallel locks, operated and main-

tained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, that enable ships to travel between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes. They are located on the St. Marys River between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, between the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Canadian province of Ontario. They bypass the rapids of

the river, where the water falls 21 feet. The locks pass an average of 10,000 ships per year, despite being closed during the winter from January through March, when ice shuts down shipping on the Great Lakes. ●



Welland Canal with Garden City Skyway and Homer Lift Bridge.



Aerial picture of the Soo Locks in Michigan between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Located between the cities of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan (right) and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada (left).

Concert celebrates African-American classical music legacies

The Music Settlement returns to West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday, March 26, at 3 p.m. for another collaborative concert series led by Chris Jenkins. The concert is free and open to the public. It will be held in the church Sanctuary, located at 20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River.

While Northeast Ohio's rich legacy of African-American classical music performance and composition is not nationally well-known, during the late 19th and 20th century, it was a hub of activity and training for young Black musicians. During this period, musical training was available to them at only a select number of schools, such as Oberlin Conservatory, the Cleveland Institute of Music, New England Conservatory, and Howard University.

Composers such as Nathaniel Dett, Hale Smith, Dolores White, H. Leslie Adams, George Walker, and many others were able to pursue musical training at

the secondary and conservatory level in Cleveland and the areas surrounding Oberlin Conservatory. An emphasis on racial inclusion was created in part by the prominent role played by certain parts of Northeast Ohio in the Underground Railroad, including the towns of Oberlin and Yellow Springs.

The program, titled “Linking Legacies,” celebrates the legacy of these composers by featuring performers with personal connections to the institutions where they trained, and to the composers themselves. This program will highlight works for voice, piano, cello and viola.

Founded by Almeda Adams in 1912 as part of the Settlement movement and featuring a campus that includes the 1910 Burke Mansion and the Bop Stop, The Music Settlement offers music therapy, early childhood education, and music instruction to people of all ages and levels of experience in Northeast Ohio. ●

A catalog is just library speak for 'menu.'

Books from the Westlake Porter Public Library catalog.

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LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

The do's and don'ts of baby wildlife

by LAURA DORR

Spring is here, which means baby season for our local wildlife. As wildlife rehabilitators prepare for their busiest time of the year, here are some do's and don'ts for helping baby wildlife.

DO: Allow wildlife to grow up in their natural environment

Baby animals are vulnerable, but resilient. Predators and other threats are a natural part of their environment. While it can be tempting to take and care for babies to try to protect them from danger, they cannot learn necessary survival skills in captivity. The only way to prepare baby animals for life in the wild is to let them grow up there.

DON'T: Assume baby wildlife is abandoned

Baby wildlife is rarely abandoned. Several species leave their young unattended for hours. For example, it is perfectly normal to see a fawn lying quietly by itself. The mother will come back at dusk and dawn to care for it. Likewise, Eastern cottontail rabbits do not stay with their nests, and only return twice a day to feed their babies. They do this to avoid attracting predators with their presence.

However, certain baby animals should not be left

alone. Ducklings, goslings, gull chicks and opossum babies should never be on their own. If you find one, contact a rehabilitator as soon as possible. In the interim, place the baby in a box with air holes and keep it in a warm, dark, quiet place. Do not give it food or water.

DO: Monitor your yard for nests

Check your yard before cutting the grass, as Eastern cottontails often build their nests in the middle of lawns. If you find a nest, do not move the baby bunnies – even if the nest seems to be in a bad location – or their mother will be unable to find them.

You should also check for bird nests before trimming branches and other landscaping. If you find a baby bird that has visible skin out of the nest, place it back in its nest or in an artificial nest. If the bird is fully feathered but unable to fly, leave the bird alone. These birds are in the fledgling stage, where baby birds leave the nest to learn

critical survival behaviors.

DON'T: Feed or provide care for baby wildlife

Baby wildlife cannot receive the same level of care from humans as they would from their parents. If you find a baby, do not give it food or water. Each species requires a specialized diet, and feeding an animal the wrong food can be harmful to its health, particularly if it is already injured or distressed. Instead, contact a wildlife rehabilitator for assistance and advice on appropriate steps to take.

DO: Call a wildlife rehabilitator if you find an injured animal

If you find an injured animal or are unsure if a baby requires assistance, call the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center at 440-871-2900 before intervening. The Center provides free wildlife rehabilitation services between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. seven days a week. ●



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Westlake Porter Public Library's upcoming calendar of events

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's upcoming 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.

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, March 22-29 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) **Discovery Box (Sign Up)** – Register for WPPL's personalized subscription box service. For teens in grades 7-12. Registration begins on March 22 and must be done by Wednesday, March 29. Pick up begins April 5.

Wednesdays, March 22 and 29 (4:30-6 p.m.) **Bow Wow Books** – Stop by Youth Services to sign up for a 10-minute reading time with a therapy dog. Sign up starts at 4 p.m. Recommended for grades K-4.

Wednesdays, March 22 and 29 (7-7:30 p.m.) **Family Storytime** – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! For families with children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Siblings are welcome.

Friday, March 24 (4-4:45 p.m.) **Fun Science Friday: Our Solar System** – Join Mrs. K as we explore our sun's family of planets. Discover the rocky inner planets and outer gas giants through hands-on experiments, active participation and a simple take-home project. Ages 4-6, up to Kindergarten. Please register.

Saturday, March 25 (10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) **Why Technical Analysis?** – Learn how TA (technical analysis) creates a context for viewing and understanding current market behavior, which is most useful for trend-following strategies. Presented by Lou Floyd, AAI (American Association of Individual Investors) Cleveland Chapter Leader. Please register.

Saturday, March 25 (3-4 p.m.) **Illus-**

tration Creation – Learn about a featured illustrator and then create a project inspired by their art. Grades 1-3. Please register.

Sunday, March 26 (2-3 p.m.) **Art Smarts** – Explore some works of a well-known artist and then use what you've seen to create an art piece of your own! Grades 4-6. Please register.

Monday, March 27 (10-10:30 a.m.) **Music Monday** – Develop pre-reading skills with music, movement and rhythm through stories, songs and rhymes. Ages 2-6.

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

Tuesday, March 28 (7-8 p.m.) **Virtual Author Talk: Pam Jenoff** – Join us online for an exciting trip through time as we chat with the New York Times bestselling historical fiction author about her newest book, "Code Name Sapphire". Streamed live. Please register.

Wednesday, March 29 (7-8 p.m.) **Adult Creative Writing Group** – Join us 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.

Thursday, March 30 (2-4 p.m.) **Jewelry Junction: Bracelets, Bracelets, Bracelets** – Learn to make 3 different styles of bracelets: A strung, wire-wrapped, and charm bracelet using wire and chain, glass beads, and pearls. Registration begins March 23.

Thursday, March 30 (4-5:30 p.m.) **Let's Play Board Games!** – Play a featured game with other board game enthusiasts. Revisit old favorites and explore new ones! Grades 7-12.

Thursday, March 30 (6:30-7:15 p.m.) **Baseball Card Night!** – Stop by the Storytime Room for a baseball card themed

evening! Learn about cards and go home with some, too! Bring some to swap if you want. All ages. This is an inclusive event for people of all abilities who happen to love baseball and baseball cards.

Thursday, March 30 (7-8 p.m.) **10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's** – Join the Alzheimer's Association to learn how to recognize common signs of Alzheimer's, how to approach someone about memory concerns, and the importance of early detection. Please register.

Friday, March 31 (4-5 p.m.) **Brick Builders** – Do you love Legos? Then bring your ideas and imagination to Brick Builders! Bricks provided. No registration required, but room capacity is limited. First come, first served. Ages 5-12.

Saturday, April 1 (10:30-11 a.m.) and Wednesday, April 5 (7-7:30 p.m.) **Family Storytime** – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! For families with children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Siblings are welcome.

Monday, April 3 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) **Financial Literacy Kit for Kids** – Celebrate Financial Literacy Month with The Money Monsters! They want to help you learn about money with a Financial Literacy Kit filled with books, bookmarks, stickers, and posters. Geared for children aged 3-8. Kits are available for pick up through 5 p.m. on April 10 unless other arrangements are made. Registration begins March 27.

Monday, April 3 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) **Teen Craft Pick-Up** – Get supplies for making your own cactus rock garden! For teens in grades 7-12. Registration begins March 27.

Monday, April 3 (9:30-10 a.m.) **My First Spring** – Celebrate your baby's first spring with a simple finger paint flowerpot craft. For babies 0-18 months with a caregiver. Registration begins March 27.

Monday, April 3 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) **Teen Lounge** – Need a place to hang after school? Come to WPPL's Teen Lounge on Monday afternoons! Video games, board games, snacks and more!

Monday, April 3 (7-8 p.m.) **All**

About Asset Types – Explore the different types of assets, how they may perform in different market situations and how they're typically obtained by people looking to prepare an investment portfolio. Please register.

Tuesday, April 4 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) **In Vogue Jewelry Making** – Design and make two fashionable jewelry items of your choice. Many colors and sizes available. All materials and tools provided. No jewelry making experience required. Registration begins March 28.

Tuesday, April 4 (7-8:30 p.m.) **World at War Forum: Hitler's War Aims and the Holocaust** – How do the Holocaust and crimes of the Third Reich relate to Hitler's war aims? Librarian Chad Statler will show how the goals of the Holocaust impacted the direction of the war and sometimes superseded military considerations. Please register.

Tuesday, April 4 (7-8 p.m.) **Virtual Author Talk: Kate Beaton** – Join us for an enlightening hour online with highly-acclaimed Kate Beaton, the New York Times bestselling author of "Hark!: A Vagrant and Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands." Streamed live. Please register.

Wednesdays, April 5 and 12 (4:30-6 p.m.) **Bow Wow Books** – Stop by Youth Services to sign up for a 10-minute reading time with a therapy dog. Sign up starts at 4 p.m. Recommended for grades K-4.

Wednesday, April 5 (6-8:30 p.m.) **HeartSaver CPR/AED** – Get certified for adult, child, and infant CPR and AED. Class led by certified instructors from UH St. John Medical Center. Visit uhems.org/event-search to register. Email account required. Participants under the age of 14 must have a parent or legal guardian in class. If any questions, contact the instructors at uh4cpr@gmail.com.

Wednesday, April 5 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) **Horror Film Club** – Join us for another creepy classic from the Vault! New members are welcome, but children under 13 must be with an adult. Please register.

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

Bay Village Branch Library upcoming calendar of events

by TARA MCGUINNESS

With March Madness in full swing, you won't want to miss **legendary official Phil Bova** when he speaks at the Bay

Village branch library, 27400 Wolf Road on Wednesday, March 22, at 7 p.m. Join us to hear his about his days as an NCAA and Big Ten official with untold stories and experiences of working with iconic coaches like Bob Knight, Tom

Izzo, Gene Keady and more. His new biography, "Throwing Back the Chair," written by Nino Frostino, will be available for purchase and Phil will sign copies after the presentation.

On Thursday, March 30 at 7 p.m., **Julie Koenig of Royally Amused** will present "British Royal Weddings: The Queen & Her Family." Explore all the pomp and ceremony and all the details about the royal weddings of:

Princess Elizabeth (Queen Elizabeth II) and Prince Philip of Greece & Denmark; her sister, Princess Margaret; and her children, King Charles III, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, and Prince Edward.

Please register to attend the featured programs online at cuyahogalibrary.org, call us at 440-871-6392, or stop in to the library at 27400 Wolf Road and register with a librarian. ●

Westlake High School hosts annual Prom Assembly & Fashion Show

by JANE PEER

Prom season is right around the corner and the Westlake High School class of 2023 is gearing up. Fourteen boys and 14 girls participated in the annual event which showcases the latest prom fashions.

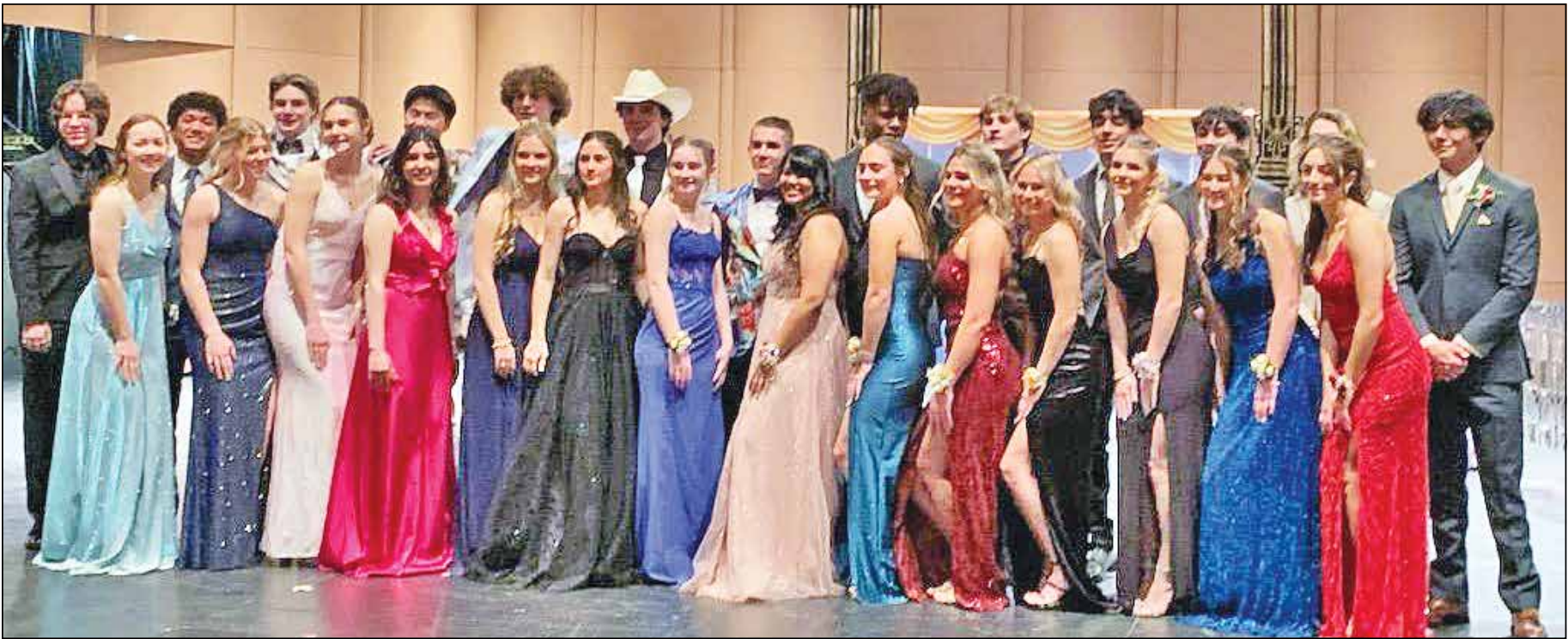
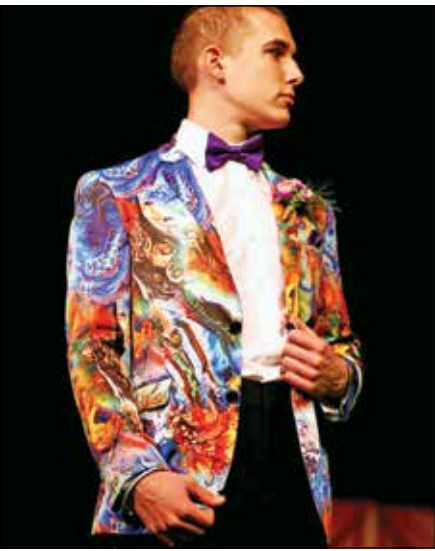
Sponsored by local tuxedo and dress shops, a hair salon and a florist, the students had the opportunity to not only

model dresses and tuxedos, but wear corsage and boutonniere flowers. Each of the girls had their hair done by salon

staff.

Westlake's prom is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, and will be held at the Western

Reserve Historical Society. After prom will be hosted on the same evening at Westlake's Urban Air Adventure Park. ●



PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA WOHLER

THE DIGITAL WORLD

Hit by nostalgia, loving new discoveries

by TAK SATO

One of our favorite Sunday morning pastimes of the 1990s was to buy the Sunday newspaper and head out to the nursery-turned-cafe on Lake Road. I love coffee and I always prefer independent coffee houses if I had a choice; something about the ambiance I like instead of the cookie cutter architecture of a chain.

I would order a cuppa joe, my wife a cup of Mexican Hot Chocolate, and spend hours reading the Sunday newspaper. Sometimes I would treat myself to a second cup or even third –

the latter giving me a buzz and jitters – what fun times! The Sunday paper was thick and fat back then because of the advertisements and the coupons we clipped religiously.

Years ago, a supermarket chain started a rewards program where shoppers earn points for their grocery/everyday purchases. One chain, for example, gives discounts when filling up a car upon reaching a certain rewards threshold. It was like earning double discounts, once for groceries/everyday shopping using the national brand coupons we clipped on our Sundays pilgrimages and subsequent discount at

the pumps.

After many moons, we still earn reward points converting to gasoline discounts but for the past couple years, we also can use the supermarket chain's app for ordering grocery/everyday items and clipping "digital coupons." One supermarket chain has gone so deep into the digital world that they stopped printing advertisements on paper earlier this year. They only have digital ads on their website and through their app.

Oh, yeah, if you hate grocery shopping, you can just tap on the app icon, pick the things you want to buy while also

applying digital coupons if available, checkout (i.e. pay with a credit or debit card), and pick up your groceries curbside without leaving your chariot.

That nursery-turned-cafe we used to visit every Sunday has evolved into a restaurant so I've been brewing my own coffee, using the French press method, for a while now. Up until the pandemic exploded in early 2020, I brewed my coffee in four minutes but I always wondered if I could make my brew better ...

Have you heard of the social media platform "Reddit?" It has over 130 million active "subreddits" – think "communities" – so

the chance of finding a community dedicated to a topic of your interest is high. One visits Reddit using a browser on any device connected to the internet or an app (smartphones/tablets).

I found a community, a subreddit aptly named "Coffee" (r/Coffee), where I gleaned information about author James Hoffmann who also has a YouTube channel with coffee-related videos. I adopted his nine-minute French press brewing method which basically made me slow down and smell the roses while brewing. His nine-minute brew was much better than my four-minute brew!

No particular reason but I just felt like writing how I felt today of the real and digital worlds we live in. ●

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Thursday, March 30, 6-8:30 p.m.
FREE CPR CLASS
In cooperation with UH St. John Medical Center, the Bay Village Fire Department is offering monthly Heartsaver CPR/AED training for community members. Led by AHA Certified Instructors, the CPR classes feature video training as well as group interaction with hands-on coaching from the instructors. Visit uhems.org/event-search to register.
Bay Village Police Station Community Room, 28000 Wolf Rd.

Friday, March 31, 11:30 a.m.
COFFEE CHAT WITH SUPERINTENDENT PREBLES
Bay Village Schools Superintendent

Scot Prebles and Treasurer Meghan Rohde will meet with residents to answer questions about the district.
Bay Village Library, 27400 Wolf Rd.

Saturday, April 1, 8 a.m.-noon
WECPTA KIDDIE KLOSET/BIG KID SALE
The Westlake Early Childhood PTA Kiddie Kloset/Big Kid Sale is a resale of gently used baby and maternity items, as well as children’s clothes, toddlers through teens, children/baby furniture, toys, and games. Admission is \$5 from 8-9 a.m.; \$1 from 9 a.m.-noon.
Westlake Elementary School, 27555 Center Ridge Rd.

Sunday, April 1, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
BVECPTA SPRING RESALE
The Bay Village Early Childhood PTA will hold a children’s resale offering gently used clothing and children’s items. Pre-purchase tickets online to receive a sales guide detailing all the goods available for purchase at each booth. Advance tickets are \$5 for early shopping, 8-9 a.m.; and \$3 for general shopping, 9-11 a.m. All admission at the door from 8-11 a.m. is \$5. Free admission after 11 a.m. Visit bvecpta.org and click on the Spring Resale post to purchase tickets.
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Parkside Hall, 468 Bradley Rd.

Upcoming Event?

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Since 2009 the Observer has strived to fulfill our founding mission – to strengthen our community by informing and engaging Westlake and Bay Village residents.

If you are able to help us continue to provide a free medium where the community can share news, share stories and share laughs, please send a cash or check donation along with the form.

Donations may also be made by credit card at wbvobserver.com.

To provide a sustaining financial gift, recurring monthly donations in any amount may be arranged at wbvobserver.com.

Thank you to the donors who contributed to this issue:

Tina Fanning, Joan Kemper
Marilyn Morey, Malcolm Weiss

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