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THE GREEN REPORT

Green your yard care

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

Do you bag your yard waste, such as grass clippings, weeds, sticks, etc.? If you do, please know that when you place it at the curb in Bay Village, it is headed to the landfill.

That's correct: all bagged yard waste is being disposed of in the landfill. (Unbagged yard waste such as fall leaf collection or branches/brush placed on the tree lawn are still being composted at the Westlake/Bay compost facility.)

Our bagged yard waste previously was composted, but it is not anymore. The compost facility that Republic was using is at maximum capacity, so now Republic has no choice other than to take it to the landfill.

But there is good news! You have a choice!

First, please take the bag off your mower and mulch the clippings. Doing this is much better for your lawn: As clippings break down, they add nutrients to your yard.

Also, it's easier! Bagging clippings is the worst part of mowing. It's dirty and gross and makes people sneeze – and you don't have to do it!

Lastly, if each of us mulched our grass clippings, think of the thousands and thousands of pounds of material we are preventing from heading to the landfill. Try it for at least a couple of weeks to see how you like it!

I bet you're thinking: Sure that's easy, I can do that! But what about weeds and other waste around my yard that I want to get rid of? That's a great question, and it may take some creativity but I have faith you can do it!

► See YARD CARE, page 2

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bringing meaning to the Fourth of July: The story of the Bay Village Volunteer Militia

by MICHELE YAMAMOTO

The Bay Village Volunteer Militia was a short-lived but quite impressive group of Revolutionary War re-enactors who were active from about 1968-1973. The Bay Village Historical Society recently spoke with five former members about their experiences with the organization.

"We want to bring a little meaning back to the Fourth of July," founder Daniel Warnke said in a July 3, 1969, interview with The Plain Dealer. The article goes on to say that Warnke and others were concerned about young people who said they did not see any connection between fireworks and the meaning of the Fourth of July. "We want to remind people that these are the weapons that were used to build and defend our country by the men we honor on the Fourth of July."

► See BAY MILITIA, page 2



PHOTO COURTESY BOB FINICLE

Left to right: Bob Finicle, David Bryant, John P. Harmon (kneeling), Daniel Warnke, Doug Hansen and George V. Woodling Jr.

DEMON DISPATCH

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

by DR. SCOTT GOGGIN,
Superintendent, Westlake City
Schools

The Westlake Class of 2023 recently celebrated the end of their high school journey, receiving their diplomas. These students worked hard toward their future goals while maintaining a connection with each other that will never be broken. Whether it was banding together in support when someone was

struggling or cheering each other on during celebrations and successes, the Class of 2023 has truly shown what it means to be part of the Demon family.

Once a Demon, always a Demon. That is a phrase that is used frequently in Westlake. But what does it mean when we say, "Once a Demon, always a Demon"? I believe that it has multiple meanings.

It revolves around a transformational experience. One that is unique to each student. They have all had the

shared experience of growing through the Westlake Schools. Some of them since they were preschool age. They shared the same community for approximately two-thirds of their life.

The moments with classmates, teachers, and other members of the Westlake Schools have left an indelible mark on them. These relationships are an impactful part of what has shaped the students into who they are now and into the future.

In addition to the impact Westlake has had on our seniors, they have made their mark on the Westlake City School District. The fact that they were here matters.

► See CLASS OF 2023, page 2

Westlake in Bloom competition now open



PHOTO BY JIM BEDELL

2022 Lu Walter Best in Bloom Award winner, Mayuresh Dhond.

by JIM BEDELL, Westlake
Director of Planning &
Economic Development

Westlake residents, businesses and institutions are invited to celebrate the beautiful gardens and landscapes of Westlake by entering the Westlake in Bloom competition.

Entry forms may be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityofwestlake.org or picked up at the Westlake City Hall, Recreation Center, Community Services Center, Porter Library, or these Westlake garden centers: Cahoon Nurs-

ery, Dean's Greenhouse, and Gale's Westlake Garden Center.

Completed entry forms may be dropped off at the reception desk at City Hall, emailed to planning@cityofwestlake.org or mailed to: City of Westlake, Westlake in Bloom, 27700 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145

The deadline for entering is Friday, June 30, at 5 p.m. with judging the week of July 10. There is no fee to enter and everyone who places will receive an invitation to the Westlake in Bloom Awards Ceremony, on Tuesday, Aug. 8, at the Westlake Community Services Center auditorium. ◆

More stories, photos
and events online at
wbvobserver.com



The Observer – Dedicated to the ideal
that volunteers define a community.

BAY MILITIA

from front page

The Bay Village Volunteer Militia was active during the Vietnam War and perhaps Warnke felt a need to quell any objections to his group when he stated in a July 2, 1972, article in the Chronicle-Telegram, “The group’s re-enactment of Revolutionary War ‘call to arms,’ musters and battle moves are not designed to glorify war, but illustrate a page from our history.”

Today, his son, Daniel Warnke Jr., agrees with the sentiment and says the Militia was more of a “tribute band” to the American Revolutionary War.

They may have been called a militia but there was nothing combative about the somewhat informal group of around 35 members, including children, who met to entertain and enlighten spectators at various events, both locally and in other cities. All of the former participants remember a casual organiza-



PHOTO BY JOHN KENNEY

Bob Finicle barks orders to (left to right) Charles Herrmann, Doug Hansen and William Whittemore.

tion and not a lot of regular meetings.

The call went out to be at a particular event and the members would show up. “Which would have been indicative of what it would have been in real life [in the Colonial times],” Rhonda Totten said. “You didn’t get together but, when you got the call, you showed up.”

Steve Gress remembered, “It was a very laid-back group and not a lot of egos involved. We all got along, went out there and had a great time.”

The muskets they used were from the Revolutionary and Civil War eras and were

all muzzle-loading and challenging to use. Obviously, no bullets were used at events. In addition to being heavy and time-consuming to load, these old guns would not have been very accurate.

If you feel the heft of the old firearms and imagine the stamina needed to march with, load and use these in battle, it gives you an appreciation for the challenges our forefathers had to

overcome during war.

“How they fought a war with this, I’ll never know,” Bob Finicle remarked while showing me his flintlock muzzle-



PHOTO COURTESY BOB FINICLE

Major Karl S. Holdaway inspects the musket of Bob Finicle as Bay Village Mayor Henry P. Reese looks on. From the Marine News, June 1970.

loading pistol from the mid-1700s.

The Bay Village Volunteer Militia got a lot of attention during its lifetime and even became an official member of the United States Marines, named the First Battalion Continental Marines, a unit first authorized by the Continental Congress in 1775. Although honorary in nature, it was noted at the time that if the British ever dared to attack our shores, Bay Village would be ready for them.

The Bay Village History Society’s Rose Hill Museum has on display a uniform in the style of the Revolutionary War era as well as various dresses from the 1860s-1960s in our exhibition Beadwork: The Beauty of Small Things. Our museum is open from 2:00-4:30 p.m. every Sunday through December (closed holiday weekends). Admission is free. ●

CLASS OF 2023

from front page

You see, with each class of students, we grow. We evolve. Our identity is shaped by them – the 123rd graduating class from our community. The alumni who came before this class helped to shape their experience. In return, this class will pave the way for those following. This class of students matters to the history and future of our district.

There is a third component to this saying – loyalty. As this class moves forward to their next step, wherever that may take them, we hope they support each other and any other Demons they encounter throughout their journey.

Even though these students are leaving Westlake now, the schools, the staff, and the community remain committed to rooting for their success, health, and happiness. Because to us, “Once a Demon, Always a Demon.”

I want to congratulate the Class of 2023. They worked incredibly hard and persevered. The Demon Nation wishes them the very best as they take this next step toward their future. ●

Porch talk focuses on Fuller House

by ERIC EAKIN

The Bay Village Historical Society celebrates the 130th year of the Fuller House on Sunday, July 9, with a talk by developer Robert Corna.

Corna purchased the Bay Village home in 1981 to make way for the Cashelmara development and donated it to Baycrafters, now BAYarts. The 120-ton house was sailed 2.5 miles on Lake Erie to its new home in the Metroparks Huntington Reservation, making front-page headlines around the world. Corna will



The Fuller House floats toward its new home.

talk about the history of the house and its famous Lake Erie voyage.

The free porch talk begins at 2:15 p.m. Guests are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. Visit www.bayhistorical.com for additional information. ●

YARD CARE

from front page

I found a hidden spot in my backyard where I take weeds, small branches, and other yard waste I may come across. I throw it on the pile with the knowledge that someday it will go back into the earth. (The weeds die and go away fairly quickly, the rest may take a bit more time.) I also take small sticks and twigs and break them up and scatter them around my beds, which blends right in with mulch.

If you just read this and are thinking, “Why should I care if my yard wasted is ending up in the landfill?,” there are many reasons.

The first answer is simple: to keep as much as we can out of the landfill. Why is that important? We are literally filling

land full of waste – and eventually we will run out of that land. It is unsustainable and each of us needs to be thoughtful about what we individually contribute to landfill.

Also, when grass clippings and other organic matter break down in the landfill, methane gas is created. Methane gas accounts for 10% of greenhouse gases emitted in the United States. Waste in landfills breaks down anaerobically (without oxygen) which is why it produces methane gas.

Methane gas is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide at trapping heat, making it a significant contributor to climate change. Composting your yard waste will help your yard become its own ecosystem, with waste being broken down, adding nutrients to your lawn and beds. ●

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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)

All content should be submitted through the online Member Center, not by email.

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

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Westlake-Bay Village Rotary to host biggest Art Festival yet

by MICHAEL O'DONNELL

The Westlake Bay-Village Rotary is hosting their 3rd annual Art Festival on Saturday, July 29, on the campus of Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road.

This year's festival will kick off with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. with Star 102.1 and Westlake's hometown radio celebrity Jen Touhey. Art Fest co-chairs Andrew Mangels and Joe Kraft are excited that Jen will be back to officially kick off the Festival!

"We're hoping that Jen brings her family again, because this year's festival has something for everyone," Joe said. Andrew will emcee again this year introducing the featured artists, Star 102 radio and a recognition proclamation from Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough.

The Rotary plans to have the biggest Art Festival yet with over 70 artists planned including featured artists from the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event continues to grow each year and very talented art-

ists have demonstrated a mix of one-of-a-kind and unique ceramics, jewelry, watercolors, oils and crafts.

This free, family-friendly festival features a music stage complete with live bands performing throughout the day and a beer and wine garden. There are also balloons for kids, food trucks, an art raffle and plenty of free parking. Interested artists from Vermilion to Painesville have recognized this event and local artists from Lakewood, Berea, Bay Village, Westlake and Oberlin have made this an annual stop.

This is a fun place to meet friends and shop the unique artist booths, take in the music with a light lunch and enjoy the beer garden on the Porter Library campus.

Artists are encouraged to reserve booth space for great locations at www.westlakebay-villagerotaryartfest.com. For more information about the Rotary Art Festival, booth reservations and business sponsorships, patrons may contact Joe Kraft directly at josephkraft@gmail.com.

LAKE ROAD WALKING TOUR Former location of the John Baker/Becker House, 28838 Lake Road, c. 1853

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

The 10th in a series of articles to be published as a walking tour of Lake Road by the Bay Village Historical Society in 2025.

This address on Lake Road was the location of the large, landmark Baker/Becker House which occupied this site from 1853 until 2007 when it was preserved by being disassembled.

Because the lake side of the house was as formal and finished as the front facade and some saw Federal elements in the original design, possibly remodeled into Greek Revival, there were

thoughts it was built as early as 1828. However, curiously it does not appear on any maps until 1870.

The land was first owned by Asahel Porter. In 1843 it was sold along with some other nearby land for 21,005 francs to John Baker/Becker, from France. Tax records indicate that a home was constructed on the property in 1850 and the tax value doubled in 1854.

By 1870 it was owned by Charles Hassler, by 1884 the Cahoons, who used it to house their immigrant farm workers. It was occupied by the Ellinwood family in the early 1900s and was the centerpiece of their showplace gardens called "Long Beach Park." Their daughter was told by a visiting priest that it was constructed in 1853. ●



PHOTO BY GINNY PETERSON

The landmark Baker/Becker House on Lake Road was disassembled for preservation in 2007.

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

Stirring the pot on pot

by DIANA PI, M.D.

With cigarette smoking, I know where I stand. “It’s legal, but not good for you. Will you consider quitting?”

Marijuana use is tricky. Some take it for fun. Others swear by it because it helps their anxiety, back and belly pain, insomnia ...

I get it.

To make matters worse, rules differ between the federal government and the states; opinions vary among my medical colleagues.

In Ohio, medical marijuana (plant extract) has been legal since 2018 for treatment of two dozen medical conditions: cancer, post-traumatic distress, chronic pain, etc. The list is expanding.

But federally, the FDA only approves 4 drugs (pure chemical forms) for 3 specific medical conditions.

They are:

1. Severe nausea associated with chemotherapy.
2. Severe loss of appetite in AIDS.

3. Seizures from three rare conditions. Under state laws, many of my patients would qualify for medical marijuana, but under federal laws, I don’t have a single patient who qualifies.

The FDA insists on robust research and is unlikely to approve more medical indications. I get it. Others argue that just because science isn’t there – yet – doesn’t mean it doesn’t work. I get that, too.

Here’s my marijuana spiel:

First, please be honest with me if you’re using. I don’t judge. You should feel comfortable discussing your marijuana use – any drugs, really – with your healthcare providers. If you don’t want help, I won’t go there.

Second, let’s figure out how marijuana has impacted your life. Chronic or acute use has side effects.

For certain populations I worry more: the young, the pregnant, and those at increased risk for mental illness.

Marijuana is a big no-no in pregnancy, kids, and teens. The chemicals easily cross from blood to brain and placenta. Animal studies on marijuana’s negative



ILLUSTRATION BY MEGAN STEWART

impact on certain brain development are robust. For example, rats exposed to marijuana before or after birth exhibit problems with certain learning and memory later in life and have signs of accelerated brain aging. I’m sure better human studies will come out soon.

Marijuana use and mental illnesses are a chicken-and-egg problem. While those with mental illness may use marijuana more, studies suggest marijuana

use might trigger or worsen mental illnesses. Studies are ongoing. But depression, anxiety, and obsessive-compulsive disorder are *not* approved indications for medical marijuana use.

I know it’s tough – talking about drug use. It takes mutual trust, respect, and acceptance. I know what the drugs do, but I care what the drugs do to you. Whatever the Feds and states decide, I’m on Team You. ●

Koomar to lead community bike ride

by KATIE DESAN

Join Mayor Paul Koomar and members of the Bay Village Police Department Bike Unit on a moderately paced ride that will cover a 5.43-mile route through Bay Village, featuring the new Wolf Road bike lanes, and end at Bay Days!

The ride begins at 3 p.m. on Monday, July 3, rain or shine. Meet at the Community Gym at Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Road. Please arrive at 2:30 p.m. for last-minute registra-

tion and safety checks. Helmets and registration required for participation.

Participants are encouraged to bike to the event; parking will be limited due to Bay Days. Consider bike and weather appropriate attire and shoes, and don’t forget your water! Prior to showing up, dust off your tires and be sure your bike is in working order.

Volunteers will be on hand from Village Bicycle Cooperative and The Velo House to assist with bicycle safety checks and very small tune-ups prior to the ride. ●

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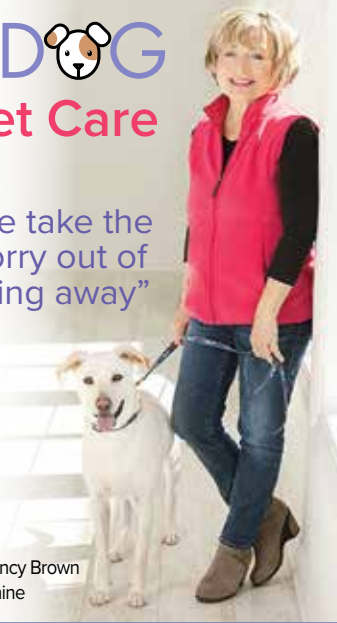
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THE DIGITAL WORLD

Let your device be your sidekick

by TAK SATO

This summer marks the second anniversary of living with my new clutch, the cochlear implant (CI), which I call “black magic,” that restored my hearing.

Importantly, I discovered many practical ways in which my sidekick, aka my smartphone, helped me communicate when my world was silent for 14 months before my CI surgery. I believe the solutions I discovered using my smartphone during those pre-surgery months can be equally beneficial to the hard-of-hearing even when they are not deaf.

As a consumer advocate most prominently on technology matters, I always preach the many practical benefits that can be gleaned from your investment in

a smartphone. I consider those practical benefits analogous to the financial concept of “return on investment” (ROI), regardless of whether those investments are in technology devices and/or subscription services offered in the digital world, though technology’s ROI is immeasurable in my opinion.

I consider sharing this knowledge critically important, as without a “reference manual” that Boomer and GenX generation consumers are used to from 20th century technology devices, many beneficial features will go undiscovered with 21st century technology devices.

Take the Microsoft’s subscription service of their popular Office productivity suite for example. Earlier this year, while researching free applications that can transcribe my classroom record-

ings that I review to prepare customized handouts, I discovered that our Microsoft365, formerly Office365, subscription can now transcribe the audio recordings I upload, saving me time.

BTW, the non-subscription version is still an option. Visit wbvobserver.com/read/columns/the-digital-world to read my July 7, 2020, column for details.

I have my grievances, aka pet peeves, that I wish technology device manufacturers could remediate through more “standardization” instead of confusing consumers through “differentiation” but academically, I understand that differentiation is necessary for healthy competition.

I’m at least grateful that the mutually exclusive ecosystems that smartphones and tablets operate in – devices running Google’s Android or Apple’s iOS/iPadOS operating systems – both have “Accessibility” settings to alleviate certain types of challenges that users’ disabilities may heighten their operational difficulties of

these devices.

Over the years and to this day, I have repeatedly seen how a useful standard feature like using the transcription prowess built into the “virtual keyboards” (those small keyboards that popup on the device’s screen when it knows you want to type in something and disappears when you’re done) is relatively unknown to many seniors I help.

Pushing that little microphone icon on the device’s virtual keyboard will let the user “speak” a reply to a text/email, for example. I don’t have arthritis yet but my mom does and it is often painful for her to type on the small keyboard on her iPhone so I taught her to use transcription built into the smartphone instead.

Whether you have a challenge typing on the small virtual keyboard or just have fat fingers like me, LOL, you may want to let the smartphone transcribe what you dictate instead. In the next column, I’ll give more practical examples that are useful for those with hearing issues. ●

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, empow-

ered 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., Village Project Market, farmers market, gardening, and so much more)

For elementary students, we have opportunities in the Bay Village Community Garden and making cards and painting vases for our clients.

You can help us achieve our mission of working together as a community to provide nourishing meals and extended support to families fighting cancer.

Volunteer opportunities are available for adults as well. Whatever your skill, we generally have a fit for you. Please sign up today! Visit our website at ourvillageproject.com/volunteer. ●



Brogan and Thalia Wynocker joined their mom, Kira, in the VP kitchen.

SAVE THE DATE

Westlake-Bay Village Rotary ART FESTIVAL

Saturday, July 29, 2023

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On the grounds of Porter Public Library and Westlake Elementary School

The Festival is a pet friendly, family fun event complete with live music, food trucks, ice cream, a wine and beer garden and plenty of free parking at Westlake Elementary School.

For artist application, on-line submission and more information visit - www.westlakebayvillagerotaryartfest.com

Westlake Porter Public Library’s upcoming events

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library’s late June 2023 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, June 21 (2-3 p.m.) **Wednesday Afternoon Book Discussion** – This month’s title is “The Displacements” by Bruce W. Holsinger. A limited number of books are available for checkout at the Circulation Desk.

Wednesdays, June 21 and 28 (4:30-6 p.m.) **Bow Wow Books** – Stop by Youth Services to sign up for a 10-minute reading time with a reading therapy dog. Sign up starts at 4 p.m. Dogs will stay for 10 minutes past the last registered reader or 1-1/2 hours, whichever comes first. Recommended for Grades K-4.

Wednesday, June 21 (5:30-6:15 p.m.) **STEAM Lab: Glow Bright with Bioluminescent Fish!** – Learn about some of the most unusual deep sea fish and make an anglerfish pop-out card! Grades 3-4. Please register.

Thursday, June 22 (10-10:30 a.m.) **My First Summer** – Celebrate your baby’s first summer with a simple handprint crab craft. For babies 0-18 months with a caregiver. Please register.

Thursday, June 22 (3-4 p.m.) **Breakout: Internet Apocalypse!** – A hacker is planning to

delete the internet! Work together, solve the clues, and save the day! For grades 7-12. Please register.

Thursday, June 22 (5:30-6:30 p.m.) **Open Heart: A Conversation with Dr. Akil Taher** – Meet Dr. Akil Taher, the author of “Open Heart: The Transformational Journey of a Doctor who, After Bypass Surgery at 61, Ran Marathons and Climbed Mountains.” Please register.

Friday, June 23 (9:15-9:45 a.m.) **Yoga with Ms. Jen!** – Calm your body, mind, and spirit in this yoga class taught by a certified yoga instructor. Wear comfy clothes and bring your own mat or towel. Ages 2-6, siblings welcome. Please register.

Friday, June 23 (10:30-11 a.m.) **Pride Storytime** – This inclusive storytime features titles that will help us learn more about the LGBTQ+ community. Ages 2-6.

Fridays, June 23 and 30 (1-3 p.m.) **Movies @ Your Library** – Enjoy a feature-length newly released DVD or favorite family classic. Contact Youth Services for specific titles.

Friday, June 23 (4-5 p.m.) **Brick Builders** – Do you love Legos? 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, June 24 (2-2:30 p.m.) **Sidewalk Art! with Sniff the Rainbow Monster** – Join Sniff the Rainbow Monster as we read a book about summer fun and make

chalk art creations inspired by our favorite picture book characters at the Pavilion! Grades K-4. This program is weather permitting. Staff will make every effort to notify you in a timely manner if we cannot meet in person. If so, you will automatically be registered for the rain date on July 14 at 2 p.m. Please register.

Sunday, June 25 (2-3 p.m.) **Come Play With Me** – Open playtime for children ages 2-5 with a caring adult. Siblings welcome!

Monday, June 26 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) **Spice It Up! Take Home Kit: Za’atar** – Do you enjoy cooking and trying new foods? Sign up for a kit that will contain a sample of the featured spice as well as a handout with background on the spice and suggested uses! Each kit will also contain a couple recipes! This kit will contain the spice Za’atar. Please provide an email address when registering.

Tuesday, June 27 (2-4 p.m.) **Make and Take Jump Rope Fun** – Make your own jump rope using recycled grocery bags and learn some chants to try it out! Ages 8-12. Please register.

Wednesday, June 28 (7-8 p.m.) **Adult Creative Writing Group: Pride Edition** – 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! This session will focus on poetry and creations by LGBTQ+ writers and poets. Please register.

Wednesday, June 28 (8-9 p.m.) **Virtual Author Talk: Tananarive Due** – Please join us for a chat with Tananarive Due about her newest work, “The Wishing Pool and Other Stories.” Please register.

Thursday, June 29 (2-3:30 p.m.) **Teen Crafternoons** – For teens in 7th-12th grades. Join us for some in-person crafting! The June 15 session is a special Pride Month edition.

Thursday, June 29 (6:30-7:15 p.m.) **Adapted 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. Registration begins one week before each session.

Friday, June 30 (4-4:30 p.m.) **Read it, Make it @ the Library** – Make a craft based on a story that’s read aloud. For children in PreK-1st grade, siblings welcome. Registration begins June 23.

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

Youth Theater presents ‘Happy Birthday Beatrix Potter’

Clague Playhouse’s Red Barn Youth Theater presents “Beatrix Potter” by Stephanie Kramer and “Happy Birthday Beatrix Potter” by Jennifer Reif on Friday, June 23, through Sunday, June 25.

The show will open with Stephanie Kramer’s one-woman show, “Beatrix Potter.” As Beatrix, she will tell wonderful stories about her life as an author, artist and conservation activist. Our youth, directed by Dr. Greg Dziamia, will present the lively and sweet story, “Happy Birthday Beatrix Potter,” in which many of Beatrix’s favorite animal friends surprise her when they learn she has been forgotten on her birthday.

Performances are on Friday, June 23, and Saturday, June 24, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 25, at 2 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$12 for those 12 and under, \$15 for those 13 and older and may be purchased by calling the Box Office at 440-331-0403 Wednesday through Saturday from 1-6 p.m. or visiting www.clagueplayhouse.org. Clague Playhouse is located at 1371 Clague Road in Westlake. ●

American Legion sponsors Buckeye Boys State

by GEOFF KEDZIERSKI

The American Legion’s Buckeye Boys State was held June 11-18 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Buckeye Boys State is an eight-day hands-on experience in the operation of the democratic form of government. At Boys State, young men between their junior and senior years in high school learn about city, county and state government through a non-partisan objective education approach.

They form city governments and run for mock offices, then learn how the various levels of government operate by performing the functions of the various elected and civil positions. They also then campaign for mock county and state offices. During the week they will also hear from

actual Ohio state government officials.

American Legion Post 385 (Bay/Westlake) has been sponsoring students from Bay High School for years and recently has been sponsoring a Westlake student. This year there are six students from Bay High School and one from Westlake High School that are attending the program.

The Westlake High School candidate was Ryan Eddy who was sponsored by the Westlake Town Criers through Post 385. From Bay High School there were three candidates being sponsored by Post 385: Owen Appenheimer, James Cox and Nicholas Szekely. There were three additional candidates that Post 385 worked with Post 91 in Berea to sponsor: Aaron Bergstresser, Matt Jennings and James Kelley.

Congratulations to all these young men. ●

by EMILY GAMBIL

The Friends of BAYarts will be hosting their second annual Mini Moondance fundraiser on Sunday, June 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. on the BAYarts campus. Mini Moondance is a family-friendly event that will raise funds to benefit the Friends of BAYarts community programming and the Fuller House Restoration project.

“The Friends of BAYarts auxiliary board has been a great addition to the BAYarts family,” said BAYarts board of directors President, Mary Conway Sullivan. “Their mission is to develop family-focused events to meet the demand of our growing community. We are looking forward to celebrating the second annual Mini Moondance and to working together to develop more community-based programming.”

Mini Moondance will feature kids’ crafts and activities, music from local favorites Kingfish, the Café Melissa food truck, unique raffle prizes, and a bubble show featuring Bubble



Help paint a community mural at BAYarts’ Mini Moondance on June 25.

Wanda from Flower Entertainment. Thyme Table will be on hand to serve up some special grown-up drinks available for purchase. Back by popular demand is a hands-on community mural.

“Friends of BAYarts has created so many awesome events, including Thursday Family Happy Hour, The Holiday Extravaganza and other holiday-themed events,” said BAYarts Executive Director Nancy Heaton. “With the support of the community and

our generous sponsors, these events are accessible and affordable to all.”

Visit bayarts.net/events/mini-moondance for tickets and more details. For more about the auxiliary board, email info@bayarts.net. ●

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Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

CHILDREN

Storytimes: Caregivers and their children are invited to enjoy rhymes, songs, fingerplays, books and stories together. No registration is required.

Mondays (10 a.m.) Family Storytime – for all ages

Tuesdays (10 a.m.) Toddler Storytime – ages 19-35 months

Wednesdays (10 a.m.) Baby and Me Storytime – ages birth-18 months

Thursdays (10 a.m.) Preschool Storytime – ages 3-5 (not yet in kindergarten)

This summer – on Fridays at noon – join us for Stories on the Porch. Bring a blanket and enjoy stories on the front porch and then chalk the walk. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch or visit Food Truck Friday. Weather permitting.

ADULTS

On Thursday, June 29, at 7 p.m. Author Vince Guerrieri will present some

of the “only in Cleveland” moments and characters from our Cleveland sports history. Based on his newest book, “Weird Moments in Cleveland Sports: Bottlegate, Bedbugs, and Burying the Pennant – and More!,” he’ll have some interesting stories to share. A book signing will follow the event. Please register to attend this program 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.

Don’t forget to utilize the Bay Village branch library for all your summer reading needs. Enroll in our summer reading program, “All Together Now” and mark your minutes read to be eligible for prizes. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

The Guardians’ greatest hits and misses: The Sequel

by JEFF BING

You know, it’s only been a matter of several fortnights and odd days (no surprise there, as most of my days are odd – much like my columns) since I wrote about my all-Guardians team.

Since I get crazy looks whenever I say the “I”-word (but in the interest of full disclosure, I get odd looks regardless of the circumstances) in place of the now-banned Native American reference, we will, moving forward, refer to all of Cleveland baseball past as the work of the Guardians and absolutely, positively, nobody else. Got it? Good.

To refresh the memories of the increasingly large number of Baby Boomers (many of whom have already forgotten what a Baby Boomer even refers to) our first column on the subject touched upon the two best players to play third base and shortstop for the Clevelanders (see how I danced around the team’s name there?) along with the biggest flops at those positions, all in my highly treasured and constantly sought-out opinion. (I can only remain modest for so long.)

So, this issue, let’s take a gander at second base, shall we? This is difficult for me because the best one to ever wear a Cleveland uniform was a guy who was born a couple of millennia ago. Seriously, the guy played baseball while my grandfather was running around with Eliot Ness (before Eliot hit the big time) about a century and

some odd years ago.

Yes, I am referring to Napoleon (“Don’t call me “Nap” because it makes me sleepy”) Lajoie. Lajoie played from 1902 to 1914, and in doing so compiled some incredible offensive statistics. Also, they called the team “Naps” at the time.

Think about it: Had they just left well enough alone, we would never have had to go through the name change turmoil just concluded, and we’d be wearing our Naps merchandise. Just think (again): They could have marketed baby blankets as “Nap-sacks.” (Get it?)

Anyway, the second selection doesn’t get any easier, because the number of second basemen who qualify as legitimate number twos to Lajoie’s number one is rife with candidates, especially those who played before my time, like Joe Gordon, Bobby Avila, and Bill Wambsganss (a name I continue to misspell even while I’m staring at it).

So, I decided (because it’s my column) to get someone from the recent past as my number two, but you’d be surprised if you thought I was going to mention Jason Kipnis (who it probably should be, BTW).

Instead, I went with Carlos Baerga, who – at least in my opinion – was the guy who spearheaded the whole mid-’90s turnaround and helped erase the stench of bad baseball that permeated Cleveland for the ‘60s, ‘70s, ‘80s, and half of the ‘90s. Carlos, I salute you.

Speaking of stench, that brings us to the worst – in my opinion – of the second

basemen to don a Cleveland uniform.

In late 2006, Cleveland traded with San Diego for second baseman Josh Barfield, who had just completed an awesome rookie season with the Padres, hitting a solid .280, was a good glove man, and was Rookie of the Month in July of 2006.

Josh had everything going for him, as the son of

MLBer Jesse Barfield, from a fantastic minor league career in San Diego’s system to an impressive rookie season in the National League. Cleveland was supposed to be set at second base for the next decade and a half.

What happened? I don’t recall ever hearing a specific reason(s) for Barfield’s demise, but he never came close to hitting as he did in San Diego, and his defense became mediocre. In fact, in only a few short years his career was toast.

An interesting parallel to my career with the Observer (except that Josh did have one good year). ●

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JUNE 15 - SEPT 14 | 4-7 PM

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DURING THURSDAY MARKETS | 5-7 PM

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SUNDAYS JUNE 11 - AUG 20 | 7-9 PM

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PAPER, SHREDDED PAPER, CARDBOARD & PHONE BOOKS

For more information about recycling, visit cuyahogarecycles.org.

Join in at www.wbvobserver.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Wednesday, June 21, 6:45-8:30 p.m.
CUYAHOGA WEST CHAPTER, OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Cuyahoga West past president and current member, Jim Denham will present “The Burning of the Steamboat Martha Washington.” It took place in 1852, on the Mississippi River. Brooklyn Township, Ohio City resident Sidney C. Burton became involved in researching it.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Thursdays, June 22 and 29, 4-7 p.m.
BAYARTS THURSDAY FARM AND ART MARKET
Join us every Thursday evening for local art, food, live music, and more. Free

admission and parking. Friendly dogs on leash are welcome.
BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd.

Friday, June 23, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY
The Original Steaks & Hoagies and Hippie Sips trucks will be set up behind City Hall.
Bay Village City Hall, 350 Dover Center Rd.

Sunday, June 25, 6:30-8 p.m.
WESTLAKE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy American pop, blues and country from Hoodoo BBQ. Free admission and parking. Refreshments available for purchase.
Westlake Rec Center Pavilion, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.

Friday, June 30, noon-3 p.m.
GRAY DAYS
The Bay Village Senior Center is hosting an afternoon of outdoor fun and games for the over-60 crowd! Enjoy free pizza, popcorn and ice cream while playing badminton, croquet, bocce, corn hole and more! Please call 440-835-6565 or email twendell@cityofbayvillage.com to register.
Bay Village Senior Center, 300 Bryson Ln.

Sunday, July 2, 7-9 p.m.
BAYARTS SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES
Meet us on the back lawn for a free live show with Rustbelt Riviera! Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy our cash bar,

including wine by the bottle and small plates for purchase. This event is free and so is parking.
BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd.

Tuesday, July 4, 10 a.m.-dusk
WESTLAKE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION
The day kicks off at 10 a.m. with a parade from Lee Burneson Middle School, down Dover Center to Hilliard and then east to Clague Park for a patriotic celebration. The festivities continue with a classic car show and other attractions. Food vendors will open at 4 p.m. and music begins at 6 p.m. Fireworks at dusk!
Clague Memorial Park, Westlake



BAY DAYS 2023

CARNIVAL RIDES ★ CHILDREN & ADULT GAMES
FOOD ★ LIVE MUSIC ★ FIREWORKS
CAHOON MEMORIAL PARK (at Lake & Cahoon Roads) – BAY VILLAGE

Friday, June 30	12 Noon – 10:30 pm ____ Booths and Rides Open 12 Noon – 4 pm ____ \$25 One Price Ticket for All Rides 7 pm ____ Live Music at the Gazebo – Sloppy Joe Band , Classic rock, blues hits
Saturday, July 1	12 Noon to 10:30 pm ____ Booths and Rides Open 12 Noon – 4 pm ____ \$25 One Price Ticket for All Rides 5 pm ____ Classic Car Cruise-In at Cahoon Park with DJ Cadillac Mike 7 pm ____ Live Music at the Gazebo – The Bay Village Community Band
Sunday, July 2	CLOSED
Monday, July 3	12 Noon – 10:30 pm ____ Booths and Rides Open 12 Noon – 4 pm ____ \$25 One Price Ticket for All Rides 2 pm ____ Vintage Base Ball Game – Bay Men’s Club Villagers vs. Whiskey Island Shamrocks at south end of Cahoon Park 7 pm ____ Live Music at the Gazebo – The Diamond Project , Neil Diamond tribute
Tuesday, July 4	8:30 am ____ Bay Days 5 Mile Race and (at 8:45 am) Kids 1 Mile Fun Run Starts at Bay High School. For more info call Richard at 440-463-4031 or e-mail baydays5mile@gmail.com 11:30 am ____ Children’s Bike, Trike and Wagon Parade – Meet at Gazebo 12 Noon – 10:30 pm ____ Booths and Rides Open 12 Noon – 4 pm ____ \$25 One Price Ticket for All Rides 7 pm ____ Live Music at the Gazebo – Hubb’s Groove , high energy soul, jazz, & R&B 9:45 pm ____ GALA FIREWORKS DISPLAY

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Joan Kemper, Barb Taushanoff, Anonymous

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