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WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE

Observer

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Community News & Views Written by the Citizens of Westlake & Bay Village • Visit Our Website: wbvobserver.com



Audra Murtaugh (left) enjoys an afternoon "low tea" with granddaughter Grace Murtaugh at the Bay Village Historical Society's annual Victorian Tea.

Moms, daughters, and grandmothers bond at annual Victorian Tea

More than a hundred mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers attended the annual afternoon tea with their daughters at the fifth annual Victorian Tea held April 24 at the Dwyer Memorial Senior Center in Bay Village.

The annual event, in its fifth year, was hosted by the Bay Village Historical Society as part of the city's bicentennial celebration. Proceeds raised during the event will help fund activities and projects throughout the year, including the rebuilding of the cupola atop the historic Community House.

Models wearing frilly hats and period dresses were featured in a style show as attendees enjoyed a traditional Victorian "low" tea during the afternoon affair.

In the 18th century there were two variations of the tea parties: low and high tea. The more formal "low tea" was a light meal traditionally served on low tables in the afternoon, and featured white gloves, fancy dresses and hats, fine china and the best silverware. The "high tea," usually associated with the working class, was a full meal served at a high dinner table.

View more photos on the Observer website at wbvobserver.com/photoblogs.

'The Miser' concludes Clague Playhouse's 82nd Season

by Kim Kilpatrick

The comedy, "The Miser," by Molière, translated by Albert Bermel and directed by Douglas A. Farren runs through Sunday, May 23, at Clague Playhouse in Westlake. Show times are Thursday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. (note later curtain time) and Sunday at 2 p.m. (Sunday, May 23 is sold out.)



Robert Hawkes as Harpagon, the Miser

About the play: One of the funniest plays in dramatic literature, this modern version abounds with laughter. The son and daughter of the miser fall in love and are about to declare their intentions when the miser announces his own wedding plans: he, to the girl with whom his son is in love, and his wealthy friend, to his daughter. After a few rollicking laps around the block in which the miser's hidden treasure figures, it is revealed that the rich friend is the long lost father of the boy who loves the miser's daughter and of the girl who is loved by the miser's son.

Tickets are \$12 for seniors (60 and

older) and students, and \$13 for adults (with a \$1 discount on Thursdays) and may be purchased by calling the Box Office, 440-331-0403, Wednesday-Saturday, 1-6 p.m. Cash, Check, Discover, MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Due to construction on the northbound side of Clague Road, Clague Playhouse may only be reached from the southbound lane. Please check our website at www.clagueplayhouse.org for detour information. Free parking.

• Pam Kilpatrick is the Office Administrator of Clague Playhouse.

Unity Spiritual Center's 'Let Your Spirit Soar' Open House

Unity Spiritual Center in Westlake hosted an open house on May 1 to showcase its new 6,000-square-foot multi-purpose event and wedding facilities. Activities included guided meditations, labyrinth walking, drumming circles, discussions on spiritual topics and demonstrations in Reiki, yoga, and cranial sacral healing practices. The center welcomes people of all faiths, races and levels of social structure whose common quest is spiritual unity with God.

Pictured at right: A demonstration of singing bowls at the open house of the Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake.



On your mark, get set, GO!

Runners dash from the start line at the second annual Emily's Rainbow Run and Wellness Walk on Sunday, April 25.

Our green heritage under glass

by **Tiffany Leeper**

North Union Farmers Market is pleased to announce our first annual "Get Growing for Summer: Flower Day at the Market" at our Crocker Park location on May 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be the perfect opportunity to get everything you need to start your landscaping, gardening and yard work for the summer. Plus, it is a wonderful opportunity to support your local nurseries!

Did you know that in the late 1930s, Greater Cleveland was home to the largest concentration of farming acreage under glass (225 acres) in America? Greenhouses were popping up all over Cuyahoga County as early as 1887 when T.W. James built a greenhouse near Brooklyn Heights.

In fact, Dean's Greenhouse in Westlake, built in 1924, is one of the area's oldest operational greenhouses. The greenhouse industry in Northeast Ohio continued to flourish (pun intended!) throughout much of the 20th century, culminating in 1972 when The Plain Dealer referred to the Cuyahoga and Lorain county area as the "Greenhouse Capital of America."

Events in the early 1990s (including a freeze in Florida which drove up the prices of tomatoes and increasing emissions standards by the EPA) put a great strain on the industry. Many growers borrowed money personally to try to protect their business. Unfortunately,

many went out of business and our title of "Greenhouse Capital of America" was lost.

Several growers still operate in our area, and it is important to support them. The local food movement in Northeast Ohio is extremely popular and prominent and increased use of sustainable growing practices by local greenhouses means the two movements can work together to restore this vital industry.



People who are dedicated to eating food grown locally are restricted by Ohio's climate. Advanced technologies and growing innovations in greenhouses may provide us with an extended season.

Show your support for local nurseries and local food! Visit a local nursery for your summer supplies or shop from over five greenhouse vendors at our "Flower Day at the Market" on May 22, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Crocker Park. Local seedlings and acclimatized plants are grown right here in Ohio and there is one other benefit

to buying local—talking to the grower, asking him or her questions and gaining a wealth of knowledge from their expertise!

North Union Farmers Market is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Visit our website www.northunionfarmersmarket.org for more information. Much of the above information is from the Cuyahoga Valley Greenhouse Growers Association. Go to www.cvgga.org for more information. ●

Tiffany Leeper is market manager of the North Union Farmers Market at Crocker Park.

Westlake Boy Scout collects items for veterans

Brian McNeill Jr., a Boy Scout with Troop 77 in Westlake, is collecting personal items for armed services veterans and patients at Veterans Affairs medical facilities in Ohio. The collection is part of Brian's Eagle Scout project.

Items such as toothpaste, deodorant and soap may be dropped off at the collection box in the office at St. Ladislav Church, 2345 Bassett Road in Westlake. Money donations are also accepted (make checks payable to Troop 77, Eagle Scout Project fund).

Rummage sale to benefit senior center

by **Anne Naumann**

In an on-going effort to raise much-needed funds for the West Shore Senior Center, a rummage sale has been scheduled for Thursday, May 20, at the Knickerbocker Apartments, 27100 Knickerbocker Road, Bay Village.

We are asking for donations of gently used items to place in our sale. Items can be dropped off at the Knickerbocker Apartments Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The sale will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

A bake sale will offer sweet treats and the concession stand will be open for lunch. Please join us!

Proceeds from this sale support the daily activities at the center designed to enhance the lives of those living in the building and in the surrounding community.

For more information please contact Anne Naumann or any staff member at 440-871-3234. Thank you for your support. ●

Anne Naumann is the director of the West Shore Senior Center.

WESTLAKE | BAY VILLAGE **Observer**

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Springing into summer

by **Chris Haldi**

Getting ready for the summer can sometimes be a pain. Getting into shape, finding something for the kids to do or finding ways to keep yourself busy might be some hard things to come by. Well the Westlake Recreation Center



Day Campers enjoy a day at the Zoo.

can help solve your problems. We have plenty of programming to offer to keep you and your kids busy leading up to and during the summer months. Check out what we have to offer.

Bring your dancing shoes and get ready to learn new moves. We are offering Ballroom Basics, Advanced Ballroom and Beginning Swing starting May 12. If you're in the mood to learn some new steps and want to dance like the stars, these classes are for you.

Here's a class for soon-to-be moms. We are offering a Prenatal/Post Natal Fitness class. Exercising regularly helps with reducing pregnancy discomfort. Class starts May 12, it will focus on techniques to help you through and after your pregnancy.

This class is for those children who want to use the D.E.N. The DEN Intro is a two-day class where children will learn how to use the equipment and learn the benefits the DEN has to offer. After completing this two-day class each child will receive a DEN card and will be able to use the DEN during open hours. Classes will start May 11 at 4:45 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Does your child like to help you out in the kitchen? Wait no longer and sign them up for Little

Chefs. This course will teach kids ages 4-7 how to make fun and simple recipes they can make at home. Class starts May 7.

If you're looking for a challenging yet rewarding workout you should try out our Hard-CORE class. This is an intense overall body workout comprised of Kenpo, plyometrics, calisthenics and an ab/core shredder. Try it out for one day or a month. Hard-CORE starts May 11.

Sign up the kids before it's too late. This summer the kids will need a place to go for the day. Our summer day camp is the answer. From 9 a.m.-4 p.m. everyday during the week you can drop your child off and we will take care of them. This camp is full of entertaining fun. Each week the kids will enjoy a field trip. Last year there was a trip to the Zoo, Peterson Pool and much more. Camp is designed for child in the grades 1-6. Any questions may be directed to Rachel O'Malley at 440-617-4418.

More information regarding programs and events, please call the Westlake Recreation Center at 440-808-5700 or go to our website at www.cityofwestlake.org/recreation. ●

Chris Haldi works for the City of Westlake Recreation Department.

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BAYARTS

Parade the Circle workshop

by Denny Wendell

BAYarts students who will be participating in Parade the Circle on June 12 – an annual Cleveland Museum of Art event in University Circle – continue to work on their costumes under the guidance of BAYarts artist in residence Wendy Mahon. At a recent workshop at BAYarts, students worked in harmony to craft the elaborate bird costumes they will wear during the parade. ●



Clockwise from bottom: Julia Aylward, Cidney Heaton, visual artist Wendy Mahon, Madison Heaton, Lauren Choban and Leah Choban craft their Parade the Circle costumes.



Left-to-right: Students Maurissa Sweany, Maddie Schoenherr and Lauren Everson construct a bird head.

Fuller House renovation begins

BAYarts kicked off the renovation of the Irene Lawrence Fuller House April 29 with a groundbreaking ceremony on the BAYarts campus. In attendance were Senator Tom Patton, Representative Nan Baker, Bay Village mayor Debbie Sutherland, new Cleveland Metroparks Director Brian Zimmerman and other park directors, community leaders and educators.

BAYarts is a non-profit arts education organization funded by the Cuyahoga Cultural Facilities Commission, the Ohio Arts Council and earned income through education fees and membership. BAYarts was awarded at \$250,000 grant by the Ohio Cultural facilities Commission with an additional \$100,000 commitment from Cleveland Metroparks for the renovation. An additional capital campaign with many of the naming rights already claimed.

The Fuller House restoration will allow BAYarts to provide a welcoming communal gathering place for gallery openings, concerts and events; provide first-rate art education and programming with a top-notch faculty; support regional artists through exhibitions, consignment shows and festivals; and serve as a gathering place for community groups.

The building was moved to the campus on a barge in 1984 to national media coverage but is just as well known as the house where the famous Dr. Sam Shepherd was arrested for the murder of his wife. The building was slated for renovation 26 years ago, but has remained unfinished and used for storage. The renovation will include a gallery, classrooms and art books library. The grand re-opening of the new facility will coincide with Bay Village's Bicentennial on 10-10-10. ●



Supporters gather at the groundbreaking for the restoration of the Irene Fuller House.



Ceremony attendees examine the interior of the Fuller House in its current state.



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Knickerbocker Apartments

is pleased to announce the age limit for residency has been lowered to 55.

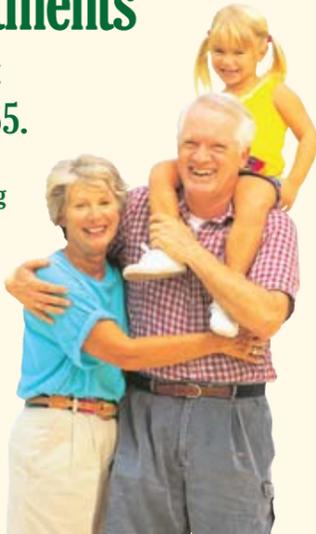
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Weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for more information.



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Bay branch library programs

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Thursday, May 6 (7:30 p.m.) ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION – Join us for a discussion of “Infidel” by Ayaan Hirsi Ali which is part of the series celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Anisfield-Wolf prize.

Wednesday, May 12 (7 p.m.) ERIE LIGHTHOUSES AND LORE – What stories do they tell? Are some haunted? Have some been silent witnesses to tragedy? We will take a look at how the lights operate and when they were built.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Thursday, May 6 (3:30 p.m.) TEEN CRAFT CLUB – Make something useful after school like bottle cap necklaces, buttons, and more! For grades 6-12.

Saturday, May 8 (10:30 a.m.-noon) ROBOTIX BLOCK 3.0 – Explore the world of LEGO Mindstorms and find out how to teach our robots new tricks. Program a robot to master new challenges, test it out, and watch it go! For ages 11-13.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Thursday, May 6 (7 p.m.) IT'S A GIRL'S WORLD – Girls and a female adult friend are invited to discuss a good book, share a snack and try a related project. For girls in grades 4 and 5.

Tuesday, May 4 (10 a.m.) STRETCH A TUBA – Gary Adams of Metropolitan Brass Quintet will introduce preschoolers to brass instruments.

Please register for these programs by going to cuyahogalibrary.org or calling 871-6392.

History and myths of lighthouses talk at the Bay branch library May 12

by Joyce Sandy

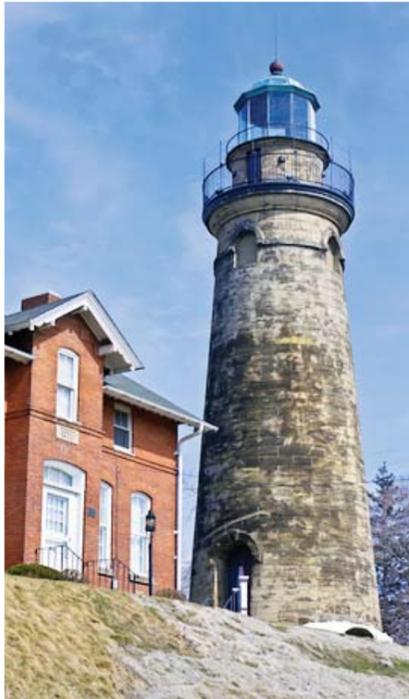
Standing tall and solitary along the shores of Lake Erie, lighthouses have long been the subject of tales of hauntings, tragedies and romance. On Wednesday, May 12, at 7:00 p.m., the Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library will host Mike and Georgann Wachter, authors of a series of books called *Erie Wrecks*. They will discuss the history and myths surrounding lighthouses in their presentation, “Erie Lighthouses and Lore.”

For over 30 years, the Wachters have dived in Lake Erie to search for the many shipwrecks scattered throughout. While pursuing shipwrecks in eastern Lake Erie, they became fascinated with

Mohawk Island Lighthouse in Ontario. They had questions about this crumbling lighthouse. Why was it there? Why had it been abandoned? Why was it forsaken? This quest led to their extensive research into Lake Erie lighthouses.

The Wachters are accomplished researchers and speakers. They have spoken for many organizations including Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Divers, Great Lakes Underwater, Ghost Ships Festival, libraries and museums. You won't want to miss this fascinating presentation. Please register by calling the library at 440.871.6392 or by visiting the website at www.cuyahogalibrary.org.

Joyce Sandy works in the Children's Department of the Bay Village Branch Library.



Fairport Harbor lighthouse

Printmaking exhibition on display throughout May

The Printmaking Exhibition Project/Prints from the Archives of Zygote Press will be on display May 3 to May 27 in the Cuyahoga County Public Library Bay Village Branch during library hours. The exhibit includes prints from many well-known Cleveland area artists including Mathew Kolodziej, Laurence Channing, Craig Lucas, Douglas Max Utter, Phyllis Sloane, and Reverend Albert Wagner.

Zygote Press is a non-profit cooperative, fine art printmaking workshop located in the Quadrangle arts district in the Superior/St. Clair neighborhood. This exhibit is funded in part by a grant from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, the Ohio Arts Council, National City Bank/PNC, and the George Gund foundation.

Celebrate National Drinking Water Week at Crown Water Works facility

by John Goersmeyer

The City of Cleveland Division of Water will observe National Drinking Water Week, May 3-8, and will host an Open House at two of its water works facilities, including free public tours and other family friendly activities. The Open Houses will be held Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the following locations:

- * Crown Water Works, 955 Clague Road, Westlake
- * Nottingham Water Treatment Plant, 1300 Chardon Road, Cleveland

Cleveland water system users are invited to tour either of these facilities to see firsthand how drinking water is processed and have their questions about water quality answered. Guided tours will take place continuously, throughout the day. A variety of giveaways for both children and adults will be available.

In order to ensure safety the following security measures apply:

- * Adult Photo ID Required
- * No Cameras or Video Equipment
- * Signature Waiver

Drinking Water Week is an annual event sponsored by the National Drinking Water Alliance, composed of non-profit groups and government agencies. Water suppliers throughout the United States and other countries participate in the observance, and sponsor activities to encourage consumers to get educated about water-related issues in their local communities. For more information or to RSVP, visit www.clevelandwater.com or call 216-664-2444, ext. 5676 or ext 5802.

John Goersmeyer is the Public Information Officer for the Cleveland Division of Water.

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bay Bicentennial 10.10.10

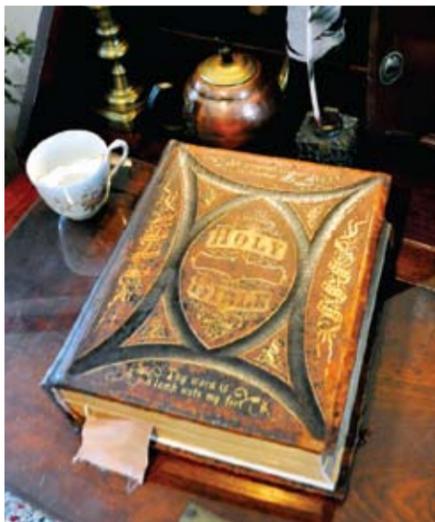


Fun Facts for the Bay Bicentennial

- Did you know the Malley's Chocolates store on Dover Center Road was once a Chrysler car dealership?
- Did you know Drs. Ross and Knowl were the first doctor and dentist in the village? Their office building is still standing behind Burns Auto Service on Dover Center Road.
- Did you know the Saddler family donated the land for the Methodist church at Lake and Bassett roads in 1827? It is the oldest church in the city.

TURN YOUR PORCH LIGHTS ON!

TO CELEBRATE BAY VILLAGE'S 200TH BIRTHDAY ON 10/10/10, RESIDENTS ARE ASKED TO TURN ON THEIR PORCH LIGHTS ON THE 10TH DAY OF EVERY MONTH THIS YEAR.



The family Bible of Joel and Margaret Cahoon is on display at the Rose Hill Museum. The book contains a list of important dates in the family's history, as Bible records were (and still are, to some extent) regarded as legal documents.

Bay Historical Society awards scholarships

by Eric Eakin

Katelyn Waddle and Peter Kahnert are this year's recipients of scholarships from the Bay Village Historical Society.

The scholarships are awarded to the senior female and male judged by the Bay High faculty to be the most interested in history.

Waddle will be attending Seton Hall University in New Jersey, where she will major in international relations and politics. She eventually would like to work as a lawyer in international relations.

Waddle, the daughter of Barb and Allen, was a cheerleader, Rockette, and played in the school's marching, symphonic and jazz bands.



Katelyn Waddle



Peter Kahnert

Kahnert will be attending The Ohio State University's honors college where he will major in politics and economics. He eventually would like to attend law school and work for the Department of State or run for political office.

Kahnert, a member of the National Honor Society, was field commander of the marching band for two years, attended Buckeye Boys' State, participated in a program to mentor

young students, threw discus on the track team, and played in both the symphonic and jazz bands.

“The society is pleased to be able to offer these fine young students scholarships,” society president Carole Roske said. “This is an investment we are confident will pay dividends in the future.”

Westlake Porter Public Library is No. 1 in the nation for second year

by Elaine Willis

For the second year in a row Westlake Porter Public Library has been named No. 1 in the nation for its population category by Hennen's American Public Library Rankings (HAPLR). This is the third time the library has achieved a No. 1 ranking, the first being in 2005. WPPL has been in the top ten in its population category since the HAPLR was established.



for their outstanding support. The two are an unbeatable combination."

Said Library Director Andrew Mangels, "This is an achievement not just for the staff and Board, but also for the community. It is due to their heavy usage that WPPL is number one."

The rankings are based on usage and service data such as circulation, number of materials, reference service, number of visitors, staffing levels and funding.

"We are thrilled to have achieved this number one ranking for a second year in a row," said Board President Laurie Forbush. "It is a reflection of our continued commitment to giving first class service to library users at all times. The Board of Trustees is grateful to the staff members for their commitment to this goal and to the community

He added that the 15 statistical factors used to compile the ratings are also reflective of the library's efficient, cost-effective service.

Westlake Porter Public Library is an independent library serving the city of Westlake. Last year was the 125th anniversary of its founding by Leonard Porter. For more information about the library or the HAPLR rating, please call 440/871-2600 or visit the library's website at www.westlake-library.org.

Elaine Willis is the Public Relations Associate for Westlake Porter Public Library.

Westlake Library honors volunteers

by Elaine Willis

Westlake Porter Public Library honored its 192 volunteers during a Volunteer Appreciation Reception on Sunday, April 12. Those volunteers worked over 11,000 hours shelving material, staffing the reception desk, helping students in the Homework Help Center, staffing Portables Gift Store and the Book Nook, delivering material to the homebound, serving as Library Trustees, and much more.

Singled out for her hours of work in various volunteer capacities since becoming a volunteer in 2003 and for her cheerful, can-do attitude was Ingrid Bowman, who was presented with the 2010 Myrna Chelko Award. Also receiving special honors was Former Library Trustee Sharon Didion, who received the Thomas A. Fox Distinguished Trustee Award.

Sharon received the award in recognition of her years of service as a trustee during busy times, such as the 1999-2002 building project and the hiring of a new Director, while also serving as a Friends Board Member, and managing Portables. Both Ingrid and Sharon exemplify the spirit of volunteerism and are an inspiration to all of WPPL's volunteers.



Ingrid Bowman accepts the Myrna Chelko Award from Board Member Bob Plantz.



Sharon Didion accepts the Thomas A. Fox Distinguished Trustee Award from Tom Fox, the former trustee for whom the award is named.

A short time ago, at a library not so far away...

On Saturday, April 17, Westlake Porter Public Library had some visitors from a galaxy far, far away! Star Wars-costumed characters from The Rebel Legion and 501st Brigade posed for photos and entertained families during the library's Star Wars Family Fun Fair. Star Wars enthusiasts of all ages were delighted with the chance to meet some of their favorite characters.



Two young earthlings pose with Princess Leia and C3PO.



An Imperial Clone reads up on the enemy.

A Photographer's Dream

by Robert Zak

It has always been a dream of mine to have my own photo show. In the past I always exhibited with my camera groups at numerous places in Northeast Ohio from art galleries and libraries to the President Garfield Memorial in Lakeview Cemetery.

My dream is about to come true with a One-Man Show. The photographic exhibition will be at the Westlake Porter Public Library from May 3 through May 31, 2010. The library is located at 27333 Center Ridge Road in Westlake. There will be a "Meet the Artist" reception on Sunday, May 16, 2010, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the library.

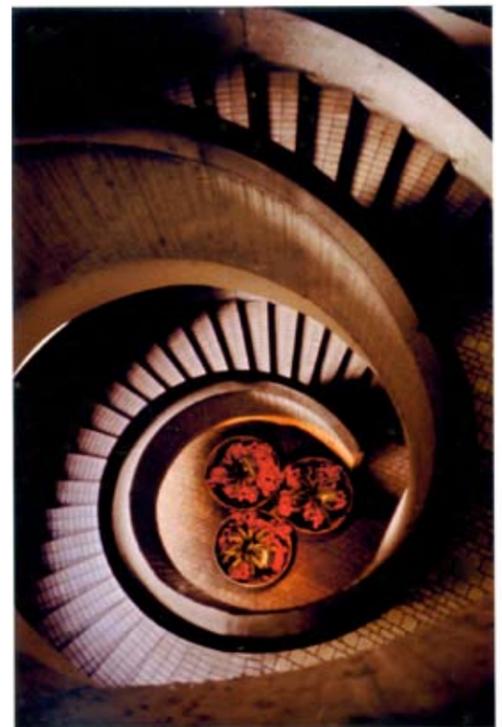
The work exhibited is varied. My first commercial-industrial job at age 19 was for the company I was working for. The show as presented has a few pictures of that first job. Also a photograph of a machine I photographed, which was one of the biggest and tallest I had ever photographed. It was 10 feet square at its base and over 30 feet tall.

A 40 x 60 inch print of it was sent and exhibited in London, England, at the International Foundry Show of 1977. The pictures were then published in Foundry Magazine and the Annual Report of Combustion Engineering in 1977.

Other pictures on exhibition are examples of my personal work covering a wide range of subjects from flowers to aviation. The photo included here is my "Winter's Harvest." This photo won 1st prize for black and white photography at the Cleveland Press Photo Ohio Photo contest in 1981. Another 1st prize winner for color, "Renaissance Stair," is also exhibited.

Since I have gone digital, I have donated my complete darkroom to Midpark High School. Now I often scan my old slides and or negatives into the computer to bring them new life as digital prints.

Bob Zak lives in Westlake.



"Renaissance Stair" captures the architectural beauty of a spiral staircase in Detroit's Renaissance Center. The photo is part of Bob Zak's exhibition at the Westlake Porter Public Library May 3-31.



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Bay Village Kiwanis plant Arbor Day buckeye trees at Bay Village Schools

by Karen Derby

The Bay Village Kiwanis planted four buckeye trees, one each for Bay High School, Bay Middle School, Westerly Elementary and Normandy Elementary schools in Bay Village, on Friday, April 30, in honor of Arbor Day.

According to Kiwanian and Bay Village Schools superintendent, Clint Keener, the trees are from the same family as Ohio buckeye trees, but do not grow as tall or drop the buckeye nuts. The trees are a dwarf red chestnut decorative shade trees with bright red flowers in the spring. The lush foliage also provides excellent cover for songbirds. The trees are expected to grow anywhere from 10 to 15 feet high.

“This is a wonderful donation to our schools,” Keener said. “Students will be able to enjoy the beauty, color and shade of these trees for many generations to come.”

Karen Derby is the Public Information Officer for the Bay Village City School District.



See more photos of this event on the Observer website at www.wbvobserver.com/photoblogs.

Left-to-right, Kiwanian John Solomon, Bay Village Schools Director of Operations Daryl Stumph, and Kiwanian Jim Potter.



Left-to-right, Kiwanians Maynard Bauer and Dick Walker, and Bay Village City Schools superintendent Clint Keener.



Dr. Jim McGlamery (right) looks on as Normandy Elementary first-graders help to plant a tree donated by the Bay Village Kiwanis in honor of Arbor Day.

Readers' Opinions

Yes is the answer, what's the question?

by Steve Novak

As a baby boomer who is creeping up on 50 years old it is amazing that dining out has become a way of life for most people in this day and age. Growing up, going out to dinner was an occasional event that was very exciting; now it is just common place in society.

Now that I've stated the completely obvious why hasn't most of the restaurant industry caught on to the fact that families are dining out? Mom, Dad and the children. Most restaurant do an average job of catering to families.

Yes, they have their children's menus, but you can go into almost any restaurant, close your eyes, open the children's menu, and recite what's on it and when you open your eyes you may be off by one item. It's time to be more creative with menus for children. How about including a children's selection as part of your daily specials?

My wife and I were out one night with our two children at a local restaurant and my daughter wanted fettuccine Alfredo, but all they had was an adult portion. When I asked the waitress if they could do a children's portion, the answer she came back with was from manager was no.

Being a parent and wanting to avoid a child meltdown we ordered the larger meal. As a 30 year veteran of the restaurant industry I find this type of response unacceptable. The price level for children's portions at some restaurants is out of line considering what they're serving and especially when they don't include the beverage, come on!

There are exceptions out there to this problem – you know who you are, and you should be proud that you take the time to take care of the little ones. A happy child means a happy parent which will garner return business and probably a nice tip for your serving staff. So when ordering something for your children, remember: Yes should be the answer and what's the question?

Steve Novak lives in Westlake.

One senior's opinion: Welcome spring

by Dianne Borowski

It's lilac time again. How do I know this living on the sixth floor overlooking the tree tops? My exposure to lilacs is non-existent. An asphalt parking lot surrounds my building.

Don't get me wrong. I love my apartment with its wall of windows facing north toward the lake. Unfortunately, living on an upper floor of an apartment building can sometimes blur the seasons. Clouds and the sky don't change that much from day to day.

I was recently reminded of the beauty of spring and the kindness of others at a writers group I attend at the Rocky River Senior Center. Carole Calladine, published author, director of the senior center and group mentor, remembered I had shared a story about loving lilacs.

At one time I had a yard filled with lilac bushes, one more beautiful than the next. However, after moving to my Bay Village apartment, I sometimes feel removed from spring. At a recent meeting, Carole brought a bouquet of lilacs from her yard and placed them on the table in front of me. I was touched and delighted.

That afternoon when I entered my building clutching a bouquet of lilacs people commented, “How beautiful. They smell so nice, where did you get them?”

“From a kind lady,” I replied. It's amazing how flowers can spark conversation, even among strangers.

Lilacs are my flower. The vase of flowers on my desk fills my home with fragrance and beauty. Lilacs transport me back to another time, another place, yet gently remind me that right now I am fortunate, that life is good and I am blessed. Take time to smell the flowers this spring. Put cares and worries aside and just enjoy nature at its very best.

Many thanks to Carole Calladine for reminding me it is spring and lilac time again.

Dianne Borowski lives in Bay Village.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let the reader beware...

Local newspapers can be a great resource for information and an important part of the fabric of our community. As Mayor of the City of Bay Village, I look at the papers as partners in disseminating information and appreciate balanced and factual reporting. While reporters and I may not always agree, we have worked hard to develop the professional relationships that ensure balance and independent reporting of the pros and cons that surround any issue.

For the past year, we have had a new community paper in town. For the most part, this new forum offers a free venue for many civic and community groups as well as businesses to get their message out to our residents. There are no reporters—just send in an article and chances are high that it will be printed verbatim. Think of it as a blog-paper grounded in opinion, not necessarily in fact.

The majority of the paper is very positive with one exception—“View from the Cheap Seats.” The publisher of the paper continues to engage a writer, Alex Dade, whose vindictiveness and venom results in the spread of misinformation that adversely impacts the city Administration, City Council, and the community as a whole. Although the publisher prints a disclaimer that facts will be checked, City Hall has never been contacted regarding Mr. Dade's “facts.” There is no balance. There is no independent reporting.

Mr. Dade is certainly entitled to his opinion. During the past election cycle, he used the paper to further his own political agenda. However, in his latest rant, his allegations of “financial malfeasance” truly cross the line from fact to fiction. I believe the publisher is doing our community and our residents an enormous disservice by not checking the facts and allowing this vitriol to continue.

– Mayor Debbie Sutherland, Bay Village

[Editor's note: The WBV Observer's guidelines ask writers to check the accuracy of facts before submitting. Personal perspectives on issues and events in our community are identified as opinions. We welcome the participation of all members of the community. Readers with insight into a topic discussed in the paper are encouraged to share it.]

Observer Guidelines

Want to submit an article to the Observer? We'd love to hear from you! Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when writing for the Observer:

- Anyone who lives, works or has a vested interest in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 words.
- Check your facts. Take the extra time to ensure accuracy.
- Submit original stories and photos. Don't copy others' work and

remember to credit your sources.

- Be respectful of others.
- Write for the community. Your stories will be read by people throughout Westlake and Bay Village (and beyond) so keep the audience in mind when choosing topics.
- Know you'll be edited. All stories pass through editors who review stories for spelling and grammar. We try to keep the news as “unfiltered” as possible, but may edit length and content if necessary.

- Disclose your affiliation. If you have a personal or business relationship with the subject of your story, let your readers know.
- Don't write stories solely to promote your business—that's what ads are for.

Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process. Contact us at staff@wbvobserver.com.

Bay students build wind-powered pump

by Karen Derby

Over the last two years, students in Bay High technology instructor Luke Kieffer's Home Construction and Energy classes have been working on an alternative energy project. The goal was to construct a full-size windmill that will pump water from one location to another.

While many different students have worked on the project over the last four semesters, sophomores Alex Morley and Bill Samilson put the effort in over the last few months to finally make it happen. The boys took their creation out in the wind and rain in April and the project came to life, successfully using the power of the wind to pump water.

The windmill is constructed completely of recycled materials. The pump is made of old PVC drain pipe and sump pump valves, the gearing was taken off an old ten speed bike, and even the blades of the windmill itself are constructed from an old rain coat. The students plan use what they've learned from the prototype and build a final product from steel and fiberglass that may be used where needed on Bay High School grounds. ●



Bay High sophomores Alex Morley and Bill Samilson with the student built wind-powered pump.

Bay Middle School Lego Club takes first place prize at Lego Olympiad

by Karen Derby

After fierce competition, the Bay Middle School Lego Club received a first place trophy in the 7th-9th Grade Theme Competition during the 2010 Nordson/LCCC Lego Olympiad. Leading the charge for the trophy and the first place win were: Gabriel Deutschman-



Bay Middle school students (left-to-right) Gabriel Deutschman-Ruiz, Jack Reiss, Eddie Rychel and Cameron Taylor won a first-place trophy at Lego Olympiad.

Ruiz, Jack Reiss, Eddie Rychel and Cameron Taylor. The Bay Middle School Lego Club competed against 500 students from across North Central and North Eastern Ohio.

Congratulations to the entire 21 member 2010 Bay Middle School Lego Club for the trophy and for being great sportspersons and school ambassadors. ●



The Bay Middle School Lego Club

WESTLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Westlake-Dover history housed at the Clague Museum

by Dave Pfister and Lysa Stanton

Located at 1371 Clague Road is a beautiful stately old home that was restored by the Westlake Historical Society. Robert Clague originally came to this area from the Isle of Man and purchased 78 acres of land around 1830. The Clague House, built in 1876, followed a log cabin and then a small frame house first constructed on the property.

Robert and his wife, Margaret, raised nine children and were known for being a very close-knit family. The last two surviving members of the Clague family, Walter and Sophronia, donated their land to the Village of Dover (now Westlake, Bay Village, and part of North Olmsted) for a park, with the provision they be allowed to live in the family home until their passing.



Miss Sophronia Clague

When the Clagues finally deeded the family land and home to the Village of Dover in 1929, Victoria Clague was against the idea and fought the dedication. As a result, her name does not appear on the Clague Family Monument located in the park

across the street from the Museum.

Both Sophronia and Walter died in 1934. Per Miss Clague's will, a library shall be maintained on the property to be a repository for early Dover history. The Sophronia Clague Memorial library is housed upstairs in the Clague House Museum.

The two-story brick home is essentially the same as when it



The Clague House Museum offers a glimpse into life in the 1870s. The museum is open during the Clague Road construction, and may be reached by traveling southbound on Clague Road from Detroit Road.

was built. The center room, however, was originally two rooms (a living room and a bedroom). The house was "ahead of the times" in that closets were incorporated into the bedrooms, something not normally found in the 1870s.

The Westlake Historical Society was formed over 41 years ago and has painstakingly restored this hidden treasure.

In spite of the Clague Road construction, the house is currently open during the month of May. Because the road is closed to northbound traffic, visitors must enter Clague Road from Detroit Road and travel southbound. Please join us Sundays from 3-5 p.m. Please contact us at 440-471-4090 or visit us on the internet at www.westlakeohiohistory.org. You can also find us on Facebook. ●

Dave Pfister and Lysa Stanton are members of the Westlake Historical Society.

Westlake Historical Society happenings for May 2010

May 2, 9, 16, 30: Clague House Museum is open to welcome visitors.

May 24: Monthly meeting at the Westlake Porter Public Library, 7 p.m. The program is "A Full Circle: The Cleveland Woman," presented by Katherine Kohl. Refreshments will be served.

May 31: Join Westlake Historical Society members as we walk in the Memorial Day Parade. Please meet us at the Westlake Christian Church, 25800 Hilliard Blvd. For more information please contact Dave Pfister at 440-471-4090.

For more information please feel free to contact the Westlake Historical Society at 440-471-4090 or visit us on the web at www.westlakeohiohistory.org. We are also on Facebook, search: Westlake Historical Society. We encourage those wanting more information about joining the society to contact us! ●

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May 3-May 31

Bob Zak's One-Man Photography Exhibit

See the story on page X of this issue.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

May 5, 1-2:30 p.m.

Free Family History Research Help Session

Ohio Genealogical Society, Cuyahoga West Chapter members will be available to members and the general public to offer assistance with genealogical research.
Conference Room, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

May 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

North Union Farmers Market at Crocker Park

Corner of Crocker Rd. and Market St. in Crocker Park, Westlake

May 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Operation Medicine Cabinet: Prescription medication collection

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Westshore Enforcement Bureau, and Drug Awareness and Prevention Inc., would like to help you safely dispose of any outdated or unwanted prescription medications.

Bring all unwanted medications to one of the two drop off locations. Remove all prescription labels before arriving. The program is completely confidential and no personal information will be asked. For more information, call 1-800-473-64467.

Westlake: Clague Cabin, 1500 Clague Rd., at the corner of Clague & Hillard

Bay Village: Bay Village Police Department, 28000 Wolf Rd.

May 8, 1-2 p.m.

Free Cane Self-Defense Class for Seniors

The class teaches self defense with the use of a walking cane.

Westlake Martial Arts, 27321 Detroit Rd., Westlake

May 8, 2-4 p.m.

"Picture Yourself," BAYarts Annual Youth Scholarship Show Opening Reception

This year's challenge: self-portrait using any medium. Cash prizes and BAYarts classes. Entry forms available at BAYarts. Show runs May 8-15. BAYarts Gallery, 28795 Lake Rd., Bay Village

May 9, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Rose Hill Museum & Osborn Learning Center

27715 Lake Rd., Cahoon Memorial Park, Bay Village

May 9, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Clague House Museum

1371 Clague Rd., Westlake

During Clague Rd. construction, please enter Clague Rd. from the south at Detroit Rd.

May 14, 8 p.m.

Symphony West Orchestra Performs Ethnic Music and Concert Waltzes from the Danube Region

Symphony West Orchestra, in Partnership with the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory Outreach Department presents "Danube Destinations: Ethnic Musical Treasures and Concert Waltzes from the Danube Region." Conductor Victoria Marra will lead the orchestra on a river tour through Germany, Bohemia, Austria, Hungary and Ukraine. The concert will feature Johann Sebastian Bach's Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C Minor performed by Symphony West's Denise Lavin, violin; and Bruce Biggin, oboe; with Carmen Massaro, harpsichord. Ethnic music of Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia and Serbia will be performed by Nadia Tarnawsky, vocalist; Brandon Vance, violin; and Alexander Fedoriouk, cimbalom.

Tickets: \$6 General Admission, \$5 Seniors, \$3 College and High School

Students. Children under 14 admitted free.

Gamble Auditorium, Kulas Musical Arts Building, Baldwin-Wallace College, 96 Front Street, Berea. Free parking available in the municipal lot on Center Street.

May 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

North Union Farmers Market at Crocker Park

Corner of Crocker Rd. and Market St. in Crocker Park, Westlake

May 16, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Rose Hill Museum & Osborn Learning Center

27715 Lake Rd., Cahoon Memorial Park, Bay Village

May 16, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Clague House Museum

1371 Clague Rd., Westlake

During Clague Rd. construction, please enter Clague Rd. from the south at Detroit Rd.

May 19, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Westlake Garden Club Meeting

Meeting and lunch followed by speaker, Ann Rosmarin, a local landscape designer, presenting "Gardens of America." Guests welcome. Call 440-331-8722 for more information.

Westlake Community Center, 29694 Center Ridge Rd.

May 19, 7-8:45 p.m.

Show and Tell Roundtable: "Rogues and Scoundrels in Your Family?"

Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society members and guests share how they learned about a disreputable or unscrupulous ancestor. Refreshments and social time is from 6:30-7 p.m. The public is invited, at no charge.

Porter Room, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Bay Village wildlife rehab program flooded with spring baby questions

Important and Timely Advice for Kids and Adults as Wild Animal Offspring Arrive On the Scene

by Shawn Salamone

The phone has been ringing steadily and there's a huge jump in animals being examined in the wildlife rehabilitation program at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. These are sure signs that spring has arrived at the Bay Village nonprofit organization. Often, the rehab staff's best advice is, "Hands off! Let wild animals be wild!"

"We are heading into our busiest season, when the presence of baby animals dramatically increases questions about backyard wildlife behavior," said Amy LeMonds, Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordinator at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. "It is imperative that wild animals be raised in the wild and by their parents. Human intervention should only happen as a very last resort."

LeMonds said people too often unnecessarily interfere with wild babies because they don't understand the natural development and behavior of the young animals and their parents. "We talk to a lot of people who assume the baby animal is orphaned when, in reality, the parent is simply away from the baby as it is supposed to be," she said.

LeMonds urges people to call for advice before interfering with any wild animal -- adult or baby -- for the safety and protection of both the humans and the wildlife. The Center's rehab staff can be reached at 440-871-2900, ext. 204. "We're often able to talk people through a variety of situations and, in many cases, avoid well-meaning but improper intervention. If it sounds like an animal legitimately needs help, we can also give advice on how

to safely capture and transport an injured animal to rehab."

Families can learn more about spring babies and the Center's Wildlife Education & Rehabilitation Program at a free program on Saturday, May 15 at 3 p.m. At "Meet An Animal: The Ins and Outs of Wildlife Rehabilitation," you'll hear what you should and shouldn't do to help wildlife in need and get up-close to some of the Center's permanent wildlife residents who started out in wildlife rehab.

You can also access baby wildlife information on the Center's website at www.lensc.org. You'll find a free fact sheet, "I Found Baby Wildlife - Does It Need Help?" and



Infant Eastern Cottontail from a nest that was disturbed by dogs in a Westlake backyard in 2009. Rehab specialists at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center advised the homeowner how to locate the nest so the baby could be reunited with its wild mom.

answers to other Frequently Asked Questions about human interaction with wildlife under the website's Wildlife tab.

The Kenneth A. Scott Wildlife Education & Rehabilitation Program provides rehab education and services at no charge to the public, relying on donations to examine approximately 1,300 injured and ill wild animals each year, with the goal of release back into the wild. Staffers also field a staggering 4,000 phone calls annually, teaching callers how to coexist with wildlife. ● *Shawn Salamone is Community Relations Manager at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.*

Nature Center gears up for Family Fun Fest

by Shawn Salamone

If you stop by the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, you'll find dozens of bright yellow ducks floating from the ceiling and lining the walls! Hundreds of the rubber quackers are waiting to be released into Porter Creek as the Center prepares to bring back its popular Family Fun Fest.

The Great Duck Race is a highlight of the early summer event which also features live animal and planetarium shows, an obstacle course, carnival games, bounce houses, nature hikes, food and much more!

Family Fun Fest's non-stop activities will run from noon - 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 6. During the 2:30 p.m. Great Duck Race, a swarm of rubber ducks (1,000 last year!) will dive into Porter Creek (with a little human help) and bob to the finish line where cash and great prize packages, await the cheering winners. (You don't need to be present to win.) Individuals can sponsor a duck at \$5 for one duck or 5 ducks for \$20. Duck sponsorships are on sale now through 1:30 p.m. race day (or until they sell out.)

Family Fun Fest is part community "happening" and part fundraiser to support nature education, wildlife rehabilitation, live animal exhibits and planetarium at the nonprofit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Individual and Corporate Duck Sponsorships are a key part of the fundraising effort. The race is also supported by dozens of community businesses that generously provide gift certificates and other great prizes. The Center is currently accepting prize donations.

Prizes already on the list for 2010 include tickets



A few of the 1,000 entries in the 2009 Great Duck Race float down Porter Creek, part of LENS's Family Fun Fest. The 2010 event is coming June 6.

for the African Safari Wildlife Park, Akron Art Museum, Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, Children's Museum of Cleveland, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland Cinemas, Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, Dunham Tavern Museum, Fairview Lanes, Ghostly Manor Thrill Center, Lake County Captains, Miller's Boatline, National Inventors Hall of Fame, Pro Football Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame!

There are also certificates for Donato's Pizza, #1 Express Car Wash, Strollerfit and Candlewood Suites, plus a Channel 3 jacket, courtesy of Fun Fest media sponsor Cleveland.MomsLikeMe.com and WKYC-TV.

Admission to Family Fun Fest is free, but many activities require a ticket. Activity tickets are \$1/ticket, \$10/12 tickets or \$20/26 tickets. Activity tickets will be available for presale beginning May 1. Cash only is accepted as payment for food on the day of event. For more information call (440) 871-2900 or log on to www.lensc.org. ●

MDA Lock-Up raises 'bail' for Camp Cheerful

by Denny Wendell

Each year the Muscular Dystrophy Association enlists the help of good-natured community leaders throughout the country to participate in local MDA Lock-Ups as part of a fundraising program to provide help and hope to hundreds of thousands of children and adults living with neuromuscular diseases.

The participants in the program are arrested, sentenced to serve time at a MDA maximum appreciation jail site from which they enlist friends and associates for donations to help them make bail.

Debbie Bock, Bay Village's Director of Community Services volunteered to be a convict at this year's lock-up program held April 28 at Avon Oaks Country Club. During her incarceration, Debbie and dozens of



Debbie Bock is hauled off to "jail" as part of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's annual Lock-Up fundraiser.

other community leaders were able to raise over \$34,000 for Muscular Dystrophy Association programs.

The funds raised will enable the association to send 42 children with muscular dystrophy to Camp Cheerful for one week this summer, provide six hours of clinical research and sponsor 113 clinic visits.

Although Debbie was released on good behavior, anyone with a generous heart wishing to help can contribute with cash or a check made out to "MDA" and mailed or dropped off at the Dwyer Center, 300 Bryson Lane, Bay Village, OH 44140. You can also visit Debbie's Lock-Up website to donate online at <https://www.joinmda.org/westcleveland2010lockup/dbock>. For questions, Debbie can be reached at 440-899-3409. ●