

Bay program addresses overdose, suicide

For Bay Village school and city officials, drug overdose and suicide headlines are personal

by KAREN DERBY

Too many funerals of beloved Bay Village graduates dying from drug overdose and suicide drove three, heart-wrenching presentations at the Bay Village Schools on Wednesday, April 12.

"I have attended 15 funerals for former students over the past 16 years," said an emotional Sean McAndrews, Bay Middle School principal. "I can't stand it anymore." He noted that in Cuyahoga County, we are losing almost one person a day to heroin or opioid overdoses, with 60 people dying from those causes in February of this year alone.

» See **OVERDOSE** page 2



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Amy Fritz shares photos and stories about her son, Russell Brill, pictured at left on the screen, during the "Our Children Are Dying" presentation on April 12. A 2007 Bay High graduate, Russell battled addiction and had been sober for seven years before he passed away from an overdose last December.

Porter Library introduces 'Laptops Anytime'

by ELAINE WILLIS

Westlake Porter Public Library is now offering an option for individuals who find themselves in need of a laptop while there: the new Laptops Anytime station.

The machine offers six Mac Airbooks and six Dell PC laptops for in-house borrowing. All come loaded with Microsoft Office 2016 and Internet browsers (Safari for the Macs and Chrome, Firefox and Internet Explorer for the Dells). The laptops may be borrowed for up to six hours, but users may borrow another computer when their time expires if one is available. In addition, all borrowed laptops must be returned to the machine 15 minutes before the library closes.

» See **LAPTOPS** page 2

BAYarts' Storytellers series features serendipity talk

Serendipity is when things happen by chance in a way that is especially good for you. Lizbeth Wolfe (owner of Metta Flows Yoga & Art Studio) will be giving a free talk at BAYarts on Earth Day about this life-affirming concept and how it extends to all of our lives.

Wolfe has provided creativity, community and yoga in hospitals, schools, museums and more. "Art and yoga can meet each of us where we are on our journey. It can teach us patience, passion, compassion and resiliency. By being present with ourselves we can be present for each other, and create a more loving world."

Wolfe's first glimpse into yoga's powerful transformative gifts was through a dance teacher as a teen healing from trauma. The joyful integration of consciousness through breath, movement, mindfulness, sound and stillness reso-

nated with her, and sparked her lifelong journey of practice and study. She's been blessed by the guidance of many wonderful teachers, and the inspiration of her students and teaching community. All of this education has helped make Wolfe a bountiful fount of knowledge.

Her teaching practice is rooted in Classical Hatha Yoga to which she brings the influence of traditions that include Amrit, Anusara, Astanga, Iyengar, Kripalu, Kundalini and Kriya styles of practice. Her special focus has been on yoga therapy, prenatal yoga and trauma-sensitive yoga. She is certified in aquatic yoga, yoga for arthritis and laughter yoga. She is a registered Usui and Karuna Reiki Master, and traditional Thai yoga massage practitioner.

Wolfe is part of the teaching team at the Cleveland Clinic's
» See **SERENDIPITY** page 6

Westlake Kiwanis, Town Criers provide fire dept. with carbon monoxide detectors

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Westlake Kiwanis and the Westlake Town Criers recently partnered to donate carbon monoxide detectors to the Westlake

Fire Department. These detectors help replenish the fire department's stock of available detectors as part of the Westlake Carbon Monoxide program.

This program is intended to help the elderly and disabled

residents in the city of Westlake that need assistance with their detectors. Assistance ranges from replacing old detectors, installing new detectors, and replacing batteries every six months. ♦



PHOTO BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Freeman, left receives carbon monoxide detectors from Al Smith (Westlake Kiwanis) and Matt Novak (Westlake Town Criers).

OVERDOSE

from front page

Bay High Choraleers opened the presentations with an a capella rendition of “Tears in Heaven” while photos and obituaries revolved on a screen, memorializing the Bay High graduate victims of addiction and suicide. The presentations were meant to have an emotional impact that would “stick with” students and parents.

“In my career I don’t think I’ve been involved in something I feel more strongly about, that’s more important, or that is more emotional for me,” said Bay High Principal Jason Martin as he addressed his student body. “All those students we introduced to you are students that Mr. McAndrews and I have had contact with. Students just like you who sat in this auditorium, walked in our hallways, participated in our athletic teams – they’re students who had meaning to our school, had meaning to us personally.”

Amy Fritz and Nick Pugliese shared stories of losing their adult children, but also sent a message of compassion and hope to today’s high school and middle school students, as well as to their parents.

Russell Brill, who passed away from an overdose at age 27 this past December, was introduced through photos by his mother. Brill had joined AA because of alcohol addiction in 2009, had been sober

for seven years, and recently married. Fritz unapologetically described her son as “brilliant” in his intellectual curiosity and musical talent. More important, he was a kind and caring, fun-loving person, a great brother and son. He also sponsored many AA members, and he was always on the phone with someone he sponsored.

“Once you are sober, it is an everyday struggle to stay sober,” said Fritz. “At the visitation, I had probably a dozen guys come up to me, sobbing, because Russell saved their lives. He saved their lives.”

Fritz said she wanted to speak to students because she thought if she could reach even one young person who might realize his or her use of alcohol or drugs could lead to the kind of tragedy her family experienced, and would change that behavior now, it would be worth it.

“I’m pretty sure that Russell and [his friend] Jimmy had their first beer together in the eighth grade,” said Fritz. “And Jimmy passed away two years ago from a heroin overdose.” She pointed to a strong correlation between the earlier use of alcohol and addiction. “If you haven’t had your first drink yet, please put it off. If you’ve already started, cool it.” She stressed that repetitive drinking “re-wires” the brain to look to alcohol or drugs for those good feelings they can temporarily produce.

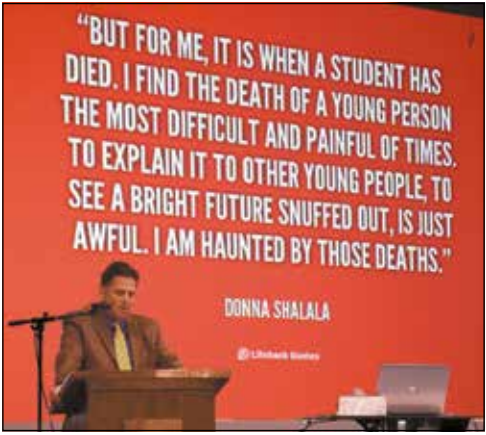
Nick Pugliese lost his daughter, Jacqueline, to suicide four years ago. Jacqueline

was a family counselor who worked with homeless and at-risk families. Her boss was a clinical psychologist who had lost his own father to suicide. No one had any idea that the 30-year-old, a mother of one daughter, was struggling with depression and thoughts of suicide.

He shared a moment when he overheard a girl who was participating in a school track meet say that she “could kill herself” over her disappointing performance.

“I stopped her and asked her, ‘are you serious, is that a threat? Are you really telling me you’re going to commit suicide? Because if you are, I have to do something. I lost a daughter to suicide.’ She said no, she was just joking.”

“Suicide is not funny,” said Pugliese. “Next time you hear someone joking about ‘just killing myself,’ or that someone would rather ‘just kill myself, just hang myself, just shoot myself, I would rather jump off a bridge, than take that test or sit through this class,’ please take a minute and think about all the jokes about death by diabetes, cancer, stroke, car accidents. Take a minute and think – is someone dying tragically ever funny? Please do not joke



Sean McAndrews, Bay Middle School principal, addresses the audience.

about suicide. To those who have lost a loved one, like me and my family, to suicide, it is not funny, ever.”

He stressed with several examples the importance of being kind, and related that he still felt the sting of his father commenting on his acne when he was a young man. “Don’t be the person who drives that nail in the fence. You can say you’re sorry, but what happens when you pull the nail out? The hole is still there.”

The evening presentation was geared toward parent education, with added speakers including Superintendent Clint Keener, Mayor Paul Koomar, Police Chief Mark Spaetzel, Detective Kevin Krolkosky, Bay High 2010 graduate Jamie Laskowski, parent advocate Kathy Winzig, former Bay High principal Jim Cahoon, and representatives from Bay Family Services, MetroHealth Hospital, Cuyahoga County Drug Court, and Lean In.

Videos of the presentations are available at bayvillageschools.com/OCAD. ●

LAPTOPS

from front page

Customers only need to have a Westlake Porter Public Library card in good standing to borrow a laptop. (Good standing includes having a current address, phone number and email address on file as well as having no out-

standing fines of more than \$10 on the account.)

Using the machine is simple – just select the type of laptop desired, agree to the terms of use and scan your library card. To return a borrowed computer, just slip it into one of the empty bays. All laptops are wiped upon being returned to protect user privacy. They may be used

only within the library and users will be charged for the replacement cost in the event of damage or loss while the computer is being borrowed.

“We’re excited to offer Laptops Anytime to our library users,” said Library Director Andrew Mangels. “It means that they can now use a library computer anywhere in the library, instead of being

tied to our electronic services area.” ●

Correction

A photograph in the April 4 issue was incorrectly captioned. Alaina Curran of Bay Village was pictured at the Westlake Easter Egg Hunt last year.

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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 or works in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 word articles.
- Photos should be jpegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes in size.
- Submit original stories and photos. Don’t copy others’ work and remember to credit your sources and list the photographer of photos.
- Don’t use stories to promote a business – that’s what ads are for.
- Review our Observer FAQs on our website at: wbvobserver.com.
- 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.

Staff contact information is listed below. To join in, sign up through the Member Center at wbvobserver.com/members to submit your stories, photos and events.

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.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer staff.

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Foam: Natural causes or pollution in our waters?

by **NORAH HAMIL** and **JENNIE KOOMAR**

If the Cahoon Creek has a “clean bill of health,” as reported by the Sea Scouts in the March 21 issue of the Observer, why is there foam in the creek? Is it from pollution? This question was posed by a reader of the Observer who lives by the creek. Two members of the Marine Environment Explorer Club 360, Norah Hamil and Jennie Koomar, set out to answer this question. Research suggested that a close examination of the foam would point to its source.

Foam is generated when there is a change in water surface tension and air is introduced. Surface tension is that force on a water/air interface that forms a slight film on the surface of water. Surface tension is what forms beads of water on a newly waxed car and also allows certain insects and spiders to walk on water. When certain chemicals, called surface active agents or surfactants, are introduced to the water the surface tension is reduced and then as air

is introduced by turbulence, foam is formed.

Synthetic surfactants in streams are the result of detergents and produce foam close to the source that is short lived, has a perfume smell and it has rainbow reflections in its bubbles. There are also natural surfactants that are created by decomposing and rotting leaves and vegetation. Foam



Norah and Jennie collect a foam sample from Cahoon Creek.



Foam collects on the surface of Cahoon Creek.



Norah and Jennie test the foam smell.

caused by natural sources forms where there is turbulence along the length of a stream.

It is white in color, but turns brown over time and occurs after a rainfall.

One Friday after school, the Explorer Club trekked

out in the rain to observe a stretch of the Cahoon Creek. We found foam in the creek, which was white in color. At a weir just north of Detroit Road we took foam samples, they did not have a detergent or perfume smell (in fact had a strong fishy smell) and the bubbles were clear of any rainbow coloring.

In conclusion,

we determined that the surfactants producing the foam had to be formed by the natural decomposition of vegetation. Considering that the Cahoon Creek passes through the Cleveland Metroparks' only large wetland marsh at Bradley Woods Reservation it is not surprising that natural surfactants flow in the creek.

Explorer Club 360 is a Learning for Life affiliate of the Boy Scouts for students in sixth through eighth grade. The club concentrates on STEM projects related to our marine environment while developing life skills, character, leadership and ethics. For further details contact adviser, Richard Gash, 440-871-6106 or skipper@seascoutship41.org. ●

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THE GREEN REPORT

Lake pollution rivals ocean 'garbage patch'

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

"We are the problem. The good news is that we are also the solution." This is a quote from Dr. Sherri Mason, a professor of chemistry at State University of New York (SUNY) at Fredonia, when speaking about plastic pollution in the Great Lakes. Dr. Mason is a leading researcher on this topic, and conducted the first ever plastic pollution survey within the Great Lakes. I was fortunate to attend a presentation by Dr. Mason and afterward participate in a discussion about this topic last week at the Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Mason, along with Marcus Erikson of the 5 Gyres Institute, conducted the first open-water surveys of the Great Lakes in 2012 and 2013. In Lake Superior and Lake Huron, they found 7,000 plastic particles per square kilometer (km²). In Lake Michigan, they found 17,000 plastic particles per km²; in Lake Erie they found 46,000 plastic particle per km²; and the lake with the highest level of plastic particles is Lake Ontario with 230,000 per km². The flow of the lakes into one another is why Erie and Ontario have become the most polluted; the water from the other lakes flows into Erie and finally into Ontario.

The levels of plastics found in both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario rival pollution levels found in the most polluted parts of the ocean, i.e. the Great Pacific Garbage patch. Let that sink in. The contamination level of the entirety of Lake Erie rivals the most polluted part of the ocean.

The size of the plastics in the lake they found is also notable. Ninety-six percent of the plastic they found measured less than 4.7 millimeters, with 67 percent measuring less than 1mm. The bigger plastics (larger than 4.75mm) amounted to only 4 percent of what they found. Why is this important? Because the plankton eat the

microplastics, and the bigger fish eat the plankton, and the plastic continues up the food chain. Guess who eats the bigger fish? We do.

In order to examine the food chain issue, Dr. Mason is also conducting a food web study in the Great Lakes. She and her research team included 24 species of fish and one bird species. The study has not yet been completed, but her preliminary results have found plastic in every single species they examined.

Why is this concerning to us? Because plastic does not belong in the lake. It is dangerous to wildlife, and it is dangerous to us.

What are solutions we can focus on to reduce plastic in the lake? Refuse single-use plastic. Every. Single. Time. Our society and culture has become so dependent upon conveniences: plastic bags from the grocery store used for minutes then discarded; plastic water bottles; to-go coffee cups; straws; plastic plates and utensils, etc. All of these single-use plastic items are unnecessary. Humans have lived without them before, we can certainly live without them now.

The invention of plastic has no doubt been great for the world, it has saved lives and contributes to the betterment of life in myriad ways. However, it does not make sense for us to use convenience plastic for two minutes, when that plastic will be on earth for generations and generations. It will not go away. Every piece of plastic made is still on earth. It cannot be recycled, only downcycled into a lesser product than it was.

If plastic makes its way into our waterways and out into the lake or ocean, it breaks down in the water and becomes microplastic. Single-use plastics are polluting the earth and each of us has the power to do something about that. We are the problem; we are also the solution. ●

THE MEDICAL INSIDER

The vexing anti-vaccine crusade

by DIANA PI, M.D.

I followed with mild curiosity the "Revolution for Truth" crowd protesting outside the White House last week. One sign read: "OUR BABIES Were Well. THEY HAVE WELL-BABY MERCURY VACCINE. NOW 1 IN 6 KIDS NEUROLOGICALLY DAMAGED."

The first thing that popped in my head: What's with the small letters in an all-caps message?

Then I thought: What mercury?

Aside from some flu shots and one preparation of tetanus shot, mercury (thimerosal), a preservative, has been removed from all childhood vaccines for over a decade. And vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, and polio do not contain mercury – NEVER DID. The vaccines-cause-autism theory is a dead horse that's been running wild for 19 years, defying logic, science and common sense.

But measles, the first M of the MMR vaccine, is a mean old weasel. It's highly contagious, transmits by droplets that stay airborne for hours, and is infectious days before the rash breaks out. Before a global immunization program in 1980, millions of people died from measles each year. Ebola, nasty as it looks and sounds, can't hold a candle to measles. In the 2013-16 outbreak, Ebola killed 11,310 people before it was contained, one-tenth the deaths measles racked up in 2015 alone – 134,200 according to the World Health Organization.

In 2000, the U.S. was declared measles free; our outbreaks, so far, have come from overseas travelers. One of the largest outbreaks happened in the Amish communities surrounding Holmes County, Ohio. In 2014, two unvaccinated Amish men returned from

typhoon relief work in the Philippines, which was in the middle of a measles outbreak. One developed a rash on the second day, but doctors took weeks to recognize what they had in hand. It took four months, 380 cases, and over 12,000 last-minute vaccinations to contain that outbreak.

This case demonstrated two points: "herd immunity" and the proverb "no good deed goes unpunished."

Herd immunity is the reason why unvaccinated American children (8 percent) aren't coming down with measles. They're protected by a safety bubble made up of properly vaccinated children and adults.

But two bad things can happen.

First, if the "herd" vaccination rate falls below a certain minimum standard, the protective bubble will burst. Second, if that child ever steps outside the bubble ...

Andrew Heffron, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health Immunization Clinic supervisor, said the 2015 MMR immunization rate in Ohio was around 88 percent (90 percent and over is needed for adequate herd immunity). In Cuyahoga County, the rate falls in low-income areas.

Last year the kids and I did a short stint of medical work in Uganda. They helped out in a public clinic and met hundreds of villagers. We tried to be careful, brought our own gloves. Still one got sick, twice – with fever, projectile vomiting and fatigue.

They brought home a profound appreciation for all things Westlake, U.S.A., including living parents, traffic lights, clean air, tap water that one can drink safely, the ingenuity and privilege of flush toilets.

One thing they definitely did not bring home: measles. ●

Westlake Kiwanis thanks the community

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

The Westlake Kiwanis would like to thank Westlake and surrounding communities for their support in making our recent pancake breakfast a success. The funds raised by pancake breakfasts support projects throughout Westlake and surrounding communities.

This year's breakfast was a cooperative effort between the Westlake Kiwanis Family, Westlake PTA and LakeShore Day Camp and also included the Hermes Westlake Spring Fever Run. ●

RIGHT: A water stop at the 2-mile mark of the Hermes Westlake Spring Fever Run.



Kiwanis Key Club and Builders Club members serve breakfast.



PHOTOS BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI

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Westlake PTA event raises money for scholarships

by MARY ESSIG

Over 600 people recently attended Westlake Council of PTAs annual Dollar\$ for Scholars (DFS) event at Westlake High School to raise money for scholarships for graduating Westlake High School seniors.

Since 1968, Westlake Council has continued the proud tradition of awarding scholarships to deserving Westlake High School seniors who plan to pursue higher education at a college, university or technical school. Scholarships are awarded for traditional academic pursuits, as well as for the arts, STEM/technology and a life challenge.

The Westlake Council and its eight member PTAs fundraise for these scholarships in many ways, including programming, membership drives, and the annual Dollar\$ for Scholars event. Due to overwhelming support for Council and its member PTAs' fundraising efforts, Westlake Council of PTAs and its member PTA units awarded a total of \$21,000 in scholarships to graduating Westlake High School seniors last May.

While the goal of Dollar\$ for Scholars is to raise enough money for Council to award ten \$1,000 scholarships, the main event and other activities make the evening a memorable, fun, family-friendly outing.

The highlight of the evening? The basketball game where Westlake City School District (WCSD) teachers and staff faced off against Westlake High School seniors in a perennial battle for bragging rights. Parents, students and community members attended to cheer on their favorite teacher, principal or senior student. WHS seniors Torrey Santora and Franki Grignon sang the national anthem before the tip-off, and Ned Lauver, WHS assistant principal, provided play-by-play announcements, while Paige Bowman and Erica Francesconi were the official scorekeepers.

At halftime, Westlake's own Dreamin' Demons, a cheerleading squad of fourth-grade to sixth-grade girls coached by WHS cheerleaders, performed, and children were invited to shoot free throws on the main court for \$1.

For those not interested in basketball, the event had plenty of other activities to entice students and parents. Concessions provided a quick dinner or snacks, and in the WHS rotunda an extensive array of silent auction baskets and raffle items were available, as well as raffle tickets for a \$1,000 cash prize. Children's activities for \$1 each, such as hair painting, face painting, poster



Westlake Superintendent Scott Goggin presents Westlake HS senior Alex Krystynak with the Dollar\$ for Scholars' student MVP award.



Westlake Superintendent Scott Goggin presents Chris Milano with the Dollar\$ for Scholars' staff MVP award.

making and mini basketball hoops, kept volunteers busy throughout the evening.

The success of Westlake Council of PTAs' annual Dollar\$ for Scholars event is due to the tremendous support from its member PTA units and their parent volunteers, and the WCSD teachers and staff. Westlake Board of Education members also volunteered the night of the event, and community members donated their time for "sale" in the silent auction. Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough donated "Lunch with the Mayor"; Westlake Porter Public Library Director Andrew Mangels donated "Librarian for a Day"; and Westlake Superintendent Scott Goggin donated "Pizza with the Superintendent."

At the end of the evening, many happy parents and children left Westlake High School carrying a silent auction basket or raffle item, and the WCSD staff basketball team triumphed over the Westlake High School senior students. In a very close game, the staff won 50-44 over the students. Mr. Chris Milano was named MVP for the staff team and Alex Krystynak was named MVP for the senior student team.

Westlake Council of PTAs consists of 8 local PTAs organized under the authority of Ohio PTA for the purpose of promoting conference, communications, leadership development, and the coordination of the efforts of its member PTAs. ●

Westlake Council of PTAs announces Reflections winners

by MARY ESSIG

The Westlake Council of PTAs held its 2016-2017 Reflections Art Show & Judging last December and top entries recently advanced to the state-level competition.

This year's PTA Reflections theme was "What is Your Story?" and the following students won their divisions in the following categories at the Art Show & Judging in December: Alex Spring, film production; Sahana Herman, Grace Neubeck and Katie Willi, literature; Andrew Bovenzi, music composition; Frankie Jacono, Sophia Jacono, Samantha Wohleber and Lauren Havelka, photography; Jaden Jang, Samuel Jang, Macy Sinreich and Sara Massa, visual arts.

Westlake Council of PTAs is proud to announce that three of these submissions earned honorable mention from the Ohio PTA: Jaden Jang's "My Memory" in Visual Arts (Primary Grade Division), Jake Hunter's "Jake Hunter" in Photography (Primary Grade Division), and Andrew Bovenzi's "Discovery



Westlake students Jake Hunter, Andrew Bovenzi and Jaden Jang received honorable mention at the Ohio PTA Reflections competition.

Prelude" in Music Composition (High School Division).

Founded in 1969, the National PTA Reflections program engages nearly 300,000 students and their families in arts education activities each year – encouraging students to explore the arts for fun and recognition. PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home. Students of all grades and abilities may participate, and students from all seven Westlake City schools took part in this year's program. ●

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Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, April 19 (6:30-8:45 p.m.) CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – Betsie Norris, director of the Cleveland Adoption Network will discuss “New Adoption Records and Laws.”

Thursday, April 20 (noon-1:30 p.m.) SMALL BUSINESS LUNCH & LEARN: PROTECTING YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY – Intellectual property lawyer Bob Bodi will introduce us to the various forms of intellectual property protection and their purposes, potential shortcomings and risks. Please register.

Thursday, April 20 (2-3:30 p.m.) 3D ANIMATION – Learn how to make animated creations with Carnegie Mellon’s 3D programming environment, Alice. Please bring a flash drive so you can save your work! Grades 7-9. Please register.

Thursday, April 20 (7-8 p.m.) INTRO TO IPHONE – This lecture-based session will provide an overview of iPhone basics. Please register.

Friday, April 21 (1-3:30 p.m.) FANTASTIC FRIDAYS – Fantastic Fridays are great days for homeschoolers! Every month we’ll explore a new topic with

related activities. Ages 6-12. Please register.

Saturday, April 22 (2-3:30 p.m.) DIGGIN’ WITH DEAN’S GREENHOUSE – Dean’s will be sharing tips on planting and making your container gardens, hanging baskets, raised beds and in-ground plantings look their best all summer. They’ll also help with diseases, pests and (of course) deer. Door prizes will be awarded at the end of the evening! Please register.

Saturday, April 22 (2-3 p.m.) PINTEREST CLUB – Come each month to recreate a fun craft from Pinterest. This month: Canvas Art. Grades 7-9. Please register.

Saturday, April 22 (4-5 p.m.) FULL STEAM AHEAD – This month: Students in grades 3 and 4 will learn how to use Excel 2013 to create a personalized budget, and learn about personal finance through an online game. Please register.

Sunday, April 23 (2-3 p.m.) AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLUB: MONEY MATTERS – Celebrate Financial Literacy Month through American Girl quizzes from the book “A Smart Girl’s Guide to Money: How to Make It, Save It, and Spend It,” money games and a money-themed craft. Ages 6-11. Please register.

Monday, April 24 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) TEEN LOUNGE – Need a place to hang out after school? Come to WPPL’s Teen Lounge on Monday afternoons! We have computers, video games, board games, snacks and more! For grades 7-12 only.

Monday, April 24 (7-8 p.m.) SPOTTING & AVOIDING FINANCIAL SCAMS & IDENTITY THEFT – A Federal Trade Commission representative will discuss how to spot, stop and avoid scams and the steps to take to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft. Please register.

Tuesday, April 25 (9:30-10 a.m.) STORIES AND SIGNS – Enjoy an interactive storytime while learning a few words in sign language! Ages 0-3, siblings welcome.

Tuesday, April 25 (10 a.m.-noon) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: NETWORKING EFFECTIVELY – Your network helps you to gain information about industries, trends and career fields. Learn how to build and maintain business relationships that will assist you in your job search.

Tuesday, April 25 (7-8 p.m.) COLLEGE IS POSSIBLE: FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR – Tri-C’s Financial Aid and

Admissions departments will be here to discuss applying for financial aid, navigating the process, and understanding your resources. They’ll also touch on general admissions and transfer options. For teens and their parents.

Wednesday, April 26 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – The April selection is “Echoes in Death” by J.D. Robb.

Thursday, April 27 (4-5 p.m.) TBD – This session: Make piggy banks out of recycled materials in celebration of National Financial Literacy Month. Grades 5-7.

Friday, April 28 (10-10:45 a.m.) COME PLAY WITH ME! – Open playtime with age-appropriate toys. For children ages 2-5 with a caring adult. Siblings welcome! Registration begins April 21.

Friday, April 28 (10 a.m.-noon) FIBER FANATICS – A time for needlecrafters to share, solve problems, and show off.

Friday, April 28 (11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.) CONNECTING FOR KIDS’ SPEAKER SERIES – Join us for a discussion on potty training with a local pediatric expert. Register at connectingforkids.org or 440-250-5563. Free child care is available.

Saturday, April 29 (10:30-11:15 a.m.) ADAPTED STORYTIME – Children with varying learning styles and abilities learn in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences are encouraged. This 30-minute storytime, followed by time for socialization, is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience. Content is geared toward ages 3-7, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend, but must register separately. Registration begins one week before each session.

Saturday, April 29 (2-3 p.m.) ART MARKET – Everything has a price, including your next craft project! You will use funny money to “purchase” craft items and tools that will help you make a project perfect just for you! Grades 2-5. Registration begins April 22.

Sunday, April 30 (2-4 p.m.) CHESS CLUB – Hone your chess skills or learn how to play the game. Recommended for ages 8+, but all ages are welcome. If you have a chess set, please bring it.

To register for any of the programs, visit westlakelibrary.evanced.info or call 440-871-2600. ●

SERENDIPITY

from front page

Institute for Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine. She is a provider for Westlake Community Services Center, a teacher/trainer for Cleveland Clinic School of Yoga and TRY4Life Yoga School. For over 10 years she served as an affiliate at River’s Edge Conference and Retreat Center, and Heartlight Yoga Center For Living Well. She’s taught in the cancer support wellness program for Moll Cancer Center, Yoga for Healing and PTSD, WIREnet Teen Summer empowerment camp, Rosie’s Girls teen empowerment program through Hard-Hatted Women, in corporate environments, and sees clients in private practice.

BAYarts’ marketing manager and head of the new Storytellers series, Jessica Stockdale, says that she liked Wolfe as soon as she met her. “She came into the gallery, we started talking, and I loved her positive energy. Hearing that she actually teaches meditation and yoga in other art galleries, I saw how there was a good connection here for someone who was in touch with exactly the type of topic I was hoping we’d be hearing



Yoga instructor Lizbeth Wolfe will give a free talk about serendipity on Earth Day, April 22, as part of the Storytellers series at BAYarts.

about from our Storytellers.” The theme for the talk manifested organically. “The concept of serendipity is one that we too often overlook, but when it happens in the natural world it can be easier to recognize ... with things like rainbows, or a butterfly landing on the hand,” Stockdale said. “Finding signs in nature is a powerful idea, which is why talking about serendipity on Earth Day is a perfect match.”

After enjoying this free tea and talk on Saturday, April 22, at 10:30 a.m., Earth Day at BAYarts will then include free kids crafts and nature-based shop vendors with special wares on hand. ●

Birds of Lake Erie Day: For the beginning birder to the expert conservationist!

by MORGAN PASKERT

Join Lake Erie Nature & Science Center for its second annual Birds of Lake Erie Day on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Get ready to learn all about our local feathered friends, Lake Erie birding and much more with programs and activities for all ages, including:

- Presentations by the Center’s expert wildlife staff on rehabilitating bird species

- A bird hike throughout Huntington Reservation to the shores of Lake Erie led by Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialist Tim Jasinski
- Appearances from the Center’s ambassador animals and presentations by Project Wildlife students
- Planetarium programs discussing the effects of light pollution on wildlife
- Fun family activities



An American Goldfinch perches on a feeder.

All proceeds from Birds of Lake Erie Day will support the Center’s wildlife rehabilitation program which examines over 100 different species and admits over 1,400 patients a year. Fee: \$5/person. Children 5 and under are free. Secure your spot by registering in advance at www.lensc.org. ●

PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Used book sale at Bay Library

by LINDA LAMB

The Friends of the Bay Village Library Spring Used Book Sale begins Saturday, April 22, 9:00 a.m. and runs

through Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m. The sale is held in the meeting room of the library.

There is a large selection of books for readers of all ages as well as magazines, DVDs, CDs, audio books and more. All materials have been categorized for easy shopping. Tuesday, the last day of the sale, is bag day when a full bag of books costs \$1. Bags

are provided by the library. Proceeds from the sale are used to support upcoming library programs and activities.

For more information on the book sale, volunteering to help with sale, or becoming a member of the Friends of the Bay Village Library, visit the library at 502 Cahoon Road or call 440-871-6392. ●

Unity to host peacemaking retreat

by SHARON FEDOR

What is inclusivity anyway? Is it when you smile at a stranger? When you encourage your child to invite the child who's "different" to the upcoming birthday party? When you attend a same-sex marriage? Is it when you drop your guard and allow yourself to be hugged by someone you hardly know? Or, is it when you take a homeless man job-hunting if he is willing to go? Do you "include" yourself in knowing you are a spiritual being worthy of immeasurable greatness? Does inclusivity encompass kindness, compassion, letting go old ideas, even love?

Are each of us capable of giving more, of being more, when it comes to inclusivity? There are many forms and paths

to take when talking about inclusivity, but it takes more than talk; it takes action, and may require you to dance outside of your comfort zone.

A Sioux Indian prayer asks, "Great Spirit, help me to never judge another until I have walked in his moccasins." Surely, that would be walking the talk. While St. Augustine writes four words, "Hear the other side," Doug Floyd writes, "You don't get harmony when everybody sings the same note." Surely, that would ring the sound of beautiful inclusivity.

Being a peacemaker is definitely a move up the ladder; they say there is one in every family, and it would seem peacemaking encompasses inclusivity. Shariff Abdullah can be described as an expert at peacemaking and inclusivity. He is the author of the award-winning book, "Creating a World that Works for All," and "Seven Seeds for a New Society." Creating a world that works for all living things is no easy task, but Shariff takes on the challenge each time he gives his message at retreats that include the topics,

"A New Perspective" and "Oneness in Diversity: A Deeper Dive." Abdullah's peacemaking efforts have spanned over 100 different cultures, in over 30 countries, with everyone from rice farmers to members of militias.

Unity Spiritual Center of Westlake invites all to come learn how changing your consciousness can be a way out of our world dilemma on Friday, May 5, and Saturday, May 6. Abdullah will be the keynote speaker at the Friday evening event, 7-9 p.m.; the Saturday workshop is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This is the second annual Unity of Northern Ohio retreat of its kind, where participants will be lovingly guided to examine the issues that confront today's world, and explore methods of growth, and transformation. All are welcome for both days, or just one. The retreat will be at Unity of Westlake, 23855 Detroit Road. Cost for early registrants is \$30. Tickets and more information are available online at unityspiritual-center.com or by calling 440-835-0400. Tickets will also be sold at the door. ●

Nan Baker announces district library days

Cuyahoga County Council Member Nan Baker announced that she will continue her eight-year tradition of holding district Library Days throughout this spring and summer to connect with members of the community. She began this tradition in 2009 as State Representative for District 16. Both House District 16 and County Council District 1 represent the same five communities: Bay Village, Westlake, Fairview Park, North Olmsted and Rocky River.

Baker will be holding district hours at each of the five libraries in the West Shore district on Saturday mornings in May and June.

"I am always trying to find ways to reach out to the constituents in my district," Baker said. "I look forward to the opportunity to have a direct dialogue on the concerns or ideas regarding important issues facing our county government."

District hours from 10 a.m. until noon will be held on the following days:

- May 6: Westlake Porter Public Library
- May 13: Rocky River Public Library
- May 20: North Olmsted Branch Library
- June 10: Fairview Park Branch Library
- June 17: Bay Village Branch Library

The sessions are open to the public, and no appointment is necessary. ●

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WDAB hosts inaugural Demon Derby ‘Night at the Races’

by ELISE ORR

Demon pride was alive and kicking at the Westlake Demons Athletic Boosters (WDAB) inaugural, sold-out Demon Derby “Night at the Races.” The adults-only event, held at St. Demetrios Church Cultural Center on April 1, included dinner, drinks, sideboards, horse races and raffle packages with all proceeds benefiting WDAB and our mission to support all Demons athletics for students in grades 7-12.

“We were thrilled with the turnout and received great feedback from our 400+ attendees,” said WDAB President Edward Blair. “It was terrific to see our Westlake community come together to support Demon Nation.” Attendees included Westlake coaches, administrators, parents of all grade levels, teachers and staff.

“Since WDAB’s reorganization from the former Demons Club three years ago, this was the first all-sports large-scale



Westlake parents got into the spirit of things at WDAB’s “Night at the Races” and donned their best derby attire.

event we have hosted,” stated event co-chair Meredith LaVecchia. “The suc-

cess of the event was a testament to our community’s commitment to support

Demon athletics. We hope the momentum continues and we can host an even larger event next year. We look forward to our continued membership growth as our families and community see the real work and benefits attained through WDAB for all athletes, all teams!”

WDAB is a community-based organization established with an “All Athletics/One Goal” approach of supporting Westlake City School athletic teams in grades 7-12. WDAB strives to provide equipment, uniforms, scoreboards, athletic structures, etc. – via the fundraising efforts of its members, parents, the greater Westlake community and local businesses.

While WDAB is a separate entity from Westlake City Schools and its athletic departments, it supports the activities and needs of our interscholastic athletes and athletic programs. WDAB is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit charitable organization and strictly run by a group of dedicated volunteers. ●

Westlake honors influential rabbi

by RABBI MENDEL JACOBS

Westlake joined communities worldwide on April 7 in marking the 115th anniversary of the date of birth of the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, of righteous memory.

Often described as the most influential rabbi in modern history, the Rebbe’s visionary efforts to reconnect Jews

everywhere with their Jewish heritage have touched millions of lives and forever transformed the landscape of Jewish life. His teachings, which emphasized the inherent goodness of mankind, the infinite potential within every individual and the profound value of even the smallest good deed, inspired multitudes around and resonated globally.

Rabbi Schneerson was the only rabbi

ever to receive the Congressional Gold Medal and to have an American national day proclaimed in his honor, Education and Sharing Day. His role within the Jewish community was unparalleled, both as a preeminent scholar and as an indefatigable leader.

In commemoration of the anniversary, Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough proclaimed April 7, 2017, as “Education Day” in the city of Westlake and called on Westlake’s “Educators, volunteers, and

citizens to reach out to young people to create a better, brighter, more hopeful future,” the proclamation reads.

In keeping with the Rebbe’s lifetime goals and teachings, thousands of his followers and disciples around the world redouble their efforts at personal prayer and reflection and acts of loving kindness in preparation for the special date, as well as increase their personal and communal efforts to encourage others to do the same. ●

READER’S OPINION

Cleveland Browns and the quarterback saga

by GREG SCHWERT

Since January, I have been writing about The Cleveland Browns and the upcoming draft. I have gone over why it would be a mistake to waste the first pick in the draft on a quarterback; along with the debacle of drafting Tim Couch in 1999 and the futility that has been with the Browns ever since. Additionally, I have reviewed the moves made (and missed) via free agency and have provided a defense-laden mock draft that could significantly improve the Browns’

record this year and for years to come.

The one area that I did not address was the position of quarterback, although in some ways I did, by reminding everyone that offense wins games but it is the defense that wins championships. This means that the Browns shouldn’t “force” a quarterback to be drafted, especially in the first couple of rounds in this year’s draft. If one were taken that high in the draft, the fans and the media would be expecting him be the opening day starter... whether he was ready or

not. This has been the proverbial broken record in Cleveland, happening over and over again. Focus on improving the team.

This does not mean that the Browns shouldn’t draft a quarterback or even two, it just means that they shouldn’t panic and force one to be drafted. Let one fall to the Browns. Better yet, there have been rumors that coach Hue Jackson liked one or two of the quarterbacks he got to coach at the Senior Bowl. The names Davis Webb of California, Pittsburgh’s Nathan Peterman and Joshua Dobbs from Tennessee are the ones that I hear coming up as potential middle to late round choices that interest the Browns. I expect one of these quarterbacks, most likely Dobbs, to be selected by the Browns in the third round or later.

I want to add my “two

cents” and request that they also use their final pick in this year’s draft on C.J. Beathard of Iowa. I watched some of the NFL Combine and Beathard threw better than DeShone Kizer of Notre Dame, who some view as a first-round candidate. What would be wrong with going into this year’s training camp with between four and six candidates for the job? Nothing! The team would be improved around the position and coach Jackson may find his guy through this type of open competition.

Lastly, for those that want some out-of-the-box thinking, I had mentioned in the last issue that the second pick in the second round could be a “wild card.” Think about the Browns using that pick to find one of the worst five teams in the league, panicking and willing to trade

their first-round pick in next year’s draft as part of the deal. Cleveland would then have two first-round picks and three second-round picks, to either use for the quarterback they want next year or combine to trade up to obtain him. Following this strategy, they would have a solid team in place that would allow a premier quarterback prospect to learn from the bench without having his career shortened, like Tim Couch.

As a final note, you are welcome to join me at The Hooley House in Westlake on Thursday night, April 27, to “enjoy” the first round of the draft or to simply enjoy ... a draft. I have a room reserved and expect to be there by 6:30 p.m. to enjoy their food specials while waiting for the Browns to make their first selection (Myles Garrett?), shortly after 8 p.m. ●

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BAYarts' advanced cartoonists exhibit work

“The sole purpose of cartooning or illustration is to tell a story,” says Jim “Rev” Giar, BAYarts’ advanced cartooning instructor. “In this class we explore not only telling a story, but expressing individuality through the use of illustration techniques which can be applied in any medium.” The class, designed for high school students with a strong foundation in drawing and cartooning concepts, meets every Thursday evening throughout the year.

With a focus on perspective, drawing the human figure, placing it in an environment and, of course, storytelling, students participate in class critiques

as they work together, discuss each other’s work and support one another’s growth. Giar is an award-winning comic book artist and one of the founding members of the Rust Belt Monster Collective, a collaborative group of six artists whose work is on view on the sides of BAYarts buildings. The group creates a new panel each year at BAYarts’ Art & Music Festival in June and can be seen across northeast Ohio major festivals throughout the summer.

The Advanced Cartooning Exhibit is on view in the Dianne Boldman Education Gallery now through May 8 and includes work from the BAYarts Portfolio Prep class, also for advanced students. ●



BAYarts Advanced Cartooning students with instructor Jim “Rev” Giar (right).

Lakewood Recreation

Adult summer kickball team registration begins April 1 and ends May 15

Co-Ed leagues play Thursday or Friday evenings

Email Rick Wallenhorst for information:
richard.wallenhorst@lakewoodcityschools.org

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CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS ARE ALSO BEING SOLICITED

Fundraiser celebrates Team YC

by KATHY RIGDON

With the Indians Opening Day and the Cavs Playoffs on the horizon, there was excitement in the air at Youth Challenge’s annual benefit and auction on Saturday, April 8. Over 300 sports fans gathered at Ariel International Center in Cleveland to “Party Like a Champion” and support YC.

Guests helped raise over \$205,000 to fund free adapted programs for children with physical disabilities and their teen volunteer partners. This support allows Youth Challenge to reach hundreds of children in the Greater Cleveland community, providing them with opportunities to play sports, make friends, and embrace their own unique abilities.

Steve Nock, president of The Nock and Son Co. and member of the YC board of advisors, was the honorary event chair. YC trustee Tom Fraser, president & CEO of First Federal Lake-



John, Huston and Becky Nagy, with YC athletics coordinator Mackenzie Maglic. Huston, who is blind, and his mom, Becky, spoke to the crowd about the impact Youth Challenge has had on their lives.

wood, and advisory board member Ernie Vargo, partner at BakerHostetler, were co-chairs of the event. Marcia Obrock of ShurTech Brands and Christy Svagerko of Ernst & Young served as auction co-chairs.

For more information, visit youth-challengesports.com. ●

New FREE Event!

BAYarts BIKES & OUTDOOR FESTIVAL

Body, Soul and Art

Saturday, May 20th 11am - 3pm

Bike and Outdoor Gear, Wellness and Services, Vendors, Live Music, Food & Libations

Ride your bike or free parking on grass at the BAYarts campus.

Village Bicycle Coop, Cleveland Metroparks, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center...and much more!

Details at BAYarts.net

SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Old Cahoon barn has served community well

by KAY LAUGHLIN

The Community House started life in 1882 as the Cahoon barn located in today's Cahoon Memorial Park. Since 1810, when the Cahoon family arrived in Dover Township, the family had made do with a cluster of outbuildings just south of the house for farm equipment and animals.

In 1882, while Joel Cahoon was still living, the family decided to build a new barn. Some of the outbuildings were removed and a barn built in the same location. The new bank barn was Gothic style and three stories high. Bank barns, built on a rise, used the lay of the land to create a lower level and entrance on one side. The lower level, seen from the south, contained wagons and equipment. The first floor with, doors that opened to the north, held stalls for animals. The third floor was the hay loft. There were windows on all sides, and on top was a cupola which allowed the flow of air.

Today, the Cahoon barn retains its basic form, proportions, and structural features of the 1882 Gothic barn. It sits on a foundation of sandstone. The wood post-and-beam system

remains from the old barn with steel columns and trusses added for reinforcement. The exterior of colonial revival clapboard siding and windows we see today were installed during the 1936 renovation into the Community House by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The first floor was turned into a meeting room with knotty pine paneling, popular at the time. The attached outbuildings became the kitchen, bathroom facilities and another room. The barn became the village community center. It was named the Community House.

When the Community House was opened in 1936, the first reception held in the meeting room displayed a replica of a log cabin, with ancestors of early settlers, in costume, portraying the beginnings of Dover Township. Over the years, village organizations held their monthly meetings, dinners, teas and special occasions there. At public civic meetings important decisions were made to plan the



The Cahoon family barn was built in 1882, and was renovated in 1936 to become the Community House.

future of our community.

On the Fourth of July, the meeting room became a Bingo parlor and dance hall in the evening. The high school used it on Friday nights for school dances organized by the Recreation Department and the "Snow Ball" was held there. The kitchen was in great use with many dinners served for community organizations. Many a bride had her wedding reception there. It was and still is the main meeting room in the village. The basement and back rooms have housed the police and fire departments, Mrs. Korney's ballet studio, and the Friendship Center to name a few. The basement is now home to the Village Bicycle



The present-day Community House.

Cooperative.

This year the Community House is 81 years old. Over the years, the meeting room has seen small changes. The Women's Club provided new draperies, and watercolor paintings by village residents hung on the wall. The city modernized the kitchen many years ago. However, just like in our homes, the Community House needs repairs made through the years. Today, the building is in great need of structural reinforcement, a new kitchen and updating.

There is a story in "Bay Village: A Way Of Life" about early settlers coming together to build a Baptist church in the

township. Soon-to-be members of the new church offered time, money or supplies to get the job done, and the church was built.

All Bay Villagers could donate time, talent or money to keep our community house safe and beautiful for the next 80 years. A benefit to kick-off the restoration/renovation of the Community House and historic area will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Country Club. "Back to Bay's Future" will be a 1960s themed dinner and dance. Tickets are \$100 each. For more information, contact: blinglady17@gmail.com or mrthomas1970@gmail.com. ●

A week of fashion programming at Porter Library

by DEBBIE LOIACONO

Have you seen 2017's new spring fashion trends? One shoulder split shirt tops, shirtdresses with graphic lines, oversize shapes with extended sleeves, flat form shoes, and navel-grazing pendants are on the runways this year. Fun styles for all ages,

fashion provides a way to artfully explore your personal expression. The first week of May is a nod to this creative industry at Westlake Porter Public Library. Whether you dream of being a designer, or just need inspiration to freshen your closet, we have the right program for you.

Our popular adult coloring program will focus on fashion on May 3 at 2:00 p.m. All supplies are provided. Why not drop in to color and relax and explore your sense of style?

Teens will be making duct tape accessories on May 3 at 3:30 p.m. We'll bring the colorful tape and instructions. You bring your friends.

We are certain you won't want to miss costume designer Charlotte Yetman's

behind-the-scenes theatrical costuming presentation on May 3 at 7:00 p.m. From historical eras to powerful characters, the fashion design behind these costumes for the stage is some of the best in the business! A theatre professor and resident costume designer at Baldwin Wallace University, Charlotte will bring sample costumes. The sneak peek showcase in the library lobby offers a display preview through April 30.

Local fashion designer Dru Christine is coming to WPPL on May 4 at 7:00 p.m. Feel frustrated by your closet? Wish you had a better sense of style? Need ideas to make the things in your closet work together? This program is for you! Find the inner fashionista that's been hiding.

Great for all ages, women and men. Dru Christine will provide a guide in fashion, exploring your personal style, fit, color and more.

On May 6 at 1:00 p.m. Kelly Velikonya Patel, store manager at Kate Spade Beachwood, will talk about her experiences working at Fashion Week in New York and Miami and Cleveland. She promises to highlight current fashion trends as she shares her fashionable experiences.

Please remember that you don't have to be a fashionista to embrace the new spring styles. We hope you will join us for one or all of these wonderful presentations. Call 440-871-2600 to register, or sign up on our website at westlakelibrary.org. ●

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Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

Of course the Bay Village branch library is your go to place to get your books to read over spring break, but it's also a great place for kids and teens to hang out during this week off school. Join us for some spring break STEAM, storytime and movie fun! See below for more information on our events.

CHILDREN

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

- **Mondays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STORYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- **Tuesdays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STORYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- **Tuesdays (6:45 p.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME** – for all ages
- **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)
- **Fridays (10 a.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME** - for all ages

Tuesday, April 18 (2 p.m.) MYSTERY BAG CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGE – Grades K-4: Do you like to play with Legos and build with different types of materials? If so, challenge yourself to the Mystery Bag Construction Challenge! Each mystery bag will hold the key parts to making a fun contraption. Use your creativity and the provided materials to rise to the construction challenge.

Wednesday, April 19 (2 p.m.) SPRING BREAK MOVIE – Visit the library for a special screening of a popular movie. Bring a blanket and pillow or sleeping bag.

Thursday, April 20 (2 p.m.) BUILDING BRICKS @ THE LIBRARY – Calling all Lego fans! You bring the imagination and we've got the bricks! We'll work through a few friendly challenges then share our creations. Registration required.

Monday, May 1 (11 a.m.) HOMESCHOOL: LET'S BUILD A KITE – Grades 4-8: We will build simple kites and explore how kites use wind to overcome gravity.

Friday, May 5 (10 a.m.) PLAY, LEARN & GROW – Children will play with developmentally appropriate toys in a play group atmosphere while parents meet and learn from community health experts.

Saturday, May 6 (11 a.m.) FREE COMIC BOOK DAY – Join forces to celebrate Free Comic Book

Day! Come in costume as your favorite super hero or villain and sharpen your skills in our action packed Super Hero Training Course. Crafts, activities, prizes and gaming will be available. Free comic books, while supplies last. Registration is required.

TEENS

Saturday, May 6 (3 p.m.) FREE COMIC BOOK DAY - Big-screen gaming, green screen super hero photo booth, crafts, prizes, and of course, free comics! Super hero costumes are encouraged.

ADULTS

Wednesdays, April 19 and May 3 (7 p.m.) BEEKEEPING ESSENTIALS – April 19: Planting a pollinator garden; May 3: Making nature's cosmetics from hive products.

Thursday, April 27 (7 p.m.) INVESTING FOR BEGINNERS – Money Smart Week. Whether you're approaching retirement age, just starting out on your own, or somewhere in the middle, you've begun to think about your financial future. The next step is to do something about it, but where do you begin? Financial planners from Skylight Financial Group will help you understand basic investing terms and explain how to build a portfolio.

Monday, May 1 (1:30-3 p.m.) COLORING FOR CALMNESS – Drop in and experience the latest trend in relaxation: adult coloring books! Studies show coloring can have a calming effect on the adult mind and help to promote overall wellness. Coloring pages from books designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils, markers or crayons will be provided. We'll color to some relaxing music. Refreshments will also be available. Sponsored by The Friends of the Bay Village Library.

Thursday, May 4 (7 p.m.) THURSDAY NIGHT BOOK DISCUSSION – Join us as we discuss "Hill-billy Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis" by J.D. Vance. Books are available at the Checkout Desk.

Friday, May 5 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS BOOK DISCUSSION – Join us for this monthly book discussion on the BAYarts campus in the Sullivan Gallery. Copies of this month's book, "Mischling" by Affinity Konar, will be available at the library and BAYarts one month prior to the discussion. No registration required.

Please register to attend the programs online at cuyahogalibrary.org, call us at 440-871-6392, or stop in to the library at 502 Cahoon Road and register with a librarian. ●

SPORTING VIEWS

Is the Tribe better than last year? The Sequel

by JEFF BING

When we left off last issue, I *believe* – and trust me, at my age nothing is a “given” anymore – we had examined the Tribe's infield and were about to look at the outfield and pitching when – alas – I ran out of column space. Fortunately, I haven't been canned yet and have a clean slate this issue, so let's kick things off (since the Browns can't) with the outfield.

Outfield: Having given this some serious thought, I don't see much reason to attach a name to a particular position in the outfield, since the way the outfield is constructed so “fluidly”, most guys play multiple positions out there anyway. Some of those guys – most of whom are not (or at least weren't most of last season) household names – were Tribe outfielders last year.

In 2016, guys like Abraham Almonte, Marlon Byrd, Lonnie Chisenhall, Collin Cowgill, Coco Crisp, Rajai Davis, Brandon Guyer, Michael Martinez, Tyler Naquin and Jose Ramirez somehow combined to form one of the most productive outfields in the American League last year.

Since Naquin was recently sent down to the minor leagues, the only guys who remain who had an impact on the team last year are Chisenhall, Almonte, Guyer and Ramirez (who is now an infielder).

But I'll tell you what: Give me Michael Brantley as a corner outfielder, the platoon of Chisenhall and Austin Jackson (if he's healthy, he's awesome) in center, with Guyer and Almonte or (seriously?)

Carlos Santana in right. With Brantley back, they are already better than last year's very capable contingent.

Starting pitching: Yes, the starters have gotten off to a rocky start – for them, anyway – but the only one who has been *really* bad is Josh Tomlin.

I say, “Not to worry, Tribe fans,” because Kluber is getting better with every start, Carrasco has looked very good in his starts, Salazar hasn't been bad and, outside of a couple of bad innings, Bauer has been all right (and yes, I know, that's like saying that if it hadn't been for that crummy iceberg, the Titanic would still be afloat today). But I'm going to do my Hue Jackson imitation and say, “Trust me.” Bauer will win 17 this year. Kluber will once again light it up after a slow start, and between Carrasco and Salazar there should be 30 or so victories. If Tomlin continues to falter, we have plenty of talent in the minors waiting for a shot (although I'm rooting for Josh big-time). Regardless, the starting pitching will be better than last year, period.

Relief pitching: Probably the best in baseball. Andrew Miller and Cody Allen might be the two best relievers – not just on the Indians – but in the American League.

Bryan Shaw has me reaching for the Pepto-Bismol every time he pitches but most of the time emerges victorious. This, by the way, is where Terry Francona excels. As much as he drives me nuts at times with all the pitching changes, the guy knows when to make a change almost ALL of the time. Much like me knowing when to stop writing. Yeah, you *wish!* ●



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

Wednesday, April 19, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Sharon Barnes of Barnes Nursery will tell the story of what it takes to keep Crocker Park's flowers and landscape pristine and growing all season long and share some of the gardening trends for 2017. Club business meeting begins at 11 a.m., lunch at noon, presentation at 1 p.m. The event is free and guests are welcome. For information call 440-665-5463.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesdays, April 19 and 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
SWEETARTS CAFE
A socialization and arts experience for those with memory loss/dementia and their care partners. It begins with lunch, either brown bag or ordered ahead of time from Panera, and is followed by an art, music, storytelling or dance activity. No cost. Pre-register and/or order lunch at 440-414-0434, ext. 2.
Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation Studio, 26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake

Wednesday, April 19, 7-8 p.m.
CULTURE AND COMPASSION: A PANEL DISCUSSION
Understanding culture is vital in a global society. Culture is not just race or ethnicity; it includes language, religion, age, gender, family values, the region of the country in which one is raised and many other elements. Join us for a lively, interactive discussion to develop a better understanding of the cultural forces acting on us. Free.
Tri-C Westshore, 31001 Clemens Rd., Westlake

Wednesdays, April 19 to May 31, 7-8:30 p.m.
CATHOLICS COMING HOME
A seven-week series for non-practicing Catholics interested in returning to the Catholic Church.
St. Raphael Church, 525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

Thursday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.
LEAGUE CHAPTERS TO EXAMINE VOTING RIGHTS
The Westlake-North Olmsted and Fairview Park Chapters of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland will examine and discuss voting

outcomes of the election in the 3 cities. Precinct-by-precinct election results from the November 2016 General Election will be presented. The discussion will focus on turnout statistics, absentee ballot usage and other factors that may affect the organization's future nonpartisan voter education activities. The public is invited to participate.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m.-noon
SHREDDING DAY
Residents of Bay Village, Westlake and surrounding communities may bring paper and cardboard to be shredded and recycled. No cost; no quantity limit. Hosted by the Bay Village Green Team and City of Bay Village with a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District and donation from Creative Wealth Associates.
Bay Village Police Station Parking Lot, 28000 Wolf Rd.

Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY COLLECTION
Accepted donations include: usable furniture, appliances, kitchen equipment, tools, electronics, flooring, lights, plumbing fixtures and other household items. Not accepted: clothing, mattresses, hazardous material, torn or damaged furniture, opened paint or unframed glass.
Bay Village Police Station Parking Lot, 28000 Wolf Rd.

Saturday, April 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, April 23, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
NORTH COAST NEEDLERS QUILT SHOW
Featuring over 250 quilts, ranging from traditional and contemporary to modern and art quilts. Boutique of handcrafted items for sale; cafe and vendor mall. Winning raffle ticket for beautiful quilt drawn on Sunday. Donation: \$5; seniors \$4; 10 and under free. Handicap accessible.
Westlake High School Rotunda, 27830 Hilliard Blvd.

Saturday, April 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
SHOP LIKE A GIRL SPRING SHOPPING EVENT
With over 40 shopping stations, lots of basket raffles, and giveaways, you're sure to have loads of fun while supporting families in need! The first 50 shoppers receive a free goody bag. Admission: \$1 donation to the Westlake Food Pantry or one

non-perishable food item. Register in advance at fightlikeagirlfoundation.org for a free gift.
Westlake Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.

Sunday, April 23, 7:30-9 p.m.
THE WEST SHORE CHORALE & STUDENT SINGERS CONCERT
Join the West Shore Chorale & Orchestra for a spring performance of Haydn's "Harmoniemesse" and Dvorak's "Te Deum." The Chorale will share the stage with singers from high schools including Westlake, Lakewood, Avon Lake and St. Joseph's Academy. Free reception will follow. Tickets \$15, students of all ages are free. Purchase at the door, online at westshorechorale.org or call 216-373-7773. Parking is free and handicap accessible.
Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts, 20770 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

Monday, April 24, 11:30 a.m.
WAKING UP YOUR GARDEN
Nicolle Clark Akin, from Pettitti Garden Centers, will be presenting an easy step-by-step method to restore your lawn and garden to help you start your outdoor gardening season off right. Luncheon served at 11:30. There is a \$5 fee for guests. Please register at bayvillagegardenclub.com or call Sharen at 440-871-9098.
Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.

Tuesday, April 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
FORGET-ME-NOT CAFE
Free arts enrichment and socialization cafe to engage individuals affected by memory loss/dementia and their care partner (spouse, child, caregiver). Each session will include either music, dance, poetry, song or TimeSlips storytelling. Pre-register by calling 440-414-0434, ext. 2.
Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation Studio, 26040 Detroit Rd., #3, Westlake

Wednesday, April 26, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
EMBROIDERERS' GUILD OF AMERICA
The group will be making yo-yos taught by a member. Please come and join us to meet fellow stitchers and to have fun. For additional information, call 440-734-2383 or 440-835-5183.
Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Thursday, April 27, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
In memory of Dr. Steve Meadows. Register at redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code "Steve."
O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village, 605 Bradley Rd.

Thursday, April 27, 5-7:30 p.m.
THE GATHERING PLACE VOLUNTEER TRAINING
Attend an Outreach Volunteer training session and learn how to help us spread the word about the free programs and services offered by The Gathering Place for people currently coping with cancer in their lives. Call Cheryl Apisdorf for more information, 216-595-9546.
The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m.-noon
ANNUAL SPRING KIDS' RESALE
Bay Village Early Childhood PTA's annual sale will feature gently used baby and children's clothing (sizes newborn to 14/16), baby items, toys and games, books, strollers, cribs, high chairs and outdoor play items. Admission is \$5 from 8-9 a.m. and \$1 from 9 a.m. to noon.
Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

Sunday, April 30, 3-4:30 p.m.
LOGAN WELLS VOCALIST VARIETY SHOW
Features music made famous by the Carpenters, Nat King Cole, the Beatles, Patsy Cline, the Beach Boys, Neil Diamond, Elvis and more. She will include tunes from 40s, 50s, big band, oldies, light rock, gospel, jazz/blues and current pop, country and folk tunes all mixed in with audience participation, comedy and star-studded costuming. Free; a free-will offering will be received.
Rocky River Presbyterian Church, 21750 Detroit Rd.

Monday, May 1, 7 p.m.
ST. PEREGRINE MASS
Do you know someone touched by cancer? Are you a cancer patient, survivor, caregiver, concerned about a loved one or someone you know? Come "Celebrate Hope, Celebrate Life!" during a Mass in honor of St. Peregrine, patron saint of those affected by cancer. Mass will be celebrated by our pastor, Father Tim Gareau. All are welcome to attend. A reception will follow.
St. Raphael Parish, 525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

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Spring Bazaar Sale
The Knickerbocker Apartments are hosting a Spring Bazaar Sale on Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Come and shop or rent a table to sell.
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