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WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE Observer

INSIDE: Inaugural Bay Village City Newsletter

VOLUME 11 • ISSUE 9 | Community News Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village | 7 MAY 2019

A note about this issue

For those familiar with the Observer, we are doing something a little different this issue, partnering with the City of Bay Village to share their newsletter with the community. A copy of this special issue was mailed to every Bay resident and business to ensure all have access the city's newsletter, in addition to the stacks of copies found at nearly 250 locations across Westlake and Bay where the Observer is regularly found.

If you're reading the Observer for the first time, welcome! Since 2009, more than 1,000 volunteer writers of all ages have taken part in this unique, participatory media project to share news, perspectives and events with their neighbors. The Observer does not offer, nor accept, payment for any printed stories. We rely solely on the support of our civic-minded advertising partners to keep the newspaper free for everyone to enjoy.

All residents of Westlake and Bay Village are encouraged to join in! Visit wbvobserver.com/members to sign up, or email tara@wbvobserver.com with questions about submitting content to the community's newspaper.

- Tara Wendell, senior editor

Westlake Garden Club celebrates Arbor Day

by CATHY GARLITZ

Rain and windchill didn't stop the Westlake Garden Club Members and officials from the City of Westlake from celebrating Arbor Day 2019 on Friday, April 26. Arbor Day was proposed in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska. It was first observed by planting more than a million trees in Nebraska. Today, we celebrate this Day throughout the nation and the world.

The Westlake Garden Club co-Presidents, Sally Knurek and Shirley Lutts, were present for the planting of a Katsura tree at the Rec Center Playground. The Katsura tree leaves emerge in March-April with reddish purple leaves, that turn orange-gold in the fall with a fragrance of cinna-



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

Westlake Urban Forestry Manager Stan Barnard and Westlake Garden Club co-Presidents Sally Knurek and Shirley Lutts talk about the Katsura tree the club planted at the Rec Center, before Mayor Dennis Clough presents a proclamation.

mon, ripe apples and burnt sugar. Tiny flowers, either red or green, depending on the gender of the tree, appear in the early spring. The tree can reach a height of 40 feet to 60 feet in cultivation. It is known for its beautiful shape.

» See GARDEN CLUB page 2

THE GREEN REPORT

White flowering pear trees: so pretty and so invasive

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

I'm sorry, but you'll never look at those white flowering trees the same after you read my column this week. Those beautiful trees (but smell terrible, right?) have turned out to be an environmental disaster.

Ohio put the pear trees on the invasive species list in January 2018. You are probably asking yourself what damage can these trees possibly do? The answer is plenty.

» See PEAR TREES page 8



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Engaging students is a priority for new BV superintendent

by KAREN DERBY

Teenagers have a lot of opinions, and they are sharing them at Bay High School with their superintendent of schools, Jodie Hausmann.

Mrs. Hausmann has formed a Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, including students from all four grade levels at the school. She wants to know what kinds of pressures students face on a daily basis, what kind of improvements they believe can make their school even better and, perhaps most important, what they see as the very essence of their school and wider community.

Principal Jason Martin, who also

meets with the council, said he selected its members specifically because they were good school citizens. And while some had taken on leadership roles in the past, others tended to contribute in "quieter" ways.

"All these students have supported the efforts led by others," said Mr. Martin. "Those supporting roles may give them a perspective that is a little different from the students we hear from more often."

Breakfast is served as students meet before school once a month. The format for the meeting is a very casual give-and-take between the students, Principal Martin and Superintendent Hausmann.

» See HAUSMANN page 4

Discover facts about NE Ohio's ancient history

by CYNTHIA EAKIN

Do you ever feel like you are swimming upstream in traffic on Interstate 71?

Lee Hall, fossil preparatory and Vertebrate Paleontology Lab manager at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, is the featured speaker for the Thursday,

May 16, Bay Village Historical Society potluck dinner program at the Bay Village Community House.

Hall will travel through time down Interstate 71 to a period when Northeast Ohio was flooded by a shallow tropical sea. While I-71 was under construction, giant armored fish skulls and mummified sharks

buried for 360 million years were uncovered. Learn the history behind the discovery of this hidden treasure.

The Bay Village Historical Society will provide the entrée for the dinner. Attendees with a last name beginning with A through L are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert for 10 to share.

» See ANCIENT page 2



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More stories, photos and events online at wbvobserver.com



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

GARDEN CLUB

from front page

The involvement and support of local organizations like the Westlake Garden Club help the city maintain its "Tree City USA" status, Mayor Dennis Clough proclaimed.

Stan Barnard, Westlake's Urban Forestry Manager, gave us the description of the tree that was planted and assured us it would provide much needed shade around the playground area. Public Service Deputy Director Chris Stuhm, Facility and Grounds Director Bill Beech, and members of the city's Tree Commission were also present to observe the planting.

Our sincerest thanks and appreciation to everyone who participated in the Arbor Day Celebration. ●

ANCIENT

from front page

Attendees with a last name beginning with M through Z are asked to bring a side dish for 10 to share. Everyone is asked to bring their own place setting.

Admission is free for Bay Village Historical Society members. A donation of \$5 is requested from non-members. Membership in the society is encouraged and the annual fee is \$10 for students, \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families.

The evening begins with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and program at 7 p.m. Attendees are asked to RSVP to Beth Conroy at 440-821-4427 or email beth2335@yahoo.com by May 13. ●

Summer adventures await at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

by MORGAN PASKERT

From the shores of Lake Erie to the launching pad of a rocket, summer adventures in the great outdoors await at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center!

Summer camps at the Center offer preschoolers and students the opportunity to explore and connect with the outdoors, meet new friends, encounter local wildlife and discover the sky above in Schuele Planetarium. Experienced teachers engage campers in hands-on, nature-based activities that integrate science, math, literacy and the arts.

Three-day Nature Nuts and Log Cabin camps are offered weekly beginning June 11 through Aug. 8 for preschoolers through Grade 2. Children will explore Huntington Reservation, meet live animals, play games, make crafts, conduct experiments and more.

School-age camps will be offered throughout summer, including:

- Back to Nature Day Camp for girls in Grades K-5: Monday through Thursday, June 17-20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Science of Wizardry Camp for Grades 2-6: Monday through Thursday, June 24-27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.



LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

- Wildlife Rehabilitator Duck Day Camp for Grades 2-6: Monday, July 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Rocket Camp for Grades 3-6: Tuesday, July 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Space Exploration Advanced Rocket Camp for Grades 6-12: Friday, July 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Registration for Lake Erie Nature & Science Center summer camps and programs is open and ongoing. Members of the Center receive camp discounts and exclusive offerings throughout the year. To become a member or register for summer camp, please visit www.lensc.org or call 440-871-2900. ●

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The Westlake | Bay Village Observer is a hyperlocal community newspaper and website written by, for and about the residents of Westlake and Bay Village, providing perspectives and information about topics and events in our community. The mission of the Westlake | Bay Village Observer is to inform, involve and energize the community through the participation of the 1,000+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate.

To join in, sign up through the Member Center at wbvobserver.com/members to submit your stories, photos and events.

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

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

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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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WESTLAKE DEMONS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

WDAB hosts annual Demon Derby 'Night at the Races'

by MELISSA GRIMES

Demon pride was alive and kicking at the Westlake Demons Athletic Boosters' (WDAB) third annual Demon Derby "Night at the Races." The event, held at St. Demetrios Church Cultural Center on March 30, included dinner, drinks, sideboards, horse races, raffle packages, silent auction, and the newly added "Wine Pull" with all proceeds benefiting WDAB and our mission to support all Demons athletics.

"WDAB is a thriving organization with an energized

group of families with students as young as 5th grade participating in our efforts and attending the Demon Derby. We are thrilled to have such tremendous support for our athletic programs and thank everyone who attended and donated to our 3rd Annual Night at the Races," stated Gina Redinger, WDAB President.

Attendees included Westlake coaches, administrators, alumni, parents of all grade levels, teachers and staff.

"The continued success of this event is a testament to our community's commitment to support Demon athletics. We



The winners of the Demon Derby's "Dress Category."

are very grateful to have such wonderful support from members, staff, and local businesses. 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," stated event co-chair, Meredith LaVecchia.

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.

For more information visit Westlakeathleticboosters.org. ●

BAY VILLAGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Funds available for organizations

by NANCY TRAINER

The Bay Village Women's Club is accepting requests for funds up to several hundred dollars to support projects in Bay Village. Bay Village non-profit

organizations should send a written letter detailing the requested amount and use of the funds by May 15 to Bay Village Women's Club, P.O. Box 40433, Bay Village OH 44140 or email BayWomensClub@gmail.com. ●

Bay Village-themed gifts available

Give graduates, family and friends Bay Village-themed gifts, for sale from the Bay Village Women's Club. Proceeds fund projects and activities in Bay Village.

The afghan depicts Bay's historical landmarks. It is 100% cotton and available in three color combinations, for \$45. The cookbook, \$12, offers a brief history of

Bay with illustrations of historical homes and recipes from noted past residents and others. The playing cards, \$10, are a double-deck with Bay's sailboat logo. Wooden landmark replicas, \$10-15, are two-dimensional replicas of the Water Tower, Rose Hill, Gazebo or Osborn House.

Call 440-334-7539 or email BayWomensClub@gmail.com. ●

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HAUSMANN

from front page

The group recently participated in a pre-strategic planning exercise, the same one being done by all the school's staff members. The idea is to determine the most important values of the school district, and then to distill those values into a brief slogan or tag line that will easily remind everyone what is important on the highest level. Another aspect of the exercises will be looking at "2030 skills" – those that will be required for today's kindergarten students as they graduate.

"The discussion around our values was really interesting," said Mr. Martin. "Community was important to both staff and students, but it was a little different for students. Community for them meant having the confidence to 'put yourself out there' and take on difficult challenges or leadership roles, for example, because you knew you had a safety net of a caring family and others. You knew someone had your back."

Mrs. Hausmann said that as the district moves toward what she hopes will be a community-

wide strategic planning effort, student voices are especially important.

Another topic covered this year was school safety. Students expressed positive feelings about the district offering an anonymous tip line and adopting more security at building entrances. When asked specifically whether students would feel safer with a School Resource Officer (SRO) in the building, the response was also positive.

"Students liked the idea of an SRO," said Mrs. Hausmann. "They were curious about the role, and I explained we would work with the Bay Village Police Department prescribing exactly what the position would entail, such as safety training and preventative education regarding substance abuse. The SRO would also be armed to protect students and staff in the event defensive police action was needed. Some said that would be a comfort to them."

The district is currently working with the City to win a grant toward funding an SRO from the State of Ohio. The schools have also worked proactively with police to enhance active intruder training and to upgrade radio capabilities within



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

Bay High students meet with Superintendent Jodie Hausmann and Principal Jason Martin in the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.

the school buildings, an effort that brought state expertise and dollars into Bay Village to help both entities.

Mrs. Hausmann has been interviewing students regularly in creating her podcasts (available to the public at www.bay-villageschools.com). She has interviewed student athletes, club leaders who've raised many thousands of dollars, musi-

cians, singers and those entering academic competitions like robotics. She plans to interview members of the advisory council to share what they are doing with their fellow students and the community.

"I am so impressed by the students I meet at the high school, and at every grade level," she said. "I want to share with our community how our children are

both preparing for their futures and remaining focused on doing good in the world. They are such great kids, and I hope people will take some time to listen to the podcasts and get to know them."

Students and the community can also keep up with Mrs. Hausmann as she posts her observations and news about our schools on her Twitter account, @Hausmann_Bay. ●

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WESTLAKE CENTER FOR SENIOR & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Memory loss can be prevented starting now

by LYDIA GADD

Finally, we are starting to hear good news about the treatment of memory loss. It can be prevented. It is not a hopeless situation and a normal or expected part of aging.

Research and results are giving us hope to fight and prevent cognitive decline. According to the Chief Scientific Wellness Officer for Kemper Cognitive Wellness, Dr. Nate Bergman, the key is knowing and getting ahead of it early. In fact, the younger we start the better.

According to the CDC, 60% of adults fear memory loss. We fear memory loss more than we fear loss of physical abilities. One reason for this, is the unfortunate perception that this decline is untreatable, inevitable and hopeless.

We have seen, and maybe personally experienced the devastation that severe cognitive impairment, such as that seen with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease can bring. Not all cognitive impairment is Alzheimer's, and not all cognitive impairment is severe. About 6 million Americans do have Alzheimer's but an additional 16

million are living with some level of cognitive impairment.

Part of the solution lives in the field of functional medicine, a model described as an individualized, patient-centered and science-based approach empowering patients and practitioners to work together in order to address the underlying causes of disease and promote optimal wellness. A functional medicine practitioner will incorporate modalities such as nutrigenomics, studying an individual's interaction between nutrients and their genes, pathophysiology and biochemistry to optimize function.

Dr. Bergman specializes in this type of medicine. He has worked closely with Dr. Mark Hyman, Dr. Dale Bredesen and other notable experts in the prevention and treatment of cognitive decline. He has a passion for preventing memory loss that is personal. He himself went to a neurologist as a younger adult in his mid-30s because he was experiencing progressive and scary memory problems. While he initially tried to dismiss the problem, it reached a level of being so alarming he could

no longer ignore it.

The final straw came when Dr. Bergman could not remember his own address while making arrangements for an auto repair. The good news is that he learned how to treat this problem, and succeeded in turning it completely around with adjustments in several lifestyle habits.

At 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, Dr. Bergman will share his story, as well as insights and expertise in the prevention and treatment of cognitive decline. This informative program will be hosted at the Westlake Center for Community Services. More good news: It is free and open to the public, although reservations are required by calling 440-899-3544.

Dr. Bergman's message is important for adults of ALL ages. As mentioned, he himself benefited when he was in his mid-30s. He mentions that women in their 50s especially have great potential of creating positive impact, during this time of hormonal change. Again, the key is knowing and getting ahead of it early. We hope to see adults of all ages in attendance.

The Westlake Center for Community Services is located at 29694 Center Ridge Road in Westlake. We are open Monday through Friday and offer a wide variety of Plus Fifty programs. Stop in for a tour, or check our monthly newsletter at www.cityofwestlake.org/community-services. ●

Kiwanis invites Westlake to honor veterans

by VICTOR RUTKOSKI

Memorial Day will soon be here. The Westlake Kiwanis Club invites you to participate in our annual community parade and services that day, Monday, May 27.

The parade and service will honor those civilians and military that sacrificed so much to preserve our freedoms and protect our shores – many of those fallen were members of our Westlake community. If you participated in the parade or in the services in Clague Park last year, the Westlake Kiwanis and the community appreciate your participation and hope you will take part again this year.

If you missed this vibrant and moving event we hope you will join us this year. There is plenty of room for various groups of marchers, vehicles and floats. If you wish to participate in this year's parade and or service, please contact Rick Grane at 440-829-0974 or rickgrane@aol.com. ●



Ed Sheehan, Westlake veteran of the Marines, fought at Iwo Jima.

PHOTO BY VICTOR RUTKOSKI



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- ♥ You lead our schools to make sure everyone is working as a team to benefit our children.
- ♥ You help children who stray from a safe path to re-direct, learn and grow in the right direction.
- ♥ You greet children each day with a smile, ask them about their day, keep everyone organized and dispense TLC as needed.
- ♥ You find extra help for students who are struggling with their work.
- ♥ You stand by our children throughout the day, giving that extra bit of help whenever it is needed.
- ♥ You nurture a spirit of community, friendship and mutual support within our school buildings and district.
- ♥ You make sure our teachers and support staff have the resources they need.
- ♥ You fix up, clean up, and spruce up our learning areas, all with a friendly word and a smile.
- ♥ You inspire children to learn important skills, and you show them how they can use knowledge to make the world a better place.
- ♥ You create a welcoming environment where all our children feel accepted.
- ♥ You serve our children nutritious, yummy lunches.
- ♥ You get our children to and from school safely.
- ♥ You notice when a child may need more attention because of sadness, illness or difficulty in learning.
- ♥ You adjust your instruction to adapt to different learning styles and different kinds of needs.
- ♥ You insist upon fairness and respect for others in your school, your community, and in the world.
- ♥ You are a role model for how hard work and integrity create a successful life!



We appreciate all you do!

Your Bay Village Board of Education; Beth Lally, President; Lisa Priemer, Vice President; Gayatry Jacob-Mosier and Steve Lee.

NATURE & ENVIRONMENT

Washing machines polluting our lake

by SARAH KNOX, BODE MCDOUGAL and GWYNN MILLER

Last year we, the Microfiber Fighters, learned a startling fact: Our washing machines are sending billions of microplastics into Lake Erie. The less than 1 mm particles come from all the synthetic materials that go into our clothes, such as fleeces and yoga pants.

As a team we decided to experiment and see if by using common household items we could capture the particles prior to them being discharged into our wastewater system, then into Lake Erie, and then into our drinking water and even into the walleye and perch we eat.

We tried Velcro dots inside a wiffle ball, then we tried hair rollers inside a dog toy, looking for an

even better solution. Thinking that maybe we were not getting enough water flow through the ball we thought the dog toy, with its larger holes, would be the solution but that was not the answer either.

Looking for the particles with the aid of a loupe we noticed that a number of them were sticking to the rubber toy. That led us to think of a rubber (latex) balloon inserted into the ball. Success! Using the loupe we found a doubling in the number of microplastics captured. We ran this experiment a number of times and each time the wiffle ball or dog toy with a balloon partially inflated inside gave the best result.

A prominent Cleveland surgeon has stated, "We don't know what the consequences of these plastic particles are to our bodies." A big concern, but we think we can help reduce these microplastics by having you turn your washing machine to the delicate cycle and using a ball such as a large wiffle ball with



Sixth-graders Sarah, Bode and Gwynn assemble microfiber catchers.

a latex balloon inserted.

Note: The Microfiber Fighters are the U.S. Army eCyberMission Challenge Ohio State Champions and are one of three North Central Region Finalists for their research and project. Each will receive a \$2,000 savings bond. Sarah, Bode and Gwynn are members of B.S.A. Explorer Club 360 sponsored by Bay Sea Scouts Inc. For details in joining our co-educational crew please contact Richard Gash at joinseascouts@gmail.com. ●

Bassett students learn to bake healthy recipes

by CHELSEA TREBONIAK

Action for Healthy Kids, in partnership with ALDI, awarded Bassett Elementary a grant to create an event aimed at mobilizing school professionals, families and communities to take actions that lead to healthy eating, physical activity and healthier schools where kids thrive. The Bassett PTA designed, coordi-

nated, and empowered the inaugural Bassett Baking Blast, which took place on April 18.

Mayor Dennis Clough, principal Jim Sanfilippo, head chef Linda Martin, law enforcement personnel, firefighters, ALDI volunteers, AFHK Midwestern Regional Manager Ashley Green, parents, and of course the students of Bassett Elementary baked and enjoyed 19 unique recipes. All chefs

were awarded business cards for their entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to the project.

"Wow! This event was amazing! We hope we get the opportunity to enjoy it again," said one parent departing with a child radiating with joy and pride. Many thanks again to all who contributed to the success of the event. We look forward to many more opportunities in the years to come. ●



PHOTO BY COURTNEY TREBONIAK

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PEAR TREES

from front page

The Callery Pear was introduced in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. American horticulturists started selective breeding these trees for stronger branches (pear trees have very weak branches) and shape. This is how we got the Bradford Pear, Cleveland Select and Aristocrat. The trees are fast growing, low maintenance, have a nice shape, and produce beautiful spring flowers, which is why they quickly became a popular choice.

The pear trees were thought to be

sterile – but as it turns out while they cannot reproduce with each other, they are capable of cross-pollinating with any other tree of the same species even if they are genetically different. As these pear trees kept popping up along forest edges and in wetlands, the environmental alarm started sounding.

Still, you may ask “what is the problem?” Well, the pear trees are one of the first to bloom and one of the last to lose leaves, so they are crowding out native hardwood species such as maples and oaks. This is the number one biggest problem with them: They are spreading so fast that our native species are not able to survive.

Second, when pear trees pollinate with other trees, they turn back into the Chinese Callery pear tree which has thorny thickets and are difficult to kill and get rid of. Pear trees only live to be about 20-25 years, and with their weak branches, they eventually become structurally unsound and unsafe. Lastly, the white flowers, while pretty, are super stinky.

What should you do? Cut your pear trees down. Yes, I’m serious. Just get rid of them now and plant a native species in its place. As I say in all of my columns, you alone can make a difference.

Cutting down your one or more pear trees will help this problem. Your pear tree is cross-pollinating with other trees and

spreading like wildfire. Just get rid of it and be a part of the solution.

Some cities are even taking extreme action. Lebanon, which is located in southwest Ohio, has cut down all of the city-owned pear trees and is encouraging residents to follow suit and plant native species instead.

What native species would be a good alternative? Please visit www.audubon.org/native-plants and you can enter in your zip code for lists of native plants. You can then sort by the type of plant you are looking for such as trees, shrubs, annuals, etc.

I did a quick search for our area and found a few trees that may be good replacements for the pear trees. The Allegheny Service-Berry, the American Plum, the Cock-Spur Hawthorn, or the Easter Wahoo are all smaller, flowering native trees to our area.

Why not plant a Japanese Maple or some other non-native ornamental type of tree? While those trees are not invasive like the pear trees, they still are not native. It is important to plant native species as it protects our biodiversity. Alien ornamental species support 29 times less biodiversity than native ornamentals.

Local birds need insects to survive. Insects live on trees. As an example, native oak trees have been found to host over 500 species of caterpillars; Ginkgo trees host only five. Keep in mind that it takes over 6,000 caterpillars to raise one brood of chickadees, and song birds are in decline.

In conclusion, cut down your pear trees, plant a native tree, and enjoy not only being a part of the solution and helping a bigger cause, but also the biodiversity and song birds you just invited to your yard! ●



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

A thicket of invasive pear trees has spread to the sledding hill at the Westlake Recreation Center, crowding out the evergreen trees planted by the city.

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BAY VILLAGE CITY SCHOOLS

Poetry slam at Bay Middle School sparks love of poetry



PHOTO BY KAREN DERBY

Poetry slam participants, from left: Emma Majure, Lauren Barrett, John Weber, event organizer Elizabeth Holup, Matthew Price, Chloe Hoban and Alice Jones.

by KAREN DERBY

Bay High junior Elizabeth Holup recalls how, as a shy fifth-grader, she found a door to self-expression through poetry. She recently shared that passion with Bay Middle School students through an opportunity to study and perform poetry called a poetry slam.

“You’re invited to ‘snap’ for applause if you’d like,” she told the audience in the school library on April 11. “That’s a tradition at poetry slams.”

Next came a lineup of students reading both original and favorite poems. Fifth-graders Lauren Barrett, Alice Jones and Emma Majure, and seventh-graders Chloe Hoban, Matthew Price and John Weber, took to the microphone with poems varying from winsome to frightening. Their voices, and sometimes their dress, reflected the mood of the reader’s chosen verse. Chloe Hoban, for example, dressed in floor-length black and spoke in a commanding voice. She performed two Edgar Allen Poe masterpieces, “Annabel Lee” and “The Raven.” Others performed their original poems or read their childhood favorites.

Elizabeth organized the poetry slam as a project toward her goal of earning a Girl Scout Gold Award.

“The Gold Award requires a project that leaves a lasting, positive effect on your community,” she said. “When I was

in elementary school in New York, the librarians put on a massive poetry slam with hundreds of kids. By some miracle, I signed up to read a few Shel Silverstein poems and participate. It was such a wonderful, welcoming experience for me.” She said she returned to that idea of sharing poetry in a fun, casual environment when planning her Gold Award project.

Elizabeth also introduced a surprise guest at the poetry slam. Ohio’s Poet Laureate, Dr. David Lucas, remarked that working with the middle school age group is uniquely wonderful because no one has told them what poetry is yet – what components it has to include, how it has to be structured, or what emotions it has to express. Dr. Lucas attended in response to an email invitation from Elizabeth.

After a brief pause for refreshments and perusal of poetry books, audience members were invited to and came to the podium to read poetry themselves.

Elizabeth plans to return to Bay Middle School next year to work with students, not only in reading and performing poetry, but in organizing future poetry slams after she herself graduates from Bay High.

“The kids I worked with had such genuine passion for the poems they wrote,” she said. She hopes to capture that enthusiasm so that the middle school poetry slams are a school tradition for years to come. ●

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THE MEDICAL INSIDER

Is this test necessary, doc?

by DIANA PI, M.D.

Ever wonder if you needed a test or procedure? “Should I start another pill for my diabetes?” “Do I need an MRI for my joint pain?”

You’d be right questioning the decision 20% of the time. Here’s why.

In a national survey, doctors estimated 20% of overall medical care was unnecessary, including one in five prescription drugs, one in four tests, one in 10 procedures. The two major reasons they give: fear of malpractice and patient pressure/request.

Yes, I’ve sprouted a few gray hairs denying patients antibiotics for a common cold. But studies strongly support a third reason behind unnecessary testing – money. The number of wasteful tests is double for fee-for-service compared to capitated contracts. That is, if I get paid more for doing more, I will do more.

So what’s the harm if doctors order a few more tests/procedures just to be thorough?

In 2013, experts calculated unnecessary medical services cost the U.S. \$210 billion, the biggest cause of health care waste.

To patients, there are direct harms. Drugs, tests, procedures and diagnoses have side effects, provoke anxiety and cost time and money. According to a Kaiser Family Foundation study, a quarter of American households have difficulty paying medical bills. Of those, 70% need to “cut back spending on food, clothing, or basic household items”; 59% drain all or most of their savings.

To address this issue, leading medical experts and organizations drafted the Choosing Wisely campaign in 2012, unveiling “things providers and patients should question.”

Last year, a Washington state health organization picked 47 tests from the Choosing Wisely watch list and found half the time they were done unnecessarily. Yet these tests alone had cost the state \$258 million in wasteful spending.

How can you find out if a test is needed or not?

The fastest, safest way is to ask your doctor. “Do I need it?” “Can it wait?” What’s the harm if I wait?” As a doctor, if I think a test is important, I’d let you know – in no uncertain terms – that I need it done yesterday. Otherwise, as long as you understand the risk: keep

me informed, we have a plan.

You can also visit the Choosing Wisely website at choosingwisely.org. It has a patient section, where you can search for various conditions and read about the necessity of treatments.

Last weekend, instead of spring cleaning, I started playing around with it, typing random terms into random boxes. The results were hilarious. For example, I typed in “diabetes” and got “colds and flu,” “testosterone for erection problem.” I typed in “car” and got “insomnia and anxiety,” “neck and back pain.” (Trust me, it’s me, not them.)

I think Choosing Wisely tries to be fair and helpful. Medical jargon aside, its recommendations are short and factual. But I also noticed that some controversial (and money-making) topics like spine fusion and knee meniscus tear are missing. Apparently, not every topic “sparks joy” for the experts.

Rest assured that you have options, legitimate concerns. Start a conversation with your doctor. And that “I’m busy researching!” is as good an excuse as any to postpone spring cleaning till next weekend. Marie Kondo can wait. ●

Get Out Festival celebrates outdoors, wellness and art

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

For its third year, the BAYarts Get Out Festival celebrating outdoors, wellness and art has added even more vendors and activities in addition to its food and live music offerings. Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

For the first time, goat yoga will be at the event thanks to Feels Like OM. The owner, Alissa Miller, is very excited to visit a BAYarts event for the first time. “The reason people should visit our booth is plain and simple ... goats make people happy! People come to yoga not just for a workout, but to relax and decompress. Surrounding yourself with animals can lower rates of depression, anxiety, high blood pressure and loneliness.”

Participants must register for the goat yoga in advance via bayarts.net/events/get-out. (There will also be a petting zoo for a \$1 donation.)

Drs. Casen, Anthony & Bob DeMaria are The Drugless Doctors, and they will have a booth to help people feel better through natural means.

Someone else who believes in helping people with natural healing is Linda Barberic, owner

of Soma Tea. During the event she will have many different teas for people to taste.

Lauren Givans has attended the event in the past and loved it enough to join in with her own booth, Dynamic Discoveries, “a space for adolescent girls to come together and gain support, confidence and resilience.”

One of the highlights last year was the inclusion of mini-karate demonstrations by the Horizon ATA Karate for Kids group.

The Krav food truck will be in attendance, as will additional vendors like Spin Bike Shop, Nalu Standup Paddle & Surf, The Everarbor Company, Two One Fix Bicycle and Ohio Drones. Live on stage will be music by Kingfish.

To participate as a vendor in this event, or future BAYarts markets/festivals, contact pam@bayarts.net.

This is also the second year that the Bay Village Trike & Bike will take place during the Get Out Festival. Last year, Bay Village Trike & Bike participants raised over \$4,000 for VeloSano Kids. One-hundred percent of that money goes to support pediatric cancer research at the Cleveland Clinic. Children ages 3-12 must register in advance and can do at bayarts.net/events/get-out. ●

Summer Sailing & Paddleboard Camp



Explorer Club 360 and Bay Sea Scouts, Inc. invites 3rd grade through high school students to join them sailing, kayaking and paddle boarding at Bay Boat Club on Tuesdays evenings through the summer months. Program cost is \$55.00. Online registration can be submitted at:

summersailingclub.eventbrite.com

The camp will be open to a limited number of new members starting on Tuesday, May 21, at 6:00 p.m.





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Tips on Staying Safe in the Digital World
Stay safe in the digital world by building good habits ... just like being "street smart" in the real world!
10:45 AM to 11:15 AM

Conversations with Nan Baker, Cuyahoga County Council Member
Come learn about Cuyahoga County services for Seniors.
11:30 AM to NOON

For Caregivers
Ideas where technology and the digital world services may help.
12:30 PM to 1:00 PM

Tak's Corner
Do you have questions? Ask our founder, Tak Sato, anything!
1:15 PM to CLOSE

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Clock Tower

City of Bay Village News



From the Mayor's Desk

Happy spring! This is the inaugural edition of the Bay Village Clock Tower. Over the past two and a half years, the administration, with the strong support of City Council, has been active in moving the city forward. This publication is intended to share the positive direction and programming occurring in the city, along with some interesting statistics and fun facts.

This year, the city has several key projects in the planning stage or actively under construction, which are setting the foundation for development of the town center and improved access to Lake Erie. These improvements will be wonderful additions for years to come. Our goals with this publication are to help you become more informed about Bay Village, celebrate the city's successes, and recognize the fine employees that serve our community. We look forward to your feedback. - Mayor Paul Koomar

Save the Date

Food Truck Fridays: May 24 through Sept. 13

Every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., adjacent to City Hall. A variety of trucks with one food truck and one dessert truck each week. Lots of fun and good food! Don't miss it!

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies: Monday, May 27

Parade starts from Huntington Beach at 8:45 a.m. and ends with ceremonies at the Cahoon Park gazebo.

Destination Bay: Saturday, June 15

Events and activities to fill your day in Bay! Village Project's Project Pedal, Bay Village Fire Department Open House, BAYarts Art and Music Festival, Bay Village Historical Society Antique and Craft Fair, free planetarium programs at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.

Bay Days:

Wednesday, July 3 to Saturday, July 6

Carnival and entertainment in Cahoon Park, fireworks on July 4th at dusk.

Family Fun Night:

Saturday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m.

Activities, a food truck, and the movie "Monsters, Inc." in Cahoon Park.

City Staff Highlight

Meet Sue Kohl, the Mayor's Assistant

In addition to being a long-time Bay resident, this year Sue Kohl is celebrating 20 years working with the city. She began as the Assistant to the Building Director in 1999, and was promoted to Administrative Assistant to the Mayor in 2012.



Sue handles the day-to-day running of the Mayor's office, including coordinating his hectic schedule and fielding inquiries from residents and non-residents. She manages the city website, email blasts, and the monthly community calendar to keep Bay residents up to date on city events. Sue is also the mastermind and organizational force behind the hugely popular Food Truck Fridays, started in 2017 and gearing up for its third season beginning this May. Sue takes a lot of pride in her work and enjoys helping residents and her community.

Visit the city's website for the latest updates on city happenings
cityofbayvillage.com



Did You Know?

Bay Village hires a significant number of seasonal employees every year to support Recreation Department programs, Service Department projects, and fall leaf pickup. The City is always looking for part time school crossing guards, too. More information and employment applications can be found on the Human Resources page of the City website.



New Bridges Are Coming

By now you've probably noticed quite a bit of construction going on in Bay Village this year. ODOT is replacing the Lake Road bridge over Cahoon Creek, which should be complete in September. The design of the new bridge will allow for a multipurpose trail to pass under the bridge, connecting park areas north and south of Lake Road. Bay Village

received a 90% grant from ODOT to replace the Queenswood Drive bridge over Sperry Creek. Queenswood Drive should re-open in July. The city is also replacing the failing culvert under Columbia Road just south of Lake Road. Road closures will be posted when finalized. The city appreciates your patience as we make these necessary infrastructure improvements.

President's View

Dwight Clark, City Council President



Serving the residents as a legislative leader of Bay Village is a passion and calling I've enjoyed for almost 10 years on City Council. My wife, Nancy, and I have raised three children in Bay, all attending and graduating from our wonderful public school system. We've been residents for almost 35 years, and I can honestly say there's not a better community in northeast Ohio.

I've enjoyed serving in volunteer

capacities with the Bay Rockets, Bay Village Education Foundation and Field of Dreams, amongst other non-profit organizations.

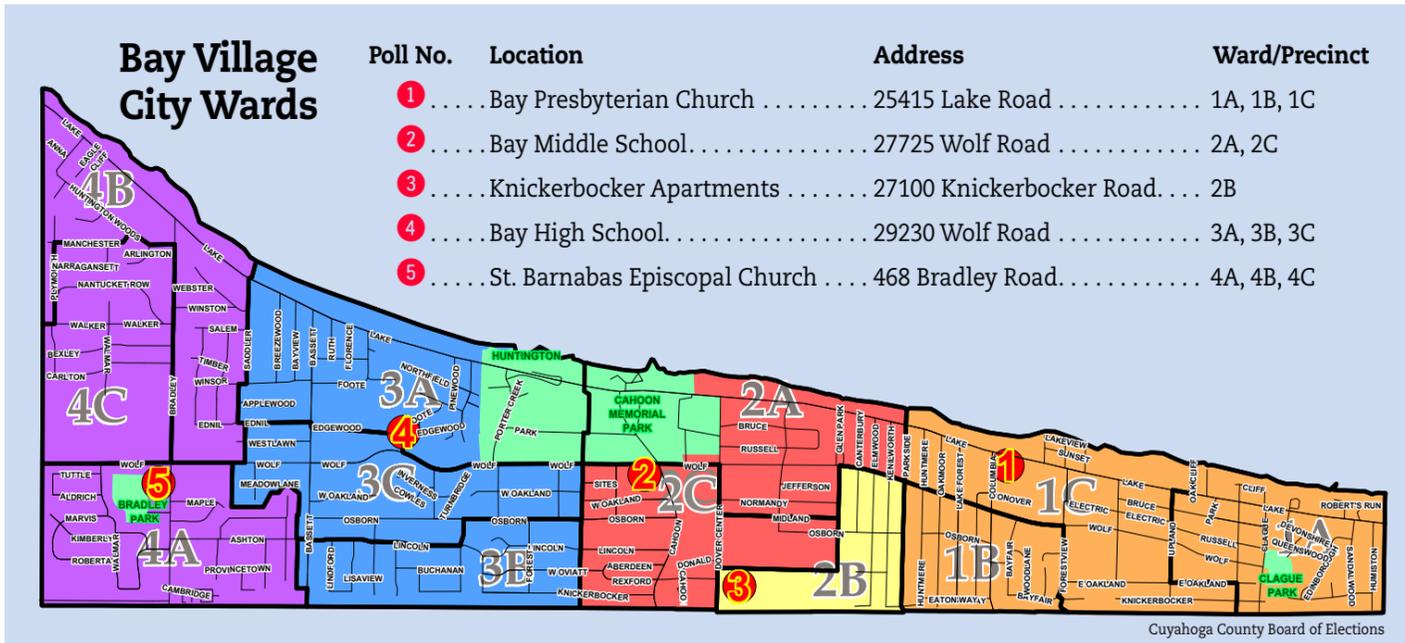
In 2019, we, as a city, stand on the precipice of several game-changing enhancements, all part of our recent Master Plan, including a new library, new housing development, bridge and road renovations, and walking/biking connectivity improvements.

City Council members serve as ambassadors for our city, a communication gateway to our residents,

and truly represent all the good things Bay Village has to offer.

Council works tirelessly to be efficient, open, and responsive, taking a pledge to create or revise laws and ordinances always geared to the best interests of those residents who elect us to office.

Our Bay Village citizens, our city employees, our location, our parks, our quality of schools, our record of safety ... all reasons why I serve proudly, honorably and humbly, for each of you.



Old Pills Drop-off

Bay Village residents can bring solid prescription medicines (no needles or liquids) to the drop box in the BVPD lobby at any time. No information is required to drop off medicine; please remove any patient names or information from labels.

And Now A Word from Your Wards

Marty Mace, City Council At-Large



First elected to Council in 2015, I am grateful to be able to continue serving our community after retiring as a firefighter/paramedic for Bay Village. It is an exciting time to serve as our City center is transformed by the Liberty housing project, the new library and increased lakefront access.

I am the chairman of the Environment, Safety and Community Services Committee. I also serve as a member of the Finance Committee and Parks and Recreation Committee. It is rewarding to address our community's needs; such as infrastructure and public building maintenance, while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Lydia DeGeorge, City Council Ward 2



Years ago, after reading Council and Mayoral decisions in the news, I began attending council sessions. I wrote about those experiences on social media. As I shared information, I formed relationships with residents. Serving as Councilwoman was the next step, a natural progression for me. I currently chair the committee responsible for upcoming waste contracts and utility aggregation.

I am in the process of forming a merchant organization. I am proud of my duty to our business owners and constituents and our open communication as we continue to keep Bay a safe, desirable place to live, work and play.

Nancy W. Stainbrook, City Council At-Large



My family's lived in Bay for 23 years and I'm Councilwoman At-large. My responsibilities include Chairman of Public Improvements, Representative to the Community Services Board, and Library Committee member. I'm proud of leading efforts to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at Council meetings, renewing civic pride.

Bay is a wonderful city because of our commitment to others and to good government. I became involved in local government because sustaining our success is important. It takes generations of residents working together to create vision and execute strategy. It's an honor representing residents and contributing to Bay's success.

Sara Byrnes Maier, City Council Ward 3



I am honored to serve the residents of Ward 3 in my first term. I am a graduate of BHS and moved back to Bay to raise my family in this amazing city. I served on the citizen steering committee for the city's master plan as a way to get involved in the community, which is what led to me running for ward representative.

I am happy to be able to use my background as a city planner in my role as Council representative to the Planning Commission and as Chair of the Planning, Zoning, Public Buildings and Grounds Committee.

David L. Tadych, City Council Ward 1



Since 2001, when first elected, I have considered Ward 1 representation an honor and privilege that never gets old. I am the longest serving Council member, and elected Vice President by Council.

For 24 years, through the IRS/AARP tax program, I helped taxpayers. I chair Council's Finance and Budget Committee, have represented Bay in four triannual union wage negotiations, and serve as Council's Tree Commission representative.

I am most proud of chairing Bay's Bicentennial, and initiating ward meetings allowing residents to voice concerns. Over the years, I have met many wonderful residents who care, as I do, deeply about Bay.

Peter J. Winzig, City Council Ward 4



I've enjoyed a wonderful 17 months as your Ward 4 representative, working with residents, Council, and City staff. In 2018, we completed Ward 4 street improvements, Bradley Park (Coulton) tennis court resurfacing, nearby restroom upgrades, and playground renovations. On the Finance Committee, we've kept a keen eye on expenditures, investing in City buildings, equipment, and infrastructure. On the Library Subcommittee, we guided the project back on schedule and look forward to a great facility. I'm working on Cahoon Park fields and buildings, Library City Center Park, infrastructure, budget, updating and improving ordinances, and responding to residents' needs and concerns.

Show Me the Money

Report from the Finance Dept.



The Bay Village Finance Department is dedicated to the responsible and efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Finance Director Renee Mahoney started with the City in 2013, and since that time she has worked to restore and improve the City's financial standing after the global downturn in 2008.

The Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) recommends that cities maintain a general reserve limit, or "rainy day fund," of two months' expenses. Depleted in 2008, the City's general reserve limit was increased to \$2 million in 2018 under Director Mahoney's guidance,

meeting the GFOA recommendation for the first time since the downturn.

In addition, Bay Village has received an Excellence in Reporting commendation from the Ohio Auditor of State in 2018 for the fifth consecutive year.

This year, Director Mahoney is sourcing a new integrated finance system to further improve efficiency and modernize the Finance Department. The new system should be implemented and go live by the end of 2020.



Protecting & Serving

Report from Police Chief Mark Spaetzel

The safety and security of our residents is our primary responsibility. To achieve this goal, we not only arrest those who violate the law and investigate criminal activity, but more importantly we constantly engage with the community to build positive trusting relationships, provide a wide variety of services, and give back to our residents.

We are currently engaged in over 30 different programs and activities that touch the lives of our residents, from the very young to the more mature.

In addition to time spent in the Bay Schools by patrol officers, we provide Safety Town, read to Normandy students in the fall, provide bike safety coupons, host the Police Explorers program, sponsor the annual Touch-a-Truck event, and many other activities for our youth.

We regularly provide speakers for the senior center and run the very popular Community Police Academy each year. Our officers feel privileged to work and interact with our Bay Village families. Follow us on Bay Village Police Department Facebook page or contact Sgt. Rob Gillespie at 440-871-1234 to learn more about how we engage with the community.

Recent Grants



Cuyahoga County awarded Bay Village \$50,000 under the Community Development Supplemental Grant Program (commonly known as the casino money) to refurbish the athletic courts at Reese Park. The refurbishment will include converting one of the tennis courts to pickleball courts.

This was the most competitive round for this grant program so far, with 52 applicants and 20 awards. Kathryn Kerber, Project Manager for Bay Village, completed the application with a strong show of support from the Senior Center BV60+ group. The refurbishment should be complete this summer, and will enable expanded programming for both Community Services and the Recreation Department.

Community Services

The Community Services Department, led by Director Leslie Selig, touches the lives of many Bay Village residents, bringing together those in need and those who are able to help. In September, Community Services kicked off a chain of volunteer and giving events with the community garage sale at the Dwyer Center.

Area residents could rent tables to sell items themselves, or donate their items outright to be sold by Dwyer Center volunteers. Staff and volunteers handled set up, pricing, and cleanup of the event, which raised over \$2,000 in 4 hours. Part of the proceeds from the sale were used to buy material for no-sew lap blankets, leading to the next volunteer event.

Assistant Director Connie Lupica organized and instructed 22 volunteers at a 3-hour blanket assembly get-together. Some blankets had personalized designs, such as red, white and blue for veterans, or dogs, cats, or flowers based on the recipient's known interests. Lupica and Carryanne Smitley delivered the blankets to Meals on Wheels recipients in January. The response from recipients and volunteers was overwhelmingly positive. If you would like information on available services or how you can help, contact Community Services at 440-899-3409.



BV60+ members are honored after being named Project of the Year by the Bay Village Community Council.

Project of the Year: BV60+

BV60+, Senior Center programming designed for the interests of "younger seniors," was named Project of the Year by the Bay Village Community Council. Launched by the Bay Village Senior Center in 2018, Community Services Director Leslie Selig based the program on focus group responses indicating a lack of programming that would be interesting and accessible to "younger seniors." BV60+ activities include pickle ball, bowling, disc golf, and out-

ings to BAYarts, wineries, and the Flats, and response to the program has been tremendous. Vicki Sprague, initially the volunteer chairperson of the BV60+ committee, was brought on as a part-time city employee to coordinate the rapidly-growing program. New events in 2019 are slated to include a monthly game night, kayaking, golf, and "Meet & Greet" happy hours. For more information on BV60+ activities, see the Bay Village BV60+ Program Facebook page.

More Than Fighting Fires

Update from Fire Chief Chris Lyons

Fighting fires is only one among many responsibilities that your Bay Village firefighters are prepared to encounter every day. For instance, although all of our firefighters are also state-certified EMT-paramedics (and have been since 1976), we still get questions from residents about where the paramedics come from during a medical emergency. Nearly 75% of our emergency calls are, in fact, medical in nature. And while an "EMS call" may sound rather pedestrian, when you are having a heart attack, or your spouse is having a stroke, or your child needs to go to the emergency room, it is anything but an ordinary day for you.

The BVFD is an all-hazards response organization. This means that we respond to any emergency

where life, health, or property are at risk.

The NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) lists nearly 30 different types of "Technical Rescue" disciplines, each with its own set of unique skills, training, and specialized equipment. These include everything from Cave Search & Rescue to Structural Collapse Rescue. Of course, we try to prepare for scenarios that are most likely to occur here in Bay Village. For example, all our members train regularly and are certified in Rope Rescue (cliffs by Lake Erie), Vehicle Extrication & Rescue (automobile accidents), Water Rescue (think Huntington Beach), and Hazardous Materials (trains and trucks carry a variety of chemicals).

The Firefighters Rescue Task Force works in tandem with police officers during an active-shooter training exercise at Bay High.



Update on Library Progress

On April 3, the Cuyahoga County Public Library and HBM Architects presented conceptual plans for the new Bay Village branch to the Bay Village Planning Commission.

This was a pre-submission hearing, an opportunity for the commission members to learn about the project and provide feedback to the architects prior to the formal review and approval process.

HBM Architects used historic buildings in Bay Village as inspiration for the design, which features a front porch, a second-floor outdoor reading space bordered by a "green roof" with live plants, and separate children and

teen areas.

There will be several study and meeting rooms which will be a welcome addition to the community. The plans were well received by the commission and members of the public in attendance. The library is a major component of the recently completed citywide master plan, and will help frame the Village Green or town center between the library and city hall.

Formal plan submission is expected later this spring, and a public hearing for final input from the residents will follow. For more information, see the city website.



HBM Architects' rendering of the Bay Village Branch Library

Building Blocks

Facts from the Building Dept.

The Building Department was reconstructed from the ground up in 2019. The city's contract with SafeBuilt ended in 2018, and Eric Tuck-Macalla started as the Building Director at the beginning of 2019. The new department came together quickly with two full-time inspectors – Bob Lyons, Property Maintenance Inspector, and James Vagase, Building Inspector – as well as Shawnee Schuller, Assistant to the Building Director, and Lauren Oley, part time Assistant.

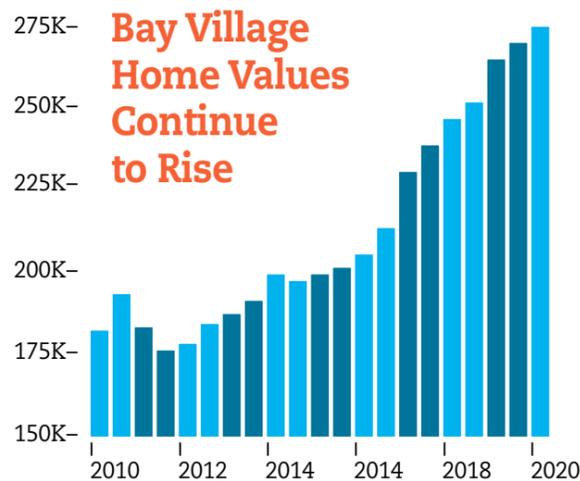
The Building Department handles permits for new construction and renovations, property maintenance concerns, commercial and rental property inspections, and contractor registration. Director Tuck-Macalla hopes to implement online form submittals in the near future.



Police Department Resources



The Police Department parking lot is a great place to meet up to complete online sales. The lot is monitored by security cameras 24/7. You can stop by the Community Room at the station to recharge phones and other electronic devices during a power outage, and Bay Village civic groups and organizations can reserve the room for events.



The median home value in Bay Village is \$263,700. Bay Village home values have gone up 6.9% over the past year and Zillow predicts they will rise 5.0% within the next year. The median list price per square foot in Bay Village is \$163, which is higher than the Cleveland-Elyria Metro average of \$104.



Bay Village Service Dept. Maintenance is Job #1

In addition to the high-visibility construction projects going on around the city this summer, the Service Department is occupied year-round maintaining the things most of us least want to think about. They clean the sewers; pick up trash, leaves, and brush; and push snow out of our way. They repave local roads, install new

playgrounds, clean the restrooms at the parks, and mow acres of public grass. Jon Liskovec, Director of Public Service and Properties, keeps as much work as possible in-house to reduce reliance on outside contractors. Fortunately, the Service Department has a very talented and dedicated staff that keeps the city looking and running great.

Bay Village Recreation Dept. Playing in Bay

Most of us know the Rec Department is the place to go to for pool passes and organized ball sports, but Parks and Recreation Director Dan Enovitch and Assistant Director Tonja Coffin have put together an extensive roster of activities for a wide variety of interests, ages, and skill levels.

Here are just a few activities; for the complete list and how to register, see the Spring & Summer Program Guide on the city website.

• Itty Bitty Fun Camp: Day camp with games, songs, and crafts for ages 3 & 4.

- Painting Exploration:** Tempera, watercolor, and acrylic painting adventure for ages 5 to 12.
- STEAM Exploration:** Science, Tech, Engineering, Art, and Math for ages 5 to 12.
- Big Magic with the Magic Man:** Fundamentals of magic for ages 6 to 12.
- Skateboarding:** Skating basics and safety for ages 7 and up.
- Evening Swim Lessons:** Private sessions for children and adults.
- Family Fun Night:** "Monsters, Inc." is showing at Cahoon Park on Saturday, Aug. 3.



Keeping it Green

The Mayor and City Council work with the Bay Village Green Team, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of Bay Village volunteers, to develop and implement plans that make our community more sustainable. The team manages the Community Garden on Forestview, consults with civic groups looking to reduce waste generated at events, and organizes shredding days, composting seminars, multiple waterway cleanups and other projects throughout the year. All residents are welcome to participate. See their website at bayvillagegreenteam.org for all the information.



SPORTING VIEWS

The three faces of fan

by JEFF BING

The one thing I hate most about sports is the lack of real fan loyalty. Today's fan is mostly of the "I'll-follow-them-if-they're-good-otherwise-I'll-be-playing-video-games-in-my-base-ment" mentality. In other words, part of the problem is that there are a bazillion more entertainment options nowadays compared to back when I was a kid (admit it, you had to see the "back when I was a kid" lament coming, right? Not to worry, it just means you're probably an old curmudgeon yourself. If not, seek help).

Professional sports franchises themselves have helped build this monster. Free agency has resulted in the pro athlete staying in the same city for a relatively shorter duration, which erodes loyalty among fans who become enamored with particular player(s). Not to the extent that restraining orders are necessary, but you get the idea: We tend to distance ourselves from players we suspect will be leaving soon. It's sort of like when you sense that your significant other is ready to dump you; you start to think up reasons you should dump him or her *first*. Sort of like a preemptive strike (or strike *out*, as the case may be).

The way I see it, there are three classes of fan:

1.) Extreme. In other words, no matter what the team in question does, you're loyal anyway, forever and ever.

2.) Fair Weather. That's to say that when all goes well with your team, you're their biggest cheerleader. When the going gets tough, so do you. You go follow some other team, mumbling something along the lines of "I never really liked them (the former favorite team) anyway."

3.) Middle of the Road. This person will refer to him/herself as a fan, but can't name more than a few starters on their "favorite" team.

Which one are you? Let's find out ...

When the Indians recently won 5 games in a row, and then lost 3 straight to the KC Royals, the Extreme fan was like, "I don't care: the Tribe isn't at full strength yet." Sound like you? If so, slap yourself on the back, and give yourself bonus points if you actually *can* slap yourself on the back. I tried, and I'm still on pain meds as a result.

The Fair Weather fan's reaction was, "I told you these guys stunk, didn't I?" This guy is a real loser. He's the kind of guy who plows the snow from his driveway into yours, and then offers to plow your driveway for \$50. If you're this guy, then I feel sorry for you. And I'm also glad I don't live across the street from you (especially in the winter).

The Middle of the Road fan's reaction was, "You mean the season already started? Huh." This guy doesn't know that the Tribe hasn't won a world championship since '48, and likely thinks LeBron still plays with the Cavs, yet refers to him as "Bron," implying he actually has some relationship with the former star. He also thinks Mike Pettine is still coach of the Browns. Obviously, I really hope this one *isn't* you.

Well, how'd you do, Bunky? Be honest with yourself, because as a former middle school teacher once told me, "You know when you're lying to yourself." Or maybe I heard that at my IRS audit. Anyway, you get the point, right? Which is, "deny everything."

Especially if anyone asks if you read my articles. ●

Learn about DNA test kits

by JAYNE BROESTL

As more databases of historical vital records become freely available online, researching ancestral family history is easier for individuals to pursue on their own. Add to this the growing number of reasonably priced DNA test kits to identify one's autosomal, Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA, it is now possible to use these results to find relatives previously unknown.

A DNA test can tell you so much more about who you are and suggest the geographic location of your ancestral progenitors. Most companies offer this basic service, but some are far better than others. Some DNA kits can reveal unique

traits embedded in your genetic code that may put you at risk for certain health conditions. This can help you alter your lifestyle to try and prevent them. But which test kit is best and what will it reveal?

These questions and more will be addressed by Mary Milne Jamba, Ohio Genealogical Society trustee, on Wednesday, May 15, at the Cuyahoga West Chapter meeting at Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road. Program begins at 7:00 p.m. Social time, with refreshments, is at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited at no charge.

For more information visit our new fully functional webpages at sites.rootsweb.com/~ohcwogs/index.htm or email cuyahogawest@gmail.com. ●

Bay Village hydrant flushing

by LT. COREY GREGG

Our annual hydrant flushing began May 6. We anticipate being done in June. We will test and flush out every hydrant in the city to ensure proper function, pressure and maintenance.

Temporary signs are posted at all city entrances to remind residents of the test-

ing. We also notify city hall each morning of our work area for the day. Hydrants are flushed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Hydrant flushing sometimes loosens rust in the water mains; if you notice rusty or discolored water, let your cold water run until it is clear again. Should any rusty water end up in your laundry, the Fire Department has rust remover packets. Call 440-871-1214 for more information or stop in at the Fire Station. ●

Attention Women

Join Bay Village Women's Club

open to women of Bay Village and surrounding communities

Community Support
Informative Programs
Activities & Adventures
Friendships

BayWomensClub.org
440-334-7539



Cuyahoga County
Public Library

Join the friends of the Bay Village Library

Consider supporting the Bay Village Branch by volunteering at the book sales and/or joining the Friends! For more information call 440.871.6392.

USED BOOK SALE

Enjoy a wonderful selection of books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks and more. Proceeds support library programs and activities.

Saturday, July 27th / 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 28th / 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Monday, July 29th / 9:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 30th / 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. \$1 bag sale



There's lots going on at the Bay Village Historical Society

Society memberships start at \$10 for students, \$25 for individuals. Enjoy quarterly **potluck suppers** and help **preserve local history** on display at the Rose Hill Museum, Reuben Osborn Learning Center and the Cahoon Memorial log cabin. Open Sundays 2 - 4:30 p.m.

The society's largest fundraiser, "**Cahoon in June**," takes place Saturday, June 15, in Cahoon Memorial Park. This show features antiques, crafts, collectibles, live music, food, antique cars and much more. **Vendor spaces still available.**

Details at www.bayhistorical.com

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STRONGSVILLE 20930 Drake Rd (Springfield Corner Plaza).....**440.878.9000**

Westlake Academic Challenge teams are among nation's top 10

by KIM BONVISSUTO

The Westlake High School and Lee Burneson Middle School Academic Challenge teams placed in the Top 10 in the national Questions Unlimited Spring 3-2-1 Competition.

LBMS finished fourth in the nation out of 87 schools, and first in Ohio. WHS finished 10th nationally out of 178 schools and first in Ohio. Students compete as a team to answer more than 100 questions online.

The Academic Challenge teams are advised by John and Sandy Packis. ●



The LBMS Academic Challenge team, back row: Yehyun Choi, Christian Kim, Ella Healey, Yikun Zhou, Roman Lucarelli, Matt Taylor and Kate Jackson; front row: Alex Niceman, Alicia Ge, Macy Brennan, Rohit Jain and Maeve Kilroy.

SENIOR LIVING

Local nonprofit empowers seniors to use technology

by BRENDA SPICER

“I want to watch marching band videos,” said Sara Cooley, when she took a chance on technology by attending an info session hosted by the nonprofit Center for Aging in the Digital World. Founder Tak Sato had a simple idea: to ease seniors’ fears when it comes to technology. To do this he would take an old-school approach by gathering seniors around a table and teaching a free technology class just for them.

“We felt there was a need in our community that was not being met when it came to seniors having the opportunity to come together and learn that technology can be for them too,” said Sato, who founded the Center for Aging in the Digital World with his wife, Mely, and also pens The Digital World column for the Observer. Cooley says what hooked her on giving technology a shot was when Sato told the group that just because a tablet can do lots of cool things, if all you want to do is one thing, that’s OK. “Just do what you want and don’t worry about the rest,” he said. This was the answer she was looking for.

For Karol Hoeffler, the pull to gain confidence in the digital world was her son and his family who live out of the country. “Like a lot of older people learning to use technology, it had been a trial,” she said. “I had an iPhone and iPad, but was not comfortable with them.”

Luckily, she found the Discover Digital Literacy! class and now she’s Skyping regularly with her grandson.

Hoeffler recognizes that seniors need to try to keep up with technology. “The best thing the class did for me was enable me to gain the proficiency I needed,” she said. “Plus, at the end of the 16-week class I could ask questions during Sato’s ‘unofficial’ couch sessions.”

She urges people to take a class. “They’re free and Tak’s good at teaching technology.” She wants seniors to know that “we can all learn.” Today she’s texting, emailing, banking and shopping online, getting directions, watching videos of her grandson, and Skyping.

Cooley enjoys talking to folks about her learning as a volunteer ambassador. On May 16 she’ll be greeting seniors and caregivers at the third annual Living in the Digital World Senior Expo, presented by the Center for Aging in the Digital World.

This free day for seniors is a perfect opportunity for people to learn what services are available for them and how to join a digital literacy class. Sato will be on-hand to talk about the fun of digital learning and staying safe online.

Seniors are invited to attend the Expo on Thursday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rocky River Civic Center. Along with free admission there will be presentations, exhibits, prizes and food. Plus, a conversation with Cuyahoga County Councilmember Nan Baker at 11:30 a.m. about the services offered within Cuyahoga County for seniors and caregivers.

To learn more, visit EmpowerSeniors.org. ●



Enjoy *Peace of Mind* knowing that your loved one is getting the best in care.

Devon Oaks, Eliza Jennings’ premier assisted living community in Westlake, offers a full range of services for older adults in need of support from a caring and attentive staff.

Residents experience apartment-style living with amenities, including healthy dining services, social and recreational programs, on-site transportation, laundry, and housekeeping, in a friendly, caring community designed to promote independence, safety, and security.

Contact Dan Hoke at **440.250.2300** to schedule a tour.

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*Donations accepted

“The NEO-ACT Group has made such a big difference in my mother’s life - not only does it aid in speech improvement, but the social aspect has been just as important.”

For more information call **216-231-8787** or visit www.chsc.org/NEO-ACT

CLEVELAND
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“I saw it in the Observer”

PET CARE

Clean it up and be responsible

by NANCY BROWN

Two recent dog incidents prompted me to write this to educate readers about a couple of dog laws that, if not complied with, can lead to health and environmental issues.

Incident number one: A Bay resident found significant bags of dog waste tossed over a bridge and in a creek as he was doing yard maintenance. This prompted the resident to look back on home security footage to witness the repeat offender daily tossing dog-waste-filled bags in the creek. This person was less than two blocks from a park entrance that greets everyone with trash cans.

Incident number two: Bay Village Police received a complaint about an adult walking dogs on a regular basis during the day and repeatedly putting full dog-waste bags in a street sewer.

The Bay Village codified ordinance

states: "It shall be the duty of all persons having control of animal to curb such animal and immediately remove all feces and dispose of same in sanitary and safe manner."

Canine waste contaminates water and is not a fertilizer. EPA studies show canine waste pollutes waterways. The EPA categorizes it the same as oil and mine run-off.

The Clean Water Campaign released these facts about pet waste that is not picked up:

- Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other animals that rely on water.
- Pet waste contains nutrients that can cause excessive algae growth in a river or lake. Consider that the next time the family or Fido goes swimming.
- Pet waste contributes to the bacterial contamination of our rivers, lakes and



PHOTO BY TARA WENDELL

A sign at the Bay Village Community Garden reminds pet owners to clean up after their dogs.

streams. Pet waste contains harmful bacteria such as E. coli and fecal coliform bacteria, some of which can cause diseases in humans.

Here are some training tips for dog owners/walkers:

1. Always carry extra bags for dog waste. Purchase an inexpensive dog-waste bag attachment for leashes. Double

your bags until you find a trash can or return home. Dog feces can pose health issues to humans and our environment. Consider some of these along with other possible parasites that can impact not only pets but your personal health too: giardia; salmonella; leptospira; E. coli; parvo virus; round, hook and tape worms. Wash or sanitize your hands!

2. Train your dog to eliminate on your own property, then walk. With positive repetition and consistency this will condition the dog that the walk is a reward/exercise.

3. Adhere to the dog license laws. This is a city, county and state law. Proper-fitting collars with a leash that is safe and appropriate to your dog's size and management is also in most city ordinances applicable to not only residents but guests visiting our parks and communities. Most municipalities have written leash codes into their animal control ordinances.

For a complete listing of animal ordinances contact your local animal care and control officer or city law department. Most municipalities have their animal laws on their websites. ●

Westlake Porter Public Library Upcoming events

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, May 8 (7-7:30 p.m.) MIX-IT-UP! – Let's mix it up with flowers and fun spring activities! We'll be getting messy so wear play clothes! Ages 4-6. Please register.

Thursday, May 9 (2-3:30 p.m.) GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION PROGRAM ON WORLD AFFAIRS – Discuss critical global issues facing America today. At the beginning of each month a copy of the article may be picked up at the Ask Us Desk. Please read prior to the meeting. Please register.

Thursdays, May 9 and 16 (4-5 p.m.) CODE CLUB! – Learn how to build an app, design a video game, and change the world through code! Grades 3-4. Registration begins one week before each session.

Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 (9:30 and 10:30 a.m.) MUSIC THERAPY & MORE – For families and their children (ages 0-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. Siblings (ages 0-6 years) may also attend but must register separately. To register, visit connectingforkids.org/music or call 440-570-5908.

Friday, May 10 (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.

Saturday, May 11 (10 a.m.-1 p.m.) ACT PRACTICE EXAM – Be the most prepared you can be for the actual test with our ACT practice exam. Please come prepared with two #2 pencils and a calculator. Grades 9-12. Please register.

Saturday, May 11 (10-11:30 a.m.) INTRO TO SMARTPHONES – Learn the basics of using smartphones, such as screen brightness, wifi settings, adding apps and more. If bringing your device, please

bring all account passwords. Please register.

Sunday, May 12 (2-4 p.m.) CHESS CLUB – Hone your chess skills or learn how to play the game. Recommended for ages 6+, but all ages are welcome. If you have a chess set, please bring it with you.

Monday, May 13 (1-1:30 p.m.) YOGA TIME! – This is a perfect way to introduce yoga and practice simple poses. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a towel or yoga mat. Ages 3 and up with a caregiver.

Mondays, May 13 and 20 (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, May 13 (7-8:30 p.m.) MAKER MONDAY: BE WASHINGTON – Step into the shoes of our first commander-in-chief in this interactive game. All ages welcome.

Tuesday, May 14 (1-3 p.m.) CAREER: COMPLETING JOB APPLICATIONS PLUS – Learn how to handle questions on an application so that yours is noticed and read. Learn about keywords that may be used to screen candidates and how to determine what the employer is really looking for. We will discuss both online applications and the few types of paper applications you may run into.

Tuesdays, May 14 and 21 (2-3:30 p.m.) CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH – Learn Spanish vocabulary and pronunciation with an expert instructor.

Tuesday, May 14 (7-8:30 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION – "The Bonfire of the Vanities" by Tom Wolfe.

Tuesday, May 14 (7-8:45 p.m.) WESTLAKE WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL – Andrea Chevalier from the International Conservation Association (ICA) will present a lecture about the artwork, architectural and historical conservation on the west side of Cleveland.

Wednesday, May 15 (6:30-8:45 p.m.)

CUYAHOGA WEST GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – Ohio Genealogical Society trustee Mary Milne Jamba presents "DNA Testing and How to Use Your Results to Find Relatives."

Thursday, May 16 (6:30 p.m., Preschool session) and Friday, May 17 (9:30 a.m., Preschool session; 11:30 a.m., Toddler Session) TEACH ME TO PLAY – A play-based program for families and their children (Toddler: ages 18 months-2 years and Preschool: ages 3-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Diverse opportunities for learning are provided, with an emphasis on facilitating communication, practicing social interactions and responding to behaviors in a positive way. The program is led by an experienced Early Intervention Specialist and Speech-Language Pathologist. Register at www.connectingforkids.org/register or call 440-570-5908.

Saturday, May 18 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) ESCAPE ARTISTS WRITERS GROUP – This group meets monthly to provide guidance, encouragement, inspiration and feedback for those looking to improve their writing skills.

Saturday, May 18 (2-3:30 p.m.) BEAUTIFYING YOUR GARDEN – See how to add color, texture and form to your garden with top performing annuals and perennials. These beauties can benefit our butterflies and pollinators while filling a variety of garden niches. Learn how to install and maintain these plants as part of your spring and summer landscape. Please register.

Monday, May 20 (1-3 p.m.) ASK THE EXPERT: MANAGING CASH FLOW – Industry experts on the subject of managing cash flow for a start-up business, existing business or a non-profit will be here to answer your questions. Provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and SCORE. Please register.

Monday, May 20 (7-8:30 p.m.) INVESTORS' INTEREST GROUP: Optimizing Retirement Income with Social Security

and Medicare – Learn how to optimize your Social Security retirement income and Medicare retirement benefits. Discussion includes the essential estate planning documents needed for individuals. Customize your own plan with the provided workbook. Please register.

Tuesday, May 21 (10:30-11:30 a.m.) TABLET TUESDAY USER GROUP – This group will share tips and tricks with each other about using iPads and Android tablets. Kindle Fire users welcome. Bring your devices. Please register.

Tuesday, May 21 (7-8:30 p.m.) OHIO DAY TRIPS BY THEME – Join travel author Cathy Seckman as she talks about her book "Ohio Day Trips by Theme," which gives us a different way to plan trips around our state. Please register.

Wednesday, May 22 (10-11:30 a.m.) RESEARCHING YOUR ROOTS – This class is an introduction to Ancestry.com as well as other online resources that can be used to research your family. Bring the names and dates of relatives that you do know. This class allows time for individual research during class. Please register.

Wednesday, May 22 (2 p.m.) WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION – "The President is Missing" by James Patterson.

Wednesday, May 22 (7-8:30 p.m.) THE MUSIC OF BIRDSONG: SORTING OUT THE SINGERS IN THE CHORUS – Bird song is music, and the techniques used in ear training and music appreciation classes can provide valuable tools for identification of birds and their repertoire. We'll also notice that not all birds sing from the same stages and they also sing in different ensembles. Then the real fun begins: learning the meanings of those songs and observing interactions in the avian musical drama, and sharing the musical stories with others. Please register.

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

SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Then and Now: Taking a look at Bay's sports teams

by KAY LAUGHLIN

A good corner lot, a hoop on the side of a barn, a sturdy oak tree, or a plowed acre of land became a playing field when a group of Bay boys came out to play. Until the new Parkview School was built in 1922, Bay had no athletic department. Pick-up games were the thing of the day.

Then Bay built a new school. The children from the Red Brick School House on Lake Road (east of Rye Gate) became the tenants of the new school. Grades ranged from one through nine.

Bay named the new high school Parkview as it overlooked Cahoon Memorial Park. It didn't take long for the Bay students to become involved in the athletics offered and to choose school colors – blue for the blue waters of Lake Erie and white

for the waves the students could see from their second-floor windows.

The first sports competition documented was in basketball. The season began in January 1924. The team played 14 games, finishing with a record of 6 wins and 8 defeats. There were no upper grades at the time and only freshmen competed against similar competition. The only documentation of this basketball season was the team's record for the year.

The first interscholastic sports involving Parkview occurred in the fall of 1924 when Coach G. D. Thompson and his football team of 16 freshmen and sophomores took the football field for the first time. The team played five games against varsity and junior varsity competition. We know they won and lost games to Dover (Westlake) and lost to Ridgeville (North Ridgeville)

varsity but finished the season with a win at Rocky River that year.

In 1918, Coach Ron Rutt had a successful year with the varsity football team, recording 8 wins and 2 losses. Making the playoffs, the team fell in the first round.

In January 1925, Coach Thompson's Parkview basketball team of seven boys took the floor against Fairview. The 1925 team achieved a record of 6 wins and 3 losses. Fred Troyan was the high point man with 37 points for the season.

In 1919, the boys basketball team, led by Coach Jared Shetzer, went 16-6 and was the district runner-up. Senior Erik Painter earned Third Team All-Ohio honors and was also the Great Lakes Conference's "Most Valuable Player."

The class act at Parkview was the girls basketball team which was coached by Miss Kruss. The varsity team of 1924-1925 was undefeated in league play while the junior varsity lost only one game. The teams played boys rules (three-division floor), and girls rules (six on a side, three

defense and three offense). Marie Blaha, the star of the team, was offered a professional contract to play ball after high school. Although no mention could be found, this team won the first championship for Parkview.

The 2019 girls basketball team, led by Coach John Curran, was crowned District Champions for the second year in a row. Maddie Edgerly earned Second Team All-Ohio honors and Coach Curran was named All-Northeast Lakes District "Coach of the Year."

The teams during those early years were cheered on with the following:

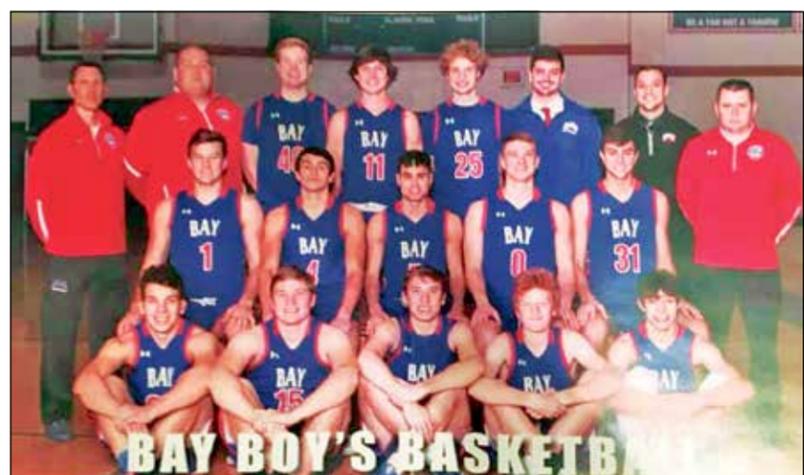
*Stop, look, listen, who are we?
Parkview, Parkview, don't you see?
Stand us on our heads
Stand us on our feet
Parkview, Parkview, can't be beat!
Who Barney Google, Andy Gump,
We've got the rest all up a stump,
Parkview will work, Parkview will win,
Or else somebody'll get kicked in the chin!
Who, Spark Plug!* ●



The 1926 Parkview girls basketball team.



The 1924-25 Parkview boys basketball team, with Coach G. D. Thompson.



The 2018-19 Bay boys basketball team.



The 2018-19 Bay girls basketball team.

Millions of Americans are not educated when selecting their Medicare or Social Security benefits. Join us for one of our informative sessions that will help you make the right choice.

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- Your options if you are working past the age of 65.
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Securing Social Security

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- Should I delay my Benefit?
- How to potentially give your Social Security check a boost.
- Does it make sense to suspend my benefit?

DATES & LOCATIONS:

May 11th 10:00 AM
Embassy Suites Independence
5800 Rockside Woods Blvd
Independence, OH 44131

May 15th 6:00 PM
Rocky River Civic Center
21016 Hilliard Blvd
Rocky River, OH 44116

May 16th 6:00 PM
Middleburg Hts. Recreation Center
16000 Bagley Rd.
Middleburg Hts., OH 44130

To RSVP:
Please contact John Underation
at 216-273-9763
or junderation@mcdonald-partners.com

Free to Attend and Space is Limited

Refreshments will be served

Eating for better health is the topic of two upcoming cooking classes

by DIANE FRYE

Many of us know that a healthy diet is key to maintaining and improving our health. Village Project is offering two upcoming cooking classes to get you on your way to preparing foods that will make a difference in your well-being, stamina and even your state of mind. The guest host for both classes will be registered dietitian nutritionist Gretchen Spetz of The Functional Kitchen. Gretchen is passionate about helping people feel their very best. She believes that diet and lifestyle changes are powerful tools when it comes to improving

fatigue, digestive problems, weight management and mood.

- **Feed Your Gut for Better Health:** Thursday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The root cause of joint pain, fatigue, gastrointestinal problems and brain fog have one thing in common – and it's all about the health of your gut. During this cooking class, you will explore the five steps to restoring gut health and learn how to make meals and snacks that feed good gut bacteria.
- **Anti-Inflammatory Diets:** Wednesday, June 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. There are several popular diets like Paleo, the Mediterranean Diet and the Ketogenic Diet that claim to reduce

inflammation. Which diets are the best and have the science to prove that they reduce inflammation and support overall health? This cooking class will teach you about the role of inflammation in chronic disease, the best nutrition strategies to reduce inflammation and lifestyle habits that can reduce chronic inflammation. You will also learn how to make quick, easy and delicious meals and snacks that include anti-inflammatory foods and nutrients.

Class structure will include hands-on time in the kitchen preparing recipes, followed by time to enjoy what you've made in the dining room while listen-

ing to more information from Gretchen. You will also get a chance to ask questions.

Both classes will be held at the Village Project headquarters at 27378 W. Oviatt Road in Bay Village. The cost for each class is \$50 per person and registration is available on the Village Project website: ourvillageproject.com. Current and former Village Project clients may attend for free, but advance registration is required. Clients, please use discount code CLIENT when registering.

While at Village Project, don't forget to check out Project Shoppe, the perfect place to pick up unique and locally-made specialty foods and gift items. Project Shoppe is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Village Project is now offer-

ing Meals-To-Go each week in the refrigerator case at Project Shoppe. The entrees are prepared in the VP kitchen and are packaged individually. Also available is Village Project's immunity broth. It is made with fresh herbs and vegetables – making it a great base for your next soup and a nourishing option for clients who may have a loss of appetite due to the effects of treatment. The selection of entrees will change weekly and are available for \$9 each. Immunity broth is available in 32-ounce pouches for \$4.

All proceeds from VP's cooking classes and Project Shoppe go directly to support Village Project's mission to provide nourishing meals and extended services to our neighbors battling cancer in Bay Village, Westlake, Avon, Avon Lake and Rocky River. ●

Bay Village Kiwanis Club makes a difference

by STAN GRISNIK

The Bay Village Kiwanis Club has been working hard, as always, to make a difference in the community and in the world. Over the past year Bay Kiwanis has provided funds in excess of \$50,000 to help fight poverty and disease, improve the lives of children and adults, and help create the next generation of leaders in our communities. Bay Kiwanis has been providing this kind of support for over 68 years.

Academically, for the children and students of Bay Village, Kiwanis has provided mentors and funding to the recently established Bay High Robotics Club. Bay Kiwanis hosts the Academic Achievement night where they have awarded scholarships totaling \$15,000 to students in pursuit of a college degree.

Athletically, Bay Kiwanis purchased equipment to promote inclusion of special needs students in outdoor high school physical education activities. They have contributed \$25,000 to the BHS Field of Dreams to help create a state-of-the-art athletic complex where students can learn about teamwork and

good sportsmanship.

To provide students insight into leadership, Bay Kiwanis provides mentors and helps fund service leadership programs such as Key Club, Builders Club, and K-Kids. Kiwanis assists with funding to provide Key Club members the opportunity to attend a District Leadership Conference where they participate in service projects, compete in contests, attend forums that provide information on a variety of topics, and elect officers for the Key Club Ohio Division organization.

Bay Kiwanis provides funds to The American Legion Auxiliary of Ohio to send two delegates from Bay High to the Girls State program, a week-long program designed to educate Ohio's young women about the rights, responsibilities, privileges and duties of a good citizen. They learn "hands on" about city, county and state government.

Around the community Bay Kiwanis helps their neighbors. They have provided donations to the Bay Presbyterian Church's food pantry for the hungry, and supported the Village Project through the purchase of a com-

mercial food mixer and provided monetary donations. To honor veterans, Kiwanis has donated funds toward the construction of a Veterans Honor Wall at the Dwyer Center.

The Bay Village Holiday Caring and Sharing program, a way to help families in need during the holidays, is aided through an annual \$2,000 donation. The Cahoon Christmas event is co-sponsored by the Bay Village Kiwanis Club and the Bay Village Historical Society. For the seniors living at the Knickerbocker, Bay Kiwanis purchased a much-needed 65-inch TV for the common room.

Beyond the Bay Village community, the Club has contributed to Fill This House, The Eliminate Project, The Thirst Project and Blankets for Children to help foster children aging out of the system, eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus, provide clean drinking water, and supply blankets to needy children.

To accomplish all of the things listed above the Bay Village Kiwanis Club hosts many fundraising events. In the summer, Bay Village Kiwanis organizes and manages the Bay Days Festival held over the Fourth of July. This is a major fundraiser for the club. Bay Kiwanis also hosts a pancake breakfast, spaghetti dinner, and Christmas tree sales as well as other events throughout the year. Hosting

the fundraising events is only part of the story. Without you, the people of the community, who support Bay Kiwanis by attending these fundraisers, there would be no funds to provide the support mentioned above. So thank you for providing us the means to make a difference in the community and the world.

To find out more about Bay Village Kiwanis Club and what we do join us at one of our meetings. They are held at the Bay United Methodist Church most Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. following a 6:30 p.m. dinner. Visit Bayvillage-oh.kiwanisone.org for more information. ●



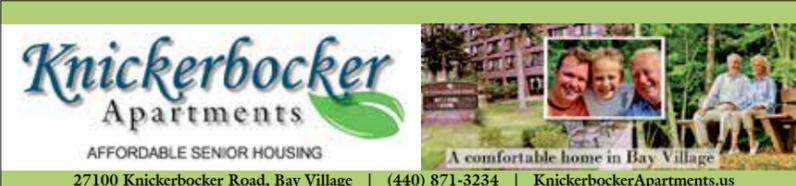
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WESTLAKE-WESTSHORE ARTS COUNCIL

FYI: Opera and Napoléon on the same page

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

A quote attributed to Napoléon Bonaparte states, "Music is what tells us that the human race is greater than we realize." His words would not be questioned by the audience in attendance at the April 23 "FYI: Opera" program at Porter Public Library. They listened with rapt attention to three outstanding Oberlin Conservatory of Music opera voice students and expressed their gratitude with heartfelt applause when final notes were sung.

Director of Oberlin Opera Theater Jonathon Field was introduced by Jean Driggs, President of Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, which sponsors the FYI: Opera program free to the community.

Field then introduced Caitlin Aloia, soprano; Gabriela Linares, mezzo; and Shawn Roth, tenor; and provided insights on composers, the music, and descriptions of the character before each performance. Tony Cho, music director and coach for Oberlin Opera Theater, skillfully accompanied the singers on the piano.

Roth opened the program with an



Shawn Roth sang the Soliloquy from "Carousel."

aria by Richard Strauss revealing a powerful voice, filled with warmth and feeling. His performances of arias by Tchaikovsky ("Eugene Onegin"), and Franz Shubert underscored the excellence of Roth's voice. Yet his final selection, the Soliloquy by Billy from Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Carousel," amazed his audience.

Linares has a strong, pleasing, mezzo voice, qualities that fit characters of "young boys" which profiled her first two selections. In her opening Mozart



Caitlin Aloia and Gabriela Linares sang the "Flower Duet" from the opera "Lakme."

aria and in an aria from Gounod's "Faust," Linares portrayed a 13-year-old boy and a love-sick boy. But her manner completely changed when she sang "What a Movie" as the wife Dinah, from "Trouble in Tahiti" by Leonard Bernstein. Her talent and versatility were duly noted and appreciated by the audience.

Aloia's three solo arias included the maid Despina from Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte" and Susanna's aria from Act 4 of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro." While bringing her roles to life, Aloia was a visual delight as she offered an auditory

feast. Her beautiful voice conveyed emotions that were strongly backed up by fitting expressions and actions.

The voices of Aloia and Linares combined for the finale presentation of the "Flower Duet" from the opera "Lakme," by Leo Delibes. An exceptional gift of music was wrapped with yet another layer of beauty.

Comments from one member of the audience sum up the evening well. "Simply outstanding! Shawn's rendition of Soliloquy was as good as any I've heard ... and I've heard it plenty. The gals' duet, beautiful." ●

PHOTOS BY LOUISE SEEHOLZER



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Bay Village Branch Library Check out the Bay Branch

by SARAH POLACE

The Bay Village Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library offers many services and programs. If you haven't visited recently, here are just a few reasons to stop by.

Did you know that we are a Passport Acceptance Facility? We process passports and take passport photos every day up until an hour before we close.

All Ohio residents can sign up for a library card which allows you to browse and borrow books, magazines, movies, music and more. We also offer Senior, Educator and Institution cards that allow those cardholders to check out materials without worrying about late fees.

Our Digital Collection includes eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and streaming movies and music. The Digital Collection is available 24/7, 365 days a year, from the comfort of home and there are never any late fees!

Did you know we have a Toy Collection? Cuyahoga County Public Library is committed to developing children's literacy by engaging parents and children in stimulating and educational play. Our catalog includes toys for children ages birth to 10 years old that are educational, safe, sturdy and clean. Check out some toys if you are hosting a play group or have grandchildren visiting.

Most items at the library are free, however, there are a few things you may not know the library has available for purchase including bus passes, stamps, USB drives and other office supplies, headphones and chocolate bars!

The Bay Village Branch has public computers with high-speed internet access and the Microsoft Office suite. Our copy machines also serve as fax machines and allow you to scan documents to a flash drive or e-mail address. New this year - mobile printing from your own device.

If you are unable to come to the library but would like to take advantage of our services, you might want to take part in our Library2You program where items can be sent to you. Give the Bay Village Branch a call and we can help you get set up; call 440-871-6392 or apply online at www.cuyahogalibrary.org.

We have a Homework Mentor available to provide students in grades K-8 with homework assistance. The Homework Mentor is available from 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday from mid-September to mid-May.

The Bay Village Branch offers a variety of free programs for children, teens and adults. While many of the programs require registration, they are all free of charge.

We offer six storytimes a week - no registration required! Each storytime is targeted to a specific age incorporating literacy skills appropriate to that developmental stage.

Our youth programs for school-age children and teens encourage 21st century skills and focus on building Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) skills. This summer we will be offering drop-in programs for children in grades 1-8 on Wednesdays. The programs are Brick Builders (Lego

building challenges), STEAM Ahead (STEAM programs) and Unplugged Coding (low-tech coding activities).

For adults we offer maker programs including glass etching, screen printing, vinyl decal mugs, canvas button art and more. Registration for maker programs begins one month before the program and they fill up quick.

Interested in joining a book discussion? We offer three monthly book discussions and one quarterly discussion. Our Wednesday afternoon group talks about popular titles, the Thursday evening group discusses literary and award-winning titles and our Friday morning group meets on the porch at BAYarts. Here are some of our upcoming programs. We look forward to seeing you at the library soon.

CHILDREN

We offer storytimes nine months out of the year, with breaks in May, August and December.

- **Mondays & 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. and 11 a.m.) FAMILY STORYTIME** - for all ages

Saturday, May 11 (10 a.m.) PRE-SCHOOL STEAM - Join us for stories and a hands-on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics) activity.

ADULT

Thursday, May 9 (7 p.m.) TERRY PLUTO - The author and Plain Dealer sports columnist will discuss the good and bad of Cleveland sports.

Tuesday, May 14 (6 p.m.) LIBRARY FOR ALL: ADAPTED ADULT PROGRAMS - Join us for fun, adapted programs featuring stories, art, music and more, specifically designed for adults with developmental disabilities and their caregivers.

Thursday, May 16 (7 p.m.) 'DEAR EVAN HANSEN': BEHIND THE MUSICAL - As the Broadway musical "Dear Evan Hansen" arrives in Cleveland, a scholar from the Center for Popular Music Studies at CWRU provides insight and background on the production.

Saturday, May 18 (2 p.m.) CREATIVE SPACE - Calling all Makers! Bring an art project to work on or try out new art mediums alongside other creative individuals. Some supplies will be provided but you are also welcome to bring your own.

Wednesday, May 22 (7 p.m.) VINYL DECAL MUG - Join us to learn about the Innovation Centers and create a mug with a pre-cut vinyl design.

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. ●

DIGGING DOVER

The Nickel Plate Railroad, Part IV

by WILLIAM KRAUSE

According to Taylor Hampton's "The Nickel Plate Road," the initial passenger cars for the Nickel Plate were constructed by the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago. They were painted a dull red or reddish-brown color with several gilt stripes around them.

The coaches were finished in cherry, the first-class ones having frescoed satinwood ceilings. The seats were upholstered in crimson plush and had backs six inches higher than ordinary ones. The coaches had toilet rooms and a ladies salon with marble washstand with comb, brush, mirror and towel.

The coaches were heated, lit by oil chandeliers, had large windows and provided with a bucket, an ax, and a saw for use in case of accident. The Cleveland Herald stated that: "In fact although not literally nickel-plated, everything was found to be thoroughly gilt-edged."

However, as stated in a previous article in this series, the Nickel Plate was re-organized financially in 1887 after only five years of control by William H. Vanderbilt, who ran it as the disadvantaged stepchild of the competing New York Central line. It was the freight cars painted seal brown with white lettering that got the most use. One of the primary uses of the new railroad line became shipping butchered meat quickly overnight in an express train from the stockyards of Chicago to New York.

Nickel Plate employees were very loyal to the company. This loyalty developed to such an extent that a Veterans Association was formed in 1907 for those who had served the road continuously for 25 years or longer. This was the first organization of its kind in the country and the plan later was adopted by many other railroads throughout the United States.

The Clayton Antitrust Act was passed by Congress in 1914 as a strengthening amendment to the Sherman Act of 1890, and the Department of Justice began to look into the stifling of competition through common control of parallel and competing railroad lines. Late in 1915, the U.S. Attorney General notified the president of the New York Central that control of the Nickel Plate and several other railroads constituted a violation of the Act.

At this time brothers O.P. and M.J. Van Sweringen were developing Shaker Heights and needed transportation facilities from downtown Cleveland to Shaker Heights. They purchased the Nickel Plate from the New York Central in 1916. So for 5 miles of needed right-of-way they purchased a railroad of 513 miles!

Under their management, in 1922 the New York Evening Post wrote: "The Nickel Plate, a small freight road independently operated, has prospered since its severance from the New York Central. Business has grown under the new management and the road has been strengthened materially during

Nickel Plate.

On Jan. 1, 1928, the general offices of the Nickel Plate were moved into the Van Sweringens' Terminal Tower – the official opening of the Cleveland Union Station was in 1930. By 1935 the Van Sweringen empire had collapsed and they had both died. Ownership of the Nickel Plate transferred to George A. Ball, the Mason jar king who had financially come to their aid in the last months of their lives.

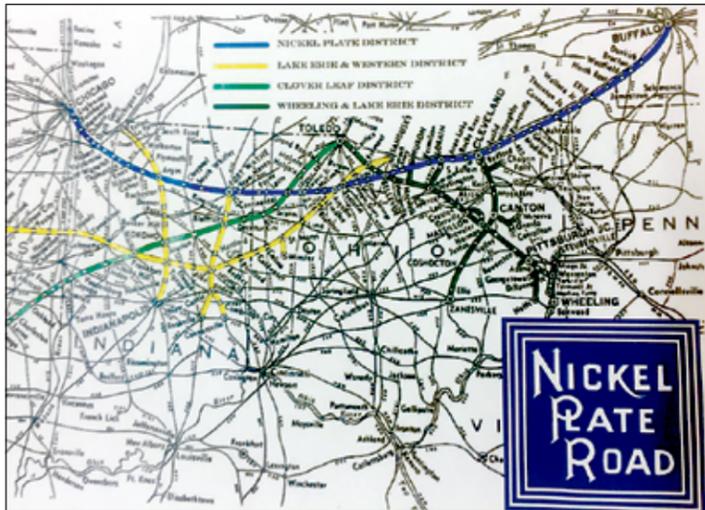
Taylor Hampton writes: "The Nickel Plate Road was built as a single road. It soon passed under the suppressing domination of the New York Central and it gained its freedom

and two new divisions, the Clover Leaf and Lake Erie and Western under the Van Sweringens. It then became one of three in the family of Nickel Plate, Chesapeake and Ohio, and Pere Marquette, and today [1947], after sixty-five years, it is again an entity of its own with control of the Wheeling and Lake Erie. The Wheeling, with its 503 miles of track, traverses active coal fields and has connections of interchange of freight with the Nickel Plate at Cleveland, Bellevue, Fremont and Toledo. This adds yet another link in an expanding road."

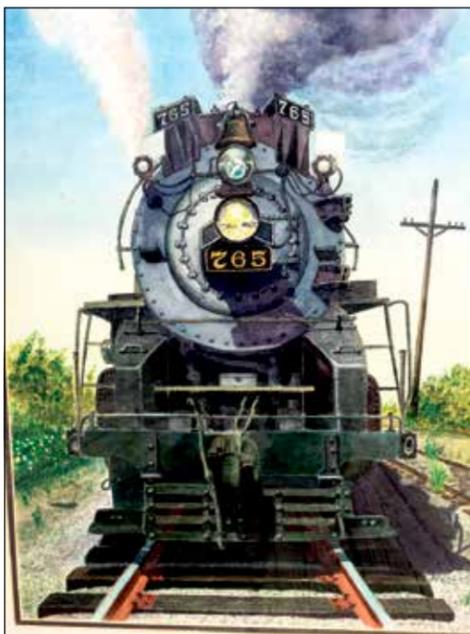
The Nickel Plate, like all railroads, experienced heavy use during World War II, and this took its toll on the physical plant, it once again entered a period of financial difficulties and the leasing of the Wheeling and Lake Erie was a last-ditch attempt to make the railroad financially solvent again. The Nickel Plate became part of the Norfolk and Western railroad in 1964.

The line ran its last passenger trains along the former Nickel Plate on Sept. 9, 1965. They had stopped using the depot in Bay Village some time before this because it was in 1962 that the Dover/Bay Village Station was moved to Huntington Park for use by Baycrafters, now known as BAYarts.

After further mergers Norfolk and Western is now known as Norfolk and Southern Railroad. Bellevue, Ohio, has a museum dedicated to the Nickel Plate Railroad using some of the former Nickel Plate facilities there. The RTA red line is another vestige left over from the Nickel Plate railroad. Its route from the Windermere Station in East Cleveland to the West Boulevard Station in Cleveland follows the tracks of the good old Nickel Plate. ●



A map showing the Nickel Plate line.



A watercolor of 1930s-era Berkshire locomotive built for the Nickel Plate Railroad. Painting by the late Jack Keeler of Westlake, now in the collection of the Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum.



Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum in Bellevue, Ohio.

the six years of independent operation. Nickel Plate is becoming almost exclusively a freighter ... furthermore the character of its freight is improving. A better balance is being achieved, as between coal and merchandise haulings. ... This road's bond issues appear perfectly sound as investments."

The Van Sweringens purchased additional railroads through some very convoluted financing schemes and incorporated them as part of the

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Saturday, May 11, 7:30 a.m.-noon
WESTLAKE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Westlake residents only. No businesses, churches or schools. Accepted materials: oil- or solvent-based paints, sealers, primers, coatings, paint thinner, spray paint, pesticides, motor oil, car batteries, kerosene. Not accepted: latex paint, batteries, mercury, fluorescent bulbs, medical waste, explosives, tires, electronics. For a complete list, visit www.cityofwestlake.org. Call the Service Center at 440-835-6432 for more information. *Westlake Service Center, 741 Bassett Rd.*

Wednesday, May 8, 10 a.m.
HERB GUILD GARDEN CLUB

The meeting will start at 10 a.m., followed by a vigorous work out in the Rose Hill Herb Garden to spruce it up after the long winter. The Herb Garden is located by the Cahoon House. Volunteer teams tend to the garden monthly, weeding and watering as needed. Bring a bagged lunch, and garden gloves and tools for working in the garden. Those who are physically unable to help in the garden can help make crafts for the scholarship luncheon. *Cahoon Memorial Park, Bay Village*

Wednesday, May 8, 6-7:30 p.m.
THE DEMENTIA TOOLBOX SERIES: WHY CAN'T WE ALL GET ALONG

Learn effective tips and tools to improve communication between family members when discussing care for a loved one with dementia. Adult care provided by qualified staff. RSVP to 440-808-9275. *Arden Courts, 28400 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

Wednesday, May 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT BLOCKCHAIN?

Join with NEOPC (Northeast Ohio Personal Computers) to meet Charles Stack, CEO of Flashstarts, who is determined to get Cleveland on the map with implementations of this new technology. Come hear him introduce this online ledger system that can be used to securely record transactions. Advocates laud the potential of the

new technology for applications in government records, banking, hospital administration and more. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.; the meeting starts at 7:00. All are welcome. For more information, go to neopc.org. *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Friday, May 10, 7-9 p.m.
ADVANCED CERAMIC STUDENTS EXHIBIT & SALE

All work created by advanced continuing students and instructors of the Karen Ryel Ceramic studio. *BAYarts, 28795 Lake Rd.*

Monday, May 13, 7-8:45 p.m.
WEST SHORE ANTIQUE AND HISTORY CLUB

Club member Sue Cernanec will present a program on: "An Aquarian Exposition: 3 Days of Peace & Music (Better Known as Woodstock)." Join us as we look back 50 years to an event that holds memories both good and bad. Peace, love, drugs, sex, the Vietnam War and oh...did we mention music? *Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.*

Tuesday, May 14, 6:30-8 p.m.
BAY VILLAGE KIWANIS MEETING

Club meeting with speaker Jodi Hausmann, Bay Schools Superintendent and Kiwanis Club member. *Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd.*

Thursday, May 16, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
A TASTE OF WESTLAKE

Enjoy a sampling of specialties from over 30 local restaurants, music and more! Tickets are \$50 per person, casual dress and a cash bar. Tickets are available at tinyurl.com/ATasteofWestlake. This event benefits Citizens for Westlake Schools. *Doubletree by Hilton, 1100 Crocker Rd., Westlake*

Thursday, May 16, 7-8:45 p.m.
WESTLAKE UNITY TOASTMASTERS

Improve your speaking and leadership skills in a fun, supportive environment. Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. *Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake*

Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m.-noon
YOUTH FISHING DERBY

For kids ages 12 and under. Cost is \$10 per child

and includes bait and prizes (while supplies last). Kids must bring their own equipment and a parent/guardian must be present. Contact the Rec Center for more details at 440-808-5700. *Westlake Rec Center Park, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.*

Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLNESS FAIR

Learn how to increase personal safety and wellness from more than 70 exhibitors and displays, watch live demonstrations, and get a wide variety of health screenings. Special activities for children. Emergency vehicles, service trucks, and more and their crews will participate in "Touch-a-Truck" outside. Park at the high school and shuttle to the event on Lolly the Trolley. *Westlake Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.*

Saturday, May 18, 8:30 p.m.
TELESCOPE NIGHT

We will begin in the planetarium for an overview of the constellations and planets, then review the current events happening in our night sky. Weather permitting, we will head outdoors for telescope viewing through our 8-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. For adults and children ages 6 and up. Fee: \$8/person. *Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd.*

Sunday, May 19, 9 a.m.-noon
FAMILY FISHING DAY

Here's your chance to introduce the family to fishing! Learn about the basics: equipment, how to cast, where to fish and what kind of fish you'll catch. Then head to Lake Erie to cast your line in the water. All equipment will be provided. Adults and teens (ages 16 and up) who wish to fish must possess a valid fishing license. One adult must accompany every 2 children. For families with children ages 5 and up. Fee: \$10/person. *Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd.*

Sunday, May 19, 3-5 p.m.
SPRING SING! A POPS CONCERT

The Church of the Redeemer UCC Chancel Choir presents a free concert featuring solo performances by some of the choir members and many toe-tapping tunes, including crowd-

pleasing medleys of 1920s favorites like "I Want to be Happy" and "Tea for Two," 1960s hits such as "It's My Party" and "Chapel of Love," and a "Best of the Beach Boys" medley. For information, contact the church at 440-331-0834 or online at corucc.org. *Church of the Redeemer UCC, 23500 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

Monday, May 20, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
CARPE DIEM STRING QUARTET

This boundary-breaking ensemble will be performing contemporary works as well as Dvorak's "String Quartet in G Major" in the last concert of the Rocky River Chamber Music Society's 60th season. Also included will be a world premiere commissioned by the RRCMS. No admission charge. All are welcome. For more information visit www.rrcms.org. *West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River*

Tuesday, May 21, 10 a.m.
ST. LADISLAS 50+ CLUB

Our entertainment will be Trapper Jack, telling his fabulous story about his faith. Doors open at 10 a.m. with a brief meeting at 10:30, followed by the presentation from Trapper Jack. Lunch is at noon. Cost is \$11; reservations can be made before May 14 by calling 440-937-8089. *St. Ladislav Church, 2345 Bassett Rd., Westlake*

Wednesday, May 22, 10 a.m.
THE DEMENTIA TOOLBOX SERIES: VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR

Experience first-hand what life is like for persons living with dementia. Scheduling 30-minute appointments. Call to reserve your appointment. *Arden Courts, 28400 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*

Wednesday, May 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
THE RISKS OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Medical lecturer Tom Strong will speak about "The Risks of High Blood Pressure." A complimentary lunch will be served before the presentation. RSVP to 440-835-5661. *Huntington Woods Care and Rehab, 27705 Westchester Pkwy, Westlake*

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