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WESTLAKE * BAY VILLAGE

VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 5 | Community News Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village | MARCH 1, 2016



Ohio Geese Control uses border collies as a harmless and humane method to control the Canada geese population.

by MARSHA MCENTEE

aybe you've noticed the increasing number of Canada geese on your property, in nearby parks, at schools, hospitals, roadways and parking lots.

With ever-increasing numbers these geese have become a health hazard and nuisance in our urban environment.

You have probably waded through the mine field of goose droppings on your way into work. Possibly you've fed

these geese leftover bread at a local lake. Probably you were unaware of the damage done to both the geese and the environment by interfering with "normal" migratory patterns of Canada geese.

» See GEESE page 2

Westshore Relay for Life expands

Fairview and Rocky River join 2016 event

by AMY BREDIGER

ust when you thought it couldn't get any bigger or

Big changes and new additions are the subject of this year's Relay. I am so excited! Our Relay is on Saturday, April 30, from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. this year and will take place again *inside* at Westlake High School. We had great feedback last year from Survivors and guests that being inside was more intimate and the smaller track was better for some of our Survivors and participants. Selfishly, I loved the smaller venue because I was able to visit with everyone instead of running from one end of the field to the next.

» See RELAY FOR LIFE page 4

Westlake school board selects new superintendent

by KIM BONVISSUTO

t its Feb. 22 meet-Westlake Board of Education approved the hiring of Scott Goggin, superintendent of Midview Local Schools, as its



Scott Goggin

next superintendent effective Aug. 1. Goggin was given a three-year contract.

The Board began its search for the next superintendent in December 2015 with the assistance of a consulting firm. After developing a superintendent profile that was based on information provided by parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, senior citizens, major stakeholders and students, the Board reviewed 22 highly qualified individuals.

» See GOGGIN page 2

Youth said to be key to heroin-free county

by EMILY SIMON, Westlake High senior

n Jan. 29, 70 youths from 15 different schools gathered together in the Cuyahoga County Coroner's office to

discuss one of the most concerning and deadly influenzas hitting the county, and the rest of the nation – the heroin crisis.

Five strong presences were in the center of the circle the students formed: county medical examiner

Dr. Tom Gilson; Katie Bolan from the Lorain ADAMHS Board (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services); Jaclyn Brandt, whose brother died of an overdose;

Monica Robins, who is the health reporter for WKYC-TV and has experienced heroin deaths within her own family; and Aaron Marks, who has been in recovery from heroin and sober for 11 years.

"The goal today is to get you to

engage. This

is one of our

last chances

to impact a

group who

will face this

problem,"

Dr. Gilson

students in

his opening

remarks.

the

told

"Beginning in 2009, drug overdoses overtook car crashes [as the leading cause of] accidental deaths in the country"

> "Beginning in 2009, drug overdoses overtook car crashes [as the leading cause of] accidental deaths in the country," Gilson said.

> > » See HEROIN page 6

Bay High presents 'The Wizard of Oz' March 17-20

by KAREN DERBY

ay High students present the wonderful "Wizard of Oz" musical Thursday through Saturday, March 17-19, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, March 20, at 2 p.m. at Bay High Auditorium.

Audiences will join Dorothy (Stephanie Jordon) after she finds herself in the Land of Oz following a Kansas twister. She and her new friends, the Scarecrow (CJ Hyland), the Tin Man (Phil Lally) and the

Cowardly Lion (Matthew Szekely), enlist the help of loved musical. It is sure to captivate every age group. Glinda the Good Witch (Kerry O'Brien) to get Dorothy back home. They appeal to the Wizard himself (Brad Beverly), who demands the broomstick of the Wicked Witch of the West (Salem Stacey) in exchange for his help.

From the dainty presentation of the Lullaby League, to the brusque welcome of the Lollipop Guild, to the scary Monkeys controlled by the Wicked Witch, the talented cast performs the roles and songs that everyone knows from this much-



Bay High cast members of the "The Wizard of Oz" musical.

Reserved seat tickets are \$12 each, and General Admission seats are \$6 each. Tickets will be sold March 7-10 and March 14-18, from 11a.m.-1 p.m., in the Bay High School cafeteria. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office beginning one hour before curtain time at each performance. Contact Kristen Srsen Kenney at 440-617-7447 with questions.

The entire cast, crew and pit orchestra list can be viewed at: bit.ly/BayHighWizardOfOz.





GOGGIN from front page

Interviews with eight semifinalists were conducted by the Board and a community committee in early February. Two finalists returned for second interviews.

"Mr. Goggin's track record of supporting high student achievement as a superintendent, and his overall experience as a teacher and administrator made him a strong candidate," said Board President Carol Winter. "We believe he has the expertise to work with the Board, staff, students and the community to build upon the high-quality program we offer in Westlake, furthering our established mission of excellence in preparing college- and careerready graduates."

Goggin has served as superintendent at Midview Local Schools for almost three years. He was Director of Education in the district from 2010 to 2013, principal of Midview Middle School from 2005 to 2010, and assistant principal of Midview High School from 2002 to 2005. He began his career as a special education teacher with the Lakewood City Schools from 1993 to 2001.

"Through this process I had the opportunity to meet a lot of committed people in this district. I'm looking forward to working with all parties to move the Westlake Schools forward," Goggin said.

Goggin serves on the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) Exceptional Children Committee and is a member of the United Way Lorain County Cabinet, the Greater **Cleveland School Superintendent Association** and the Elyria Rotary. He was recently invited to join the Mid-American Association of Superintendents.

Goggin earned his undergraduate degree in special education from Bowling Green State University in 1993, a graduate degree in rehabilitation counseling from Kent State University in 1998, and a second graduate degree in educational administration from Ashland University in 2002. He is working toward a doctoral degree in educational leadership from Ashland University, which he expects to receive in August.

In addition to his experience in education, Goggin served as a head varsity softball coach for two years, and a JV softball coach for seven years at Lakewood High School. He also was head freshman volleyball coach for seven years. He earned the Coach of the Year award in 2001.

Goggin and his wife, Michelle, and their two children reside in Avon. He replaces interim Superintendent Geoff Palmer. •

GEESE

from front page

At the March 16 meeting of the Westlake Garden Club, geese management experts from Ohio Geese Control will be speaking about these topics and other aspects of geese control. Join us at Westlake Porter Public Library at 1 p.m. for this interesting and educational program.

Ohio Geese Control owners Marci and Jeff Hower of Rocky River will present an informative, entertaining program and demonstrate techniques used to control Canada geese.

If you've seen Ohio Geese Control's border collies in action, or the OGC vehicles and dog handlers around your neighborhood, or are just very curious, this is the time to find out more! Everyone welcome. Call 440-665-5463 for more information.

WESTLAKE **▼** BAY VILLAGE

YEAR

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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 citizen participation of the 700+ community volunteers. All Westlake and Bay Village residents are invited to participate

Observer Guidelines

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

- Anvone who lives or works in Westlake or Bay Village is encouraged to contribute.
- Aim for 300-500 word articles
- Photos should be ipegs & a minimum of 2 megabytes
- Submit original stories and photos. Don't copy others' work and remember to credit your sources.
- Review our Observer FAQs on our website at: wbvobserver.com
- Ask questions! We're here to help you at every step along the way. Don't hesitate to come to us for advice or help with topics, content or the submission process. Staff contact information is listed below.

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

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

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

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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Clague Playhouse presents 'Miracle on South Division Street'

Dudzick's heartfelt and hilarious family comedy "Miracle on South Division Street" as the fourth production of its 88th season.

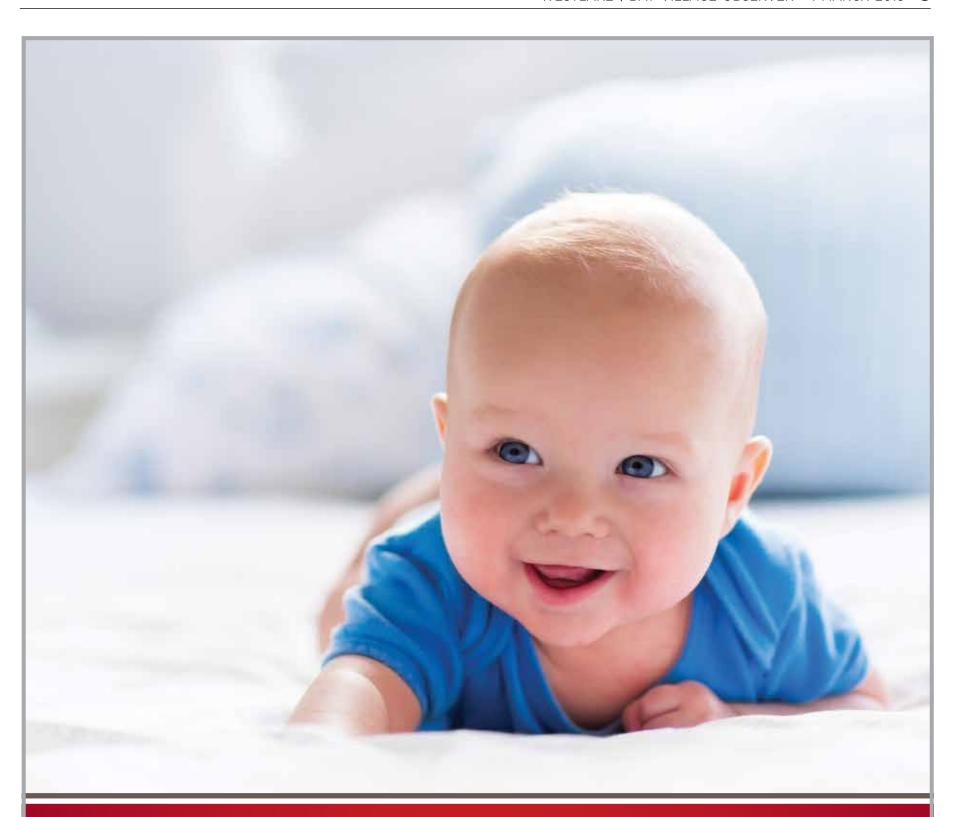
Meet the Nowak family, a lovable clan of dysfunctional Polish-American adults on the East Side of post-industrial Buf-

Clague Playhouse will present Tom falo. The family matriarch, Clara, fervently protects the family's 20-foot-tall shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary, a statue crafted by her father, who claimed to have had a vision of Mary in his barbershop in 1942. But now, a deathbed confession begins to test the family's faith in miracles.

The production runs from March 11 through April 3 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. (There is no performance on Easter Sunday, March 27). Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$15 for seniors (60+), and \$10 for students (with valid ID), and may be purchased by calling the box office at 440-331-0403 Wednesday through Saturday from 1-6 p.m.







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RELAY FOR LIFE

from front page

Also, the weather indoors will be perfect no matter what Mother Nature decides!

We welcome the cities of Fairview and Rocky River to our Relay of Westshore. We are excited to have new teams and participants working together to make this event bigger and better. Our Westshore event now includes Westlake, Bay Village, Avon, Avon Lake, Fairview and Rocky River. This makes a united force in finding a cure for this disease. I am looking forward to seeing where we can take this event.

Our theme this year is "Derby." We will have fake horses to buy and decorate, with prizes for your efforts. Big hats and races, what more could you ask for? There will also be a DJ, bounce house, food, games, prizes, walking, sharing stories, raffles, entertainment and much more.

There is still time to start a team and begin raising funds to cure cancer. There are also many teams that you can join or just come that day and hang out, make friends and donate.

We only have two meetings left: March 24 and April 21. These meetings are held at the Westlake Recreation Center at 6 p.m. Please join us and bring any ideas or suggestions you have. Any and all help is appreciated.

Local businesses still have time to sponsor our event. You can contact our American Cancer Society staff partner, Suzi Piskur at 888-227-6446, ext. 1212, or suzan.piskur@cancer.org. She will be able to answer questions you may have.

I look forward to a great event and I know that my dad is looking down on me knowing that we work very hard each year to make Relay a great success. We have raised over \$113,682 in the past four years and look forward to adding much more this year. With your help we can find a cure, save lives and give people more time. All cancer patients just want more time. I wish everyday that I had more time with my dad.

You can sign up your team or as a participant at relayforlife.org/Westshore. We would love to see you there and share in this amazing event and share a united front to cure this disease.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at aebrediger@gmail. SNIPPETS OF BAY VILLAGE HISTORY

Dad at the helm of Bay Village PTA

by KAY LAUGHLIN

This story begins with my dad, J. Ross Rothaermel. Parkview School was way overcrowded in 1945 and a new elementary school on the west end of town was greatly needed. Attendance at the PTA meetings was down and the village was having difficulties in increasing interest.

World War II had just ended and parents had much on their minds; returning home from the war and putting their lives back together. Still, fathers saw a need to contribute. Understanding the problem, my dad met with the PTA with an idea of how to generate more activity in the PTA and raise interest in a bond issue greatly needed. He offered to be the PTA president if the meetings would be moved to nighttime so the fathers could attend.

To bring in the dads and renew interest, he thought of offering some entertainment along with the important business of our school children. The motto was "Our kids are our best business." The PTA agreed and elected Dad, a young bank executive, president of the PTA.

"The Parent-Teacher Association of Bay Village is not 'orthodox,'" stated a 1945 article in the Cleveland News. "It has a man as its president. He is J. Ross Rothaermel and ... [has a] penchant for showmanship of a sort which has boosted the average attendance of meetings from 75 to 350. 'I'm angling for a film of the last World Series [for the April meeting],' said Rothaermel. The unorthodoxy of the Bay Village PTA, manifested last September, stemmed from a question the dads of the village had begun to ask themselves - "Aren't fathers parents?"

The origin of this Cleveland News story was a visit by Ray Turk, Cleveland News war correspondent, just back from the Pacific, who came out to the Westshore to talk to a PTA group at Bay Village Schools. Ray, a father himself, was interested in school activities and was a member of the Euclid School Board. The Bay Village meeting and the PTA activities in Bay served as an eye opener for the ex-war correspondent. He came back to the office filled with stories about the PTA revolution in Bay. Instead of a woman, the Bay PTA was headed by a man.

"We wish we could have a story such as the Bay Village story every day," said Turk. "It is indicative of an alert and progressive community. It bespeaks wholesome recreation, and serious accomplishment for a school group interested in the advancement of themselves, their neighbors and their children. PTA activities cannot reach their full estate with women expected to carry on alone. [Remember, this was 1945.] We think J. Ross Rothaermel should be No. 1 speaker on the fall schedule of all PTA groups."

Don't be misled into thinking the organization now had no serious purpose. Its members pointed with pride to the fact that a \$289,000 school bond proposal drew an 87 percent favorable vote that November. The PTA had quite a bit to do with the passing. They also sponsored two plays to be pre-

> sented by the Village Players that year. The bond issue was used for the building of Glenview School in 1947, and it is true my dad received phone calls from as far away as California and Chicago when the story went national.

> I remember when Dad had U.S. Congresswoman Frances Payne Bolton, who represented our district in the 76th Congress, coming to speak to the PTA one February. There was a terrific snowstorm that day, and Congresswoman Bolton was unable to attend. The PTA had purchased an orchid corsage for the congresswoman. The teachers present put their names in a hat and a name was chosen. The winner was Mrs. Swaim, my secondgrade teacher. I remember her proudly wearing the orchid to school the next day.

> Oh, by the way, after two years at the helm, Dad was followed by another father, Roland Roehl.



This article about Bay's PTA appeared in the Cleveland News in 1945.

Fundraiser helps addiction recovery foundation

ince its inception the HUGS Foundation has served over 200 families, helping offset the costs of recovery from chemical dependence. On Feb. 20, supporters of the organization joined for a benefit at BAYarts, raising more than \$10,000 – ensuring that more families in Northeast Ohio will be able to receive the help that they need.

"What a perfect evening!" said Dianne Vogt, executive director of the HUGS Foundation. "We couldn't have asked for more. Surrounded by friends who came out to support Peter Winzig.

our great cause, delicious food by Sweet Melissa's, a great venue at BAYarts, and great weather! It is also our pleasure to honor Monica Robins for her efforts in bringing awareness to our communities about the heroin epidemic."

The HUGS Foundation would like to thank the dozens of people who rallied to make this event a great success including Matt and Melissa Ullom, Nancy Heaton, Diana Brewer, Robin Lucak, Barb Berardinis, Susan Gerlach, and Kathy, Scott and

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Bay citizen, project of the year honored

by TARA WENDELL

The Bay Village Community Council held a reception Feb. 28 at BAYarts to recognize this year's Citizen of the Year, Lt. Jeff Hartz of the Bay Village

Auxiliary Police Department, and Project of the Year, the new BAYarts ceramics studio. Mayor Debbie Sutherland presented proclamations to Hartz and Nancy Heaton, BAYarts' executive director.

Hartz humbly accepted

the honor on behalf of the entire auxiliary crew. "This award is not about me. This award is about all of the members of the Bay Village auxiliary police, who all give freely of their time when the police need it most." BVPD Chief Mark Spaetzel seconded Hartz's comments, but added a personal commendation: "If I need something done, I can always go to Jeff.

He makes it happen. ... Jeff has earned this award many times over."

The honor is the "latest jewel in the crown" for BAYarts, Mayor Sutherland said, praising the organization as "a driver of both arts & culture and employment" in the city. "What we do - more than art, more than anything - we feel our job is community," Heaton said.



March Madness hits Westlake Rec

by JIM DISPIRITO

s March comes in like a lion, our thoughts turn to longer days, warmer temperatures and, of course, MARCH MADNESS! The Westlake Recreation Department once again will hold its annual March Madness 3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament. This year's event will take place on Tuesday, March 15, for the girls and Saturday, March 19, for the boys.

This tournament is open to any boys and girls in grades 3 through 8. The teams will compete in the following grade divisions: 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th. This is a double-elimination tournament and each team is guaranteed at least two games.

Each team may have up to and no more than 4 players on their roster. Obviously any 3 players may play at one given time. Each game consists of no more than 15 minutes or 15 points,

whichever comes first.

Registration packets are available at the Westlake Recreation Center or online at www.cityofwestlake.org/recreation/ index.aspx (click on March Madness Information). The cost per team is \$65 if at least 2 players are members of the Westlake Recreation Center; if not, the cost is \$75.

Deadline to register teams is Thursday, March 10. For more information please contact Jim Dispirito at 440-617-4420. Last year the tournament had well over 130 teams total for both boys and girls. Don't get left out in the cold, join the MADNESS!

West Side Writers welcome budding authors

by MALCOLM WOOD

The West Side Writers have been meeting once a month at Westlake Porter Public Library to share their stories and obtain valuable feedback in the polishing process called "critiquing." Using the internet, writers distribute their writing prior to meetings, and then come together to offer constructive comments, suggestions and ideas to improve their writing.

The novels that have come out of this supportive environment cover a wide range of genre, from supernatural to science fiction to thrillers and mysteries. At least seven novels have gone through the West Side Writers' critiquing process and been published.

The West Side Writers provide authors with feedback and helpful comments. Sure, sometimes there are comments about errors, but critiquing is a way to get a "fresh set of eyes" looking at the writing to catch those items that an acquiring editor might use as an excuse for rejecting a manuscript.

The group meets on the third Saturday of every month except December, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Porter Library. The next meeting is March 19. New members are welcome and there is a \$5 annual fee to cover the cost of provided refreshments. The age range of participants is from 16 through 80. Younger participants are cautioned about the difficulty of writing to professional standards, and if they accept and perform to that level, they are welcome.

Some of the West Side writers who are published: Stephen Haywood Brown ("Wrath of the Eagle," "Track of the Treasure"), George McNulty ("The Trieste Intrigue"), Ian Lewis ("The Camaro Murders"), Tim Uhr ("Touched"), M. B. Wood ("Superheat," "MTA & Rapid Transit," "Blowout," "Trash"). All of the novels are available on Amazon.

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WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

Bassett students plan spirit week fundraiser for cancer research

by KIM BONVISSUTO

assett Elementary School fourth-grade students Ireland Shea and Halle Stephens saw a need and decided to take action.

Saddened by news of victims of childhood cancers, Halle and Ireland decided to do something about it. They chose to plan a spirit week to raise money for cancer research and to plant a tree in honor of all sick children in conjunction with their International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) exhibition project. The project focused on self-expression and the national parks.

With the support and encouragement of their teacher Pam Hughes, IB coordinator Deb Wadden and their parents, the girls researched organizations and navigated the process of planning their event, including a presentation of their detailed plan to Principal Jim Sanfilippo for approval.

To make this special event a reality, these dedicated

young ladies created publicity posters, wrote and delivered morning announcements, and collected and counted donations. They enlisted the help of classroom teachers, building sectary Dana Hoffman and the entire Bassett student body.

During the first week of February, Bassett students could choose to participate in five different spirit days. Each day, interested students brought in a dollar donation for the

right to wear a hat, dress as a superhero, wear something wacky, wear team spiritwear, or wear pajamas. Their determination resulted in a week of spirit days that united the student body for a common goal and raised over \$800 for the ChadTough Foundation, a Michiganbased foundation that supports pediatric brain tumor research and studies, and to plant a tree in a national



Halle Stephens and Ireland Shea show off their publicity poster for their IB PYP Exhibition project, a ChadTough fundraiser.

forest in Michigan in honor of all sick children.

When asked what they learned from this experience, Ireland said, "I learned that many people are willing to help and you just need an idea to make a difference." Halle added, "The experience takes time. There are twists and turns along the way. We had to be flexible, but we were committed."

HEROIN from front page

"I've written 'heroin overdoses' on more death certificates than car crashes, homicides and suicides [this year]. We're not unique. We're just ahead of the curve with addressing it."

Bolan then explained the catalyst for heroin addictions. The majority of cases began with prescription pain pills that were prescribed to the patient by a doctor for legitimate reasons, such as surgery or teeth pullings, but 15 percent of people have the gene in the brain that causes addiction to this medication.

It starts with prescribed pain medications, then advances to prescription pills and, when cut off by the doctor, eventually heroin, due to its cheapness and ability to provide a greater high.

Marks could relate to this, as his addiction started after being prescribed Percocet after getting his teeth pulled.

"When you first start, it's a feeling you enjoy and you want to get back. But you never get back there. The [craving] goes up, but the ability to get back there decreases," Marks said. "You wake up with cold sweats in a panic, and all you can think about is getting more. When I was addicted, I didn't even think I had a problem; it was like sitting in the back and

Brandt's brother went through a similar experience, becoming addicted to pain medication given to him after oral surgery. He died from an overdose due to fentanyl being mixed into the heroin he received, something that occurs commonly and attributes to a large percentage of overdoses.

"Heroin is a roll of the dice," said Gilson. "You never know what's going to be in this bag compared to the last. A lot of overdoses this year have been fentanyl mixed with heroin."

Added Robins: "These drugs were originally meant to treat people with cancer and terminal illnesses. But doctors didn't want negative reviews, so they started prescribing them for other pains. Prescription use took off in the early

This pressure on doctors stemmed from pain being used as the fifth vital sign in the '90s. Patients' biggest concern was ridding themselves of this discomfort, and as a result doctors adopted this view in order to save their jobs.

This is when prescription drug use and commodity in the U.S. blew up. Currently 97 percent of prescription drugs worldwide are used by Americans. In more focused numbers, if the amount was placed in relations to Ohioans only, that would be 67 pills for each, infants

A large theme of the summit was the relation between drug abuse and mental

"People who are addicted to drugs aren't losers; they are psychologically inclined to addiction," said Gilson. "No one wakes up in the morning and says 'I'm going to be a heroin addict."

"Mental illness, including addiction, is a brain disease," said Bolan. "Drugs can cause your brain chemistry to change, resulting in addiction."

But recovery and addiction are a similar issue in our brains.

"What happens to your brain as you recover makes it so that taking the same dose as you used to kills you instantly," said Bolan. This a grim reality, as many have been found dead with the needle still in their arm.

But, a positive twist existed within the summit as well. Physicians have begun addressing pain management differently. They are more aware of a patient's doctor history and abuse. Refills on certain prescriptions need a justification from the doctor before it is filled.

The stigma of addiction is also in the process of being broken down.

"When do we start talking about the flu?" said Marks. "Why do we view this illness as so secretive and different?"

"It could be your sister or dad, or

"Everyone thinks 'not me'."

"Tell someone. You need to fight for them, because they can't fight for themselves," said Brandt, who never thought her brother or herself would experience such an issue in the small town of Olmsted Falls.

The focus for this generation needs to be to remove the stigma, talk about it, and bring it out of the shadows, according to all the speakers.

"Share it with your peers, because what people are trying to do is mop the floor while the shower is still on. We need to get ahead of the problem and prescription drug abuse," said Gilson.

The summit's goal did not fall short, as many students present found themselves informed and affected by it.

"I thought it was nice to know everything," said Ajah, a student from Laurel School. "It's not just a stigma. Knowing that there's a way out helps me to help

"I was shocked at the idea that addictions could start with injuries or prescriptions. I always thought they were regulated and could only help you," said Bella from Magnificat High School.

"I think we are going to take this to SADD meetings and incorporate it in the activities we already do," said Christine from Westlake High School.

Emily Simon is co-editor for Westlake yourself," said a student who was present. High School's Green & White newspaper.





Success for The Seven Doughnuts!



The Seven Doughnuts delivered care packages for children at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

by CAITLYN HARTZELL, fifth-grader at Bay Middle School

n Feb. 12 The Seven Doughnuts team delivered 112 cancer care packages for children at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital! The Seven Doughnuts is a fifth-grade Destination Imagination Team from Bay Middle School. We exceeded our goal of 50 packages with your help!

We collected 120 pairs of socks, 100 hats (50 from Bay Village alumni), 120 coloring books, 110 crayon boxes, 120 crafts, 75 lotions, 70 stuffed animals, 205 chapsticks, 190 tissue packs and 50 bags of hard candies. We also received a large donation of Bonne Bell Lip Smackers.

We had 56 girl packages and 56 boy packages. Each care package had 10 items. We even had some leftover donations that we donated to the cancer floor. The used items we received we donated to Providence House.

Our Destination Imagination team even got a tour of the new floor at the hospital. The people at the hospital are very grateful for all of your donations to the children and our DI team wanted you to know that you made many children smile. Thank you!

Big changes start with small differences

by ALEJANDRA TAVITAS

■hird-graders at Dover Elementary recently were assigned a project which asked them to find ways to be a good citizen. The students were asked to identify a problem in the community, develop a solution and work for a month to implement their plan.

The results were amazing. It was fascinating to see how they worked to find a solution to the problems they identified. They didn't point fingers or blame anyone for these problems but worked hard to implement a solution and make a change. They worked in so many ways: collecting food, clothes and blankets; a conscientization campaign about illness; recycling cans and glasses; helping people in the supermarket and a nursing home; selling things to raise money and donate for a good cause; and bringing cookies to the police station. Every single effort counted.

Once their project was complete, the students created a report with their reflections on what they did and learned. They reflected on their experience, how they felt about it and the best and worst parts.

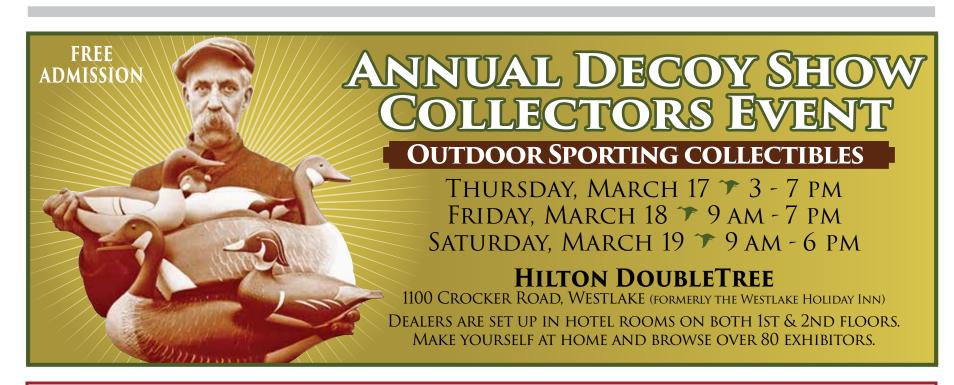
As a citizen, a human being, a mother, it was overwhelming to read each report and see how the kids think about their world and their community. My favorite

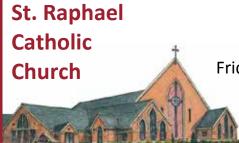


Dover Elementary third-grader Erick Tavitas and Elizabeth Anderson, the life enrichment team leader at the Lutheran Home in Westlake.

part was reading what each child learned during their project. They all felt the importance of making positive change and came to understand that even small and simple acts can lead to great changes. The children embraced the assignment and even though their homework is finished, many students continue the work they began with their projects.

As part of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, Westlake Schools have a compromise with the world; they develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who are motivated to succeed, they also encourage students to be active in their communities and to take their learning beyond academic study. The lessons learned through this project are invaluable. These third-graders are the good citizens we need in the world.





Lenten Fish Fry

Fridays from Feb 12th thru Mar 18th Parish Activity Center 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Entrée choices include fried Perch, baked Haddock, macaroni & cheese, or Pierogies. Sides: macaroni & cheese or Pierogies. All meals include French fries, coleslaw, roll w/butter

and dessert. Iced tea and lemonade served. Soda available for purchase.



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FAMILY OBSERVATIONS

We have a project

by RJ JOHNSON, pastor at Advent Episcopal Church

Thave a project for school." If you haven't had a child in school, these words do not mean what you think they mean.

When adults say, "I have a project," it means they have a project for which they are responsible. It is a project they will take responsibility to complete. When a student says, "I have a project for school," it means, "Get ready, Mom and Dad. The way you thought your evening or weekend was going to look has just been blown out of the water."

"Don't we have a serape somewhere?" asked the girl the other night.

"Why do you need a serape?" asked my wife. "You have any number of coats.'

"I have a project for Spanish," replied the girl. "I need a serape, and one of those crosses you wear around your neck. I think it's called a rosary or something."

"You don't wear a rosary," I replied, shocked that this bit of knowledge had escaped her religious education, even if most Episcopalians don't pray the rosary. "I do have more than a few pectoral crosses."

"Yeah, I guess that would work," she said. "But do we have a serape?"

"When do you need it?" asked my

"In the morning."

It does not matter when the teacher assigns the project. It could be two weeks in advance, or the day before, but you will not hear about it until the night before it's due. I have no idea where to find a serape at nine o'clock on a Tuesday evening in Westlake, Ohio. If we lived in Amarillo, Texas, I could probably find a serape a little easier.

The boy is a little bit easier at this point. I can go through his backpack from time to time and pull the relevant information from notes in his folders. The paper may instruct him to let his parents know immediately so they can help him with the project, but he does not seem to be able to read those words just yet.

He needs to make an edible model of a cell. "You can just take an egg," I said, "An egg is a single cell, and it's edible."

"Way to encourage him to work hard," said my wife.

"Work smarter not harder," I smiled, then turned to the boy and said, "You know you have to do a little more than that, right?"

What I really meant to say was, "We have to do a little more than that." At least it's easier to find cake mix and a variety of candies than it is to find a

"Yeah, I think we should hard boil it," he responded. "A raw egg will get me

"Nice try," I said, "but it's going to take a little more than that."

Next time your child says, "I have a project," you just might take a moment to correct their grammar and say, "You mean WE have a project." •

St. John Medical Center appoints new president

niversity Hospitals has appointed Robert G. David as president of University Hospitals St. John Medical Center in Westlake.

As president of UH St. John Medical Center, Mr. David will lead the Catholic hospital's growth and integration as a wholly owned UH community hospital. Under his leadership, UH will continue to invest resources and strengthen UH St. John Medical Center as a vital provider of comprehensive health care services to Cleveland's Westside communities as well as maintain the hospital's faithbased mission.

A highly experienced health care executive, Mr. David has been president of several UH community hospitals for the past eight years, including UH Bedford and Richmond medical centers and UH Conneaut and Geneva medical centers.

"Rob has demonstrated his leadership ability throughout his career and complemented University Hospitals' mission, vision and values with his unyielding dedication and service to

the growth of our community hospitals," said Richard Hanson, president, University Hospitals Community Hospitals. "Under his stewardship, UH St. John Medical Center will surely continue to grow and thrive.'

"I am honored to lead UH St. John Medical Center as we continue to expand and enhance services in Westlake and surrounding communities," said Mr. David. "I look forward to working with every employee, physician and board member as we remain committed to providing high-quality, patientcentered care and further strengthening UH St. John Medical Center's position on Cleveland's Westside."

As president of UH Bedford and Richmond medical centers, campuses of UH Regional Hospitals, Mr. David successfully restructured the organization's strategic plan and recruited new physicians while focusing on quality of care and patient experience. UH Bedford and Richmond were recognized as Top Performers in Key Quality Measures by the Joint Commission in 2014. UH Bedford



Robert David will take the helm as president of UH St. John Medical Center.

launched an internal medicine residency program in 2015. Mr. David also guided the start of a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency in 2014.

Mr. David served as president of UH Conneaut and Geneva medical centers from 2008 through 2013. During that time, the hospitals earned more than 15 national recognitions for care quality and patient satisfaction. Mr. David played a significant role in obtaining the Critical Access Hospital designation for both hospitals from the Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Mr. David joined UH in 1996 as a senior financial analyst and was promoted to director of finance at UH Geneva Medical Center in 1997. He assumed the same role at UH Conneaut in 1999.

Prior to joining University Hospitals, Mr. David worked at KPMG and Lakewood Hospital in audit and health care finance. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from West Virginia University and is a certified public accountant. He resides in Hudson.

Bay Village Kiwanis serve up spring pancake breakfast

by KAREN UTHE

ay Village Kiwanians and Bay High Key Clubbers will hold their annual spring pancake breakfast on Sunday, March 20, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bay Middle School Cafeteria, 27725 Wolf

Road. And due to popular demand, the Easter Bunny and the Nature & Science Center, Play in Bay and many other local Fairytale Foundation Princesses will again make appearances organizations and projects.

Advance tickets are available from your favorite Kiwanian, or the fall of 2016.

you can email baykiwanis@gmail. com or visit the organization's Facebook page (Bay Village Kiwanis) for more information.

The Easter Bunny will be hopping into town to appear at the pancake breakfast, and the Fairytale Foundation Princesses will be stopping by to take photos with diners. (Bring your camera for photos.) There will also be Easter crafts for the children.

The meal is a community tradition, popular with students and families. Proceeds from the event benefit projects such as the recently renovated Normandy School Playground (this included a \$10,000 donation from Bay Village Kiwanis and Bay Village Kiwanis Foundation), the Village Project, Bay Village Fire Department, BAYarts, Lake Erie



The Easter Bunny stops by this year's pancake breakfast sponsored by Bay Kiwanis and Bay High School Key Club.

Kiwanis volunteers have cooked and served pancakes for The all-you-can-eat breakfast includes pancakes, syrup, community causes in Bay Village for over half a century. The link sausages, milk, juice and coffee for \$6 per person presale, organization holds two pancake breakfasts a year to support and \$7 at the door. Children age six and under eat for free. community projects and scholarships. The next one will be in



Safe boating class for 6th-8th grade students

by GEORGE CHRIST

ay Village Schools and the Spirit of America Foundation will provide a hands-on boating safety education program this summer for sixth- through eighthgrade students. The nationally recognized program, known as Spirit of America (SOA), provides students both classroom and on-the-water sessions to teach safe boating skills.

Participants will take the Ohio Boating Education Course on two Saturdays in May. This meets the Ohio law that requires "any person born on or after Jan. 1, 1982, to show proof they have completed an approved boating course if they are operating a power boat over 10 horsepower." This OBEC class is mandatory and students must attend both days and pass an exam. Boy Scouts can earn their small boat sailing, canoeing, and motor boating merit badges by completing the course and some additional requirements.

The on-the-water sessions involve a pool session to help students understand the importance of wearing life jackets and to learn how to upright overturned sailboats, kayaks and canoes in a safe environment. The remainder of the on-the-water sessions will be held at Whiskey Island Marina where students will receive hands-on instruction in power boats, canoes, kayaks, sailboats, personal watercraft, paddleboards and a large

boat experience.

The Bay Village Schools have been associated with the program for 16 years and are the fiscal organization for the grant. The program is open to registered students who live in Cuyahoga County. Registration will be held in March and April and the classroom sessions are from 9 a.m.to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, May 7 and May 14. The on-the-water sessions at Whiskey Island Marina will be held from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on June 13, 20 and 27. There is a \$20 registration fee. Brochures are available at libraries, local schools and online at bayvillageschools.com. For additional information go to spiritofamerica95.org or email cuyahoga@ spiritofamerica95.org.



Spirit of America students learn to safely operate a personal watercraft as part of the safe boating class.



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6:30 p.m. Seder Meal

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HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday – March 24 at 7:30 pm Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – March 25 at 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday – March 27 at 8 am, 10 am and 5:30 pm

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THE GREEN REPORT

Spring cleaning the green way

by JENNIFER HARTZELL

weather warms, many people decide it's time to do a spring cleaning in their home. I have to tell you, home. Donations are also tax-deductible my husband laughed when I told him I was going to write about this – he says I don't know anything about it because I'm not very good at it! And, he's right!

While I may not be good at getting things cleaned out during a certain season, I think I am good at slowly clearing things out of our home over the course of the year – and when we do this, I like to make sure we are disposing of everything in the most environmentally friendly way possible. I'm going to suggest ways for you to get rid of those things

in your house you just don't know what to do with!

Donating used clothing, toys, furniture, housewares,

shoes, books, small appliances, etc. is always a great idea. There are many services that will come pick up your items from your home, such as AmVets, Easter Seals and Volunteers of s spring approaches and the America. It is easy to Google these organizations and check their websites for how to schedule up a pick-up at your so keep track of how many bags you are donating and their estimated value.

> Another great way to get rid of items you have but do not want is to check out the Bay Village Freecycle Facebook page. This is a great way to give away or sell items that you do not want anymore and to keep things from the landfill. It is a private group, so you have to request to join, but it currently has over 1,600 members and items listed range from T-shirts to baby strollers to furniture to appliances. Some of it is free, and some of it is for sale.

Different from the Bay Village Freecycle Facebook

page is The $N\;e\;t\;w\;o\;r\;k$ (freecycle.org). The Freecycle Network is a world-wide nonprofit

organization dedicated to keeping stuff out of landfills by offering an outlet for people to give (and get) things for free. You can go on the website and register, and then you are able to see what's available in your area and post items you no longer want.

A few years ago we had some work done on our home and I had some doors and windows that we did not have use for anymore. I posted them on freecycle.org and everything was picked up. I just left the stuff on my front porch for pick-up. If you have something that you are not able to get rid of using the Bay Village Freecycle Facebook page, I guarantee you can find a place for it using Freecycle.org.

Do you have things that you think are not worthy of donating or selling? Such as socks with holes or very worn

clothing? Broken toys? Worn backpacks or a broken coffeemaker? Shoes that are falling apart? There is a place for these and it's not the trash! Residents of Bay Village are able to place all of these unwanted items in their Simple Recycling bags that are provided to every household free of charge.

It is estimated that 85 percent of clothing does not get donated or recycled, it gets trashed. Simple Recycling helps us keep these items out of landfills. If you need more bags or would like a full listing of what Simple Recycling will take, visit simplerecycling.com. Personally, I keep a Simple Recycling bag in my hall closet at all times, so when I find items in my house that are no longer wanted (such as the socks with holes, etc.) I place them in the bag. When the bag is full, I put it out on the tree lawn on trash pick-up days.

Lastly, there are many other ways to keeps things out of the trash, such as selling them on Craigslist, having a yard/garage sale, and dropping off at Goodwill or Salvation Army. Anything you do that keeps stuff out of the garbage makes a big difference in keeping our world beautiful!

Far West Center offers mental health services for HIV/AIDS

by ALICIA GOODELLE

ar West Center has received a Ryan White grant from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to provide outpatient mental health services for eligible persons with HIV/AIDS living in Cuyahoga or Lorain counties. The psychological and emotional impact of HIV/ AIDS can be overwhelming. Often, the

diagnosis itself triggers a host of mental health problems that worsen symptoms of the illness itself.

Far West Center is an experienced provider of specialized mental health services, including the care of persons living with HIV/AIDS. Outpatient services include evaluation, counseling, psychiatric care, medication, case management, and recovery support sessions. Located on the St.

John Medical Center campus, as well as in Amherst, Far West Center is able to provide these services conveniently "under one roof."

Individuals with HIV/AIDS in need of the Center's services may self-refer, or be referred by health care providers from local hospitals, clinics or the community. For more information, call 440-835-6212, ext. 230, or email intake@ farwestcenter.com.



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SPORTING VIEWS

Musings of a fanatic

by JEFF BING

've always been very critical of the Dolan family and the manner in which they've succeeded in alienating what was once a sizable Indians fan base, due to their apparent complete lack of urgency in building a winner. I know some folks who have vowed not to follow the Indians until the Dolans sell the team, and while they are in – hopefully - the minority, it still aggravates me that the owners even let it reach this point.

That being said, the Indians have also quietly assembled perhaps the best starting pitching rotation in the American League, if not all of baseball. Assuming they all stay relatively healthy, the Indians boast at least seven starters who are on the upside of their careers, so they should be able to withstand a couple of injuries or bad years if anyone falters. Add to that a healthy Yan Gomes, who is a huge key to the success of the team, along with Francisco Lindor, who may be the best shortstop in the American League already. Add to that new acquisitions Mike Napoli and Rajai Davis, and the offense will be much better than last year.

What has plagued the Indians attendance-wise the last three years are poor starts. The Indians are currently a "show me first" town, and they will have to start the season strong if ownership wants to see a surge in ticket sales.

It's taken forever to get to this point it seems, but I am going to give the Dolans their due. The Tribe appears poised to make a serious run at a championship

over the next several years, as things stand now. This town could use some legitimate baseball excitement (or at least I could).

Changing sports, can someone explain the "air of forgiveness" that suddenly surrounds the anticipated return of Josh Gordon to the Browns? I mean, the Browns only recently made it clear they wanted nothing more to do with Johnny Manziel - which was long overdue, in my opinion – but now many fans are embracing the gifted receiver in exactly the same manner they did with Johnny Football.

Granted, there's a big difference between Manziel and Gordon in that Gordon established himself as an excellent talent in the NFL and Johnny, well, not so much. But off the field, Gordon has also established himself as every bit the idiot that Manziel was. People apparently forget the last time Gordon was reinstated, when it looked like the last thing Gordon wanted to do was play football for the Browns again. He ran wrong routes, didn't hustle, and made the team look foolish for supporting him. Yet, for some inexplicable reason, Cleveland views this guy as Alexander the Great.

Many think that if Gordon gets popped again for anything drug-related, he could be done for good in the NFL. Maybe that's why everyone assumes Gordon will be on the straight and narrow this time around.

Funny, but I recall that same logic being applied to Johnny Manziel, too. Remind me how that worked out...

THE DIGITAL WORLD

'Going paperless' becoming the new norm

by TAK SATO

ne recent February night, the unusually strong winds kept me hopelessly awake. Perhaps I was thinking too much about my next column, or I was just envious of my wife snoring loudly only inches away from me, as I had a flashback.

It was about a particularly memorable conversation I had in 2012 with a despondent senior who attended a presentation I was giving.

During the post-presentation Q&A, as I was enumerating the advantages of buying Google's Nexus tablet over Samsung's Galaxy tablet, my wife interrupted me and said "Honey, you have to talk to that lady NOW ... she is in tears!"

Seeing the urgency in my wife's face, I excused myself mid-answer and made a beeline to the senior in despair. When I asked the lady what was wrong, she said "I don't know what to do because my investment broker just told me that I have to get an email address if I wanted to get my monthly account statements. I don't have an email address, let alone a computer to use!"

I assured her that getting brokerage account statements electronically (aka "going paperless") should be an option and not a requirement. I even went as far as suggesting that if the option to receive paper statements is not given she should take her nest egg elsewhere! Upon hearing that, she finally looked up, smiled and thanked me for putting her dilemma into perspective. Remember, this took place in 2012.

During that sleepless night last month I wondered, would my answer still be the same today, four years later, if thrust into a similar situation? I didn't answer myself that night as my wife's snoring, the rattling windows, and the occasional car alarms going off in the neighbors' driveways was a near-perfect cacophony of suburban living that also became an unintended lullaby for yours truly.

Several nights later, though, I got another opportunity to think about this "paperless" dilemma that afflicts many and I finally had a chance to answer my own question. Yes, in 2016 I still believe that she should have the option of going or not going paperless. However, I would also recommend setting up an email account as this kind of dilemma will likely be posed more frequently. Organizations and businesses will continue to provide incentives to "go paperless" and also make it harder to opt out of going paperless by passing on the cost, should you elect to keep receiving paper statements, as savings to the bottom line from not having to print and mail statements can **BAY VILLAGE BRANCH LIBRARY**

Upcoming programs at the Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

artists at the Bay Village branch **■** library Show Your Colors Art Reception on Saturday, March 5. Come admire the art projects, enjoy refreshments and watch the prize announcements. The seventh- and eighth-grade reception will start at 2 p.m. The fifthand sixth-grade reception will start at 3 p.m. We hope you can join us in honoring young artists..

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

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

- Mondays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STO-**RYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- Tuesdays (10 a.m.) TODDLER STO-**RYTIME** – ages 19-35 months.
- Tuesdays (6:45 p.m.) FAMILY STO-**RYTIME** – 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)
- Thursdays (6:45 p.m.) SENSORY **STORYTIME -** Geared for children who are developmentally at the preschool level and specifically designed for children with special needs and their families. The program incorporates a scheduled board, double visuals and sensory opportunities for participants as well as socialization time following the program.
- Fridays (10 a.m.) FAMILY STORY-**TIME** - for all ages

Wednesday, March 2 (7 p.m.) HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS - It will be a Seussapalooza! We'll celebrate with stories, silly games and a craft.

Thursday, March 17 (3 p.m.) COOKIES **AND BOOKS -** Children in grades 3-4 are invited to join us to discuss a good book. Copies of this month's book, "Skellig" by David Almond, will be available one month before the discussion.

Saturday, March 19 (10:30 a.m.) SENSORY SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM -Geared for children who are developmentally at the kindergarten to fifth-grade

age level, this program is designed specifically for children with special needs Telp us celebrate local student and their families. First we will build with Lego building blocks. Then we will have the option to use our creations to make a stop-motion animation movie. Registration required.

TEEN DEPARTMENT

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (3 p.m.) TEEN ZONE - Students in grades 5 and up can stop in to enjoy fun apps, book discussions, video games, community service, challenges and more!

Thursday, March 10 (3 p.m.) TEEN **CODING CLUB -** Grades 5-8: Want to crack into computer programming? Each session we'll explore different tools to create web pages, make video games, program robots and more. Bring an email account (for which you know the password), and make sure to bring a flash drive to save your work.

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Monday, March 7 (7 p.m.) CLEVELAND POLICE MUSEUM: THE ELIOT NESS YEARS - Rebecca McFarland, internationally recognized expert on the life and times of Eliot Ness, will join us to present a comprehensive picture of Ness during his Cleveland years. He came to Cleveland in 1935 as safety director to clean

up rampant police corruption. He formed "The Untouchables" group and set about greatly reducing crime and corruption in the seven years he held the office.

Wednesday, March 9 (7 p.m.) CLEVE-LAND'S CIVIC MINDED INVENTOR -

Garrett Morgan, the son of former slaves, moved north from the segregated south and went on to become a self-made businessman in Cleveland. Hear the story of how his inventions, the first safety hood (a breathing apparatus like a gas mask) and the traffic signal revolutionized public safety in the automobile age.

Friday, March 18 (10 a.m.) BAYARTS **BOOK DISCUSSION -** Join us for this monthly book discussion on the BAYarts campus in the Sullivan Gallery. This month's title, "Station Eleven" by Emily St. John Mandel, is available at the library or BAYarts.

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

be substantial for some organizations.

Similar benefits can also be reaped by consumers who save on postage and other expenses by paying bills online.

Four years is like eternity in the digital world so by 2020, or even earlier, going paperless may be the new norm to embrace.

New & Big Kig Gently **Used Kid** Stuff

Elementary age through High School Saturday, March 12, 8 a.m. - noon Westlake High, 27830 Hilliard Blvd. \$1 admission, 9 a.m.-noon; \$5 early bird, 8-9 a.m.

SPRING VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR

Sat., March 28 • 12pm-4pm North Olmsted Community Cabin 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted Come Support Angels on the Avenue with raising money

for the residents of St. Augustine Health Campus. Over 25 vendors and crafters, chinese raffle, food and baked goods. Visit with the Easter Bunny & enjoy activities at the Kiddie Corner

BAYarts explores diversity this month

by JESSICA STOCKDALE

This March, BAYarts is hosting two gallery shows that put an emphasis on diversity.

In the Sullivan Family Gallery is the 2016 BAYarts Juried Exhibition, judged by Corrie Slawson and Susan Squires. Gallery Coordinator Eileen Stockdale says the juried show is exciting because it brings in a variety of local artists and displays media of all sorts, including combinations of mixed media they haven't seen much of before.

In the Diane Boldman Education Gallery is the spring exhibition "Pattern & Design," curated by Darrelle Centuori and Shari Wilkins. The work in

this show strives to demonstrate the way patterns connect threads in a purposeful way. Centuori has been passionate about exploring this topic. "Understanding patterns is a matter of perception, and perception is often interpreted as reality. Somewhere between perception and reality is where art lives, and where new patterns may begin to be discovered."



Diversity is the theme of two shows in March at the galleries on the BAYarts campus.

Participants for the "Pattern" exhibition include: Adolfo Bimer, Antonia Cruz, Lauren Davies, Steve Gillett, Halim Ina, Tim Lachina, Chris Mason, Nancy McEntee, Aimee McNamee, Raheleh Mohammad, Benjamin Montague, Emily Smith, John Tellisha, Eric Vaughn, Elisa Vietri and Sam Hubish.

An opening reception for both shows will be held Friday, March 4, 7-9 p.m.

Performer woos audience and grandma

by LOUISE SEEHOLZER

ising star Mike Cefalo displays an energy and talent that easily wins an audience. His musical program of jazz standards, classical and contemporary musical theater songs, as well as pop songs, was sponsored by the Westlake-Westshore Arts Council and presented at Porter Public Library on Feb. 16.

Cefalo's program took off with his rendition of the upbeat "Volare," followed by the smooth ballad "You'd Be So Easy to Love." His warm, rich voice, expressive delivery and easy communication with his audience reflected Baldwin Wallace Music Theater's excellent voice and theater training. But his genuinely friendly nature and ready smile enhance his ability to strike a chord with his audience.

Midway through his program, Cefalo shared that he is from Pittsburgh and some of his family, including his grandmother, surprised him by driving in for the program. His grandmother, Carmella Distazio, was enthusiastically welcomed with applause and Cefalo captured every heart in the room when he sang an Italian ballad for her.

Following his program, Cefalo took questions from the audience. In doing so, he described his parents as "amazing" and "supportive" even in the light of his switch of career goals from doctor to performer. Cefalo's summer 2015 performance in Albany, New York, as Cosmo Brown in "Singin' in the Rain," which earned him glowing reviews, prompted a request for him to sing the title song. After a successful search for the music for his accompa-



Mike Cefalo's grandmother, Carmella Distazio, made the trip from Pittsburgh to attend his performance.

nist, Cefalo obliged.

More than one audience member wished the facility could accommodate the showcasing of Cefalo's tap dancing skills. And many audience members shared the thought that this was definitely a "Rising Star" to watch.

Cefalo was accompanied by pianist Peter Van Reesema, a senior music theater major who entered BW as a classical piano major. Van Reesema and Cefalo have high praise for Baldwin Wallace. Cefalo said he found BW's theater program the "most relevant" to his needs and called it "the friendliest of all schools."

The "Catch a Rising Star" program, which provides an opportunity to enjoy a young, talented, trained performer, is offered free by the WWAC in keeping with its mission to provide the community with an enhanced and broadened cultural life that will promote awareness, education and involvement in the arts.

A study of Mexico comes to Westlake this spring

by JOAN GRACE

he Case Off-Campus Studies program is offering "Viva Mexico" with teacher Joseph Jacoby on Thursdays, March 24-May 12, 10-11:30 a.m., at Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Road.

With Mexico and immigration so much in the news, this topic couldn't be more current. As Latinos impact our economy, change our culture, and affect our political destiny, it is time for Americans to recognize the importance of Mexico to the United States. Mexican history is among the most colorful and dramatic of that of any world nation. We will read a clear, concise historical account of this fascinating country, and then examine "The Old Gringo," a subtle, moving novel by Carlos Fuentes, widely regarded as Mexico's greatest writer.

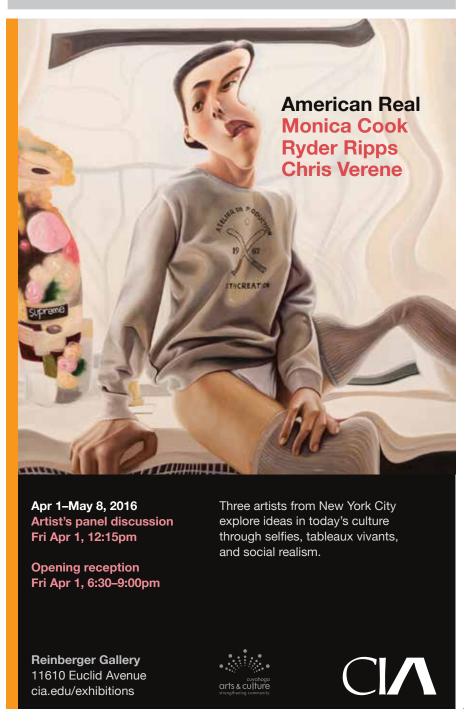
Books for this course are: "A Brief History of Mexico" by Lynn V. Foster, Fourth Edition, 2009; and "The Old Gringo" by Carlos Fuentes and translated by Margaret Sayers Peden.

Joseph Jacoby is a retired English teacher from Lakewood Schools. In addition to the CWRU program, Jacoby tutors Hispanic children at Joseph Gallagher Public School in Cleveland, and loves Hispanic culture, language and

The Case Off-Campus Studies program is offered in collaboration with the Association for Continuing Education (ACE). These book-discussion courses are eight weeks long and provide an open environment for lively discussion based on meaningful examination of shared texts. There are no written assignments or exams. Leader-Teachers facilitate discussion and provide academic background and context. The fee for each course is \$80.

For questions, feel free to call one of the Co-Coordinators, Sandra Berendt, 440-892-4931, or Joan Grace, 440-777-9381. Register online at lifelonglearningcleveland.com (click on Courses by Location, then Off-Campus Studies Westside), or call 216-368-2090.





WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Upcoming events at Westlake Porter Public Library

by ELAINE WILLIS

Wednesday, March 2 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) HORROR FILM CLUB – Join us as we explore some of the classic films from the genres of horror, science fiction and suspense. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult. Please register.

Wednesday, March 2 (7-7:45 p.m.) HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS! – You could not, would not, want to miss a party as much fun as this. Join us for an evening of stories, games and a craft to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. Ages 3-5. Please register.

Wednesday, March 2 (7-8:30 p.m.) THE LIFE, TIMES AND DEMISE OF THE PASSENGER PIGEON – 200 years ago, the passenger pigeon was thought to be the most numerous species of bird on Earth. And yet, by 1914, the species was extinct. Harvey Webster, Director of Wildlife Resources at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, looks at the history of this remarkable species and explores how the passenger pigeon's demise sparked the modern conservation movement. Please register.

Thursday, March 3 (7–8:30 p.m.) SHARING PHOTOS ON FLICKR – Learn how to upload, organize, share and discover digital photos on Flickr. Must have Yahoo account. Please register.

Friday, March 4 (11-11:45 a.m.) HOME-SCHOOL HUB – Developed for home-schoolers with special needs, each session includes literature, art and motor

READER'S OPINION

What is a saint?

by KATHLEEN MALONEY

saint is someone who led a holy and virtuous life on Earth and is now believed to be in Heaven. Christians pray to saints for help and guidance. A famous saint is St. Patrick, whose feast day is March 17. He brought Catholicism to the Irish in the 5th century. He is greatly revered and loved by both the Irish and Irish-Americans.

There are many saints and feast days for them. We honor these men and women for their holiness and good example. Some were very sinful and came to the faith later in life like St. Augustine and others led blameless lives and died young like St. Philomena and St. Therese of Lisieux.

Yet, there are many saints walking the Earth today. They come in the form of older brothers and sisters, cousins, teachers, priests and ministers, wise neighbors, and lifelong friends. They also offer good advice, give a good example, and provide companionship in this complex and perplexing world we live in.

So, during March when we celebrate St. Patrick's Day we should remember, too, the people in our lives that love and guide us every day, and we should thank them in a special way for their help and goodness to us!

skill development. Please register.

Saturday, March 5 (10–11 a.m.) DIGITAL BASICS – Hear tips on what to consider when purchasing your own computer or mobile device. Learn about library apps available for use.

Saturday, March 5 (4-5 p.m.) FULL STEAM AHEAD: MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE – Each session will explore a different aspect of STEAM learning. This month we'll perform experiments using measurements and probability. Grades 3 and 4. Please register.

Sunday, March 6 (2-3 p.m.) AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLUB: MARISOL – Marisol is a young Latina from Chicago who loves to dance in a traditional Mexican style. We will learn the Mexican Hat Dance and make a Mexican-themed craft. Ages 6-11. Please register.

Monday, March 7 (2-3:30 p.m.) START SKYPING – Skype is a way to keep in touch with far-away family and friends, through video, voice and message. Please join us to learn more about Skype and how to set up your own account. Must bring your own device (smartphone, tablet, laptop, etc.).

Tuesday, March 8 (10 a.m.-noon)CAREER TRANSITION CENTER: JOB
SEARCH PLANNING AND TIME MANAGEMENT - Most jobseekers do not
spend time efficiently to get the best outcome for their time invested. Learn how
to plan your work and work your plan,
including the ABC method for overcoming obstacles to success!

Tuesday, March 8 (7 p.m.) TUESDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION - In March we'll discuss "The Circle" by Dave Eggers.

Wednesday, March 9 (10 a.m.-noon) IPAD SKILLS LAB – If you need help with basic iPad skills, stop by the Computer Lab with your questions and your iPad.

Wednesday, March 9 (noon-1:30 p.m.) CAREER TRANSITION CENTER:

SPEAKER SERIES LUNCH & LEARN - Guest speakers join Career Transition Center to present informative and timely topics for job seekers. Bring your lunch; learn and grow. Coffee provided.

Thursday, March 10 (7-8 p.m.) HOW TO EDIT, ORGANIZE & STYLE YOUR CLOSET – Susan Luc from Shop Your Closet will present a program on how to edit, organize and style your closet for a stress-free wardrobe.

Thursday, March 10 (7 p.m.) NON-FICTION BOOK DISCUSSION – The March selection is "Getting Schooled: The Reeducation of an American Teacher" by Garret Keizer.

Thursday, March 10 (7-8:30 p.m.) SHARING PHOTOS ON INSTAGRAM – Learn how to share photos on Instagram, add cool filters and create #hashtags. Prerequisites: Instagram account and Instagram app installed on mobile device. Please register.

Saturday, March 12 (10 a.m.-noon) ROAD TO WEALTH: HOW TO MANAGE YOUR FINANCIAL LIFE, THE SAVINGS PLAN - Learn about setting goals, paying off debt, and funding emergency and "sinking funds." Get on the path to becoming a saver. Explore some of the "uncomfortable conversations" surrounding money. Please register.

Saturday, March 12 (2 p.m.) CONNECT-ING FOR KIDS PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP - This month's topic is "Ohio's New Assessments: What is Required and What Accommodations will be Available?" Lea Travis, MEd, of the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County, will familiarize families with Ohio's new assessments and the accommodations students can expect. She will also offer ideas on how to support students in acquiring test content and technology skills. Free child care is available. Registration is required.

Saturday, March 12 (3:30-4:15 p.m.) CHOCOLATE BINGO – Join us for chocolatey fun as we play chocolate bingo and a special edition of musical chairs! Ages 7-10. Registration begins March 5.

Sunday, March 13 (1:30-3 p.m.) FRIENDS' SUNDAY SOUNDS – Join the Friends of Porter Public Library for "Bootleggers, Gangsters and Babes." You will enjoy a musical fun look at the 1920s-1930s, including vintage clothing styles, trivia and historical facts, great songs to sing along to and a fantastic way to spend an afternoon! This will be a cabaret-style performance with lunch provided. Seating is limited, and registration is required.

Monday, March 14 (7-8:30 p.m.) MAKER MONDAY: MUSIC AS HEAL-ING - What does music do to "Heal the Savage Beast"? How do experiences in music – both listening and participating – make a difference in our physical, mental and emotional well-being? Research made fun, and experiences galore, give an overall picture of this most interactive of art forms. Please register.

Tuesday, March 15 (10 a.m.-noon)CAREER TRANSITION CENTER:
IMPROVING INTERVIEWING SKILLS –
Preparation is the essential ingredient for a successful job interview. Learn how to research potential employers so you are prepared to answer difficult questions and differentiate yourself from other candidates.

Tuesday, March 15 (7-8:30 p.m.) THE GRADALL: A STORY OF AMERICAN INGENUITY – James Grant, author of "The Gradall: A Story of American Ingenuity," will present the history of the Gradall while also touching on various aspects of local interest. Please register.

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

WestShore Lions Club seeks donations for school safety buckets

by DAVID SACCO

he WestShore Lions Club has been working since last fall to secure donations for its School Safety Buckets program. These five-gallon plastic buckets, filled with items to be used in an emergency, under the supervision of a teacher – will be distributed to every classroom in the cities of Westlake and North Olmsted.

Items are still needed to complete the 570 buckets:

- 16-ounce claw hammers need 570 hammers
- Toilet paper need 372 rolls
- Paper towels need 468 rolls
- Ace bandage wraps need 440 wraps
 Fleece blankets need 570 blankets
- 16-ounce bottles of drinking water need 402 bottles
- Large garbage bags need 570 bags

If you can donate, or know of any organization that might want to become a sponsor involved with this Safety School Bucket project, please contact the WestShore Lions Club at 440-250-5564, or email LionsofWestshore@gmail.com. The Club can make arrangements to pick up items at your convenience.

Note: A Major Sponsor is one that donates the needed number of items that would complete the donation category for a specific item of need, in the amount of 570. In appreciation for the major donation, the company's name and logo will be displayed on the canvas that will cover all the buckets.

The WestShore Lions Club is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, please consider donating. Co-chairs for the WestShore Lions Club Safety Bucket Campaign are Lions Nan Baker and Denise Ayers.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanking the first responders

Being a resident in Bay Village for years has been a wonderful experience! I love the beach, the people, the atmosphere, Lake Erie, its history. Life here is fun!

One day last month, I was driving south on Douglas and was involved in an accident. The police and firemen arrived quickly. The firemen so kindly checked me to see if I was injured. I want to give firemen Corey Gregg, Jason Goodwin, Dan Smith and Kevin Somerville so much credit for their gentleness. The police officers Pellagalli and Bronston certainly were compassionate and considerate. Kind words were spoken to me by Greg, who towed my car to Patton's 5 Star Towing.

I am so thankful for these men. They all showed me extreme professionalism. Their courtesy gave me courage!

– Dianne Blackburn, Bay Village

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

Garden Club artists display paintings

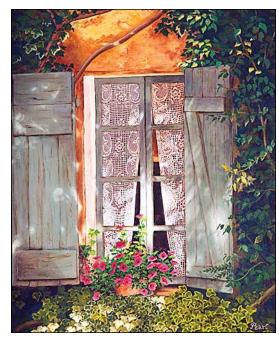
by JEAN SMITH

ome members of the Westlake Garden Club not only enjoy growing flowers in their gardens, they also paint them. If you visited the Cleveland Museum of Art's exhibit "Painting the Modern Garden: Monet to Matisse," you know that many of the impressionist painters were inspired by their own gardens.

Four artists of the Westlake Garden Club will exhibit their work in the lobby of Clague Playhouse for the duration of the show "Miracle on South Division Street." The play opens to the public on March 11 and closes on April 3. The four artists featured are Lillian Bialosky, Bill

Hock, Robert Pearl and Jean Smith. Each has their own unique style and works in watercolor, oil and acrylic.

If you have not been to Clague Playhouse, this is the perfect opportunity to visit a Westlake landmark, enjoy a play and peruse the artwork in the lobby during intermission. Clague Playhouse is located at 1371 Clague Road.



Paintings by members of the Westlake Garden Club, including "Lace Curtains" by Robert Pearl, above, will be displayed in the Clague Playhouse lobby this month.

If you cannot make the play, the box office is open Wednesday-Saturday, 1-6 p.m., and the art exhibit can be viewed during those times.

Artists interested in exhibiting their work should contact the box office. For more information or to order tickets for any play, call the box office at 440-331-0403.

READER'S OPINION

Change is a way of life

by PRAGYA JHA

ll know that change is a fact of life. With time, everything and everyone changes. Winter snow gives way to spring leaves then summer shine and then to fall. Similarly people also change in their lifetime. They grow from sweet, cooing babies to youngsters full of energy to middle-aged couples and then seniors.

I realized this amazing fact about humans the day I met an old friend of mine after 15 long years. We used to know each other as kids, from kindergarten to high school. We had big plans for changing the world. We used to believe we could move mountains and turn rivers. We were strong believers that good things happen to good people and bad always get punished. I used to fight big kids bullying little ones in school. I once saw someone beating a dog and I fought with him standing on the street. And I didn't even know them.

My friend and I went to different colleges and eventually lost contact. Last month I came across her on Facebook. We talked on phone and relived our childhood memories.

Suddenly she said that I had changed a lot. She said, "The fire in you has died." At that time I just laughed and brushed aside the subject but that comment got me thinking. Had I really changed that much?

After college I married my col-

league who was also my best friend. We have a sweet 11-year-old. A happy family, anyone could say. I asked my husband the same thing. The answer that came was equally astonishing. He said, "Honey, the fire in you has died." I was suddenly feeling very uncertain.

That night I could not sleep at all. If it was true, why was I not able to see that change? I pulled out all the old stuff, my college yearbooks, photos and articles I had written in college debates.

And then it struck me. I had become the same mundane housewife version of myself that I used to hate in other grownups when I was young.

Now I no longer worry about world peace or poor, unfortunate people. My world had become just my kid and my husband and daily household chores. I never have time to worry about a dog being beaten or a kid being bullied in school. I never pay attention to lazy snow falling or to beautiful leaves. I am busy buying groceries, making dinner and ironing clothes.

That made me realize, I had not only changed, I had become the total opposite of what I once was. I had stopped living my own life. I was only living the life of my husband and then that of my son. My ideas, my goals, my dreams had all become a thing of the past.

That day I made a pact with myself: I will not let myself change like this.

Life changes and roles change with it, but we should never let our inner fire die. Today as I am sitting beside my window and enjoying the beauty of slowly falling snow, I have started finding myself again little by little.

Although with age I will still change, that voice inside me never will. I will keep the fire alive.

WEST SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Bonefish Grill joins Crocker Park and the West Shore Chamber

by TAMMY BERTRAND

fast-growing Crocker Park. As the newest West Shore Chamber of Commerce member they took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony with Mayor Dennis Clough before opening to the and attentive service. Dressed in chef public on Feb. 22. The restaurant chain was founded in 2000 in St. Petersburg, Florida, and specializes in market-fresh fish from around the world and many wood-grilled specialties.

The 6,352-square-foot restaurant features a spacious dining room with a large bar area including three large community tables and an outdoor patio that seats approximately 50. Overall, the restaurant has a seating capacity for approximately

260 patrons. The main dining room showcases a bonefish sculpture made of onefish Grill is the latest new stainless steel and sequined scales while restaurant to open up at the the atmosphere features a contemporary blend of warm earthy tones, golden hardwood accents, natural materials and metallically embellished wood flooring.

Bonefish Grill prides itself on friendly whites, servers' attention to detail results from a customized training program focused on the guest experience.

The Crocker Park location will be open Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-11:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Reservations are recommended but not required. For menu details and more information, visit bonefishgrill.com/crockerpark or call the restaurant at 440-414-0657.



Westlake elected officials and West Shore Chamber leaders joined executives from Bonefish Grill and Crocker Park for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new restaurant.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

Wednesday, March 2, 1-2:30 p.m. Free Family History Research Help Session

Members of Cuyahoga West Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will offer free family history research assistance, to the public. If you have data recorded to pedigree and/or family group sheets, please bring these forms Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, March 2, 7 p.m. **Retracing Footsteps: A Glimpse of Lakeside Cemetery in Bay Village**

College Club West's general meeting will feature a program presented by Cathy Flament, author and president of Bay Village Historical Society. Membership in CCW is open to women who have a bachelor's degree from a degreegranting college. New members are welcome. Visit our website, collegeclubwest.org. 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

Thursday, March 3, 7 p.m. **Candidates Night**

Take this opportunity to meet the candidates, learn more about their platforms and ask questions. Senate, House, judges and local candidates have been invited. Open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village, 605 Bradley Rd.

Thursday, March 3, 7-8 p.m. **Toastmasters Meeting**

Overcome your fears of speaking, develop better speaking and presentation skills, learn to think quickly and clearly on your feet, and build strong leadership and mentoring skills. Meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday. Unity Spiritual Center, 23855 Detroit Rd., Westlake

Fridays, March 4 and 11, 5-7:30 p.m. St. Raphael Lenten Fish Fry

Join us every Friday in Lent for for your choice of baked or fried fish, mac & cheese, or pierogies. All meals include fries, cole slaw, rolls, beverages and dessert. Adults \$13, seniors and children \$8. Carryout available. St. Raphael, 525 Dover Center Rd., Bay Village

Sunday, March 6, 3-4 p.m. **Meet an Animal: Turkey Vulture**

Join us for a fun program and learn about the birds' unique features, diet, habitat, survival tactics and more as you get to see one up close. For all ages. \$5/person.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd., Bay Village

Wednesday, March 9, 10 a.m. **Herb Guild Garden Club Meeting**

The guest speaker will be Mark La Rosa, horticulturalist for the Gardenview Horticultural Park in Strongsville. The park started out as 16 acres of wasteland overgrown with weeds. It has slowly been transformed into a beautiful greenspace with English Cottage Gardens and a 10-acre arboretum. For more information on the upcoming meeting, call 440-582-0191 or visit theherbguild.org. New members and

guests are always welcome. Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center

Wednesdays and Fridays, March 9, 11, 16 and 18, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. **Hospice of the Western Reserve Volunteer Education Series**

Volunteers are needed to assist in private residences, nursing homes, assisted living communities, Hospice House locations, and hospital settings. Opportunities to serve are diverse: visit patients and families; help with legacy work, transportation, light housework and meal preparation; run errands; make phone calls; help with clerical work; attend health fairs; make presentations. Pre-registration is required, call 216-255-9090.

Hospice of the Western Reserve at St. John Medical Center, Building 2, Suite 400, 29101 Health Campus Dr., Westlake

Wednesday, March 9, noon-1:30 p.m. Lunch 'n' Learn Speaker Series

Career Transition Center's speaker series where you can hear from a member of the business community about topics of interest to job seekers. Bring a lunch. Coffee and cookies will be provided. This month Sandra Heath will present "Working with Recruiters." Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Wednesday, March 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Linux: A Closer Look**

Northeast Ohio PC group's March meeting will take a closer look at two of the many Linux operating systems (distributions) that you may want to use to replace Windows: Ubuntu 14.03.4 and Mint 17.3. The presentation will revolve around the issues that you might face if you choose to go to Linux. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:00. Free and open to all. For more info, go to neopc.org. Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center

Wednesday, March 9, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monthly meeting of Chapter 91 of Public **Employee Retirees Inc. (PERI)**

Guest speaker will be State Rep. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood). She is currently the Ranking Member of the Health and Aging Committee and also serves on the Finance and Appropriations Committee, Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee. She will provide insight into current and upcoming state legislation. Public sector retirees are welcome to attend. Light refreshments are served. Fairview Park Branch Library, 21255 Lorain Rd.

Thursday, March 10, 6-8 p.m. Cooperative Preschool of Bay Village Carnival

Bring the whole family for carnival games and prizes, face painting, a balloon artist, a bake sale with popcorn and other goodies, and a special appearance from the Fairytale Foundation princesses and pirates. Tickets for carnival activities can be purchased at the door (cash only): 2 for \$1, 5 for \$2, 25 for \$10. Bay Middle School, 27725 Wolf Rd.

Thursday, March 10, 7:30-8:30 p.m. **SkyQuest: Year in Space Update**

Astronaut Scott Kelly has spent the last year aboard the International Space Station and is due to return March 2. Learn about the incredible experience of spending over 365 days in space and the accomplishments of Kelly and the ISS team. For pre-teens through adults. \$5/person. Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Rd.,

Saturday, March 12, 8 a.m.-noon Westlake Big Kid ReSale

Kids resale event where vendors sell gently used and new children's items geared for elementary age through high school. Clothing size 5T and up, shoes, toys, games, books, music and computer items, and furniture. \$1 admission, 9 a.m-noon; \$5 early bird admission, 8-9 a.m. Westlake High School, 27830 Hilliard Blvd.

Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Westlake Job Fair

Spring into a new summer job! Positions include: Recreation Dept. - lifeguards, concessions, field/ golf course maintenance, day camps; Service Dept. - parks, forestry, roads, sewers, cemetery; Engineering Dept. - civil/mechanical. Westlake Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.

Saturday, March 12, 10-11 a.m. **Qigong for Those Touched by Cancer**

Chinese healing art involving meditation, breathing, and movement. Advance registration required; 216-595-9546. Free. The Gathering Place, 800 Sharon Dr., Westlake

Sunday, March 13, 5-8 p.m. Young Life Fundraising Gala

The gala includes a silent auction, dinner and a celebration. There is no cost to attend; register online at clevelandwestshore.younglife.org or call the Young Life office at 440-808-9888. Emerald Event Center, 33040 Just Imagine Dr., Avon

Monday, March 14, 7:30-9:30 p.m. **Rocky River Chamber Music Society** Concert

Eminent cellist Christopher Costanza will perform works by Johann Sebastian Bach and Maurice Ravel. Christopher is a member of the St. Lawrence String Quartet, one of Canada's premiere chamber quartets. He will perform Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Cello with special guest, Cleveland Orchestra violinist Peter Otto. Free admission. For information, call 440-333-4296 or visit rrcms.org.

West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River



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