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# WESTLAKE BAY VILLAGE Observer



VOLUME 14 • ISSUE 16 | Community News Powered by the Citizens of Westlake and Bay Village | 16 AUGUST 2022

## Bay school board announces levy

The Bay Village Board of Education has proposed a 7.2 mill levy for the public's consideration on the Nov. 8 general election ballot that would generate \$5,342,330 annually during the life of the levy.

Funds from the operating levy would be used to support programs to maintain the high level of programming Bay Village Schools offers its students. The district's expenses have been higher than revenues for the past three years. Revenue shortfalls can be an indication of the need for additional revenue or budget cuts in order to balance the district's budget. The last year the district had a levy on the ballot was in 2016.

The district spends nearly 74% of its funds directly on classroom instruction, placing it third (ahead of Orange, Chagrin Falls, Rocky

River, Solon, Westlake and Beachwood) out of 22 Northeast Ohio area school districts. With a 97% graduation rate and more than 80% of students participating in athletics, activities and arts, the district is consistently among the top 1% of Ohio's 924 public school districts, according to Public School Review. Funds from the operating levy would be used to support continuation of district programs and to continue to support classroom instruction.

In April, Bay Village Schools received the Auditor of the State Award for its clean audit reports for fiscal year 2021. The district was one of 104 districts in Ohio to receive this distinction.

The cost to homeowners would be \$21 per month, or \$252 annually, for each \$100,000 of home valuation. ♦

## CrossPointe invites community to Latino Festival

by NELSON BLOUNT

Pastors Josue' and Iris Rodriguez and Pastores Ramona invite residents of the cities of Westlake and Bay Village to our Latino Festival. Our CrossPointe Community Hispana is excited to offer a Saturday event especially for our Latino friends but everyone is more than welcome.

There will be free food, music, games with a focus on children, entertainment and more! We hope we will see you Saturday, Aug. 20, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at CrossPointe Community, 1800 Columbia Road, Westlake.

Pastor Josue' and Iris and Pastores Ramona are amazing genuine people. You will be glad to greet them and you would be blessed to connect with them each Sunday at 1 p.m. (Latino time!) for worship (in Spanish). ♦



Pastors Josue' and Iris Rodriguez

## Westlake's 'Music Man' to be honored with musical tribute

by MARY BETH PRICE SCHNEIDLER

I have had the pleasure to write about many of the early Dover/Westlake families and individuals that helped to make our town the wonderful city it is today. The early settlers paved the way for this to happen but there have been many others in more recent years that have done so much for our city and its residents.

One of those individuals that touched the lives of many families and especially the students of Westlake was Thomas F. Hill, Westlake's school music director from 1954 through 1987. He touched the lives of thousands of students during his 33 year career ... not only by teaching them music but by teaching them about life.

Tom and his family lived in Bay Village where he attended the



Mr. Tom Hill was Westlake's school music director from 1954 through 1987.

Bay schools and graduated from Bay High School in 1946. Tom was an outstanding trumpet player and was the 1st chair trumpet player while in high school. He grew up in a home surrounded by music. His mother played piano and violin and his father had studied piano.

► See MUSIC MAN page 4



A photo by Alfred Stieglitz.

## BAYarts to host Cleveland Photo Fest

by KAREN PETKOVIC

Founded in 1978, the Cleveland Photo Fest seeks to promote worldwide Unity Through Photography, with the intent of involving and exhibiting pho-

tographers worldwide. The last time BAYarts hosted Cleveland Photo Fest, the international photo exchange featured artists from India.

This year, the juried exchange is with Australia. Centering on the classic theme of Mirrors and Windows, each photograph is either a window through which you see the world, or a reflection of yourself and your own perspective of the world.

Photographer Minor White championed and taught this theory in the 1950s and '60s and the phrase was made popular by John Szarkowski

of the Museum of Modern Art NYC who, in 1978, displayed a seminal (and one of the earliest major) photography exhibition of the same name. White was a friend and advocate of famous photographer Alfred Stieglitz and adopted much of Stieglitz's theory of "equivalence," where the image stands for something other than the subject matter.

The exhibition will open in the Playhouse Project Gallery at BAYarts - named for its experimental and DIY exhibitions - beginning Aug. 17 with a closing reception on Sept. 16. ♦



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

# Introducing the winners of the 2022 Westlake in Bloom competition



Mayuresh Dhond accepts the 2022 Lu Walter Award presented by Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough.

by ROBERT ROZBORIL

For the second time in as many years, the Westlake in Bloom Appreciation/Awards Ceremony was held at the Westlake Community Services Center on Aug. 9.

The award-winners from each category were invited to attend the cherished annual event celebrating the extraordinary efforts of Westlake's gardening community.

Mayor Dennis Clough commended their efforts, noting that they serve to enhance the city's beauty year after year and set it apart from other communities in Northeast Ohio.

The winner of the coveted Lu Walter "Best in Bloom" for 2022 is Mayuresh



Mayuresh Dhond's "Best in Bloom" award-winning yard.

Dhond who took first place in the "Residential Landscaping – Rear Yard, Small" category. His award-winning yard features numerous sculptures and other unique decorative features among the colorful plant-life.

In his 10th year as the event's chief organizer, Planning and Economic Development Director James Bedell proudly called upon each of the winners by name to receive their custom awards for first, second and third place. For the first time in the competition's history, the winners received gift cards in addition to their certificates – \$50 for first place and \$25 for second and third place.

Access this story at [wbvobserver.com](http://wbvobserver.com) for to see more photos. A video of the award ceremony will be available at [www.cityofwestlake.org/Westlake-In-Bloom](http://www.cityofwestlake.org/Westlake-In-Bloom).

## 2022 WESTLAKE IN BLOOM WINNERS

### Evergreen Cemetery Fence Gardens

First Place: In Memory of Leverett & Abigail Johnson  
Second Place: In Loving Memory of Brett P. Luengo  
Third Place: The Eberling Family

### Hilliard Boulevard Flower Box

First: In Memory of Antonio C. Romanello #206  
Second: King James Homeowners Association #137-140  
Third: In Memory of Thomas James Locker #3

### Community Garden

First: Lindsay Johnson #24  
Second: Lee Ding #1 and #2  
Third: Tiberiu Fulop #32

### Multi-Family or Subdivision Entrance

First: Westown Garden Apartments  
Second: Bay Landing Condominiums  
Third: Wyndgate Club

### Business

First: OxyGo  
Second: The SpyGlass Group  
Third: Kleinhenz Jewelers

### Place of Worship/Institutional

First: Westlake United Methodist Church  
Second: Westlake Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
Third: St. Ladislav Catholic Church

### Pollinator Garden

First: Terri J. Mosham  
Second: Linda Tomkalski  
Third: J. Kevin Meivogel

### Patio and Abutting Garden

First: Pat Galinet and Marvin Schaust  
Second: Sharon L. Huelsman  
Third: Alona Wingfield

### Vegetable Garden

First: Jim and Judy Beveridge  
Second: Don Falasca  
Third: Robert Pietrarroia

### Window/Flower Boxes

First: Beverly Wilkinson  
Second: Michelle Walsh  
Third: Karen Ludwig-Wong

### Residential Landscaping – Front Yard

First: Elisa Amigo-Slyman  
Second: Dr. William & Anne Marie Farr  
Third: Mary Beth and Jack Bedell

### Residential Landscaping – Rear Yard, Small

First: Mayuresh Dhond  
Second: Amy Shiever  
Third: Marilyn Ann Lester

### Residential Landscaping – Rear Yard, Large

First: Phyllis Kairis  
Second: Greg Shimko  
Third: Al and Janice Pescatrice

### Residential Landscaping – Entire Yard, Small

First: Vicki and Dennis Wert  
Second: Dannielle Cavallaro  
Third: Ken & Sharon Didion

### Residential Landscaping – Entire Yard, Large

First: Karen Pintenich  
Second: Steve and Mari-beth Famiano  
Third: Cara Lee Pallas

### Lu Walter "Best in Bloom" Award:

Mayuresh Dhond ●

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Community Powered News

# 1,377

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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 1,300+ 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](http://wbvobserver.com/members) to submit your stories, photos and events. (We don't share information)

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**BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

# Bay youth brought the community together: The early history of the Bayway Cabin

by MICHELE YAMAMOTO

This April was bittersweet with the grand opening of the new Bay Village Library. Although there was great anticipation and excitement

for the beautiful new library, there was also some sadness because in order to build it, an old building, beloved by many for decades, had to be removed. That building was the Bayway Cabin.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking with Mr. Bob Reid and his wife, Gail, members of the Bay Village Historical Society, just as he

and his old classmates were preparing for their belated Bay High School class of 1956 reunion celebration. I had called him to get more information on the old Bayway Cabin when he informed me that actually his family and classmates played a big part in the making of the youth center in Bay.

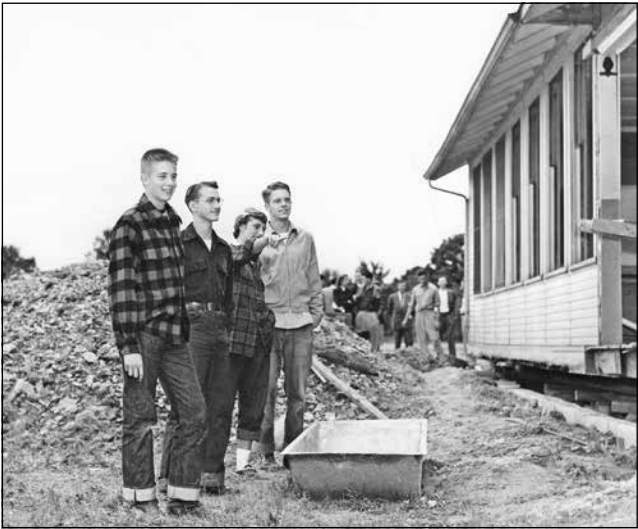
Thanks to Bob's recollections and papers and photographs in the Bay Village Historical Society archives, we were

able to put together the early history of this community center that served the Bay community for almost 60 years.

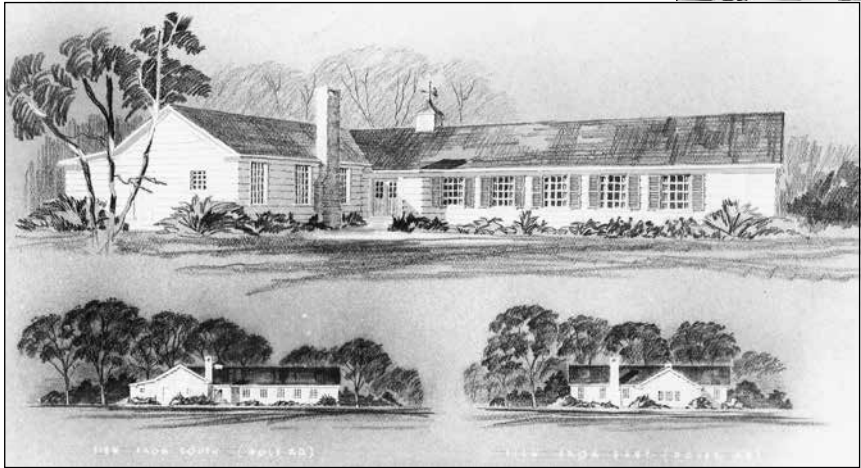
To read the entire article about the early history of the Bayway Cabin and view more photographs with information, visit our website collections blog, "Glimpse of the Past" at: [www.bayhistorical.com](http://www.bayhistorical.com).

Donations and memberships help keep these archives of memories preserved and accessible to all and can be made by visiting our website.

If you have any Bayway memories or photos to share with us or can identify people in the pictures, please contact us at 440-871-7338 or email us: [info@bayhistorical.com](mailto:info@bayhistorical.com). ●



Teens at the Bayway construction in 1950.



1958 Bayway Cabin concept drawing.



Teenagers operate heavy machinery!



The young builders take a break.



Bay Village students in 1950 pose by the permit sign.

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY


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# Clague Playhouse's 95th season begins Sept. 16

by KIMBERLY MITSCHKE

Clague Playhouse is excited to announce the following plays for the 95th season: the musical suspense thriller "Flames" by Stephen Dolginoff that runs Sept. 16-Oct. 9; the holiday comedy "One Christmas Eve at Evergreen Mall" by Lynne Halliday, James Hindman, Arlene Hutton and Craig Pospisil that runs Nov. 11-Dec. 11; the romantic comedy "Fireflies" by Matthew Barber, from the novel "Eleanor and Abel" by Annette Sanford, that runs Jan. 20-Feb. 12; the historical dramedy "Ada & the Engine" by Lauren Gunderson that runs March 17-April 8; and the musical comedy "Failure: A Love Story" by Philip Dawkins that runs May 12-June 4.

Seating capacity will be based on current State of Ohio guidelines. Face masks and/or coverings are recommended but not required for those who are fully vaccinated.

Tickets for all shows in the season are on sale at the Clague Playhouse Box Office or online at [www.clagueplayhouse.org](http://www.clagueplayhouse.org). Admission is \$21 for adults, \$20 for seniors (60+), and \$13 for students.

Clague Playhouse is also pleased to continue Free Student Ticket Thursdays. Limited free student tickets (high school and college) are available by calling the Box Office to reserve seats for any Thursday performance, and showing a Student ID at the time of ticket pickup. No online reservations can be taken for these free tickets. Free Student Ticket Thursdays are subject to availability and must be picked up by 7:30 p.m. the night of the performance or the tickets will be released.

The Box Office is open Wednesday through Saturday from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at 440-331-0403. Clague Playhouse is located at 1371 Clague Road in Westlake. ●

## Friends of Bay Village Library to hold book sale

by LINDA LAMB

The friends of Bay Village Library will be holding our first book sale in the new library. It's a one-day-only event on Saturday, Aug. 27, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the meeting room. There will be both fiction and non-fiction books for adults, as well as books for kids and teens.

Come check out the sale and see our beautiful new library. The address of the library is 27400 Wolf Rd. but there is no access from Wolf Road. You will need to enter off of Dover Center by the Play in Bay Park or off of Lake Road onto Bryson Lane. Contact the library at 440-871-6392 with any questions. ●

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## MUSIC MAN

from front page

Tom's three brothers and a sister all developed a love for music but Tom was intrigued by all aspects of music.

Tom started his music career at the age of 8 when he began playing the bugle in a junior drum and bugle corps. Tom also served in the U.S. Army following graduation and was a member of the infantry in Italy and then auditioned for a position as a trumpeter in the 98th Army Band. For the last 8 months of his service he was stationed in several cities during the occupation forces in Italy after the end of WWII.

Tom graduated from Ohio University in 1952 with a major in trumpet and a Music Education degree. He continued his studies at OU and earned his Master's Degree in Music Education in 1953. Tom was an accomplished trumpet and French horn player with an outstanding tenor voice. Before being hired in Westlake in 1954 Tom taught one year in Mansfield.

When Mr. Hill arrived in Westlake he took over the entire band program. At that time Westlake only had music classes in two buildings. By 1966, a new high school had been constructed and Tom was in charge of all the bands from 1966 until 1973 and all the choirs at the high school from 1968 until 1987. He was also coordinator of the entire music department and at the high school he was conducting two bands, 3 choirs, and teaching music theory, conducting and humanities!

In 1955, Tom was instrumental in organizing the "Westlake Band Boosters." In 1962 the name was changed to "Westlake Schools' Music Boosters" to incorporate all the music groups - bands, orchestras and choral groups.

In 1955, a parent, Andy Dorko, worked diligently with Mr. Hill to launch the group and the promotion of music throughout the community began! Their first big program began in 1956 with an outdoor festival of music. This event was to be held at Reed Field (currently behind DIS) on the third Saturday in May. It was called an "Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social!"

The Boosters built a bandstand decorated in red, white and blue and the audience sat in the bleachers. The Boosters, along with Mr. Hill, all dressed up in clothes worn in the 1890s. Unfortunately, this day, as would many in the years to come, began with temperatures in the 40s and ice cream was not in

demand. The next year the day was scheduled again and it was raining. It happened again in the third year and the program was moved inside.

At this point Westlake only had two elementary schools and a combined junior and senior high so moving indoors was not a huge issue. Only the bands were part of these early days. In 1959 a carnival type atmosphere was added to the festival with booths and games ... and the weather was beautiful! Choirs were also featured this year. But upon evaluating the event it was felt the carnival atmosphere took away from the band performances so the carnival format was eliminated.

The event had moved between Hilliard School and Dover School for the first several years. By 1962, the "Music a la Mode," so named by Mr. Hill, was moved to the new high school. But the unlucky rain on the day foiled the outdoor lawn chair concert. From 1963 on, the program moved inside and was held in the gymnasium.

The program continued to grow: good music, large audiences, ice cream and delicious cakes donated by the parents. The program concluded with a grand finale combining the high school band and choirs performing the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and a special performance of the 1812 Overture with simulated cannons and bells. Quite the finale! In the 1980s, jazz bands and a show choir named Company D was added. His programs always concluded with his wonderful choirs singing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

In 1987, the year Mr. Hill retired, he was honored by his former students at the 32nd Music a la Mode. Alumni from both the bands and the choirs from the classes of 1957 through 1986 attended, coming from as far away as California and Florida. Mr. Hill received many awards that night. He was presented with the "outstanding band member award" which was named in his honor, a \$1,000 Bach trumpet was presented to the high school to be used by the 1st chair high school trumpet player and a scholarship was awarded in his name.

Tom also wrote the band arrangement for the Fight Song and Alma Mater that Westlake performs today!

Retirement did not slow Tom down. He continued to share his love of music and teaching. He was the conductor of the Bay Village Community Band and he personally invited many of his former students to join the band. He was also a member of the Elyria Symphony

Orchestra, the Westshore Chorus, the Fairview Civic Chorus, the Lakewood Symphonic Band and the Westlake Christian Church Choir. Following his retirement from the Westlake schools he also taught at St Mary School in Avon and Messiah Lutheran School in Fairview Park. Tom was also active in the Bay Men's Club and he was an elder at his church.

Mr. Hill was also inducted into the Westlake High School Hall of Fame Honorary Class of 1995 by the Dover/Westlake Alumni Association. His plaque is currently on display at the high school's Hall of Fame hallway.

Mr. Tom Hill taught so much more than music. He was an educator who taught Commitment, Dedication, Pride, and that his students should live by their Actions and strive for Greatness. He was a teacher, and an organizer. He stood for musical excellence, achieving high standards, honesty and integrity, loyalty and love. Many of his students can look back and recall the lifelong lessons he taught us. All were blessed who knew him.

Sadly, Mr. Hill passed away last December. Since that time, a committee was formed and it was suggested that something very special needed to be done to honor Mr. Hill. The Westlake High School music faculty, along with WHS graduates Rock and Carey Whitehouse, Kevan and Patty Stuber, Mary Beth Schneider and Sharon Dixon, have worked together to support commissioning a new combined band and choir composition to create this memorial to honor Mr. Hill's legacy of quality and dedication to his students, the community and our country. The piece will premiere at the 2023 Music a la Mode. Our composer will be Major Ryan Nowlin, USMC, assistant director of "The President's Own Band" in Washington, D.C. Major Nowlin attended North Royalton High School and was the band director at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School before joining the Marine Corps. Current students will have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work directly with a composer of Major Nolan's stature.

The Thomas F. Hill Memorial Composition Committee must raise \$15,000 for this undertaking. Please make this permanent memorial possible by scanning the QR code. Or, if you prefer to contribute by check, please make it payable to "Westlake Schools Music Boosters" (indicate in memo field "Tom Hill Memorial") and mail to: Westlake Schools Music Boosters, 24365 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, Ohio 44145. ●



BAYarts

Moondance

Sept 10 ♦ Early bird tickets now on sale



**LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER**

# Keep migratory birds safe this fall

by MORGAN PASKERT

Every spring and fall, millions of birds migrate through Ohio on their way between their breeding and overwintering grounds. During migration birds can travel hundreds of miles in one night, even hummingbirds weighing an average of 3.5 grams. Most birds migrating to Central America will fly the 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico nonstop, leaving at dusk, which takes between 18 and 22 hours.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is the only wildlife rehabilitation facility in Cuyahoga County and commonly treats songbird injuries during migration. "A large percentage of the bird species we treat each year are due to window collisions," says Tim Jasinski, Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordinator at the Center. "As an Ohio Lights Out partner, we aim to reduce collision-related



**Indigo Bunting.**

deaths through wildlife education and rehabilitation.”

The Ohio Lights Out campaign, led by the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative, aims to reduce bird collision deaths by advising interested building managers on modifications to lighting and glass that would reduce dangers to migrating birds.

Here are a few ways you can help keep birds safe during fall migration:

## Turn Off Your Lights

Most species of songbirds migrate at night, and lights on tall buildings or through windows can disorient them, causing many birds to strike windows or circle buildings until they fall from exhaustion. According to the Ohio Lights Out campaign, a recent study estimated that as many as 1 billion birds die each year in the United States from building collisions.

In Ohio, peak fall migration is Aug. 15 through Oct. 31. You can help songbirds by turning off your lights between midnight and dawn.

## Make Your Home Safer

Window collisions are most commonly caused by the reflective characteristics of glass. Migrating birds unfamiliar with their surroundings may see their environment reflected in windows, mistaking them as an extension of the sky and trees. This inability to see glass causes birds to collide with windows at full speed,

which is often fatal.


If you notice that birds are attracted to your windows, simply closing your blinds or curtains can make a difference. Companies such as CollidEscape or Feather-Friendly provide both commercial and residential window solutions in effort to prevent collisions and reduce songbird deaths.

## Monitor Pets

It is always important to monitor your pets and keep cats indoors, especially during baby wildlife and migratory seasons. Your supervision will not only protect songbirds and other wildlife, but keep your pets safe, too.

## Become Involved

Other ways you can help to protect songbirds is through volunteering in community-led programs such as Ohio Lights Out, sharing educational resources with family and friends or making a donation to your local wildlife rehabilitation facility.

If you find an injured songbird this season, place it in a box with air holes and do not provide food or water. Call your local wildlife rehabilitator for assistance. Lake Erie Nature & Science Center offers wildlife services at no charge to the public and can be reached at 440-871-2900, ext. 204 or [wildlife@lensc.org](mailto:wildlife@lensc.org). 



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# Westlake Porter Public Library's calendar of events

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's upcoming calendar of events. All programs are subject to change. Please check [westlakelibrary.org](http://westlakelibrary.org) or follow the library on Facebook and Twitter (@WestlakePorter) for the latest updates.

Wednesday, Aug. 17 (7-8 p.m.) **Funny You Should Ask, or Rolling in the Aisles: A Dangerous Activity for Senior Adults** – Join us for a series of fast-paced jokes, one-liners, funny cartoons, and novelty songs. For seniors or anyone with a sense of humor! Please register.

Thursday, Aug. 18 (7-8 p.m.) **Chair Yoga** – Join certified yoga instructor Jen Nebraska for a session of chair yoga, a gentle form of yoga done while sitting and still gaining the benefits that yoga has to offer such as increased flexibility, mood booster, strength enhancement and stress reduction. The class also incorporates breathing techniques and mindful meditation. It is a great way to exercise your mind and body. Please register.

Saturday, Aug. 20 (11-11:45 a.m.) **Adapted Storytime** – Join us for this storytime designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime. Content is geared toward ages 3-7. Please register.

Saturday, Aug. 20 (3-4 p.m.) **Bachata 101** – Bachata is a style of dance that originated in the Dominican Republic around the '60s as a rural dance. Over time it has become a world-wide phenomenon, and now you have the opportunity to learn it! Join dancer & instructor Kaitie Fox for a fun beginners workshop! Please register.

Sunday, Aug. 21 (2-3 p.m.) **Art Smarts** – Explore works of a well-known artist and then use what you've seen to create an art piece of your own! Grades 3-6. Please register.

Monday, Aug. 22 - Monday, Aug. 29 (All Day) **Grab Bag Craft Kit Pick-Up** – Stop by any day this week and pick up a grab bag of fun crafts. Please register.

Monday, Aug. 22 (7-8:30 p.m.) **3D Printing Orientation** – In order to use the library's 3D printer, you'll need to take this orientation first. Learn library policies about using it, how to download a 3D-printable object, and how to prepare it for a great print. Please register.

Monday, Aug. 22 (9-10 p.m.) **Virtual Author Talk: Michele Harper** – Join us online for a conversation with Michele Harper, author of "The Beauty in Breaking," who will cover many of the lessons she's learned on her inspiring personal journey as a female African American ER physician. Streamed live. Please register.

Tuesday, Aug. 23 (7-8:30 p.m.) **History of the Coptic Orthodox Church** – Join us as members of Sts. Peter and George Coptic Orthodox Church of Westlake talk about the history of their church and its origins in Egypt. Please register.

Thursday, Aug. 25 (10-11:30 a.m.) **Microsoft Word & Introduction to Northstar** – Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, and how to access Northstar Digital Literacy for self-paced online learning. Registration begins Aug. 18.

Thursday, Aug. 25 (noon-1 p.m.) **Virtual Author Talk: Liz Wiseman** – Join us online as we sit down with Liz Wiseman, New York Times bestselling author of "Impact Players," researcher, and executive advisor. Streamed live.

Please register.  
Thursday, Aug. 25 (7-8 p.m.) **Senior Fraud** – Join us as Heather Lopez, Senior Housing Navigator from My New Villa, discusses types of fraud, what to look out for and who to call. Please register.

Friday, Aug. 26 (4-5 p.m.) **Brick Builders** – Do you love Legos? Bring your ideas and imagination to Brick Builders! Bricks provided. No registration required, but room capacity is limited. First come, first served. Ages 5-12.

Saturday, Aug. 27 (10:30-11 a.m.) **Family Storytime** – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! For families with children ages 2-6. Siblings are welcome. Registration begins Aug. 20.

Sunday, Aug. 28 (2-3 p.m.) **Come Play With Me** – An open playtime for children ages 2-5 with a caring adult. Siblings welcome! No registration required but room capacity is limited. First come, first served.

Tuesday, Aug. 30 (6-8 p.m.) **Silk Fan Veils Workshop** – Join flow artist Amanda Nyx for a fun, two-hour fan veil workshop. In this beginner-friendly workshop attendees will learn essential silk fan veil techniques, including grips, opens and closes, and simple movements. No previous experience necessary but registration is required.

Wednesday, Aug. 31 (7-8 p.m.) **Twain by Two** – Featuring selections from such works as "Huckleberry Finn," "Roughing It," "Sketches New and Old" and Mark Twain's speeches, this one-hour and 15-minute collection of Mark Twain material is performed by Largely Literary Theater Company co-founders Mark Dawidziak (as Twain) and Sara Showman. In addition to playing Twain on stage for more than 40 years, Dawidziak is an internationally recognized Twain scholar who has written several books about the iconic American writer. Please register.

Wednesday, Aug. 31 (7-8 p.m.) **Adult Creative Writing Group** – Join us for an hour of creative writing prompts to inspire you to start and keep writing. Creativity is more than putting pen to paper. It's about breaking away and trying something new! Please register.

Thursday, Sept. 1 (1-7 p.m.) **American Red Cross Bloodmobile**

Friday, Sept. 2 (4-4:30 p.m.) **Read It, Make It @ the Library** – Make a craft based on a story that is read aloud. Grades PreK-1, siblings are welcome. Registration begins Aug. 26.

Saturday, Sept. 3 (10:30-11 a.m.) **Family Storytime** – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! For families with children ages 2-6. Siblings are welcome. Registration begins Aug. 27.

Sunday, Sept. 4 and Monday, Sept. 5 – **Library Closed in Observance of Labor Day**

Tuesday, Sept. 6 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) **Teen Craft Pick-Up** – A take-home craft kit for teens in grades 7-12. This month's craft is a bubble tea kit. Registration begins Aug. 30.

Tuesday, Sept. 6 (4:30-5:15 p.m.) **STEAM Club: Our Sun and Seasons** – Join Mrs. K as we learn about our closest star, the sun. Discoveries will be made through hands-on experiments, active participation and a simple take home project. Grades 1-2. Registration begins Aug. 30.

Tuesday, Sept. 6 (6-7 p.m.) **Wild Edibles: Learn How to Mindfully Forage** – Learn the edible and healing properties of the plants around us! Please register.

Tuesday, Sept. 6 (7-8:30 p.m.) **World at War Forum: Trivia Night** – Come out and join us for a Trivia Night covering the conflicts of the first half of the 20th century. Please register.

To register for any of the programs, please visit [westlakelibrary.org/events](http://westlakelibrary.org/events). ●

## Upcoming programs at Bay Village Branch Library

by TARA MCGUINNESS

The Bay Village Branch Library is hosting two local authors in August. Terry Pluto will join us at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, Aug. 23**, to talk about Cleveland sports past and present

– Browns, Guardians, Cavs – and take your questions. Afterward, he'll sign copies of his books, including his latest book, "Vintage Browns." Registration is required.

On **Thursday, Aug. 25**, at 7 p.m. author Deanna Adams will present a fun, interactive presentation honoring Cleve-

land's most popular rock 'n' roll venues and the musicians who played there – from yesterday to today. Registration is required.

On **Saturday, Aug. 27**, from 9 to 5 p.m., the Friends of the Library will be hosting a one-day-only book sale.

Shop for books, music, movie, puzzles for all ages.

Please register to attend the featured programs online at [cuyahogallibrary.org](http://cuyahogallibrary.org), call us at 440-871-6392, or stop in to the library at 27400 Wolf Road and register with a librarian. ●



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THE DIGITAL WORLD

# Life skills for the 21st century

by TAK SATO

When I start writing my column for the upcoming issue of WBVO, I do so in the cloud. No, it's not that my mind is in the clouds – although my wife may disagree, LOL – but my article starts as a blank Google "Doc" document that is saved in Google "Drive," my own secure storage space, again in the cloud (aka internet).

If I'm in my home office, I just sit in front of my desktop computer and work on it. If it's not too humid or frigging freezing outside, I take my Chromebook and type while lounging on our deck. If I'm teaching for the Center for Aging

in the Digital World at Advent Church, I use my laptop between classes as my laptop is already up and running and is being used to mirror my devices' screens to the big screen for seniors to follow in the classes.

What that basically means is that when inspiration strikes for the next paragraph of the article, I just grab any device and continue writing. Heck, if inspiration strikes while I'm nowhere near my desktop, laptop, or Chromebook, I use my tablet and one-finger-type like a pro. On a couple occasions, I've even used my smartphone, but I have to admit my fat fingers are no match for the tiny virtual keyboard on the smartphone screen.

Frankly, though, I don't recall if I always wrote my WBVO articles in the cloud. I know this is the 185th article for "The Digital World" column but without the cloud, I wouldn't have the freedom to pick up any of my devices and continue writing where I left off. Without the work-in-process (WIP) document saved in the cloud, I'd need to shuffle/copy the document from one device to another if I switch devices.

Not to be nostalgic in a "geeky" manner, and I shouldn't because I write, teach, and present about this 21st century life skill, but I am still amazed how technology, and specifically the internet, has influenced how we go about our daily life. Sure, inventions and innovations in the 20th century affected our lifestyle too, take the fax machine or cell phone as examples, but not as much as what the internet did and continues to do.

During my MBA program at CSU more than a decade ago, I learned that Clayton Christensen coined the term "disruptive innovation" to explain how "new entrants in a market can disrupt established businesses."

Although some scholars in the ivory tower may consider the internet as a disruptive "technology," I borrow Christensen's phrase and add my own spin to label the internet as disruptive "innovation" instead. Why? Because, simply, it changed the way we get things accomplished daily in a big way!

If learning how to communicate, shop, bank, or write a check are part of traditional life skills, learning to video chat, shop online, pay bills online, or use contactless pay at the grocery store (Apple Pay, Google Pay, Samsung pay) are part of "digital literacy," 21st century life skills that we need to embrace. ●

THE MEDICAL INSIDER

# The positive side of the monkeypox crisis

by DIANA PI, M.D.

About monkeypox, you can be concerned – curious even – but don't lose sleep over it.

And good things can come out of a bad situation. Here are my three *positive* takes:

1. Few merits come with being older. But here's one. If you're 50 years old or over, you could be protected from the worst of monkeypox due to the smallpox vaccine.

Monkeypox is in the same family as smallpox. (By the way, they have nothing to do with chickenpox.) Data from Africa suggest most (85%) of those smallpox-vaccinated are protected or partially pro-

tected from monkeypox. We have no data from the current outbreak.

The U.S. stopped smallpox vaccinations in 1972. If you were born overseas, it might be later. WHO stopped recommending routine smallpox vaccination in 1980. Feel your upper arm for the scar.

Because smallpox is a potential biological weapon, the U.S. has stockpiled two types of smallpox vaccines that can be used for monkeypox.

The better tolerated one – JYNNEOS – is in short supply. When push comes to shove, we have enough to vaccinate a third of the U.S. population today.

2. There are two types of monkeypox viruses. The current outbreak, the West African clade, is the more benign of the two (the other is Congo Basin).

As of Aug. 9, 2022, excluding Africa, there are about 31,000 cases of monkeypox and 4 deaths globally.

Admittedly, I was surprised by how fast monkeypox has spread. Pox viruses are tricky for the following reasons:

First, unlike smallpox, which can only infect humans, monkeypox has an animal reservoir, possibly in the rodent family. We can contact-trace humans, but we can't contact-trace

dormice and squirrels.

Second, pox virus can survive on surfaces for days if not weeks. Also, the virus can travel through physical contact and air. But in real life, direct and extended skin-to-skin contact (like sex, kissing, etc.) is likely the major mode of transmission. Transmission through contact with contaminated surfaces is considered "rare."

For questions like "Can I ever use public toilets again?" I recommend a BuzzFeed News article "Monkeypox can spread in three ways. Here's what to know..." I was going to say more, but BuzzFeed reporter Katie Camero did such a good job, I gave up.

The bottom line for the general public: Wash hands frequently.

3. You may or may not agree with

me on this one. But a high-profile health crisis like this can launch a scientific breakthrough. I'm still amazed by how fast the first mRNA COVID-19 vaccine came about.

Monkeypox is one of many neglected diseases in developing countries. By declaring it a health emergency, major health agencies refocus resources and manpower to tackle it. Doctors are fired up: "All blisters are monkeypox till proven otherwise." Journalists finally, *finally* have something to write about other than COVID sub-sub-variants.

Personally, having this exotic, rodent-loving virus knocking on my front door reminds me just how vulnerable we can be and how connected we are to the rest of the world. ●



PHOTO BY DENNY WENDELL

Deer's antlers

Male deer attract female deer for mating with their antlers. Males grow antlers during mating season. They display their antlers, with each male trying to become the dominant male. Courtship activities among deer begin in mid-October. Once the breeding season is over and hormone levels decrease, the bone where the antler was attached to the pedicel begins to erode away. Eventually the antler falls off, generally during January to March.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Post your group’s free community events online at [wbvobserver.com](http://wbvobserver.com)

Saturday, Aug. 20, 9-11 a.m.  
**FOOD PANTRY AT WEST-LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Third Saturday of every month. Currently drive-through only. Serving Westlake and surrounding Cuyahoga county suburbs. Must be income eligible to receive a bag of food. Please bring ID.  
*Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Rd.*

Sunday, Aug. 21, 8-11 a.m.  
**HUNTINGTON BEACH RESERVATION CLEANUP**  
We are a group of three girl scouts running a beach clean-up for our Silver Award, which is a community service project. We will meet at a picnic table at the park, and the event will run from 8 to 11 a.m. You don’t need to come at the beginning or stay the whole time. We will provide trash bags, gloves, sanitizer, and refreshments.

There will be a first aid kit on site. Visit [adopt.greatlakes.org](http://adopt.greatlakes.org) to register ahead of time or register on site. We hope the community will join us in cleaning up our local beach!  
*Huntington Beach Reservation, Bay Village*

Friday, Aug. 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
**SENIOR LIVING & HEALTH EXPO**  
Free admission. Expo will include representatives from

senior living facilities, specialists in relocation services, hospice care representatives, home healthcare resources, insurance consultants, blood pressure checks, hearing screenings, glucose testing, cholesterol testing, balance screenings, and stroke testing. Sweet treats will be available and a delicious lunch will be provided to those who register in advance. Call 440-835-6565 to register.  
*Bay Village Senior Center, 300*

*Bryson Lane*  
Saturday, Aug. 27, 4:30 p.m.  
**FREE GRAB ‘N’ GO MEAL**  
Come to the rear door of the church and we will bring a delicious meal to you! Our meal is hosted by Church of the Redeemer, Westlake and Clague Road Church. We wear our masks and gloves to keep all of us safe!  
*Clague Road UCC, 3650 Clague Rd., North Olmsted*



Gayle Hill accepts proclamation from Mayor Dennis Clough in honor of her retirement.

Westlake bids 'bittersweet' farewell to Gayle Hill

by ROBERT ROZBORIL

The City of Westlake celebrated the retirement of longtime Administrative Assistant & Cemetery Administrator Gayle Hill on Monday, Aug. 8, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Dennis Clough called her retirement "bittersweet" as she has become a cherished part of the City's Service Department staff during her more than 21 years of service in Westlake, which followed 15 years of service in Olmsted Falls. Gayle helped countless residents, providing exceptional customer service and representing the City beautifully throughout her tenure. Away from the City, she has led an adventurous life. During a two-year stint living in Japan, she successfully scaled the summit of Mt. Fuji! She was also known to enjoy a good slice of cake so the City provided not one, but TWO for her retirement celebration. A large contingent of her coworkers, past and present, turned out to wish her well in retirement and recount their positive memories of working with Gayle.

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Thank you to the donors who contributed to this issue: Jack Barber Joan Kemper

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