

THE VILLAGER

WESTLAKE • ROCKY RIVER • BAY VILLAGE • AVON LAKE • AVON • SHEFFIELD • NORTH RIDGEVILLE

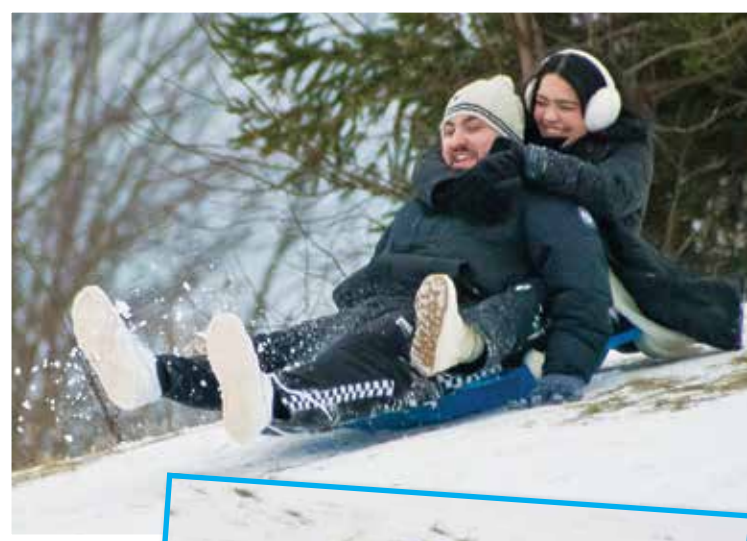
Volume 30 Issue 8
January 25 - 31, 2024

www.TheVillagerNewspaper.com

With God, all things are possible....

It's All Downhill from Here!

Snowy weather this week brought out the sleds as winter enthusiasts braved the hill at the Westlake Recreation Center last weekend. It was one of the first sledable snows in two years! It's all downhill from here!



Firefighters Brave Blizzard to Battle North Ridgeville Blaze

Area firefighters were called on to respond to a large fire on one of the worst weather days of the year last Friday, Jan. 19. Fire had broken out at Bullfrogs Sports Cafe at 33137 Center Ridge Road in North Ridgeville. It was a day where folks were advised to stay home and off the streets. But firefighters sucked it up as always and responded en force.

H-6 photography was on hand to document the courageous efforts. "With the threat of the fire traveling down the roofline, extra companies were assigned to this fire," reported H-6. "Pulsepoint shows Avon, Avon Lake, Bay Village, Elyria, North Olmsted, Olmsted Township, Olmsted Falls, Rocky River, Sheffield Village and Westlake. Waiting for a confirmation on departments that responded. I am unaware of any injuries and the cause of the fire is under investigation."

Said Bullfrogs on Facebook, "...though we have very little information as of yet, we wanted to take a second to thank everyone for your concerns, the most important thing

continued on page 2



Photos courtesy of H6 Photo, www.facebook.com/H6Photo

"Celebrate the Power of Community"

Complimentary Copy



University Hospitals
St. John Medical Center
A CATHOLIC HOSPITAL

see page 3



it's not just about socks.

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Ice Festival Comes to Crocker Park



Celebrate the beauty of winter this weekend, January 26-28 during the Crocker Park Ice Festival. Creatively designed ice sculptures will be placed throughout Crocker Park for visitors to explore a winter wonderland in between shopping, dining, and playing. Check out their full schedule of events, including live ice sculpture demonstrations, specialty skates and live music on page 2.



Firefighters Brave Blizzard to Battle North Ridgeville Blaze

continued from page 1

is that all staff members are safe. Due to this unfortunate event Bullfrogs will be closed until further notice. We thank you all for being loyal guests and hope to see you all soon.



Photos courtesy of H6 Photo, www.facebook.com/H6Photo

Ice Festival Comes to Crocker Park

The Crocker Park Ice Festival is set to bring icy fun in the park with a variety of activities happening throughout the three-day festival. There will be plenty of photo opportunities where visitors can pose with 3D ice displays. Artists will be chiseling away on-site, creating incredible live ice sculpture demonstrations for audience viewing each day Friday at 6:30pm, Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 and 4:00pm. Guests can also enjoy a variety of vendors, and live music.

There is a ton going on throughout property as well. Live music and Ice Sculpture demonstrations on the East Park Stage across from Cheesecake Factory and specialty skates on the Cleveland Monsters Ice Rink near Regal Cinemas. Check out the full schedule here:

Friday, January 26

- 5-9pm – Sculpture Viewing
- 5-9pm – Cleveland Monsters Ice Rink Open
- 5-8pm – DJ Skate
- 5:30-7:30pm – Live Music with Apostle Jones

- 6:30pm – Ice Sculpture Demonstration

Saturday, January 27

- 10am-9pm – Sculpture Viewing
- 12-9pm – Cleveland Monsters Ice Rink Open
- 12-1:30pm – Live Music with Brent Kirby
- 12-4pm – Vendors
- 1:30pm – Ice Sculpture Demonstration
- 2:30-4pm – Live Music with 732 Electric Duo
- 4pm – Ice Sculpture Demonstration

Sunday, January 28

- 11am-6pm – Sculpture Viewing
- 12-6pm – Cleveland Monsters Ice Rink Open
- 12-1:30pm – Live Music with SIMPLE
- 12-2pm – Princess Skate
- 1:30pm – Ice Sculpture Demonstration
- 2:30-4pm – Live Music with Erin Neal and the Chill Factors
- 4pm – Ice Sculpture Demonstration

“We’re thrilled to bring back the Crocker Park Ice Festival to our community this month, promising delightful family entertainment in the winter season after



the holidays,” exclaimed Stacie Schmidt, VP of Marketing. “Come witness the mesmerizing evolution of ice blocks into magnificent sculptures, explore our array of local vendors, and revel in live music. Everyone is welcome to indulge in shopping, dining, and partake in this enchanting event—a magical experience not to be overlooked!”

The Crocker Park Ice Festival, sponsored Westland Heating, Air Conditioning & Plumbing, is free to the public. For more information on this event and all other events taking place this fall at Crocker Park, visit <https://crockerpark.com/icefestival/> and follow @CrockerPark on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Bay Eyes Park/Shoreline Improvements

The City of Bay Village has undergone a metamorphosis of public improvements, park development and interconnectivity the past few years.

Now under review, following the new library, Cahoon Park pedestrian bridge and interconnected bike/walking trails, the city is asking for feedback on improvements to the north side of Lake Road's Cahoon Park.

Shoreline improvements include Bay Point, projection of land immediately west of Cahoon Creek and the Bay Boat Club. This survey is intended to gather initial community feedback for the Bay Point Improvements project at Cahoon Park. Responses will help shape the community's vision for this project. Visit www.cityof-bayvillage.com to view the survey.

- SITE PLAN**
- Water
 - Beach
 - Cliff Face
 - Lawn
 - Meadow
 - Forested Understory
 - Emergent Habitat
 - Walkways
 - Boardwalk / Dock
 - Drive
 - Building
 - Existing Trees
 - Proposed Trees
 - Benches
 - Gate
 - Picnic Table



WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Following is Westlake Porter Public Library's January 2024 calendar of events. All programs are subject to change. Please check westlakelibrary.org or follow the library on Facebook and Instagram (@WestlakePorter) for the latest updates.

Thursday, February 1 (1-2:30 p.m.) *Did You Know You Speak Latin? Part II: Abbreviations, mottos & derivations* – Examine English words and trace their Latin origins and derivations. No prior Latin knowledge required. This is the second in a series of six classes. Attend all or some. Please register.

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

Friday, February 2 (10:30-11:15 a.m.), Thursday, February 8 (6:30-7:15 p.m.) and Sunday, February 18 (2:30-3:15 p.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. Registration begins one week before each session.

Friday, February 2 (4-4:30 p.m.) *Read It, Make It @ the Library* – We will read one story then

make a craft based on that story. For children ages 4-7. Siblings welcome. No registration necessary.

Saturdays, February 3, 10 and 24 (10:30-11 a.m.) and Wednesdays, February 7 and 21 (7-7:30 p.m.) *Family Storytime* – Join us for rhymes, songs and play! Children are welcome to wear their pajamas and bring along a stuffed animal to the Wednesday evening session! Ages 2-6 with a caregiver. No registration required.

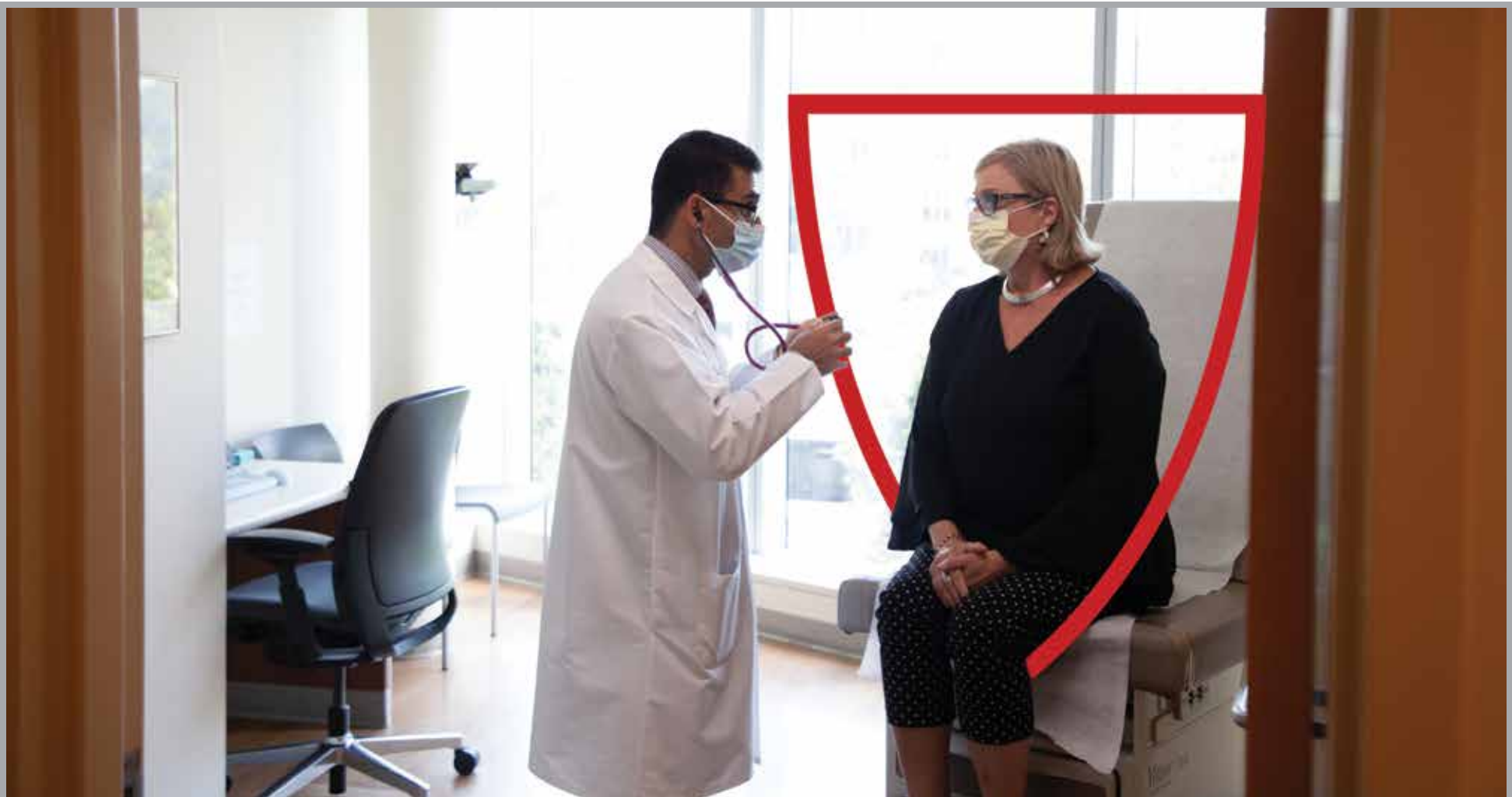
Saturday, February 3 (1-2 p.m.) *Pokémon Fun!* – Join Miss Rachel for a time to view and trade

cards, do a craft (if desired), and play a Pokémon Bingo game. Feel free to bring your cards! Ages 6-11. No registration necessary.

Saturday, February 3 (3-4:30 p.m.) *World Hijab Day* – Join us for a panel discussion celebrating World Hijab Day presented by the West Cleveland Muslim Association. Get a taste of fashion and food as you explore the beauty of Hijab and culture. Please register.

Sunday, February 4 (2-4 p.m.) *Anime Club*

continued on page 5



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FEBRUARY 4**

**5PM
FREE DINNER**

**6PM
PRESENTATION
AND Q&A**

You're Invited

Join us for a transformative evening where we will explore practical strategies to combat the challenges of today's world—chaos, loneliness, and addiction. We warmly invite you to participate in this journey towards peace and joy. There will be an opportunity for panelists to answer your questions. Teens and families are welcome!

Featured Guests

Kenneth De Luca, Ph.D.
Ted Raddell, Ph.D.
Judith Marinich, M.Ed.,
LPCC-S, LICDC-CS
Reverend Jim Winings,
M.Div., M.A.

St. Ladislav Church
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stladislav.org/finding-peace

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Sports Medicine

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SWIMMING, AVON LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

24TH GREATER CLEVELAND
SPORTS AWARDS



Avon Lake Athlete is Courage Award Winner

Meet Olivia “Liv” Slivinski, the 2023 Cleveland Clinic Sports Medicine Courage Award Winner and a senior swimmer at Avon Lake High School.

Liv had suffered three major injuries over a two-and-a-half-year period, tearing her right anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) during a lacrosse game in 2021 and tearing her left ACL in 2022 while also dislocating her right shoulder that same year.

As a result of her injuries, Liv underwent five procedures at the Clinic and went through 140 rehabilitation sessions through the course of her recovery. With the help of doctors, physical therapist and psychologist at the Clinic, Liv was able to overcome her challenges with perseverance, courage and a smile on her face. She is currently swimming without restrictions and will be competing this season.

Liv and her family were honored during the 24th #CLESportsAwards on Jan. 23 at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

Learn more about Liv’s journey of courage at clevelandsports.org/courage

Avon Lake City Schools Kindergarten Information Night

Do you have a child that will be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2024? If so, this is a meeting you do not want to miss! Log-in to the virtual meeting and hear about the registration process, neighborhood buildings, full-day vs. half-day programs, kindergarten screening, and start dates to name a few! **Thursday February 1, 2024 from 6:30—7:30 pm**

Virtual Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/5mau4jy3>

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Acoustik Musik, Ltd. and Room with a View Productions are Northeast Ohio’s “best kept secrets” in audio and video production. The two companies under the same roof have been operating for nearly thirty years and pride themselves on being client centric, offering reasonable rates, and delivering professional results.

Thomas W. Bethel founded Acoustik Musik, Ltd and Room with a View Productions in 1995 and has over fifty years of experience.

Acoustik Musik, Ltd. specializes in audio mastering that can take your music to the next level, transfer & restoration where your old cassettes, vinyl, reel-to-reel tapes, etc. can be cleaned up and converted to digital, and in-studio

vocal recording for commercials, audiobooks, and more. Acoustik Musik, Ltd. only uses state-of-the art equipment and has a specially designed mastering/restoration studio to achieve the best quality sound.

Room With a View Productions specializes in video production and editing. Music videos, commercials, promotional content, etc. are just some of the areas that RWAV does best. With the help of audio from Acoustik Musik, RWAV also does live on-location recording for performances, shows, and presentations. Will Palmison, the videographer for RWAV, has nearly ten years of videography experience and has completed numerous projects during his two years at RWAV.

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The Villager welcomes letters to the Editor as well as news items. Please send all information by e-mail or typed. You must include your name, address, phone number and signature for verification. All items should be sent to:
The Villager, 27016 Knickerbocker Rd., Suite #1, Bay Village, OH 44140

The Publisher is privileged to revise or reject any advertisement which is deemed objectionable, either in subject matter or phraseology, or opposed to public policy or the policy of the paper. The Publisher shall not be held responsible for typographical errors except to adjust the charge for the first insertion only, by a space credit (in excess of contract) to be used the following issue. Errors must be reported immediately and space credit will be limited to such portion of advertisement as may have been rendered valueless by the error. Please check your advertisement and in the event of error notify the paper. The Publisher will, upon request, furnish Advertiser with a letter so worded as to relieve the Advertiser from responsibility for the error. The Publisher does not assume responsibility for an error in an advertisement other than the above stated.

THE VILLAGER

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Bay Village, OH 44140
Deadline for all items is the Friday before publication. Opinions reflected in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the management.
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O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village Hosts Monthly Support Group

O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village hosts a monthly support group for those with a loved one with Alzheimer's or Dementia. The group meets on the third Tuesday each month. We welcome not only to our residents' families, but the community as well!



Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group

O'Neill Healthcare Bay Village is proud to introduce our Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group to the community. We hope to create a comforting space welcoming all caregivers. We will be utilizing the Dementia Caregiver Guide book by Teepa Snow to lead some of our meetings as well as welcoming guest speakers.

Meetings will take place from 5:30PM-6:30PM

January 16, 2024
February 20, 2024
March 19, 2024
April 16, 2024

Meeting Location:
Assisted Living Activities Room

For more information on this support group please reach out to our Bay Village location with any questions at (440) 871-3474.

605 Bradley Road, Bay Village 44140 | ONeillHC.com

Bay Teacher Addresses Prestigious Council

Bay High Teacher Dr. Kris Srsen Kenney was chosen to present at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) convention recently. The annual event brings thousands of educators, experts, authors, administrators, publishers and others together for learning, networking and inspiration.



Way to Go, Huck!

Congratulations to Bay Village Westerly 3rd grader Huck Kurinsky, recently recognized as one of the Most Interesting Persons in Cleveland, 2024 by Cleveland Magazine. Way to go, Huck!



WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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– A great club for anime and manga lovers! All otaku and newbies welcome! Grades 7-adult. No registration required.

Sunday, February 4 (2-4 p.m.) First-Time Voter Toolkit – Did you know that if you will be 18 on or by November 5, 2024 you can register to vote now? The League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland will help you become an engaged, informed, and confident voter with essential information needed for casting your first ballot. For those unable to attend, a grab and go bag will be available starting February 1 (while supplies last).

Sunday, February 4 (2-3 p.m.) and Friday, February 23 (4-5 p.m.) Brick Builders – Do you love Legos®? Then 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.

Monday, February 5 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) Teen Craft Pick-Up – For teens in grades 7-12. Register starting January 29, then stop by and pick up your craft kit starting February 4.

Mondays, February 5, 12 and 26 (3-5 p.m.) Teen Lounge – Need a place to hang after school? Come to WPPL's Teen Lounge on Monday afternoons! Video games, board games, snacks and more! No registration required.

Tuesday, February 6 (10-11:30 a.m.) Microsoft Word – Learn the basics of Microsoft Word and how to access Northstar Digital Literacy for self-paced online learning. Registration begins January 30.

Tuesday, February 6 (6:30-8 p.m.) Jewelry Junction: Valentine Red Crystal Bracelet with Charm – Celebrate Valentine's Day by making a beautiful Valentine's Day red crystal bracelet with heart charm. Registration begins January 30.

Wednesday, February 7 (7-8:30 p.m.) World at War Forum: MacArthur in Japan After WWII – Judge William Vordrey will discuss General Douglas MacArthur's role as Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces in Japan's postwar reconstruction and governance. Please register.

Tuesday, February 6 (7-8 p.m.) Bicycle Friendly Drivers
continued on page 11

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Larry Bennet, Noted Bay Village Photojournalist



Clifton Lawrence "Larry" Bennet, age 72, of Bay Village, Ohio, passed away January 18, 2024, after a courageous and optimistic, 3-1/2 year battle with colon cancer. He was born November 16, 1951, to Clifton W. and Katherine (Hutter) Bennet in Cleveland, Ohio. Larry was a 1970 graduate of Bay High School. Larry lived in the Washington, D.C. area for many years and served as vice president and marketing director of Crib N'

Cradle. He also lived in Nashville, Tenn., before returning to Bay Village.

Larry was a talented freelance photographer, website designer and a surrogate parent to many dogs. His dog training skills were superior and he had many four-legged friends. He could be seen walking the streets with 4-5-6 dogs daily. Larry was a nature lover and regularly hiked area trails with his camera and canine friends.

Larry is survived by sisters Laura Liggett (David), Carole Tackett (Doug) and Marsha Regan (Tim); nieces and nephews Erica Regan, Melissa Vitelli (John), Colleen Regan, Timothy Regan (Lynn), Elizabeth Forbringer (Chris), Kevin Regan (Paul), and Katherine Tackett (Stephen); two grand-nephews and five grand-nieces. He will also be missed by his long-time friend Eric (Cynthia) Eakin, and many other family members, friends and neighbors. Larry was preceded in death by his canine companion, Sled.

Private services were held. Memorial donations may be made to the Friendship Animal Protective League of Lorain County, 8303 Murray Ridge Rd., Elyria, OH 44035

Third Annual Military Appreciation Night

The Third Annual Military Appreciation Night will be held at the Boys & Girls Basketball Double Header vs. Rocky River at Bay High School Gym, 29230 Wolf Road in Bay Village on **Friday, February 9, 2024 at 7 p.m.**

General Event Information:
Third Annual Military Appreciation Night to honor area Veterans and Active Duty Military.

– **Free admission for Veterans and those who are currently serving in the Armed Forces.** (Please let our ticket staff members know when you arrive so they can let you in for free.)

– **Boys Varsity Game vs. Rocky River begins at 6 p.m. – Girls Varsity Game vs. Rocky River begins at 7:15 p.m.**

– During pre-game warm-ups, members of the Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Teams from Bay Village and Rocky River will wear T-shirts from branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Pre-game Color Guard Ceremony Before Girls Game – Approximately 7 p.m. – Members of the VFW and American Legion will lead the National Anthem Color Guard Ceremony before the Girls Varsity Game.

– The Bay High School Choraleers will sing The Star-Spangled Banner and America the Beautiful.

Halftime of the Girls Game – Approximately 8:15 p.m. – Board Member Dr. Scott Schulz shares the history of Bay Village Schools' commitment to Military Families and Purple Star designation by the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce.

– Board President Dr. Andrey Stojic announces the names of Bay High Seniors entering the military postgraduation.



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Bay Students Support Friendship APL



Bay's Westerly K-Kids, moderated by Mrs. Kristen Thomas, have committed time and effort to collect pet food, dog beds, toys, leashes and other donations for Friendship APL in Elyria. Students then visited the humane society to see all the animals their donations will benefit. Nice work, K-Kids!



In Appreciation

In honor of School Board Recognition Month, Bay Middle School MakerSpace students in Mrs. Wolf's class created items for the Board Members. They were gratefully received at this week's BOE Meeting.



GLC Champions Alert

Congratulations to the Westlake Lee Burneson Middle School 7th Grade Girls basketball team on a championship season!



A Powerful, Affordable Solution for Homes and Businesses – Automatic Standby Generators

“If you’re the only business open during an outage then an obvious conclusion is that you may double or even triple your usual revenue per hour,”

– Craig, Owner of Shepp Electric Company, Inc., the area’s ONLY Family Owned and Operated Generac Dealer!

The focus on standby generators and their ability to keep homes and businesses operating is an understandable development since each year hundreds of thousands go without power and the numbers are climbing.

Backup power is now surprisingly affordable and is a wise business decision. Compared to the expense of lost revenue and inventory spoilage, an automatic standby genset is a bargain that will provide years of reliable service. **Many homeowners want the same protection, too:** “It’s easy to see how quickly this investment will pay for itself. An average store may recoup the cost of a backup system during its first outage. Having standby power is the best way to stay in business. It is also one of the smartest investments for homes in northeastern Ohio and western PA. Compared to the cost of a flooded basement without the sump pump, no heat, frozen water pipes, no stove and no well water an automatic standby system can be a lifesaver.”

In order to assist you with making the right standby power investment we strongly advise you to consult with the area’s **Leading Generac® “Premier” and Industrial Warranty Service Dealer and Installer for 30 years, Shepp Electric Company, Inc.**, who will conduct a free site survey and electrical load analysis in order to recommend the best size and placement of the system. Whether for home or business, please feel free to call Christina, Michelle or Rachel at the office Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at **877-423-9010**, or visit their website at **www.generatorpros.com** to view

information about all their services and automatic standby generator systems by Generac Power Systems.

In addition, at **www.generatorpros.com**, you will find a wealth of information that is extremely helpful for your family and business about **disaster preparedness, proper use of portable generators and the immediate link to current power outages** along the entire North coast.

Contact the **Leading Generac Automatic Standby Generator** professionals as seen on **Fox 8** and keep your family and business safe and secure 24/7.

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MOST 5 STAR REVIEWS IN THE STATE OF OHIO





Normandy Resident Celebrates 100th!



Raise your glass and toast to Fausto on his 100th birthday!!! When asked how it felt to be 100 he said, "the same as yesterday really, pretty good!"



SAY CHEESE!

Morgan Cushing knows cheese! Having learned the ropes at Heinen's in Rocky River and 4 years later took the lead as head cheesemonger at Old Brooklyn Cheese. Residents of The Normandy Senior Living sampled 5 different cheeses and learned how they are made, stored and what they pair well with.

Say cheese!



Visit from Critters BIG and LONG!

Nora The Explorer brought Normandy Senior Living residents a variety of critters BIG and small this week! It was a fun time seeing them up close, petting and learning about their habits and habitat. I must say, we all loved her Flemish Giant Rabbit!



Bay Village Welcomes Officers



Please help welcome the newest additions to the Bay Village Police Department, Dispatcher Grace Gansor (L), Off. Stephen Moore (M) and Off. Molly Searles (R)

Grace will be working the 3p-11p shift as dispatch. She brings years of dispatch experience. Stephen is a Navy veteran and has most recently worked in Finance. He will be attending the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy (OSHPA) in February. Molly just graduated from the OSHPA and is beginning her field training program.

Congrats to all. Welcome to the family.

- Chief Rob Gillespie



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Breakwater Independent Living!

Located on the shores of Lake Erie in beautiful Rocky River, the newly renovated apartments feature:

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Illuminating Hope

It's Not Just About Socks

Did you know that socks are the most requested item by our unhoused neighbors? With Socks+, your support means not only warm feet, but dignity. Join Community West Foundation in illuminating hope by delivering dignity and well-being to the people of Western Cleveland.

100% of your donation helps people in Cleveland, Western Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties.

Funds collected have helped close the gap for many of our unhoused neighbors in need. A few examples include:

- Community West Foundation was able to provide a grant to the homeless services providers in Lorain County to open the community warming center. Since shelters often times do not allow people to stay during daylight hours, warming centers are essential for survival during freezing temperatures.
- In Cuyahoga County, they were able to provide a grant to purchase specific sized boots, winter jackets and tents for people who are living on the streets.
- Community West Foundation was contacted by a homeless services provider because they discovered a mother and her two young children were riding the bus for three days because they could not find availability at a shelter. Socks+ funds were used to put the family in a warm, safe hotel until they secured a spot at a family shelter.

Community West Foundation's community partners are essential to the success of the Socks+ program. Each plays an important part in ensuring that items collected for Socks+ end up in the hands of those who need it the most. The partners include:



Visit SocksPlus.org to donate today.



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Huntington Playhouse Renovations Continue



The Huntington Playhouse theater floor has officially been leveled, and the cement is drying! BAYarts Executive Director Nancy Heaton, Director of Operations Beth Milli, and Board President Mary Conway Sullivan signed the wet cement to honor this huge step in the renovation. Next up will be the interior finishes, with plans for the project to be ready for the community to enjoy in March. Stay

tuned for expanded programming, community events, and rental space when this next phase is complete

A beloved fixture of Bay Village has long been Huntington Playhouse in Huntington Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks.

The stage has been dark for several years now. But BAYarts is well on its way to bringing the landmark back to life.

‘The Huntington Playhouse was established in 1958 and sits on the site of John Huntington’s carriage house. It started as a small summer theater and grew into a place with a 240-seat auditorium. The Playhouse had its last season in 2015. In the summer of 2017 BAYarts began working to clean out the venue. The goal of BAYarts is to renovate the former Playhouse, so it can be used on the arts campus for a wide range of cultural programming.

The first phase of renovations was completed in January of 2019 and included new electrical and fire safety systems. Improvements also included new bathrooms and windows, and drywall in the Hearth Room (previously the space used for intermission). BAYarts currently uses the renovated west end of the building for classes, concerts, and as community meeting room.

A second phase of renovations to the theater space are



Huntington Playhouse

set to begin this summer. BAYarts intends to keep the stage and create a multiple use space to host concerts, plays, a speaker series, and more. The flexible event space will also be used for larger classes, weddings, and corporate events. BAYarts received a \$500,000 grant from the Ohio Facilities Construction Committee (OFCC) and raised an additional \$500,000 to begin Phase Two.

Further renovations to the building include the addition of two music rooms, a large classroom, a second set of bathrooms and a central hallway to facilitate accessibility throughout the building. Fundraising is ongoing for the next phase of improvements.

For more information on how you can donate, please contact Mary Conway Sullivan at mary@bayarts.net or Nancy Heaton at nancy@bayarts.net.

Thank You Law Enforcement Professionals

January 9th marked National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

The City of Westlake extends our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the men and women of the City of Westlake Ohio Police Department. Your unwavering dedication and service to our community does not go unnoticed.

Each day, you put on your uniform not knowing what challenges you might face, yet you do so with courage and a commitment to keeping our city safe. Your tireless efforts make Westlake a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

To all our officers, detectives, administrative staff, and everyone who supports the department – thank you for your hard work and commitment. You are not just law enforcement officers; you are our neighbors, friends, and invaluable members of the Westlake community



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Avon High Students Shine at Regional Art Show

Avon High School is pleased to announce another successful showing from our students in the Lorain County Region Scholastic Art Show. In total, 55 works were accepted with eight Gold Keys (highest honor), 12 Silver Keys, and 35 honorable mentions earned.

Now in its 56th year in the Lorain County region, the show takes place in the Beth K. Stocker Gallery at the Stocker Arts Center on the campus of Lorain County Community College, 1005 N. Abbe Road, Elyria, and is sponsored by Nordson Corporation. The exhibit draws from public, parochial, and private middle and high schools from Lorain, Erie, and Huron counties. Over 1,600 works are entered annually and 550 were selected for exhibition. All Gold Key works move forward for national judging in New York City.

In addition to the honors listed above, AHS senior Bella Keller is an American Vision Award winner. The top five Gold Keys in the entire exhibit earn the American Vision Award.

The categories of art include Architecture & Industrial, Ceramics & Glass, Comic Art, Design, Digital, Drawing & illustration, Editorial Cartoon, Expanded Projects, Fashion, Film & Animation, Jewelry, Mixed Media, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture, and Senior Art Portfolio.

The show runs through Feb. 14.

Gallery hours for the public are: Daytime: Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Evening: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 4 to 6:30 p.m.; and Sundays 1 to 3 p.m. (All dates and times are subject to change).

Thank you to our Avon High School art teachers Karen Busch, Catherine McDaniel and Maria Petrus for continuing to inspire our Eagles.



American Vision Award Winner, senior Bella Keller

Avon High School Scholastic Art Show Gold Key Winners



Audrey Lieux, 12



Alex Schill, 11



Isabella Keller, 12



Isabella Keller, 12



Isabella Keller, 12



Madelyn Kitchin, 9



Sarah Pomfrey, 12



Alex Schill, 11

Avon High School Scholastic Art Show Silver Key Winners



Angelina Gergis, 12



Sarah Pomfrey, 12



Audrey Lieux, 12



Annalisa O'Donnell, 12



Isabella Keller, 12



Audrey Lieux, 12



Joshua Stinchick, 12



Adriana Stockard, 12



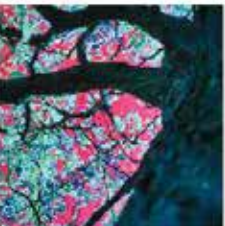
Addison Zehr, 11



Angelina Gergis, 12



Johan Paul, 12



Oliver Dobrovic, 10

- Avon High School Scholastic Art Show Honorable Mention
- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Katelyn Achtziger, 12 | Corin Mueller (3), 12 |
| Sevilla Anderson, 11 | Annalisa O'Donnell (2), 12 |
| Isabel Butkowski, 10 | Mahima Patel, 10 |
| Isabella Cesare, 10 | Delaney Pocos (2), 12 |
| Nimrit Dhillon, Claudia Dorn, 11 | Sarah Pomfrey (2), 12 |
| Julianne Hindman, 12 | Victoria Sidoti, 12 |
| Yuxin Jiang, 12 | Isabel Sikora, 10 |
| Gianna Johnson, 11 | Joshua Stinchick, 12 |
| Isabella Keller, 12 | Sidney Strickel, 10 |
| Kendalyn Klesh, 11 | Erin Till, 11 |
| Isabella Lane, 12 | Carleen Wellman (2), 12 |
| Krista Lehibach, 12 | Elizabeth Weir, 11 |
| Sophie Michelsen(2), 12 | Gabriela Woolsey, 9 |

COME SEE THE SHOW!

Lorain County Community College
Stocker Center Gallery
1005 Abby Rd N, Elyria, Ohio 44035
January 8 - February 14, 2024

Beth K Stocker Gallery Hours
M - F 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
T, W, Th Evenings 4-6:30 PM
Sunday 1-3PM

Avon Art Teachers on Display

Congratulations to Avon High art teacher Catherine McDaniel and Avon Middle School art teacher John Yagoda! Both have artwork featured in the 6th Annual Lorain County Teachers Art Show currently on display now through Jan. 19 at the Elyria Public Library - West River Branch, 1194 W River Road N, Elyria.

Mr. Yagoda also earned a People's Choice Honorable Mention honor.

Thank you Educational Service Center of Lorain County for featuring our talented educators.



John Yagoda



Katherine McDaniel

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

continued from page 5

— Learn about how and why bicyclists travel the roadways in the ways they do to develop a shared understanding for all users in this interactive program. Drivers and soon-to-be drivers welcome. This program will be led by an instructor trained by the League of American Bicyclists on how to educate individuals who bike and drive to safely share the road. No registration necessary.

Wednesday, February 7 (2-4 p.m.) *Discover Your Roots: Learn the Basics of Ancestry Library Edition*— Did you know that you can use Ancestry.com in the library free of charge? Find family photos, immigration records, census records and much much more! If you are new to genealogy research, this is a wonderful place to start. Registration begins January 24.

Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21 and 28 (4:30-6 p.m.) *Bow Wow Books*— Stop by Youth Services to sign up for a 10-minute reading time with a reading therapy dog. Sign up starts at 4 p.m. Dogs will stay for 10 minutes past the last registered reader or 1 1/2 hours, whichever comes first. Recommended for grades K-4.

Wednesday, February 7 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) *Horror Film Club*— Join us for another creepy classic from the Vault! New members are welcome, but children under 13 must be with an adult. Please register.

Wednesday, February 7 (6:30-8 p.m.) *Makerspace Foundations: CNC Orientation*— Attend an orientation to get to know the basics

continued on page 12

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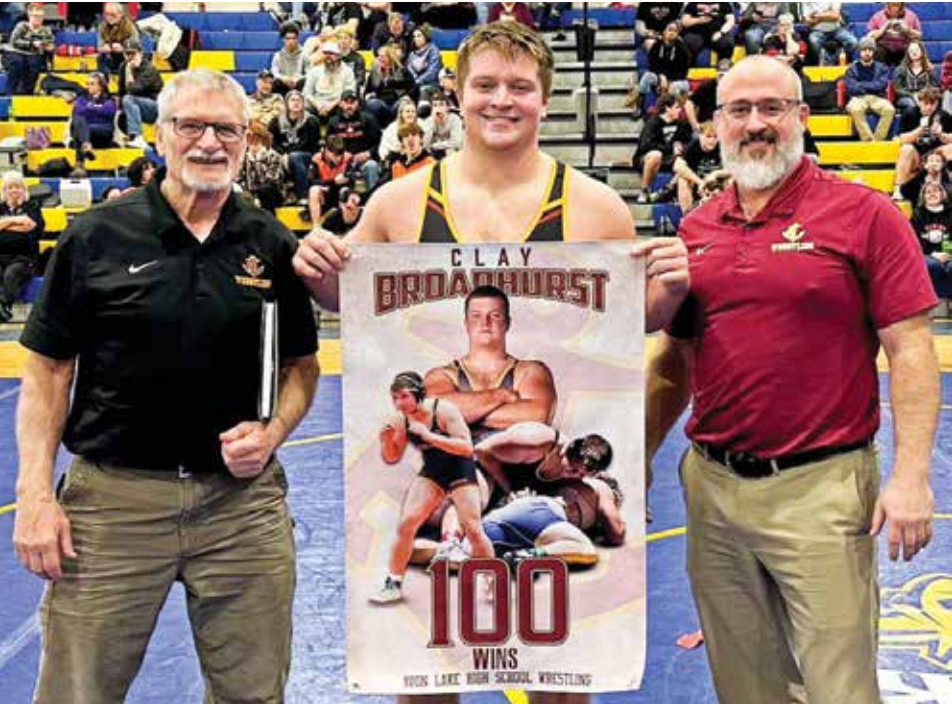
CENTURY 21

DeAnna Realty

Wrestler of the Week

Avon Lake Wrestler Marks 100th Win

Congratulations to Avon Lake Clay Broadhurst who got his 100th career win by pinning the 8th ranked wrestler from Perkins in the semifinals at the Clyde Invitational last weekend. Clay went on to take heavyweight runner-up honors. Clay is a returning state qualifier and all-state football player.





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Nuwave Vision Opens in Westlake

Nuwave Vision opened for business in July of 2023 in Westlake. Located at 29160 Center Ridge Rd., Suite G, this new Optometric practice and optical was started by independent Optometrist, Dr. Beth Lin. Dr. Lin attended The Ohio State University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2005 and her Doctorate of Optometry in 2011. Dr. Lin is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a member of the Ohio Optometric Association and the American Optometric Association.

She has treated patients on Cleveland's west side since 2011 as an Associate of Robert M. Stern, M.D., at UH/St John's Medical Center, and The Cleveland Eye Clinic. She manages patients with diabetic eye disease, cataracts, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and complex contact lens needs, including fitting rigid gas permeable and scleral contact lenses. The practice emphasizes new technologies with the new addition of IPL (Intense Pulse Light) for the treatment of dry eye conditions. Nuwave Vision is now accepting new patients.



Pie Day!

It's that time of year when pie makes a difference! That's why Jan. 23 is National Pie Day, created by the American Pie Council in 1986 to commemorate Crisco's 75th anniversary. At Arden Courts in Westlake, touring families were treated to a pie to take home, as Laura Cherauskas shares with resident family member Rosemarie. A great day to visit, tour and take home a delicious dessert!



Westlake Police Officers Recognized

Congratulations to Steve Barrie, who was sworn in last week by Mayor Clough as the Westlake Police Department's newest Sergeant Steve has developed his leadership experience through his time with the United States Army as well as the last 6 and 1/2 years serving as a police officer. In addition to leading a uniform patrol shift, Sgt Barrie will continue with his role as a member of the WEB Bomb Squad as well as the WPD drone unit.

Awards were also presented to:
-Ptl. Mike Thompson who was voted on by WPD employees as 2023 Officer of the Year.

-Digital Forensics Examiner Richard Johnson who was voted WPD Employee of the Year. This was Richard's 3rd time being employee of the year. (His step-dad accepted for him as he is in training)

Both Mike and Rich are known for being experts in their fields who humbly lead by example and are always willing to teach as well as work diligently to achieve team goals. Well deserved by all honored today.



WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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of using the CNC router and become a verified user of the machine. Registration begins January 31.

Thursday, February 8 (1-2:30 p.m.) *Did You Know You Speak Latin? Part III: Abbreviations, motos & derivations*—Examine English words and trace their Latin origins and derivations. No prior Latin knowledge required. This is the third in a series of six classes. Attend all or some. Please register.

Thursday, February 8 (4-5 p.m.) *Comic Club*—Explore, share, and create your own comics! For grades 2-5. Bring your favorite comic book, or a comic that you made, to share with the group. Learn some comic-making basics and bring your ideas to life! Registration begins February 1.

Thursdays, February 8 and 22 (4-5 p.m.) *Roblox Arcade (Virtual)*—Join us in the Roblox Arcade! We have private servers set up for tweens in grades 4-6 to enjoy some of the most popular games. Registration begins February 1.

Thursday, February 8 (8-9 p.m.) *Virtual Author Talk: Tess Bailey*—Join us as the #1 New York Times bestselling author Tess Bailey talks about the launch of her new super-hot sports romance duology with a rom-com about a bad boy professional athlete who falls for his biggest fan in her new book, Fangirl Down. Streamed live. Please register.

Friday, February 9 (9:30-10 a.m.) *My First Valentine's Day*—Celebrate your baby's first Valentine's

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David Fisher Credits Lorain County Community College for a Successful Electrical Engineering Career



David Fisher today



David Fisher 1970

After David Fisher spent most of high school days just getting by to stay eligible for sports, he didn't have much desire to go to college. But his parents encouraged him to give it a try. Thankfully, he did. And choosing an engineering pathway was an obvious choice.

"My mom and dad said I always took apart every toy I had," Fisher says.

Two years later in 1970, he earned an associate degree in mechanical engineering from Lorain County Community College. In 1985 he came back for a second degree in electrical engineering. And he's held a State Electrical Contractors license for nearly 40 years.

"When I was in high school in machine shop class, we had a teacher that made you learn every part of the machine before you could even start it up," he says. "And then I remember coming to LCCC. It was all hands-on. And to me, that's the best way to learn."

Engineering employers tend to agree – and Fisher's career is proof of that.

Today, Fisher credits LCCC and its hands-on approach to learning for paving the way for his successful electrical engineering career that included positions with prominent Lorain County companies, like Ridge Tool Company.

"I was Ridge Tool's first electronic electrician," he says. "They were getting more into the CNC equipment and eventually they made me an electrical foreman over the whole plant."

Fisher's last role was as a senior electrical engineer at Forest City Technologies Inc. in Wellington. He spent nearly 30 years with the organization.

"Back when I started, they had about 60 people and they really didn't have anybody doing electrical work," Fisher recalls. "It ended up as one of the best moves I've made. They designed and built their own production equipment. I saw a lot of things happen there."

In his decades-long career, Fisher has come across many brilliant minds, who often trained at prestigious universities. And he says the hands-on LCCC education he received holds firm among others' education. And sometimes, inches out just above.

"I've had some colleagues and even bosses who've said I taught them more than their education did, in certain aspects, because with me it was all hands on," Fisher says.

Fisher visited the LCCC campus in 2023, as the college celebrated its 60th anniversary. And as he sat in the new automation lab, which served as the drafting room in the late 1960s, he marveled at the college's ability to keep pace with industry and keep its education experience based.

"I feel very fortunate that I came to LCCC. I'm able to design and build things, and make them work," he says. "And it's a great opportunity for young people today. And it's right here for everyone."



Annual Soup Supper

The United Women in Faith (UWF) of Bay United Methodist Church, 29931 Lake Rd., Bay Village, OH. invite the public to enjoy their annual Soup Supper on Saturday, January 27, from 5:00-6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets Ages 11 & up are \$12.00, 10 and under \$5.00.

Questions may be directed to JoAnn Post: jpoh_2000@yahoo.com (please note: there is an underscore between the "h and 2") or you may call the church office at 440-871-2082.

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WEST SHORE BLUES: THE BEST OF THE BEATS

Hit-Skip Driver Nabbed

On 1/11/24 at approx. 4:45PM WPD received a 911 call reporting a hit-skip motor vehicle crash. The complainant explained that their car was struck at Columbia and Hilliard. The suspect vehicle did not stop but took off north bound on Columbia. The alert victim wrote down the license plate of the other car and even took a photo with her cell phone. Officers soon located the hit-skip vehicle behind a business on Detroit Rd. The driver, a 43yo Westlake resident, was found inside the nearby business. The man admitted he left the scene because he did not have a valid driver's license. Only minor damage was reported to both involved vehicles. The 43yo man was charged with hit-skip, driving under suspension and failure to maintain assured clear distance ahead.



agent attempted to stop her. The female abandoned the cart outside the store and entered the get away car which was being driven by a male accomplice. They fled the scene almost striking the loss prevention employee. The female was described as white and appeared to be approximately 5'5"-5'7" weighing between 120-140 lbs. She had red hair and was wearing a hooded sweatshirt. The male suspect was described as white and appeared to be approximately 5'8"-5'10" weighing between 160-180 lbs. He was wearing a black hat, black hooded sweatshirt and black jacket. The male also had a TATTOO UNDER an EYE which appeared to be writing of some sort. The female had stolen over \$1700 worth of merchandise. WPD posted photos of the couple on the department's social media pages believing that the public would be able help identify the thieves. Within 20 minutes the couple and vehicle were tentatively identified. Charges are expected.

Police Cars Struck in Getaway



On 1/5/24 at a little after 9PM, WPD officers learned that a vehicle parked unoccupied on Main St in Crocker Park was owned by a male who had multiple warrants. The patrol officers took note because the plate had expired in October of 2023 and came back to a man who had felony warrants from multiple agencies for probation violation, fleeing from police and theft. At around 10pm the officers attempted to stop the male as he returned to his car. He failed to comply and ran to his vehicle. Westlake PD initiated a vehicle pursuit of the suspect. While fleeing the area, the suspect used his vehicle to strike 2 police cruisers before entering I90 E/B. In the area of Detroit Rd in Rocky River, the suspect struck another vehicle. He fled on foot but was soon apprehended without further incident. A firearm was recovered from inside the abandoned suspect vehicle. A 20yo male who lists a Cleveland address was placed into custody. Rocky River PD is taking a report for the crash that occurred in their city. North Olmsted, Lakewood, Bay Village and North Olmsted Police Departments assisted Westlake and Rocky River in the successful apprehension of the suspect. The man was charged with felony fleeing. Additional charges of having a weapon while under a disability, assault on a police officer and resisting arrest are expected to be presented to the county grand jury.

Felony Warrant

On 1/7/24 at about 3:15AM officers stopped a vehicle on I90 W/B at Crocker for violations. The driver was found to have a suspended license and a felony warrant out of Lorain County for Aggravated Burglary. The 22yo Oberlin male was arrested. The passenger, a 27yo man out of Lorain, also had a felony warrant. His was out of Elyria PD for unauthorized use of a vehicle. Both men were arrested and turned over to other agencies for prosecution.

Prius Strikes Camp Bow Wow



On 1/7/24 at about 12:30PM, WPD and Westlake Fire responded to a report of a vehicle that drove into a building. Officers arrived to find the driver of a Toyota Prius had accidentally hit the gas instead of the brake and struck Camp Bow Wow on Bradley Rd. The building was evacuated briefly while the structure was evaluated. No injuries were reported.

Bouncing Off the Guardrails!

On 1/7/24 at approx. 3:30PM, WPD received numerous 911 calls reporting a black Hyundai was alarmingly reckless on I90 E/B. The vehicle was all over the roadway and was actually bouncing off the guardrails and concrete median walls in Avon. A truck driver noticed that it appeared that the man driving was passed out behind the wheel while the car was still in motion. WPD officers spotted the vehicle in the area of Columbia where it again bounced off the center concrete wall. The police tried to

continued on page 16

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Plan for the Solar Eclipse

At about 3:13 pm on Monday, April 8, 2024, Bay Village will be in the path of totality for a solar eclipse. Skies have been clear in Bay Village on April 8 for 3 of the last 9 years.

Plan ahead:

- Cahoon Road in Cahoon Memorial Park will be closed, similar to closures at Bay Days. Parking will be limited. Roads around the park may have limited access or be closed.

- Parking rules will be enforced. Do not park on public property except for designated parking spaces.

- Stores and businesses may be closed or overwhelmed that day. Call ahead to confirm.

- If you plan to have work done at your home that day, consider rescheduling.

- City facilities, including the Gazebo and Bay Lodge, will not be available to rent just before and during the event.

- Park hours are 5:00 am to 11:00 pm. Overnight camping is not permitted in city parks.

Avon Lake Total Eclipse 2024

The City of Avon Lake, in partnership with the Avon Lake City Schools, is planning a ticketed event at Avon Lake High School Memorial Stadium on Monday, April 8, 2024 including:

- General Admission to the stadium area
- One pair of eclipse glasses per paid admission
- Live stream of the eclipse broadcast on big screens as it crosses the country

For a map of the eclipse pathway visit: http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/TSE_2024_GoogleMapFull.html

AVON GIRLS TAKE SWC TITLES

Congratulations to the Avon Middle School 8th grade girls basketball team! SWC CHAMPS! 18-0 season!

The 7th grade Avon Gold girls team completed their middle school season 16-0! They finished the regular season 14-0 and won



7th Grade



8th Grade

the end of the season conference championship!
Great job girls! The future is bright!

- Experts to help prepare Eclipse watchers for what to expect

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- Live Music - Audiophile

@ 11:30am and Follow the Sun

@ 3:30pm

- Food Trucks & Concessions
- Local Vendors including glasses and other eclipse merchandise

- Kids Play Area
- Dedicated Telescope Observation Area

Admission: Buy early and save. Early Bird wristbands are \$15 each. A limited number of

early bird wristbands are available. Wristbands are \$25 each following the early bird offer while supplies last. Children 2 and under are free and do not need a wristband.

Fatal Car Accident in Avon Lake

On Thurs., Jan 18 at about 8:54 pm. Avon Lake Police and Fire were dispatched to the area of Lake Road and Vineyard for a motor vehicle accident with injuries. The single motor vehicle traveling westbound on Lake went off the right side of the roadway and struck two utility poles. The 36-year old male driver was found to be deceased. The accident is being investigated by Avon Lake Police and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Lake Road was closed between Harvey Parkway and Armour Road for three hours. The crash remains under investigation.



Please pray for and hold in your hearts the children at St. Raphael School and the Blayney family. Many grew up with Mr. Blayney, who died in a car accident in Avon Lake on Thursday night. He will be very missed.

Monday morning, St. Raphael School gathered together as a community to mourn the loss and celebrate the life of dear friend, Mr. Colin Blayney. At this Mass, Fr. Dan and Fr. Tim both reminded us that our community is a net of love, and that although we are weathering a hard storm, God is with us and we are all together. Saint Raphael School will have counselors on hand all day long for any students who need to talk to somebody. Thank you for your love and support during this difficult time.

WEST SHORE BLUES: THE BEST OF THE BEATS

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stop the vehicle which was now operating with a flat tire. The Hyundai struck the guard rail at Detroit Rd which finally disabled the vehicle enough where it could be boxed in by cruisers. The man was taken into custody before he could take off again and cause damage to other motorists. The 33yo Amherst man was transported to the hospital to be treated for non-life threatening injuries sustained from the crashes. The man appeared intoxicated and suspected oxycodone pills were recovered from the scene. The driver was charged with felony failure to comply for not stopping his vehicle when directed as well as OVI. He refused to submit to a chemical test therefore his license was suspended immediately. Amazingly, the suspect did not strike any other vehicles during this incident. The suspect appeared in Rocky River Municipal Court on 1/8/24 where he waived his preliminary hearing. The case was bound over to the Cuyahoga County Grand Jury and the man was transported to the county jail on a

\$10,000 cash or surety bond.

BB Damage

On 01/09/2024, at 1259 hrs, a business in the 500 block of Dover Center discovered one of their windows had been shot by multiple BB's. Police are investigating.



iPhones Missing

On 01/09/2024, at 1345 hrs, a resident in the 500 block of Oakmoor reported she received notification that two iPhones she ordered had been delivered to her residence. When she went to retrieve them a short time later, they were gone. Police are investigating.

Turn it Down!

On 01/09/2024, at 2232 hrs, a resident in the 600 block of Canterbury reported loud music playing in the area. Responding officers located the source. A female was sitting in her car listening to music after a long day. She was advised

of the complaint and turned the music down.

OVI

On 01/11/2024, at 2121 hrs, a BVPD officer stopped a vehicle on Lake Rd. at Sandalwood for multiple traffic violations. After speaking with the driver, the officer suspected the driver had been drinking. Upon exiting the vehicle, the female driver, who was unsteady on her feet, refused field sobriety tests. Based on the officer's observations he believed she was intoxicated and arrested her for OVI. The 39-yoa Cleveland resident will faces charges at RRMCC.

The Masked Ding Dongs

On 01/13/2024, at 2251 hrs, a Bayfair Ct. resident called BVPD to report a group of juveniles wearing ski masks running around the neighborhood. They left the area in two cars in an unknown direction of travel. Officers located the two vehicles on Russell near Douglas and stopped them. The juvenile occupants admitted to ding dong ditching their friends' houses.

WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Day with a simple keepsake craft. For babies 0-18 months with a caregiver. Registration begins February 2.

Saturdays, February 10 and 17 (1-2 p.m.) *Ready2Read Bootcamp* – We are gearing up to read! This bootcamp is designed to increase letter recognition, sight words, and vocabulary by using art, crafts, and small tasks to build fluency. Grades K-3. Program made possible through the Accelerated Learning Grant, funded by the Ohio Department of Education, and facilitated by Making A Difference Consulting. Please register each child individually, beginning February 3.

Saturday, February 10 (2:30-3:30

p.m.) *Jewelry Crafting* – Earrings & Charm Necklaces – Join us to make earrings and charm necklaces. Registration is encouraged, but drop-ins are welcome. For crafters in grades 7-12. Registration begins February 3.

Sunday, February 11 (1:30-3 p.m.) *State of the Library Address Presented by the Director* – Westlake Porter Public Library's Director Andrew Mangels will discuss the library's current status, achievements, challenges, and future plans. All are welcome to join, and there will be time for questions and comments after the presentation. No registration required.

Monday, February 12 (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) *Fabulous February Craft Kit Pick Up* – Celebrate February with some fun crafts. Space

is limited. Registration begins February 5. Kits will be available until Sunday, February 18.

Monday, February 12 (6:30-7:30 p.m.) *Makerspace Foundations: Vectorization* – Learn all about vectors and how you can use them in the Makerspace! Learn how to turn images into vectors using Inkscape. This is a foundational design skill that will allow you to use custom images with nearly all the Makerspace equipment. Registration begins February 5.

Tuesday, February 13 (6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.) *Makerspace Foundations: Single Needle Embroidery Machine* – Celebrate National Embroidery Month with us in the Makerspace by learning the ins and outs of our single needle embroidery machine. Registration begins February 6.

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