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Our mission:
“...to educate, empower, enlighten, and excite...”

Hours:
Monday - Thursday:
9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday:
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library
27333 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, OH 44145-3947
(440) 871-2600
www.westlakelibrary.org

Replacement Levy on March 4 Ballot

On March 4, Westlake voters will be asked to approve a 2.8 mill operating levy for Westlake Porter Public Library. The library's current 2.5 mill operating levy expires on December 31, 2008 and must be replaced. Passage of the issue will ensure local library funding for the five year period of January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2013. It would also provide an additional .3 mills of funding for the same time period, allowing the library to meet increasing usage while continuing to provide the excellent level of service to which visitors are accustomed.

Currently this levy provides 66% of the library's operating funds, furnishing materials (books, audiovisual materials, magazines, etc.), resources (computers, software, database licenses, etc.), staffing, program support, supplies, and building operations (building maintenance, utilities, etc.).

Activity at the library, meanwhile, is at an all-time high. Library users set a new annual total circulation record in 2006 by checking out 1.4 million items. In addition, 470,416 people visited the library in 2006 and 2.3 million people have visited since the current building opened in July, 2002. Over 17,000 people attended a library program in 2006 and over 25,000 reference and information questions were answered.

Passage of the levy would result in a modest increase of just \$1.72 per month for each \$100,000 of home value.



Westlake voters will receive more information about the levy in the coming months. However, anyone who has questions about the levy or is interested in volunteering to help the levy campaign can call campaign chair Carol Welo at (440) 871-8815 or Library Director Andrew Mangels at (440) 250-5450.

Meet Your New Trustees

On the recommendation of the Westlake Porter Public Library Board of Trustees, the Westlake Board of Education has appointed Don Mitterholzer and Duane Van Dyke to the Library Board beginning in January, 2008.

Mitterholzer has lived in Westlake for the past twenty years and recently retired as President & CEO of Skill Metalforming Technologies. Mitterholzer is looking forward to continuing Westlake Porter Public Library's position as a focal point in the community. He enjoys spending

(continued on page 2)

Director's Notes: At Your Service

I believe the time has come when I can no longer introduce myself as the “new” library director. This December marks one year in the books and it has been a truly magnificent year. There are many people to thank for their contributions but most of all, I would like to thank the community for their support of the library. I have been overwhelmed with the wonderful compliments from this community about the library.

The ability to provide such a high quality level of service and variety of materials is attributable to both the Library Board of Trustees and the staff of Westlake Porter Public Library. We are extremely fortunate to have such a supportive and visionary board that will settle for nothing less than the best. And speaking of the best, the staff of Westlake Porter Public Library prides itself on creating a welcoming environment and giving the absolute best customer service.

Here are just a few things that happened at your library in 2007:

- The outdoor Reading Garden was

recognized by the city with a Westlake in Bloom Community Involvement Award.

- For children, we added animated talking picture books or Tumblebooks™ that can be found on our website.
- The summer reading program, Trails and Tales, was a huge success with more participation than ever.
- As part of our growing and adapting collections we now offer the opportunity to “borrow” feature films without having to leave home or worry about late fees! Just download them from our web site to your computer, connect to your TV and enjoy.
- In response to our always full computer training classes, we have increased the number of classes we offer.

With special thanks to the Friends of Porter Public Library we were able to do the following:

- Provide an opportunity for the

public to dispose of sensitive documents using Shred-It.

- Replace our music CD shelving with new shelving that is much easier to use and creates more open space.
- Host three nationally known authors as part of WestFest 2007. Author and former FBI profiler John Douglas brought in a crowd of over 160 people for a wonderful Saturday night after hours program.
- And last but not least, as of November 1 over 1.3 million items have been checked out!

We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the community and exemplify our mission of “serving as a premier knowledge provider, a family activity center, and Westlake's information and community commons.” But most of all, this is your library and we are at your service!

Andrew Mangels,
Director

Meet Your New Trustees (continued from page 1)

time in the library and has a great interest in serving the community. The Board of Trustees feels that Mitterholzer's experience in operating a business and long-term planning, and his attention to financial detail will be an asset to the library.

Van Dyke grew up in Westlake, is a graduate of Westlake High School and recently moved back to Westlake to raise his family. He is an architect with his own company, Van Dyke Architects LLC. Through his business, Van Dyke has been involved with libraries for over 20 years, and has experience in library funding, levy and bond issues, facility issues, and the need for the library to be a community center. The Board of Trustees feels that Van Dyke will help the current Board continue the quality service and commitment that makes Westlake Porter Public Library the outstanding community resource that it is today.

Mitterholzer and Van Dyke were appointed to replace David Berns and Sharon Didion, who are both leaving the Board at the end of the year. Berns and Didion have served a combined 26 years on the Board, and their leadership and experience will be missed.

Mitterholzer and Van Dyke will be sworn in at the Board's January organizational meeting.

2007 Library Ratings Cancelled

Thomas J. Hennen, author of the Hennen's American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR), has announced that the 2007 rankings have been cancelled due to a delay in the release of data from the Federal-State Cooperative Service.

Last year WPPL was ranked #2 in the nation among libraries serving our population category. WPPL has placed in the top 10 nationwide in its population category since the HAPLR's inception in 1999.

According to a notice on the HAPLR web site, Hennen plans to produce the 2008 rankings in the first half of 2008.

Friends' Book Sale Set For February

Get ready to pick up some bargain books at the Friends of the Library's annual Book Sale from Thursday, February 7 - Sunday, February 10. The book sale hours are as follows:

Thursday, February 7 — 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday, February 8 — 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 9 — 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (half-price sale)
Sunday, February 10 — 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. (bag sale)

In addition to books, the sale will include VHS videos, books on cassette tape and books on CD. Prices will start at 5 cents.

The Friends will also hold a silent auction of special (rare, author signed, and so on) books, from January 22 - February 10. Look for the silent auction books in the library's lobby showcase. Bids will start at \$5.



Help Wanted: The Friends of the Library are looking for a new book sale chairperson or persons to take over for the 2009 book sale. It's a great way to meet people and get to know the community. Training will be provided at this book sale. If you're interested, please call Judy in Group Services at (440) 250-5449.

Technology Training

Ability to use a mouse is required for all classes except Mouse 101. Choose one date where more than one are listed. Classes use Windows 2000 and Office 2003.

Mouse 101

*Tuesday, December 4 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, January 8 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)*
Learn how to use a mouse.

Computers for Beginners

*Wednesday, December 5 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, December 6 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 9 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)*
Learn about and practice using a computer.

Introduction to Windows & Toolbars

*Wednesday, December 5 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Thursday, December 6 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)*
Practice using toolbars and more.

Introduction to the Internet

*Tuesday, December 11 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Saturday, December 15 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Saturday, January 19 (9:30 - 11 a.m.)*
Learn all about the Internet.

Searching with Google

*Tuesday, December 11 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Saturday, January 19 (2:30 - 4 p.m.)*
Learn how to narrow down search results.

Creating a Yahoo E-mail Account

Tuesday, January 29 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Learn how to set up and start using a free Yahoo E-mail account.

Introduction to Microsoft Word

*Wednesday, December 12 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, January 10 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, January 22 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)*
Learn how to use Microsoft Word.

Introduction to Microsoft Word II

*Wednesday, December 12 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Thursday, January 17 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 23 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)*
Previous Word experience required. Learn more features of Microsoft Word.

Introduction to Microsoft Excel

*Thursday, December 13 (2 - 3:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, January 15 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, January 24 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)*
Learn how to set up an Excel worksheet.

Voter Registration Forms and Absentee Ballot Application Available at Library

Voter registration forms, change of address forms and absentee ballot applications are available at the Library's Reception Desk. Voter registration and change of address forms may be returned to the reception desk upon completion. Absentee ballot applications must be mailed directly to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.

The deadline for returning absentee ballots by mail is 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 1. Be sure to leave plenty of time for mailing forms back and forth when you send your absentee ballot application in.

The deadline for registering for the March 4 primary election is February 4.

Introduction to Microsoft Excel II

*Thursday, December 13 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)
Wednesday, January 16 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, January 31 (7 - 8:30 p.m.)*
Previous Excel experience required. Expand your knowledge of Excel.

Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint

Wednesday, January 30 (10 - 11:30 a.m.)
Learn how to create a basic PowerPoint presentation.

REGISTRATION:

Beginning Classes (Mouse 101, Computers for Beginners, Introduction to Windows and Toolbars): Registration for Westlake residents starts December 3. Open registration begins December 4.

Internet Classes (Introduction to the Internet, Searching With Google, and Creating a Yahoo E-mail Account): Registration for Westlake residents starts December 5. Open registration begins December 6.

Microsoft Office Classes (Word, Word II, PowerPoint, Excel and Excel II): Registration for Westlake residents starts December 10. Open registration begins on December 11.

Westlake Porter Public Library's

Calendar of Events

December 2007 — January 2008

Adult Programs

Sunday, December 2 (2 - 4 p.m.) *Joyful Noise at the Library* — Featuring Allison Newberg on the harp. *Sponsored by the Friends of Porter Public Library.*

Thursday, December 6 (7 - 8:45 p.m.) *Investor Interest Group* — Herb Geissler of the American Association of Individual Investors will discuss *Protecting Your Financial Fortress*. Registration required.

Tuesday, December 11 (7 p.m.) *Book Discussion Group* — This month's selection is *For One More Day* by Mitch Albom.*

Sunday, December 16 (2 p.m.) *Sunday Sounds* — The Friends of the Library present their monthly music program. This month's feature is the training chorus of the Singing Angels.

Monday, December 17 (7 p.m.) *Monthly Monday Movie* — Join us for this movie series for adults, featuring The History Channel's *Christmas Unwrapped: The History of Christmas*. Registration required.

Wednesday, December 19 (2 p.m.) *Afternoon Book Discussion Group* — This month's selection is *A Wedding in December* by Anita Shreve.*

Monday, December 24 *Christmas Eve* — *Library Closed*

Monday, December 25 *Christmas* — *Library Closed*

Wednesday, December 26 (1 - 7 p.m.) *American Red Cross Bloodmobile*

Monday, December 31 — *Library closes at 5 p.m.*

Tuesday, January 1 *New Year's Day* — *Library Closed*

Thursday, January 3 (7 - 8:45 p.m.) *Investor Interest Group* — Jack Kleinhenz will discuss *The Current*

Economic Overview for Cleveland, Ohio and the U.S.A. Registration required.

Tuesday, January 8 (7 p.m.) *Book Discussion Group* — This month's selection is *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini*

Saturday, January 19 (10:30 a.m.) *West Side Writers*

Sunday, January 20 (2 p.m.) *Sunday Sounds* — The Friends of the Library present their monthly music program. This month's feature is Michael Kilbane performing traditional Irish music.

Monday, January 21 (7 p.m.) *Monthly Monday Movie* — Join us for this movie series for adults, featuring *Carrie's War*, a Masterpiece Theatre drama set in Wales during World War II. Registration required.

Wednesday, January 23 (2 p.m.) *Afternoon Book Discussion Group* — This month's selection is *Family Tree* by Barbara Delinsky.*

Monday, January 28 (1 - 7 p.m.) *American Red Cross Bloodmobile*

*Books available at Circulation Desk.

We sometimes add programs after publication of this newsletter. Check out our web calendar for the most up-to-date list of programs, and to register!
<http://signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080>

Registering for programs

Online: <http://signup.westlakelibrary.org:8080>

Phone (our area code is 440):

Business Programs — 250-5460
Other Adult Programs — 250-5462

PC/Technology Programs — 250-5461
Children's/Teen Programs — 250-5471



Winter Weather Advisory

Although the library rarely closes, Ohio's winter months can be notorious, and Westlake Porter Public Library may be forced to close unexpectedly due to road conditions and travel advisories.

In severe weather, we urge you to call the library (440-871-2600) to make sure we're still open, or confirm that your program is "on" before heading out. Whenever possible we'll also post closings on local TV and radio stations.

If you're responsible for picking up a child in bad weather, call the library from time to time to see if it is closing.



Art at the Library

Check out these artists featured in our art gallery area!

January, 2007

Gary Engle — photography

Children's Programs

Saturday, December 8 (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) *Saturday Morning Cartoons* — Kids ages 7 - 12: Come enjoy these classic cartoons! Registration required, starting December 1.

Saturday, December 8 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) *MITICraft* — A Make It Take It craft experience with all supplies provided --- a drop-in craft for children and their caring adults.

Saturday, December 8 (2 - 3 p.m.) *Cookie Creations* — Cookies are just as much fun to decorate as they are to eat! Come join us for some tasty fun! Registration required, starting December 1. For ages 7 - 10.

Saturday, December 15 and Friday, December 21 and January 11 (10 - 11 a.m.) *Come Play With Me* — Open play time for children ages 2 - 4 and their caring adults. Registration required, starting one week before each session.

Saturday, December 15 (11 a.m. - 3 p.m.) *Crafter-Noon* — Drop in for some cool, crafty fun! All supplies provided (while they last), no registration required. For kids in grades 4 - 6.

Wednesday, December 19 (7 - 7:30 p.m.) *Porter Express Family Storytime* — Children ages 5 and up and their families are invited to join us for an evening of holiday cheer, including a reading of *The Polar Express*.

Thursday, December 20 (10 - 10:45 a.m.) *Winter Wonderland* — Enjoy a holiday storytime with stories, songs, and a simple craft. Registration required, starting December 13. For ages 3 1/2 - 5.

Wednesday, December 26 (10 a.m. - 8 p.m.) *Book Swap* — Kids in preschool through 5th grade are welcome to bring their gently used books to the Youth Services Department and exchange them for "new-to-you" titles.

Wednesday, December 26 (2 - 4 p.m.) *Winter Break Movie* — Take the express train to the North Pole for the magical *The Polar Express*. For kids ages 7 - 12. Registration required, starting December 19.

Thursday, December 27 (2 - 3:45 p.m.) *Winter Break Movie* — Follow Jim Hawkins' adventures through the galaxy

in *Treasure Planet*. For ages 7 - 12. Registration required, starting December 20.

Friday, December 28 (2 - 3:30 p.m.) *Winter Break Movie* — Enjoy the story of Mowgli in *The Jungle Book*. For kids ages 7 - 12. Registration required, starting December 21.

Saturday, January 12 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) *MITICraft* — A Make It Take It craft experience with all supplies provided --- a drop-in craft for children and their caring adults.

Friday, January 18 (10 - 11:30 a.m.) *Kid's Movie* — A morning movie for kids ages 3 - 7 with a caring adult. Registration required, starting January 11.

Saturday, January 19 (10 - 11 a.m.) *Boys Rock!* — Join us for a boys only book club for fathers and their sons in grades 4 and 5. Size limited to 6 kids and 6 adults. Registration required, starting January 12.

Saturday, January 19 (2 - 3 p.m.) *Girls Rule!* — Join us for a girls only book club for mothers and their daughters in grades 4 and 5. Group size limited to six kids and 6 adults. Registration required, starting January 12.

Monday, January 21 (11 a.m. - 12 p.m.) *'Tweens' Dance Dance Revolution* — For grades 4 and 5. Registration required, starting January 14.

Saturday, January 26 (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) *Saturday Morning Cartoons* — Two hours of cartoons from the good old days for ages 7 - 12. Registration required, starting January 19.

Thursday, January 31 (3:45 - 4:30 p.m.) *Pickle Tree Club* — Kids in grades 1 - 3 will explore the real and not-so real world. Registration required, beginning January 24.

Teen Programs

December 3 - 17 *Snowman Candy Count* — Guess how many candies in the container. Best guess gets both! Grades 6 - 12.

Tuesday, December 4 and 11 and January 8, 15, 22 and 29 (3:30 - 5 p.m.) and Monday, January 21 (2:30 - 4 p.m.) *Come Dancin'* — DDR is back! Grades 6 - 12.

Thursday, December 6 and January 3 (4 - 5 p.m.) *Thursday Afternoon Fights* — Join us for an open, non-confrontational exchange of ideas. Grades 6 - 12. Registration required, starting one week before each session.

Saturday, December 15 (2 p.m.) *Teen*

Saturday Matinee — We're showing *Stomp the Yard* (116 minutes). Grades 6 - 12. If you're under 13 ask for a permission slip to see the show.

Tuesday, December 18 and January 15 (7 - 8 p.m.) *Mad For Manga* — Manga lovers' chance to talk! Grades 6-12.

January 7 - 31 *Scavenger Hunt* — Grades 6 -12. Call (440) 250-5471 for details.

Monday, January 21 (10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.) *Teen Monday Movie* - TBA

Tuesday, January 29 (7 - 8 p.m.) *Teens Talk Books* — Friends, food and fun. Oh, books, too. Grades 6 -12. Come join us!

WINTER STORYTIMES

The Winter Storytime session runs the weeks of January 7 - February 14. No registration necessary, but the Storytime room capacity is 58.

LAPSIT STORYTIME - *Monday, Tuesday or Thursday (9:30 a.m.)* — For children 6-24 months and their caregivers.

TODDLER STORYTIME - *Monday, Tuesday or Thursday (10:15 a.m.)* — For children 2 - 3 1/2 years old with their caregivers.

PRE-SCHOOL STORYTIME - *Wednesday (10:15 a.m.)* — For children 3 1/2 to 5 years old.

27333 Center Ridge Road Westlake, OH 44145-3947
(440) 871-2600 e-mail: porter@westlakelibrary.org www.westlakelibrary.org



Porter Public Library

27333 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145-3947



Holidays

The Library will be **CLOSED** on the following holidays:

Christmas Eve (December 24)
Christmas Day (December 25)
New Year's Day (January 1)

Notes

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(440) 871-2600 – voice
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Westlake Porter Public Library does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment, services, or access to programs or activities. Special assistance for library programs or facilities is available by calling (440) 871-2600 in advance.

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The library's Board of Trustees normally meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. Call in advance to verify date, time and location, as occasionally there are changes.

Thank you, Donors!

We would like to thank the following for their generous contributions from September 1 — October 31, 2007.

HONOR ROLL (up to \$250)

Jennifer Blackburn
Grand Circle Foundation
Dave Pfister and Lisa Stanton
Ruth Rea
Westlake Parent Connection/Parent to Parent Network

WESTERN RESERVE CLUB (\$250+)

Robert and Jan Ontolchik

The library welcomes gifts of books, other materials and funds by individuals or organizations, as lasting and useful memorials to friends or family members, and as celebrations of special events.

Donations in the name of a special recipient are also a wonderful holiday or birthday gift for that avid

Thank You, Friends!

A special thank you goes to the Friends of Porter Public Library for underwriting Westfest 2007. Without their support this author festival would not have been possible!