

Dear Resident:

Westlake has always been a strong voice in exercising the right to vote. Don't let this early primary be an exception. Much is at stake for local, state and national leadership now and in the future. Thus, I would strongly encourage everyone, no matter what political party, if any, to let your voice be heard through your vote on March 15, 2016. We are fortunate to have a great city, state and country because individuals are willing to serve in public office so let's show our support with our vote.

I will provide this year's State of the City address on March 8, 2016. If you are unable to attend (see next column for details) you will be able to access it through our web-site or our local public channels on W.O.W., Time Warner or AT&T.

Spring is now just around the corner and new construction projects will begin. Please review our website for further details or updates on projects that may interest you.

As always, if there are questions or concerns you would like to bring to our attention please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Clough Mayor

State of the City

Mayor Clough's 2016 State of the City Address will be held on Tuesday, March 8, at 11:30 a.m. at the DoubleTree Westlake, located at 1100 Crocker Road. For reservations, please contact the Westshore Chamber of Commerce at 440-835-8787.

2016 Roadway Programs

For complete details on each project listed below, please visit the city's website at www.cityofwestlake.org.

- Detroit Road Resurfacing Corporation Line to Corporation Line
- Bradley Road (Center Ridge Road to Hilliard Boulevard) Watermain Replacement with Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Repairs and Asphalt Overlay
- Canterbury and Detroit Roads Intersection Widening
- Asphalt Roadway Rehabilitation
 - o Schwartz Road from Center Ridge Road to Hilliard Boulevard
 - o Walter Road from Westwood Road to Maple Ridge Road
- Concrete Roadway Rehabilitation with Asphalt Overlay and Catch Basin Repair
 - o Balmoral Way entire street
 - o Carriage Park Oval entire street
- Pavement Crack and Joint Seal

Join the Party and Vote in the March 15, 2016, Presidential Primary Election

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is reminding voters to take advantage of their opportunity to join the political party of their choice or to be a nonpartisan voter by casting a ballot in this election. In Ohio, the only method voters may utilize to establish or change their party affiliation is by voting in a partisan primary election. People may choose to vote an "issues only" ballot if they prefer to be considered a nonpartisan voter.

The ballot choices for voters are: Democrat, Republican, Green, Issues Only, and other.

Here is what is on the ballot for this important election: President of the United States, U.S. Senator and Congressional Representatives, Ohio House & Senate candidates, County Prosecutor and County Council candidates, Ohio Supreme Court and county judicial seats, Republican State and County Central Committee members, Green Party State and County Central Committee members, the County Health and Human Services tax renewal, Municipal, township, and school levies.

All registered voters may enjoy the convenience of voting by mail. Vote by Mail ballot applications are available at the Board of Elections website: www.443VOTE.com, by calling the Board of Elections at 216-443-VOTE (8683), or visiting the Board of Elections at 2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland.

Check out all the new places in Westlake!

In Crocker Park:

Athleta Michael Kors

Beauty Brands Orvis

Burntwood Tavern Soft Surroundings

Homage Sur La Table
Hyatt Hotel Place The Limited
LuluLemon Yard House

Lush

In the Promenade:

Carhartt

Other new restaurants elsewhere in the city:

Felix & Oscar's Miami Nights Rosewood Grill The Fountain Mediterranean Café & Grill

Coming soon to Westlake!

In Crocker Park:

3 Palms Pizzeria Bonefish Grill Colossal Cupcakes Graeter's Ice Cream Texas de Brazil

Coming soon elsewhere in the city:

Holiday Inn Express Hotel

Crocker Park Update

Phase III of the Crocker Park expansion is nearing completion with many new stores and restaurants opening. Also under construction, is the new worldwide headquarters of American Greetings. The new facility, located on the southern edge of Crocker Park, will have a little over 600,000 square feet of space on floors 1 - 5 for the nearly 1300 employees that will be located in the building. The first floor will have approximately 59,000 square feet of space available for retail shops and office space. Construction of the facility is currently on track, and American Greetings is anticipating moving into their new building this July.



Calling All Gardeners!

Dean's Greenhouse located at 3984 Porter Road, will be conducting a seminar on raised bed gardening on Saturday, April 23, from 10 – 12 p.m. The speakers will highlight planting the flower beds along Hilliard Boulevard. They will offer advice and suggestions for the various conditions encountered when planting raised gardening beds. Please call Dean's Greenhouse to register at 440-871-2050.

Traffic Signal Upgrade

The Citywide Traffic Signal Upgrade is currently underway throughout the community. This project will interconnect all traffic signals in a closed loop system citywide to a central computer using fiber optics. All traffic signals will collect traffic data throughout the day and make adjustments where and when needed to improve traffic flow and reduce delay. By doing so, we will reduce auto emissions and improve air quality. This system is scheduled to come on live by the end of May. In order to provide this smart technology in traffic coordination, the old system will first have to be removed which will cause traffic signals throughout town to fall out of coordination (timing) for about a month. This lack of coordinated signal timing will cause some delays. Once the new system is up and running, there will be a learning curve for the system as it operates. After everything is complete and running properly, traffic flow management citywide will be improved.

Rain and Garden Show

The city of Westlake Department of Engineering and the Westlake Watershed Group will be hosting the 5th Annual Rain & Garden Show this April at the Westlake Recreation Center. Come discover eco-friendly products, new ideas and get advice from our local experts in landscaping, gardening and much more! Crafts will be available for the kids! The Engineering Department staff will be present to give advice on drainage and flooding issues. The show will be open to the public at no charge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 2nd, 2016.

Easter Egg Hunt

What better way to celebrate spring than with the city's annual Easter Egg Hunt! This event, sponsored by the Westlake Town Criers, will be held on Saturday, March 19th, at the Westlake Recreation Center. Hunts begin at 1 p.m. (for ages 4 – 6) and 1:30 p.m. (for ages 7 – 10). A noncompetitive hunt for ages 3 and under will take place just



north of the playground next to the refreshment stand. The main Bunny himself will be mingling with the crowd, making sure no child leaves empty-handed. This event takes place rain or shine.

Vote continued from page 1

Ballot applications are also available at all public libraries.

Voters should check their voting information prior to each election. Voters may confirm their ward, precinct, and voting location at the Board of Elections website: www.443VOTE. com or by calling 216-443-VOTE (8683).

NEWS FROM THE WESTLAKE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services Department has been undergoing a Space program and Feasibility study to potentially build a new center. While the site of a new center has not yet been determined, we are excited about the architect team that has been contracted to complete our study. They are Lifespan Design Studio from Loveland, Ohio, and uniquely, they specialize in building senior centers. Lifespan Design is primarily a husband and wife team whose shared experience in senior center planning and design spans nearly three decades and twenty states. As universal lifespan design specialists, they will guide the site selection process with a qualified eye for key issues that impact the safety,

comfort and accessibility of our senior population. Beyond the question of square footage and construction costs, Lifespan Design places a priority on whether the option is a good fit for the Center's mission, goals and participants.

If you have never participated in our Plus Fifty programs, check our monthly calendar which can be found on the city's website, www.cityofwestlake.org, under the Community Services tab, or drop in for a tour. We have a wide array of various programs including exercise, health and wellness, education, entertainment, movies, support groups, creative groups and more.

Watershed Group

We want you for the Westlake Watershed Group, a citizen committee that helps protect the quality of our waterways. Current members range from residents to public officials who all have the common goal of "Going Green." Feel free to attend our next meeting on Friday, February 26th, 2016, at 7:30 a.m. at Westlake City Hall. Breakfast is provided.

Good Friday

Due to the observance of Good Friday on March 25th, City of Westlake offices will be closed. However, Rumpke Waste will be working their regular rubbish/recycling collection schedule, and there will be no delays in pick-up.

Computer Round-Up April 11 – April 15 • 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. and April 16 • 7:30 a.m. - noon

Drop off your old computer equipment - CPU's, monitors, keyboards, printers, terminals, modems, cables, software and ink printer cartridges. Cell phones and their accessories are also accepted at the Service Center, 741 Bassett Road.

Go to <u>www.cityofwestlake.org</u> for a complete listing of items accepted during the round-up.



RITA 2016 Tax Season Taxpayer Assistance

The Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) invites all taxpayers who are required to file a municipal income tax return for any RITA municipality to attend a free Taxpayer Assistance Event. Agents will be on-site to answer questions and assist with RITA municipal income tax return preparation. To receive assistance please bring with you all necessary tax documentation, including the following:

- W2s from all employers and Form 1099s
- Federal Form 1040, Federal Schedules C, E & F, Federal forms K-1, 2106 and 3903 (if applicable)
- Addresses and dates for each location in which you resided during 2015

Taxpayer Assistance Events:

(for additional events and locations, contact RITA at 1-800-860-7482)

March 15, from 1 – 7 p.m.

North Ridgeville City Hall 7307 Avon Belden Road North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039

March 24, from 1 – 7 p.m.

Don Umerley Civic Center 21016 Hilliard Blvd. Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Walk-In Taxpayer Assistance Available at RITA Office Locations

Taxpayer assistance is also available at various RITA offices. No appointment is necessary however, assistance is on a first come, first served basis and wait times may vary; please plan for such a possibility. For information on office locations, contact RITA 1-800-860-7482.

The Westlake Historical Society will be holding their annual yard sale on April 23, from 9 - 4 p.m. Those who have items to donate can drop them off at the Clague Museum or call 216-848-0680. Tax receipts are available. Proceeds from the sale benefit the Westlake Historical Society.

PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. Postage PAID CLEVELAND, OHIO Permit No. 2263

Dennis M. Clough, Mayor

Building Department	. Donald Grayem
Community Services Department	Lydia Gadd
Engineering Department	Robert Kelly
Finance Department	Prashant Shah
Fire Department	James Hughes
Law Department	John Wheeler
Mayor's Office	. Jaclyn Todd
Planning/Economic Development	James Bedell
Police Department	Kevin Bielozer
Purchasing Department	Larry Surber
Recreation Department	Bob DeMinico
Service Department	Paul Quinn III

ECR-WSS Postal Customer Westlake, Ohio

WESTLAKE CITY COUNCIL

Michael F. Killeen, President	.440-331-1910
Lynda M. Appel, Ward 1	.440-773-9157
Nick C. Nunnari, Ward 2	.440-263-2215
Dennis J. Sullivan, Ward 3	.440-835-8661
Michael F. O'Donnell, Ward 4	440-777-7814
Kenneth R. Brady, Ward 5	.440-892-1177
Mark R. Getsay, Ward 6	440-360-7418
Denise L. Rosenbaum, Clerk of Council	.440-617-4053

Facebook.com/city.of.westlake.ohio

in LinkedIn.com/company/city-of-westlake-ohio

Text alerts at https://www.nixle.com

NEWS FROM THE WESTLAKE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Easter Water Carnival (ages 3+) Friday, March 18 7 - 8:30 p.m.

This special family night will be full of fun events including a duck pond, ring toss, corn hole, putt-putt, just to mention a few. Bring your camera as the Easter Bunny will be making a special visit! Preregistration is required.

\$5 Member/\$10 Resident

March Madness 3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament Tuesday, March 15 (Girls) Saturday, March 19 (Boys)

Pick your team and put the skills you learned this past season to the test against teams from around the Westshore region in the double elimination tournament for grades 3 - 8. \$60 Member Team (2 members)/\$70 Non-member Team.

Meadowood Golf Course

Junior League and Instructional Golf Clinics are two of the most popular programs run at our 27-hole (18 executive style) golf course at the corner of Center Ridge and Crocker Road.

Please call 440-835-6442 for more details. Don't wait, the junior programs sell out quickly!

Clague Park Improvements

The city of Westlake is currently in the planning stages to renovate some of the facilities at Clague Park including Peterson Pool. Among these exciting improvements are additional walking/biking trails, construction of a bridge over the dam connecting the existing trails and the renovation of Peterson Pool. The proposed pool improvements would transform it into a family aquatic center. Among the new amenities being discussed are a lazy river, zero-depth entry activity/play pool, waterfall, splash pad, plunge pool for the existing slides, "Crazy River" cross canal with spray features and a 6-lane lap pool with three activity zones (shallow end with bench seats and jets, medium depth with climbing wall and a deep end with two 1-meter diving boards). Renovations to Clague Park would bring new excitement to the area and encourage Westlake residents to enjoy the amenities that the city of Westlake has to offer.



