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Betsie  
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Shaker Heights, Ohio

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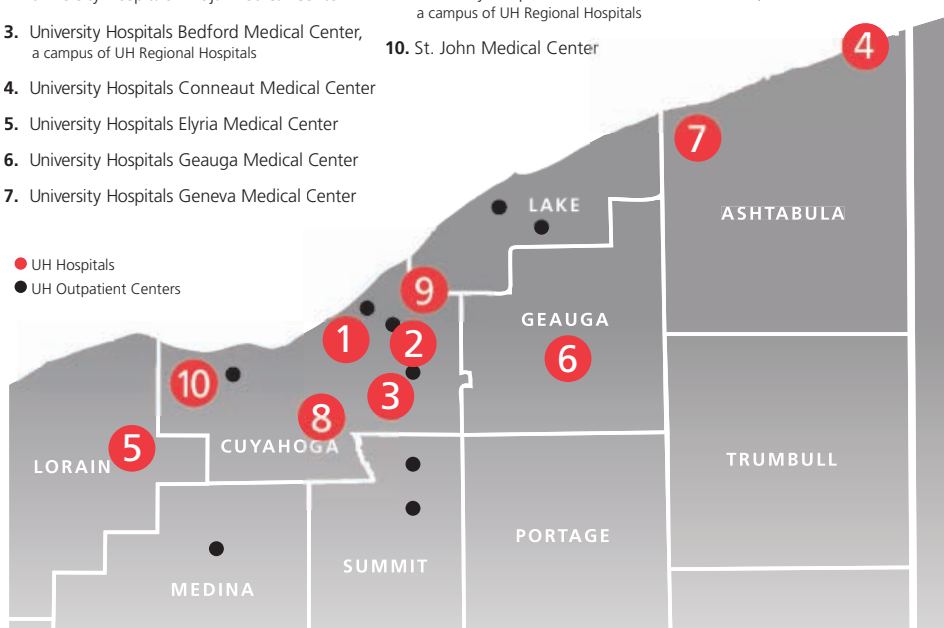


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# Inside Shaker Life

**3**  
Top Picks

**4-8**  
@ShakerOnline:

Living in a  
Healthy Community

Shaker Means Business

Speese Promotion

Public Art

**10**  
Van Aken On Track

**12**  
@ShakerLibrary

**20**  
Housing & Neighborhoods

**22**  
@ShakerSchools

**24**  
Landmark Photo Contest

**59**  
Venture Out

**63**  
Scene in Shaker

**64**  
Advertiser Index

**ON THE COVER:** Adoptees' rights advocate and Adoption Network Cleveland founder Betsie Norris. Photo by Green Street Studio.

**Access 28**  
**to Their Origins**  
Betsie Norris' political victory in Columbus was a victory for all Ohio adoptees.



**44**  
**Trading Places**  
Being an exchange student at Shaker High is a family tradition.



**42**  
**Work. Live. Shaker.**

Sara and Brian Sullivan of Second Story Productions, a video production company where the story matters.



**36**  
**Great Shaker Homes**

The City's openness to sustainable housing technology readied the way for Aparna and Richard Bole's Mission-style home and all its green trimmings.






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# Shaker Life

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Please do not call. We cannot respond to every  
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## Top Picks

### In Focus:

Shaker's most exquisite places and spaces were captured for the 2015 Landmark Commission's Preservation Month Photo Contest.

p24



## SHOP —SHAKER—

### SHOP Shaker *at the* Shaker SHOP

That's the plan.  
Be a part of it!

p6



### Painting the town...

New public art projects come to Shaker Town Center.

p8



### Shaker Goes Global

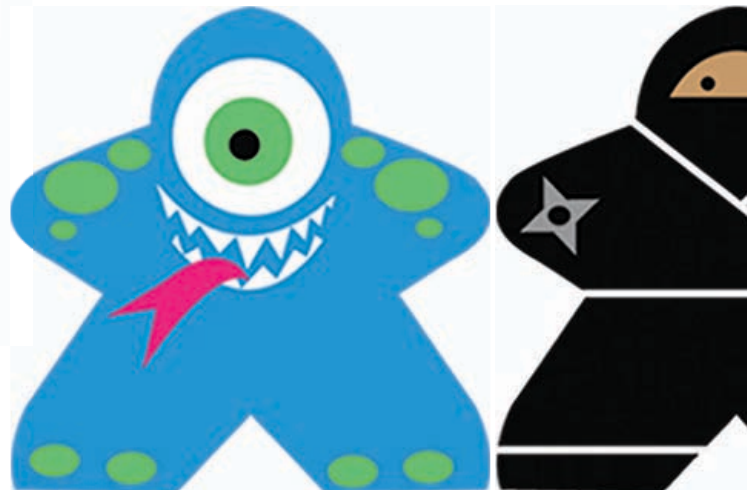
11 Shaker high school students travelled to Cambodia to lend a hand; what they got in return was priceless.

p22

### Game Changer

One family's foray into the world of Eurogames.

p63



[illegible]

No worries! The Shaker Heights Health Department has been baiting, trapping, and testing to stamp out environmental health threats for years. They're on it...but you can help too.

West Nile is a mosquito-borne virus that can cause West Nile Virus disease, encephalitis, or meningitis.

- Follows a detailed West Nile Virus prevention plan focused on larviciding the 3,500 street catch basins in Shaker. This has prevented the need for spraying pesticide.
- Responds to complaints of standing water.

- Eliminate standing water in rain gutters, old tires, buckets, plastic covers, and toys.
- Empty and change water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, rain barrels, and potted plant trays weekly.
- Drain or fill temporary pools of water with dirt.
- Keep swimming pool water treated and circulating.

- Cover all gaps in walls, doors, and windows.
- Make sure window and door screens are in good working order.
- Completely cover baby carriers and beds with netting.

- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks.
- Avoid being outside at sunrise, sunset, and early in the evening when mosquitoes are most active.
- Use EPA-registered mosquito repellents.

Bat bites are the most common source of human cases of rabies in the United States. If you are exposed, report the incident to the Health Department. Animal Control will pick up the bat, which will be sent to a lab for rabies testing.

- Takes part in the Oral Rabies Vaccine baiting program. Baiting consists of placing sachets of vaccine in wooded areas for wildlife to eat.\*

- Vaccinate your pets against rabies.
- Avoid wild animals and animals you don't know.
- Call your doctor if you are bitten by a wild animal, or your vet if your pet is bitten. Report exposures to the Health Department.

The State of Ohio requires all public swimming pools to be licensed and inspected annually to ensure proper water chemistry, proper pump room equipment, and adequate safety equipment.

- Inspects the pool more frequently than required.
- Analyzes the test results from the lab and monitors pool water to prevent recreational water illnesses caused by bacteria.

- Shower before entering the pool.
- Take regular restroom breaks.
- Use approved swim diapers for children who are not toilet trained.
- Only change diapers in the restroom and wash hands thoroughly when done.
- Do not swim if you are sick.

For details on services offered by the Health Department, visit [shakeronline.com/departments/health](http://shakeronline.com/departments/health) or call Tammy Bell, administrative assistant, at 216-491-1480.



# SHAKER means BUSINESS

## Cool Office Space Available

Hey Shaker home-based business owners, here's something to consider: For a low rate of \$300-\$500 per month you can move your business into LaunchHouse, a vibrant entrepreneurial community at 3558 Lee Road. The 23,000-square-foot facility includes affordable, dedicated offices available for rent. Offices range from 100-300 square feet and can be furnished with desks and chairs as an option. Members benefit from free amenities including:

- 24/7 secure access to the building
- Gigabit-speed Internet and wi-fi
- Access to free events and educational programming
- Conference rooms and event space reservations
- Unlimited reliable printing, copying, and scanning
- Free coffee from the café

Business professionals from all industries are welcome. Flex memberships are also available. Build your company and your network at LaunchHouse. To learn more, call 216-255-3077 or visit [launchhouse.com](http://launchhouse.com).

## Ready for a Reinvention?

Are you gearing up for an empty nest or retirement? Looking for a new path, your next chapter, a second career? LaunchHouse Institute and Shaker Heights resident Beth Meany are piloting a three-week Reinvention Workshop with you in mind.

The LaunchHouse Institute is a program of the Shaker Heights Development Corporation. The Institute's work is at the intersection of education, mentorship, networking, and investment in students, schools, business leaders, residents, and communities.

This workshop focuses on individual and group exploration and discovery exercises. Working in a supportive environment, participants will develop, plan, and model their idea, and gather the resources to launch it. The workshop will be held October 19-30 at Shaker LaunchHouse, 3558 Lee Road. A fee of \$250 covers materials, professional services, and a networking/mentoring event. For more information contact [LaunchHouseReinvention@gmail.com](mailto:LaunchHouseReinvention@gmail.com).

## SHOP SHAKER

Sam Sylk, a well-known radio host on WZAK, brings his home-style comfort food to Shaker Heights with the opening of **Sam Sylk's Chicken and Fish** ([samsylkchickenandfish.com](http://samsylkchickenandfish.com)). The new restaurant is located at 3761 Lee Road. Sam's delicious sandwiches are perfect for a picnic.

Stop in to **Bicycle Boulevard** ([bicycleboulevard.com](http://bicycleboulevard.com)), your hometown bike shop, located at 20132 Chagrin Boulevard, to see what Frank Hall has done with the place! There are new and expanded merchandise displays, including a larger selection of Bell and Giro helmets in both adult and kid sizes. Bicycle Boulevard still carries the same high-quality bicycle brands like Jamis and Marin. Why not take one for a test ride today?



## LeSOLD.

Pardon our French, but in today's challenging real estate market, it takes a team with a unique vision and knowledge of the local market to accomplish your goals when purchasing or selling a home.

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So whether you're looking to put your home on the market or thinking of buying one, it all comes down to one little four-letter word...**SOLD**.

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**Holmes Mouthwatering Applesauce** ([holmesapplesauce.com](http://holmesapplesauce.com)), the delicious culinary creation by Ethan Holmes, Shaker resident, SHHS graduate, and junior at Hiram College, won the COSE Small Business Competition grand prize of \$20,000 in May. Made from a 40-year-old family recipe, the all-natural applesauce is now available locally at Heinen's. More than 30 different stores throughout Ohio and Illinois also carry his product. The business is run out of his parent's home and the applesauce is produced in the Cleveland Culinary Launch & Kitchen.

In other Shaker food news, **Pope's Kitchen** ([popeskitchen.com](http://popeskitchen.com)), a home-based business owned by Clark Pope, a Shaker resident and SHHS graduate, offers a line of artisanal products ranging from sauces and salsas, to spreads and mixes. Fig and Cocoa Spread, Roasted Strawberry Balsamic Sauce, Burning River Hot Sauce, and the ever-popular Bloody Mary Mix are perfect for summer entertaining. His products are produced in the Cleveland Culinary Launch & Kitchen and sold locally at Juma and J. Pistone. Clark Pope also offers a full range of catering services.

## Do U♥Shaker? The Survey Says Yes!

RMS Investment Corporation, developers of the Van Aken district, commissioned a business plan for a "Shaker Shop" retail store focused on supporting and promoting Shaker spirit, products, artisans, and organizations. The idea is a good one according to nearly 300 survey respondents and focus group participants; most importantly, the financials work. Now the shop needs an owner and operator. The City is looking for a person committed to celebrating all things Shaker who can take this concept and run with it. Is it you? If you'd like to see the business plan, contact the City of Shaker Heights Economic Development Department at 216-491-1335.

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## Patricia Speese Named Director of Public Works

In April, Mayor Earl M. Leiken announced the appointment of Patricia Speese as Director of Public Works. Speese had been serving as Interim Director since December 2014.

"Patti has done an excellent job as Interim Director. In that capacity, she effectively led the department through the most difficult time of the year in dealing with snow and ice removal and provided strong leadership in addressing the issues caused by the torrential storm last July as well as in managing the department on a day-to-day basis. I'm very pleased to recognize her fine performance in the interim capacity by promoting her to the Director's position," said the Mayor.

Speese began working at the Public Works Department in 2001 and earned the first of several promotions just three years after that. Most recently, she served as Business Services Manager and Assistant Director of Public Works. She was appointed Director in April.



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## New Public Art Comes to Shaker Town Center



**While Shaker High seniors Megan Jones and Samantha Butler** have big ideas about art, the size of their canvas for Senior Project is a first; it's a mural, painted on the rear walls of Master Marr's Taekwon-do at 16706 Chagrin Boulevard. Other SHHS art students have created murals for Senior Project in the school's hallways, but this will be larger and the first in a public realm.

The idea for the project came from business owners Elaine Bayless and James Marr, who asked the young women for an Asian-themed landscape.

The first challenge the future Cleveland Institute of Art students faced was transferring the design to the building's walls. Knowing they would need to create some kind of grid, they asked for counsel from the staff at Sherwin Williams, located in the same block as the martial arts school. A couple of gallons of donated paint later, and the project was underway.

## Group Seeks Proposals for Fire Centennial Art Location



**A small group of Shaker residents is working with the Shaker Heights Fire Department and other City staff** on another public art project in Shaker Town Center.

To celebrate the Centennial of the Shaker Heights Fire Department and the 10-year anniversary of the new Fire House at 17000 Chagrin Blvd., the group has prepared a Request for Proposals seeking a creative artist or team for an art education project and attractive installation (mural or sculpture) to be located at a pocket park between the Fire House and Master Marr's studio.

Production of this public artwork will engage the Shaker City Schools art teachers and students from kindergarten through fifth grade. Organizers hope that the installation will enhance the connection between the commercial district and the surrounding community and will incorporate historical elements from the past 100 years of firefighting.

The group of volunteers includes Shaker artists Leslye Arian and Nancy Schwartz-Katz, and Shaker resident and director of programs for the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning (formerly Young Audiences) Mike Obertacz. To fund the project, with its estimated budget of \$12,500, the group will launch a crowd-funding effort. A link to the crowd-funding site will be posted at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) and on the City's Facebook page, [facebook.com/ShakerHeights](https://facebook.com/ShakerHeights).





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China Star | Wendy's



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# Van Aken On Track

## RTA's Plans in the District

**Among the questions most frequently asked about the new development are these two:**

- 1)** Will the Blue Line Rapid be extended through the Warrensville/Chagrin intersection in order to expand transportation opportunities to points south and east of Shaker Heights?
- 2)** Will development plans address risky street crossing from bus stops to Rapid train access (and vice versa)?

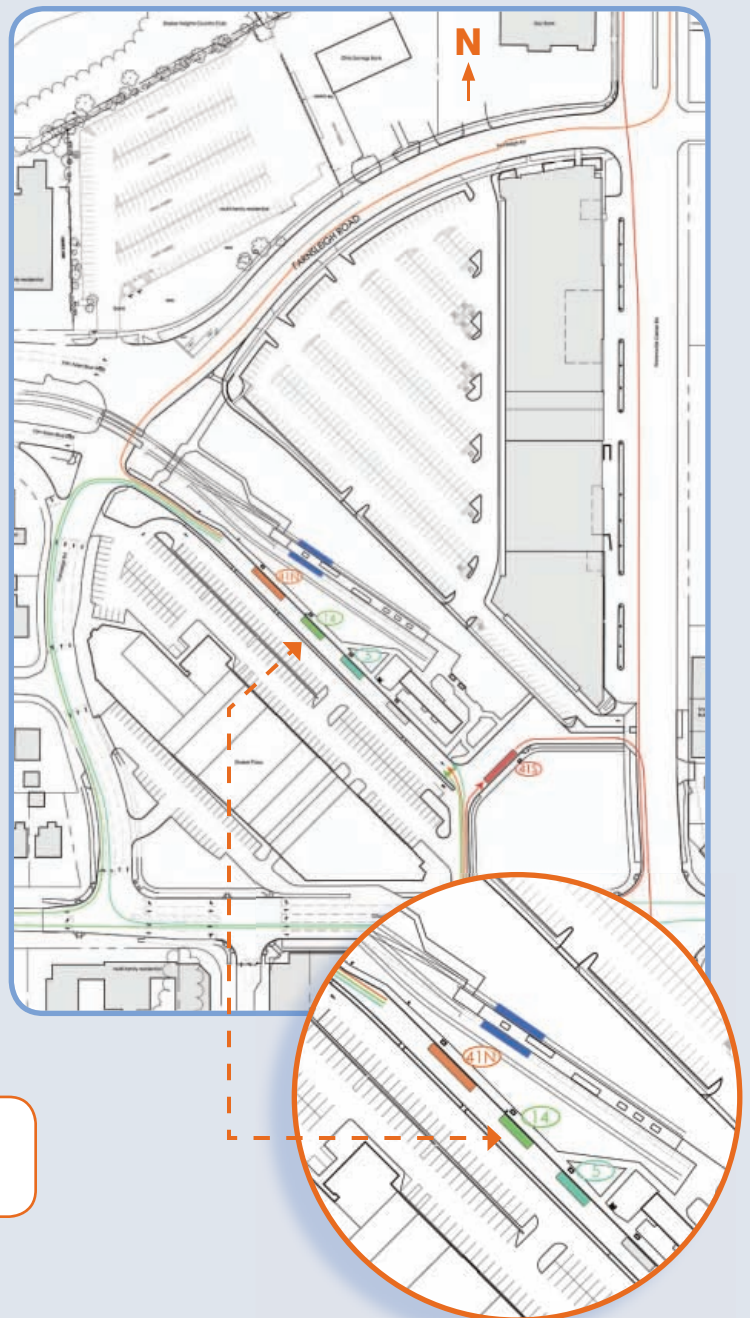
**The map pictured (right) helps illustrate the answers to these questions.**

The Blue Line *will not* be extended through the intersection. Instead, a portion of the former Van Aken Boulevard between Farnsleigh Road and Chagrin Boulevard will be reconfigured to provide an intermodal transit hub. The RTA's future plans include building a new station at the hub.

Beginning in late 2015, all bus routes will stop adjacent to the tracks so that passengers have easy access to and from the trains and other buses. The bus patterns shown in the map will continue through 2016.

### Van Aken Center Tenants Plan Move to Shaker Plaza

RMS is working with Van Aken Center tenants interested in moving to nearby Shaker Plaza in early 2016. We are delighted that there is a plan to keep our local businesses in the District! **SL**



To receive emails with updated information, sign up for Van Aken on Track ENews at [bit.ly/VanAken](http://bit.ly/VanAken).





# VAN AKEN

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AUGUST 28 | SEPTEMBER 11



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## Updates

### Library Welcomes Two New Trustees

In April, the Library welcomed two new trustees, Melissa Garrett and Troy Meinhard. Garrett will complete the five years remaining of Jeanne Shatten's unexpired term while Meinhard will serve a seven-year term on the Board.

Garrett has directed business process improvement initiatives for more than 25 years, and is currently an executive at American Greetings. She is a graduate of Ursuline College where she received a Master's of Management degree.

Garrett says, "I believe strongly in being an active participant and advocate in the community, and I view the Library as a vital component for a thriving community." Her goals include working to develop and implement strategies that ensure the Library remains relevant to the community.

Garrett also serves on the boards of Oak Leadership Academy and Notre Dame College of Ohio. She lived in Shaker from 1989 to 2001 and returned to live in the Moreland area in 2013. Her family includes two sons, Rorry Garrett II and Thaddaeus, and one daughter, Amber.

Garrett likes to read health, wellness, and self-help books; her all-time favorite book is *The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment* by Eckhart Tolle.

Troy Meinhard is a partner with the Shaker Heights-based consulting firm, enlight. He graduated from Wartburg College with a degree in business administration and German and earned an MBA from the University of Chicago.

According to Meinhard, "I have a deep interest in the Shaker Heights community.



Melissa Garrett



Troy Meinhard

When my wife and I decided to relocate to Northeast Ohio in 2008, we carefully considered our options. Shaker was the clear choice for our family because of its diverse community, school system, and neighborhoods. Serving on the Board is an opportunity to contribute to this unique community."

Meinhard's goal as a trustee is to ensure the Library successfully navigates the challenging fiscal landscape while continuing to meet the needs of the Shaker Heights community.

He is a volunteer coach for the Shaker Youth Wrestling Club, Shaker Youth Baseball League, and Shaker Youth Soccer Association, and serves as an admissions interviewer for the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

He lives in the Onaway area with his wife, Janet, a nurse at Boulevard Elementary School, and their three children Sam, Eli, and Kate, who attend Shaker Schools.

Meinhard likes to read general news and business as well as narrative nonfiction, popular science, and history and counts *Black Hawk Down* by Mark Bowden and *The Gothic Enterprise* by Robert A. Scott among his favorites.

### Library Offers Two New Library Card Designs

The Library has created two new Shaker Library card designs and the option of a choice. If you are happy with your current card, keep it and continue to use it. If you want a new look, choose from one of the two designs and purchase a new card for only 50 cents. Item and fine limits remain the same and the cards can be used at any CLEVNET library.





### State Library Funding is at its Lowest Level in Years

Major changes in Ohio's new two-year budget include a variety of tax cuts and increases. Public libraries are concerned about any changes in taxes because Ohio's general tax revenue is the source of the statewide Public Library Fund (PLF). While tax cuts would likely reduce that revenue, tax increases elsewhere could offset those losses.

It is estimated that the budget would see the PLF increase by 5.7 percent in FY2016 and by a further 3.9 percent in FY2017, but no one knows how accurate those numbers are. Each of the first six months of FY2014 (July through December 2013) saw a decrease in actual PLF receipts compared to the state's estimates, and funding in 2014 was two percent below 2013 funding. The sad fact is that the PLF has declined by 30 percent since 2001 and funding in 2014 was the lowest since 1996.

The Ohio Library Council has been trying to stop the cuts with no success. An amendment to increase the PLF was put forward two years ago, but was left out of the final budget. More recently, the OLC touted a "Restore the PLF" campaign with the intent of restoring the library share of state general revenue to the original 2.22 percent. Unfortunately, that did not happen, and even if state funds for public libraries increase by 10 percent over the next two years, the PLF would barely be above the 1997 level.

### Shaker Library: A 10-year Comparison

In 2005, annual circulation of Library items was 1,138,903. In 2014, the Library circulated 1,104,774 items with non-print accounting for 50 percent of the total. Last year's statistics included an additional four percent for downloadable material, which was almost non-existent in 2005. Budget cuts and reduced hours of operation at Bertram Woods Branch contributed to the drop in circulation at the branch.

With the rise of the Internet and digital media, foot traffic in library buildings has declined significantly; however, use of public computers continues to grow. The Library recorded 26,245 computer sessions in 2005 compared to 202,357 in 2014 – a 671 percent increase. Half of that increase was due to the availability of more computers, and the other half to the expanded Computer Center and Training Lab added during the 2011 Main Library renovations.



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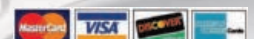
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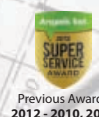


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Funding has played a part in this, with overall dollars received falling from \$5.2 million in 2005 to \$4.7 million in 2014. More significant than the drop in revenue was the 36 percent decline in money spent on material for the collection. And neither takes into account the loss of the Library's buying power due to inflation.

Another interesting shift between 2005 and 2014 is that the share of revenue from property taxes rose from 58 percent to 67 percent while the share from state funding fell from 35 percent to 29 percent. One percent of revenue was lost in fines and fees, as well as in investment income due to near-zero interest rates.

The Library's collections have also morphed over the years. The number of movies has grown from 24,308 to 34,559 (including 2,335 e-movies). Likewise, the number of music and audiobook items has grown from 27,562 to 61,875, including 36,714 e-recordings.

The Library has reduced the number of print magazine subscriptions from 747 to 565, but has added more than 100 e-subscriptions through Zinio and now provides access to 460 serials through the EBSCOhost

database. While we reduced the number of books in print from 217,324 to 180,318, we added 124,395 e-books to the collection. The result of these fluctuations is that our overall collection has grown from 269,194 to 401,147 items – 163,444 of which are in electronic format, or 40.7 percent of the total.

The coming years will certainly see more changes. With the decline in circulation of physical material, will visits to the Library stabilize or grow? Will the use of eBooks and other electronic material surpass that of physical material? One thing remains constant: Shaker Library will continue to serve its community of readers in print, online, or in the cloud.

### Library's Youth Services Department Welcomes New Staff



Annelise Maurer (left) is originally from Bexley, Ohio. She moved to Shaker Heights last September after working as a Children's Librarian at the District of Columbia Public Library. Before completing her Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degree through Kent State, she worked as a pianist, German teacher, bartender, barista, farmer, translator, and airlines agent in Columbus, Chicago, Martha's Vineyard, and rural Missouri. Before those adventures, she earned a BA in modern languages from Beloit College in 2007 and briefly studied abroad.

Annelise is currently enrolled in continuing education courses for child psychology, the art of breathing, and ancient civilizations. She enjoys funny books and scary books, and is trying to someday read all of Hemingway, because a man once told her that women never do.

Shannon Fischer Titas specializes in books and programming for tweens. Before coming to Shaker, she worked at the Geauga County Public Library and at the Kent State University Performing Arts Library.

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Shannon (left) earned her MLIS degree at Kent State University. Before becoming a librarian, she worked as a modern dance performer, choreographer, and teacher,

and holds a BFA in dance from Ohio University. She is also a certified yoga instructor. Shannon was inspired to become a children's librarian "to help kids and families connect with all the fascinating ideas and experiences there are to explore." She loves to read all different kinds of books for children, teens, and adults. Her favorite genres are supernatural thrillers and historical fiction.

## A Friends Evening for Book Lovers

Want to learn about future bestsellers *before* they become bestsellers? Friends of the Shaker Library's annual meeting will feature Lara Oliver from Random House who will buzz about forthcoming books and give readers the inside scoop on new books at **7 PM Thursday, July 9 at Main Library**. All participants will take home a Random House canvas tote bag and advanced reader copies with excerpts of the publishing company's latest books. Registration is requested at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org) or by calling 216-991-2030.

## Make Your Summer Count-Read! Continues Through August 7



The saying "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts" is attributed to the Greek philosopher Aristotle and is most apt for describing this summer's reading program, Make Your Summer Count-Read!

Seven library systems, including Cleveland, Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Cuyahoga County, East Cleveland, Euclid, Westlake, and Shaker joined with The Children's Museum of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Great Lakes Science Center, Greater Cleveland Aquarium, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum to offer this exciting summer reading program. The program also has support from the Friends of the Shaker Library.

Children can earn prizes by reading or listening to books, and by completing fun math activities and volunteering. The program is designed to help children avoid the summer



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Teens have exciting incentives for summer reading. By counting the time spent reading or listening to books, and completing math and volunteer activities, they are eligible for drawings for gift cards to Barnes & Noble, Subway, and Cleveland Cinemas; passes to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum; a family membership to Great Lakes Science Center or Cleveland Museum of Natural History; and two grand prize drawings for one of two FIRE HD 7 tablets.

Adults can join in the summer reading fun by signing up to Be A Super Reader. No masks or capes are required, just a love of reading and the desire to share favorite heroes and heroines from much-loved books, and take a chance on winning gift certificates from local merchants who support summer reading. Sign up to be photographed with your favorite book and the Library will post it on its Super Readers' Gallery.

### Meet the Author: Brittany Gibbons

Meet Brittany Gibbons, author of ***Fat Girl Walking***, at 7 pm Tuesday, September 15 at Main Library. Published by HarperCollins, her book is a hilarious memoir in essays about love, sex, marriage, motherhood, bikinis, and loving your body, regardless of its size, from the acclaimed blogger and body image advocate.

Plus-sized model Gibbons became a popular blogger and national spokesmodel known for stripping on stage at TedX and standing in Times Square in a bikini on national television. She later founded the magazine CurvyGirlGuide.com. Her work has been featured in the New York Times, Huffington Post, Redbook, Woman's Day Magazine, Marie Claire, and the Los Angeles Times.

In ***Fat Girl Walking***, Gibbons shares hilarious and painfully true stories about her life as an overweight girl growing up in rural Ohio. She lives in Toledo with her husband and three small children.





## Coming October 12: Anthony Doerr



Shaker Library and University School are pleased to present Anthony Doerr, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *All the Light We Cannot See*, who will speak at 7 pm at University School Shaker campus. For tickets and information, please contact the Library.

## Summer Book Group Opportunities

The Library offers morning and evening book groups, which are open to anyone who loves to read and discuss books. Books are available at the Main Library one month before the discussion dates.

**Book Buzz:** 10-11:30 am Tuesday, July 14, *The Republic of Imagination: America in Three Books* by Azar Nafisi. The best-selling author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran* presents an impassioned tribute to the importance of fiction to democracy.

10-11:30 am Tuesday, August 11, *Leaving Time* by Jodi Picoult. Abandoned by her mother who disappeared under mysterious circumstances and her grief-stricken father, 13-year-old Jenna Metcalf contacts a disgraced psychic and a jaded detective to find answers.

**Mystery Book Discussion:** 7-8 pm Tuesday, September 8, *A Murder of Magpies* by Judith Flanders. Suspense is supplied with a smattering of humor as London publisher Samantha Clair is thrown into a criminal investigation when her star author goes missing.

**PubReads** is a new book discussion group that meets at Academy Tavern from 7 to 8:30 pm Monday evenings, July 13 and September 14. If you prefer to discuss books over a burger and a beer, this group is for you.

On July 13, discuss *The Dead Key* by D. M. Pulley. The 2014 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award by a Shaker author follows two young women – one a secretary at the First Bank of Cleveland in 1978 the other an employee of a local architecture firm in 1998 looking to renovate the old bank building.

On September 14, discuss *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel, a National Book Award finalist. In a post-apocalyptic world, a band of traveling actors meets a dangerous prophet in this story about relationships, the fleeting nature of fame, and the beauty of the world as we know it.

## Starting Your Own Book Group?

The Library is pleased to help get new groups off to a comfortable start by offering the use of a meeting room along with book sets for the group to borrow.

## Events & Popular Programs for Adults

### Genealogy Workshops at Main Library

Up a tree on your family research? Get information from the African-American Genealogical Society of Cleveland, which holds its monthly meetings at the Main Library. Membership meetings begin at 9:30 am, and visitors interested in joining are welcome. After a break and refreshments, a genealogy program, workshop, or featured event follows at 10:15 am. All programs are open to the public.

On July 25, the Education Committee of the Society will present information on planning a research trip, including what resources to check before travelling, and the Dos and Don'ts of researching.

On August 29, the Ohio Genealogical Society presents FamilySearch.org: Using the Wiki. Deborah Abbott of the African-American Genealogical Society of Cleveland will teach participants about genealogical research using the wiki feature in the popular genealogy search engine, Family Search.

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On September 29, Chris Staats, newsletter editor for the Eastern Cuyahoga County Genealogical Society and seminar chairperson for the Western Reserve Historical Society's Genealogical Committee, will present *Order in the Court: A Brief History of Ohio Courts and the Records They Created*. Court records can establish family relationships and places of residence. They often provide occupations, descriptions of individuals, and other excellent family history information.

### More Programs for Adults

**Knit Mornings and Knit Nights:** All ages and experience levels can join one of two knitting groups at the Library, and drop-in knitters are always welcome. Get help and advice from the group moderators, Fern Braverman and Elfriede Heaney.

Knit Mornings are held from 10 to 11:30 am Wednesdays, July 1, August 5, and September 2 at Main Library.

Knit Nights are held from 7 to 8:45 pm Wednesday evenings, July 15, August 19, and September 16 at Woods Branch.

**The Chess Club** meets from 6 to 8 pm the first and third Mondays of every month at Main Library. It is moderated by Mike Reeves and is open to adults and teens of all ability levels. The Library provides chess sets and refreshments and no registration is required.

**English as a Second Language** meets from 7 to 8:30 pm every Tuesday evening at Main Library. This free program is open to all and no registration is required.

**Life Writing Club** meets from 2 to 3 pm Saturdays, July 18, August 15, and September 12. Everyone has a story and the Life Writing Club encourages you to write it.

**Sign Language Practice Group** meets from 7 to 8 pm every other Thursday at Main Library, beginning September 10. This informal group is suitable for adults of all signing abilities.

## Events & Popular Programs for Children & Teens

### Summer Programs for the Preschool Set

**The Play and Learn Station** at Main Library is an excellent drop-in-and-play space for children up to age five with a parent or grandparent. It's open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings from 10 am to noon and Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm and it's free.

Start your little one (birth to 23 months) on a lifelong adventure with books at **Baby Summer Sampler**, where they can sample an array of stories, songs, and rhymes. The drop-in program meets at 10 am Mondays at Main Library and 10 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch through July 21.

.....  
*More @ShakerLibrary continued on page 50*



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# Housing & Neighborhoods

## Building For The Future On Past Success



### **Sussex Courts**

These luxury townhouse condominiums on Chagrin Boulevard just east of Norwood Road were built by Heartland Developers. The build-out value was \$15.6 million. The development of the adjoining Van Aken District will only increase their value and add to the district's cachet.



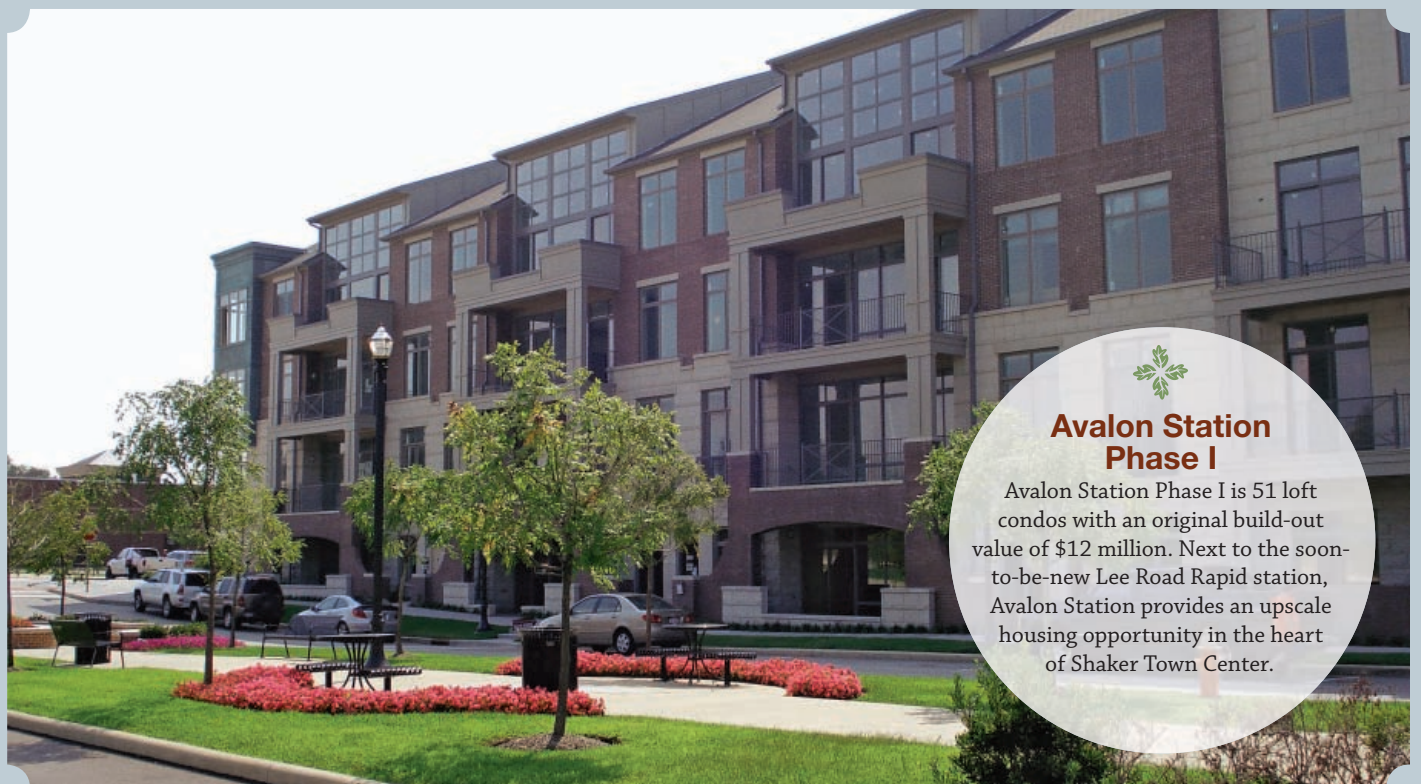


### South Park Row

South Park Row, at the intersection of North Moreland and South Park boulevards, is comprised of spacious luxury townhomes. The original build-out value was \$6.4 million. The development is a quick stroll from scenic Shaker Lakes and the vibrant Larchmere shopping/dining district.

Earlier this year, the City unveiled its new five-year Housing and Neighborhood Plan (visit [City Plans under Downloads at shakeronline.com](#)). The 2015 plan builds on the 2001 Housing Plan and “provides the framework for attaining the City’s goal of high quality, high functioning neighborhoods.”

Shaker Life will keep residents informed as the components of the new plan come to fruition. Meanwhile, the successful housing developments that arose from the 2001 plan are worth reviewing to demonstrate how careful planning can enhance neighborhoods, stabilize commercial districts, and increase surrounding property values. **SL**



### Avalon Station Phase I

Avalon Station Phase I is 51 loft condos with an original build-out value of \$12 million. Next to the soon-to-be-new Lee Road Rapid station, Avalon Station provides an upscale housing opportunity in the heart of Shaker Town Center.



# @ Shaker Schools

## A World Away Lessons from Cambodia

By Amanda Ahrens

**“Try to understand that there’s a world larger than the one you inhabit.”**

– Julie Orringer, *How to Breathe Under Water*

That quote has always followed me. Over this past spring break, 11 brave Shaker Heights High School students, accompanied by my fellow social studies teacher Brian Berger and me, lived this philosophy while traveling and living in Cambodia.

Traveling to Cambodia provided an understanding our students could never gain from the classroom alone. We traveled to experience life inside Cambodia, and to reflect on our own advantages of living in Shaker Heights. We traveled to be surprised, to be proven wrong, and to step outside of our comfort zone. We traveled because we call ourselves an internationally minded school, and we should know how the rest of the world lives.

In our time there we explored the scars of the Cambodian genocide, climbed the stairs of Cambodia’s ancient and glorious past at the temple of Angkor Wat. We took long bus rides across the country that lasted just under nine hours for a distance just over 200 miles. We lived in a floating village for over four days, took bucket showers, and disconnected from the electronically connected world we inhabit.

We fought the bugs and heat as we slept on the floor, six to nine in a room, inside mosquito nets, taking over the homes so graciously offered to us. We observed the lack of a stable education system as the 11 Shaker students taught English in classrooms that lacked the most basic teaching essentials, on a boat that was barely floating. We were uncomfortable, and yet this place quickly became a part of us.

It is easy to focus on what Cambodia does not have: clean water, paved roads, little to no air conditioning in constant 99-degree heat, and a government free from corruption. But we left the country filled with an overwhelming love and admiration for what it does have: some of the most generous, authentic, and kind people we have ever met.

Just minutes after arriving at our work site to help build a floating house for a multi-generational family, we were welcomed into their home. With little in common except for a wide smile on both sides, we played games with the little ones, translated stories, and formed inside jokes. In just two days we were able to see the fabric of what it means to be Cambodian. We learned about what Cambodians value, their simplicity of life, and their resourcefulness. At a morning trip to the crowded market, we learned how all food is grown locally and never wasted. This contrasted sharply with the bustling tourist industry just minutes away, featuring Las Vegas-style construction. We learned that a booming tourist industry does not trickle down as quickly or evenly as it should to all elements of society. Ultimately, we learned not to judge their progress and development by American standards. In so many ways, we gained more than we gave. While we might have greater wealth, in terms of sincerity and being genuine we learned a thing or two from our friends in “developing” Cambodia.



**Students surrounding genocide survivor** ~ Shaker students were honored to meet a survivor of the Cambodian genocide that took place under the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975-79. Out of 14,000 people who entered the torture center known as S-21 (shown behind them), this man is one of only seven who survived.



**Students building a floating house** ~ Service was an important component of the tour. Here, students help construct a house in a floating village for a family whose home had burned down. Despite their novice construction skills, “our hosts always made our efforts feel valued and our presence worthwhile,” says Ahrens.



## Another Wonderful Night for the Red & White



A Night for the Red & White 2015 Executive Committee, from left to right: Hallie Stewart, Lisa Welsh, Shaker Schools Foundation Executive Director Christine Auginas, Heather Weingart, and Sarah Morgan.

This year's Night for the Red & White drew 800 attendees and raised approximately \$130,000 for the Shaker schools.

Now in its 23rd year, the annual benefit has raised more than \$2 million for the educational enrichment of all Shaker students. Since 1992, the proceeds have helped to enhance opportunities in the arts, technology, health, and fitness.

Save the date for next year! The gala event will return to the Tudor Arms Hotel, Doubletree by Hilton on Saturday, March 5, 2016.



### Back to School

Be sure to mark your calendar for that red-letter day, the first day of school: **August 24**. Get the backpacks and lunch bags ready, because this year all students in grades preK-12 will start on the same day.

A printed PTO/District calendar is mailed home in August to all families with children enrolled in the Shaker schools. You can also find a complete listing of events in the District's online calendar at [shaker.org](http://shaker.org).

### New in Town?

Families are encouraged to register new students as early as possible.

**Appointments are required!** Please call (216) 295-4321 to schedule your appointment. For more information about registration requirements, visit [shaker.org/registration](http://shaker.org/registration). Check the online District calendar for new family orientation events.

### Summer Reading

Be sure to stop by the public library to stock up on books this summer, both for required reading and for pleasure. Required and suggested reading lists are available by grade level at [shaker.org](http://shaker.org). Need more recommendations? Ask your local librarian.

### Alumni Notes

**Julie Blunden ('84)** has been appointed senior vice president and chief strategy officer of SunEdison, with responsibility for marketing, communications, investor relations, and public policy. SunEdison is the world's largest renewable energy development company, transforming the way energy is generated, distributed, and owned around the globe.

Blunden previously served as chief executive officer of ClimateWorks, and as executive vice president at SunPower

as it grew from \$11 million in revenue to more than \$2.3 billion. She has more than 25 years of experience in the electric industry, including executive positions at KEMA, Green Mountain Energy Company, and a decade of experience at AES.

She is a graduate of Dartmouth College, where she majored in engineering, and holds an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business. **SL**

### STAY INFORMED

For the latest news and info about the Shaker schools, visit [shaker.org](http://shaker.org).

To receive regular e-news updates, subscribe at [shaker.org/news](http://shaker.org/news).

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1



2

# Shaker Heights:






3

**The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission** announced winners of the third annual Preservation Month Photo Contest in May. The contest was created in 2013 in honor of National Preservation Month, which is celebrated each May by preservation organizations across the country. Ninety-seven entries were received from 51 different photographers in the 2015 contest.

Ann Klavora, principal planner for the City, says, “The Landmark Commission is delighted once again with the great response to this year’s Preservation Month photo contest. The photographers captured many of the different Shaker scenes and places that people love.”

The Commission selected winners in each of three announced categories. The Commission acknowledged the suite of photos submitted by Shaker resident Peter Miller in a special Unique Perspective category, noting that they “provide a perspective of the City of Shaker Heights that is rarely seen.”



# Captured





**Landmark  
Commission  
Preservation Month  
Photo Contest  
2015 WINNERS**

**HOMES/BUILDINGS**

First Place ~ *Shaker Lake Ducks*, Michael Anne Johnson | **1**

Runner-Up ~ *Van Aken Cottage*, Bethany Baldwin | **2**





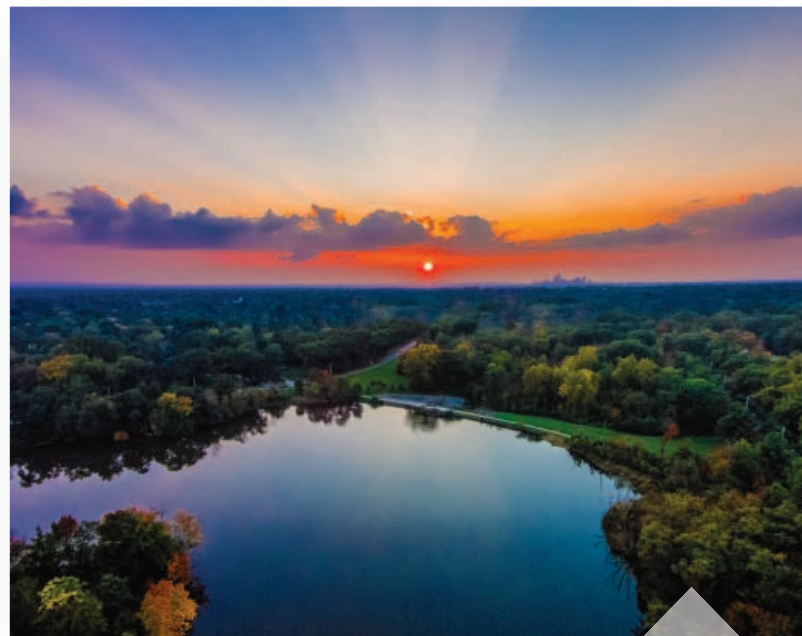
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9

## LANDSCAPE/NATURE

First Place ~ *Shaker Boardwalk*, Mark Forquer | 3

Runner-Up ~ *Morning in Southerly Park*, Renee Leonard | 4

## COMMUNITY

First Place ~ *Snow Day*, Erin Brown | 5

## UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE

...a suite of four photos by Peter Miller

*Fall at Horseshoe Lake* | 6    *Summer at Horseshoe Lake* | 7

*Dancing Fire at Horseshoe Lake* | 8    *Sunset at Horseshoe Lake* | 9

SL



Betsie Norris pauses in front of a large-scale painted panel entitled *Family Trees* by artist Stephanie Miller-Davis. Originally created as a component in the temporary decorative fence erected during construction of the Cleveland Museum of Art's recent expansion, the trees of different colored branches represent adoptive families – the trees with severed limbs represent birth families.





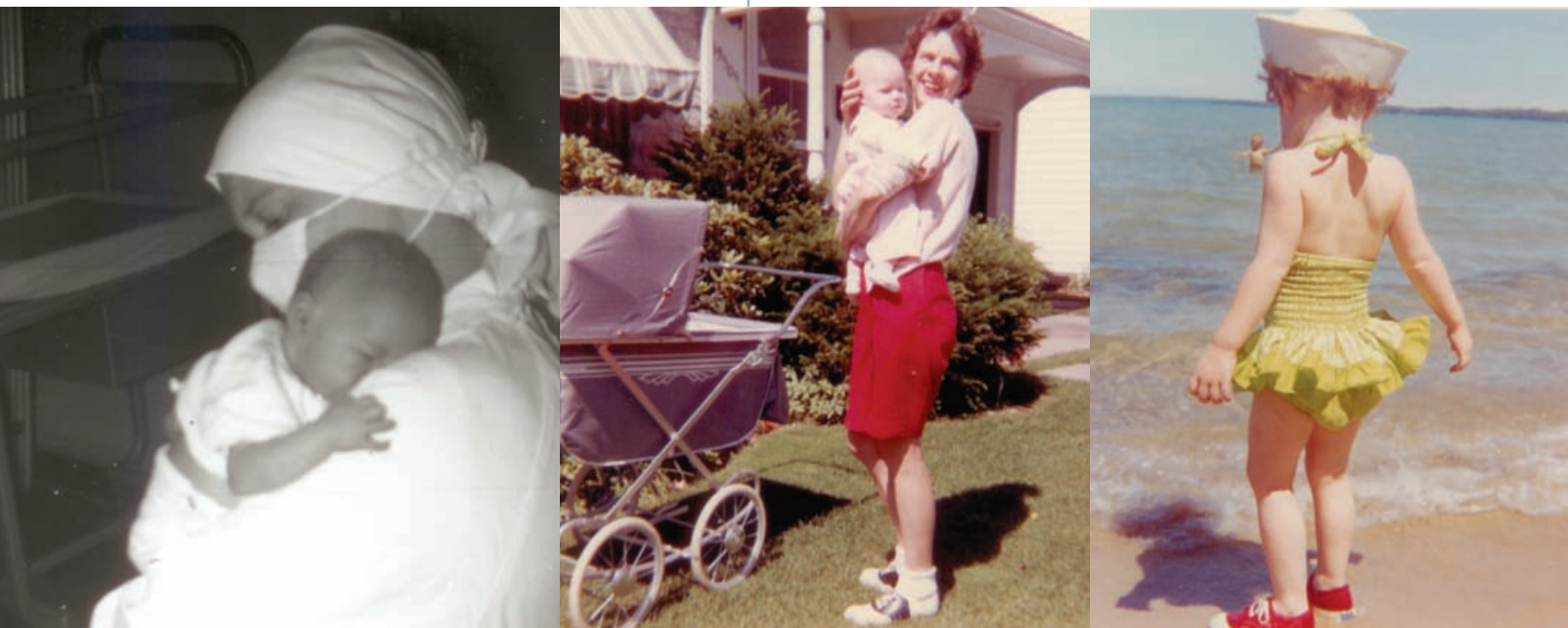
# Access to Their Origins

**BY DIANA SIMEON**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREEN STREET STUDIO except where noted

**Betsie Norris' legislative victory in Columbus on behalf of the state's adoptees has made her a saint in the eyes of adoptees across Ohio, and the nation.**

March 20 this year was a huge day for Shaker resident Betsie Norris. What she calls her “life’s passion” was finally fulfilled. As the founder of Adoption Network Cleveland, she had spent decades struggling to get a state law enacted that would allow hundreds of thousands of adoptees in Ohio access to their birth certificates and adoption decrees – in short, access to their origins.



That law in fact had been enacted in December 2013, affecting Ohio adoptees adopted during the state's only closed-records period – between January 1, 1964 and September 18, 1996. (Adoption Network Cleveland was also responsible for the earlier law that opened the records from 1996 forward.) After a 15-month implementation period, “opening day” finally came around. Norris and hundreds of supporters staged a celebration at the Crowne Plaza in Columbus.

A landslide of media attention followed, including features on National Public Radio and ABC's “Nightline.” By the end of April, Adoption Network Cleveland's happily overworked communications manager, Linda Schellentrager, had tracked more than 100 stories – local, state, and national. Norris received Smart Business magazine's Women Who Excel Entrepreneur Award, the Virginia Colson Award for Service to Families and Children from the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, and the Eleanor R. Gerson Leadership in Social Justice Award from Greater Cleveland Community Shares.

“As long as I've worked on this and as much effort as I've poured into this, seeing it all play out has been incredible,” says Norris. “It's been incredible to watch people's journeys, as they've been receiving their birth certificates in the mail.”

Above, L-R:  
Betsie as a newborn at Cleveland Clinic in February 1960 being held by her birthmother Edie Boyer Nelson, then 21 years old. | Summer 1960, Betsie and her adoptive mother Lois Norris in their backyard on Southington Road. | Betsie in 1962 at Torch Lake in northern Michigan where the Norrises spent summer vacations. | Parents William B. (Brad) and Lois, brother Todd, and Betsie in 1962 at Torch Lake, Michigan. | Betsie and her birthparents Edie and Bob Nelson shortly after their 1988 reunion.

Photos courtesy of Betsie Norris





## What She'd Lost

As a child growing up in Shaker Heights, Norris was often asked where she got her bright red hair. "I would proudly say, I was adopted, so I didn't know," recalls Norris.

Norris' adoptive parents, Lois and Brad Norris, didn't know either. "They were told how much formula I drank and that was it," explains Norris, seated in her sunny office at Adoption Network Cleveland.

Norris finally did get her answer. It was on the day she picked up the phone and called her birthmother for the first time.

"I chose my words carefully. I was prepared for her to be shocked," recalls Norris, who lives in Shaker's Lomond neighborhood. "Once I got the words out, she said, 'Oh my God I've been praying for this call for 26 years.'"

"She asked me if I had red hair. She asked me what I did for a living. I told her I was a nurse. She told me about her mother, whose name was Betty and who had red hair and was a nurse."

Norris also learned that her birthmother and birthfather were married. She had three biological brothers. There were aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents too.

"I think I was the one who had to be scraped off the floor," says Norris. "I can't even describe how emotional it was."

It was also confusing. "As an adoptee, I'd looked at what I gained through adoption," says Norris. That included a happy childhood in Shaker, with two brothers who were also adopted, and supportive, loving parents. Norris's father was a lawyer, who was instrumental in the effort to protect the Shaker Lakes in the 1960s and also helped launch WCPN.

"But I hadn't looked so much at what I'd lost," she says.

Norris discovered some of the same confusion in her own patients. "I was working in pediatric mental health," she explains. "This was right after my own search and reunion. Children who were adopted were overrepresented on our inpatient hospital unit."

Norris resolved to create a place where Clevelanders like her – anyone touched by adoption – could come together to find support.

"I don't know what came over me," explains Norris. "But I decided it would be really powerful to have a place to talk about these things."

So, in 1988, Norris launched Adoption Network Cleveland, and she's been working tirelessly on behalf of Ohioans on what she calls the "lifelong adoption journey" ever since.



## Another Focus: Foster Care

There have been other victories, too, especially in the area of foster care. In 2004, the United Way Community Vision Council asked Adoption Network Cleveland to lead an initiative to improve the process by which children are adopted out of foster care in Cuyahoga County.

At the time, there were around 1,700 children in foster care awaiting adoption in Cuyahoga County. Within several years, Adoption Network Cleveland had helped winnow the number to around 600, where it remains today. It did this by working with the County to redesign the process.

“We were able to bring our grass roots perspective of where the gaps are,” explains Norris. “And look at it from outside the system.”







It's an area on which the organization continues to focus. "Six hundred children is still too many," says Norris. "We can do better."

The organization is also pushing legislation that would allow children to remain in foster care until they are 21 years old. Currently, children "age out" of the foster care system at age 18 or 19. Not surprisingly, they face a tough road. Few go to college. Many end up homeless or worse, in jail, says Norris.

"You're 18. You're on your own. You're in your own apartment. You pay your own bills. It's no wonder a lot of them struggle."

In the meantime, Adoption Network Cleveland is working on ways to offer additional support to those teenagers, in particular with a program that matches older children in foster care with mentors. Explains Norris: "Having at least that one adult relationship that is a stable force during what is otherwise a chaotic time is really powerful."

Despite the excitement of the last few months, Norris is already working on what's next for Adoption Network Cleveland. That not only includes chipping away at barriers to foster-care adoptions, but continuing to seek ways to fine-tune the adoption process in general. But, still, she's enjoying the moment.

"There are thousands of adoptees and birth parents who now have access to records. I want to make sure they are all supported as best we can," says Norris. "Going through it alone was overwhelming for me and so to be able to provide support to other people has been so meaningful."

Above, L-R:

On the morning of opening day, Betsie Norris led several hundred adoptees on a walk to the Office of Vital Statistics in Columbus. Norris was interviewed by countless media outlets on opening day. Norris, the media and filmmakers waited for 8:00 am and the doors to open at the Office of Vital Statistics, allowing Ohio adoptees to enter. Norris and adoptee Teresa Stinson hug at the Ohio Department of Health press conference on opening day. Teresa's unfolding story was told in an ABC "Nightline Special Edition" in April. Norris beams in front of the "We ROARed" banner at the celebration event. The banner was filled with congratulations and thank yous to Betsie and Adoption Network Cleveland.

Photos 1-4 by Margaret Sabec  
Photo 5 by Tamara Green



## Shaker Adoptees Speak Out

Andrew  
Cleminshaw  
and  
Darlene  
Collins

For years, around his birthday, Andrew Cleminshaw observed a tradition. “I would light a candle in honor of whoever my birthparents were for giving me life,” says Cleminshaw, who was adopted as an infant.

One year, after lighting a candle during a service at Shaker’s First Unitarian Church, Cleminshaw was approached by Betsie Norris, executive director of Adoption Network Cleveland.

“She piqued my interest in finding my own biological parents,” recalls the Shaker resident. “I have amazing, wonderful adoptive parents, but I was at a point in my life where I was curious.” He was in his 30s and about to get married.

With the assistance of Adoption Network Cleveland, Cleminshaw was able to locate his birthparents. They were in Northeast Ohio.

He wrote a letter. They met. And today, both are part of Cleminshaw’s life. He credits Adoption Network Cleveland for the results.

“They are a brilliant organization,” says Cleminshaw. “They are really concerned with the whole triad of adoption. It was not just about me, but also about working with my adoptive parents to make sure they were comfortable, and my birthparents.”

For adoptees, birthparents hold answers to questions that many have spent years wondering about. That includes big questions like “Where did I come from?” But there are the smaller ones too.

“A lot of it is just having family members who look like you,” explains Cleminshaw, who lives in Shaker’s Lomond neighborhood. “When I first met my biological family, I noticed this trait of giant ears and it was like, ‘Oh, I got those ears.’”





That's something Shaker resident Darlene Collins also ponders. She was born and adopted in California, where birth records are closed.

"I want to know my history," says Collins, who's an executive assistant at Adoption Network Cleveland. "I got my hands on a college yearbook for the year my mother should have been there. I went through it and was like, 'Do I look like anyone here?'"

Collins has searched for her birthparents using what's called "non-identifying information." Many adoptees, including Cleminshaw, have been able to find birthparents with non-identifying information – basically, biographical details provided by the state – but others, like Collins, have not been so fortunate.

"That is the beauty of this new law in Ohio. It's giving adoptees an actual birthname. That's what is important," she says. "It's exciting to be watching this unfold in Ohio, but it's bittersweet because I want that same access."

"There have been lots of happy reunions," says Norris. "Sadly, there have been a number of situations where the birth parents have passed away. And others where the adoptees have discovered that, yes, the birthparents were looking for them. There also have been some birthparents who are not ready and have said, 'Not now,' and the adoptees are respecting that."

Norris found her own birthparents at the age of 26, after searching for a year. She knows all too well the desire we all have to get our most basic questions answered. "I wanted to know the truth," she says. **SL**







# Great Shaker Homes

## The ENVELOPE of SUSTAINABILITY

Aparna and Richard Bole  
built their state-of-the-art  
green home in Shaker as a  
testament to their commitment  
to sustainability. Its innovations  
also validate the City's  
openness to new  
housing technology.

**BY JENNIFER KUHEL**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN REEVES





When a family moves to Shaker, there's a typical scenario that unfolds: new family settles in to their 80-plus year-old home and neighbors stop by with friendly greetings and maybe a well-meaning list of recommendations for handyman services, electricians, and boiler-repair specialists.

But Richard and Aparna Bole's May 2014 move to Shaker wasn't typical. For starters, their house on Southington Road isn't a century-old Shaker house adorned with leaded glass windows and vocal radiators. It's brand new. It also happens to be green, as in environmentally friendly, sustainable, and cost efficient.

So if it wasn't the quality and charm of the housing stock that led the Boles to purchase an empty sidelot across from Boulevard School, why did this couple with two young children who had been living in a 2,000-square-foot loft apartment near downtown Cleveland choose Shaker?

The answer: Location, location, location.

"The community is transit friendly and our walkability to Shaker Square makes our home's location the greenest thing about the house," explains Aparna Bole. She regularly walks to Shaker Square to catch the bus to University Circle, where she holds a three-fold job that's an extension of her green-living value system. She serves as the sustainability manager for University Hospitals Health Systems, the medical director for Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, and an assistant professor at Case Western Reserve University Medical School.

What's more, when she's not at University Hospitals' main campus, she takes the Blue Line Rapid to University Hospitals' Management Services Center in Shaker. "This accessibility has been a great asset in terms of green living," she says.

That the Boles chose to build their innovative home in Shaker is just as much a testament to their commitment to sustainability as it is validation of the City's openness to new housing technology.





“We are so happy and grateful to be living where we are. The design of the community around the schools, the multiple modes of transit, the diversity and the welcoming atmosphere – I couldn’t be any happier.”

~ Aparna Bole







## The Envelope of Sustainability

**W**hen it comes to green living, location certainly is a large part of the equation. The rest of it comes in the highly technical “how to” of sustainable building. That’s where the specifics on the Bole’s home take center stage. Richard – who earned a combined master’s in natural resource planning and an MBA at the University of Michigan – gained practical sustainability experience through Euclid Lofts, his company that rehabs downtown Cleveland apartment buildings.

The Boles determined they needed no more than 2,000 square feet. This is the perfect size for the family of four, but considerably smaller than most homes in their neighborhood. To make the home appear consistent with surrounding homes, the heights of the individual stories, including the basement level, have been extended. This gives the two-story Craftsman/Mission-style home the appearance of a three-story.

Architect William Doty (who designed the PNC Smart Home in University Circle) and Richard also agreed that a decorative leaded-glass window, stucco that’s worthy of Van Sweringen approval, and a foundation lined with reclaimed bricks from a Cleveland demolition project added favorable Shaker-esque touches. The Boles even harvested wood from a single walnut and a smaller cherry tree in Chesterland to use on the trim and floors throughout the house.

“We really wanted to honor the heritage of the old, while building something new,” Aparna says. “We wanted a smaller house, but we wanted the aesthetic to blend into the neighborhood.”

Then come the technical matters of what’s underneath the “old Shaker” veneer, or “the envelope” as Richard calls it.

The home’s foundation is built of Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) – two Styrofoam forms filled with concrete. Working up the walls of the house and within a two-by-six stud frame, is 4.5 inches of sprayed polyurethane foam, which is 50 percent bio-based, and an air gap. That frame is surrounded by a fiberglass blanket, which adds to the home’s thermal resistance, or R-value. The higher the R-value the better. The fiberglass blanket and the polyurethane foam create a combined wall R-value in the high 40s. By comparison, minimum code in a new construction home is R-13. A typical Shaker home is less than R-13 because most were built without insulation.

The window frames are constructed of fiberglass, which is structurally stronger than wood or vinyl; it’s also hollow, so it can be injected with insulating foam. Each window is triple-paned and filled with argon gas – a non-toxic, odorless gas that’s heavier than air, adding to the window’s energy efficiency. Placement of the windows mattered, too. The Boles limited the number of windows on the home’s north face and maximized them on the south and west.



## Green Living is (Almost) Always Sunny and 72 Degrees

**Y**ear round, the temperature inside the Bole home is a pleasant 72 degrees during the day and 68 degrees at night. And there's a constant flow of fresh air and hot water. The home's near-constant temperature is achieved through a three-part system that's housed in the basement: a geothermal unit, a modulating on-demand water heater and boiler, and an Energy Recovery Ventilator that runs non-stop.

The geothermal unit (also known as a ground-source heat pump) taps into the ground temperature of 56 degrees some 175 feet below the surface. The constant ground temperature maintains the temperature of the geo's propylene glycol-filled tubes, which are used as the heating and cooling source for the house. (Most traditional homes use air or water as a heating or cooling source.)

Even more impressive than the technology needed to maintain the temperature is the monthly cost of comfort. "For February, it was \$48 on our electric bill and \$30 in gas for all of our usage," says Richard. "Our goal is to get to net-zero energy. It's achievable."

Next are the on-demand tankless hot water heater and boiler. The water heater heats water as it enters the house, rather than storing it in a tank, like traditional water heaters. The benefit? "You could take one hundred hot showers in a row and still have hot water," Richard says. "And for all the periods that no one is at home, we're not using any energy. It saves 70 percent over even the most efficient tank systems." The boiler can also be used to help heat the house in times of extreme cold.

Finally, the Energy Recovery Ventilator in the basement pumps fresh air into the house. Strategically located vents (in the three bathrooms and near the stove) draw in "dirty" air, and funnel it to the basement, where the ventilator vacates the bad air and brings in fresh air. This combats air quality issues that were common in early airtight green homes. So do the Boles ever open their windows? "It's a really bad idea to open a window if it's really cold or really hot," Richard says. "But if it's neutral, it's fine."



## The **BOLE'S HOME** Takes Shape, 2012–2014







## Sustainable Water

While most Shaker homeowners draw water from the Cleveland Water Department for everything from drinking to sprinkling, the Boles use that water only for inside the home. All the water used outside the home is collected from the gutters and the driveway into a 55,000 gallon, 30,000 pound cistern installed under the driveway.

“The cistern doesn’t run dry and we’ve eliminated combined sewer overflows. We can take a whole rainstorm and not send out any storm water,” says Richard. “The credit we get from the sewer district is minimal, but the major payback is a considerably lower water bill.”

Richard is hopeful that one day, he’ll be able to use the cistern water inside the house. “There’s a lot of technology that exists to make the water potable, but it’s not allowed today,” he says. Richard was sure to run the pipes to the house just the same, in case the technology is approved down the road.

## How Much Green to Go Green?

The cost of building a green home is more expensive than a typical tract home. The Bole’s home cost approximately \$140 per square foot, while a tract home costs about \$80 per square foot. Build time is a bit longer as well. The Bole’s home was built over 18 months (which both Richard and Aparna acknowledge is longer than most green homes) while a traditional home can be completed in six to seven months.

Still, the Boles are thrilled with their home and wouldn’t want to live elsewhere.

“We are so happy and grateful to be living where we are. The design of the community around the schools, the multiple modes of transit, the diversity and the welcoming atmosphere – I couldn’t be any happier,” Aparna says. “I feel really grateful to be in a community that supports our values.” **SL**

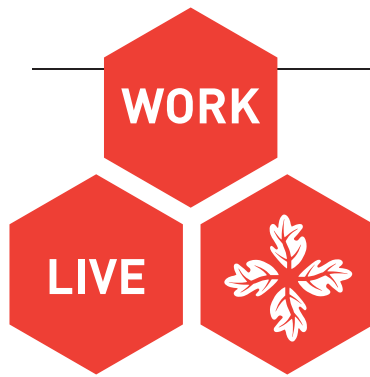


Construction photos: courtesy of Richard Bole.



Photography by Janet Century  
Interview by Jennifer Proe





**Who:** Brian and Sara Sullivan. **Where:** Mercer Neighborhood.

**Business:** The Sullivans are the principals of Second Story Productions, a boutique communications company that provides video solutions for government, corporate, and non-profit entities. They recently relocated their formerly home-based business to the Tower East building in the Van Aken district.

**Company mission:** Sara: "We are really interested in the story behind the work that we do. The story and the message are the focal points. It's an honor to tell someone else's story, and it's our job to listen first."

**What I love about my work:** Sara: "We love that every day, the work is different. We interview CEOs and we go to homeless campsites. We film in factories and in hospitals. That variety has been very fulfilling professionally and personally." ¶ Brian: "Learning about different professions and people, and the stories they have to tell is a lot of fun. Our creative process with our clients is very collaborative; we enjoy listening to other people's ideas and seeing where the project can go. Sometimes it turns out to be totally different and even better than you thought it was going to be."

**Personal background:** Brian is a graduate of Shaker Heights High School who grew up "in the shadow of the Tower East building," as he puts it. He received his undergraduate degree in communications from Hunter College in Manhattan, where he then worked in television and film before moving to the D.C. area to work with the Kennedy Center Honors television program and at NBC. After moving back to the Cleveland area, he worked for Rockwell Automation as a media producer. ¶ Sara lived in Shaker until the age of 13 and attended Hawken School. After graduating from Barnard College with a major in psychology and minor in English, she was a teacher in McLean, Virginia and at Hawken. She then achieved a master's in clinical counseling from Cleveland State University. "My background is not in production, but in people. Those are the skills I bring to the work we do." ¶ The couple met at a party in the Mercer area in 1986, and have been together ever since. They co-founded Second Story Productions in 2005. "Most of the important things in our lives have happened right here in Shaker," says Brian. "Growing up here, meeting each other, getting married at St. Dominic Church, buying a home, having kids, and starting our business."

**On working and living in Shaker Heights:** Sara: "Shaker has always felt like home to us. We were seeking jobs in this area because of the quality of the housing, the cost of living, and the cultural and educational opportunities. As we had children, all of the things that were important to us about Shaker really rose to the surface – whether that's skating or sledding at Thornton Park, the ice cream trucks, the sidewalks – it's a beautiful place to live. And the proximity to everything is great." ¶ Brian: "We are very excited to be a part of the Van Aken District redevelopment. We are looking to capture the synergy of the Tower East building, to increase our visibility in the community, and to grow the business even further. Our kids are still young, so being only five minutes away from home and being able to pick them up from school or see a game was a big factor in our decision. (Daughters Anna and Bess are 14 and 13, respectively.) I think it will also be a nice experience for our employees to be a part of this walkable district, to be able to walk to lunch or shopping or to a client meeting." ¶ Sara: "We really view Shaker as a great home base for our business. We work throughout Northeast Ohio and nationally. Our new space offers the opportunity for clients to meet with us on our turf and to show off Shaker. We can see all the way to downtown from our office, which is very inspiring. This building has called to Brian since childhood."

**Contact:** Brian and Sara Sullivan, Suite 801, 20600 Chagrin Boulevard, Shaker Heights, OH 44122, (216) 292-5946, [secondstoryproductions.net](http://secondstoryproductions.net). **SL**



# Trading Places

**Being an exchange student at Shaker High is a family tradition.**

**BY JENNIFER PROE**

**Nothing** can make a teen's eyes glaze over like hearing this from a parent: "Back when I was in school..."

Except, perhaps, when the sentence ends: "I participated in this amazing study abroad program that changed my life."

And thus the seed is planted for the next generation of world travelers. That was the case for these three families, whose children followed in their parents' footsteps, across the ocean and halfway around the world.

Fashion trends, music, technology, and political landscapes may have shifted greatly during the decades between their travels, but the enduring benefits of studying abroad remained the same: to broaden one's horizons, to see things from another point of view, and to experience new foods.



## Finland to Shaker; Repeat.

In 1989, a young man from Finland named Tero Silvola came to Shaker Heights High School for a year of study. Now, 26 years later, it's his son Elias' turn to walk those halls.

"I've been interested in coming here since I was little," says Elias. "My father was so pleased that he had done it, I wanted to do it, too."

Tero, now the CEO of his own software company in Helsinki, was hosted by the family of Robbie and Jay Schonfeld, with whom he stays in touch. Elias, 18, is staying with the family of Emily and Peter Geier, whose children, Grace and Wilder, have become like siblings to him.

Here's how their experiences stack up:

### First impressions

**Tero:** "I grew up in a very small town in the Finnish countryside, so Shaker Heights felt very different. I enjoyed the overall feeling and energy level in the U.S."

**Elias:** "I came through New York on my way to Cleveland. I had to speak English all day, every day, which was exhausting at first. Shaker is more relaxed and has more space; it's different from the city feeling of Helsinki, where I am from."

### Indelible memories

**Tero:** "Traveling to Washington, D.C., Florida, the Rocky Mountains, and Chicago; seeing all of these places was very educational. Also, my everyday life was extremely rewarding. I played soccer and hockey on Shaker teams and finalized my studies as a senior. We went to sporting events for the Browns, Cavaliers, and Indians, and to many museums and concerts."

**Elias:** "Playing on the Shaker varsity soccer team and winning the district championship for the first time in 46 years. Also, meeting Roger Federer at a tennis tournament in Cincinnati, and going to Costa Rica over winter break."

### Differences

**Elias:** "In Finland, we don't have school sports, just club sports. School is very different here. The lessons are longer in Finland, and we have 15 minutes between classes, not four. In Finland, homework is more about creativity than it is here. It's easier to make friends here than it is in Finland, where there are more cliques. People here are interested to meet you. I was surprised to find American culture so warm and open."

### What they will (or still) miss

**Tero:** "I still miss my host mother Robbie's wonderful cooking, the special forward-minded dynamic atmosphere in the U.S., and the multiple cultural and sporting events – so many things!"

**Elias:** "I will really miss my U.S. family and friends, working out at the Skating Club, going to Shaker Heights High School, and Chipotle. I think there is a market for it in Finland!"



**Photo top:** Tero Silvola enjoyed attending prom at the end of his year at Shaker Heights High School, shown here with his host sister, Amy Schonfeld Feiglin (SHHS '90). Photo courtesy of Tero Silvola

**Photo bottom:** Elias Silvola bonded with his soccer teammates when he came to study at Shaker Heights High School this year, following in his father Tero's footsteps. Shaker's varsity team won the district championship for the first time in 46 years. Photo by Caydie Heller

## Goslar Times Three

In 1985, Beth Shaver (SHHS '86) decided to take a flyer on an exchange program to Goslar, Germany. Founded in 1978, it's the oldest-standing exchange program between a U.S. and German school.

Every fall, a group of about 20 German students come from the Ratsgymnasium in Goslar to Shaker Heights High School. Shaker students then go to Goslar that summer for a month-long visit.

"A friend had an older sister who was involved in the program when I was in junior high," says Shaver, now a realtor with Keller Williams. "I spent a lot of time with the German students who were visiting and it was so much fun to hang out with them. I took German at the High School just so I could participate in the program."

Something about that experience must have rubbed off on her daughters, Lexi Oswald (SHHS '10), who is finishing up her studies at Kent State University, and Olivia Oswald (SHHS '13), a junior at the University of Kentucky. Both participated in the Goslar exchange program during their time at Shaker.

"They visited some of the same places I did," says Shaver, "and we had similar stories."

### First impressions

**Beth:** "How old and beautiful the buildings were, the cobblestone streets, people wearing socks with sandals, and how easy it was to get around by train and walking."

**Lexi:** "I loved the food! Being able to leave school and go into town to the bakery was awesome. I also liked their fashion. I still own a pair of leggings I bought there."

**Olivia:** "It was my first time in Europe. I went into the trip with no knowledge of what Goslar would look like in person. Its beauty made me fall in love with it."

### Indelible memories

**Beth:** "Taking a train into East Germany. It was 1985, so the wall was still up and it was a little scary. East German guards got on the train to inspect everything, even changing the toilet paper."

**Lexi:** "Hiking up the Hartz Mountains and seeing Dachau. That experience opened my eyes. I also enjoyed riding the ICE (high-speed) train around Germany. I wish we had something like that in the United States."

**Olivia:** "Going on bike tours in Berlin and Munich. Another great memory is going to public viewings for the Euro Cup. Germans go crazy for soccer."

### How it changed them

**Beth:** "Before I went, I was sort of shy. This trip opened me up and I became more outgoing. Seeing how big the world is, and meeting new people was very exciting."

**Lexi:** "I was always hesitant to try new things, but now I just go for it. My German definitely improved while I was there, which helped me when I took German my first two years in college. I don't mind walking long distances anymore; I'd almost prefer to walk."

**Olivia:** "After seeing Germany, I learned that there is a huge world out there with lots of people to meet and cultures to experience. It opened my eyes to the bigger picture and really encouraged me to travel more. I'm going to minor in German so I do have plans to go back."



**Top:** When Beth Shaver (SHHS '86) participated in the Goslar, Germany exchange program, visiting East Germany was a memorable experience. "We were followed by guards and made to exchange a certain amount of money to spend," she recalls, despite store shelves being mostly empty. Photo courtesy of Beth Shaver

**Middle:** Olivia Oswald (SHHS '13, third from right) visited the remains of the Berlin Wall, which was torn down in 1989 – four years after her mother, Beth Shaver, was there. Photo courtesy of Olivia Oswald

**Bottom:** Lexi Oswald, (SHHS '10) considers hiking the Hartz Mountains and visiting Dachau Concentration Camp as her most indelible memories from the Goslar Exchange Program in 2010. Photo courtesy of Lexi Oswald



## Down Under/Up Over

One morning, while listening to an announcement in homeroom about the deadline to apply for AFS programs, Beth Hise (SHHS '85) decided, quite suddenly: "I want to do that!"

At that late date, the only programs still accepting enrollment were in the southern hemisphere, so it was off to Australia with no idea what was in store for her.

"In 1984, Australia was a relatively unknown country in America. My Dad and I got out the atlas to look up where I would be living in Sydney," recalls Beth.

Fast forward to 2015, and Beth now finds herself a full-fledged Aussie, working as head of exhibitions for Sydney Living Museums. "After college, I got a job offer at the Australian Museum and I jumped at the chance. One thing led to another, and I'm still here," she says.

Turn about being fair play, Beth was not entirely surprised when her daughter, Eliza Steele, declared an interest in a year of study abroad. Having family in Shaker gave her a built-in host family with her aunt, Amy Hise (SHHS '82), and cousin Austin, a rising junior.

### First impressions

**Beth:** "I remember driving across the Sydney Harbour Bridge for the first time, gazing up at the giant grey girders on a hot, humid January day."

**Eliza:** "I didn't know anybody, so I could just start fresh. Making friends here has been easy; people are so friendly and accepting. Everything here is so much cheaper than at home. I bought a pair of Doc Martens for \$75; in Australia, they would be \$180."

### Differences

**Beth:** "I attended a very conservative Anglican girls' school, where I was stripped of all my typical 1980s accessories – no color in my hair, no big earrings, everyone wearing the exact same dress. I remember feeling out of sync, like everyone knew something I didn't."

**Eliza:** "School at home was terrible for me. My math scores were the worst. The teaching style here is better for me. Now, English and math are my favorite. There are more opportunities and classes; I'm taking psychology, astronomy, and graphic design. Here, everything is college-driven. In Australia they don't even mention going to university."

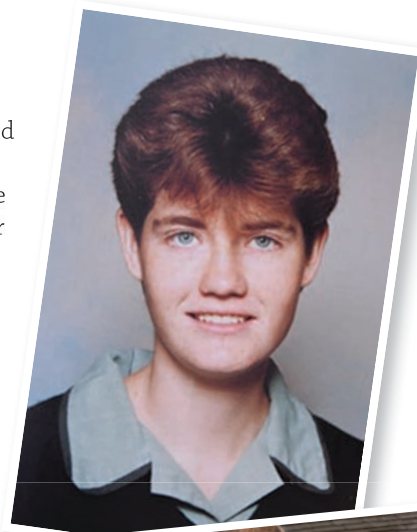
### How it changed them

**Beth:** "In addition to expanding my horizons, I got to know myself better and developed a useful degree of resilience that has stood me in good stead. It's impossible to have this kind of experience without it changing the path your future takes."

**Eliza:** "The biggest benefit for me has been my education, and being happier here. I have friends who enjoy my sense of humor. I've also gotten to spend more time with my grandparents (Richard and Barbara Hise), who have become almost more like parents to me. We go shopping together, to the Rock Hall, and out to eat."

Eliza will miss these things when she goes back this summer (or winter, as it will be at home). So much so, that she plans to come back to Shaker in the fall to continue her schooling, and maybe, just maybe, go to college in the U.S.

But until then, she says, "I'm really going to miss Chipotle. I'm obsessed with it."



**Top:** Beth Hise (SHHS '85), had to adjust to wearing a school uniform when she attended Abbotsleigh, a private girls' school in Sydney, Australia as an exchange student in 1984. Photo courtesy of Beth Hise

**Bottom:** Coming to Shaker as a student has allowed Eliza Steele (far right) to connect in a deeper way with her grandparents, Richard and Barbara Hise, as well as her cousin Austin Hise, a rising junior, and her aunt/host mother, Amy Hise (SHHS '82 – not pictured.) Eliza hopes to return to Shaker as a student next year after spending the summer (winter there) with her family in Australia. Photo by Caydie Heller



## Madame Ambassador

Meet Myriam Neil: mother of two Shaker alums and one current Shaker High student; administrative assistant extraordinaire at the main office of Shaker Heights High School; and unofficial greeter for international students and families who visit from every corner of the globe.

It helps that Madame Neil speaks four languages fluently: English, French (her native language), German, and Spanish. “I also have enough words to joke a bit in Arabic and greet in Mandarin Chinese,” she adds.

It also helps that she provides administrative support for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at Shaker High, which Neil says “has definitely been a draw for several of our international families and students.”

On any given day, you’ll hear a wide variety of languages and accents emanating from the area around her desk, where international students can go for a friendly greeting, and American students can come to practice what they are learning in class. (Neil also runs a lunchtime language table three days a week in the cafeteria for just that purpose.)

“When our international students first arrive, I make sure to find them so that I can welcome them and let them know that someone knows their name,” says Neil.

At any given time, up to 10 international students are enrolled at the High School as exchange students. According to Neil, most come to feel at home very quickly. “Shaker is a place that integrates people well,” she says. “Our students are very worldly and welcoming. Many of them have traveled abroad with their families or on school trips, so they are open to learning about other cultures.”

Neil sees major benefits for both the visiting students and for the American students who get to know them. “For Americans who can’t travel, it brings the world to them and breaks down barriers. And for the students who come here, it changes their lives, and gives them a chance to interact with a range of people they will never find anywhere else.”

To learn more about international exchange programs and opportunities offered through the Shaker schools, visit [www.shaker.org/internationaltravel.aspx](http://www.shaker.org/internationaltravel.aspx). **SL**

“When our international students first arrive, I make sure to find them so that I can welcome them and let them know that someone knows their name.”







# Larchmere

## Cleveland's Art, Antiques and Design District for 75 Years

### A one-stop destination of wonderful stores and galleries

#### NORTH SIDE east to west

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Graphic design & communications [www.epsteindesign.com](http://www.epsteindesign.com)

##### **13015 Loganberry Books**

100,000 new, used & rare books [www.loganberrybooks.com](http://www.loganberrybooks.com)

##### **13015 Strong Bindery**

Bookbinding and paper conservation 216-231-0001

##### **13005 Eclectic Eccentric**

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decorative paint  
by Annie Sloan [www.methenyweir.com](http://www.methenyweir.com)

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Antique and vintage furniture  
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European clothing and accessories  
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##### **12805 John L. Young Inc.**

Fine oriental antiques & fine jewelry 216-721-3123

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Mid-century, 20th century decorative arts,  
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##### **12733 Shaker Square Antiques**

Fine period English & American furniture 216-231-8804

##### **12721 Marc Goodman's Antique Mall**

Furniture, art, ladies' accessories, linens  
and liquidations 216-229-8919

#### SOUTH SIDE east to west

##### **13010 Wolfs Gallery**

Art Dealers and Appraisers [www.wolfsgallery.com](http://www.wolfsgallery.com)

##### **12900 Elegant Extras**

Antique porcelains, crystal,  
sterling silver and jewelry 216-791-3017

##### **12812 Larchmere Oriental Rugs**

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##### **12712 The Dancing Sheep**

One-of-a-kind & limited edition clothing,  
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## @ Shaker Library

*Continued from page 18*

Two-year-olds can enjoy age-appropriate stories, songs, and movement with an adult at 10 am Tuesdays at Main Library and 10 am Thursdays at Woods Branch through July 23.

Three to five-year-olds have their own programs of stories, rhymes, songs, and fun at 10 am Wednesdays at Main Library and 11 am Thursdays at Woods Branch through July 23.

Children 12 months to age two can decorate their own cardboard-box car, watch a mini-movie, and enjoy a toddler-friendly snack from a mini concession stand at 10 am Monday, August 3 at the Main Library's **Mini-Drive-in Movie**. This popular program requires registration, which begins July 20.

Children birth to age five with a grown-up can sing, play instruments, and move together in a fun 45-minute **Music Together** demo class at 9:30 or 10:30 am Monday, August 17 at Main Library. Registration starts August 3.

**Kindermusik of Cleveland** offers a free demo class of musical fun and learning at Woods Branch on Friday, August 28 at 10 am for toddlers, 18 months to 3½ years, and at 11 am for babies, birth to 17 months. Registration begins August 14.

### Summer School-Age Programs

Funded by MyCom, the Library's Reading Skills Center is open from 1 to 3 pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at Main Library through August 4 for students in grades K-4. Summer is a great time to brush up on reading skills and get ready for the next school year. Students can receive up to 30 minutes of individualized reading help each day. An adult must be present to register the child.

**For Grades K-6:** Read to a Dog at Main Library. Canine listeners are certified with Therapy Dogs International and love to hear stories. School-age children can register for a



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College choices as of May 4, 2015.

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15-minute time slot between the hours of 4-5:30 pm and 6:30-8 pm Thursdays, July 16 and August 20. Register in person, online, or by phone beginning two weeks before each program. If you register online please call the children's desk to request your time slot.



**Summer Specials for Ages 6-9:** Build a Fairy House at 4:15 pm Wednesday, July 8 at Woods Branch. Bring your own natural materials – or use some of ours – to build homes for our local fairy friends! Registration required. Create Symmetry Art at 4:15 pm Tuesday, July 28 at Main Library. Use paint and paper to explore the mathematical concept of symmetry. Register in person, online, or by phone beginning July 14.



**Summer Specials for Ages 9-12:** Computer Programming for Kids is offered at 4:15 pm Thursday, July 23. Discover how fun and easy it is to learn computer programming with Scratch to create stories, games, and animations that can be shared online. Register in person, online, or by phone beginning July 9.



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**Shaker References Available**

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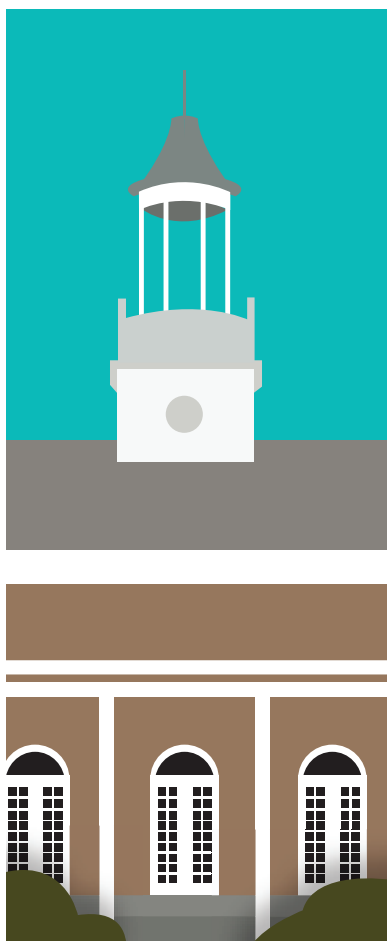
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@ Shaker Library

## Summer Programs for Teens in the Teen Center

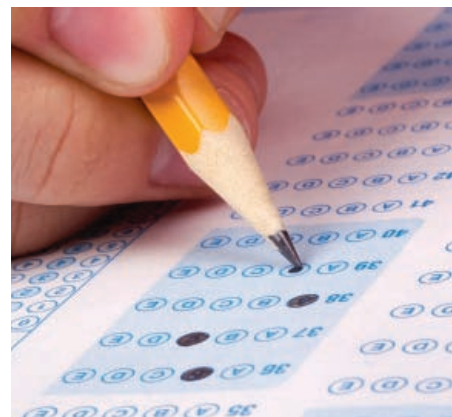
Do you have a recipe that serves four but you only need two portions? What's the difference between 4 ounces and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup? Figure it out using delicious real food during the **Mouthwatering Math Program Just for Teens**, who can drop in between 2 and 4:30 pm Wednesday, July 15.



**Games and Gaming for Teens** will feature old-school games like Connect 4, Monopoly, Scrabble, Uno, and playing cards. Snacks and drinks and prizes are part of the fun. Bring a friend or come solo between 2 and 4:30 pm Wednesday, July 29.

**Reading Pays Off for Teens:** Teens ages 12-17 can present their own library cards to earn coupons towards paying off current overdue fines on Shaker Library material just by reading from 2 to 4 pm Thursday, July 9 in the Main Library Teen Center or from 10 am to noon Monday, July 20 at Woods Branch. No registration is required.

**Free SAT Test Prep Boot Camp:** College Now Greater Cleveland presents a four-day/four-hours-a-day intensive SAT preparation course from 10 am - 2 pm Monday July 13 through Thursday, July 16 at Main Library. Register at [collegenowgc.org](http://collegenowgc.org).



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## Summer Fun for the Family



Families are invited to get creative outdoors and help decorate the sidewalks at the Shaker Colonnade with chalk and special sidewalk paint when we **Chalk the Walk** at 7 pm Monday, July 13. Cool treats will follow the creations of concrete art. If it rains, the event will be cancelled.



Get ready for some wild fun! Celebrate the end of our summer reading programs from 7-8 pm Thursday, August 6 at Main Library when **Jungle Terry** arrives with his unique animal friends. Thanks to the generous funding of MyCom. Register in person, online, or by phone beginning July 23.

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## Giving

### Recent Donations to the Library

First quarter donations included contributions from Patricia and Joseph Sweeting in memory of Ken McGovern; donations from George and Rebecca Dent and Julia Torok to the Bertram Woods Branch Fund; and multiple contributions from Randy Kammer to the Marilyn Kammer Memorial Fund in memory of Mary Arnold, Myron Fox, Alexander Hart, Gary France Keys, Sr., Robert Pallais, and Bob Sebok. Marilyn Gardner contributed to the Frances Belman Fund and she and Marsha Moses contributed to honor Barbara Winicki.

Donations to the Local History Collection included an anonymous donation of the children's books *Secret Emily* and *The Wizard of Walnut Street*, signed by the author, Carol K. Scism; two copies of the Shaker Heights High School 2012 Alumni Directory from the Shaker Heights City School District; a collection of material from the American Field Service Shaker Heights Chapter, and a ledger of minutes from the Sussex PTA beginning in 1941 from Carol Bell.

Judith Karberg donated American Landscape Architect, Vol. 1 No. 1, July 1929, and Architectural Review of the Mississippi Basin, Vol. 1 No. 1, Summer 1930. Stuart Math donated a copy of his documentary film, "Building Bridges: Student Group on Race Relations." Dave Cockley donated a copy of his book, *Those Rockin' Cleveland Kids: A Child's Storybook Guide to Cleveland*. Meghan Hays donated a copy of *Five Generations: 175 Years of Love for Cleveland* by Bob Gries. Gary H. Peck donated a copy of his book, *The Thin Place of Addiction: Invitation to Spiritual Transformation*, and Irving Seidman donated a copy of his book, *So You Might Know: A Memoir of My Parents*, which details their emigration from Ukraine in 1922 and subsequent move to Shaker Heights.

Allan Hinkle and Marcia Kritzler donated a collection of material about the Shaker Symphony Orchestra, including articles of incorporation, board of trustees binders, a 1942 framed photograph of the orchestra, and programs.

Nina and Jim Gibans donated a copy of their oral history film, "Shaker Towers Condominium" and accompanying raw interview footage, and a copy of their film "Pepper Ridge: The Vision & Legacy of

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## Beyond the Library Walls

### Professional Appointments and Presentations Beyond the Library Walls

Shaker Library Director Luren E. Dickinson has been appointed to a one-year term as chair of the American Libraries Advisory Committee of the American Library Association. He begins his term on July 1. The purpose of the committee is to review and recommend editorial policies for American Libraries magazine, and to provide oversight for the implementation of those policies; to communicate with, and operate within, the frameworks established by the ALA Publishing Committee; and to serve as a channel for member communication regarding the scope and coverage of the publication.

Mary Oluonye shared her insight regarding the dismal numbers of books published in the United States featuring children of color as main characters, and offered some suggestions on what can be done to address the issue at the Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Literature for Youth at Kent State University.

Nicki Petrone presented a Northeast Ohio Regional Library System webinar entitled Storytime Boot Camp: Baby Story Times.

Margaret Simon presented Libraries Influence Readers, Writers, and Communities at the annual Association of Writers and Writing Programs in Minneapolis, where she spoke about successful library programming for authors and poets and the role libraries play in a writer's life.

### Arbor Day Festivities Grow Better Each Year

The City's Tree Advisory Board and the Library celebrated their third annual Poster and PoETREE competition with an awards ceremony hosted by Dr. Kathy Smachlo, Tree Advisory Board chair, City Councilwoman Nancy Moore, Mayor Earl M. Leiken, and Library Director Luren Dickinson.

Winners in this year's poster competition included Shaker Heights Cooperative Preschool 3-Day students and their teachers Amy Fredricks and Becki Dina; Tisser Hafiz, a second grader at Al Ihsan School; Ramonte Davis, a second grader, and Raja Sian Troupe,



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@ Shaker Library



Mayor Earl Leiken poses with poster winners Amy Fredricks and Becki Dina and their Shaker Heights Cooperative Nursery School students.



The Davis family will plant two new trees thanks to the winning poster creations of second grader Ramonte and sixth grader Tanaya.

a third grader, at Lomond School; Morgan Leeson and Marin Hunter, fourth graders at Onaway School; and Tanaya Davis, a sixth grader at Woodbury School.

PoeTREE winners were Ja'Niya Rahman, a third grader at Bluestone School and Jakayla Douglas, a fifth grader at Metro Catholic School.

Key to the success of the annual tree day are the generous donations of crab apple trees from Gali's Florist and Garden Center.

### Quarterly Closings

**July 3 and July 4** – Independence Day.  
**September 7** – Labor Day.  
**September 18** – Libraries closed all day for staff development. **SL**

esop



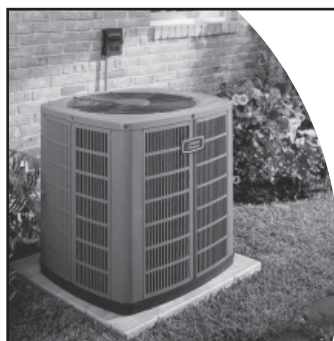


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## Books & Authors

### The Bookshelf: Recipes for Good Reading and Good Eating

Summertime and the eating is easy! Check out these recent titles to make the most of your kitchen garden, farmers markets, and the many opportunities for al fresco dining.

***Bobby Flay's Barbecue Addiction* by Bobby Flay.** Chef Bobby Flay shares his love of cooking over an open flame. Contents include selecting a grill, how to use wood chips for flavor, and his top 10 tips for the perfect barbecue. There are a variety of recipes including Blackened Burgers with Pepper Jack and Remoulade, Grilled Corn with Spicy Brown Sugar Butter, and Hot-smoked Trout Salad.

***The Deen Bros. Get Fired Up: Grilling, Tailgating, Picnicking, and More* by Jamie Deen, Bobby Deen and Melissa Clark.** Whether grilling in the backyard, tailgating, or picnicking, Paula Deen's sons have a delicious meal for you to prepare. Recipes range from Southern Down-home Baby Back Ribs to Chicken and Peanut Meatballs to frosty seaside cocktails.

***Farm to Fork: Cooking Local, Cooking Fresh* by Emeril Lagasse.** With a deep connection to the soil and a strong belief that fresh and local ingredients are key, Lagasse shares recipes organized by growing season. Recipes include Tempura Squash Blossoms, Poblano and Hatch Chili Stew, and Grilled Sausages with Homemade Mustard.

***Food in Jars Preserving in Small Batches Year-Round* by Marisa McClellan.** Eat the best of the growing season all year long. With easy-to-follow instructions, food blogger McClellan shares recipes for preserving and canning jams, pickles, whole fruit, and more.

***The Gardener & The Grill: The Bounty of the Garden Meets the Sizzle of the Grill* by Karen Adler and Judith Fertig.** Gardening and grilling are complementary activities. Grilling is an easy and delicious way to cook fresh fruits and vegetables straight from the garden. This great resource includes mouthwatering recipes such as Planked Butternut Squash with Sage and Brie and Prosciutto-wrapped Asparagus Spears, as well as grilling and gardening tips.

***Picnic in Provence: A Memoir with Recipes* by Elizabeth Bard.** Amidst the beautiful landscape of Provence, author and ice cream shop owner Bard shares her family life and sumptuous recipes including Zucchini Blossoms with Goat Cheese, Mint, and Anise Seeds, and Carrot-saffron Cupcakes.

***Picnics: Easy Recipes for the Best Alfresco Foods* by Robin Vitetta-Miller.** This diminutive book covers all you need for a perfect picnic from start to finish, from the origin of the word picnic to keeping your feast cold. Recipes include Minty Cucumber Salad, Cheddar Corn Bread with Green Chilies, and Chicken Salad with Raspberries and Walnuts.

***Saving the Season: A Cook's Guide to Home Canning, Pickling, and Preserving* by Kevin West.** With over 200 recipes, including Branded Raisins, Pickled Green Beans, and Roasted Red Pepper Relish, West shares his love of home canning and food preservation.

***Summer Cooking: Kitchen-Tested Recipes for Picnics, Patios, Grilling and More* edited by The Chicago Tribune staff.** Summer is the perfect time for cooking and eating outdoors. Whether at home, on a picnic, or at the beach, there is a recipe in here for every setting and occasion.

***The Too Many Tomatoes Cookbook: Classic & Exotic Recipes from Around the World* by Brian Yarvin.** If you've ever wondered what to do with all those tomatoes from the garden, this book of over 100 recipes is for you. Recipes range from Italian-style Tomato Soup to Green Tomato Pie to Tomato Butter.





**The 2015  
non-partisan  
Local Voters  
Guide**

published by the **Shaker Chapter of LWVGC** will be available mid/late September **online at [ShakerLWV.org](http://ShakerLWV.org)** and at:

- The Local Candidates Forum in September
- Shaker Heights locations such as public libraries, houses of worship, schools and businesses that serve the local community

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Community Colonnade  
3540 Lee Road  
[shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org)  
216-991-2030

**JULY**

**7/4**

**2-6 pm Saturday  
Annual Independence Day  
Pool Party**

Get in the swim of things and join your friends and neighbors this Fourth of July. Pool your resources and enjoy fun family activities and games. I.D. required and regular admission fees apply.

Thornton Park Pool  
3301 Warrensville Center Road  
[shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com)  
216-491-1295

**7/14**

**11 am-5 pm Tuesday  
Exhibit: Warrensville Center  
Then and Now**

This exhibit offers a look at the history of the intersection of Warrensville Center Road and Chagrin Boulevard, which is being reconfigured for the new Van Aken District development. The exhibit continues through November 15.

Shaker Historical Society  
16740 South Park Boulevard  
[shakerhistory.org](http://shakerhistory.org)  
216-921-1201

**7/11**

**10 am-5 pm Saturday  
Larchmere Festival**

The annual festival features dozens of independent, locally owned shops and restaurants along Larchmere Boulevard. Activities include an Antiques Fair of collectibles from local vendors; work by local artists and illustrators; an Author Alley where you can meet national and local authors; and a boulevard filled with entertainment, including live music, workshops, a chess tournament, spoken word, and children's activities.

Larchmere Blvd. from Kemper to E. 121st St.  
[Larchmere.com](http://Larchmere.com)  
216-231-9400

**7/18**

**8 am-noon Saturday  
Party at the Market**

North Union Farmers Market will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a party at the market during regular Saturday hours. Shoppers will enjoy birthday cake, live music, festive entertainment and 'Chef at the Market' samples featuring local farm produce. North Union will recognize and honor the farmers who have been vendors with the market for its entire 20-year history.

Shaker Square  
[northunionfarmersmarket.org](http://northunionfarmersmarket.org)  
216-751-7656

**7/13**

**7-8 pm Monday  
Chalk the Walk**

Families are invited to join Shaker Library in some creative outdoor fun in decorating the

**7/20-24**

**9 am-3 pm Monday - Friday  
Archaeology Camp**

During Hathaway Brown School's summer archaeology camp, youngsters in grades 5-9 will work with archaeologist Beth Hoag of Cuyahoga Community College to learn about excavating relics of the North Union Shakers. The program includes field trips to Tri-C's Archaeology Lab, the Shaker Historical



Society, and the Shaker Lakes and parks. For more information call 216-921-1201. Cost is \$400/camper and class size is limited.

Hathaway Brown School  
19600 North Park Boulevard  
hb.edu  
216-932-4214

## 7/29

**7 pm Wednesday**

### **Shaker Heights Community Band**

Strike up the band! Lisa Cheshier conducts the band of neighborhood musicians at the Colonnade. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. In the event of inclement weather, the band plays on inside the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building. *The program will repeat on Wednesday, August 19.*

Community Colonnade  
3540 Lee Road  
shakeronline.com  
216-491-1360

## AUGUST

## 8/9

**2 pm Sunday**

### **Bike Shaker: Shaker at Play**

Take a two-wheel, architect-led tour of Shaker Heights. Cost is \$15 if you use your bike or \$20 if you want to rent one. Shaker Historical Society Members receive a \$5 discount. Reservations required.

Shaker Historical Society  
16740 South Park Boulevard  
shakerhistory.org  
216-921-1201

## SEPTEMBER

## 9/11

**6-9 pm Friday**

### **Big Birthday Bash**

This ticketed event will celebrate the North Union Farmers Market's 20th anniversary. The first six original farmer-vendors will be

guests of honor. Ticket prices include live music, cocktails, cake, and small bites from local chefs with market produce. This event kicks off the Cleveland Garlic Festival, the market's major fund-raising event. For ticket information call 216-751-7656.

Shaker Square  
northunionfarmersmarket.org  
216-751-7656

## 9/12 & 13

**Noon-9 pm Saturday**

**Noon-6 pm Sunday**

### **Cleveland Garlic Festival**

Enjoy garlic-themed food prepared by local chefs, including everything from ice cream to oysters, a celebrity chef grill-off, live music, cooking demonstrations, wine tastings, taste-and-grow tents for children, and many more events and activities. Tickets: \$9/adults; \$5/seniors 65+ and children 4 to 12 years old; children under 4 are free.

Shaker Square  
clevelandgarlicfestival.org  
216-751-7656

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# 9/12

**10 am-1 pm Saturday**

### Doggie Dip

Celebrate the dog days of summer with your dog. Owners can swim with their pooches in the unheated/unchlorinated water and a lifeguard will be on duty. Well-behaved dogs are welcome and après swim treats are available for the dogs. \$4/resident dog; \$6/nonresident dog

Thornton Park Pool  
3301 Warrensville Center Road  
[shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com)  
216-491-1295

# 9/20

**2 pm Sunday**

### Bike Shaker: Bikers' Choice Tour

The majority rules on this architect-led bike tour of Shaker Heights. Choose your historic destination and ride your bike for \$15 or pay \$20 to rent one. SHS Members receive a \$5 discount. Reservations are required.

Shaker Historical Society  
16740 South Park Blvd.  
[shakerhistory.org](http://shakerhistory.org)  
216-921-1201

# 9/20

**Sunday**

### 11th Annual Shaker Lakes Hike & Run

This family event offers 5K and 10K races plus a 1-mile family, pet-friendly hike along the Nature Center trails; a 4-mile hike through Doan Brook Gorge; and a 12-mile hike to the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve with a shuttle return option. Registration: 7 am. Races begin at 8:30 am. Hikes begin at 8:45 am.

Nature Center at Shaker Lakes  
2600 South Park Boulevard  
[shakerlakes.org](http://shakerlakes.org)  
216-321-5935

# 9/26

**10 am-1 pm Saturday**

### Third Annual Touch-a-Truck Event

Bring the kids to Shaker's Third Annual Touch-a-Truck, where they can climb and explore all types of trucks. Fire trucks, garbage trucks, front-end loaders, scooters, and ambulances roll into the Thornton Park lot. Free.

Thornton Park Pool  
3301 Warrensville Center Road  
[shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com)  
216-491-1295

## Play and Party at Shaker Family Center

If you're hearing there's nothing to do this summer, check out these opportunities for young children at the Shaker Family Center:

**Patricia S. Mearns Family Playroom** New to the area with young children and wondering how to meet folks? The Family Playroom is your answer. Bring the kiddies (birth to 5 years) and meet other families with wee ones at the toy-filled indoor playroom for a relaxing play session. No registration necessary. Attend one or all of the many play times: 9:30 am to 12:15 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, and 4-6 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons.

**Birthday Parties** You have the fun and leave the mess to someone else. Family Connections is the perfect place to hold your child's birthday party (ages birth to 5). You will have two hours of unlimited use of the party room and gym. Saturday birthday parties are available from 11:30 am-1:30 pm or 2:30-4:30 pm, and Sundays from 11 am-1pm or 1:30-3:30 pm.

Shaker Family Center  
19824 Sussex Road  
[familyconnections1.org](http://familyconnections1.org)  
216-921-2023



# Scene in Shaker



## Eurogames at the Van Aken District?

BY BETH FRIEDMAN-ROMELL

Remember my case of G.A.S. – Guitar Acquisition Syndrome? Now another family member has contracted a mutation of this virus, known as Game Acquisition Syndrome. And it appears to be highly contagious.

My son has drawn us into gaming – and I don't mean videos, slots, or the ponies. We have joined the proud subculture of board game geeks.

It's not what you're thinking. Forget about Monopoly, Sorry, or most of the other mass-market games you grew up with. And I'm not talking about what gamers term "Ameritrash" either: arcanelly complicated, theme-based games that take hours to resolve, feature player-to-player conflict, and rely heavily on luck.

I've become a fan of Eurogames, which get high marks for design, materials, and "game mechanics," a.k.a., how they work. Luck plays little or no part in the outcome; strategy and knowing your opponents' playing styles count for much more. The game designers' names are proclaimed on the beautifully rendered boxes. They are the rock stars of the board game world, autographing copies of their work at international conventions.

We need a board game café in the new Van Aken District, appealing to millennials and young families alike. In an age when screens command far too much of our attention, board games allow us to slow down, communicate face-to-face, and stimulate our brains and imaginations.

Some of these games are cooperative, requiring that players combine forces to defeat a foe or save the world. But watch out – some of these will also have a "defector," a player secretly out to sabotage the group. In other games, you may compete for resources, empires, or even the biggest laugh. Today's games involve trading, betting, story-telling, deck-building, tile and/or worker placement, and more. The settings are historical, exotic, or fantastical. There's a game for every mood and every amount of time.

I'm usually drawn to games in which I can accomplish at least some of the goals before the end, even if I don't win. Which makes me a lousy player against my son. I also dig the silly and fanciful: lobbing monsters at buildings and gobbling up people (Rampage); pitching the zaniest two-word products to a customer (Snake Oil); or inventing the most plausible definition for an obscure word (Balderdash).

Who'd a thunk I'd chase all over the east, west, and south sides, seeking the perfect game emporium? Or insist on checking out the local game shop when I visited my brother's family in Virginia? ("Aunt Beth wants to go to the nerd store!" my niece chortled.)

And who'd a thunk I'd be sufficiently drawn into this world to plan and bankroll a family trip to a board game convention at a fake medieval castle? This past February, we went on a pilgrimage to Castle Ravenwood, a Hocking Hills bed-and-breakfast dedicated to gamers. At first, I felt like an outsider to this tribe of mostly 20- and 30-something guys (plus a few gals) with superhero t-shirts and intense focus.

Unlike, well, a "conventional" convention, there was no chit-chat or sharing of personal backgrounds. I was practically the only one to leave the castle for a hike or a change of scene for four days. But gradually our amiable hosts/resident serfs Dina and Zac drew us into the group. I found myself playing new games with new people into the wee hours, and we left eager to return.

Meanwhile, our family won a year's membership to The Malted Meeple, a new board game establishment opened in Hudson by the castle's owner, Jim Reed. At the Meeple (geek-speak for a small, person-shaped player token), you can enjoy craft beer or homemade milkshakes (that's the "malted" part)

while playing a variety of games from their large library. Jim hopes to attract both families and dedicated gamers, a concept that has succeeded in other cities from Toronto to Columbus.

But it's so far from Shaker! So how about it, entrepreneurs? Don't make us keep driving hither and yon for our meeple fix! **SL**

Who'd a thunk I'd  
chase all over the east,  
west, and south sides,  
seeking the perfect  
game emporium?

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p. 58  
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p. 7  
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p. 6  
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Palliative Care Pavilion  
p. 16  
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p. 53  
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Harrington Heart &  
Vascular Institute  
Inside Front Cover  
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p. 62  
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p. 62  
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p. 2  
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p. 11  
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p. 49

Shop Shaker  
p. 9

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p. 55  
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p. 61  
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