

SHAKER LIFE

City of Shaker Heights, Ohio



december | january 2013

\$3.50



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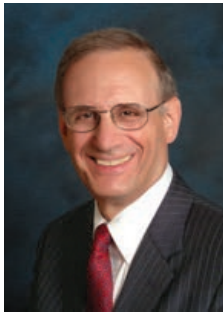
THE VISION ISSUE

The Van Aken District begins to take shape

Promoting health and wellness in our community.



SHAKER
HEIGHTS



Mayor Earl M. Leiken

University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center and The City of Shaker Heights, under the direction of Mayor Earl M. Leiken, have teamed up to promote health and wellness throughout the community. Join us at one of the following featured events.

FEATURED EVENTS

Shaker Heights Night at UH Ahuja Medical Center

3999 Richmond Road, Beachwood, Ohio

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 | 6 – 8 p.m.

Roving Family Fun and Wellness Fair

Saturday, May 11, 2013 | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Family Fun Bike Ride for Wellness

Saturday, August 3, 2013 | 9 a.m.

FREE MONTHLY ONLINE HEALTH EDUCATION SERIES

The Obesity Epidemic – How to win by losing

Wednesday, December 19, 2012 | 12:15 p.m.

Men's Health – Where do we start?

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 | 12:15 p.m.

Prevention of and Screening for Common Cancers

Wednesday, February 20, 2013 | 12:15 p.m.

Vaccinations in Adults – Updated Guidelines

Wednesday, March 20, 2013 | 12:15 p.m.

Treatment of Elevated Lipids –

Non-prescription and Prescription Therapies

Wednesday, April 17, 2013 | 12:15 p.m.

To learn more about the Mayor's Initiative, request a schedule of events, or register for a specific program, call **216-285-4069** or visit **UHAhuja.org/Shaker**.



University Hospitals
Ahuja Medical Center

216-593-5500 | UHAhuja.org

3999 Richmond Road
Beachwood, Ohio 44122

features



A FOCUS ON BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT 40

The Shaker Heights Economic Development Plan lays the groundwork for creating a healthy tax base – and in many respects a new city.



PAST AS PROLOGUE 28

Three groups of Shaker residents answer the perennial question: Why Shaker?



(HIS) STORY OF A HOUSE 37

Wherein a 95-year-old man reaches out across a continent and two centuries to check on his old home.



CLASS ACT 62

Paying it forward to the next generation of Shaker students.

more departments:

City News 3

The Shaker Schools Update 10

Real Estate News 13

Library News 16

Out & About 67
Calendar of events.

Advertiser Index 79

Shaker Observer 80
A Fifth-Grade Reunion?
Only in Shaker.



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ruffingmontessori.net

Winter Open House

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

5:30-7:30 pm



SHAKER LIFE

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VOLUME 30 ISSUE 6

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Letters may be edited for publication.

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Shaker Life does not accept unsolicited editorial material,
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From our Readers

I read the story of the Ludlow Association and integration in Shaker Heights (Shaker Life, August/September 2012). It is an important story. It brought to mind the story of my husband's and my purchase of a home in the Sussex neighborhood, how the Sussex Association was created and how integration proceeded there.

My husband and I were thrilled to learn about the Ludlow Association because we felt strongly about the moral imperative of integration. When we were ready to buy a house, about 1959, we looked in the Ludlow area. We found a house we liked, made an offer on it, and were accepted. When we returned a day or two later with our checkbook, we were informed that another family came after we left, offered more than the asking price, and the house was sold to them.

We continued to house hunt and soon afterward, bought a home under construction in the Sussex area. When we informed the realtor of our purchase, he told us we were idiots because black people were on the verge of buying there.

We moved into our new home on July 1, 1961. I still live here – though my children are gone and I'm a widow. But I love it here.

A couple of years later, when the first black family did buy a house in Sussex, there was a powerful response. Many people were upset and created a group determined to take action to prevent other black families from buying here. In response, several couples who shared our views created another group aimed at welcoming black families but to take action to prevent panic selling and to create stability.

The two groups met at each other's homes to discuss their feelings and attitudes. It was a fascinating experience – listening and responding to

each other. I think it would have led to a meltdown, except for the brilliant and kind personality of our leader – Al Ringler (now deceased). One evening, the leader of the other group stretched out his hand to Al and dissolved the “anti-group.”

After that, we swung into action, taking our cues from the activities of the Ludlow Association. I am happy to report that panic selling never took place, though integration did.

...I have lived here for 51 years now. It is a good feeling to be perfectly comfortable in this neighborhood. I think the Sussex Association, which has morphed into a neighborhood organization that hosts parties, block parties, and community meetings, should receive some form of recognition, too, along with Ludlow – AND Shaker Heights!

– Annabelle Weiss

Shaker Boulevard Named a Top 10 Great Street for 2012

The American Planning Association designated Shaker Boulevard as one of 10 Great Streets for 2012 under the organization's Great Places in America program. The APA singled out Shaker Boulevard for its “enduring design, multi-modal transportation options,

engaged citizens who have fought to preserve the street's integrity, and surrounding community uses.” The 6.75-mile stretch, which begins in Cleveland, traverses Shaker Heights, and ends at I-271 in Beachwood, has carried millions of travelers over its 100-year history.

Said Mayor Earl M. Leiken, “The 2012 APA designation of Shaker Boulevard as a Great Street is especially fitting in the City of Shaker's centennial year. The boulevard reflects the best of our City's unique characteristics – light rail transit, lush, tree-lined streets, and grand homes built during the apex of American architecture.”

Among the other streets honored were Duval Street in Key West and Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Funds Granted for Lake-to-Lakes Trail

The Planning Department submitted a joint application with Cleveland Heights seeking grant funding from NOACA to help complete the Lake-to-Lakes Trail, a five-mile trail that stretches across Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, and Cleveland, connecting the Shaker Lakes with University Circle, downtown Cleveland, and Lake Erie. A total of \$540,000 has been awarded with a required match of



JANET CENTURY

\$135,000.

The local portion of the trail will be a new, 10-foot wide asphalt multi-purpose path, approximately .6 miles in length, along the north side of Fairhill Road. To the west, the path connects to the trail in Cleveland at the Shaker border near East 127th Street. To the east, it connects to the Cleveland Heights/North Park Boulevard trail near Coventry Road.

The trail will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, and will be ADA accessible. Construction of the Shaker Heights portion of the trail fulfills a recommendation in the Recreation and Leisure Framework Plan adopted by City Council in 2005. The City will pursue grants to meet the match requirement.

University Hospitals and the City Team Up for Your Health

University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center and the City of Shaker Heights join forces to promote health and wellness throughout the community. The Mayor's Initiative for Health and Wellness kicked off in October with the Fire Department Open House and Health and Safety Fair. The next event is Shaker Heights Night at the UH Ahuja Medical Center, 3999 Richmond Road in Beachwood, which will be held Wednesday, January 16 from 6-8 pm.

Other events, including a family wellness fair and a family bike ride, will be scheduled throughout the year. For more information call 216-285-4069 or visit UHAhuja.org/Shaker.

AHa! Presents a Night of Improv-Comedy

As part of its innovative 2012-13 season, offering an adventurous variety of artists and venues, the Shaker Arts Council's AHa! (At Home with the

Arts) program will present the improv-comedy troupe Big Dog Theater at Shaker LaunchHouse, 3558 Lee Road, 7 pm Friday, January 11.

The evening will start with hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and live jazz in the cutting-edge atmosphere of LaunchHouse, Shaker's business accelerator for entrepreneurs and their next-wave ideas. Then Big Dog Theater, the East Side improv-comedy troupe whose lightning wit brings thunderous laughs, will take the stage.

"It's been the goal of the AHa! program this year to encompass a wider and livelier selection of art forms," said AHa! Committee Chairman Jim Simler. "We're inviting Shaker residents to enjoy new arts experiences, enhanced by interesting Shaker venues that they either may not have visited before, or may not have thought of as performance spaces," he added.

Tickets for the January Big Dog Theater performance are \$30 (\$25 for Shaker Arts Council members). Call 216-916-9360 for more information; to purchase individual tickets or series packages, go to shakerartscouncil.org.

Neighborhood News

Public Art Commemorates Historic Ludlow Integration

The Ludlow Community Association (LCA), in collaboration with the City of Shaker Heights, has chosen a bold and colorful public art installation as a way to commemorate the neighborhood's pioneering history of peaceful integration. Residents chose artist Mark Reigelman's work, "ColorField," from among three proposals presented to the public.

The permanent art installation consists of fields of triangular aluminum pylons that appear to change color when viewed from different angles. Two sets of the pylons act as gateways to the Ludlow community, with one set located in the Onaway median near Van Aken Boulevard in Shaker Heights, and a companion piece at Hampton and South Woodland roads in Cleveland. The Shaker Heights portion of the artwork was funded by a City neighborhood beautification grant awarded to the LCA in 2009. The LCA is funding the Cleveland portion thanks to generous donations from members of Ludlow's former real estate company.

Former LCA Co-President Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells said, "This exciting sculpture is a visible demonstration of the diversity and vitality of our neighborhood, and we look forward to sharing it with our neighbors in the broader community."



Business News

Shop Shaker!



Shaker residents have more options than ever to keep their dollars local by patronizing the following establishments now open for business:

Eat

Pick up a sweet or savory creation from Simply Delicious Pies, located in the historic Kingsbury Building at 3433 Lee Road, between Chagrin and Van Aken boulevards.

Simply Delicious Pies is open Tuesday through Friday from 8 am to 7 pm, Saturdays from 9 am to 6 pm, and Sundays from 10 am to 2 pm. The shop sells a wide variety of pies-to-go, as well as pies and quiches for special events, such as baby showers, birthdays, and weddings. They also sell wholesale to grocers and restaurants.

For more information, visit simplydeliciouspies.com, find them on Facebook, or call the shop directly at 216-273-3566.

Shop

Find unique and beautiful clothing, jewelry, artwork, and more at Juma Gallery, located at 20100 Chagrin Blvd. in the space formerly occupied by Malcolm Brown Gallery.

The renovated and expanded space houses a contemporary art and hand-crafted gift gallery along with a boutique featuring stylish clothing, jewelry, and accessories. There is also a gathering space for people to meet over coffee and sweets.

Juma Gallery* is open Monday through Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm, and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. Call the Gallery to inquire about hosting special events, book groups, and more at 216-295-1717. Catering can be arranged.

Proprietor and Shaker resident Erica Weiss also provides space for other local artists and retailers. The first to occupy space in the building is Carina Reimers, a Shaker resident and the owner of **The House Warmings,*** which offers hand-painted home furnishings, home goods with a European flair, and locally crafted jewelry items.

Beautify

Freshen your look at Sisu Salon, now open in the space next to J. Pistone at Warrensville Center and Almar roads. The full-service salon offers stylish cuts for women, men, and children, as well as manicures and pedicures and other spa services. Open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 3 pm, and Saturday from 9 am to 2 pm (closed Sunday and Monday).

Enlight Advisors Moves to Shaker

A \$68,000 forgivable loan from the City's Vision Fund made it possible for **Enlight Advisors*** to relocate from their office space in Beachwood to a loft space above Shaker Commons along Chagrin Boulevard in Shaker Heights. The firm's President, Amy Fulford, and her business partner Troy Meinhard, are both residents of Shaker and are happy to contribute their growing business' payroll taxes to the City. Fulford is also a member of the Shaker Heights Board of Education.

The firm has six employees and plans to add two more in the next year. Enlight provides business strategy consulting for small- to mid-sized businesses and Cleveland organizations like Team NEO. The firm's income tax projections indicate that it will be able to pay back the loan in two years.

Heights Therapy Moves into Shaker Family Center

Speech pathologist Abby Dunford has opened a private practice inside the Shaker Family Center at 19824 Sussex Road. Heights Therapy offers screenings, evaluations, and treatment for children ages 0-18. Dunford, a Shaker resident, is certified by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association and the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology. Screenings are available in the office or at the child's home or preschool for children younger than three years.

To arrange an appointment, call 216-245-8255. For more information, visit heightstherapy.com.

Miach Medical Innovations Wins LCCC Grant

Shaker Heights-based **Miach Medical Innovations*** (MMI) is one of four local technology companies to receive a \$25,000 grant from the Lorain County Community College Foundation's Innovation Fund. Companies receiving the grants commit to providing internships to students at LCCC or providing some other educational experience.

MMI is developing sensor-equipped endotracheal and feeding tubes designed to identify anatomic location and signal unplanned movements, reducing the risks to patients who require breathing or feeding support. The company is using the funds to develop transmitter technology for wireless monitoring of the sensor signals.

MMI was co-founded in 2011 by two Shaker residents, James D. Reynolds and Dr. James R. Rowbottom, both faculty members in the Department of Anesthesiology at Case Western Reserve University. Reynolds serves as president, and Rowbottom

***WORK/LIVE**

as chief medical officer. The company maintains its administrative headquarters in Shaker Heights, and conducts prototype development and testing at CWRU.

Annual LaunchHouse Gala to “Create, Inspire, Sustain”

Shaker LaunchHouse hosts its annual gala fundraiser on Saturday, February 9, 2013 from 7:30 pm to midnight at the Crawford Galleries of the Western Reserve Historical Society. Sponsored by the Shaker Heights Development Corporation, the theme of the gala is “Creating the businesses of today, inspiring the entrepreneurs of tomorrow, and sustaining our region.”

The event features dinner, dancing, and a silent auction in support of Cleveland entrepreneurship. Through the community’s continued support, LaunchHouse has created an environment that develops entrepreneurs, fosters innovation, and provides educational opportunities.

Gala donations will be used to provide entrepreneurship experiences at LaunchHouse. For more information, visit Launchhouse.com/gala.

Shaker News Briefs

Appointments to Shaker Heights Development Corporation

City Council has approved several appointments to the Shaker Heights Development Corporation (SHDC) including those recommended by the Fund for the Future (FFF).

When the Fund donated its remaining assets to SHDC, the two parties agreed that FFF would recommend four board members to serve on SHDC. Those members are:

Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Manager of Watershed Programs, Northeast Ohio Re-

gional Sewer District. Dreyfuss-Wells will serve as treasurer of the SHDC Executive Committee.

Effrum Garnett, therapeutic specialty representative, Pfizer, Inc.

Graham Lanz, Lieutenant, U.S. Coast Guard

Ben Woodcock, branch manager, Key Bank

Newly Appointed Board Members:

Kim Bixenstine, vice president and deputy general counsel for University Hospitals

John J. Boyle III, special assistant for Capital Planning Senior Fellow, Levin College of Urban Affairs. Boyle will serve as president of the SHDC Executive Committee

Scott Garson, senior vice president,

NAI DAUS. Garson will serve as vice president of the SHDC Executive Committee.

Mike Laskey, director of development, Levin Group

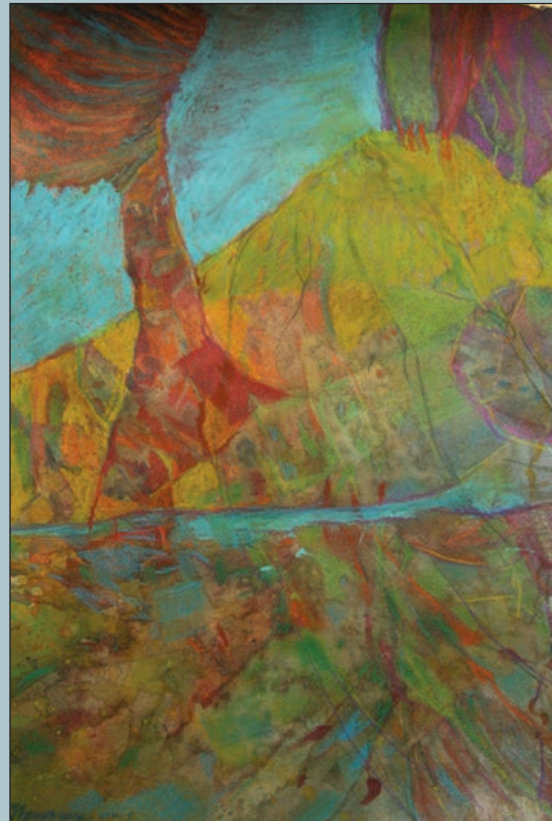
Morris Wheeler, founder of Clarion Capitol. Wheeler will serve as the Shaker LaunchHouse representative on the SHDC Board.

Continuing Board Members:

Richard W. Pogue, advisor, Jones Day. Pogue will serve as the at-large member of the SHDC Executive Committee.

Tania Menesse, director of economic development for Shaker Heights. Menesse will serve as secretary of the SHDC Executive Committee.

These appointments are for an initial three year term, 2012-2015.



Shaker resident and artist **Elise Newman's** watermedia painting selected for the 2012 35th Annual Juried Ohio Watercolor Society Exhibition, Watercolor Ohio 2012, at the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery of Art in Columbus. Newman's painting, “A Landscape Remembered,” will be displayed through January 13. This highly competitive juried show attracted 234 entries this year. Sixty-five pieces were chosen for the exhibition. At the conclusion of the Riffe Gallery show, the exhibit will be on tour throughout the state of Ohio.

CITY NEWS

97-Year-Old Publishes Book

Proving that age is just a number, 97-year-old **Mary Butcher**, a Shaker resident, published her first book in 2012. It is a memoir entitled, *Tho There Be No Tears*. The book is an account of her difficult early years growing up in orphanages, enduring abuse and ultimately moving in with her grandmother, Martha Randolph, when she was 12-years-old. Randolph shared with Butcher stories of living on a slave plantation in Virginia and the Underground Railroad. With the support and encouragement of her grandmother, Butcher attended college to study English and Journalism.

The book, published through Morning Glory Press, is available only at the Woodlands of Shaker Heights at the corner of Lee Road and Chagrin Boulevard.

Maria Campanelli has been named executive director of the Children's Museum of Cleveland.

Debbie May-Johnson has been appointed executive director of the Cleveland Eye Bank.

Crain's 2012 forty under 40 list includes five Shaker residents:

Aparna Bole, MD, sustainability manager, University Hospitals, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital.

Michelle Comerford, managing director of Austin Consulting, The Austin Company.

James P. Dougherty, partner, Jones Day.

Eric and Hallie Bram Kogelschatz, founders, TEDxCLE.

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CITY NEWS

Seasonal Reminders

Bicycle Licensing: Licenses are sold from 9 am to 3 pm in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. New licenses are \$5. Re-issued licenses are 50 cents. Call for specific dates: 216-491-1220.

E-News Updates: Don't miss a thing! Sign up to receive emailed news about your community. Visit the homepage of shakeronline.com and enter your email to select the information you wish to receive.

Fire Hydrants vs. Snow: During times of heavy snowfall, the Fire Department reminds residents of the importance of clearing snow away from fire hydrants. Please remind snowplow contractors not to pile snow on or near the hydrants.

Power Outages: Please call CEI, not City Hall: 888-544-4877.

Snow Clearing: When snow, ice, or slush accumulate, residents must clear sidewalks by 9 am of the following day. Please provide a safe path for children walking to bus stops or to school, as well as for neighbors and postal carriers. If using a snow thrower, please use care when redistributing the snow. City law states that "no [resident] removing snow from any driveway or sidewalk... shall deposit the same on the pavement or sidewalk of any public street or on any tree lawn in any public street, except the tree lawn immediately in front of the premises from which the snow is removed."

Snow Policy: Residents are asked not to park their cars in the street when

snow reaches a depth of two inches or more. Please remember that residents are responsible for clearing snow and ice from the sidewalks fronting their property. The City does not plow residential driveways; snow removal contractors must be registered with the Police Department and their permit clearly displayed. Do not push snow into the street, onto sidewalks or onto another person's property.

Trash Delays: Collections scheduled on Christmas and New Year's Day will be one day late (Tuesday through Friday delayed). Call the Public Works Department, 216-491-1490, to report a missed pickup. Calls must be received the next business day. To receive an email reminder when pickup is delayed a day, sign up for the City's email list at shakeronline.com.

Wood-burning Stoves and Fireplaces: These should be cleaned and inspected regularly. Burn wood only and do not use accelerants to light a fire.

Yard Waste: October 15 to December 15 is Leaf Collection season. City crews are equipped to pick up leaves, grass clippings, hedge trimmings, and garden waste from tree lawns (never in the street); brush collection is suspended temporarily during leaf collection. When crews are busy with snow removal, brush collection is maintained as weather permits only. Landscapers should be advised to remove any brush collected during this time period.

For more information on the City's Codified Ordinances, visit shakeronline.com. 🌿

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National Search Under Way for Next Superintendent



Freeman

The Board of Education has undertaken a national search for a successor to Superintendent Mark Freeman, who will step down in July after 25 years in the position. The Board's goal is to name a new superintendent in the spring, to take office this summer.

The Board will give consideration to both internal and external candidates and will include community input in the process. Says Board president Annette Sutherland, "The Board trusts the District's experienced administrative team and faculty will help us to maintain continuity during the upcoming transition." Regular progress updates on the search are posted on shaker.org.

Freeman joined the Shaker faculty as a teacher in 1967 and within seven years had moved into his first administrative position. He was instrumental in creating and obtaining outside funding for the Shaker Schools Plan, one of the first voluntary desegregation efforts in the nation. In 1988, he was appointed as Shaker's 12th superintendent and the first internal candidate to ascend to the post.

Reflecting on his career in Shaker, Freeman emphasizes that all the District's accomplishments are team efforts. He is proudest, he says, of the community's commitment to diversity; students' successes in academics, co-curricular activities, and service; the adoption of the International Baccalaureate program and other instructional improvements; persistence in addressing the needs of struggling students; and modernization and preservation of the buildings.

Says Freeman: "I'm committed to working with our staff, students, and community to make Shaker's one-hundredth academic year our best ever, and to leaving the District well positioned for its second century."

Hall of Fame Inducts Eight Graduates



Eight graduates were inducted into the Shaker Heights Alumni Association Hall of Fame in October. From left: (front row) Anna Lupica Colagiovanni, recipient of an honorary Shaker Heights High School diploma in 2012, nearly 80 years after she left school to help support her large family during the Depression; Shoshana Stein Bennett, '71, an expert in the field of assessing and treating postpartum depression and related mood and anxiety disorders; Laurel Richie, '77, president of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA); Richard Brubaker, '50, attorney and former professional football player; (back row) Austin Ratner, '90, author of *The Jump Artist* and other works of non-fiction and short fiction; Marc Nathanson, '65, a former vice president of sales and marketing in the for-profit sector who transitioned to leadership positions in the nonprofit social services sector; and Jerome Taylor, '92, assistant professor of surgery at SUNY Downstate Medical Center and former battalion surgeon for the Navy, where he earned the rank of lieutenant commander. Peter Bergman, '57, co-founder of the classic American comedy ensemble *The Firesign Theatre*, was inducted posthumously.

Great Performances

Don't miss these opportunities to see Shaker students shine:

DEC. 5-7: The High School theatre department presents Shakespeare's **As You Like It**, complete with Edwardian period costumes in a nod to the Shaker Centennial celebration. The production benefits from department chair Christine McBurney's recent participation in a directing workshop at The Juilliard School focusing on Shakespeare. High School Large Auditorium, 7 pm. For tickets, call 216-295-4287 or visit www.tix.com.

DEC. 12: High School Winter Orchestra Concert, 7:30 pm in the Large Auditorium. Free.

DEC. 17 & 18: High School Band Concerts, 7:30 pm, in the Large Auditorium. Free.

DEC. 19: High School Winter Choir Alumni Concert. Alumni are invited to join in a rousing encore rendition of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus, a cherished Shaker tradition that brings together five decades of singers. 7:30 pm in the Large Auditorium. Free.

JAN. 11: High School Winter Concert in Dance, 7 pm in the Large Auditorium. Free.

JAN. 27: The High School Wind Ensemble will perform at Severance Hall as part of the Northeast Ohio Band Invitational. For advance tickets, contact Tom Deep at 216-295-4233. Tickets are \$10 for general admission. A limited number of box seats are available at \$15. Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the event at the Severance box office. Please visit shaker.org for additional details.

31 Seniors Earn National Honors

Thirty-one members of the Class of 2013 have been honored by the National Merit, National Achievement, and National Hispanic Scholar programs.

National Merit Semifinalists: Anna (Kate) Connors, Claire Crosby, Alexander Friedman, Clara Kao, Matthew Langhinrichs, Daniel Murphy, and Isabel Robertson.

National Achievement Semifinalists: Lawrence Shelven and Ini Umosen.

National Merit Commended Students: Ann H. Carter, Ryan Claus, Jacob Gardner, Nicholas Haubrich, Jordan Isenberg, Gregory Lanese, Kristen Leonard, Megan Mathur, Luke Mesiano, Nicholas Murray, Aaron Rabinow-

itz, Ari Ross, Rebecca K. Smith, Alexa Steiber, Nathan Steinberg, Evelyn Ting, Ini Umosen, Lauren Vavruska, and Lauren Woyczynski.

National Achievement Commended Students: Spencer Gilbert and Brenton Sullivan.

National Hispanic Recognition Scholars: Nicholas Murray, Juan Schwartzman, and Ana Sinicariello.

These scholastically talented seniors are considered top candidates for admission to the most selective colleges and for merit-based scholarships.

145 Shaker Students Named AP Scholars

A total of 145 Shaker Heights High School students and June 2012 gradu-

ates have been named AP Scholars by The College Board in recognition of their outstanding performance on three or more Advanced Placement (AP) examinations administered through May 2012. This represents 38 percent of the Shaker students who took AP exams; worldwide, about 18 percent of the nearly 2 million students who took AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Shaker Heights High School offers 22 Advanced Placement courses in 18 subject areas. By the time they graduate, more than 40 percent of Shaker students have taken at least one AP course. For a complete list of AP Scholars, visit shaker.org. 🌿



Music to Their Ears

Shaker Heights High School students were treated to a world-class performance by the Cleveland Orchestra on October 11. In honor of the District's centennial, Shaker was selected as the first school to benefit from the Alfred Lerner In-School Performance Fund, which permanently endows Cleveland Orchestra performances in area high schools. Prior to the performance, eight Orchestra members – several of them Shaker residents – lent their expertise to a class with the High School's Chamber Orchestra. Two Shaker students, Haruno Sato and Chloe Thominet, were selected for the honor of playing the National Anthem on stage with the Orchestra to open the concert.

*For the latest news and info about the Shaker schools, visit shaker.org.
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REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between July 1 and August 31, 2012 appear below. The first list includes only those properties that have had a prior sale within the last 10 years. Excluded are "quit claim" transfers as well as those resulting from foreclosure, in which the sale price is not reflective of the property value.

ADDRESS	2012 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE
2684 ASHLEY RD	\$687,000	\$685,000 (2003)
3266 AVALON RD	\$183,000	\$200,500 (2008)
3286 AVALON RD	\$181,000	\$192,000 (2007)
3315 AVALON RD	\$155,000	\$171,500 (2010)
22926 BYRON RD	\$168,000	\$169,000 (2007)
19852 CHAGRIN BLVD	\$193,500	\$303,500 (2005)
19942 CHAGRIN BLVD	\$172,000	\$150,000 (2011)
3289 CHALFANT RD	\$247,000	\$280,000 (2008)
21200 CLAYTHORNE RD	\$660,000	\$725,000 (2004)
2626 COURTLAND OVAL	\$550,000	\$780,000 (2005)
3320 DORCHESTER RD	\$269,000	\$285,000 (2006)
23934 DUFFIELD RD	\$210,000	\$210,000 (2005)
3388 GLENCAIRN RD	\$207,000	\$167,500 (2007)
2889 GLENGARY RD	\$820,000	\$790,000 (2008)
3310 GRENWAY RD	\$240,000	\$237,000 (2009)
3335 GRENWAY RD	\$218,000	\$284,500 (2003)
2918 HUNTINGTON RD	\$277,500	\$293,000 (2006)
2729 INVERNESS RD	\$475,000	\$590,000 (2007)
3280 KENMORE RD	\$284,000	\$325,000 (2006)
2688 LONDON RD	\$345,000	\$409,000 (2006)
3702 LATIMORE RD	\$163,000	\$200,000 (2003)
3665 LYNNFIELD RD	\$109,000	\$ 33,000 (2012)
3725 LYNNFIELD RD	\$ 98,000	\$127,000 (2003)
3541 LYTLE RD	\$148,500	\$224,500 (2005)
22475 MCCAULEY RD	\$445,000	\$522,000 (2003)
3140 MONTGOMERY RD	\$542,000	\$560,000 (2007)
3351 NORWOOD RD	\$410,000	\$270,000 (2008)
22362 RYE RD	\$266,000	\$240,000 (2008)
3116 SEBOR RD	\$132,000	\$160,000 (2008)
19200 SHELBURNE RD	\$512,500	\$450,000 (2009)
3309 STOCKHOLM RD	\$282,000	\$315,000 (2009)

LIST OF HOUSING TRANSFERS WITH A PRIOR SALE WITHIN 15 YEARS:

2896 CLAREMONT RD	\$439,900	\$ 344,900 (1997)
23707 DUFFIELD RD	\$213,000	\$ 239,700 (2000)
3604 GRIDLEY RD	\$50,000	\$ 163,500 (1998)
22949 HOLMWOOD RD	\$340,000	\$ 244,000 (1999)
3597 MENLO RD	\$76,700	\$ 71,000 (2001)
19601 N PARK BLVD	\$925,000	\$ 680,000 (1998)
2703 ROCHESTER RD	\$285,000	\$ 339,000 (1999)
15970 S PARK BLVD	\$1,700,000	\$1,850,000 (2001)
3666 STRATHAVON RD	\$140,000	\$ 128,000 (2000)
3704 TOLLAND RD	\$138,900	\$ 176,000 (1999)

continued on page 14

Landmark Commission Announces 2012 Preservation Awards

In 1988 the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission established its Preservation Awards program to recognize and highlight efforts by property owners who have preserved and improved their home or property in a manner that reflects the historic nature of the City. The Landmark Commission is pleased to announce the following award winners for 2012:

HONOR AWARD – Architecturally Appropriate Addition

Bauders Residence, Park Drive

The owners won this award for the sensitive addition of an attached garage to their 1927 home, designed by John William Cresswell Corbuser for Salmon Halle, founder of the Halle Bros Department Store. The new garage is tucked underneath an existing patio, and is complemented by a new retaining wall and extensive landscaping.

MERIT AWARD – Retention of Original Materials

Recognizes efforts to retain or restore the original materials and details of a home/building.

Larson Residence, Stanford Road

The owners used slate to replace the original slate roof that was damaged in a storm.

Nagle Residence, Lansmere Road

The owners replaced the original shake shingle roof with new shake shingles to retain the unique architectural character of their 1925 home.

Kosich Residence, Glencairn Road

The owners rebuilt their brick chimney to match and preserve the original design elements of their 1928 home.

Real Numbers *continued from page 13*

LIST OF HOUSING TRANSFERS WITH A PRIOR SALE WITHIN 20 YEARS:

2836 DRUMMOND RD	\$530,000	\$437,500 (1996)
18725 SHELBURNE RD	\$485,000	\$280,000 (1993)
18411 S WOODLAND RD	\$570,000	\$255,000 (1993)
3571 TRAVER RD	\$192,000	\$129,500 (1993)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

2012 Preservation Awards

continued from page 13

SPECIAL AWARD – Preservation Hero, Work in Progress

Saran Residence, Parkland Drive

The owners won this award in recognition of the unique, heroic effort required to undertake a renovation project of large magnitude on a historic, landmark-quality property. Although much work remains to be completed, with the purchase of the

house the homeowners in effect rescued the property from demolition. The project includes the complete interior and exterior renovation of an abandoned, foreclosed home with 515 point-of-sale violations. The house was designed by noted architect Monroe Dean and built in 1931.

Nominate a Shaker Restoration Project

The Landmark Commission is now accepting nominations for the 2013 awards program through April 26, 2013. Exterior projects completed within the last two years are eligible. Nominations can be submitted for any building in Shaker Heights, including homes and apartment buildings, commercial buildings and other structures.

Nominations should be submitted by to the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. Contact Ann Klavora at 216-291-1436 or ann.klavora@shakeronline.com for additional information or a nomination form.

Three Properties to be Renovated through City Programs

Qualified rehabbers are invited to participate in the City's two housing improvement programs designed to encourage the renovation of dilapidated homes. The Shaker Renovator and Private Purchase Rehab programs have documented track records of successfully restoring properties to productive use. Two qualified rehabbers are cur-

rently undertaking the renovation of three properties in the City.

Joe Alberino, Alberino Construction, will renovate 3381 Dorchester Road. The renovation will be done through the City's Shaker Renovator program, which encourages high quality renovations of properties bought by qualified rehabbers who then put the property on the market.

In order to qualify, at least two renovation projects must have been completed in the City within the past 18 months. Qualified projects are ones that include upgrades beyond the correction of code violations, and where the interior work meets Shaker's quality standards. Contractors who qualify are permitted to put 100 percent of estimated repair costs in escrow (as opposed to 150 percent) and are not required to submit interior drawings unless structural changes are made. Their projects receive free publicity on the City's website and here in Shaker Life. Through the Shaker Renovator program seven houses have been renovated and sold for prices ranging from \$171,000 to \$545,000. Each project, on average, increased the property value by 300%. To date the program has added \$1,568,500 to the tax base.

Scott Frey, Property Renewals, Inc., will renovate two properties at 16725 and 16633 Lomond through the City's Private Purchase Rehab Program. Under this program, established in 2012, City-owned properties are sold to rehabbers to transfer unproductive property to reputable firms for rehab and sale to owner-occupants. Typically these projects are required to be completed within six months. The transactions are cost-neutral to the City. Frey's company has purchased and rehabbed 11 homes in Shaker to date.

Stay tuned for information as to the completion and sale of these properties. Contractors can learn more about these programs at shakeronline.com/live-in-shaker/incentive-programs/shaker-renovator-program.



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- Access Center
- Vascular Access Evaluation
- Vascular Access Treatment
- Home Dialysis Programs
- Nursing Home based dialysis units
- Hospital based acute dialysis

Come and Join the CDC Family!



LIBRARY NEWS

To register online for Library programs or reserve a meeting room, visit shakerlibrary.org and click on the links under Tools.

Caps for Kids Knitting Project Continues to Warm Heads and Hearts

Now in its sixth year, the Library's Caps for Kids project invites community members to knit or crochet caps for children for Project Act, which benefits homeless children in the Cleveland Municipal School District. The response has been so tremendous that the Library has expanded its cap giving to the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Bookmarks about the project are available at both libraries and include an easy-to-knit pattern. In addition the Library has many books on knitting and crocheting, which offer a variety of patterns. Completed caps must be delivered to either library by 7 pm Thursday, December 20.



A good sign for Shaker Library! Thanks to PIRHL (Partnership for Income Restricted Housing Leadership) developers there is a new sign on Chagrin Boulevard to help people find their way to the Main Library.

Meet the Authors

Meet Julia Kuo, creator of the blog 100 Days in Cleveland and illustrator of *New to Cleveland: A Guide to*



Kuo

(Re) *Discovering the City*, who will discuss her work and her perspective on life in Cleveland at 7 pm Wednesday, December 5 at Bertram Woods Branch.

Kuo grew up in Los Angeles and attended Washington University in St. Louis. She moved to Cleveland five years ago to work for American Greetings. In March 2011, she started her blog, featuring drawings and musings of her favorite places around Cleveland. The blog picked up steam and she and urban planner, Justin Glanville, self-published *New to Cleveland: A Guide to (Re) Discovering the City*, which contains 50 of her illustrations. Several of the images in the book are also on display at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

Kuo is a freelance illustrator who works in the Midwest for most of the year and in Taiwan over the winter. She has created cover art for children's books, record label covers, wedding invitations, and most recently iPhone app designs and New York Times editorial illustrations. Some of her other clients include Universal Music Group, Capitol Records, Little Brown and Co., Simon & Schuster, American Greetings, JoAnn Fabrics, the Home Shopping Network, and Tiny Prints. She also illustrated the cover of the Shaker Heights Centennial edition of *Shaker Contemporary Living* magazine.

According to Julia, "When I was young, I was so addicted to drawing

that my brother would exploit me by selling me copy paper for \$3 a sheet. Now he is an economist and I am still paying too much for copy paper and drawing supplies."

In addition to freelancing, Kuo is part of The Nimbus Factory, a multidisciplinary paper goods design boutique. She is also a partner in New to Cleveland, a group dedicated to creativity in the Rust Belt.

At 7 pm Thursday, December 6 at Main Library meet Maria Isabella, author of *In the Kitchen with Cleveland's Favorite Chefs*.



Isabella

Isabella is an award-winning freelance writer and published author with more than 30 years' creative experience in advertising, marketing, and publishing. She has a degree in Communication from Cleveland State University and is a member of the International Association of Culinary Professionals, the James Beard Foundation, and Les Dames d'Escoffier. She is also a cooking instructor and contributes as a focus group member and recipe tester for Bon Appétit, Zagat, America's Test Kitchen, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, and General Mills.

In the Kitchen with Cleveland's Favorite Chefs takes readers into the private kitchens of 35 local culinary greats to discover what's really cooking. Isabella asked each chef to submit a recipe that could be prepared in one hour or less for last-minute entertaining. The recipes are as varied as the chefs, who represent an array of gastronomic talent – from celebrity chefs, restaurant chef/owners, and institutional chefs, to caterers, cooking instructors, and researchers.

Each chef shared detailed recipes for



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LIBRARY NEWS

delicious signature meals that can be prepared quickly and easily at home – 119 recipes, including a range of meat, fish, and vegetarian choices to tempt every palate, including helpful wine pairings. Accompanying each recipe are full-color photographs featuring the chefs and their culinary masterpieces. Isabella's profiles of each chef offer insights into everything from personal life stories to tips for successful last-minute entertaining.

The book lets readers mix and match the recipes to create their own customized menus. For a delicious appetizer, start with Jonathon Sawyer's Devils on Horseback or Eric Williams's Guacamole Tradicional, followed by Michael Symon's Roasted Rack of Pork with Pumpkin Puree & Cilantro Salad or Dante Boccuzzi's Mustard-Crusted Lamb Cutlets with Garbanzo Beans & Frisée for the entrée. Decadent dessert options include Jonathan Bennett's Gingered Apple Tarte Tatin, Zachary Bruell's Greek Yogurt with Berries & Honey, or Karen Small's Fig Scones.

Filled with informative tips and clear step-by-step instructions using local ingredients and familiar techniques, *In the Kitchen with Cleveland's Favorite Chefs* gives busy home cooks and foodies alike the tools and confidence they need to entertain just like the pros.

Following each program, the authors' books will be available for sale and signing.

Another Generous Year Finds Friends Funding Library Projects, Equipment, and Programs at Record Levels

To paraphrase the Beatles, the Library gets by with (much more than) a little help from its Friends! In approving its budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year, Friends of the Shaker Library designated more than \$46,000 toward a variety

of programs and purchases. This budget brings the Friends' contributions to more than a half million dollars during the past 20 years.

Friends funds the Library's Summer Reading Program as well as a variety of programs offered throughout the year for children, teens, and adults. In addition, funds support staff meetings and staff development days, as well as recognition for retiring employees. Flower and Reading Garden funds help to beautify both Main Library and Woods Branch.

New equipment funded this year includes a full-size refrigerator for the kitchenette on the Main Library second floor, an LCD projector, display furniture for current magazines and books, electronic equipment, including Skype cameras and new eBook devices. The biggest grant, however, is for a new Main Library Information Desk, which will match the Children's Desk purchased by the Friends in 2010. The desk will enhance the Main Library's reconfigured reading room which includes the relocation of Movies & Music to a central area.

The Library is grateful to its Friends who give not only of their funds, but also their volunteer time to make Shaker the five-star Library it is. Residents can add their support by joining Friends of the Shaker Library for as little as \$15. The Library can never have too many friends!

Sneak Peek: Broadway Theater at Playhouse Square

Enjoy a preview of the 2013 Playhouse Square Broadway and Children's Theater series at 7 pm Tuesday, December 4 at Main Library. Learn about the benefits and opportunities available to supporters of the Playhouse Square Foundation, the largest performing arts complex outside New York City. Attendees' names



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LIBRARY NEWS

will be entered into a drawing for two select seats for a theater production.

Student Writing Contest Reception Set for January 18

The Library invites the community to the Main Library from 4:30 to 5:30 pm Friday, January 18 for the presentation of the winners in the Library's 15th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. student writing contest. Youth in grades 3-8 were asked to write a short essay telling what they could do in their lives to make a difference. Meet the winners and hear their affirming essays.

Recent Contributions to the Library

Contributions to the Library from June through August include donations to the Marilyn Kammer Memorial Fund from Randy Kammer in honor of Cindy Edelman, Micah Goldberg, and Sue Nussbaum, and in memory of Kevin Fergusson, Joel Goldman, Alice Haltmeyer-Klein, Ron Little, and Mitchell Small.

Marilyn Gardner, Marsha Moses, Lissa Moses, and Rob Johnson donated to the Frances Belman Fund to honor the memory of Frances Belman. Linda Knight donated to the Bertram Woods Branch Landscaping & Garden Fund and Yvette Shenk made an unrestricted contribution.

The Library also has an Endowment Fund through the Cleveland Foundation to provide ongoing financial assistance to the Library and its programs. The fund is held and managed by Cleveland Foundation, which invests the gifts for greater return on investment and prudent growth. Gifts to the Fund provide the Library with an important source of revenue now and into the future.

A gift given today can have a significant impact on the lives of others

for generations to come. For more information about contributions to the Library or to the Shaker Heights Public Library Fund of the Cleveland Foundation, please call Library Director Luren Dickinson at 216-367-3001.

Recent Donations to the Local History Collection

Recent donations to the Local History collection through October 4 include historic papers and books by local authors. If you would like more information about how to donate to the Local History collection, please call or email Local History Librarian Meghan Hays at mhays@shakerlibrary.org.

Shaker resident, businessman, and activist John E. Guinness donated 27 boxes of background material on the Parents, Teachers, Students Working Group Shaker Heights school reform effort he spearheaded over the past several years. This group's work resulted in several studies which are available both in the Local History Collection and for check-out. The background materials will be processed in order to be available to interested patrons in the library.

Shaker resident Nola Drake donated 42 U-Matic master tapes of the 1970s-1990s local cable TV program "Shaker Life," which was produced and directed by her husband, the late Douglas Drake. This show profiled all aspects of Shaker Heights public life, from profiles of the Nature Center and the Fire Department to Mayor Patricia Mearns' annual State of the City speeches to League of Women Voters-sponsored public hearings on the Shaker Schools Plan. The Library hopes to find resources to convert these tapes to digital files to enable the public to view these important historic artifacts.

continued on page 23

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LIBRARY NEWS

The Bookshelf: Books That Won't Make Teens Blush, Gag, or Lose Sleep

Breaking Stalin's Nose by Eugene Yelchin. Henry Holt, 2011. In the Stalinist era of the Soviet Union, 10-year-old Sasha idolizes his father, a devoted Communist. When police take his father away leaving him homeless, Sasha must examine his own perceptions, values, and beliefs.

Dead End in Norvelt by Jack Gantos. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2011. In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, 12-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore.

Flyaway by Lucy Christopher. Chicken House, 2011. While her father is in the hospital, 13-year-old Isla befriends Harry, the first boy to appreciate her love of the outdoors. When Harry's health fails, Isla tries to help him along with a lone swan struggling to fly on the lake outside Harry's window.

Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai. HarperCollins, 2011. Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness. Candlewick Press, 2011. Thirteen-year-old Conor awakens one night to find a monster outside his bedroom window – not the one from the recurring nightmare that began when his mother became ill, but an ancient, wild creature that wants him to face truth and loss.

No Ordinary Day by Deborah Ellis. Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, 2011. Valli has always been afraid of the lepers living on the other side of the train tracks in Jharia, India. When a chance encounter with a doctor reveals she has leprosy, Valli rejects help and begins an uncertain life on the streets.

The Other Half of My Heart by Sundee Tucker Frazier. Delacorte Press, 2010. Twin daughters of interracial parents have very different skin tones and personalities. When their African-American grandmother enters them in the Miss Black Pearl Pre-Teen competition in North Carolina, red-haired, pale-skinned Minna realizes what life in their small town in the Pacific Northwest has been like for her more outgoing, darker-skinned sister, Keira.

Soldier Bear by Bibi Dumon Tak. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. During World War II, Polish soldiers adopt an orphaned Syrian brown bear cub who serves for five years as their mischievous mascot in Iran and Italy. Based on a true story.

The Two Princesses of Bamarre by Gail Carson Levine. HarperCollins, 2001. With her adventurous sister, Meryl, who is suffering from the Grey death, meek and timid Princess Addie sets out to find a cure.

The Unforgotten Coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Candlewick Press, 2011. When two Mongolian brothers appear one morning in her sixth grade class, Julie, their new friend and "Good Guide," navigates them through soccer, school uniforms, and British slang.

Teen Scene (Grades 7-12)

Teen Center Main Library, Second Floor

Winter Recess Hours: 1-6 pm December 26, 27
1-5:30 pm December 31
1-6 pm January 2, 3

BROWNIE TASTE TESTING IN THE TEEN CENTER (Grades 7-12)

It's National Brownie Day in December so we're hosting our own Brownie Taste Testing. Try lots of different brownies and pick the best!

4:15-5 pm Weds., December 12

Register in person, by phone, or online.

CREATE A CANDY HOUSE IN THE TEEN CENTER (Grades 7-12)

Here's your chance to build (and EAT!) your very own candy house using graham crackers, frosting, and other sweet treats. This event is sure to satisfy any sweet tooth!

4:15-5 pm Weds., December 19

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning December 5.

NATIONAL HAT DAY IN THE TEEN CENTER (Grades 7-12)

Bring your creative ideas, and we'll provide the hat for you to decorate and take home.

4:15-5 pm Wednesday, January 16

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning January 2.

YOUR PLACE IN THE WOODS!

AT WOODS BRANCH (Grades 7-9)

Join friends in the Dietz Community Room after school.

3-4:30 pm Mondays

No registration required.

WAY OUT WEDNESDAY IN

THE TEEN CENTER (Grades 7-12)

It may be a chance to play on our Wii, or cook yourself a tasty snack, or make something crafty.

3:30 pm Wednesday, December 26

3:30 pm Wednesday, January 9

NEW! C.A.S.T. (COMMUNITY ACTION SERVICE FOR TEENS) IN THE TEEN CENTER

Help your neighbors while you earn community service hours during our 1-hour service learning project events.

10:30-11:30 am Sat., December 15

10:30-11:30 am Sat., January 26

Register in person, by phone or online two weeks before the event.

READING PAYS OFF FOR TEENS!

Teens ages 12-17 can present their own library card at the Youth Services Desk to earn coupons toward paying off current overdue fines on Shaker Library material. Earn a \$2 Library Buck coupon for every 15 minutes spent reading with the potential of earning \$8 in one hour at one or all of the times and places listed below:

3-5 pm December 3 at Main Library

3-5 pm December 13 at Woods Branch

3-5 pm December 17 at Main Library

3-5 pm January 8 at Main Library

3-5 pm January 10 at Woods Branch



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Draeger's Hot Fudge Sauce is back and once again available for purchase!

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PLAY AND LEARN STATION

AT MAIN LIBRARY

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10 am-noon Tuesdays,
Thursdays & Saturdays
6-8 pm Tuesdays

No registration required.

PLAY AND LEARN BABIES

A special room filled with literacy-based activities for babies from birth to 18 months with their parents or caregivers.

10 am-noon Tuesdays,
Thursdays & Saturdays

No registration required.

PLAY AND LEARN STATION

FOR CAREGIVERS

A preschool literacy program offering interactive opportunities for non-parent caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years.

10 am-noon Wednesdays

A one-time registration is required; please call Family Connections at 216-921-2023.

FAMILY FUN FRIDAYS AT PLAY AND LEARN FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Facilitated play time every Friday for families with special needs children, ages 3-5 years.

1-3 pm Fridays

For information, call Family Connections: 216-921-2023.

Play and Learn programs are a partnership with Family Connections.

NESTLINGS

It's never too soon to start sharing books with babies! Enjoy songs and rhymes, books and bounces in this class for babies from birth to 15 months with an adult.

Winter Session:

January 7- February 26

9:30 am Mondays at Main Library

9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

No registration required.

FLEDGLINGS

Experience the wonder of words with your child through stories and songs, movement, puppets, and fun in this story time for babies from 15 to 24 months with an adult.

Winter Session:

January 7-February 26

10:30 am Mondays at Main Library

10:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

No registration required.

KINDERMUSIK OF CLEVELAND AT WOODS BRANCH

Free demo classes of musical fun and learning.

11:15-11:45 am Monday, January 7 for toddlers

12:15-12:45 am Monday, January 7 for babies from birth to 18 months

Registration begins December 3.

TERRIFIC TWOS

Stories, songs, and movement for 2 year olds with an adult.

Winter session:

January 7- February 27

10 am Mondays and Wednesdays at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays at Main Library

No registration required; groups must make special arrangements. No program Monday, January 21.

PRESCHOOL STORIES

Stories, rhymes, and fun for children 3, 4, & 5 years old.

Winter Session:

January 8-February 28

1:30 pm Tuesdays & 10 am Thursdays at Woods Branch

10 am Wednesdays at Main Library

No registration required; groups must make special arrangements.

SATURDAY FAMILY STORYTIME

Stories and fun for the entire family.

Winter Session: January 12-March 2

10 am Saturdays at Main Library

No registration required.

TALES TO REMEMBER IN

DECEMBER AT WOODS BRANCH

Children 3, 4, & 5 years old are invited for some unique and sometimes silly stories.

1:30 pm Tuesday, December 4 & 11

10 am Thursday, December 6 & 13

No registration required; groups must make special arrangements.

PAJAMA STORIES

AT WOODS BRANCH

Stories for children ages 3 and up with or without an adult.

7:15 pm Monday, December 17

Register online, in person, or by phone beginning Monday, December 3.

READ TO KING! AT MAIN LIBRARY

Enjoy reading with a furry friend! King is certified with Therapy Dogs International and loves to listen to stories. Bring a favorite book or choose one of the Library's dog-friendly titles. School-age students can sign up for a 15-minute time slot.

3:30-5 pm Wednesday, January 16

Register in person or by phone begin-

ning two weeks before the event. You can also register online, but please call the Children's Department to choose a specific time slot.

THE HOMEWORK CENTER AT MAIN LIBRARY

Free homework help for students in grades 2-8. An adult must be present to register the student at the first visit and students must be picked up by 6:30 pm.

4-6:30 pm Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Meeting Room F

The Homework Center is closed December 24-January 2, and January 21.

FANCY NANCY FABULOUS TEA PARTY AT MAIN LIBRARY

(Grades K & up)

Join us for a fabulous (Fabulous is fancier than great!) party for refreshments and fun. Wear your fanciest clothes while we practice being posh (Posh is fancy for grand!); make a craft; read Fancy Nancy, and more!

2-3 pm Saturday, January 12

Register in person, by phone or online beginning December 29.

WRITERS CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY (Grades 2-4)

Have you ever thought of starting your own business? Do you like the idea of making money doing something you love to do? Sign up for this six-week session and learn about kids who have started their own businesses, come up with a business idea, and then put pen to paper as you write your very first business plan. Winter Session:

January 8-February 12

4:15-5 pm Tuesdays

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning December 27.

AFTERSCHOOL ARTISTS

AT MAIN LIBRARY (Grades 2-5)

Show your true colors as an artist! Explore different styles and techniques in this afterschool art program.

4:15-5 pm Thursday, December 6

Registration began November 23.

MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL

CAROLINE AT WOODS BRANCH

(Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time and learn what life was like for Caroline on the shores of Lake Ontario in 1812. The program includes a reading from one of the books in the Caroline series, a craft project, and a snack.

2:30-4 pm Saturday, December 8

Registration began November 24.

PARLER FRANCAIS AVEC MANGO LANGUAGES AT MAIN LIBRARY

(Grades K-6)

Learn some basic French with the help of Mango Languages, a computer program available on all Library computers and from home, with your library card. Listen to the French version of a classic story, and play a game.

4:15-5 pm Thursday, January 17

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning January 3.

MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL

KIRSTEN AT WOODS BRANCH

(Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time and learn what life was like for Kirsten on a small Minnesota farm in 1854, as you listen to a chapter from one of her books, watch a DVD, make a craft and enjoy

a snack.

2:30-4 pm Saturday, January 19

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning January 5.

NEW FAMILY PROGRAM!

ALL YOU NEED FOR A

SNOWMAN AT MAIN LIBRARY

It's winter and that means it's time for snowmen! Join us for some fun, interactive stories, and decorate your own snowball cookie at this family event.

7-8 pm Monday, January 28

Register in person, by phone, or online beginning January 14.

Donations to the Local History Collection *continued from page 19*

Lynda and Sheldon Gillinov donated a nine-volume set of the *Cuyahoga County Real Estate Atlas*. The Gillinovs had already donated several Cleveland-area Plat Map books and atlases to the Shaker Library through the Cleveland Public Library in 2010.

Dr. James Anderson donated five books on the Shakers including an autographed copy of Caroline Piercy's *The Shaker Cook Book* from the collection of his father, former Western Reserve Historical Society director Russell H. Anderson. Roger Lee Hall donated his book on Shaker music and an accompanying CD honoring well-known Cleveland disc jockey Bill Randle, who was a Shaker Square resident and father of Shaker librarian Pat Randle.

Judy Keicher, George Mogg, and Susan Paces donated Shaker Heights High School Gristmill yearbooks and Terry Kuzius donated an annotated

copy of the 1938 *Shaker Heights: Then and Now*.

Shaker resident Valentina Sgro donated two of her new books of fiction, *Photographic Memories* and *Heart of a Hoarder*, featuring her winning character, the intrepid professional organizer Patience Oaktree. E. Henry Schoenberger donated a copy of his most recent book, *How We Got Swindled by Wall Street Godfathers, Greed & Financial Darwinism: The 30-Year War Against the American Dream*.

Cuyahoga Community College philosophy professor Carl Moravec donated two graphic nonfiction books which he wrote and illustrated: *An Illustrated History of Philosophy* and *Six World Religions*.

Carol King Phillips-Bey donated her 1998 Kent State dissertation on the Shaker schools, "African-American Students' Perceptions of the Factors that Led to Their Mathematics Level Placement in an Integrated, Suburban School District." Phillips-Bey is a mathematics professor at Cleveland State University who grew up in Shaker Heights; her parents were Ludlow Community Association co-founders Drue and Frances King.

While this material does not circulate, it can be read in the Moreland Room at the Main Library.

Additions to the Shaker Authors Collection

New books by Shaker authors have been purchased for the Library's Shaker Authors Collection and may be viewed in the Local History Room at the Main Library. Additional copies may be available to borrow. The Shaker Authors Collection contains published works by former and current residents in order to present a complete picture of the creative talent in Shaker Heights. We welcome dona-

tions and suggestions.

Recent acquisitions include Mary Olmstead Butcher's memoir *There Be No Tears: My Gram Was a Slave – Her Story and Mine*; the updated paperback edition of *How to Walk to School: Blueprint for a Neighborhood School Renaissance*, co-written by Jacqueline Edelberg; several books by orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Barry Friedman, including *The Short Life of a Valiant Ship: USS Meredith*; Lauren Pacini's photographic essay *Shattered Dreams Revisited: The Death and Rebirth of the Midwest Industrial City*; Harvey Pekar's last books, *Cleveland* and *Not the Israel My Parents Promised Me*; Michael Ruhlman's *Salumi: The Craft of Italian Dry Curing*; *The Chew: Food, Life, Fun*, featuring recipes by Michael Symon; Volumes 2-4 of Rick Smith's daily comic *Yehuda Moon*; *Rust Belt Chic: The Cleveland Anthology*, co-edited by Shaker resident Anne Trubek and including essays by Trubek and several other current and former Shaker residents; Loung Ung's latest memoir *Lulu in the Sky: A Daughter of Cambodia Finds Love, Healing, and Double Happiness*; and C.A. Wulff's *Circling the Waggin's: How 5 Misfit Dogs Saved Me From Bewilderness*.

Monthly Book Discussions

Warm up your winter with a good book and join in a discussion with others. Copies of the books are available at the Main Library Information desk one month before the discussions.

Book Buzz

10 AM TUESDAY DECEMBER 11

2030: The Real Story of What Happens to America by **Albert Brooks**

In this provocative story, the author envisions America in 2030, when the young resent the "olds" for their pricey entitlement programs.

Whodunit?

Mystery Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Wicked Autumn by **G.M. Malliet**

When his tranquility as the vicar of a country village is shattered by murder, Max Tudor must struggle with past demons while trying to identify a killer in his peaceful community.

Tuesday Evening Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

The Submission by **Amy Waldman**

Selected for a jury that must choose an appropriate 9/11 Memorial, Claire Burwell faces a media firestorm when the winning designer is revealed to be an enigmatic Muslim-American.

Book Buzz

10 AM TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

The Buddha in the Attic by **Julie Otsuka**

The stories of six Japanese mail-order brides in early 20th-century San Francisco are marked by backbreaking migrant work, cultural struggles, children who reject their heritage, and the prospect of wartime internment.

Whodunit?

Mystery Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

Rizzo's Fire by **Lou Manfredo**

NYPD veteran Joe Rizzo is presented with one of his most baffling homicides, compelling him to steer a difficult course between the investigation of the crime and police department politics.

Tuesday Evening Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

On the Road by **Jack Kerouac**

This autobiographical bohemian odyssey not only influenced writing since its 1957 publication, but also penetrated the deepest level of American thought and culture.

LIBRARY NEWS

Saturday Afternoon Best Books Bash

Library staff invites readers and book lovers to a Best Book Bash from 3 to 4:30 pm Saturday, January 26 at the Main Library. Take a look at some of the Best Books of 2012 and pick up a variety of end-of-the-year lists from The New York Times, The Plain Dealer, Oprah, NPR, Library Journal, and more.

Library staff will serve up refreshments and a short book talk about some of the books on the lists. Readers' recommendations and comments are welcome. Register online or by phone.

Career Transition Center Classes

The Career Transition Center staff offers free classes for job seekers at the Main Library. Networking Effectively is held from 10 am to noon Thursday, December 6. Participants will learn how to build an effective network of business friends.

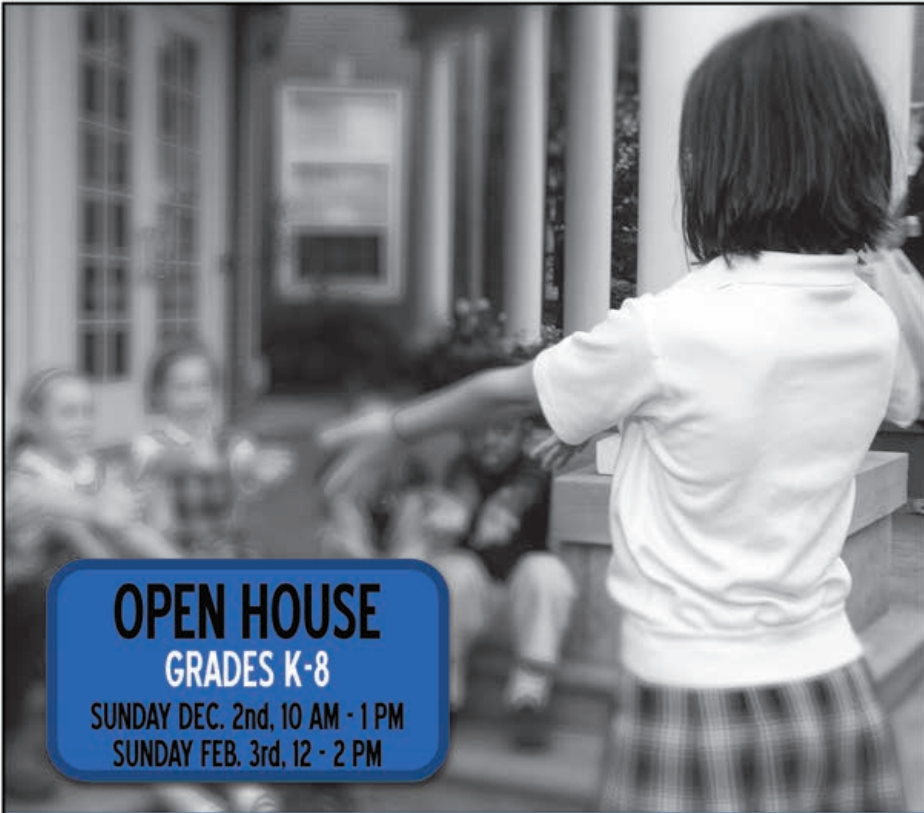
Results-Oriented Resumes workshop is held from 1 to 3 pm Thursday, December 13. This workshop will focus on resume writing and the tools to teach what will catch employers' attention and make them want to interview you.

Free Computer Classes this Winter

Sign up for a free class in the Library's Computer Center. Registration begins two weeks before each class, and reservations can be made online or by calling the Computer Center at 216-991-2030, and choosing Option 8.



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10 AM-NOON,
TUESDAYS, DECEMBER 4, 11, 18
10 AM-NOON,
WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 5, 12, 19
10 AM-NOON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 15, 22



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SUNDAY FEB. 3rd, 12 - 2 PM

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10 AM-NOON
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 16, 23

INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT 2010®

7-8 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6
3-4:30 PM FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL 2010®
10-11:30 AM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL 2010®

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

EDIT AND SHARE PHOTOS ONLINE

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, DECEMBER 10
3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

LIBRARY NEWS

GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT 2010®

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13
10-11:30 AM SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

WORKING WITH WINDOWS 7®

3-4:30 PM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14
7-8:30 PM MONDAY, JANUARY 7

ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT 2010®

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20
3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

GOOGLEMANIA™

10-11:30 AM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

GOOGLE DOCUMENTS™

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

INTRODUCTION TO ONENOTE 2010®

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

INTRODUCTION TO

MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®

10-11:30 AM SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

FORMULAS FOR SPREADSHEETS

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

MAILMERGE IN

MICROSOFT OFFICE 2010

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

OPENOFFICE.ORG

3-4:30 PM FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

ONLINE SCAMS AND SPAM

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

INTRODUCTION TO

PUBLISHER 2010

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

MACROS IN WORD® AND EXCEL®

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Main Library from 2-6 pm Thursday, December 13.

ABLE/GED classes are held from 9 am to noon Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Main Library Teen Center. Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) is for those who need help in basic skills, reading, writing, and math. General Education Development classes consist of a review of reading comprehension, social studies, writing, mathematics, and science in preparation for the General Education Diploma (GED). Participants must pre-register by calling the ABLE office at 216-371-7138.

End Notes

Knit Mornings are held from 10 am to noon Wednesdays, December 5 and January 2 at Main Library. Knit Nights are held from 7-8:45 pm Thursdays, December 20 and January 17 at Bertram Woods Branch. Bring a project and get or give help at these creative mornings and evenings moderated by experienced knitters Fern Braverman and Elfriede Heaney. No registration is required.

Monday Morning Jumpstart, a jobs club for those seeking employment moderated by Bonnie Dick, Founder of CTC, meets from 10 am to noon every Monday at Main Library. Participants gather leads through networking and discuss up-to-date job search techniques, new trends, as well as job fairs and open positions.


Poetry In The Woods meets at 7 pm Thursday, December 13 at Woods Branch and features poets Joe Toner and Dan Rourke.

Both libraries will delay opening until 10:30 am Friday, December 14 for staff training. Both libraries will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday and Monday, January 21 for Martin Luther King Day.

Taxed by new IRS rules? Christine Fuller and Marlyn Josselson from H & R Block Tax Services will be at Main Library from 2-4 pm Sunday, January 27 to staff their popular Ask a Tax Advisor table. Both women are Shaker residents and enjoy helping others in making the tax preparation process painless. Stop by and ask your tax question. No reservations are required.

Progress in Action! Library staff is changing the layout of the Main Library first floor, moving shelves, and shifting books to make better library spaces. Can't find what you need? Ask a librarian for help!

Otis' Old Curiosity Shop
a holiday bazaar



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past as prologue

Three groups of Shaker residents, representing those who never left, those who left and returned, and newcomers, answer the perennial question: Why Shaker?

BY JULIE MCGOVERN VOYZEY

One hundred years ago, when the word “network” referred to the grid of streets or newly laid tracks, this fledgling City began to take shape. The focus was on the physical development of streets, sidewalks, houses, schools, and a rail system, but the foundation for the City’s identity, those defining character traits that make it unique, was also laid.

The physical structures and the meticulous planning paved the way for Shaker’s transformation from farmland to community, from just another place, to a place to call home. The sidewalks, the lot sizes and setback requirements, and the emphasis on a walkable city with neighborhood schools created an environment of interconnected places and interconnected people.

The careful planning worked. What existed from the City’s earliest days thrives 100 years later. It is that well-defined sense of community, a network of neighborhoods and neighbors that makes this a beloved and special place. It is what keeps people here, brings them back home, or makes newcomers feel that they have found a place to settle in.



Jennifer Coiley Dial with children clockwise from left, Richard Dial, III, Meredith Dial, Cameron Dial, and Hallie Dial. PHOTO BY ALEJANDRO RIVERA.

Coileys: Deep roots and close ties

Sisters Jennifer (SHHS '90) and Laura (SHHS '85) grew up wrapped in the arms of the Lomond neighborhood where the village really did raise the children. Every adult was a surrogate parent and every child an adopted member of the family. Says Laura, "There was a good sense of community in our neighborhood. Our parents could be your parents; you could go to anyone's house to be taken care of. It was just a very tight knit group."

Childhood days were spent outside playing and bike riding. "I particularly loved being outside and playing various games with all of the kids in the neighborhood. Only pure imagination and running was involved," recalls Jennifer.

The Coiley sisters loved to dance and spent many days at Bonita Pekarek's dance studio located in what is now Shaker Town Center. Walking there with her mom and sisters, where her dad also had his insurance office, Jennifer remembers stopping at The Proud Pickle or Shaker Sub and Sandwich. "We loved attending high school football games and watching our sister



Laura Coiley Dietrich with, from left, Ellis Coiley, III, Dean Dietrich, Sr., Dean Dietrich, Jr., and Marlene Dietrich. PHOTO BY ALEJANDRO RIVERA.

Kim in the marching band,” says Jennifer, recalling Saturdays in fall.

Jennifer and Laura attended college close to home and, except for a brief period when Laura lived in Dayton, have been in Shaker ever since.

“Our parents instilled a real pride for the City at a young age. We felt like it was an important place to be and they worked hard to get our family here because of the schools and the community,” says Laura. Staying in Shaker seemed like the natural thing to do.

Between the two sisters, there are no fewer than seven Coiley offspring attending Shaker schools (some even having the same teachers as their parents), playing in the same neighborhood, swimming at Thornton, and cheering at the Memorial Day parade. A childhood in Shaker Heights is a gift that resonates deeply with them.

“I love that the experiences my chil-

dren have are much the same as mine were. I love that they like to explore the neighborhoods and go to the libraries. While I enjoyed Thornton Park on occasion as a kid, my children have been there on regularly since birth, playing hockey, figure skating and swimming,” says Jennifer.

For Jennifer, life really has come full circle, both by accident and design. Her daughters are also dancers at The Dance Studio, which is run by two women with whom a young Jennifer danced at Bonnie Pekarek’s dance studio.

To this day, the Coiley sisters and their children are easily identified by their loud cheers at nearly every football game. “We are the band groupies,” laughs Jennifer. While their sister Kim (SHHS ’92) has long since retired her band instrument, Jennifer’s son plays the trumpet in the band and her other three children, as well as Laura’s,



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happy hour
_____ in Shaker Heights.

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The Khayat brothers: Tim, Kevin, and Clark. PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO.

will step on the field with the Shaker Heights High School marching band in a few short years. And thus, the next generation of band members and groupies is born.

"I loved growing up in Shaker. I always felt like it was a special place. It had an intangible quality aside from the architecturally beautiful homes," says Jennifer. "There is very much the same sense of community and connection," Laura adds with a smile, "We don't see differences; we are a community. There is love in the air here."

As they contemplate what Shaker might be like for their children's children, Jennifer says "I don't think Shaker will change much in the future. As we give these same experiences to our children, and they pass them down to theirs, much of the fabric will stay the same – people are happy to be here. Citizens care deeply about it and it shows."

Khayats: Living and Re-living the Dream

Thumbing through the "Ks" in the Shaker Schools directory, it is hard not to notice that the Khayats take up almost a column of their own. Among three boomeranging brothers and their spouses, there are seven Khayats enrolled in Shaker schools from

elementary school to the high school, almost enough to field a baseball team.

It is with visions of neighborhood baseball fields and well-worn gloves dancing in their heads that twin brothers Tim and Kevin (SHHS '86) and their younger brother Clark (SHHS '89) recall their days in the Onaway neighborhood in the 1970s and '80s. The tri-campus area was an ideal location for free play at Onaway, Woodbury, and on the High School ball fields, as well as Boulevard, Southernly Park, and the Duck Pond. And, play they did. "We left the house in the morning and didn't come back till night," says Tim.

"Baseball was a really big part of our life," says Kevin, who recently returned after more than 20 years in England. "We knew a lot of the Shaker baseball players when we were growing up because we lived near the ball fields and they were around all summer. We were honorary batboys," he says with a smile.

"We learned to play baseball by playing all the time. There wasn't a lot of coaching, just playing," adds Clark.

They loved the carefree days of summer when they had the run of their neighborhood, and later most of the city, thanks to the "loop bus" which ran on a circuit around town throughout the summer. "You could hop on

it up near the high school and go up to Thornton or go to sports camp at Byron," recalls Tim.

In boomeranging back to Shaker from various places in the state, the country, and the world, the brothers Khayat are re-living the days of their youth through the eyes of their children and feeling satisfied that what existed for them decades ago still thrives today. Tim and Kevin, who now live in Fernway and Clark, a Boulevard resident say the unique sense of community and connectedness still defines the city.

While the loop bus is gone, the neighborhood and block parties still beckon the energetic youngsters. The block parties on Daleford Road, where Tim lives, are weekly and legendary. "People are so surprised that we do this every week. We even have a happy hour signup sheet. Adults hang out and socialize and the kids run all over the street. We embrace this; I would never want my kids not to have it," says Tim.

With his brothers nodding in agreement, Clark sums up the essence of their deep connection to Shaker and what they hope their children will absorb by living here: "One of the really unique and compelling things is that there is a ton of diversity and difference on the surface, but the funda-



The Fowler family at their Drummond Road home. PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO.

mental values of the city, the caring about the community and education, are homogenous. We want to be with our neighbors, we care about family, community, schools. It is self-perpetuating. In most places, you get the flip: more homogenous, but values all over the place," notes Clark.

"The fact that my brothers and friends from school found their way back here was reassuring. I looked at what I value and know that they share the same set of values," says Kevin about his decision to come back.

Though their own baseball playing days have been interrupted by the obligations of adulthood, their love of the game has not been left behind. Last spring, as the grass started growing and the frost gave way to dew, Clark and Kevin gleefully corralled a gaggle of nine-year-old boys, including some young Khayats, placed them on the

field and began hitting pop-flies and grounders to them.

On any given evening, Tim would wander over to the field to cheer on the team or to keep their mother, Anita Khayat, company as she watched her sons and grandsons play ball. Ever the dedicated coaches, Clark and Kevin steered the "Lookouts" deep into the playoffs. While the team didn't take home the trophy, they did take home a love of the game and a summer full of memories. And sure enough, life comes full circle.

Fowlers:

It's all about location and people

"I love walking the kids to school," says Mity Fowler, who along with husband Jef and three children, are relative newcomers to Shaker (Jef actually lived here until he was three months

old). They aren't, however, newcomers to neighborhoods where kids play outside and neighbors know each other. "This feels like where we grew up," says Jef. Both Mity and Jef grew up in suburbs along Chicago's North Shore where there was an emphasis on superior schools and neighborhoods.

The Fowlers were specifically looking to recreate that strong sense of community for their own children. When they relocated from Charlotte, North Carolina for Jef's job at Key-Bank, they looked around at many other suburbs, but they landed here.

Location and people were the driving forces behind their decision. The close proximity to downtown Cleveland, University Circle and its array of cultural institutions had great appeal. "If we were farther away, how often would we really use these things?" ponders Jef. Now, they take advantage



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of classes, camps, and quick weekend trips downtown.

Mity says even beyond location, it is the people that impress her most. "I love meeting the women in the International Women's Group of Cleveland, and all the people we met when we arrived who had so many diverse interests and professional backgrounds. I was so impressed by their dedication to community. The more we talk to everyone we meet, the more interesting they become."

Jef's co-workers at KeyBank, several of whom are Shaker residents, also welcomed them into their homes for parties when they were figuring out where to live. Jef says they never heard the "hard sell," but their passion about Shaker was clear, contagious, and compelling.

Having spent three years in London, the well-traveled couple was also in search of a place with a global perspective, a place where people had traveled and experienced the world. In Shaker, the Fowlers felt they found a city and school system with the global perspective they desired.

In addition to residents who are at home in the world, Mity says, "I felt like the teachers in Shaker also had amazing experiences themselves. Teachers here are bringing the world to the classroom. That is what we want for our kids."

After renting for a year on Enderby, the Fowlers bought a house on Drummond last summer. In both neighborhoods, the Fowlers have had the quintessential Shaker experience. Within months of moving in to their

rental on Enderby, Mity saw an opportunity to contribute to the vibrancy of the neighborhood and spearheaded the flooding of the Warrington Triangle to resurrect the skating rink for all to enjoy. Despite being a newcomer, she navigated her way through the City paperwork to make it happen.

"What a great neighborhood surrounding the Warrington Triangle!" she says. "In warm weather, my kids were out there daily building forts, playing soccer and for a few short weekends in the winter, playing broomball and ice skating. The rink really brought the neighborhood together." Even the adults laced up skates and had fun.

Their new Boulevard neighborhood is equally active and cohesive with spontaneous cocktail parties popping up on weekend nights. If you see the pink flamingo in front of the house, the neighborhood is invited and the party is on. The men on the street joined together to create an intergenerational fantasy football league.

The Fowlers are one of several new families on the street in the last few years with many houses changing hands from an older to newer generation. At a recent party, a map was created so that everyone would know who lives where and the names of all of the kids. At the moment, it is still a street spanning the generations with the longtime residents as engaged in the block parties and events as new residents, something the Fowlers love about their new street. And, Mity notes happily, "In both neighborhoods, you can hear the Shaker band practicing. Such fun."

Jef says their reasons for choosing Shaker and making it home are really quite simple: "You can sum it up this way: location, location, location, people, people, people." Same as it ever was.

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(his) story of a house

Wherein a 95-year-old man reaches out across a continent and two centuries to check on his old Shaker home.

BY JULIE MCGOVERN VOYZEY

It started with a letter in a simple white envelope sent from California and addressed to Mr. and Mrs. White, 3266 Ardmore. It included a photograph of a young boy and his parents standing at the back of a white clapboard house with the date 1926 written on the back. “I know this letter comes as a surprise,” it began.

What unfolded was the story of a beloved house in a rapidly developing neighborhood, in a city in its infancy. What ensued was a relationship reaching across 2,000 miles, spanning 100 years, and straddling two different centuries.

It begins with Lester Krause, who moved into 3266 Ardmore at age nine in 1926. Now 95 and living in California, he wanted to share his story and his childhood memories with the current owners, C.J. and Heather White.

“I opened the mailbox one day and found a typewritten letter addressed to us. I thought it was some kind of solicitation,” says Heather. “My jaw dropped when I started reading. It is just unreal that Lester took the time to Google us and then get in touch.” The Whites and their young children, Ellie and Braden, have lived in the house since 2008.

The letter touched off an email correspondence, and a relationship, in which each shared stories of the



The White family at the Ardmore Road home, 2012. PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES.



The Krause family at the Ardmore Road home, 1926. Photo courtesy Lester Krause.

house and the neighborhood they had in common. It unleashed a desire in the Whites to learn the history of their home and, in turn, to share with Lester how it has fared over the decades since he slept in the bedroom now occupied by Ellie.

What is remarkable is not so much that the physical features of the house are still the same, but that the experience of living in it has remained largely unchanged.

In 1926, when Lester Krause moved into the Ardmore house, only a few other houses were on the street and nearby Fernway School was still under construction. "A building boom existed and lots were filling quickly," says Lester, who was bussed to Sussex until Fernway was completed.

His closest friend, Warren "Weedy" Miller, lived on Dorchester next to what is now the Fernway parking lot. "We played lots of ball games in the Fernway School play yard. It was covered with gravel and it was not fenced in like it is now," recalls Lester who, many years later, served as best man in Weedy's wedding and remained close long after

leaving Shaker.

For the Whites and their children, Lester brought to life this time of incredible change in Cleveland and Shaker Heights. He recalled witnessing the building of Terminal Tower and working on a bakery wagon pulled by a horse throughout the Fernway neighborhood. Lester often hopped aboard to deliver orders to customers, earning him a cookie or pastry of his own choosing. In 1935, Lester's father sold the house and the family moved to a farm in Burton. Lester commuted 36 miles back and forth in a Ford coupe to finish his senior year at Shaker High.

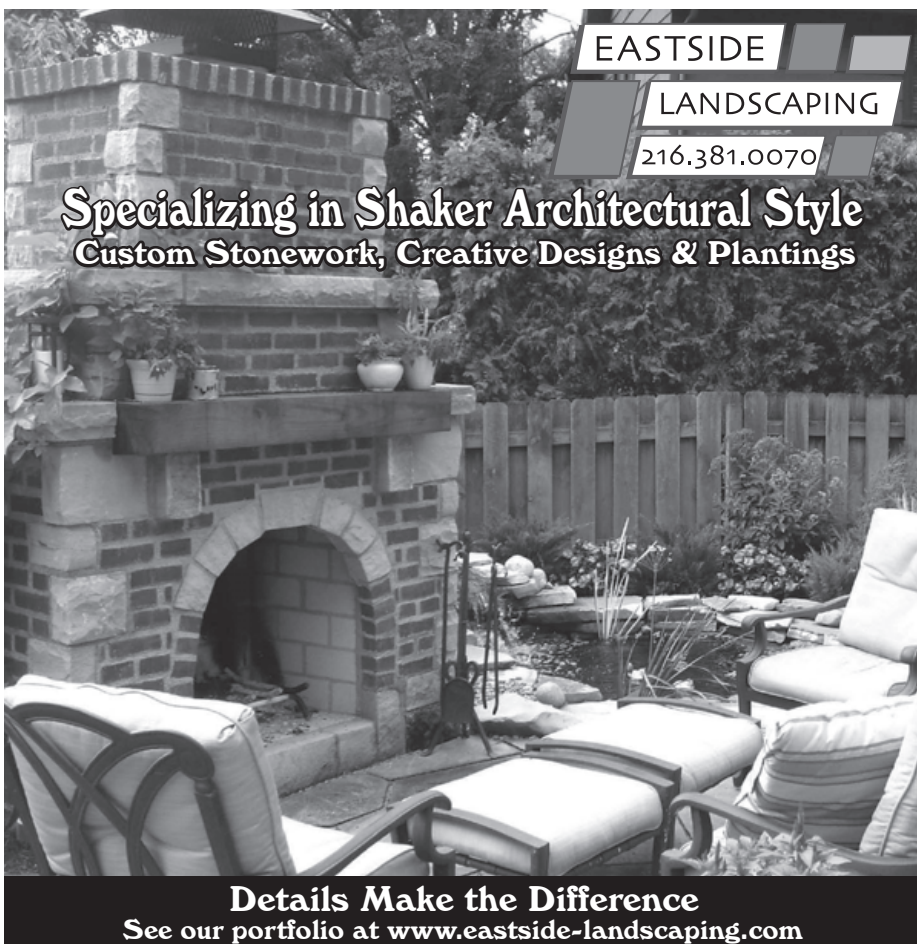
The email exchange often involved extensive comparisons about the details of the house, including the story of the original glass panels in the bathroom, which are still there today. Lester asked if one of the panels was a slightly different color than the rest and upon closer inspection, the Whites found that indeed the panels did not match. That was thanks to Lester's father, who accidentally cracked the original tile. The manufacturer couldn't

match the original color; hence the slightly mismatched glass panel replacement in front of the original sink, which remains as functional as the day it was installed.

Although the original layout is intact, a sunroom has been added to the back of the house. Many of the original architectural details remain, including the wooden built-in table and benches in the breakfast nook where evening study sessions with Lester's friend Hazel Shield took place.

"More socializing probably took place than studying," he recalls. Today, it is project-central for Ellie and Braden, who may one day host study sessions of their own around the same table in the breakfast nook.

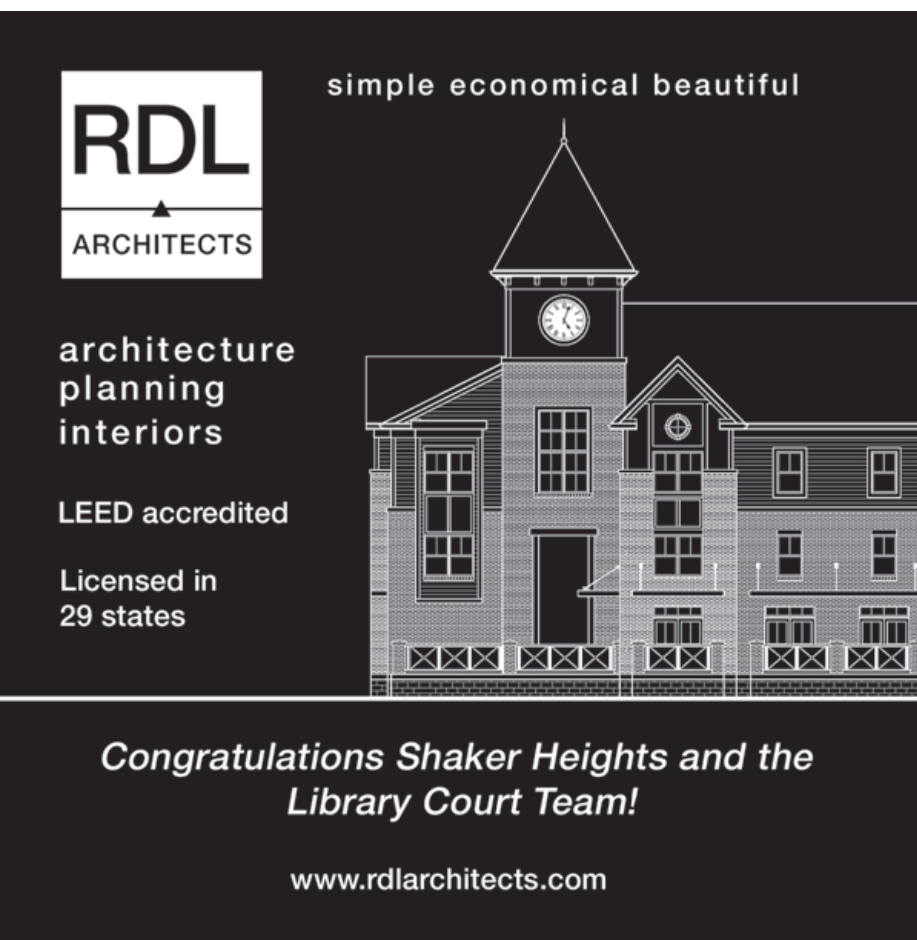
While the neighborhood has grown and evolved since Lester once ran down the street, the essence of it remains the same. Neighborhood children still gather to play ball on the Fernway blacktop, and what was once the bakery wagon is now the ice cream truck delighting children with sweet treats of a different variety. On a recent fall afternoon, nine-year-old Braden was sending a Styrofoam and cork model airplane he had just constructed into the air and gleefully watching it spin, and float and dive. It could have just as easily been Lester Krause flying his newly built model airplane, a favorite boyhood pastime, in the same yard at the same age nearly 100 years ago. It makes it easy to imagine 100 years from now when another nine-year-old might be flying a paper airplane of his own construction in the very same spot. 🌿



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a focus on **Business Development**

The Shaker Heights Economic Development Plan lays the groundwork for creating a healthy tax base – and in many respects, a new city.

BY JENNIFER KUHLE

For the past one hundred years, Shaker Heights has been a suburb admired for its beauty, progressive values, and commitment to its schools. By the time the City celebrates its bicentennial in 2112, Shaker Heights' Economic Development Director Tania Menesse wants the City to have earned a reputation for something else: being a business-friendly community.

The City's Economic Development Plan, now two years in action, provides the roadmap for achieving that.

"What we have had to deal with head-on is the fact that we have largely obsolete buildings – from a professional business perspective – and a commercial property tax rate that makes it really difficult to attract businesses," explains Menesse. "We had to face that and then figure out what we were going to do about it."

What Menesse and others from the Shaker Heights' Planning Department have done is to make a commitment to diversify the tax base and to attract enough business to support the retail and restaurants that residents want.

"There is a point where people can make decisions because they want to support their community. They want a work-live environment that's positive, but you have to make the economics work," says Menesse. "What I explain to people is that the incentives we're putting together level the playing field so that if you want to have your business in Shaker it's not so cost prohibitive that you can't."

The first step in the City's Economic Development Plan was to identify the types of businesses that made the most sense in Shaker Heights. The clear winners were: professional services, including boutique legal, consulting, human resource, and financial services firms; ambulatory care, including therapeutic services and geriatric care; technology companies; and architectural/design firms.

With those business segments identified, in April 2011, the City launched two incentive programs geared to creating favorable business conditions – the Vision Fund, a forgivable loan program, and the Ignition Fund, a microfinance program.

continued on page 44

Sustainable Cities: a bibliography

Shaker Library offers this list and reminds residents that it is not only a repository of resources and local history, but is also a focal point for the community and a “great, good place.” Both libraries are conveniently located within walking distance for its residents, offer a sense of place, and provide meeting spaces. The Library’s mission is to “build community and enrich lives by bringing together people, information, and ideas.”

Death and Life of Great American Cities by **Jane Jacobs**. Vintage, 1992. Jane Jacobs writes about what makes streets safe or unsafe; about what constitutes a neighborhood, and what function it serves within the larger organism of the city, and about why some neighborhoods remain impoverished while others regenerate themselves.

Get Urban!: The Complete Guide to City Living by **Kyle Ezell**. Capital Books, 2004.

A city planner and urban dweller seeks to take the sub out of suburban. He encourages readers to move back to diverse urban areas, and identifies cities that offer low-cost, urban lifestyles. “Urban draws” and “suburban flaws” quizzes help readers discover their urban personalities, and Shaker readers will agree, “The Rust Belt is Cool.”

The Great Good Place: Cafés, Coffee Shops, Bookstores, Bars, Hair salons, and Other Hangouts at the Heart of a Community by **Ray Oldenburg**. Marlowe & Company, 1999.

A classic sociological look at the importance of a community meeting place. Oldenburg explains why public gathering places are critical for the health of communities and challenges urban planners to include them in their redesigns.

Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space by **Lesley Bain, Barbara Gray and Dave Rodgers**. John Wiley & Sons, 2012.

In this guide for creating streetscapes that connect the community, these urban architects and city planners contend that designing for multiple modes of mobility – cars, bikes and transit – while supporting our natural ecosystems can make our cities more sustainable and livable.

Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs by **Ellen Dunham-Jones and June Williamson**. Wiley, 2011.

This guidebook for architects and

urban planners illustrates how existing suburbs can be redesigned to become more sustainable, healthy and economically vibrant. Both architects and experts on the subject, the authors illustrate how development in existing suburbs can change for the better while adapting to shifting demographic and economic conditions.

Walking Home: The Life and Lessons of a City Builder by **Ken Greenberg**. Random House of Canada, Limited, 2012.

A former Director of Urban Design and Architecture for the City of Toronto offers a strong argument for urban renewal by creating cities that are integrated with nature and designed to be diverse, adaptable, and walkable.

Edens Lost & Found: How Ordinary Citizens Are Restoring Our Great Cities by **Harry Wiland, Dale Bell and Joseph D’Agnese**. Chelsea Green, 2006.

This companion book to the PBS series offers practical solutions for transforming and sustaining America’s urban landscapes and communities, and highlights environmental restoration projects by ordinary citizens.

Emerald Cities: Urban Sustainability and Economic Development by **Joan Fitzgerald**. Oxford University Press, 2010.

An urban planner at Northeastern University offers an in-depth study of what cities are doing to grow green jobs. Examples of urban leadership and innovation demonstrate that it is possible to combine economic development, social justice and urban sustainability.

WORK-LIVE = WORK-LIFE BALANCE

How the pieces fell into place for one company's move to Shaker Heights—from vision to execution.

When Enlight Advisors, a strategic consulting firm whose principals are both Shaker residents, decided to move from Beachwood to Shaker Heights, it was no knee-jerk decision. Rather, it was part of a process begun more than 10 years earlier. Changes which began with Shaker's Strategic Investment Plan, ongoing district and retail improvements, and creation of incentive programs combined to create the ideal conditions. Granting of a Vision Fund forgivable loan was the ultimate clincher in securing the move to Shaker Commons loft space above Al Nola Shoe Repair and Luggage. Bluewater Capital will invest over \$250,000 to build out the space and City dollars will fund finishes and tenant improvements.

2000

Strategic Investment Plan adopted

2001

City acquires six retail buildings on south side of Chagrin opposite Heinen's, dubbed Shaker Commons

2003

Chagrin traffic study; Road and streetscape plans in place for Shaker Town Center district

2011

Shaker LaunchHouse opens

Library Court senior housing opens; Chagrin pocket park, Kenyon walkway and parking lot improvements; Vision and Ignition Funds created

2010

City Economic Development and marketing plans adopted

2012

Lee Road Traffic and Streetscape Study

2005

Upgrades to Heinen's and shopping center facade; Lofts at Avalon Station condos break ground; Fire House opens on Chagrin

2006

Winslow Court roadway completed; Huntington Bank branch constructed on shopping center out lot

2004

Chagrin improvements include infrastructure, streetscapes, road narrowing, new parking, and public art installation

2007

Avalon Station Phase I opens; Lee Road Transit Oriented Development Study

2008

Enlight Advisors looks at Shaker Commons space; chooses Commerce Park in Beachwood

2013

Construction of new RTA station at Lee/Van Aken begins

Enlight Advisors moves from Beachwood to loft space in Shaker Commons



The conference room at Dise & Company in Tower East, overlooking the Van Aken District. PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO.

continued from page 40

“The Vision Fund is targeted toward established professional services businesses that have some income tax record here,” says Menesse. “We can look at that record and tell them we’ll put a small investment into their building improvements, or into the purchase of some capital equipment. Then we’ll see a return on investment through the income tax that business brings into the community,” says Menesse.

Since the program began, the City has awarded five Vision Fund loans. In the short term, the program helps business owners make small, incremental improvements to their buildings. But Menesse expects the biggest opportunity for the City will come when building owners want to make significant improvements to their space.

“The win on both sides is that we’d help the businesses make major im-

provements and the City would stand a very good chance of seeing a return,” Menesse says, adding, “Even if the business doesn’t succeed, we’ve still improved the real estate in our community so that other businesses can come in.”

The Ignition Fund targets restaurants and retail businesses. Managed by the Economic and Community Development Institute of Cleveland, a nonprofit that focuses on providing Cleveland entrepreneurs with small business loans up to \$50,000, the Ignition Fund enables would-be restaurateurs and retailers to obtain the money they need to start their businesses.

Lucy’s Sweet Surrender, which relocated last summer to the former Chandler and Rudd space at Chagrin Boulevard and Warrensville Center Road, recently benefitted from a \$15,000 Ignition Fund loan and a \$15,000 City grant. Menesse is optimistic that other



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businesses will follow suit – a move that would go a long way towards satisfying residents' desire for more restaurants and cafes, many of which Menesse hopes will populate Lee Road and the redeveloped Van Aken District.

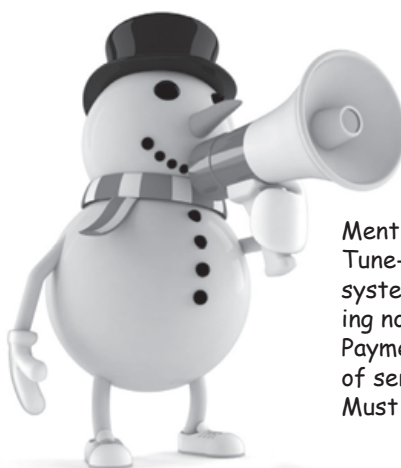
Beyond offering financial incentives, City officials have created the Shaker Heights Development Corporation, whose mission is to initiate development projects that revitalize commercial districts and neighborhoods [see sidebar].

The City is also hopeful that significant infrastructure and streetscape improvements to the Lee Road corridor (between Chagrin and Scottsdale Road), as well as the planned \$18.5 million Warrensville/Van Aken intersection reconfiguration, will play a key role in enhancing Shaker's investment climate.

The final step has been to market Shaker Heights as a place to do business. "One of the best things we've done in the past two years is developing our marketing plan with a strong work-live message. We know we can't be everything to everyone, but we are very much going to appeal to people who live in this community and who are striving for balance in their work and personal lives," Menesse says. "The marketing plan in 2012 focused on awareness. We wanted to let people know that things are happening here."

Next year, the economic development marketing will be targeted to businesses in an effort to pique their interest in investing in specific sites, such as the Van Aken District (at Chagrin and Warrensville Center), where sig-

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Shaker Heights Development Corporation

Shaker Heights has long been a community that has relied almost exclusively on its residential tax base. Current economic challenges make it imperative that Shaker invest in its commercial areas in order to diversify the City's tax base.

In order to attract new residents and businesses to Shaker Heights, the City must continue to maintain the assets that have made our City strong: housing, parks, neighborhoods, and services. Strengthening our commercial districts is critical to sustaining the quality of life in our community. In view of this new economic landscape, placemaking initiatives from commercial streetscapes to land banking will need to be supported in part by the citizens of Shaker Heights.

The Shaker Heights Development Corporation (SHDC) was created to initiate and guide economic and community development projects on behalf of the citizens of Shaker Heights in order to create jobs, seed businesses, provide educational opportunities, and to revitalize commercial districts and neighborhoods.

The SHDC has the following goals:

- Revitalize the Lee Road commercial district and in doing so, strengthen the Lomond and Moreland neighborhoods
- Seed new companies and create jobs in the City of Shaker Heights and the surrounding region, with a focus on high growth opportunities
- Foster entrepreneurial educational opportunities to avoid brain drain in Northeast Ohio
- Provide a vehicle to engage the citizens of Shaker Heights and the surrounding region in economic and community development efforts
- Guide the redevelopment of the Van Aken District into a walkable mixed use district

The SHDC is a community improvement corporation established by the City of Shaker Heights in 1981. As an agent of the City of Shaker Heights, the board is made up of citizen members, City staff, and elected officials. The City acts as the fiduciary agent for the SHDC. The organization's tax exempt 501(c)3 status allows it to accept charitable donations. For more information about giving, please contact SHDC President John J. Boyle at j.boyleiii@csuohio.edu.

nificant redevelopment is planned.

Over the past year, Menesse has been busy meeting with real estate brokers and working to get commercially available properties listed on Shaker Heights' web site. Having this list available online is essential, especially when it comes to marketing the Van Aken redevelopment district. "In the first phase of development, we're going to encourage a developer to put in 60,000 square feet of office space. And the only way we're going to be able to do that is if we have a list of businesses that are ready to go," Menesse explains.

Just as much as the City will rely on marketing and Menesse's economic development efforts, residents' involvement is equally important to improving the business climate here.

"We really want the residents to understand that their engagement in our economic development success is crucial. So, as you're talking with your friends who own businesses, ask them to just think about Shaker," says Menesse. "What we've done is pare the Van Aken District plans down to what is realistic for a first-ring suburb with the distinction and quality that we have here, but that also has lots of challenges. We've laid the groundwork for it. Now it's time to move."

Opening a business can be tricky – well – business.

Let us make it as easy as possible for you to do business in Shaker Heights. The Economic Development Department is happy to help at any point in the process. For a **Vision Kit** contact us at economic.development@shakeronline.com or 216-491-1334.

a turn for the Better

The Van Aken District begins to take shape.

BY JENNIFER KUHEL



The Van Aken District after the future road reconfiguration. North is to the right of the image.



Successfully navigating the intersection of Van Aken Boulevard, Warrensville Center Road, and Chagrin Boulevard has been an unofficial rite of passage for Shaker Heights residents for more than 60 years.

Some avoid the six-legged intersection at all costs and with good reason: It takes the top spot in number of accidents in the city and ranks 11th in Cuyahoga County. But judging by the number of vehicles that sputter through the intersection each day – a whopping 45,000 – it's clear that most have no choice but to pray for safe passage (not to mention a green light) when approaching one of the traffic signals.

Get stuck at a red light and the wait is three minutes. It's long enough for most drivers to have wondered at one time or another: When is this intersection going to change?

Shaker Heights' Economic Development Director Tania Menesse has a definitive answer. "You'll start to see shovels in the ground late 2013 or early 2014," she says.

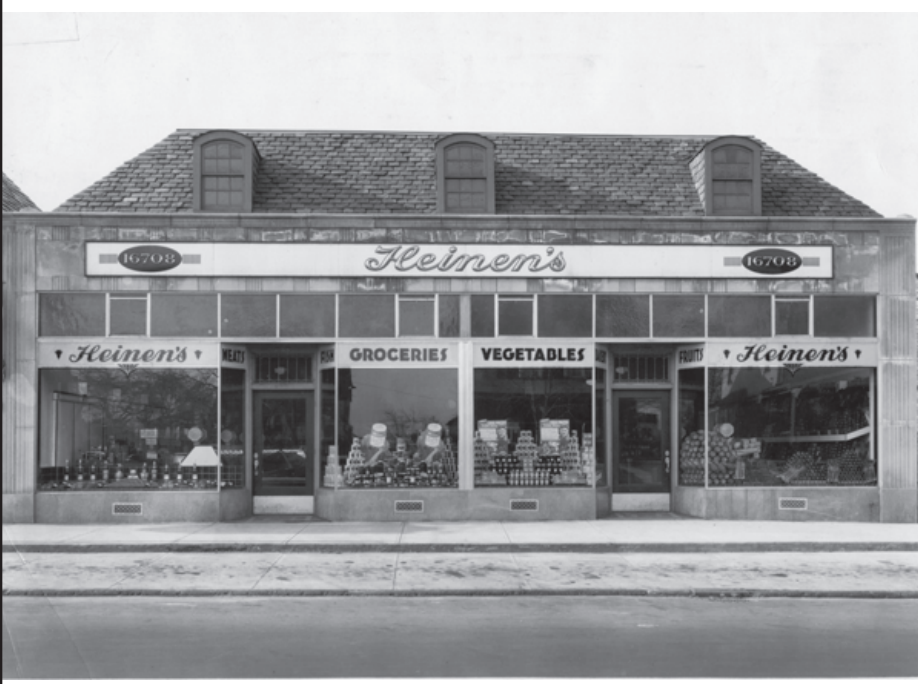
That's when the Van Aken District Redevelopment officially begins, and when the intersection as residents have known it for decades will take a turn for the better. Just how much better?

City Planning Director Joyce Braverman has the short answer. "The basic plan is to reconfigure the inter-

Tom Zenty (opposite page), CEO of University Hospitals and Shaker resident. UH has more than 900 employees at its Management Services Center in the Van Aken District. PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES.

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“Shaker Heights has been really great to work with, and we’ve had a positive experience at this location.”

– Tom Zenty

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The City's new Shop Shaker database is designed to help you do just that.

Need an accountant or web designer? Find it on Shop Shaker. How about a veterinarian or dry cleaner? That's here too.

"The goal is to make residents and other local businesses aware of the plethora of shopping options within the community," explains Tania Menesse, director of economic development for the City.

"It will include traditional storefronts but will also highlight our service businesses and the hidden gems of our city – our home-based businesses," she adds.

It's a mobile friendly online tool, so you can search it at home from your computer, or use it on the go from your phone.

Business owners can sign up for the database by filling out a simple form; business owners can also include links to websites, Twitter, and Facebook, and post coupons or other promotions.

Shop Shaker is available at work-live-shakerheights.com.

section from six legs to four, create a new intermodal center where buses and trains can be accommodated, and then create regularly shaped parcels of land where redevelopment can occur," she explains. City officials have already raised the \$18.5 million needed for the reconfiguration project and are bullish on the \$75 million in potential economic development from a mix of residential, retail, and office development. Even better for Shaker residents and the City itself is that if all goes according to plan, the redevelopment will generate \$5 million annually in income and property tax revenues.

Reconfiguring the Roads

The first step is the Warrensville/Van Aken Intersection Reconfiguration – a signal that the district redevelopment is beginning in earnest. And the first step in the reconfiguration was to secure funding – something Braverman has spent countless hours doing in recent years. Fortunately, those efforts have been rewarded to the tune of \$18.5 million. "It takes a long time to raise \$18.5 million for road work – which is what Joyce has been doing for the last four years – and to get the Ohio Department of Transportation to sign off on road reconstruction and to get plans and engineering," Menesse explains, adding, "This is a process."

According to the City's Warrensville/Van Aken Transit-Oriented De-

The Blue Line Corridor Extension Study, presented last January, recommends that the Greater Cleveland Rapid Transit Authority extend the Blue Line through the reconfigured intersection to connect to a new Shaker Intermodal Transit Center.

velopment plan, the reconfiguration's funding sources include:

- \$4 million from a state safety grant.
- \$2.3 million from the City.
- \$660,000 from Cuyahoga County.
- \$7 million from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency.
- \$500,000 from a 2010 federal government appropriation.
- \$4.3 million from Issue One, a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission.
- \$500,000 from a Federal Highway Administration grant.

The project includes far more entities than those providing financial support. "Part of the project is in Highland Hills, so they're involved. There's also the county doing property acquisition and building the roads," Braverman says. "We've really taken it up a level."

When the road reconfiguration is completed, it will, indeed, be transformed. "Warrensville will be narrower. Chagrin will add a lane. The parking lane in front of the stores on Chagrin will become a travel lane because we'll need to move the cars through," explains Braverman.

"The time that you have to wait at any of the lights will be cut in half. Van Aken will be closed at Farnsleigh so that traffic will have to either go right to Chagrin or left to Warrensville."

Furthermore, Northfield Road, which now ends at the intersection, will be rerouted to a new ending point just south of Chagrin, between University Hospitals and the Shaker Heights U.S. Post Office on Warrensville Center Road.

Rapid Transit and Redevelopment

Creation of a new and significant terminus for the Van Aken Rapid is a separate, but equally important piece to the Van Aken District Redevelopment.

As it stands now, the Blue Line Corridor Extension Study, presented last January, recommends that the Greater Cleveland Rapid Transit Authority extend the Blue Line through the reconfigured intersection to connect to a new Shaker Intermodal Transit Center.

This center will offer direct bus service to University Circle as well as parking in the form of new Park-N-Ride lots at Northfield and Harvard roads. The estimated construction costs to extend the line are \$25.4 million. Building the Park-N-Ride lots would add another \$11.2 million for a total of \$36.6 million.

RTA has committed a total of \$1.1 million thus far and is working on possible funding through federal, state, and regional sources.

"This really could be a beautiful catalytic station that can help us create a place where people can park their cars and take the Rapid downtown and

also as a destination in itself," Menesse says.

As RTA works to seek funding for its extension, the road work will continue separately, say Braverman and Menesse. Plans for construction on the RTA extension could occur in 2016-2017.

Building a "Place"

Braverman says that changes to sidewalk conditions and traffic management, better known as "streetscaping," will define the newly designed area's concept of "place."

"Right now with the intersections, you don't feel like you've arrived anywhere," Braverman says. "At the main intersection, we'll have decorative crosswalks. Cars will understand that this is a pedestrian zone. It will be easier to cross the street, where now it's a sea of asphalt."

Creating that sense of place will enable Menesse to begin the heavy lifting on the Van Aken District Redevelopment. "There's still a lot to do to take this area where you have multiple property owners and largely obsolete shopping and transform it into a walkable mixed-use district where people will want to put their office or their unique local restaurant," she says. "We feel like the only way we can succeed here is if it becomes a center for the community and enough of a draw where professionals who work along Chagrin will want to have lunch in the Van Aken District instead of

going east.”

For now, the focus of the future mixed-use district centers largely on the Van Aken Shopping Center, which is owned by RMS Investment Corporation, the City-owned Farnsleigh Road parking lot, and the right-of-way on both sides of Van Aken where the Rapid terminal currently is located.

“When the right-of-way is vacated, there will be almost 12 acres in the district that are ready for redevelopment,” says Menesse. It’s this redevelopment that has some of the intersection’s existing anchors looking forward to the upcoming changes.

Support from Shaker Businesses, Large and Small

For the past five years, more than 900 employees serving in University Hospitals administrative functions have called the former OfficeMax space on Warrensville Center Road home. University Hospitals CEO Tom Zenty says that a survey of employees, along with the building’s proximity to area interstates, and the potential for return on investment, led the hospital system to purchase the building in late 2006.

“The redevelopment plans were discussed even then, but we weren’t necessarily banking on that to occur,” says Zenty, who lives just a short walk away from the UH building in Shaker Heights. “But we’re happy about it because we think it can provide better access for our employees to all the activities of daily living.”

As the largest employer in Shaker Heights and a key district anchor, University Hospitals is supportive of the City’s redevelopment efforts.

“The City has been really great to work with and we’ve had a positive experience at that location. Our employees really like it because of the access to the freeway and accessibility to their homes,” Zenty says.

Zenty, who walks to work when he can, is eager to witness the improvements. “If we can do something to make it more manageable and, from a traffic standpoint, more

efficient to navigate, then it would encourage development and encourage people to engage in parts of the community that they wouldn’t otherwise engage in,” he says.

Michael Feigenbaum, owner of Van Aken District newcomer Lucy’s Sweet Surrender, is equally optimistic on the Van Aken redevelopment. “I can’t imagine why there wouldn’t be a resurgence here as a pedestrian-friendly, park-friendly, consuming-friendly neighborhood,” he says, recalling his days growing up in the nearby Lomond area. “If that does happen, then certainly I’m in a position to capitalize on it in many ways.”

While Feigenbaum is still sorting out how best to configure his own bakery and lunchtime business in the former Chandler and Rudd space, he has toyed with the concept of opening the store’s Chagrin side once the reconfiguration of the intersection is complete. “We’ve considered pulling back a wall or adding a roll-up door where we’d have an indoor/outdoor space that’s open to the street. Having it set back in the bakery but open to the air would give it a nice ambience,” he says.

Also significant to the district is the towering presence, literally, of the last project designed by Walter Gropius: Tower East. Gropius was one of the founders of the Bauhaus School of architecture, and is commonly regarded as one of the pioneers of modern architecture. Apart from the building’s historic pedigree, it is coveted for its spectacular views of downtown Cleveland and its high end professional office space.

Both Braverman and Menesse have their eyes on the long-term prospects of the redevelopment. “Economic development is not for the faint of heart,” admits Menesse. “It’s a long process. We want the community to understand that the economic development cycle is 20 years long, and we want them to be engaged in the process.”

Braverman says the project has the potential to replace the intersection’s scary reputation with something considerably more friendly. “You won’t have to avoid it anymore because it will be a pleasant place to both go through and to visit,” she explains. “And it will certainly improve our tax base – it’s our best bet at redevelopment.”

a new Vibrancy

Improvements to the Chagrin-Lee District have already attracted new businesses to the area. But the City has much more in store. **BY DIANA SIMEON**

Four years ago, when Evelyn Lewis and her husband, Vereese, were looking for a Shaker Heights location for their New Millennium Salon, they fell in love with the south side of Chagrin Boulevard, across from Shaker Town Center.

“We loved the traditional but newly renovated look of the buildings,” recalls Evelyn. “The parking was great and the area was so secure.” They moved in, and by last year, the upscale hair-and-nail salon had become so popular, it was bursting at the seams.

“We decided it would be a great time to expand,” says Evelyn.

The couple finished the space next door and, last April, opened New Millennium Suites, an elegant loft-like space where the salon’s stylists are able to work with clients in private rooms.



Tyreek Allah, certified massage practitioner at New Millennium Salon. PHOTO BY JANET CENTURY.



Jeff Heinen, whose chain of supermarkets was started in Shaker by his grandfather, Joe Heinen. The year was 1929.
PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES.

The Lewises couldn't be happier. "We feel at home here," explains Evelyn. "We're also pleased that Shaker continues to make changes to improve the City overall."

Indeed, it's these kinds of changes, which at Shaker Town Center started more than a decade ago, that are convincing more and more business owners to bring their businesses to Shaker and, in particular, the revitalized Chagrin Boulevard-Lee Road district.

Building the Foundation

You could say that the remaking of the district began with a bunch of red dots. In the late 1990s, when Shaker was formulating its Strategic Investment Plan – a sort of roadmap for city-wide improvements – it held a series of public meetings.

"One night, we gave everyone three green dots and three red dots," recalls Joyce Braverman, the City's director of planning. "We asked them to put the green dots on the best places in the City and the red dots on the worst.

Guess what, the worst place was Shaker Town Center and Lee Road."

No surprise, then, that when the Plan was officially adopted in 2000, that's where the City started. The goal: to create a district that businesses would want to move to, and residents would want to visit.

"Basically, it was about creating the conditions that would entice the private market to engage," sums up Director of Economic Development Tania Menesse.

City leaders had their work cut out. At the time, Chagrin was difficult for pedestrians to cross, and had almost no on-street parking. The buildings on the south side of Chagrin were in need of repair. On the north side, the shopping center, anchored by Heinen's and Shaker Hardware, was looking more than a little tired. The district's sidewalks were in bad shape. There was no public art or attractive signage. Few benches and railroad tie planters were in disrepair.

Shaker Town Center also felt like a different world than the City's residen-

tial areas. “The commercial areas of the City were built in the 1940s and ’50s,” explains Braverman. “Because most of the City’s homes were developed in the 1910s and 20s, Shaker Town Center didn’t have the same character.”

All told, it was not a locale that businesses were eager to embrace. But that was about to change. “It helps when the City makes the first investment,” says Braverman. “So we did.”

In 2001, the City purchased six buildings on the south side of Chagrin and sold them to Blue Water Capital for a redevelopment to be called Shaker Commons. In 2004, the City remade Chagrin into three lanes, adding pull-in parking, wider sidewalks, plantings, benches, signage, and public art. In 2005, the City’s new firehouse opened. In 2006, Shaker unveiled Winslow Court, the new road that starts at Avalon Lofts on Van Aken Boulevard, cuts through Shaker Town Center, and ends at the Kenyon Walkway, a pedestrian thoroughway to Kenyon Road.

And just last year, the City added two new parks at Shaker Town Center: a “pocket park” on Chagrin – where “you can sit and enjoy your lunch,” says Braverman – and greenspace (and public art) on either side of the Kenyon Walkway.

A New Vibrancy

These days, strolling down Chagrin through the heart of Shaker Town Center, it’s easy to see how the City’s investments are paying off. For starters, Shaker Town Center feels a lot like, well, Shaker.

That’s because the City has required new development to meet a higher standards and design quality than in days past. The new fire station, for example, while more contemporary than the Van Sweringen’s architecture, uses Shaker-quality materials, says Braverman. “And, for example, the window

patterns match the window pattern on the older buildings,” she adds.

New buildings, like Huntington Bank and CVS, are close to the street, with parking in back, which is what commercial districts looked like back in the Van Sweringen era. Think Shaker Square, for example.

Business owners have taken notice. New arrivals include New Millennium, as well as Amy Joy Donuts, Huntington Bank, and, most recently, the brand-new CVS, and Simply Delicious Pies.

“I knew immediately that this was the right location,” says Britanny Reeves, owner of Simply Delicious Pies, which is around the corner on Lee Road. “I’m surrounded by ev-

“We actually buy a product from a LaunchHouse company, Good Greens. It’s been great for Heinen’s and it’s been great for Good Greens too.” – Jeff Heinen

everything.” The shop, which opened last fall, has been a smash hit. In fact, Reeves has already had to purchase an extra oven, a Vulcan no less, to keep up with demand.

“I love it here. I feel like it’s home,” says Reeves.

Meanwhile, long-time City stalwarts, like Al Nola Shoe Repair, Chagrin Wine & Beverage, Sherwin Williams, and Touch of Italy, are now in new or improved retail space too. And coming next year will be Enlight Advisors, a strategic business consulting firm owned by residents Amy Fulford and Troy Meinhard, which will move its staff from Commerce Park in Beachwood to the second floor of Shaker Commons.

Meanwhile the main shopping center has also sprung back to life.

“In 2005, the shopping center did

façade improvements along Winslow Court, but then they also upgraded the entire façade,” says Braverman. The center, which got a new owner a few years back, is now almost fully leased; Dollar Tree will take the spot vacated by CVS and there is a significant interest in the former Blockbuster space.

What’s more, Heinen’s, which has been in Shaker for more than 80 years, has made more than a million dollars worth of renovations inside its store. That was something that residents who participated in the public meetings for the Strategic Investment Plan also said they wanted.

“You have to keep evolving to compete, so we made changes,” says Jeff

Heinen, the grandson of company founder Joe Heinen. Heinen’s made extensive physical improvements to the store, while also expanding the product mix to include things like locally grown fruits and vegetables and high-quality private label products.

Joe Heinen started his business in Shaker in 1929, at the very location Heinen’s stands today. “He opened a little butcher store there,” says Heinen.

Four years later, Heinen’s was on the south side of Chagrin (then called Kinsman). “Then he moved next to where Shaker Hardware is today. And when Shaker redid Shaker Town Center in the early 1990s, we moved back, full circle, to where we started,” says Heinen.

He credits the City with working hard to keep Shaker Town Center vibrant, and is particularly impressed with Shaker LaunchHouse, the business accelerator that opened just down Lee Road in 2010.

“We actually buy a product from a LaunchHouse company, Good Greens,” says Heinen. “It’s been great for Heinen’s and it’s been great for Good Greens too. It’s a win-win.”

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Turning the Corner

Next up: revitalizing Lee Road, whose main commercial district is the half mile or so that starts just south of Chagrin and runs to the Cleveland border. "This area has really seen no significant investment in 50 years," says Tania Menesse. Of course, that makes it a hard sell when it comes to attracting new businesses. The first investment is the new Lee Road Rapid Station slated to get underway in the next year or so.

Menesse recalls visiting Lee Road with an orthodontist who wanted to bring his practice to the area. "He looked at the configuration of the street and he couldn't figure out a way to do it. The street has all these little buildings, with five parking spaces," she says. "He said he couldn't have his employees and patients park on the opposite side of the street – because they couldn't cross the street."

So the City is looking at how to improve Lee to make it appealing to business owners, as part of the economic development plan adopted in 2010. In following the Shaker Town Center template for improvement, plans include upgrades to the road's infrastructure, improving sidewalks, streetscaping, pedestrian crossings, and new traffic patterns to make it easier to walk and bicycle in the area.

The study phase for the infrastructure improvements has now wrapped up. The next step is to secure funding. This will likely come from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, the regional transportation authority that is the City's number-one source for these kinds of improvements.

But revitalizing Lee, says Menesse, also means demonstrating that the City is willing and able to work with businesses in innovative ways. That's already happening.

It started in 2010 when Shaker agreed to renovate the former Zalud Oldsmobile building, which it acquired in 2005, into a home for the business accelerator Shaker Launch-House.

“When you look at the driving force in the City’s investment in the Zalud building, it was to get real estate brokers, developers, and business owners to see that we could be and would be innovative,” explains Menesse. “But it was also about the Lee Road transformation. We wanted to show that we will invest in making improvements so that we can bring activity to the area.”

That has happened, thanks to LaunchHouse, and that means more customers for Shaker Town Center. And when combined with the Lee Road infrastructure improvements, which could start in the next few years, it’s a step toward creating the environment that will make the Lee commercial district attractive to private investment.

That could help spur new retail and restaurants on Lee Road. And the City also would like to see private office space along Lee geared to small companies, including some that started at LaunchHouse that are now ready to expand.

“We’ve just taken our first commercial property on Lee, a foreclosure, which will be torn down in the next year and become a parking lot,” says Menesse. “Is there a huge need for that at the moment? Not necessarily. But my conversation with the orthodontist might have been different if we had that at the time. Well, as soon as we do, I’ll call him.”

striking the Perfect Balance

BY DIANA SIMEON

In 2010, the City of Shaker Heights created an economic development plan. Research conducted in that process revealed that Shaker residents are hungry for change, for tax relief, for better retail and restaurants, and for new and vibrant commercial districts that they can patronize and into which they may be able to move their own working lives.

The following series of interviews with Shaker residents reveal the extent to which the Work-Live benefit plays out. These benefits include personal ease and convenience, which the residents readily acknowledge, but also the fostering of more commercial activity in the City, and lower local income taxes than they would pay if they worked elsewhere.

What these interviews articulate is that Work-Live in Shaker Heights is a value proposition consistent with the other values we prize, such as architectural superiority in our homes, educa-

tional excellence in our schools and a shared sense of value in the community itself.

These business professionals enjoy the freedom to spend more time with their families and experience a strengthening of their emotional attachment to our community. They stay engaged with their neighbors, the schools and other important institutions. In other words, engaged with all of the fundamental elements that have defined the City’s values for 100 years.

Values-based community vitality nourishes economic vitality, which is why Work-Live is a key component of the City’s economic development marketing campaign. We encourage all residents to learn more about the prospect of bringing their business lives closer to their home lives in Shaker Heights. We recommend you start imagining Shaker’s future by visiting work-live-shakerheights.com and clicking on the Vision Video link.



A view from Tower East looking across the Van Aken District and Shaker Heights toward the Cleveland skyline. PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO.



Erica Weiss at the new Juma Gallery in Shaker Heights. PHOTO BY JANET CENTURY.

When Carina Reimers decided the time had come to turn her passion for painting vintage furniture into a retail shop, she knew Shaker was the place to do it.

"I wanted to be within walking distance of my home," says Reimers, who lives in the Fernway neighborhood. "So I called the City."

Shaker's Director of Economic Development, Tania Menesse, put her in touch with Erica Weiss. Weiss, also a Fernway resident, was getting ready to renovate a building at the corner of Chagrin and Lomond boulevards, that she owns with her husband, David.

Her plan was to create a version of her popular Juma Gallery, which is in Cleveland's Little Italy, just for Shaker. "The more I visited the building, the more I wanted to come back to Shaker," Weiss recalls.

She had an extra room, which she offered to Reimers. In September, both Reimers and Weiss officially opened their doors.

Reimers' shop, The House Warmings, is chock full of her one-of-a-kind furniture, as well as accessories she's discovered at shows in New York City and elsewhere. Weiss, meanwhile, has created a stylish and sprawling boutique-art gallery-coffee bar, called simply Juma, where visitors can hang out with friends, take in an art show, or shop for hard-to-resist gifts, clothing, and jewelry.

"I've been so happy with the support I've gotten in Shaker," says Reimers.

"I'm so attached to Shaker," says Weiss, who's also an artist herself. "We're so invested in this community."

Indeed, talk to Shaker residents who run businesses in the City, like Weiss and Reimers, and within minutes, here's what you'll hear: Shaker is a great place to work and live.

"Shaker has been so supportive," agrees Paula Pascarella, owner of The Little Gym of Shaker Heights just up Chagrin from Juma and The House

Talk to Shaker residents who run businesses in the City, like Weiss and Reimers, and within minutes, here's what you'll hear: Shaker is a great place to work and live.

Warmings. "We have 625 students coming through the door every week," she says. "We still have families that started with us back when we opened in 2005." The Little Gym offers classes for children ages four months to 12 years. It pulls families in from as far away as Willoughby.

And her commute isn't too bad either, says Pascarella, who lives less than a mile away in the City's Sussex neighborhood. "I can get my sons off to school in the morning and be home for them in the afternoon."

Though his children are now all grown up, Ralph Dise says being close to home was why he picked Shaker's Tower East Building when he founded Dise & Company in 1991.

"At the time, my wife and I were living in University Heights. We had three young children, so I needed to be nearby in case there was a babysitter malfunction."

"When we moved to Shaker 14 years ago, my commute went from 10 minutes to five minutes," he says. Early on, Dise was apprehensive that being headquartered in a suburb could be a drawback for his firm, which offers human resource consulting.

"But my wife said that as long as we have a top quality service, people will come," he recalls. "She was right." Today, Dise & Company, which now employs eight people, is still located at Tower East, though not in the same offices Dise started in.

"We have a spectacular view," says Dise. "And architecturally speaking, this is a very important building." Tower East was designed by Walter Gropius,

who ranks among the most prominent architects of the 20th Century.

Coming back to Shaker was Terrence Sullivan's goal when he founded Paragon Advisors Inc. more than 15 years ago. The company's offices are in the Chagrin Corporate Center on Chagrin. "At the time, I was working in Pepper Pike," says Sullivan, who lives in the City's Malvern neighborhood. "I wanted to be closer to home."

Today, Paragon, which specializes in managing the finances of high net-worth families, employs 35 people at its Shaker office.

Meanwhile, in a historic building across town, the Hanna Perkins Center (formerly Malvern School), you'll find Carrie Clark hard at work. Clark is executive director of MedWorks USA, a not-for-profit that provides free medical care for uninsured and underinsured residents of greater Cleveland. The organization was founded three years ago by Cleveland's Zac Ponsky, and Clark came on board in 2011.

Hanna Perkins, says Clark, is the perfect location for MedWorks' administrative offices. "It's fantastic. First of all, being in the Hanna Perkins building is wonderful. It's easy for people to come to us. We have lots of parking. People love to come here and they marvel at how beautiful our suburb is."

Being close to home is also a major plus, says Clark. "I live in Mercer, which is practically across the street from my office here. It makes that whole work-life balance all the easier," she notes.

Jacqueline Acho, President of The

Acho Group, a strategy and leadership consulting firm, couldn't agree more. "I think Shaker is a special place," she says. "I see a lot of people, women especially but men as well, doing great work in new and flexible ways. Our community can be a beacon for work-life balance."

Acho, who moved here from Chicago in 1998 with husband John LeMay – a partner with Blue Point Capital Partners – was a partner in the Cleveland office of the management consulting firm McKinsey & Co. She loved it, but by 2005, with two young children at home, she found that balancing the travel of global consulting with her family life was becoming increasingly difficult.

"So I explored a variety of career options, and it just made a lot of sense to open my own business," she explains. Today, from an office in her Shaker home, Acho works with the likes of the Cleveland Orchestra, Case Western Reserve University, the Centers for Families and Children, Dow Chemical – she's got a doctorate in chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology – and RPM Tremco.

"I spend a lot of time with clients, but the majority of thoughtful work can be done at my office in Shaker Heights. On most days, that allows me to put my kids on the bus in the morning and get them off in the afternoon," says Acho, who most recently has started writing about what she sees as a missing link to innovation at her new WordPress blog, Currency of Empathy.

Cleveland-area newcomer Abby

Dunford has also branched out on her own when it comes to her career. The speech-and-language pathologist was at Onaway School, but this fall, she opened her own practice, Heights Therapy, based at the former Sussex School, where she leases space from the Shaker Family Center. “I love working here. I can take my son to pre-school and then go home and have lunch with him,” says Dunford, who lives just down the road in the City’s Lomond neighborhood.

Dunford moved to Shaker from Ann Arbor last year. Her husband is a physician with the Cleveland Clinic. “My business is brand spanking new,” says Dunford, “so the Shaker Family Center has been a perfect fit.”

Over in the Onaway neighborhood, Andrea Landow offers therapy of another sort: delicious home-cooked

meals. Landow launched her company, Stress Less Gourmet, a year ago. It’s a personal chef service. Sign up and, every week, Landow will come to your home, cook dinner for you, and stock the fridge with extra meals for you to reheat and serve.

“Cooking has always been my passion,” she says. “For years, I posted a menu each week for my own family. So many friends were impressed by that, a light bulb went off that I might have a service to offer.”

Most of her clients are in Shaker. Meanwhile, Landow’s husband, Walter, also operates a business in town: the Landow Law Firm. He sees clients at Shaker LaunchHouse, where he’s signed up as a Flex Member, which for \$100 a month gives him access to workspace, a conference room, WiFi, and plenty of coffee.

Like the Landows, Fernway resident Emily Hellesen works partly in her own home – and partly out. She is the owner of Bliss Medical Massage, which just celebrated its one-year anniversary, and if you’re experiencing any sort of muscular tension, aches or pains (and aren’t we all), then Hellesen is here to help.

“At Bliss, we offer therapeutic Swedish-style massage,” she explains.

So far, Hellesen has more than 200 clients, about half of whom are Shaker residents. She sees many of them in the studio she built on the third floor of her Elsmere Road home. The rest she sees at Fitness Revolution in Beachwood. “Being in Shaker has been a major reason for my growth,” says Hellesen. “My business is all word of mouth. I’ve been in the community for 12 years. People know me. 🌿



Paula Pascarella, owner of The Little Gym on Chagrin Boulevard. PHOTO BY JANET CENTURY.

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Class Act



Paying it Forward to the Next Generation of Shaker Students

BY JENNIFER PROE

When the fun and frivolity of their 60th reunion were over, members of the Shaker Heights High School class of 1950 and January '51* had an unusual problem. Exceptionally good cash management on the part of the reunion committee resulted in an \$800 surplus. The funds could have been carried over to the next reunion quite easily. But the reunion committee had a different idea: Why not take the cash surplus and “pay it forward” by donating it to the Shaker schools?

Mission accomplished? Not so fast. After having met with a number of current students at the High School as part of their reunion festivities, the attendees were deeply impressed by the students' talents and serious focus on academics. They were also acutely aware of the fact that the financial needs facing many of today's students are far greater than the needs they faced in their own days at Shaker. They were determined to do more.

A group of graduates from '50 and January '51 – led principally by retired Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Burt Griffin - took matters into their own hands and launched an appeal to their classmates to turn their modest contribution into a more substantial class gift, known informally as the Pay It Forward Fund.

Says Griffin, “When we started this process, I thought if we could maybe get 60 people to each contribute \$1,000, that would be a good goal. We went so far beyond that goal, I could never have conceived of it.”

People gave back to their alma mater for a variety of reasons: nostalgia,

gratitude, a perceived sense of need, or just because it felt good. Whatever their motives, the members of the Shaker Heights High School class of '50 and January '51 dug deep and came up with an astounding collective gift to the Shaker schools of more than \$200,000 – and it's still growing.

Sue Starrett, director of development for the Shaker Schools Foundation, says, “There has never before been a class gift on this scale at Shaker. The response was quite simply amazing. The gifts ranged from \$25 to \$25,000, as well as several multi-year pledges. We even had a class member make a donation in memory of every classmate who is no longer living. The beauty of this gift is that combining their donations into one fund, managed by the Shaker Schools Foundation, really magnifies the impact.”

*In those days, it was common practice for high schools to enroll overlapping graduating classes, holding one graduation in June and one in January of the following year.

Letters Were Sent, Phone Calls Were Made

Although his classmates identify him as the charismatic ringleader of this successful campaign, Griffin credits a concerted group effort of 15 to 20 core members who contributed their time, talents, and powers of persuasion to the cause.

As you might expect from a class that contains a host of movers and shakers - including 11 members of the SHHS Alumni Association Hall of



High school sweethearts Jane Blau, June '51, and Ron Grossman, January '51, now celebrate 58 years of marriage and three decades of Shaker students. Photo courtesy Ron and Jane Grossman.

Although “not much of a student” while at Shaker Heights High School, David Gleason (opposite page) was elected class president and excelled as an athlete. He credits English teacher Grace Graham with his eventual success. Photo courtesy David Gleason.

Fame – the committee members were determined to ensure that their gift would have a significant impact for today's students. Originally, the group had college scholarships in mind, but after meeting with faculty members, the Shaker Schools Foundation staff, and current students, they identified other needs that struck a chord.

Fulfilling Principal Mike Griffith's dream of a Summer Academy to jump-start incoming 9th graders with perilously low grade point averages was high on the list. Another pressing problem for many students is the high cost of SAT and ACT test preparation, an essential component to gaining admission to college. Other initiatives included teacher creativity grants and enhanced career guidance.

Members of the solicitation committee felt it was crucial to convey to their classmates the good that could be accomplished with their donations. Joan Beyer Levy and Dick Cohen provided status reports on the Summer Academy initiative; Chuck Davis and

Van Seasholes championed the teacher creativity grants; and Ron Grossman and Dan Weidenthal reported on plans to bring an affordable test preparation course to the High School.

In short, as Chuck Davis describes the process, "Letters were sent, phone calls were made, and the money rolled in."

A Strong Sense of Shared Experiences

While many were persuaded to give on the strength of the projects to be funded, other factors also came into play. Says Joan Beyer Levy, who has helped coordinate several class reunions, "The older we get, the more nostalgic we become. There is a strong sense of shared experience, and it is great fun to connect again on an adult level. While working on this project, I have been nothing but impressed. The High School is still, in many respects, the same school that I attended. However, it is easy to see that the

challenges are much greater, and I am impressed with the way they are being addressed."

Dick Brubaker, a former football standout who is now a lawyer, recalls, "When we had our class reunion a couple of years ago, we had the privilege of touring the school, hearing the enthusiasm of Mike Griffith, and listening to the presentations of five seniors. I was blown away by their efforts, and how articulate and poised they all were. The experience gave me renewed hope for the youth of our country."

Many felt personally indebted to Shaker because of their positive experiences there. Ron Grossman will soon celebrate 58 years of marriage to the young co-ed he met 66 years ago at Shaker Heights High School, Jane Blau ('51). Their four children, and five of their nine grandchildren, have also benefited from a Shaker education. Says Ron, "Many of our classmates who have donated to their colleges now realize that their success in



Members of Classes '50 and January '51 enjoyed meeting students of the first ever Summer Academy, one of the key projects sponsored through their class gift. The alumni are, from left, Burt Griffin, Judy Relyea White, Joan Beyer Levy, Ron Grossman, Dick Klein, Dick Cohen, and Dick Brubaker. Photo by Colleen McCreary.



Shaker Heights High School students and SSS Club members Judy Relyea, Mary Jo Gibbs, and Marcy Higgins serve drinks to Barbara Brown, Judy Whaley, Cynthia Chappell, Diane Patterson, and Anne Schauer. Photo courtesy Shaker Heights Public Library local history collection.

college, as well as in life, was a direct result of what they were taught in the Shaker Heights school system. Our message to our classmates reminded them.”

A personal connection with a caring teacher or coach was a motivator for some. Don Kirk fondly recalls coach Fred Heinlen as a man who “was a positive influence in High School and for years later through correspondence. He knew things about me in high school I had not fully recognized, but he remembered and recounted them to me many, many years later.”

For Dave Gleason, that life-changing person was his English teacher, Grace Graham. “I was not much of a student,” says Gleason, who dropped out in 10th grade and served two years in the Army before returning to the High School. Graham took Gleason under her wing, tutoring him after school every day for the next two years.

Upon graduation, Gleason attended Dartmouth College on the G.I. Bill. “Later in life, I came to realize how much she meant to me, so I created an award to be given each year to a student and teacher who have accomplished a significant turnaround. When the idea for this class gift came along, I said right away, ‘Let’s do this!’”

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Summer Academy: A group of 22 incoming 9th grade students completed an intensive six-week program that involved both academic and leadership training opportunities to position them for success in high school. Each student was paired with a Summer Academy faculty member who will continue to mentor that student on a weekly basis throughout the school year.

While it's too soon to measure long-term success, initial indicators are excellent: The majority of students who completed the program are now receiving all A's and B's, and additional supports have been put into place for those who are still struggling.

Says Assistant Superintendent Marla Robinson, "We noticed a very strong level of confidence in this group of students at freshman orientation, where they likely would have felt intimidation before." Next year, the High School will offer another Summer

Academy for incoming 9th graders, as well as continued programming for the current cohort to keep the momentum going.

Teacher Creativity Grants: Based on his many years of experience as a teacher and administrator on the east coast, Van Seasholes proposed the idea for teacher grants that reward the efforts of teachers who find new and creative ways to stimulate their students. Any teacher in the District with at least five years of teaching experience in the Shaker schools was eligible. The teachers were required to demonstrate how their experiences would enrich and inform their teaching.

Seven teachers applied, and three received grants that allowed them to expand the scope of their teaching. Christine McBurney, chair of the High School Theatre Department, attended a directing fellowship at The Juilliard School, focusing on Shakespeare. Eileen Willis, a High School French teacher, participated in a French culture immersion program in Paris. And Carola Drosdeck, a fifth-grade teacher at Woodbury School, spent four weeks as a volunteer at the Nepal Orphans Home, caring for children and teaching English. The grants will be offered again this year.

SAT Test Preparation: Thanks to the Pay It Forward Fund, the High School was able to arrange for the Princeton Review to teach a PSAT/SAT/ACT Prep Course at the High School for 38 students last August. An allocation of just \$5,000 from the fund allowed all 39 students to take the course at a fraction of its usual retail cost of \$1,000 per student, using a sliding scale according to financial need.

A Gift for the Future

Thanks to multi-year pledges and sound fiscal management, the Pay It Forward Fund will continue to make a difference in the lives of Shaker students well into the future. Next up, a subcommittee of '50/January '51 alumni intends to explore ways to provide students with greater career counseling and connections to help them be successful beyond high school.

The '50/January '51 alumni also hope that their actions will inspire other Shaker alumni. (See sidebar). "I would hope that other classes will continue what our class has started," says Van Seasholes. "Traditionally, graduates of private schools are asked to contribute. Shouldn't those of us who went to public schools also be asked to contribute?"

Perhaps the most compelling reason to give, according to Burt Griffin, is this: "A lot of us felt that Shaker was the foundation for all the good things that happened in our lives. It really opened doors for us. We had reached a time in our lives when we were ready to give back. It was just the right thing to do." 🍀

As Shaker Heights celebrates its Centennial, we would like to thank Lynn Prange, Executive Director, for her 31 years of service. Lynn is retiring from ECEC in December of 2012. We appreciate her dedication and investment she has made in our community.

We also want to welcome Beth Price, incoming Director, and recognize her leadership in continuing ECEC's Commitment to Excellence in early childhood development.

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Ongoing Activities for Families

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions, THE PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. An opportunity for parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5 to play and make friends. Playroom is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 am-12:15 pm or Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 4-6 pm. Use of gym and muscle room during specific hours is also included. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-based play for parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5 co-sponsored by Shaker Library and Family Connections. Evening hours: 6-8 pm Tuesdays. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

WEDNESDAYS: Play and Learn Station for Home Day Care Providers, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-

based play sessions just for home daycare providers and their children birth to age 5, co-sponsored by Shaker Library and Family Connections. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

FRIDAYS: Family Fun Fridays for Families Raising Children 3-5 with Special Needs, 1-3 PM, PLAY AND LEARN STATION AT MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, facilitated playgroup for parents with children ages 3-5 with special needs. Special activities held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Fridays of the month. INFO: 216-921-2023.

SATURDAYS: Saturday Gym, 10 AM-NOON, GYM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. A place for parents and children, birth-6 years to climb, jump, ride trikes, and play on Saturday mornings thru April 20. (No sessions, December 22, 29, and January 19.) All children must be accompanied by an adult. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

SATURDAYS: Birthday Parties, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM OR 2:30-4:30

PM, AND SUNDAYS 11 AM-1 PM OR 1:30- 3:30 PM. SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Family Connections at Shaker Family Center is a great place to hold a birthday party for your little one. Enjoy private use of the gym filled with riding toys and equipment. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

Ongoing Activities for Adults

MONDAYS: Monday Morning Jumpstart, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. A jobs club, moderated by Career Transition Center's Bonnie Dick. Meet other job seekers and gain insights about job strategies. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT 3011.

TUESDAYS: English In Action, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Brondy Shanker leads a free program for those seeking to learn to read and speak English. INFO: 216-991-2030.

THURSDAYS: Open Bridge, 1-4 PM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Card lovers

continued on page 70

Calendar listings were correct at press time, but please call ahead to confirm.

DESTINATIONS...

BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH LIBRARY
20600 Fayette Road
216-991-2421

MAIN LIBRARY
16500 Van Aken Boulevard
216-991-2030

THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES
2600 South Park Boulevard
216-321-5935

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING / COMMUNITY COLONNADE
3450 Lee Road
216-491-1360

FAMILY CONNECTIONS AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER
19824 Sussex Road
216-921-2023

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
15911 Aldersyde Drive
216-295-4200

SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
16740 South Park Boulevard
216-921-1201

SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
20600 Shaker Boulevard
216-295-4100

THORNTON PARK
3301 Warrensville Center Road
216-491-1295

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Holiday Gift Boutique at the Market Shaker Square. (p. 66) Little Italy Art Walk 12/1, 12/2 Noon. (p. 72)
2 Mobile Connections: Are We Alone Together? 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (p. 66)	3	4	5 As You Like It 12/5, 12/7 7 pm, Shaker High School. (p. 67)	6 Networking Effectively Workshop 10 am, Main Library. (p. 67)	7	8 10th Annual Chuck Rossbach Learn-to-Skate Competition 1:15 pm, Thornton Park. (p. 67)
9 Annual Holiday Open House 2 pm, Shaker Historical Society. (p. 67) Annual Holiday Choir Concert 5 pm, St. Dominic Church. (p. 68)	10 Toy Donation Drop-Off 12/10, 12/11 9 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 68)	11	12 Community Meal for Senior Adults 50+ 12:30 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p. 68)	13 Used Toy Sale 12/12, 12/13 6 pm, Shaker Family Center. (p. 69) Gene's Jazz Hot 7 pm, Loganberry Books. (p. 69)	14	15 Saturday Gym Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 63)
16	17 Band Concert I 7:30 pm, Shaker High School.	18 Band Concert II 7:30 pm, Shaker High School.	19 Winter Choir Alumni Concert 7:30 pm, Shaker High School.	20 Thornton Park High School Hockey Tournament 12/17-23	21 Parent and Child Play Sessions Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (p. 63)	22
23	24	25 Chinese Food & A Movie Day 1 pm, Maltz Museum. (p. 73)	26 Lunchtime Concert Noon, Museum of Contemporary Art. (p. 73)	27 Play and Learn Station Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 63)	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve Family Skate 11 am, Thornton Park. (p. 71)					

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
				Open Bridge Ongoing. 1 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p. 63)	Bread Distribution Ongoing. 10 am, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 66)	Saturday Gym Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 63)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
The Rink at Wade Oval Thru 2/18 (p. 72)	Monday Morning Jumpstart Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 63)	Mystery Book Discussion 7:30 pm, Main Library. (p. 71)			Big Dog Theater 7 pm, Shaker LaunchHouse. (p. 71)	Winter Concert in Dance 7 pm, Shaker High School. (p. 71)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Stone Oven Days Ongoing. 2267 Lee Road. (p. 70)	Parent and Child Play Sessions Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (p. 63)		DJ Friday Night Skate 1/11, 1/18, 1/25 7:45 pm, Thornton Park. (p. 72)	Martin Luther King Student Writing Contest Awards 4:30 pm, Main Library. (p. 72)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Family Winter Tracking Hike 1 pm, Nature Center. (p. 70)	Play and Learn Station Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 63)			A Little Princess 1/11, 1/25 2 pm, Wiley Middle School. (p. 74)	Set the Night to Music 5 pm, Severance Hall. (p. 74)
27	28	29	30	31		
	Don Hisaka: A Shaker Icon Exhibit thru 3/15 Shaker Historical Society. (p. 66)					

OUT & ABOUT

can't trump this activity that only costs \$1. INFO: 216-491-1295.

FRIDAYS: Bread Distribution, 10 AM-NOON, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Free bread from our neighbor, The Fresh Market, is available to the public. Most bread is 2-3 days old, but still good and available on a first-come-first-served basis. Bread not taken on Friday will be available on Saturday. INFO: 216-991-3432.

SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON, 13209 SHAKER SQUARE. County farmers bring their wares to city folks. Buy fresh and local seasonal produce and meet friends at the indoor market. Indoor market begins January 5. INFO: 216-751-7656.

Picture This: Art About Town

THROUGH JANUARY 14: Picturing America, MAIN LIBRARY. This attractive exhibit is an initiative of the We the People program of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which strives to strengthen the understanding of American history through art. INFO: 216-991-2030.

THROUGH DECEMBER 30: Celebrating Community Spirit: Shaker Heights 1955-1980, THE SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. This exhibit juxtaposes Shaker Heights' affluence with the national issues of civil rights, integration, the feminist movement, the Vietnam War, and the 1960s counterculture revolution. Narratives chronicle significant events that resulted in Shaker Heights' legacy of toler-

ance and diversity. Members free. \$4/adult non-members; \$2/children 6-18. INFO: 216-921-1201 OR shakerhistory.org.

JANUARY 15 - MARCH 15: Don Hisaka: A Shaker Icon, SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. An exhibit of the structures designed during architect Don Hisaka's time in Cleveland: 1960-1985. Hisaka's own home is the only national award-winning architectural design from Cleveland. He designed buildings from Cleveland to Tokyo with a single focus: to be graceful and attractive no matter how commercial the setting or utilitarian the agenda. Museum hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-5 pm; Sun 2-5 pm. Admission: \$4/adult non-members; \$2/children 6-18; Children under 6 free. INFO: 216-921-1201 OR shakerhistory.org

Events for DECEMBER

THRU DECEMBER 23: Christmas Tree Sales, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL PARKING LOT, 19900 VAN AKEN BLVD. St. Dominic School Bulldog Club sells trees on the weekends and Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights. INFO: 216-991-1444.

DECEMBER 1: Holiday Gift Boutique at the Market, 13209 SHAKER SQUARE. Local artists offer unique gift-giving opportunities. INFO: 216-751-7656.

DECEMBER 1: Sugar Plum Workshop, 9-11:30 AM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Teach children the joy of giving at this hands-on morning of holiday crafts, where kids make fun and

affordable homemade gifts for family, teachers, friends and even pets! Supplies are provided at a nominal cost. Admission is free. Crafts range in price from 25 cents to \$3.50 with most under \$1. INFO: 216-921-3510.

DECEMBER 1: Teddy Bear Breakfast, 10 AM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Parents, grandparents, tots, and teddy bears! Children may dress up and bring their favorite doll or teddy bear. Enjoy treats and lemonade. Fee: \$5/family (max. 4); \$2/additional person. Proceeds benefit the Recreation for Youth Scholarship fund. INFO: 216-491-1360.

DECEMBER 2: Mobile Connections: Are We Alone Together?, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. We're texting at home, work, school, and everywhere. Is our digital culture rewiring our brains and in some cases, creating addiction? Join Cheryl Campanella Bracken, director of CSU's Journalism and Promotional Communication, who will speak about the impact of social media and how it affects our families, friendships, and communities. INFO: 216-751-2320.

DECEMBER 2: Fight the Power: Music as a Social Force, 4 PM, SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Dr. Jason Hanley, director of education of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame delves into the music of the 60s and 70s that challenged audiences to make societal changes. Free for members; \$4/adult non-Members and \$2/children 6-18. INFO: 216-921-1201 OR shakerhistory.org.

OUT & ABOUT

DECEMBER 4: The 3R's – Reinvent, Re-Energize, Re-Focus, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Dave Clements, co-founder of Vision 21 in Lakewood, in conjunction with the Career Transition Center, presents a new series for would-be entrepreneurs. Workshop II will teach you to stop thinking of yourself as being unemployed. Learn how to answer the question, “What do you do for work?” Develop a plan to redesign your resume to highlight the skills you possess for your new field of interest and an action list of what events, activities, and people you need to meet. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT. 3011.

DECEMBER 4: BROADWAY Series Sneak Peek, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Enjoy a preview of the 2013 Playhouse Square Broadway and Children's Theater. One lucky attendee will win two tickets to a show. INFO: 216-991-2030.

DECEMBER 5 & 7: As You Like It, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Shakespeare's pastoral comedy is set in 1912 Shaker Heights to celebrate the City's Centennial. Was Shakespeare speaking of Shaker: “Why then, can one desire too much of a good thing?” INFO: 216-295-4287 OR tix.com.

DECEMBER 6: Networking Effectively Workshop, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Learn how to build and maintain business relationships that can help in a job search. INFO: 216-991-2030.

DECEMBER 6: Otis' Old Curiosity Shop Artist Reception, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Be a cool cat like Otis. Shop for holiday gifts the

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Claire Crosby	Daniel Murphy
Alexander Friedman	Isabel Robertson
Clara Kao	

National Achievement Semifinalists

Lawrence Shelven	Ini Umosen
------------------	------------

National Merit Commended Students

Ann H. Carter	Aaron Rabinowitz
Ryan Claus	Ari Ross
Jacob Gardner	Rebecca K. Smith
Nicholas Haubrich	Alexa Steiber
Jordan Isenberg	Nathan Steinberg
Gregory Lanese	Evelyn Ting
Kristen Leonard	Ini Umosen
Megan Mathur	Lauren Vavruska
Luke Mesiano	Lauren Woyczynski
Nicholas Murray	

National Achievement Commended Students

Spencer Gilbert	Brenton Sullivan
-----------------	------------------

National Hispanic Recognition Scholars

Nicholas Murray	Ana Sinicariello
Juan Schwartzman	

OUT & ABOUT

old-fashioned way and find the purr-fect gift. INFO: 216-795-9800.

DECEMBER 8: 10th Annual Chuck Rossbach Learn-to-Skate Competition, 1:15 PM, THORNTON PARK. All Learn-to-Skate participants are eligible. Competition fee was included with fall registration. Those not enrolled pay \$5. Cheer on your favorite skater! INFO: 216-491-1295.

DECEMBER 8: Hanukkah begins at sunset and continues through December 16.

DECEMBER 9: Annual Holiday Open House, 2 PM, SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Annual Holiday Open House with vocal music provided by "Nightingale." Indulge in savories, sweets, and

hot mulled cider. Free and open to the public. INFO: 216-921-1201 OR shakerhistory.org.

DECEMBER 9: Annual Holiday Choir Concert, 5 PM, ST. DOMINIC CHURCH, 19000 VAN AKEN BLVD. Enjoy a range of music from the Grinch song to Handel's Hallelujah Chorus. All are welcome. Free. INFO: 216-991-1444.

DECEMBER 10 & 11: Toy Donation Drop-Off, 9 AM-5 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Donate your gently used or like-new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys, baby equipment, etc. and get a tax deduction. Age-appropriate items (for children birth to 10 years) must be clean, contain all pieces and parts, and be in good working order and with

batteries. Plush animals and car seats are not accepted. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR FamilyConnections1.org.

DECEMBER 11: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM, ADMINISTRATION BLDG., 15600 PARKLAND DR. Monthly meeting of the School Board. INFO: 216-295-4322.

DECEMBER 11: Whodunit: Mystery Book Discussion, 7:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Read *Wicked Autumn* by G.M. Malliet, where Max Tudor struggles with past demons while trying to identify a killer in his peaceful community. INFO: 216-991-2030.

DECEMBER 12: Community Meal for Senior Adults 50+, 12:30 PM,

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OUT & ABOUT

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Join friends and community members in exchanging holiday greetings at this much appreciated event. Space is limited. Fee: \$8 Paid reservations due by December 3. INFO: 216-491-1360.

DECEMBER 12: On-Going Attachment, Separation & Loss In Foster Care, 6 PM, BELLEFAIRE JCB, 22001 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Trisha Martinek is the trainer in this on-going series of classes in adoption and foster care. INFO: 216-320-8596.

DECEMBER 12 & 13: Used Toy Sale, 6-8 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Calling all mamas and grandmamas! Find huge bargains in children's toys and baby equipment. December 13 hours: 9 am-noon. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR FamilyConnections1.org.

DECEMBER 13: Results-Oriented Resumes, 1-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. When looking for a job, your principal "sales tool" is a well-designed, targeted resume. This workshop will explain what catches an employer's attention to make them want to interview you. INFO: 216-991-2030.

DECEMBER 13: Red Cross Bloodmobile, 2-6 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. During the season of giving, give blood. INFO: 216-991-2030.

DECEMBER 13: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Hot jazz in a cool bookstore. INFO: 216-795-9800.

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The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

2600 South Park Boulevard INFO: 216-321-5935 OR shakerlakes.org.

TUESDAYS: Stone Oven Days, 2267 Lee Road. The Stone Oven donates a percentage of the day's sales to the Nature Center.

DECEMBER 1: Color Your Winter with Birds, 10 AM-NOON. Take a hike and discover winter birds, learn how to use binoculars, and make a bird-themed craft in this winter birding basics class. \$7/members, \$10/non-members. Online or phone registration required.

DECEMBER 6: Holiday Shopping Event, 6-8 PM, TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES, 12425 CEDAR RD. Shop at Ten Thousand Villages during this holiday shopping event and 15 percent of net sales will be donated to the Nature Center.

DECEMBER 20: Tales n' Trails - Winter Solstice Walk, 2-3:30 PM. Join us for a monthly adult program on the trails at the Nature Center as weather permits or indoors in inclement weather. \$3/person.

DECEMBER 22: Christmas Bird Count, 8 AM. This long-standing program of the National Audubon Society has over 100 years of citizen involvement. Join in a bird walk to locate and identify our resident winter birds. Come for the morning or bring a lunch and stay all day. Registration is required for this free event, but a \$5 optional fee supports compilation and publication of the data and the receipt of a copy of American Birds, which summarizes the results and includes articles on trends and regions.

JANUARY 11: Family Fireside Night, 6:30-8 PM. Join friends at the Nature Center for "Puppets and Pajamas" night and enjoy puppet and magic shows around the fireplace, and refreshments. \$5/person with a \$25 maximum for a family of six. Register by phone or online.

JANUARY 14: Camp Registration begins for members. Non-members can register beginning January 28. Break Camp (April 1-5) or Summer Outdoor Adventure Camps (June 17-August 15). Experience and observation are the primary tools by which we teach, empower, and encourage campers of all ages to explore and learn about the natural world. Each week provides a new adventure with a variety of fun-filled, nature-related themes. Register early as camps fill quickly.

JANUARY 21: Family Winter Tracking Hike, 1 PM. Enjoy a day off from school! Bring your pooch and wear your boots for this dog-friendly hike in the snow (or the mud!) around Shaker Lakes. Meet at Horseshoe Lake Pavilion and "track" the animals that keep busy in the winter. Free/members, \$5/non-members. Register online or by phone.

Nature By Request: This new environmental education program available for all ages lets you pick the topic for a custom-designed program for your group at the Nature Center. Topics range from seed starting, composting, geocaching, and birding. Visit shakerlakes.org for more information.

B'earth'day Parties: Create a unique and memorable party for your child to celebrate a special day the natural way! Amazing Animals, Dinosaur Times, Letterboxing, and Shelter Building "Survival Skills" are a few of our fun themes. Check out the website for more information or call for rates and reservations.

continued from page 73

DECEMBER 14: 2nd Quarter Principal & Parent Coffee, 7:30 AM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL PARENT RESOURCE ROOM. Informal get together for parents to meet with Principal Mike Griffith to talk about any school-related topic.

DECEMBER 15: Community Meal, NOON, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Enjoy a deliciously prepared meal in an atmosphere of friendship, community, and dignity. All are welcome and the meal is free! INFO: 216-991-3432.

DECEMBER 17-23: Thornton Park High School Hockey Tournament, THORNTON PARK. Which high school hockey team will take home the trophy?

DECEMBER 17: Band Concert I, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Strike up the band and warm up your winter.

DECEMBER 18: Band Concert II, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Unbeatable band music.

DECEMBER 19: Winter Choir Alumni Concert, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Come back to school and raise your voice in song.

DECEMBER 24–JANUARY 7: Shaker Schools Closed for Winter Break.

DECEMBER 25: Christmas Day.

DECEMBER 26: Kwanzaa begins. Festivities continue until January 1.

DECEMBER 31: Noon Year's Eve Family Skate, 11 AM–1 PM, THORNTON PARK. Fun-filled family event with DJ and prizes. INFO: 216-491-1295.

Events for JANUARY

JANUARY 1: New Year's Day. City offices, schools, and libraries closed.

JANUARY 8: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM, ADMINISTRATION BLDG, 15600 PARKLAND DR. Monthly meeting of the School Board. INFO: 216-295-4322.

JANUARY 8: Mystery Book Discussion, 7:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Read *Rizzo's Fire* by Lou Manfredo and discuss whodunit. INFO: 216-991-2030.

JANUARY 10: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Mellow sounds

fill the comfy confines of this independent bookstore. INFO: 216-795-9800.

JANUARY 11: Big Dog Theater, 7 PM, SHAKER LAUNCHHOUSE, 3558 LEE RD. AHa! (At Home with the Arts) presents the East Side's improv-comedy troupe whose lightning wit brings thunderous laughs. Reception features hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Tickets: \$30/person, \$25/Shaker Arts Council members. Tickets may be purchased at shakerartscouncil.org, or by mailing a check payable to Shaker Arts Council, PMB 232, 16781 Chagrin Blvd., Shaker Heights, 44120. INFO: 216-916-9360.

JANUARY 11: Winter Concert in Dance, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Shaker students are truly on their

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Grades PS - 8
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**Upper School
Open House**
Sunday, February 10, 2013
Grades 9 - 12
Gates Mills
1:00 pm

**Lower & Middle School
Parent Visitation**
Wednesday, February 13, 2013
Grades PS - 8
Lyndhurst
8:45 am



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toes in this performance. INFO: 216-295-4200.

JANUARY 11, 18 & 25: DJ Friday Night Skate, 7:45-9 PM, THORNTON PARK. Friday night music on ice. INFO: 216-491-1295.

JANUARY 12: Fancy Nancy Fabulous Tea Party, 2-4 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Children in Grades K & up are invited for a fancy-schmantzy party with refreshments and fun. Be posh by wearing fancy clothes; make a craft; read Fancy Nancy and more! INFO: 216-991-2030.

JANUARY 19: Community Meal, NOON, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Enjoy a deliciously prepared meal

in an atmosphere of friendship, community, and dignity. All are welcome and the meal is free! INFO: 216-991-3432.

JANUARY 19: Martin Luther King Student Writing Contest Awards, 4:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the winners of the Library's 15th annual writing competition and hear their affirming essays. INFO: 216-991-2030.

JANUARY 21: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. City, school offices, and libraries closed.

JANUARY 22: 4th Tuesday Evening Book Discussion, 7:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Read and discuss Jack Kerouac's book, *On the Road*. INFO: 216-991-2030.

JANUARY 25: Professional Day. No classes for Shaker Schools grades 7-12.

JANUARY 26: Saturday Afternoon Best Books Bash, 3-4:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Take home a variety of end-of-the-year best books lists when library staff serves up refreshments and reading recommendations. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Beyond the City Limits

DECEMBER 1 & 2: Little Italy Art Walk, NOON-DUSK. For a touch of Italy and fine art, take an Italian art walk.

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DECEMBER 2: 19th Annual Holiday Circlefest, 1-7 PM, UNIVERSITY CIRCLE. 'Tis the season to experience Cleveland's cultural treasures free of charge! University Circle's museums, gardens, galleries, churches, and schools open their doors and offer an afternoon of activities, music, food, fun, and shopping. Enjoy live performances from talented musicians, craft making, displays of holiday toys, storytelling, a singing Santa, live reindeer, the city's best gingerbread house competition, and more.

DECEMBER 8: Sandasaurus Grand Opening, 10 AM-4:45 PM, THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF CLEVELAND, 10730 EUCLID AVE. INFO: 216-791-7114.

DECEMBER 8 & 9: Breakfast with Santa, 10 AM-1 PM, CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN, 11030 EAST BLVD. Bring the family and join the jolly man in red for a breakfast celebration. Enjoy a breakfast buffet; make a craft, and whisper your wishes in Santa's ear. Fun for the whole family! Fees: \$17/child member, \$22/non-member child, \$22/member adult member, \$28/non-member adult. Children 2 and under complimentary. INFO: 216-721-1600 EXT.100.

DECEMBER 12: CityMusic Cleveland, 7:30 PM, FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Stefan Willich conducts and CityMusic principal oboist Rebecca Schweigert Mayhew performs. The program includes Mozart's Overture to

The Marriage of Figaro and his Oboe Concerto in C, K314, and Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4. Free. INFO: 216-321-8273.

DECEMBER 12: Live Music—No Exit New Music Ensemble, 7 PM, MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE, 2929 RICHMOND RD. Timothy Beyer and members of the No Exit New Music Ensemble present a program inspired by Israeli Arts and Culture featuring Bezalel on Tour. The unique evening of progressive music features the works of Israeli and Jewish composers and celebrates the current vanguard of Israeli visual artists. \$14/\$12 museum members. Purchase in advance and save \$2. INFO: 216-593-0575 OR mmjh.org.

DECEMBER 25: Chinese Food & A Movie Day, 1-4 PM, MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE, 2929 RICHMOND RD. Free with Museum admission. INFO: 216-593-0575 OR mmjh.org.

DECEMBER 26: Lunchtime Concert, NOON, MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, 11400 EUCLID AVE. Experience free concerts by emerging musicians and lunch at MOCA's ground floor. These one-hour lunchtime performances allow guests to experience new sounds from some of the region's promising musicians. INFO: 216-421-8671.

DECEMBER 31: Noon Year's Eve, 10 AM-1 PM, CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO, 3900 WILDLIFE WAY. Adults can have their New Year's Eve fun at night, but kids get to celebrate 2013's arrival during daylight hours at the 7th annual Noon

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Year's Eve party with kid-friendly activities. INFO: 216-661-6500.

JANUARY 11 & 25: A Little Princess, 2 PM, WILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, 2181 MIRAMAR BLVD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Heights Youth Theatre presents the Ohio Premiere of Andrew Lipka and Brian Crawley's musical, based on the novel by Francis Hodgson Burnett, about a young girl whose fortunes are dramatically changed. Matinees at 2 pm Saturdays, January 12, 19 & 26 and Sundays, January 20 & 27. Tickets: \$10/ adults, \$9/seniors and children under 6. Cash or checks only. The box office opens 45 minutes before the performance.

JANUARY 26: Set the Night to Music, 5 PM, SEVERANCE HALL. This benefit presented by the Cleveland Institute of Music's Women's Committee, features Roberta Flack with the CIM Orchestra, Carl Topilow, conductor. Grammy Award winner Roberta Flack remains unparalleled in her ability to tell a story through her music, and her songs traverse a broad musical landscape from pop to soul to folk to Jazz. Enjoy cocktails, a silent auction, and a gourmet dinner, in addition to premier box and dress circle seating for the concert. Tickets start at \$250. Concert-only tickets: \$45-\$58. BENEFIT INFO: ASHLEY DAVENPORT, 216-791-5000, EXT. 311. CONCERT ONLY INFO: 216-231-1111.

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A Fifth-Grade Reunion? Only in Shaker

BY JONATHAN LIM,
SHHS CLASS OF '85

In 1977, Special Projects was a ground-breaking effort that placed 25 fifth-grade students, selected from each of the Shaker Heights public elementary schools, in a classroom setting designed to maximize creative thinking. Minority students made up 30 percent of the class and Ludlow Elementary was chosen as the host school. An aggressive curriculum included French, Latin, philosophy, and advanced math and English.

Eight students from the original Special Projects class reunited for a weekend in August in San Francisco, along with spouses and teacher Jean McDowell. The events included plenty of food and an incredible walk down memory lane. A fifth-grade reunion? Shaker Heights denizens are a tight-knit community.

It was amazing how easily we interacted with each other despite the years we'd spent apart. We laughed at old stories and got caught up with each other's lives. Jean McDowell amazed us with memories about each one of us – and then she brought out the old photos.

All of us in attendance attained advanced degrees – a testament to Ms. McDowell and the Shaker Heights public school system. Most important to me, these turned out to be people of outstanding character that I can't wait to see again. Bravo Shaker. 🍷



Top photos: The 1977 fifth grade Special Projects class. In the photo at left, author Jonathan Lim (right), eats cake with classmate Kelly Chapman. The 35-year class reunion was held in San Francisco in August.

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