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## features + departments

### on the cover:

A mural by Cleveland artist Romeo Celleghein (1895-1979) in the basement of Marc and Peggy Graham's home on Sydenham Road, painted when the house was built in the early 1930s. Photo by Jeanne Van Atta of Green Street Studio.

### **GREAT SHAKER HOMES 36**



### **THE INDIAN WAY 30**

The Saffron Patch's authentic recipes and cooking techniques make it a regional dining destination.



### **BLOSSOMS AND BLOOMS 42**

Shaker Historical Society and Museum's sixth annual garden-themed fundraising weekend.



### **WHAT CAN A NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION DO FOR YOU? 44**



### **A LIFELONG JOURNEY 48**

Q&A Betsie Norris talks about Adoption Network Cleveland, an organization she founded in 1988.



### **BROTHER ACT 52**

Shaker Middle School teachers Mark and Matt Nagal are fun guys, but all business in the classroom.

### more departments:

- City News [3](#)
- Introducing the New Shaker Arts & Music Festival.
- Real Estate News [13](#)
- Library News [17](#)
- Health News [28](#)
- Out & About [63](#)
- Calendar of events.
- Advertiser Index [75](#)
- Shaker Observer [76](#)
- Perfect in Every Way

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APRIL | MAY 2010  
VOLUME 28 ISSUE 2

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3400 Lee Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44120.  
Letters may be edited for publication.

STORY SUBMISSIONS:  
Shaker Life does not accept unsolicited editorial material, but story  
suggestions from residents are welcome. Send suggestions by email  
or letter. Please do not call. We cannot respond to every suggestion  
but each will be given consideration.  
Freelancers: Please email the editor for guidelines.

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SHAKER LIFE is published six times per year by the  
City of Shaker Heights, Department of Communications &  
Outreach, and distributed free to residents of the  
Shaker Heights City School District. Extra copies are available  
at area newsstands for \$3.50. See shakeronline.com for locations.

For general City information, call (216) 491-1400 or  
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## Letters From Our Readers

Dear Editor,

I greatly enjoyed reading the Q & A article with Tocomba Murphy on Living with Crohn's. As someone who has had Crohn's for 18 years, it is great to have attention drawn to it. One correction though. Tocomba says when she returns to work that she plans to "specialize in IBD (Irritable Bowel Diseases)." IBD actually stands for Inflammatory Bowel Disease, which encompasses Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis and is very different from Irritable Bowel Disease, otherwise known as IBS. It is very important to not confuse these two issues, as the treatment, symptoms, daily challenges, and prognosis differ dramatically. Thank you so much for your time.

Emily Pope  
Shaker resident

## Introducing the New Shaker Heights Arts & Music Festival

Take a prominent craft fair, blend in great music, and mix generously with food of all sorts: The result is the new Shaker Heights Arts & Music Festival, coming to town on June 19 and 20. The City of Shaker Heights and the Shaker Arts Council will join with the Ohio Designer Craftsmen to present the Festival, which combines the two-day craft event formerly held at Hathaway Brown with the seventh annual return of the Shaker Summer Solstice.

The Festival will have a street-fair vibe, and will be located in the heart of the Warrensville/Van Aken District on Farnsleigh Road and in the nearby municipal lot. The event offers two days of "arts, music, food, and fun."

On Saturday, June 19, the event will

run from 10 am to 8 pm, overlapping with the Summer Solstice musical celebration from 4 to 10 pm. On Sunday, the craft fair continues from 11 am to 5 pm. The Ohio Designer Craftsmen show includes 150 exhibiting artists chosen from over 600 applicants throughout the country.

Admission is free and will feature several musical bands and children's activities, plus food and drink from local vendors and the Shaker Heights Firefighters Local 516.

Also happening that weekend are the Shaker Historical Society Garden Tour and Family Connections' DadsDay Run. Says Mayor Earl Leiken, "Shaker City Council and I would like to invite everyone to make it a Shaker weekend." More details will be posted at shakeronline.com, and in the next issue of Shaker Life.

## Put it on Plastic

Beginning this spring, residents will be able to use a credit card to pay for many City services, fees, and other items that now require payment by cash or check. For example, permit fees, point-of-sale inspections, and sidewalk assessments will be eligible for credit card payment. So will any item a resident might purchase from Public Works, such as sandstone or salt.

Departments accepting credit card payments will include: Building, Communications & Outreach, Community Life, Finance, Housing, Planning, and Public Works.

There will be no additional fee for the use of a credit card. Says Finance Director Bob Baker, "We are providing this service as a convenience to residents. The eventual goal will be to move toward e-commerce so that residents can make online payments for these types of items."

One department, Community Life, already accepts online payment for many of its offerings.

## Calling All Rembrandts

All fifth grade artists residing in Shaker Heights are encouraged to enter the annual Arbor Day poster contest. This year's theme is "Trees are Terrific...and Energy Wise!"

The deadline for submission is Arbor Day, April 30. Please send entries to Patrick Neville, Superintendent of Forestry, Department of Public Works, 15600 Chagrin Blvd., 44120. Prizes will be awarded, so break out the paint and poster board, and show us how trees not only beautify our community, but help to make it a "greener" place.

## Be Sure to Fill Out Census Forms

The U.S. Constitution mandates a headcount of every man, woman, and child residing in the United States, every ten years. 2010 is a Census year. The U.S. Government began mailing census forms in March; be sure to watch your mailbox for a Census questionnaire that must be filled out and returned. Households that do not return a questionnaire after a second request will receive a phone call or a visit from a Census worker. Census workers will be identified by an official badge.

## Why Fill Out the Census?

**It's Important** – Census data affects our community's representation in Congress, and also directly affects the amount of funding we receive for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation, and



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much more. Filling out the Census helps to ensure we receive our fair share of state and federal funding.

**It's Easy** – The questionnaire contains only 10 questions and should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. Questions include name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home.

**It's Confidential** – Your responses are protected by law. All Census bureau employees have taken an oath to protect confidentiality. All responses are used for statistical purposes only.

**It's Required by Law** – All United States residents must be counted, including people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens.

More information about the Census can be found at: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>.

## GET READY! for Kindergarten This Summer

Carol Nursery School is partnering with the Community Life Department to present a new Pre-K enrichment camp this summer. GET READY! is specially designed to help create a smooth transition to kindergarten for children who have not yet had a preschool classroom experience.

Using a play-based, child-centered learning environment, Carol Nursery School teachers will provide practice in classroom routines, group listening and cooperation skills, and music and movement. The classroom will be filled with activities to help develop pre-reading and math skills. There will also be a morning snack and playground or gym time. To be eligible, students must turn five years old by September 30, 2010.

Susan Pfaff, a preschool teacher with over 15 years' experience at Carol Nursery School, sees a need for this type of program due to changes in the kindergarten



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curriculum over the years. She says, "Although the goals of making new friends, gaining self-confidence, and learning to work and play cooperatively remain central to the curriculum, there's also a stronger focus on literacy, math, and problem-solving skills. The experience children can gain in this program will help give them a jumpstart in kindergarten."

The cost of the camp is \$50, or less than \$5 per day. GET READY! takes place over twelve sessions from July 6 - 29, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 9 am to noon. Additionally, there will be one or more family fun nights, with activity stations and dinner provided. To register, call 216-491-1295.

For additional information, call Sara Miller, Director of Carol Nursery School, at 216-991-3449.

## Recycling Round-Ups Scheduled

**COMPUTERS:** April 10-11 & 17-18. Bring any of the following items: CPU's, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, terminals, modems, cables, software, printers, cartridges, cell phones & accessories.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE:** April 24-25 & May 1-2. Includes oil or solvent-based paint, sealers, primers, coatings (aerosols or liquids), varnishes, polyurethanes, paint thinners, pesticides, household cleaners, motor oil, car batteries, adhesives, driveway sealer, kerosene, gasoline, mercury, fluorescent bulbs. No latex paint. (Residential materials only.)

All Round-Ups held at the Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Blvd. from 8 am to 4 pm.

## Business News

### Shaker's "Fitness Corridor" Doing Healthy Business

Within just a few blocks along Chagrin Blvd., Shaker residents can find three gyms offering ways for people of all ages



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to exercise and stay healthy. Near the intersection of Warrensville and Chagrin, Curves caters to women seeking to fit an effective workout into their busy day. Just on the other side of the intersection, Club Fit offers exercise and wellness programs for adults of all ages, with a particular focus on the “aging boomer” population. Meanwhile, across the street, youngsters can flip, tumble, and karate-chop their way to fitness at The Little Gym. Read on to learn how you can shape up without shipping out of town.

Philip and Ashley Stotter, owners of Club Fit, launched a new promotion for 2010 called “Get Active, Stay Active, and Live Active,” which features a different theme with free services every month. April’s theme is “Balance for Life,” offering free yoga classes and workshops on balance, stability, and fall prevention for members who are 50-plus.

In May, Club Fit will participate in National Senior Health and Fitness month by offering free health assessments to adults 50 years or older. Additionally, all Shaker seniors 65 and older who are not yet members can receive one month of membership free.

According to Philip, “Baby Boomers represent the fastest-growing population in the fitness industry. These adults are seeking solutions and fitness programs that take into consideration their medical needs and physical goals, which are ever changing. Club Fit provides a safe, non-intimidating, alternative to help treat, correct, and prevent those ongoing health concerns.”

The gym’s programs blend physical therapy with recreational exercise to help treat and prevent a multitude of conditions, including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

The gym doesn’t cater only to this demographic, however; Shaker resident Jeanne Shatten, a Club Fit regular, says, “What I love about the club is that there is such an interesting array of Shaker people, including Shaker high school kids and college kids. There’s always a lot of

community schmoozing taking place.” Presumably, that burns calories, too.

Club Fit is at 20820 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 101. For more information, call 216-491-4891 or visit [www.clubfitltd.com](http://www.clubfitltd.com).

The Shaker franchise of Curves is doing its part to make women healthier in 2010 by participating in a company-wide initiative called Stronger + Together. The campaign aims to get one million new women exercising in 2010, and includes an online component where women can register, share their success stories with one another, and create a personal fitness profile.

The program also includes a promotion for women to receive 30 days free when they join. According to Curves founder Diane Heavin, a major goal of the campaign is to prevent disease among women. She says, “It’s important that women make their health a priority. We challenge women to take charge of their lives: live better, longer, healthier, and with more confidence.”

The Curves model of exercise is designed to provide women with a complete 30-minute workout that combines strength training and cardiovascular activity. Curves of Shaker Heights is at 20128 Chagrin Blvd. For more information, call 216-295-2200 or visit [www.Curves.com/StrongerTogether](http://www.Curves.com/StrongerTogether).

Folks at The Little Gym can jump for joy: Entrepreneur Magazine has given The Little Gym its top rating in the children’s fitness franchise category for the fourth consecutive year. Shaker resident Paula Pascarella, who operates the Shaker Heights location, says, “We are pleased to be recognized with our parent company as a leader in this category because it reinforces that parents are seeing the benefits of what we offer their children.”

The Little Gym offers classes for children from four months to 12 years of age, including gymnastics, karate, sports skills development, cheerleading, and dance. The Little Gym is at 20707 Chagrin Blvd. For more information, call 216-



752-9049 or visit [www.thelittlegym.com/shakerheightsoh](http://www.thelittlegym.com/shakerheightsoh).

## Neighborhood News

### • Lomond

This spring, a new community garden will sprout up in a City-owned lot at 3623 Rolliston Road. Shaker residents Henrietta Silberger and Dominic Liberatore, along with several neighbors, formed a non-profit organization called Community Gardens of Shaker Heights. The organization will divide the planting area into a minimum of twenty individual plots for vegetables. The plots will be made available to Shaker residents on a first-come, first-served basis, to be ready for planting around Memorial Day. To request a plot, or for more information, visit the organization's website: [www.gardensofshaker.org](http://www.gardensofshaker.org).

### • Moreland

New senior housing is coming to the Moreland neighborhood. Library Courts will be built on City-owned property located south of the library parking lot on Chagrin Boulevard, adjacent to Sunrise Assisted Living Facility. The developer, Partnership for Income Restricted Housing Leadership, proposes to build 44 units of high-quality, affordable housing for seniors aged 55 and older.

The three-story building will be equipped with an elevator and offer a combination of two- and three-bedroom apartments, each with a full bath. Jennings Center for Older Adults will serve as the management company and provide supportive services, including social and wellness programs and referrals.

RDL Architects, a Shaker based architect with extensive knowledge of Shaker Heights design requirements, will lead the design team.

## Shaker News Briefs

• Shaker Heights resident and mother of five **Chavon Riggins** is the winner

of the 2009 McCormick Holiday Spice recipe contest sponsored by the networking website, Moms Like Me, affiliated with WKYC Channel 3 News. Riggins calls her original recipe "fireside chicken and broccoli over rice," which she describes as delicious but healthy comfort food. The recipe is posted at [www.momslikeme.com](http://www.momslikeme.com). She was also invited to the WKYC studio for a taping session to prepare the entrée. To view the segment, visit [http://www.wkyc.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=127521](http://www.wkyc.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=127521).

• Law firm Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP announced that 22 of its attorneys have been listed in the 2010 edition of Ohio Super Lawyers. Six of those receiving the distinction are Shaker residents: **Deborah A. Coleman, Stephen H. Gariepy, Steven A. Goldfarb, Joan M. Gross, Lawrence E. Oscar** (Managing Partner of the firm), and **Mark F. Swary**. The Ohio Super Lawyer designation is awarded to attorneys based on a statewide nomination process, independent research conducted by Law & Politics, and peer review by practice area. No more than five percent of attorneys in the state are named to the list each year.

• The following Shaker residents will serve on City Committees, Commissions and Boards in 2010. Some are re-appointments, many are new appointments. All serve at the request of the Mayor who, along with City Council and City staff, appreciates their time and hard work.

### Architectural Board of Review

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**Tree Advisory Board**

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Ami Horowitz  
Mike Kannard  
Kathy Smachlo, MD

**Memorial Day is  
Monday, May 31**

Start Memorial Day with a Pancake Breakfast at the Colonnade this year. Eat your fill of hotcakes beginning at 8:30 am. The City's annual Memorial Day salute to America's fallen soldiers begins at am at the flagpole at City Hall. The parade, which follows, travels east to Thornton Park in the westbound lane of Van Aken Boulevard. Stay for swimming and ice skating (ID required and regular admissions apply).

To participate in the parade, sign up your group, organization, or float online by May 21, or if you do not have access to the Internet, you may register your party by calling Sandra Moore at 216-491-2598. Volunteer servicemen and women are needed to carry flags from their branch of service, in uniform if possible.

**Seasonal Reminders**

**Bicycle Licensing:** Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm April 10 & 24, and May 1, 8, 15, & 22 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. New licenses are \$5. Re-issued licenses are 50 cents.

**Bicycle Riding:** Helmets are required for everyone 5 and older when operating a bicycle and for all passengers regardless of age. Bicyclists may not ride more than two abreast in a single lane and must ride as near to the right side of the roadway

as possible. Children under the age of 14 may ride bikes on the sidewalk, but must yield the right of way to pedestrians.

**Block Party Requests:** Register at least two weeks in advance to close streets for block parties, races or parades at shakersonline.com.

**Contractors:** While the City cannot recommend contractors, lists of contractors registered with the City can be viewed at shakersonline.com. Lists are updated regularly.

**Dogs:** Dogs are not permitted to run at large, and owners are required to immediately remove all waste deposited by their dogs on public or private property that is not their own. Dog waste must not be put in City waterways, sewers or on the curb-side, as it poses a health hazard. Nuisance dogs should be reported to the Public Works Department, 216-491-1490.

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

**Go Green Program:** Learn how best to reduce your energy consumption. The City's discounted energy audit can help determine how to save energy costs in your home. Price: \$400 (homes with one heating system), \$475 (homes with two heating systems) and \$250 (condos). Call 216-491-1370 for more information.

**Grass Ordinance:** Grass may not be taller than 6 inches. Tall grass and weeds which are spreading or maturing seeds, or are about to do so, including ragweed, goldenrod, poison ivy, or poison oak are declared nuisances.

**Fire Hydrants:** The Fire Department will be flushing hydrants from April 19 through April 30. See the Calendar at



shakeronline.com for streets schedule.

**Landscaper Registration:** Landscapers, tree maintenance and removal contractors must register with the Building Dept. (\$100 fee).

**Parking Ban:** There is no parking permitted on Shaker streets between 2 and 6 am.

**Trash Delays:** Collections scheduled on or after Memorial Day will be delayed by one day. 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.

**Safe City Hotline:** To anonymously report any suspicious activity, call 216-295-3434.

**Sewer Safety:** Prevent sewer problems before they begin!

- Do not flush paper towels or commercial wipes (baby, household, automotive, etc.) down toilets. Discard with trash only.
- Do not wash grease down the sink or toilet. To safely discard, put into a container, allow to harden, then include with trash.
- Do not place trash, debris or grass clippings in catch basins located along street curbs.
- When you hire a plumber to snake your property lateral, please contact Public Works afterwards. The City will inspect the public side of the line to be sure that both sides remain clear.

To ask a sewer-related question or report a problem, call the Public Works Department at 216-491-1490. For emergency service, the City will attempt to provide temporary relief by accessing the test tee on the property. If the City is unable to locate the test tee, it becomes the homeowner's responsibility (per City ordinance) to hire a private contractor or plumber to locate the tee.

## WvA Redevelopment Update

Excitement is building for the much-anticipated redevelopment of Shaker's Warrensville/Van Aken district. Over 140 residents attended a public meeting in January to hear about the latest developments. City planners and engineers presented a summary of progress to date and next steps for the different phases of the redevelopment.

Residents completed surveys to give their input, and were invited to talk to project engineers and designers after the presentation. The presentation included a computer simulation of traffic movement for the reconfigured intersection. Funding is in place for the road construction, which will likely begin in 2012.

Barbara Andelman, one of the residents who attended the meeting, commented, "What's really exciting about this plan is not just how it will improve the immediate intersection, but how it will contribute positively to the livability of the whole area. I'm particularly impressed with the 'green' initiatives involved, and how this will position us regionally."

Director of City Planning Joyce Braverman expanded on that idea: "This intersection will be truly intermodal, linking auto, bus, rapid, pedestrians, and bicycles in one area, which makes it environmentally sustainable. Also, the reduced traffic congestion will have a positive impact on air quality."

Following is a summary of what was presented at the meeting. Full details and graphics are at shakeronline.com.



**The main intersection** will be changed to a regular 4-way intersection by closing Van Aken at Farnsleigh Road and rerouting Northfield Road. RENDERING BY HNTB.

*continued on next page*

**Alternatives 1a, 1b, 1c, and 2** illustrate options for relocating Northfield Road. Impacts of each will be analyzed to determine a preferred alternative. RENDERINGS BY HNTB.





## Road Engineering & Reconfiguration

### *What's been done*

The City has obtained the \$11.5 million required to design and construct improvements to the intersection. The six-way intersection will be reconfigured to create a standard four-way intersection. Specific intersection and road realignment configurations are being studied, and environmental work has begun.

### *What's next*

Project engineers will analyze potential impacts of each road reconfiguration option and review public comments to determine a preferred alternative. This preferred road reconfiguration alternative will be presented at a public meeting later this year. A detailed design is expected to be completed in 2011 and construction is scheduled to begin in 2012.

## RTA Blue Line Track Extension Alternatives Analysis

### *What's been done*

RTA has begun to seek funding for the rapid transit track extension from federal, state, and government sources.

### *What's next*

As part of the funding application process, RTA is analyzing the alternatives and impacts for extending the Blue Line rapid transit through the Warrensville/Van Aken intersection to one of various endpoints, including I-480 and I-271. If funding is acquired for this phase, the design is anticipated to be completed in 2012-2013 and construction to begin in 2014.

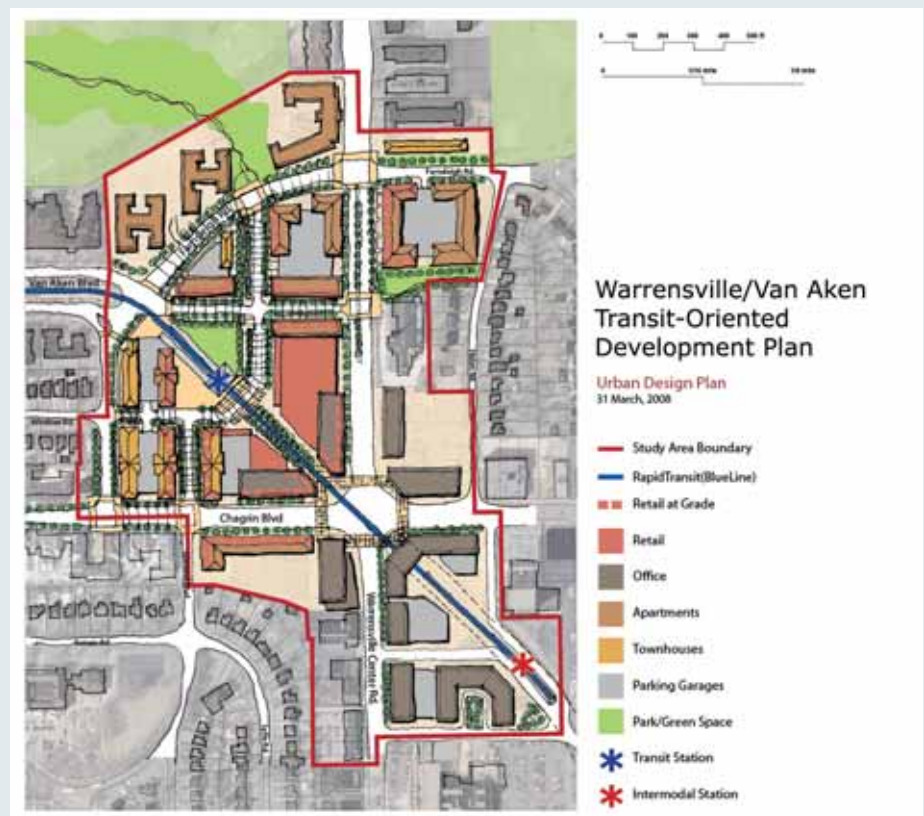
## Intermodal Transit Station

### *What's been done*

RTA and the City have begun to seek funding for the intermodal transit station from federal, state, and other government sources. A consultant team is working with RTA and the City to study alternatives for the intermodal transit station and passenger waiting environment, bus/rail passenger transfers, bus access routes, pedestrian/bike connections and parking. The new station will be located at the southeast corner of Warrensville Center Road and Chagrin Boulevard.

### *What's next*

If funding is acquired for this phase, the City anticipates that design will be complete in 2012-2013 and construction will begin in 2014.



**The 2008 Warrensville/Van Aken Transit Oriented Development Master Plan** guides city officials and consultants in the engineering process. RENDERING BY THE PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

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## REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between October 1 and November 30, 2009 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	2009 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE
2683 ASHLEY ROAD	\$450,000	\$500,000 (2007)
3396 AVALON ROAD	\$115,000	\$ 25,900 (2008)
19215 FAIRMOUNT BLVD	\$187,000	\$180,000 (2004)
16410 FERNWAY ROAD	\$155,000	\$264,000 (2004)
3449 GLENCAIRN ROAD	\$ 33,000	\$100,000 (2008)
2988 GREEN ROAD	\$168,000	\$220,000 (2003)
23199 HARDWICK ROAD	\$275,000	\$268,500 (2001)
3345 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$285,000	\$289,900 (2008)
3609 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$110,000	\$144,900 (2002)
3349 KENMORE ROAD	\$325,000	\$ 92,000 (2008)
17111 LOMOND BLVD	\$ 91,000	\$ 15,950 (2009)
3469 MENLO ROAD	\$ 85,500	\$101,500 (2008)
2951 MONTGOMERY ROAD	\$350,000	\$350,000 (2007)
3691 RAWNSDALE ROAD	\$229,900	\$247,000 (2004)
3559 RIEDHAM ROAD	\$115,000	\$ 30,000 (2009)
2676 ROCHESTER ROAD	\$317,900	\$310,000 (2001)
22650 RYE ROAD	\$254,500	\$256,000 (2005)
17622 SCOTTSDALE BLVD	\$113,500	\$106,000 (2006)
18001 SHAKER BLVD	\$690,000	\$575,000 (2006)
3683 STOER ROAD	\$141,000	\$140,000 (2003)
3687 STRATHAVON ROAD	\$101,000	\$100,000 (2009)
3676 SUTHERLAND ROAD	\$240,000	\$267,500 (2004)
3701 TOLLAND ROAD	\$119,180	\$ 54,000 (2007)
3715 TRAVER ROAD	\$170,000	\$195,000 (2007)
3622 TRAYNHAM ROAD	\$153,000	\$206,000 (2002)
22061 WESTCHESTER ROAD	\$190,000	\$191,000 (1999)
21211 S WOODLAND RD	\$309,500	\$185,000 (2006)

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

2979 EATON ROAD	\$565,050	\$310,000 (1997)
3330 SOMERSET DR	\$260,000	\$232,000 (1997)
3084 WOODBURY ROAD	\$191,550	\$217,500 (1998)

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

3661 SUTHERLAND ROAD	\$185,000	\$128,500 (1993)
----------------------	-----------	------------------

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

## Become “Certified Shaker”

Give yourself a leg up on the competition by attaining certification in this unique program, which is offered to landlords at no charge. Among other benefits, properties that meet or exceed City standards of excellence are promoted on the City’s website and are shown to prospective renters by relocation specialists.

Newly Certified and re-Certified Shaker property addresses and their owners’ names are listed in this publication. The listings represent the best rental properties the City has to offer. For a complete list of Certified properties and to find out about vacancies, call 216-491-1332 or check the City’s website, shakeronline.com.

Learn how to qualify by calling Jacqueline Patterson the Housing Specialist at 216-491-1333.

### Certified Shaker Properties

#### Rental Homes:

3718 Glencairn Road  
Owners: Mark & Noreen Zetzer  
Certified 2010

3537 Ludgate Road  
Owner: David Witte  
Certified 2010

### Nominations for Landmark Awards Due April 30

The Landmark Commission is now seeking nominations for the 2010 Preservation Awards. Exterior projects completed within the last two years are eligible. Those projects meeting the Secretary of the

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*~ Michael and Juliette Reynolds*

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Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation will be recognized. The Standards for Rehabilitation are basic principles created to help preserve the distinctive character of a historic building and its site, while allowing for reasonable change to meet new needs.

The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission established its Preservation Awards program in 1998 to recognize and highlight efforts by property owners who have preserved and improved their properties.

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, April 30 to the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. Nomination forms and additional information, including a list of past award winners, are available at [www.shakeronline.com/cityhall/committees/](http://www.shakeronline.com/cityhall/committees/). You may also write a letter explaining why the property is being nominated. Include your name and telephone number, as well as the nominee's name, address, and telephone number. A high quality, color photograph of the property

is required. Please note that submission photos become the property of the City and will not be returned.

Contact Ann Klavora at 216-491-1436 or [ann.klavora@shakeronline.com](mailto:ann.klavora@shakeronline.com) for additional information.

### April is Fair Housing Month

The following events are being offered in recognition of Fair Housing month:

#### Foreclosure Prevention Counseling

Loan counselors from local non-profits will offer free loan document review and assist residents in avoiding foreclosure on Wednesday, April 21 from 5-8 pm at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, 3450 Lee Road. Sponsored by Cuyahoga County's Foreclosure Prevention Office. Call 216-443-7469 for details.

#### Fair Housing Fundamentals for Condominium Associates

Learn your rights and responsibilities un-

der Fair Housing laws, whether you are a condo owner, on the Board of Directors, or an on-site building manager. This free training class is on Thursday, April 22, from 6-8 pm at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building. Call 216-491-1446 for more details.

#### Fair Housing CLE Seminar

Attorneys are invited to attend the second annual Government Attorneys' Section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Fair Housing CLE seminar. Registration is required and fee applies; call 216-361-9240 for details.

#### Spring Landlord Training

This free, comprehensive landlord training course is geared toward Shaker property owners. Topics include property maintenance, management, Ohio landlord/tenant law, and fair housing compliance. Call 216-361-9240 to register.



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## Library Hosts Shaker High School Student Art Show

Art is expression without words, and Shaker Art Gallery gallery-goers will be speechless at this exhibit of artworks created by Shaker Heights High School students. The Library, Shaker Arts Council, and Shaker Heights High School will host a gallery-opening exhibit of some of the school's best student art from 7-9 pm Friday, May 14 at the Main Library. The Library will close to the public and open its doors to artists, parents, and art appreciators for the gala evening.

Shaker High art department chair Dan Whitley has worked with his students to create an opportunity for them to learn the business of art and what is involved in hanging and hosting an art opening. The public is invited to celebrate the accomplishments of Shaker's talented high school artists. The exhibit will be on display through May 28.

## 2009 Top Titles

Ever wonder what your neighbors are reading? If library circulation is a measure, then the legal thriller, *The Associate* by John Grisham, was the book that led the list having been checked out 519 times in 2009.

Other popular books as judged by the number of times they were borrowed were: *Run For Your Life* by James Patterson, *Heart and Soul* by Maeve Binchy, *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult, *Divine Justice* by David Baldacci, *Cross Country* by James Patterson, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, *The Gate House* by Nelson Demille, *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, and *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski.

## Library Celebrates Senior Month with Senior Volunteer Fair and Healthy-Aging Program

If you are retired or 60 years and older and looking to begin a new chapter in your life, consider attending the Senior Volunteer Fair from 6:30 – 8 pm Thursday, May 6 at the Main Library.

Representatives from area organizations will be available to talk about their volunteer opportunities. For more information, call 216-991-2030.

7 PM TUESDAY, MAY 25 AT WOODS BRANCH. Christine B. Stevens, registered nurse and member of the Alzheimer's Association Board of



Stevens

Trustees, will discuss some things people can do to maintain the health of their brains as they age. Stevens will speak about the newest thinking on how to "Maintain Your Brain," and will discuss ways to stay mentally active and to make smart nutritional choices.

Stevens will also introduce the audience to the Alzheimer's Association's *The Big Brain Puzzle Book* by Terry Stickels, who writes STICKELERS, a puzzle column that appears in over 200 local and national newspapers. The book is available in bookstores and online and offers more than 150 Alzheimer's Association-approved puzzles and brainteasers.

A former Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Chapter president, Chris Stevens and her husband, Tom, will receive the chapter's Champion Award at the association's annual dinner in April.

There is no fee for the program; however, reservations are requested and can be made in person, online, or by calling 216-991-2421.

## Library Service to Youth

How is the Library helping its younger customers? Besides lending books and planning a variety of story times and programs for children, the Library works with other community agencies to help meet the needs of the next generation of library users.

Working with the Shaker Schools and Family Connections, the Library has made its Play and Learn room available every Friday afternoon from 1 to 3 pm for facilitated play sessions for parents and caregivers with their special needs children, ages 3-5! For more information about this inclusive activity, call Holly Palda at Family Connections at 216-921-2023.

Because of increased demand in the Main Library's Homework Center, the Library has hired another part-time tutor to help children in grades two to six with their homework assignments. The tutors, laptop computers, software, and equipment for The Homework Center are funded through a MyCom grant. The Center is open from 4 to 6:30 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, on the second floor of the Main Library. There is no cost for the service provided by certified teachers, who work with the students to help them to understand concepts and to complete their homework.

This winter, the Library worked with Shaker Schools Library Media & Instructional Technology Director, Kathy Fredrick, and installed SuccessMaker software on the Library's public computers for children in grades

*continued on page 18*

**MAIN LIBRARY** ■ 16500 VAN AKEN BOULEVARD ■ 216-991-2030  
**BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH** ■ 20600 FAYETTE ROAD ■ 216-991-2421

## **PLAY AND LEARN AT MAIN LIBRARY**

A free preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for parents or caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6-8 pm Tuesdays

*No registration required.*

## **PLAY AND LEARN BABIES AT MAIN LIBRARY**

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

10 am-noon Thursdays & Saturdays

*No registration required.*

## **PLAY AND LEARN STATION FOR CAREGIVERS**

A preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years

10 am-noon Wednesdays

*One-time registration is required; call Family Connections: 216-921-2023.*

**Play and Learn programs are offered in collaboration with Family Connections.**

## **SATURDAY PRESCHOOL STORIES AT PLAY AND LEARN STATION**

Stories and fun for preschoolers

11 am Saturdays

*No registration necessary.*

## **PRESCHOOL STORIES**

Stories, rhymes, and fun for children 3 through 5 years

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

10 am Wednesdays at Main Library

*No registration required; groups must make special arrangements.*

Program ends May 6.

## **PAJAMA STORIES AT WOODS BRANCH**

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

7:15 pm Monday, April 19

Registration begins Monday April 5.

7:15 pm Monday, May 17

*Registration begins Monday, May 3.*

## **DIARY OF A WIMPY KID PARTY AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(All Grades Welcome)

Calling all Wimpy Kids! If you enjoy *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books, then you'll love celebrating the series with other Wimpy fans.

4:15-5 pm Thursday, April 8.

*Registration began Thursday, March 25.*

## **MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL KIT (Grades 1-5)**

Listen to a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft, and enjoy a snack from Kit's era.

2-3:30 pm Saturday, April 17 at Woods Branch

*Registration begins Saturday, April 3.*

2-3:30 pm Saturday, May 1 at Main Library

*Registration begins Saturday, April 17.*

## **ARTIST TRADING CARDS WORKSHOP AT WOODS BRANCH**

(All Grades Welcome)

Design your own artist trading card and find out how you can swap cards with other kids in the U.S. or internationally.

4:15-5:15 pm Monday, May 3.

*Registration begins Monday, April 19.*

## **THE HOMEWORK CENTER AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(Grades 2-6)

Free homework help provided by teachers under the supervision of Mrs. Cheryl Darden, Special Education Supervisor, Cleveland Public Schools.

*An adult must be present to register the student at the first visit. Students must be picked up by 6:30 pm.*

4-6:30 pm Mondays & Wednesdays in Meeting Room F on the second floor.

The Homework Center will be closed Monday, April 5.

**The Homework Center is funded by MyCom.**

## **Library Service to Youth**

*continued from page 17*

K-6. SuccessMaker is a set of computer-based courses that allows students to practice math and language arts skills at their own levels and to progress through a series of activities. Teachers can then track their progress to see how their students are performing. This service is for those who lack Internet access at home or for those who find it more convenient to use the Library. The SuccessMaker software is installed on all the computers in the children's areas at both libraries. The software is also available on the Homework Center laptops, which can be used from 4-6:30 pm Mondays and Wednesdays and from 4-6:30 pm Tuesdays and 10 am - 2 pm Saturdays in the Main Library Training Lab.

In addition, the Library will use MyCom grant funds to upgrade computers and add DVD drives in the children's area at Main Library. Both MyCom funds and a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates



Foundation have allowed the Library to add new computers to the children's area at Woods Branch.

## Small Business Series Continues at Main Library

The Library's small business series with the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) continues with Tuesday evening programs at Main Library for those contemplating a small business venture.

7 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 20 SCORE representatives will speak about the *Business of Marketing*. This session will help participants understand what is needed to develop and implement the important marketing strategies for a successful business/marketing plan.

7 PM TUESDAY, MAY 18 SCORE speakers will discuss the *Patriot Express* and explain the special benefits for veterans that can help them get their small business ideas off the ground.

Both programs are free. Reservations are requested and can be made in person, online or by calling 216-991-2030.

The Library has also partnered with the Wealth Education Collaboration and Opportunity (WECO) Fund, Inc. to present two programs on budgeting and management, and microloans. WECO offers services that eliminate barriers and help individuals and families build assets, such as Individual Development Accounts (matched savings accounts for the purchase of a home, start of small business, or education or job training), and microloans for small business startups or expansion.

7 PM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 at Main Library Robert Houston will speak about *Budgeting and Money Management* and discuss how WECO can help.

Building wealth requires the right information, a solid plan, and good choices. Money management is based on the time-honored traditions of budgeting to save, saving and investing, and controlling debt.

7 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 27 Robert

Schordock will speak about *Small Business Microloans* and the opportunities with WECO.

Microenterprise is an income-generating strategy that allows people with limited capital the opportunity to start or expand a small business. A typical microenterprise is a business with five or fewer employees, which can be capitalized with \$500 to \$35,000. Microenterprise owners must be directly involved with the business, and often are the sole operators. In general, microenterprises do not meet the credit and/or collateral requirements necessary to obtain traditional financing.

## Shaker Librarian Receives BRASS Award



Rossman

Shaker librarian Ed Rossman has won the 2010 American Library Association's BRASS Public Librarian Support Award, which provides \$1,000 in travel expenses to the ALA's annual conference. BRASS is the Business Reference and Services Section of ALA's Reference & User Services Association (RUSA).

Sponsored by Morningstar, the annual award is given to a public librarian who has performed outstanding business reference service and has demonstrated an interest in a business reference career. Applicants were evaluated on their

involvement in special projects, service to the community, publications, and related activities.

Rossman has worked at the Library for six years and was instrumental in establishing a SCORE/Library partnership that provides free business counseling and advice. He leads a bimonthly Business Book discussion and is responsible for scheduling a variety of business programs for the public. He is the author of *Castles Against Ignorance: How to Make Libraries Great Educational Environments*. Rossman will receive his award during the June 24-29 ALA Conference in Washington, D.C.

## Library Announces 12th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Writing Contest Winners

Shaker Library invited youth in grades 3 through 8 to write a short essay or poem detailing some things that they can do to help people of different races, religions, nationalities, and cultures learn to get along. Every expression was honest and sincere and, if the young writers stay true to their words, the future looks peaceful.

All entrants received a ribbon and commemorative poster. The judges for this year's competition were Cheryl Darden, Gay Jones Williams, Corinne Croom, and Alicia Sims

### GRADE 3 & 4

1ST PLACE: John Sebastian Treppo, 4th grader at Fernway School



MLK Student Writing Contest winners with Cheryl Darden (left) and Gay Jones Williams.

## library news

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2ND PLACE: Anna Walker, 4th grader at Fernway School

3RD PLACE: Talia Renee Flynt, 4th grader at Fernway School

### GRADE 5 & 6

1ST PLACE: Sean McMillan, 5th grader at Woodbury Elementary School

2ND PLACE: Zabrina Speights, a 5th grader at Woodbury Elementary School.

3RD PLACE: Kyla Lawson, a 5th grader at Woodbury Elementary School.

### GRADE 7 & 8

1ST PLACE: Dawnn Fann, 7th grader at St. Dominic School

2ND PLACE: Leah Toney, 7th grader at Shaker Middle School

3RD PLACE: Tavia Daniels, 7th grader at St. Dominic School

## Economic Development in Shaker Heights: Why, What, Where, and How?

The Library and the League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights will present a public forum on economic development in Shaker Heights at 7 pm Thursday, April 22, at the Main Library. The League's Economic Development Committee will moderate a program that will include Mayor Earl Leiken and others who have been involved in the city's economic development efforts.

Learn about the city's economic development goals and priorities, and the tools available to help achieve them. Hear about city projects and consider the opportunities and challenges. Following the discussion, the panel will answer questions from the audience.

## Databases of the Month

### Kids Search

Kids Search is a sophisticated tool packaged in a fun-to-use, accessible format for elementary and middle school students. The EBSCO database's colorful, illustrated user interface allows children to search

by topic – Animals, In the News, Science – by clicking on the associated picture or typing a topic into the 'Find' box. Advanced searching is available by choosing 'Detailed Search', which includes multiple limiters – document type, Lexile reading level, and full text. Dictionary, Encyclopedia, and Images searches are also possible, as are Teacher Resources. Searches are run across multiple EBSCO databases including EBSCO Animals, History Reference Center, Middle Search Plus, and Primary Search.

### Searchasaurus

Powered by Ebscohost, Searchasaurus is a colorful, searchable database of articles for elementary and middle school students and Lexile limiters allow searchers to specify the reading level of articles found. Students can also access Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia, an image collection featuring over 470,000 images, and The American Heritage Children's Dictionary through this portal. They can search for articles using keywords or by browsing topic icons. Many articles are available in both HTML full text and PDF full text and can be stored in a folder for the duration of the search session, printed, or emailed for later use. As a helpful homework tool or a source for fun facts, Searchasaurus helps younger searchers hone in on information that is just right for them.

### The Bookshelf: Black Studies

Shaker Library has a significant Black Studies Collection at the Main Library.

*Against the Wall: Poor, Young, Black, and Male* edited by **Elijah Anderson**. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008. A Yale sociology professor and others outline the challenges faced by young African-American men and suggest possible solutions.

*Alabama North: African-American Migrants, Community, and Working-Class Activism in Cleveland, 1915-1945* by **Kimberley L. Phillips**. University of Illinois Press, 1999.



This well-researched book sheds light on the lives of working class African Americans who came to Cleveland as part of the Great Migration and how their involvement in churches, social clubs, and politics empowered them and helped to shape the larger community.

*Bright Boulevards, Bold Dreams: The Story of Black Hollywood* by **Donald Bogle**. One World/Ballantine Books, 2005. Lively behind-the-scenes look at Black Hollywood touches on the famous and the forgotten movie stars and how they lived in segregated Los Angeles.

*Carl B. Stokes and the Rise of Black Political Power* by **Leonard M. Moore**. University of Illinois Press, 2002. This book about Cleveland's Carl Stokes, the first African-American mayor of a major American city, provides a look at the politics behind the election and his years of public service.

*Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats* by **Michael Cunningham and Greg Marberry**. Doubleday, 2000. A photographer and journalist collaborate to capture African-American women churchgoers in their crowning glory, and to collect the stories of their hats and lives in their own words.

*Family Affair: What It Means to Be African American Today* edited by **Gil L. Robertson IV**. Agate Bolden, 2009. This collection of brief essays by celebrities, educators, political leaders and more includes one by Otis Moss III, who grew up in Shaker Heights.

*Fighting for America: Black Soldiers—the Unsung Heroes of World War II* by **Christopher Paul Moore**. One World/Ballantine, 2005. A novelist, historian, and son of two World War II veterans uses interviews and letters to recount the heroic stories of African-American soldiers on the battlefields, and to tell the stories of the battles they faced off the fields.

*Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers* by **Richard S. Newman**. New York University Press, 2008. The author examines the leading role that Allen, a founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, an activist and early abolitionist, played among African Americans of his day.

*A Hungry Heart: A Memoir* by **Gordon Parks**. Atria Books, 2005. The first black photo-journalist with *Life* magazine, who documented the lives of the powerful to the powerless, tells his own compelling story.

*Ida: A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching* by Paula Giddings. Amistad, 2008. This is the intriguing story of the prickly, crusading journalist and feminist whose battle against lynching helped bring it to the attention of African Americans and whites alike.

*Ralph Ellison: A Biography* by **Arnold Rampersad**. Arnold A. Knopf, 2007. This complex and authoritative book gives readers a look at the life of the author of the classic *Invisible Man*.

*Revelations: Photographs of Cleveland's African American Churches* by **Michael Stephen Levy**. Kent State University Press, 2008. The *Plain Dealer* photographer's book of images focuses on worshippers, pastors, and the worship experience in Cleveland's African-American churches. The book includes a foreword by the late Stephanie Tubbs Jones and afterwords by Norman Krumholz and Michael J. Tevesz.

*Sugar of the Crop: My Journey to Find the Children of Slaves* by **Sana Butler**. Lyons Press, 2009. As she tracks down the living children of former slaves to record their histories, a journalist muses on her own life story and heritage.

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## library news

### Teen Programs

#### RATE THAT PIZZA! AT WOODS BRANCH (Grades 6 and up)

Eat a lot of pizza? Test your taste buds by sampling pizzas from different area restaurants and then rating which is best.

2:15-3 pm Saturday, April 10

Register online at [www.shakerlibrary.org](http://www.shakerlibrary.org) or call 216-991-2421.

#### RATE THAT PIZZA! IN THE TEEN CENTER (Ages 12-17)

Like pizza? Test your taste buds by sampling pizzas from different area restaurants and then rating which you think tastes best.

5 pm Wednesday, April 14

Register online at [www.shakerlibrary.org](http://www.shakerlibrary.org) or call 216-991-2030.

#### 6TH ANNUAL TEEN VOLUNTEER FAIR!

Don't miss this opportunity for teens 12-18 to meet with representatives from area organizations seeking responsible teen volunteers. They're here to answer your questions and help you find the perfect volunteer opportunity, whether it's just for summer or year 'round.

6:30-8 pm Wednesday, April 21

Drop in any time between 6:30 and 8:00 pm  
No registration required. Parents are welcome, too.

#### IT'S YOUR DAY!

##### CELEBRATE IN THE TEEN CENTER!

Why wait for a special day to celebrate you? Enjoy music, cake and ice cream just for the fun of it!

5-7 pm Thursday, May 27

#### TAB II FINAL MEETING

Members receive their certificates of participation and community service hours letters at the closing pizza party.

7:30-8:15 pm Tuesday, May 4



## Free Computer Classes at Main Library

Need to refresh your PowerPoint skills or learn to animate slides for a more dynamic presentation? Can't afford the high cost of software or need help with resume writing? Take advantage of the Library's computer classes. Classes are free; however, reservations are required and begin two weeks before the class. For more information call the Computer Center at 216-991-2030 extension 3185.

### INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

#### ONLINE JOB HUNTING

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 1

7-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

This class is designed to help job seekers develop Internet and computer skills needed in online job hunting. Discover websites that can help create resumes and get an overview of local online resources and tips for investigating local companies. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

### INTERNET CLASS

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, APRIL 5

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 13

Discover how to find and use a wide variety of online resources and learn to "surf" the web.

### MOUSE CLASS

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 6

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 6

This 90-minute class is designed to help beginning computer users become comfortable using the mouse, the basic tool that allows people to use software, surf the net, and play games on the computer.

### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL®

10-11:30 AM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, MAY 3

Learn the basics of spreadsheet construction, including formatting and design, printing options, and using basic formulas. Participants must be able to use the mouse.




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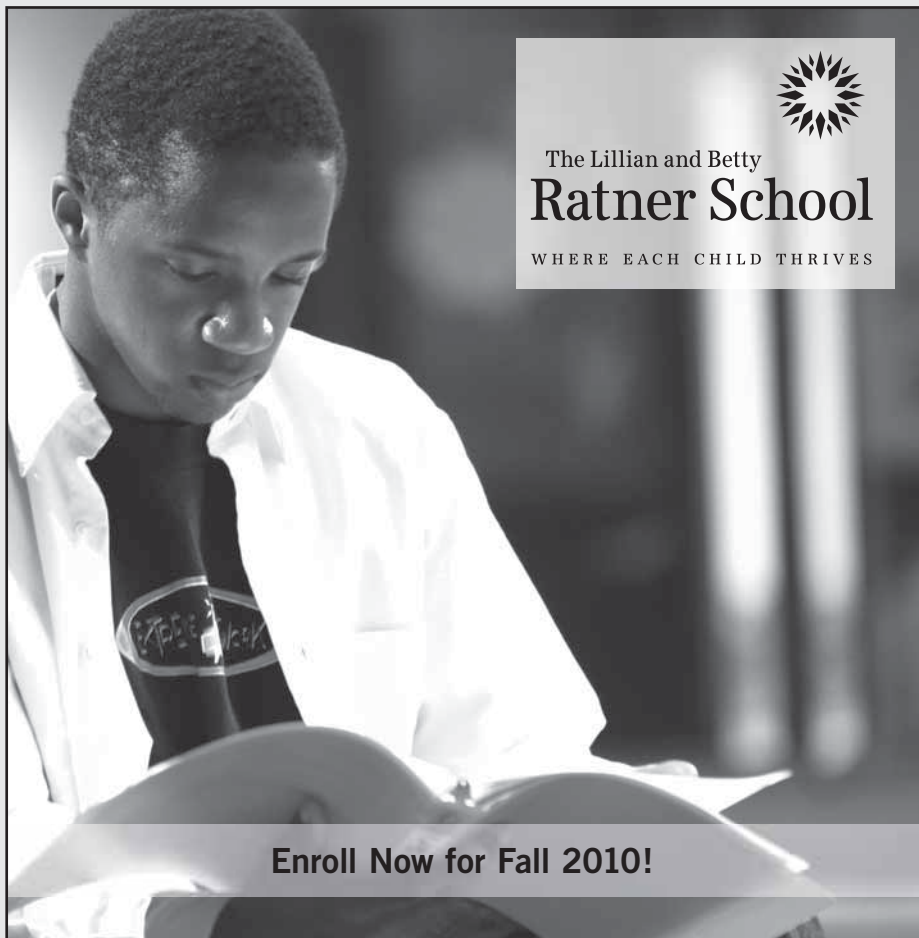
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#### **WORKING WITH WINDOWS®**

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 8

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Learn how Windows works! This class is designed for those who can navigate the Internet and work with programs, but are not comfortable using multiple windows. Topics will include opening, moving, resizing and arranging windows, copying and pasting, as well as tips and tricks for using the keyboard to make certain activities easier. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

#### **INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:**

##### **GOOGLEMANIA™**

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 13

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, MAY 4

Learn searching strategies, tips and tricks for finding better information using the Google™ search engine.

#### **OPENOFFICE.ORG**

7-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Can't afford the high cost of software? Try OpenOffice.org, a free suite of software with features and functions much like the others. Familiarity with word processing software is helpful, but not required.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT®**

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 15

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 1

Put some power in your presentations. Learn to create a slide show with text and graphics, edit slides, and add sound and animation. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

#### **WINWAY RESUME WRITING**

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 17

7-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Learn to create a professional looking resume with Winway Resume Deluxe 11. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse.

#### **BASIC WORD PROCESSING**

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, APRIL 19

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 27

Learn to format documents using



Microsoft Word software. Topics to be covered include: formatting of text and paragraphs, text alignment, the use of toolbars, menus, and right-click menus. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse.

#### INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

##### GOOGLE DOCUMENTS™

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 20

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, MAY 25

With just a web browser, work on documents, spreadsheets, and databases over the Internet and invite others to edit the documents and work collaboratively.

##### GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT®

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 22

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 15

Learn to create effective PowerPoint presentations by inserting clip art, Word Art, digital pictures, and even text boxes into slides. Participants should be familiar with creating slides and slideshows.

#### WEB EMAIL

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 27

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 20

Learn to create a web e-mail account and to send, receive, reply, and forward messages as well as to delete, file, move and print them. Participants must be able to use the mouse, navigate websites, and type URLs.

#### SOCIAL NETWORKING:

##### MYSFACE, FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN

7-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Social networking sites are used by millions and are among the most visited on the web. Watch a demonstration to see why they are so popular and discuss their joys and perils.

##### ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT®

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 29

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 29

Everything in a slide can be animated to some extent. Learn the objects that can be added to a slide and the menus that control them. Participants must have

mouse and Internet searching skills.

#### CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL®

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, MAY 17

Explore ways to use Excel to display data as charts and graphs. Some familiarity with Excel spreadsheets is expected.

### Book Discussions at the Main Library

Want to be part of a Book Discussion group? The library has many book discussion group opportunities and new members are always welcome. Can't commit to regular monthly meetings? Pick one book and attend one meeting. Too busy to sit and read? Listen to the book and join the discussion. Book titles are varied for the months of April and May. Register and pick up books at the Main Library.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Mystery Book Discussion: *The Cold Light of Mourning* by Elizabeth J. Duncan

A picturesque North Wales market town is shocked when Meg Wynne Thompson goes missing on her wedding day – and turns up dead. When Penny Brannigan notices that something is not quite right at the funeral of her dearest friend, she sets out to investigate.

NOON SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Reflections Book Discussion: *Portuguese Irregular Verbs* by Alexander McCall Smith

Take two erudite, accomplished professors out of their usual environment, add a femme fatale, some tennis lessons, an old-fashioned duel, vacations to dangerous places, and it adds up to an amusing tale.

10 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Book Buzz: *The Girls From Ames: A Story of Women and a Forty-Year Friendship*

by Jeffrey Zaslow

This is the inspiring story of the loyalties, friendships, and deep bonds formed by 11 girls who grew up together in the

1960s and remained fast friends for 40 years.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Book Discussion: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Impromptu letters between a London journalist and eccentric residents of Guernsey provide a heartwarming, but realistic glimpse of a German occupied British island during WWII, where books and recipes became a lifeline.

NOON SATURDAY, MAY 8

Reflections Book Discussion: *City of Thieves* by David Benioff

During WWII in Russia, a 17-year-old boy is caught looting a corpse. As his penance, he is ordered to find a dozen eggs for the colonel's daughter's wedding cake.

10 AM TUESDAY, MAY 11

Book Buzz: *The Love Wife* by Gish Jen

A Chinese-American couple has cobbled together a family with two adopted Chinese daughters and a biological son. When the wife's disapproving mother-in-law dies, she wills them a Chinese nanny, whose presence disrupts their lives in this story of cultural assimilation.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MAY 11

Mystery Book Discussion: *Lost Angel*

by Mike Doogan

When its founder's granddaughter disappears, the reclusive Christian community of Rejoice, Alaska, must ask for outside help. They turn to Nik Kane, a former top Anchorage Police Department detective, who served seven years in prison for shooting an unarmed suspect.

7 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Business Book Discussion: *Rich Dad's Prophecy: Why the Biggest Stock Market Crash in History Is Still Coming... and How You Can Prepare Yourself and Profit from It!*

by Robert Kiyosaki

Baby Boomers will retire en masse in 2016. How flexible will their retirement

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## library news

funds be? The author of *Rich Dad, Poor Dad* offers advice on what you can do to avoid calamity and to prosper.

### Recent Donations

Thank you to the generous donors who contributed to the Library in the months of December, January and February. Joan Steinberg gave money as a Christmas gift in honor of Kate and David Burleigh. George Dent and Ethel Nathanson donated to the Bertram Woods Branch Fund. Randy Kammer contributed to the Marilyn Kammer fund in memory of Eida Rothstein, Eddie Carter, Wayne Ennis, Mike Young, Sandra Jackson, Richard Richmond Kenyan, Jamie Merritt, John Niemershien, Harry Shapiro, and Patricia Williams. Kammer also gave funds to honor Margaret Prejean, Kathy Osterer, Elizabeth McKee, and Paul Cohn.

Generous gifts were made to honor the life of Frances Belman by Donna Dekle, Marilyn and Michael Gardner, Abby and Tom Abelson, Oneita and Patrick Alarcon, Marilyn and Ronald Artz, Anthony Avallone, Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C., Robert Berchem, Karen and Ira Bloom, Ellen Bresky, Maria and Richard Buturla, Fairmount Richmond Condo Association, Emily Audra Fleisher, Wendie and Thomas Forman, Cynthia and Robert Gilchrest, Nancy and William Hart, Patricia and Stephen Johnson, Donna and Jacob Koskuba, Language Services Department of the CH-UH Schools, Karl and Michael Lewin, Jonnie Marks, The daughters of Frances Belman, Marsha Moses, Barbara Winicki, Marilyn Gardner, Patricia Meyer and Robert Silver, M.D., Jo-Anne and Neil Moriarty, Ethel Nathanson, Grace Ordin, Joan Parker, Brenda and Martin Powers, Marjorie Sachs, Nadine and John Schwab, Barbara and James Segaloff, Laura and Gary Sklaver, Beatrice Spacone, Deborah and Stephen Studer, Lynda and John Thomas, and Merry and Angelo Vespe.

For information about giving, contact Library Director Luren Dickinson

at 216-991-2030.

### Shaker History Works in Progress

The Library continues its local author series at 7 pm April 5 when Virginia P. Dawson, President of History Enterprises, Inc., presents "Designing Homes for the Middle Class and the Tribulations of Planning the South Side of Van Aken." Her talk focuses on the annexation of East View Village and the Van Sweringens' misstep in planning the area of Shaker south of Van Aken for middle class families after World War I. Dawson, an adjunct associate professor in the History Department at Case Western Reserve University, is the founder of History Enterprises. She earned a Ph.D. in History of Science and Technology from Case Western Reserve University and in 1997, she incorporated the company with Mark D. Bowles, also a graduate of the program at Case. Dawson and Bowles have co-authored several books as well as the script for *Reaching Out for Liberty and Light*, a video documentary of the life of Frances Payne Bolton.

### Friends Funds Library Banners to Celebrate National Library Week

National Library Week (April 11-17) is a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools and communities across the country. This April, the Library will hang bright blue banners on poles by each library thanks to the Friends of the Shaker Library, which has underwritten the cost.

According to Friends president Sharon Heslin, "Libraries are the heart of every community and Shaker Library certainly helps our community thrive. People of all ages and backgrounds come together for community meetings, lectures and programs, to do research with the help of a librarian, to get help with homework or



to get tips on how to find a job.”

Shaker Library has been designated a 5-star library by Library Journal Index for the past two years and was listed as a Top Ten Library by the Hennen American Public Library Ratings. “The Library has had many banner years of service and the Friends wanted to celebrate its accomplishments,” said Heslin. She hopes that the banners will encourage community members to use the Library and to join the Friends.

### Friends Spring Book Sale Offers Bargains in Books

Get ready to increase your home or office library with a wide selection of books, music and movies from the Friends of the Shaker Library Spring Book Sale, which will be held Thursday, April 15 through Sunday, April 18 on the second floor of the Main Library. This spring’s sale offers a great selection of art books


and children’s books, along with a good assortment of movies.

Friends’ members get first dibs on thousands of books in dozens of categories at prices as low as 50¢ from 4-8 pm Thursday, April 15. If you are not a member, you can join at the door for a small fee. The sale continues from 9 am to 4 pm April 16 and 17. The sale ends with the popular Bag sale on Sunday, April 18 from 1-3 pm when all bags of hardback books cost only \$5 and all bags of paperbacks cost \$3.

### End Notes

- **English In Action** meets at 7 pm Tuesday evenings at Main Library. The free program is led by Brondy Shanker, and is designed for those seeking to learn to read and speak English.
- Calling all girls from 8 to 108! Come to **Gamegirlz** from 4-5 pm Thursday,

April 22 at Main Library and learn how to play Wii and Sony Playstation 3 games or improve your skills. Games include: Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros. Brawl and PS3’s LittleBigPlanet.

- **Knit Nights** are held at 7 pm Thursdays, April 8 and May 13 at Woods Branch
- The **Library Board** meets at 6:30 pm Tuesdays, April 13 and May 11 at the Main Library.
- **Friends of the Shaker Library** meets at 7 pm Tuesdays, April 20 and May 18 at the Main Library.
- Both **libraries will be closed** Friday, April 2 for a Furlough Day and Saturday, April 3. Main Library will be closed Sunday, April 4 for Easter Sunday. Both libraries will be closed Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day. 



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## Community Closure on H1N1

In April 2009, H1N1 – then called swine flu – introduced itself to Northeast Ohio. It was a rude introduction. By May, Shaker Middle School had become the epicenter of documented cases in Ohio. Though Shaker is tiny compared to the nearly 12 million Ohioans, at one point more than 16 percent of H1N1 cases diagnosed in Ohio came from Shaker Heights. One year later, it might be worthwhile to look at the lessons learned from our community response to this emergency.

The pandemic ultimately did not affect either the number of people nor reach the severity of illness predicted by experts. Nationally, it is estimated that from April to mid-December 2009, 55 million people were infected with H1N1, resulting in 246,000 hospitalizations and 11,000 deaths. To put this in perspective, seasonal flu and its complications are thought to cause about 36,000 deaths and 200,000 hospitalizations annually. It is clear that the 2009 version of H1N1 was more contagious but less lethal than the usual seasonal flu.

So, was the vigorous response from the public health and medical communities worth it?

The answer may lie in lessons learned from under-response to previous public health emergencies. From the 1918 influenza epidemic to Hurricane Katrina, we have learned that when a community is not prepared to respond to a threat of unknown consequences, the results are inevitably tragic. Because H1N1 was a new virus to humans, there was no way to reliably predict its course. Early reports made the virus appear more lethal than it was later found to be, leading to public fear and media sensationalism.

These factors also contributed to the strength of the health systems' response. H1N1 vaccinator Paula Dam, also the school nurse at Shaker High, commented, "This new strain of flu was a big unknown. We saw a lot of illness last spring and this fall. Staying healthy through immunization kept people at work, in school, and out of bed."

We learned that, as a community, we can respond efficiently and calmly to health emergencies. From mid-October to mid-January, the Shaker Heights Health Department and volunteers delivered over 5,000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine, matching the national vaccine coverage of 20 percent. Additional doses were distributed by area hospitals to high-risk populations. This likely raised the coverage of Shaker residents to well above the national average.

But what really matters is not what was accomplished, but how it was done. The Health Department led a city wide effort that required close collaboration with Shaker schools, residents, volunteers, and the police, fire, public works, and communications and outreach departments within the City. Five mass immunization "PODs" (point of distribution) were conducted within 10 weeks at the Middle School, utilizing 86 volunteers who donated 430 hours, including 22 Shaker CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members. The CERT volunteers underwent a total of 616 hours of extensive training to prepare themselves to respond to health and safety emergencies.

CERT Member and Shaker resident Sarah Harris says, "I first heard about CERT at our block party three years ago. I guess it rekindled my interest in contributing to the community."

She says, "The appeal was in working with first responders. I wanted to

know more about how I could help. I was hoping to find a way to plant the seed of giving with my teenage daughters. Volunteering at the POD drills seemed an ideal way to make community service accessible to them."

Shaker Heights Interim Fire Chief Kevin Jacobs says, "The formation of Shaker CERT in 2007 has been critical to developing effective disaster preparedness plans for our community. Incident commanders are able to directly focus on the critical aspects of an event knowing that Shaker CERT members will assist in other aspects of incident management."

Health Department Nurse Sandi Hurley, incident commander for the PODs, concurs. "The level of cooperation and communication among city departments, the schools, and our residents is what made this work. It is comforting to know that a community can work so effectively to cope with an emergent situation."

We also learned that H1N1 is a different kind of flu. With seasonal influenza, about 60 percent of hospitalizations and 90 percent of flu-related deaths occur in people 65 and older. But with H1N1 approximately 90 percent of hospitalizations and 88 percent of deaths occurred in people younger than 65 years old. Notably, 36 percent of Shaker vaccine doses were administered to children and young people (six months to 18 years), which is above the national average of 29 percent. Rewardingly, 44 percent of children under the age of 10 years who received the vaccine so far have had the recommended second dose, much higher than the national rate of about 20 percent.

Indeed, the Shaker response to H1N1 says a lot about who we are as a community.





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**BY NANCY O'CONNOR**

**PHOTOS BY JANET CENTURY**

A clay oven, an open flame, and a handful of spices – in the hands of Gurcharn Singh, a native of Punjab, India, – are all that's needed to create truly authentic Indian cuisine that pleases the palettes of Western diners and meets the stringent standards of Northeast Ohio's Indian community.

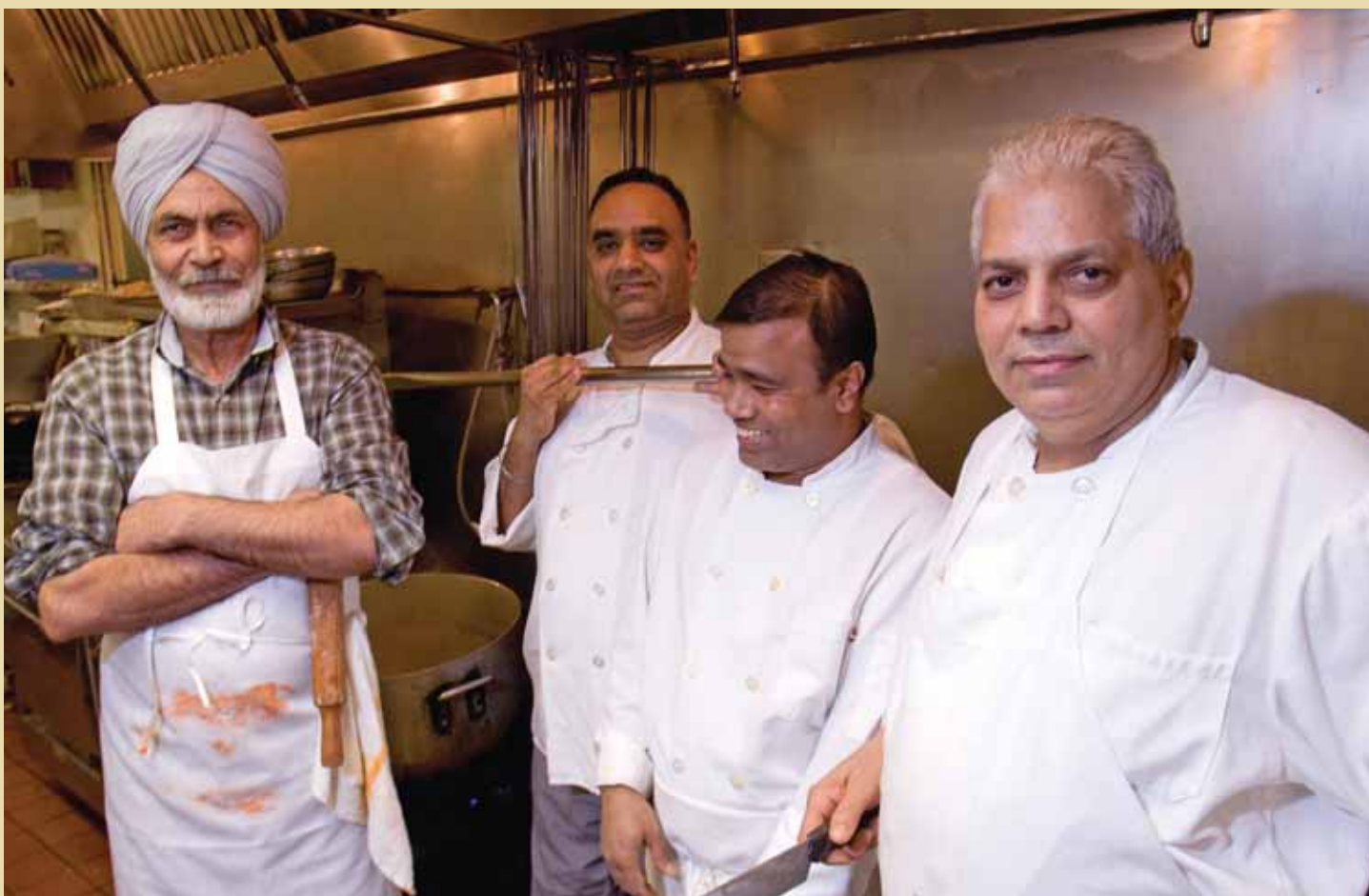
From his post in the kitchen of the Saffron Patch restaurant, located in the lower level of the Tower East Building at Chagrin Boulevard and Northfield Road, head chef Singh leads his fellow Indian cooks in preparing an array of tantalizing chicken, lamb, seafood, and vegetarian dishes.

In tandoors (cylindrical clay ovens heated by mesquite coals to more than 600 degrees), boneless meats and fish roast upright on four-foot metal skewers for dishes such as chicken tikka masala and shrimp tandoor. A tandoor is also used to bake the popular naan, a flat bread that can be ordered in traditional or wheat flour, and with or without a seasoned stuffing. Other appetizers, rice dishes, and entrees prepared in woks and pots sizzle and sauté over a stove's open flames.

A testament to Singh's insistence on using only the freshest ingredients, the

## **Saffron Patch**

20600 Chagrin Boulevard  
Shaker Heights  
216-295-0400  
[www.thesaffronpatch.com](http://www.thesaffronpatch.com)



**The kitchen crew**, from left: Hari Singh (breads), Gurcharn Singh (head chef curry), Mohammed Shajahan (appetizer chef), and Didar Singh (tandoor chef). **Opposite page:** Owner George Stamos and manager Rati Lama, with wine and assorted vegetarian appetizers.

*Stamos embraced the Indian community since buying the restaurant in 1998 at the urging of its founder, Sheela Sogal. She opened the Saffron Patch in 1991 developing the menu from recipes she learned from her mother and grandmother.*





kitchen's lone freezer is used only to store frozen desserts such as kulfi, an exotic Indian ice cream made with pistachios, cashews, and saffron. The Saffron Patch's commitment to traditional Indian recipes and cooking techniques has made it a regional dining destination and the caterer of choice at Indian weddings, anniversary parties, and other special events throughout Ohio and neighboring states.

"The grilled lamb chops and malbari vindaloo [spicy lamb and potatoes] at Saffron Patch are nothing short of outstanding," says University Hospitals physician Dr. Sandhia Varyani, president elect of the Association of Indian Physicians of Northeast Ohio (AIPNO).

The group, which boasts over 350 members, has held its monthly dinner meetings at Saffron Patch "for as long as George [Stamos] has been the owner," Varyani says. "Though Greek in nationality, AIPNO has come to consider George a part of our Indian community. His passion for Indian cuisine, talent, and hard

work has helped Saffron Patch continue to be one of the best Indian restaurants in the Cleveland area."

Stamos has likewise embraced the Indian community since buying the restaurant in 1998 at the urging of its founder, Sheela Sogal. A native of Mumbai, India, Sogal had opened Saffron Patch in 1991, developing the menu from recipes she learned from her mother and grandmother.

When Stamos moved to Ohio in 1996, he took a job waiting tables at the restaurant to supplement his income from his job at a computer company.

"I became the manager a year later," he says. "Basically, Sheela was grooming me to take over. I just didn't know that until 1998, when she decided to retire and move to Ft. Lauderdale."

Over dinner, Sheela and her husband Ramesh, a Cleveland Clinic anesthesiologist, proposed that George buy the restaurant from them.

"Sheela knew from working with me



**A meeting** of the Association of Indian Physicians of Northeast Ohio (AIPNO) at the Saffron Patch. President Dr. Geeta Gupta is in the center. At left is incoming President Dr. Sandhia Varyani, who is also pictured opposite page.

that I would take good care of her baby.” Though only 28 at the time, Stamos, who comes from a family of successful restaurateurs, was intrigued.

“Being Greek, it’s in our blood – we either run Greek diners or Indian restaurants,” he jokes. He considers himself the “managing partner,” while his wife, Kathy, helps with day-to-day operations. Restaurant Manager Rati Lama assists in scheduling the staff, ordering liquor and supplies, and waiting tables as needed.

The Saffron Patch menu features Sogal’s original recipes along with other traditional Indian dishes. “My entire kitchen staff is from India,” Stamos says. “That gives us an edge over other restaurants.”

But a traditional menu doesn’t preclude the restaurant’s contemporary look and feel. Over the past year, Stamos has been renovating and redecorating.

“We are still waiting for some artwork from India,” he says, pointing to the empty wall at the entrance, which is papered

*continued on page 57*

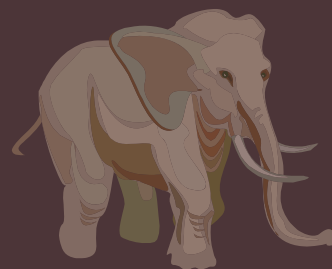




Dr. Sandhia Varyani

## Clearing Up the Curry Confusion

If you think you don't like Indian cuisine because you think you don't like curry, you may be confusing the powder sold on your grocer's shelf with the real thing. As Chef Gurcharn Singh explains, a true Indian curry is a sauce made from a blend of as many as five spices, and curry sauces vary from one entrée to another. What's more, many Indian dishes don't use a curry sauce, but a seasoned yogurt or tomato-based sauce instead.



## Saffron Patch on the Menu for 19th Annual AIPNO Fundraiser

Saffron Patch will once again cater the gala dinner that is part of the "Chiraag" held each spring by the Association of Indian Physicians of Northeast Ohio to raise money for a local charity of the group's choosing. Proceeds from this year's event, scheduled for April 10, will go to the Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland.

# great shaker homes

An occasional photo feature showcasing one of Shaker's extraordinary homes.

## Eclectic Grandeur on Sydenham Road

BY PATRICIA WREN

PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO

Marc and Peggy Graham's home bespeaks the grace and elegance of its owners. Listed in Distinguished Homes of Shaker Heights, the English Tudor residence was designed by architect George Burrows and built in 1931-32 for R.A. Rohrich.

The Grahams bought their 3,000 square-foot home in 2001. They have restored many of its architectural details, replacing parts of the slate roof and cleaning and restoring the stone trim around windows, doors, and other exterior elements.

They also re-did the landscaping, giving it an old-world feel complementary to the English Tudor architecture. In 2009 the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission recognized their restoration efforts with a coveted Preservation Award.

The house features many exquisite details – leaded-glass windows, wood-beamed ceilings, and original Art Deco murals. What is especially intriguing about the house is how the Grahams have punctuated the baronial architecture with eclectic works of art, much of it abstract or Asian.

Marc Graham created much of the eclectic art collection. He has worked as a residential designer throughout his career. Owner of Marc Graham Classic Designs, he serves his clients from a home office with brick walls and arched windows overlooking the backyard patio and gardens.

The most striking room in the house is the stunning two-story wood-beamed living room. It is decorated in subdued earth tones – shades of sand, tan, creamy yellow and brown with a smattering of rose and peach – that complement the gold-colored stucco walls. Peach-and-green-floral draperies hang floor-to-ceiling at the leaded glass windows looking out onto the front lawn.



**Marc Graham** works from a home office. A residential designer, Graham had an office in Chagrin Falls for 30 years before moving his business to his home. He now draws at a drafting board, kitchen counter, or the dining room table, having the run of the 3,000 square-foot house while his wife is at work and children are at school.





**The living room** fireplace is made of cast stone surrounded with plaster panels that are painted to look like wood. The hand-wrought andirons are original to the house.





**The lower-level** family room features Art Deco murals painted by Romeo Celleghein. Having studied art in Venice before immigrating to Cleveland, Celleghein is best known for the religious frescoes that he created in many Northeast Ohio churches.











Opposite the window wall is a commanding stone fireplace surrounded with dark carved wood. An abstract acrylic painting of bright orange, yellow, red and green hangs above the fireplace. A large globed chandelier that the Grahams found in a local lighting store hangs from the open A-frame ceiling.

Guests get a sense of the home's eclectic décor as they walk from the living room into the center hallway. A centuries-old, life-sized carved wooden sculpture of Quan Yin (a figure from Buddhist mythology, known for her compassion) stands on the stairway landing to the second floor. Here an open balcony with a wooden railing overlooks the living room.

The Grahams have commissioned many works of art, including several elegant pieces of furniture made by Cleveland artisan Paul Koepf: a maple dining room table, an exquisite entertainment center, a high-backed chair in the hallway and a Mr. and Mrs. desk in the living room. The Grahams also commissioned stained-glass artist Marybeth Grice to make custom-designed windows for the kitchen and guest bathroom.

A family room on the lower level features an original Art Deco fireplace and Egyptian-motif murals painted by Romeo Cellegghin when the house was built. Cellegghin (1895-1979) was an immigrant from Italy, noted for the religious frescos he painted in Catholic churches across Northeast Ohio. The murals in the Graham home are probably unique in Shaker Heights. (Susan L. Whitelaw's book, *The Art of Romeo Cellegghin, Preserving Our Religious Art Heritage: A Cleveland Case Study*, published by the Kent State University Press in 2005, is the last word on Cellegghin's church frescos and murals.)

Asked why he and his wife chose a home in Shaker, Graham says, "Peggy and I were attracted to the city's diversity, cultural richness, great schools and closeness to downtown Cleveland and University Circle. And, of course, I especially love the outstanding architecture."



**Above:** The previous homeowners knocked out part of the wall between the hallway and kitchen. The Grahams remodeled the opening, adding the Gothic-arched stained glass at the top. They found the bust of Sappho while traveling in Amsterdam.

**Opposite page:** Viewed from the second-floor balcony, the expanse of the living room is magnified by the height of the windows and the massive wood beams. The fabric-paneled screen on the left hides shelves where home office supplies are stored. The Grahams commissioned furniture designer Paul Koepf of Chagrin Falls to make the Mr. and Mrs. desk on the right at the back of the photo.









# Blossoms and Blooms

Appropriately, the Shaker Historical Society and Museum's sixth annual garden-themed fundraising weekend kicks off at the Van Sweringen mansion on South Park Boulevard. Appropriately, because Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen, who developed Shaker Heights in the early 1900s, modeled Shaker on the Garden City concept popular at the time.

The kick-off event is a catered benefit dinner on Friday evening, June 18. The benefit weekend continues with the Gracious Gardens of Shaker Heights Tour on Sunday, June 20.

The Van Sweringen mansion is one of the most striking homes in Northeast Ohio. Built in 1909, the brothers lived there until they moved to Hunting Valley, whereupon they turned the South Park home over to their sisters. It is currently owned by Dr. Andrew and Robin Schachat, who moved from Baltimore in 2006. The couple told Cleveland Magazine that after a day of house hunting, they returned to their hotel and said, "We looked at six homes and a work of art." The latter was the Van Sweringen mansion.

Guests at the Friday benefit – called The Twilight in the Garden Benefit – will be treated to live Brazilian jazz as well as dinner. There also will be auctions featuring items from restaurant gift certificates to vacation packages. The fun starts at 6 pm and ends at 10.

"All proceeds benefit the educational and historical projects of the Shaker Historical Society and Museum," says

benefit organizer and landscape designer Ann Cicarella.

The garden tour on Sunday is self-guided. There are seven gardens on the tour this year. "Each garden has a number and a name with a witty description. And because it's self-guided, you can take as long as you want," says Cicarella. "There are gardens small and large, big-ticket and do it yourself." Two Lolly the Trolleys will be around to help with transportation.

Benefit dinner tickets begin at \$150 for one benefit dinner and one garden tour ticket. Five hundred dollars buys two benefit tickets and four garden tour tickets. Four benefit tickets and six garden tour tickets can be had for \$1,000.

Garden tour tickets can be purchased separately for \$15 in advance and \$20 on the day of the tour. Maps and descriptions are included. Tickets can be purchased at the historical society offices at 16740 South Park Boulevard, or at Shaker Heights Hardware and J. Pistone Market and Gathering Place in Shaker Heights.

Other ticket locations include Gali's Florist and Garden Center in Beachwood, Bremec on the Heights (formerly Heights Garden Center) in Cleveland Heights, Jan Dell Flowers in Rocky River, and Cahoon Nursery in Westlake.

**Web site:** [shakerhistory.org](http://shakerhistory.org)

**Email:**  
[shakerhistory@shakerhistory.com](mailto:shakerhistory@shakerhistory.com)

**Phone:** 216-921-1201

A home from the 2007 garden tour.  
PHOTO BY MARC GOLUB.







# What Can a Neighborhood Association Do For You?

BY JENNIFER PROE

PHOTOS BY JANET CENTURY

When considering the variety of functions Shaker's neighborhood associations serve, it becomes clear that they contribute enormously to the quality of life in our community.

Some associations exist primarily to provide social gatherings and welcome new neighbors. Others are formed as a way for residents to band together over a common issue or concern. And in many areas of Shaker, the neighborhood association is a powerful vehicle for beautification and preservation efforts.

Says Mayor Earl Leiken, "What we have in our neighborhood associations is very special and unique. I'm not aware of

another community that has associations as well organized as ours, and where practically every neighborhood is covered."

In fact, Shaker boasts eleven distinct community associations covering all nine neighborhoods in some capacity. "I think they have a lot to do with why people are attracted to Shaker," the Mayor says. "People come here because they want that neighborhood feel to be a part of their lives and their children's lives. Even people who don't come here for that purpose find it to be a pleasant surprise."

**A Tradition of Civic Responsibility**  
Shaker's first neighborhood associa-

tion, the Ludlow Community Association (LCA) was formed in 1957 by a group of citizens committed to racial diversity in their neighborhood at a time in our country's history when that concept was quite controversial. The LCA's efforts to ensure peaceful integration became a model for other communities in Shaker and across the country.

In the 1980s, the Sussex Community Association was instrumental in shaping the character of that neighborhood by helping to decide the future of the former Sussex Elementary School building. Residents came together to show their support for a new idea: a community resource for families with children from birth to five years. Thus, Shaker Family Center was born, now home to Family Connections, Carol Nursery School, and the Early Childhood Enrichment Center. Families throughout Shaker, and well beyond, benefit from the unique programming the center provides.

Similarly, members of the Malvern Association came together several years ago to voice their strong preferences regarding the use of former Malvern Elementary School. Thanks in large part to their stewardship, the building is now home to the Hanna Perkins School, whose beautifully maintained grounds create a lovely gathering space at the center of the Malvern neighborhood.



For more information about Shaker's neighborhood associations visit [www.shakeronline.com/about/resources/CommunityAssociations](http://www.shakeronline.com/about/resources/CommunityAssociations).



**Boulevard residents** enjoy a friendly game of broomball. Opposite page, from left: Tai Borchert-Isaacs, Meg Bennett, Theo Borchert-Isaacs, Jim Cullen, Anne Borchert, and Peter Bennett.

Continuing in that tradition of advocacy are three smaller groups that formed primarily to address neighborhood-specific issues. The Fairmount Area Neighborhood Association (FANA) came together to provide a cohesive voice regarding the expansion of nearby John Carroll University. Likewise, a group of residents in the Thornton Park neighborhood formed an association to ensure that residents' views were represented during the renovations at Thornton Park. And the Winslow Preservation Organization came into being for the purpose of preserving the charming and distinctive character of the street's two-family homes.

### Meet the Neighbors

Neighborhood associations sponsor countless social events throughout the year – picnics, potlucks, wine tastings, and ice cream socials – designed to bring neighbors in contact with one another.

The Onaway Community Organization hosts perhaps one of the more unusual affairs: each November, the organization holds a Contra Dance at Onaway Elementary School, where residents learn partnered folk dances set to live music by Mud In Yer Eye, Cleveland's oldest continually operating contra dance band in the Cleveland area.

The Onaway Community Organization is also renowned for its huge Fourth of July celebration, featuring a showy parade and traditional games like the three-legged race, watermelon seed-spitting contest, and water balloon toss.

The Moreland on the Move Community Association (MOMCA) holds a giant block party each summer at Chelton Park, which typically attracts more than one hundred Moreland neighbors with free food and fun. Last year, local businesses donated raffle prizes, sponsored a bounce house, and provided several backpacks filled with school supplies for the kids.

*continued on page 58*

**The Lomond Association's** outdoor movie night at Lomond School drew more than 200 people last September. The event helped to raise money for improvements at Gridley Triangle.







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# A Lifelong Journey



**Opposite page**, clockwise from left: William B. (Brad) Norris and Lois Norris in 1964, with children Todd, Bob, and Betsie. Betsie, center, with her birthparents Edie and Bob Nelson in 1986. Grandparents Elizabeth (Betsie's stepmother) and Brad Norris, and Edie and Bob Nelson welcome Betsie's son Elliot in July 1997. PHOTOS COURTESY BETSIE NORRIS

*O&A*

Shaker resident Betsie Norris talks about the groundbreaking organization Adoption Network Cleveland, which she founded in 1988, and her own experiences as an adoptee in search of her beginnings.

**BY SUE STARRETT**

The story of Betsie Norris, daughter and middle child of Lois and William B. (Brad) Norris of Shaker Heights, is entwined with that of Adoption Network Cleveland, the organization she founded in 1988 and currently serves as Executive Director.

The 1978 Shaker Heights High School graduate attended Cleveland State University and the Huron Road Hospital School of Nursing. She worked at the Cleveland Clinic as a registered nurse in adolescent medicine and child psychiatry. For seven years she balanced two full-time jobs: her paid work at the Clinic and her volunteer position as founder and board president of the growing Adoption Network Cleveland. Hired as its Executive Director in 1995, she prepared for that responsibility by earning a certificate in nonprofit management from Case Western Reserve University while working weekends at the Clinic.

Today, Adoption Network Cleveland is a highly regarded, nationally recognized nonprofit that employs 25 staff members, operates with a budget of \$1.7 million, and preserves its grass-roots approach. Recent honors, attesting to the organization's esteemed reputation, include the 2009 Adoption Excellence Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the 2006 Anisfield-Wolf Award from the Center for Community Solutions.

Adoption Network Cleveland is not a placement agency. Instead, it promotes progressive practices in adoption and foster care through public policy and advocacy. It also provides support to both individuals and agencies involved in the adoption and foster care process. Because





of its values of responsiveness and inclusion, Adoption Network Cleveland has initiated a number of new services. These include a partnership with Cuyahoga County's Department of Children and Family Services to help youth in the county's care find permanent families.

Adoption Network Cleveland also has created a mentoring program for young people in foster care, through which the mentor makes a long-term commitment to the relationship. Furthermore, Adoption Network Cleveland offers assistance in searches, not only for adult adoptees and birthparents, but also for siblings of adult adoptees. Support groups meet monthly throughout the area, and the organization has sponsored a Birthmother's Day Ceremony every Mother's Day weekend since 1993.

On behalf of Adoption Network Cleveland, Norris continues to speak extensively throughout the country on adoption practices, policy, and law, and she works tirelessly to reform Ohio's adoption laws.

She also has served on the board of the American Adoption Congress, co-authored with Jayne Schooler the book *Journeys After Adoption: Understanding the Lifelong Process*, and received many tributes, including the 2009 Bellefaire Honoree Award, 2009 Foster Care Hero Award from the Rona R. Carter Scholarship Fund, the Hearts of Hope award from Beech Brook, and the Angels in Adoption Award from the United States Congress.

Now entering its 22nd year, Adoption Network Cleveland remains true to its mission — *we connect and empower individuals, organizations, and communities impacted by adoption and foster care, and we provide a source of healing for those in need* — and to its founder's vision.

For more information about Adoption Network Cleveland, visit [www.AdoptionNetwork.org](http://www.AdoptionNetwork.org) or call 216-325-1000.

### ***How did your childhood prepare you for the important choices you made as a young adult?***

My two brothers and I are adopted. Our parents were open with us; I knew I was adopted from day one. I grew up on Southington Road, across from Boulevard School, and also attended Woodbury Junior High and Shaker Heights High School. My father, Brad Norris, taught me that it is important to give back to the community. He worked for the law firm Hahn Loeser and was the founding chairman of WCPN because of his desire to bring public radio to Cleveland. He also fought against the proposed Clark Freeway going through Shaker Heights. I learned so much from him.

### ***What brought you back to Shaker Heights?***

I never left the area, although I lived in Cleveland Heights and North Collinwood in Cleveland. My son Elliot was born in 1997, and I returned to Shaker because

of the schools. I didn't set out to move back, but the schools, community, and diversity were consistent with all the values I had formed while growing up in Shaker Heights.

I decided on the Lomond neighborhood and was able to use a Fund for the Future loan to buy our house. We arrived in July of 2002, and Elliot began Kindergarten the next month. I bumped into several high school classmates that summer. They also had moved back to raise their families. Shaker is a wonderful place, both for growing up and for returning. I didn't really appreciate it until I left.

#### **Why did you establish Adoption Network Cleveland?**

When I was in my mid-20s and working as a nurse, I came across a book titled *The Adoption Triangle* [referring to the adoptee, birthparents, and adoptive parents]. I stayed up all night reading, because it

validated my need to search for my birthparents. In the mid-1980s, very little information existed on this topic. I joined a group in New York to help guide my search, and after a year had a very successful outcome. I realized that I could assist other people with their searches, that I could create an affordable, self-help, and empowering alternative to the few options available at the time.

#### **How did you actually launch the organization?**

I did it backwards. I helped a local birthmother organize a regional conference for the American Adoption Congress in 1988. Over 200 people attended. The Plain Dealer had done a promotional article. My phone number was included, and I received 275 calls from adult adoptees and birthparents in a three-day period! I quickly discovered a tremendous need in the community. Because of my father's

example, I knew the importance of taking action if you want something new to happen. From the start, it was important to create an organization that would live beyond my tenure. I didn't want it to revolve around me.

I used the mailing list from the conference to invite people to monthly discussion groups on the east and west sides of town. We also created a steering committee, and later, a board of trustees. But it all was based at my home, and in those days, I had to hand-address all the envelopes for our mailings. We eventually were housed at the Shore Cultural Center for ten years, and now we are located at East 46th and Prospect. Adoption Network Cleveland incorporated in 1990 and received 501(c)(3) status in 1992.

#### **What prompted you to search for your birthparents?**

I didn't know my medical history, nation-

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ality, the circumstances of my adoption, or the time of my birth. It is the human condition to ask, "Where did I come from?" Knowing that I was adopted was never a negative, but the secrecy was a problem. Especially as a teen, I wondered what was so bad about my background that it was kept a secret. I experienced losses and gaps in my life – along with all that was good in our home. The medical aspects of not knowing my history were heightened when I was in nursing school. I witnessed births, and yet I hadn't heard my own birth story.

I eventually received a copy of my original birth certificate. It arrived on December 14, 1985. I had to piece together a lot of information, and it took me until May of 1986 to find my birthparents. I found out that they married each other 18 months after I was born, and subsequently raised three sons. They lived on Coleridge Road in Cleveland Heights, not

that far from me, though they later moved out of state. I also learned that shortly before Christmas of 1985 my birthparents started talking about whether they should look for me – that was uncannily close to the day I received my birth certificate. They also told me that they acknowledged my birthday every year, and they felt like there was a hole in their marriage due to their having relinquished me.

***When you contacted your birthmother, what was her response? And yours?***

After I explained the reason for my phone call, she said, "I have been praying for this call for 26 years." I had prepared myself for a negative reaction; I was speechless. My birthmother had kept a photo from my birth, and asked whether I have red hair. She was pleased that I do, and told me her mother also has red hair. We talked about 20 minutes and agreed to speak again that evening. Just to get connected

and to say the words I had rehearsed for so long was like an out-of-body experience.

My birthmother decided that she wanted to tell the news to my birthfather in person, so she left work early that day. She was so excited that she was ironing the curtains by the time he got home! My birthparents, brothers, and I saw each other fairly soon after that, and Elliot and I are now part of a large extended family. When my birth and adoptive mothers met, they expressed gratitude for the care each had given me. The good relationship between my parents really brought my life together. I am so fortunate and grateful, but this experience also triggered loss issues for me. As a mental health professional, I recognized that there is so much more to adoption than most people realize. My own experience turned me into an advocate. The shroud of secrecy is not necessary. Most birthparents want

*continued on page 60*

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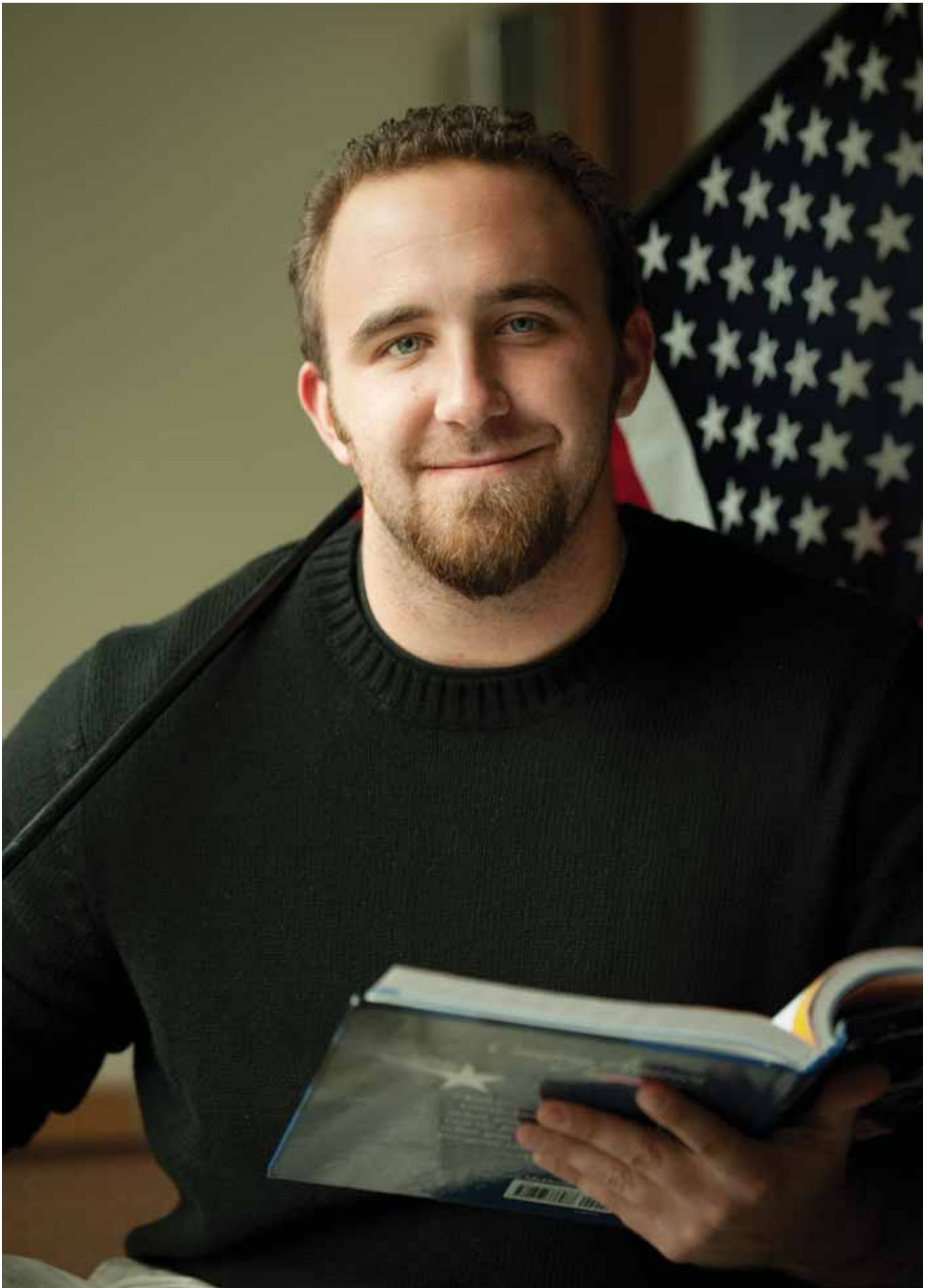
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# Brother Act

Mark and Matt Nagal might be “chill” with their Shaker Middle School students during conferences, but in their classrooms they are all business.

BY NANCY O’CONNOR

PHOTOS BY KEVIN G. REEVES

Two years separate brothers Mark and Matt Nagal, but not much else.

Both are middle school teachers, at the same middle school (Shaker), on the same teaching team (Fayette). They live just a mile apart, Mark in South Euclid, Matt in Lyndhurst. They meet at their parents’ house for dinner at least once a week, and on weekends find themselves hanging with many of the same friends at many of the same places. “It’s pretty much non-stop,” Matt says of their togetherness.

Mark, 26, teaches eighth-grade science; Matt, 24, teaches eighth-grade U.S. history. Mark has green eyes, Matt has blue. Many students and staff members assume The Brothers Nagal, as they are affectionately known, are twins, and confuse one with the other. It



**Matt Nagal** (left) and Mark Nagal in their classrooms at Shaker Middle School.



doesn't help matters, they acknowledge, when they unknowingly wear identical clothing to school. "Mom will sometimes give us the same sweater or button-down collar shirt, buying one XL, one XXL," says Mark, the XXL.

The two exhibited "a healthy dose of sibling rivalry" as children growing up in Mayfield Heights, according to their mother Debbie, but these days, friendship seems to override any brotherly battling.

"We became actual friends later in high school, once I started driving," Mark recalls. "But there's still a lot of competition between us. If Matt gets six presents, I want six presents."

"Mark even gets presents on my birthday," interjects Matt, "but generally, he's more laid back than me." Their typical days are also pretty similar, he adds: "We work, work out, work on the house, go to bed."

Ambition, however, is something else they have in common. "We both set goals and accomplish them," says Mark, who graduated from Ohio University in 2005. "It's about going to the highest level possible in what you do," adds Matt, a 2008 Bowling Green graduate. Both intend to earn PhDs one day. In the meantime, landing their first teaching jobs in a premier school system is a feat they are happy to share.

"Shaker's reputation is nationally known. This is a prestigious place to attend, and to teach," says Mark. "If you're going into this profession and want to stay in Ohio, Shaker is one of only a handful of



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school systems sought after," agrees Matt. "In college, you're told to put a resume in to Shaker, and good luck."

The two got lucky – in part, says Shaker Middle School Principal Randall Yates, because they had not only the credentials to be effective instructors, "but because they are also very relationship-oriented. You have to love middle-school-aged kids and feel you can make an impact to be successful here, and both brothers fall into that category."

Their relationships with their students extend beyond the classroom to co-curricular activities. Mark coaches the seventh-grade football team; Matt, the eighth-grade team. Matt also coaches the lacrosse team, Mark is involved with the Guitar Club, and both men accompany the Ski Club on its weekly outings.

Mark remembers the day he received the call inviting him to interview for a position at Shaker Middle School.

"It was in June, on my birthday. I had

already accepted a job teaching in South Carolina, but didn't really want to move so far away." What he did want was to teach his favorite subject, science. "I have always been interested in science. In fifth grade, I started with Science Olympiad. In middle school, the only teachers I liked were my science teachers. Then, in college, I was the curve killer in my chemistry classes."

Many of his students have enjoyed watching the video of him floating and flipping aboard a specially modified Boeing 727 during a "Zero G" activity in September 2009, when he joined 40 other local area science and math teachers to experience weightlessness. [See the video at [www.shaker.org/news](http://www.shaker.org/news)]. The experience was awesome, but, Mark says, "We cooked up this idea that we'd all wear Top Gun aviator glasses, but I ended up being the only one to go through with it. I looked like a giant fool."

Mark was a college student when he set

his sights on becoming a teacher. "I was helping some people in my dorm with an economics assignment and found it felt pretty good to help people understand what they didn't know."

Matt, on the other hand, has known he wanted to teach since his sophomore year of high school, when he first tutored elementary school students. "We also have an aunt and uncle who are professors in Australia, and their stories about teaching have always intrigued me."

Like Mark's interest in science, Matt's fascination with history started during the elementary school years. "The History Channel has been a staple of my TV watching most of my life, that and the Discovery Channel." He enjoys keeping his U.S. history students "on the ball," literally – he keeps a squishy dodge ball at his desk to encourage student participation. "I have found students are more likely to pay attention when the option of a ball being tossed to them is present,



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as well as more likely to participate when they know they can catch and throw it back if they give the correct answer. This may seem minuscule, but it goes a long way in the student's mind to break the monotony of the school day."

Teaching history lends itself to creative classroom applications, he finds, and the Nagal Music Video Awards are just one example. After researching the Bill of Rights, his students work in small groups to write and perform educational videos that they then share with the class.

"I also try to incorporate simulation/role playing activities whenever possible. For example, we will demonstrate the time that it took soldiers to fire weapons during the Civil War and discuss how this influenced their war strategies, or linear assaults. We also simulate a courtroom in which the students fill the roles of judge, jury, plaintiff, defendant, and bailiff."

Mark shares his brother's quest to find ways to capture and hold student attention. "iPods are a lot more entertaining than we are," he says of the challenge facing today's teachers. "Our students are very technology-based – they rely on technology for education, entertainment, even exercise. It demands that you stay visually appealing as you teach."

The District's continuing investment in classroom technologies, he believes, is appropriate and necessary, and just one more facet of the educational philosophy that makes the Shaker schools effective. "At Shaker Middle School, no student is too low to not succeed, or too high that their needs are not being met. There is a place for everyone here," says Mark.

Matt agrees. "Shaker has set up an environment where the students feel safe and comfortable coming to school and actively participating in the classroom. I

also feel that Shaker has gone above and beyond in setting up a number of avenues for students to seek additional help and guidance outside of the classroom, including study circles, the homework hotline, weekly progress sheets, online feedback through ProgressBook, tutors, cooperative teaching, and open conference time with teachers after school."

It is during after-school conferences that students most enjoy the novelty of having brothers as teachers.

"They are nice in the classroom, but they can also be very serious," says eighth-grader Simone Malone. "During conference time, they are more 'chill' and tell stories about how they used to goof around at home."

Based on the mischievous glint in their eyes, it's likely the brothers are wisely keeping some of those stories to themselves.



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## The Indian Way

*continued from page 34*




in the same deep rose as the dining room beyond it. To the right of the entrance is a small but handsome bar, where free appetizers are served 5-7 pm weekdays.

The 100-seat dining room is both elegant and chic, tastefully accented with eastern woodcarvings and framed prints with Indian heritage. Light from the floor-to-ceiling windows along one wall is filtered through full-length sheer curtains, and a self-standing waterfall adds soothing sounds to the music that plays quietly overhead.

The restaurant's \$9.95 weekday lunch buffets draw regular crowds. "I love to take people to the lunch buffet because it's an easy way to sample many of the specialties," says Dr. Varyani. On Monday evenings, diners can enjoy a \$12.95 vegetarian buffet, while the Sunday brunch buffet features masola dosa, a Southern Indian crepe, as well as an expansive array of vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes.

Stamos recently introduced a new "Twenty-Ten" dinner special, which he describes as "a simple, sophisticated, fixed-menu for dinner. Guests can choose one appetizer, one entrée, and one dessert from among a nice selection, for just \$20.10." Chef Singh encourages dinner guests "to tailor any dish to your liking. Tell your server, on a scale of 1 to 5, how hot you want it – mild to spicy, or 'Indian hot.'"

Stamos opened a second Saffron Patch restaurant in Akron in 2004, but the Shaker Heights location remains the largest and busiest, and serves as his catering headquarters. The Saffron Patch's catering operation is robust. "Nearly 40 percent of our revenues come from catering," Stamos says, "and it's growing. We cater many corporate events and private parties for Indian families. The Indian community reaches out to us because they know us and trust us." 



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## Neighborhood Associations

continued from page 46

MOMCA also held an event last fall they called a Community Harvest, where the idea was to "harvest" attendees from throughout the Shaker community to socialize with one another (no vegetables were involved). MOMCA members sold fish dinners, hot dogs, and hamburgers, and provided information and workshops on various topics of interest to the many families who attended from many parts of Shaker.

The Lomond Association piloted a very successful new social event last September: an outdoor movie night at Lomond School, which attracted over 200 people. Admission was by donation, and volunteers sold pizza, popcorn, and lemonade to help raise money for improvements at Gridley Triangle. The association plans a repeat performance for this fall.

## Spreading the Word

Over-the-fence chatter has always been a tried-and-true method in Shaker for finding a doctor, a babysitter, and – perhaps most important – a reliable contractor. Several years ago, the Sussex Association harnessed the collective wisdom of its residents and assembled a comprehensive list of recommended home improvement service providers – a kind of Angie's List for Shaker Heights.

The list includes painters, plumbers, electricians, and other service providers who have been recommended by Shaker residents and are registered with the City. The list is constantly updated to allow names to be added or deleted according to residents' feedback. SCA provides the free list via e-mail to any Shaker resident upon request. (Email Council member Nancy Moore at [nrmoore@aol.com](mailto:nrmoore@aol.com).)

Associations rely on other proven methods of communication as well – newsletters, websites, and email list groups – to keep neighbors informed of everything from lost pets to job postings and major



happenings in the area. Many groups also organize regular community forums to allow residents to get information directly from the source, such as safety tips from the Shaker Heights Police Department, or updates from the City on projects that may impact the neighborhood.

Another source for this type of information is a regular section of Shaker Life called Neighborhood News.

### Mass Curb Appeal

You may have your community association to thank for making your neighborhood a more beautiful place to live. The colorful hanging flower baskets that grace the length of Lomond Boulevard are one highly visible example; the Lomond and Sussex Community Associations provide the baskets each summer, which are watered by the City to keep them in bloom. Every spring, Moreland association volunteers spruce up the island at Chelton Road and Chagrin Boulevard, and the

Fernway association has adopted the island between Fernway Road and Parkland Drive.


The Lomond Association took a strategic approach to curb appeal by coordinating a massive grant request for home improvements. The Fund for the Future awarded over \$135,000 to 39 Lomond homeowners to make exterior improvements that were in keeping with the character of the neighborhood. The association also secured funding to beautify Gridley Triangle, which allowed them to hire a landscape architect to update the design of the community gathering spot.

Last December, the Boulevard Association gave a unique spin to the small park located at Woodbury, Southington, and South Woodland roads; they requested help from the City to fill a depression in the triangle with water to create a public skating rink. Residents promised to maintain the rink, clearing the ice after every snowfall and even topping it off as needed

using extra-long garden hoses. The result was a wonderful and rare opportunity to socialize outdoors with neighbors all through the winter months, with frequent pick-up games of hockey and broomball.

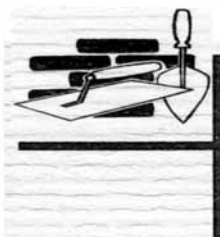
### Ask What You Can Do For Your Association

Neighborhood associations offer much to their residents, and ask only one thing in return: participation. Membership is the key to all of the wonderful social events, beautification projects, newsletters, and advocacy they provide. It seems a small price to pay for an intangible, but very real, benefit.

As Mayor Leiken comments, "We are fortunate to have such active citizens in Shaker who really want to make their community a better place to live. Because of that, we've been able to maintain some of those old fashioned values that have been lost in so many other parts of the country." 

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## A Lifelong Journey

*continued from page 51*

the contact with their children. I also saw how the mental health community wasn't dealing with adoption issues for adoptees, adoptive parents, and birthparents. All that suffering in silence wasn't healthy.

Indeed, Adoption Network Cleveland has helped therapists to understand issues unique to adoption, particularly the adoptee's sense of loss and compelling desire to forge an identity, despite incomplete information.

Cleveland is seen as a frontrunner in adoption services, and Adoption Network Cleveland is unique. We have carved a niche. We look for gaps and fill them, we look for what's needed and provide it.

### *What other major contributions can you cite?*

In 2004 we collaborated with Cuyahoga County to create the Adopt Cuyahoga's Kids Initiative. Since then, more than 400 young people have been placed in permanent homes. This is a child-centered approach that involves and respects the youths' opinions, and the program is being replicated in other urban communities. Our Adoption Navigators, who provide personal support throughout the process of adopting through the public child welfare system, have participated in the placement of another 300 children. We provide classes for prospective parents, as well as post-adoption services and programs. And, we have helped more than 1,700 people search successfully for members of their birthfamilies.

Under current law, the State of Ohio has a three-tiered system for adoptee's access to their original birth certificates. It is our aim to allow the adult adoptee, upon request, to access his or her original birth certificate confidentially, as currently permitted in adoptions finalized before 1964. We are working to change the legislation that closed adoption records from 1964 to 1996. Our advocacy began in 1989,



and it took until 1996 to open the records going forward. Our goal is to allow adult adoptees the same right to information about themselves that all Americans enjoy, and to equalize Ohio law regarding adult adoptees' access to birth records.

***Your father actually had a hand in sealing those records. Why?***

It's like a Greek tragedy. My older brother was born in 1957, and my father easily obtained his original birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Cleveland. He later helped write the bill to seal the records, but his intent was to ensure that the general public could not acquire the information. The unintended outcome prevented adult adoptees from accessing their birth certificates if they were born after 1964. My father eventually told me of his role in all this, and he became a huge advocate of changing the law. He even testified on our behalf.

***What's next for Adoption Network Cleveland?***

We need to be able to replicate our model in other Ohio counties and other states. We will continue to evolve to meet emerging needs of the community. Professionals, parents, and children are all in this together, and we share more in common than we have differences. We also will stay current with issues of international adoption. Adoption Network Cleveland will continue to be inclusive, collaborative, interconnected, and responsive. We have room for many perspectives on the adoption experience.

***When you say that adoption is an ongoing journey, what message are you sharing?***

It is not a one-time legal event. It involves loss and joy. Adoption is a complex, life-long, and intergenerational journey for all whose lives are touched by it. So much more unfolds over the years, and Adoption Network Cleveland provides a safe place for our community to come together.



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## Ongoing Activities for Families

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions,** THE PATRICIA S. MEARN'S FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parents and caregivers with children ages birth to 5 years old can play, make friends, and network. Playroom is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 am – noon OR Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 4-6 pm. Membership includes use of the gym and muscle room during specific hours. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Drop-in Play Sessions, 9:30-NOON,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Child's play for infants to age 8 and parent or caregiver through May 21. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-based play for parents and caregivers with children 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 play sessions just for home day care providers and 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, 1-3 PM,** PLAY AND LEARN STATION AT MAIN LIBRARY. A free facilitated playgroup for parents and caregivers and their preschool children ages 3 to 5 with special needs. Open to all families raising preschoolers with special needs in Cuyahoga and surrounding counties. INFO: HOLLY PALDA, 216-921-2023.

## Ongoing Activities for Adults

**TUESDAYS: Save Homes from Foreclosure Counseling, NOON-4 PM,** STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. A program presented by

The Housing Advocates, Inc. and the City, for homeowners delinquent on their mortgage, concerned with their abilities to continue to pay their mortgage, or currently in foreclosure. By appointment only: 216-370-2283.

**TUESDAYS: Stone Oven Days, 2267 LEE RD.** The Stone Oven donates a percentage of Tuesday's sales to the Nature Center programs. Dine and donate! Enjoy a good meal and support the Nature Center. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**TUESDAYS: English in Action, 7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Free English classes for those who need help, led by Brondy Shanker. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**THIRD THURSDAYS: Public Fiction Workshop with Paula McLain, 6:30-9 PM,** TRINITY COMMONS, 2230 EUCLID AVE. Become familiar with the tools of fiction writing and discuss your work in a workshop. Sessions are organized around a particular element of craft: description and detail, characterization, scene building, etc., with assigned

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

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# April highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Book Sale at Main Library begins 4/15</b> 				<b>Annex Gallery-Opening Reception</b> 6 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 66)	<b>Family Fun Fridays</b> Ongoing. 1 pm, Main Library. (pg. 63)	<b>Edible Books Festival</b> 1 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 67)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	<b>Shaker Works in Progress</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 67)	<b>Stone Oven Days</b> Ongoing. (pg. 63)	<b>Barbara Luton Art Competition</b> Thru 5/4. (pg. 66)	<b>Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party</b> 4:15 pm, Main Library. (pg. 67)  <b>Knit Night</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 67)	<b>DJ Skate Night</b> 7:45 pm, Thornton Park. (pg. 67)	<b>Rain Barrel Workshop</b> 10 am, 2 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 67)  <b>Golden Egg Hunt</b> 1 pm, Horseshoe Lake. (pg. 68)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>City2City 5K to Benefit Providence House</b> 8 am, Tower City Center. (pg. 74)	<b>Cleveland Indians Home Opener</b> 3 pm, Progressive Field. (pg. 73)	<b>Sports Booster Meeting</b> 7:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 68)  <b>Writers Center Stage</b> Mary Oliver 7:30 pm, Playhouse Square. (pg. 74)	<b>Parent and Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (pg. 63) 	<b>Book Sale 4/15-4/18</b> Main Library (pg. 68)  <b>Evening of Jazz</b> 7 pm, Middle School. <<	<b>Fifth Annual Festival</b> 6 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 68)	<b>3-on-3 Basketball Tournament</b> 7:30 am, Shaker Middle School. (pg. 68)  <b>Spring Fling</b> 8 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 69)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>Surveying the Health Care Landscape: Gains &amp; Losses</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (pg. 69)	<b>Used Toy Donation Drive 4/19-20</b> 9 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 69)	<b>Poetry Back in the Woods</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 69)	<b>Music in the Morning</b> 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 69)  <b>Used Toy Sale</b> 6 pm, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 70)	<b>Spring Birds Hike</b> 2 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 70)	<b>Drop-in Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 63)	<b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (pg. 66)  <b>Concert and Book Signing</b> 8 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 70)
25	26	27	28	29		
<b>Community Concert</b> 3 pm, Cleveland Institute of Music. (pg. 74)	<b>Robotics</b> 4:15 pm, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 70)	<b>Spring Band Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker Middle School	<b>Orchestra Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker Middle School	<b>Spring Ensemble Show 4/29-30, 5/1</b> 8 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70) >>		





# May highlights



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> <b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (pg. 66)  <b>Meet American Girl Kit</b> 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 70)
<b>2</b> <b>Audubon Spring Bird Walk</b> 5/2, 5/9, 5/16 7:30 am, Nature Center. (pg. 70)	<b>3</b> <b>Orchestra Concert</b> 7:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)	<b>4</b> <b>Ice Cream Social and Band Concert</b> 6:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)  <b>Aviv Quartet</b> 8 pm, Plymouth Church (pg. 70)	<b>5</b> <b>Choir Concert</b> 7:30 pm, Shaker High.	<b>6</b> <b>Volunteer Fair for Older Adults</b> 6:30 pm, Main Library. (pg. 70)	<b>7</b> <b>Drop-in Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 63)	<b>8</b> <b>Foster Care &amp; Adoption Second Saturday Luncheon</b> Noon, Bellefaire. (pg. 70)
<b>9</b> <b>Mothers' Day Night Hike</b> 8 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 71)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Geranium Sale Order Deadline</b> (pg. 71)  <b>Writers Center Stage Jhumpa Lahiri</b> 7:30 pm, Playhouse Square. (pg. 74)	<b>12</b> <b>Business Expo</b> 3 pm, Executive Caterers at Landerhaven. (pg. 74)  <b>Cleveland Archaeological Society Lecture</b> 7:30 pm, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. (pg. 74)	<b>13</b> <b>Gene's Jazz Hot</b> 7 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 71)	<b>14</b> <b>Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon</b> 11 am, Cleveland Convention Center. (pg. 74)  <b>Shaker High Art Show Gallery-Opening Reception</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 71)	<b>15</b> <b>Plant Sale</b> 9 am, Nature Center. (pg. 72)
			<b>19</b> <b>Theatre Awards</b> 8 pm, Shaker High.	<b>20</b> <b>Spring Athletic Awards</b> 6:30 pm, Shaker High.	<b>21</b> <b>Geranium Sale Pickup</b> 5 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 72)  <b>Onaway School Carnival</b> 5:30 pm. (pg. 72)	<b>22</b> <b>Spring Ice Show: A Red Carpet Affair 5/21-22</b> (pg. 72)
<b>23</b> <b>Faculty Recital</b> 4 pm, Cleveland Institute of Music. (pg. 74)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Healthy Aging: A New Way of Thinking</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 72)	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Poetry Back in the Woods</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 72)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Tree Hike</b> 9 am, Nature Center. (pg. 72)  <b>Larchmere Sidewalk Sale</b> 10 am, Larchmere Blvd. (pg. 72)
<b>30</b> <b>Thornton Park Pool Opens</b> 9 am.	<b>31</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>Pancake Breakfast</b> 8:30 am, Tubbs Jones Comm. Bldg. (pg. 72)					



## out & about

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readings, class discussion, writing exercises, and prompts tailored to each element. McLain is the author of two books, *Stumble, Gorgeous* and a memoir, *Like Family: Growing Up In Other People's Houses*. She teaches in the MFA Program in Poetry at New England College and at John Carroll University. \$10/session. INFO: 216-694-0000.

**SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON.** SHAKER SQUARE. Buy fresh and local produce from farmers on the Square.

**SATURDAYS: Hike with a Friend, 3:30 PM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. Bring a friend or hike with a new one at the Nature Center and share your knowledge and favorite spots around the Shaker Parklands. Free. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

## Arts & Exhibits

**THRU MAY 4: Barbara Luton Art Competition,** MAIN LIBRARY. View the artwork juried into the 11th annual show. Art is available for sale and a portion of the proceeds benefits the Library Endowment Fund. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 14: Shaker High School Art Show Gallery-Opening Reception, 7-9 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Celebrate the accomplishments of Shaker's talented high school artists. Exhibit will be on display through May 28. INFO: 216-991-2030.

## Events for *April*

*April 1:* **Annex Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE



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BLVD. Meet members of the Altered Book Group and enjoy their "Time" exhibition. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 1-5: Shaker Schools Spring Break.**

**April 2, 3 & 4: Shaker Libraries CLOSED.** Both libraries are closed for a Furlough Day Friday April 2 and for Easter weekend April 3 & 4.

**April 3: Edible Books Festival, 1 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Make edible art that has something to do with books. Set up begins at noon; judging takes place at 1 pm and books are consumed at 2 pm. Contest Categories are: Most Inspiring, Most Literary, and Most Delectable. Free for all but \$3 to vote and eat. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 5: Shaker Works in Progress, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Virginia P. Dawson, President of History Enterprises, Inc. speaks about Designing Homes for the Middle Class: The Tribulations of planning the South Side of Van Aken. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 8: Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party, 4:15 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. If your children like the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney, then they will love this fun celebration. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 8: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Enjoy the sounds of the happy swing band. Donations appreciated. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 8: Knit Night, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Needle little

help? Bring a project and get or give help at this creative evening moderated by experienced knitter Fern Braverman. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 8: Discussion About Risky Behavior in Teenagers, 7:30-9 PM,** BELLEFAIRE JCB, 22001 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Panel-style forum by Social Advocates for Youth (SAY) and *Your Teen* magazine, with sponsorship from the Discovery and Wellness Center for Children, SAY, Recovery Resources, and Girls with Sole. INFO: 216-320-8203.

**April 9: DJ Skate Night, 7:45-9 PM,** THORNTON PARK. Jam with a DJ who plays the coolest music. Bring your friends and set the ice on fire. INFO: 216-491-1290.

**April 10: Rain Barrel Workshop, 10 AM-NOON & 2-4 PM,** THE NATURE



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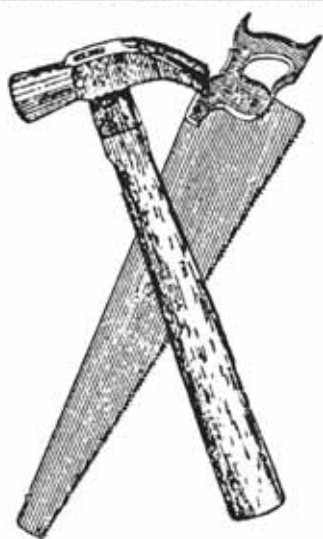
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## out & about



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**April 10: Golden Egg Hunt, 1-2:30 PM, HORSESHOE LAKE PARK.** A goose has left a golden egg at Horseshoe Lake Park and inside is a 2010 Thornton Park Summer Pool Pass for a resident family of four. Enjoy the egg hunt, meet Flower the Clown, listen to a story, and purchase a snack to help the Recreation for Youth Scholarship fund. Rain Date: April 11. INFO: 216-491-1295.

**April 10: Rate that Pizza, 2:15-3 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH.** Sample pizzas from different area restaurants then rate which has the best sauce, which has the best crust, and more! INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 11, 18 & 25: Audubon Spring Bird Walk, 7:30 AM, THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES.** Get up before the birds! Free. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**April 11: Lake Loop Spring Wildflowers Hike, 1 PM, THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES.** \$3/members, \$5/non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**April 12-May 7: Spring Outdoor Adventure Classes, THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES.** Spring is on its way and Spring Break Camp and Outdoor Adventure classes are a way for kids to explore nature. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org/classes.asp](http://www.shakerlakes.org/classes.asp).

**April 13: Sports Boosters Meeting, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH.** All parents welcome to boost all Shaker sports.

**April 15: Evening of Jazz, 7 PM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.**

**April 16: Plant Sale Pre-Orders Due!, THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES.** Get your orders in for home delivery! INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**April 16: Fifth Annual Festival, 6-8 PM, THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES.** *If you can't beat it, eat it!* The Festival festival features a cocktail reception and creative cuisine made from garlic mustard by local chefs Sergio Abramof of Sarava, Ben Bebenroth of Spice of Life Caterers, Dante Boccuzzi of Dante, Brit Culey of Coquette Patisserie, Doug Katz of Fire, Scott Kim of SaSa Matsu, John Pistone of J. Pistone, and more! FEES & INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**April 15: NOBS Forum, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD.** Listen to a discussion about artists' books. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 15-18: Book Sale, 9 AM-4 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Buy bargains in books. Friends Members get first dibs at Preview Night from 4-8 PM April 15. Not a Friend? Join at the door. 9 am-4 pm April 16 and 17. April 18: Bag Sale Blowout, 1-3 PM. \$5/bag of hardback books or \$3/bag for paperbacks. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 17: 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, 7:30 AM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.** *Overtime for some fun? Give and go* at this event for all hoopsters. Shaker Heights Youth Center holds its 17th annual fund-raiser, open to



youth ages 10-18. All players receive a 3-on-3 T-Shirt. FEES & INFO: 216-752-9292.

**April 17: Organ Recital, 4 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Dana Steele, Plymouth's excellent music intern plays her junior organ recital. Free. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**April 17: Educational Fun Fair, 10 AM-1 PM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, 19910 MALVERN RD. Celebrate Week of the Young Child with games and activities for children ages 2-8, including wood-working, cooking, building machines and cars with Duplo & Lego, craft making, seed planting, roller skating, and more! Suggested donation at the door: \$5/family. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 17: Spring Fling, 8 PM-MIDNIGHT,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Dance for Shaker coeds at the high school.

**April 18: Surveying the Health Care Landscape: Gains & Losses, 9:30-10:45 AM,** FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. J.B. Silvers, Ph.D., Professor of Health Systems Management, CWRU Weatherhead School of Management, talks about the new health insurance programs, expansions, and restrictions, and how the changing insurance environment may affect you. INFO: 216-751-2320.

**April 19 & 20: Used Toy Donation Drive, 9 AM-3 PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Spring Cleaning? Donate gently used or like-new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys, baby equipment to Family Connections. Donated items must be clean, in working condition, and contain all pieces and parts. Please include batteries for items that require them. Stuffed animals

and car seats are not accepted. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**April 19: Preschool Dance Class, 4 PM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children learn simple dances and explore creative movement, rhythm, balance, and coordination with fun music and props. \$60/5 weeks (April 19-May 17). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 20: Roller Skating, 4 PM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2½-8) learn to skate safely using music for simple rhythm and movement activities that coincide with skating skills. Beginning skills include learning to get up from the floor, rolling forward, and picking up one foot at a time. \$69/6weeks (April 20-June 11). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 20: Business Marketing, 7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) presents a business session to help participants understand what is needed to develop and implement marketing strategies for a successful business/marketing plan. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 20: Poetry Back in the Woods, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Regional poet Max Stark and his son, Nehemiah Stark, read their works. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 21: Music in the Morning, 9:30 AM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (birth to 3) and their parents experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays



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and experimentation with instruments and dance. \$65/6 weeks (April 21-May 26). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 21: Art, 10:45 AM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children ages 2-4 and a parent use different art media to explore and learn about colors, design and textures. Each week children create new pages for an art portfolio. \$40/4 weeks (April 21-May 12). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201

**April 21: Used Toy Sale, 6-8 PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Buy bargains in toys and benefit Family Connections. Sale continues April 22 from 10 am-noon. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**April 21: Teen Volunteer Fair, 6:30-8 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Find your volunteer niche. Teens can browse the opportunities and meet representatives from local organizations and learn where they can make a difference. Parents are welcome. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 22: Economic Development Forum, 7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. The Library and the League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights present a panel discussion on local economic development efforts with Shaker Mayor Earl Leiken moderated by League member Patricia Burgess. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 22: Spring Birds Hike, 2-3 PM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. Migratory birds are the true harbingers of spring. Walk the trails and look for warblers and finches with other birders. \$3 members, \$5 non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**April 24: Concert and Book Signing, 8 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Alix Dobkin, folk singer and author of *MY RED BLOOD: A Memoir of Growing Up Communist, Coming Onto the Greenwich Village Folk Scene, and Coming Out in the Feminist Movement*, performs and signs books. \$10. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 24: Student Council Carnival, NOON,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**April 26: Robotics, 4:15 PM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Students in grades 1-3 build models of machines and animals and learn basic programming. \$20/2 weeks (April 26 & May 3). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 27: Spring Band Concert, 7 PM,** SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

**April 28: Orchestra Concert, 7 PM,** SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

**April 29, 30 & May 1: Spring Ensemble Show, 8 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

## Events for May

**May 1: Meet American Girl Kit, 2 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Listen to a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft, and enjoy a snack. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 2, 9, & 16: Audubon Spring Bird Walk, 7:30 AM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. Free. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**May 3: Orchestra Concert, 7:30 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**May 4: Local Election.** School levy issue on ballot.

**May 4: Ice Cream Social & Band Concert, 6:30 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL LAWN. Cool treats and hot tunes on the lawn.

**May 4: Aviv Quartet, 8 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. The Cleveland Chamber Music Society musical presentation. Tickets required online at [ticketsales@clevelandchambermusic.org](mailto:ticketsales@clevelandchambermusic.org)

**May 5: Choir Concert, 7:30 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**May 6: Volunteer Fair for Older Adults, 6:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Retired and/or 60 years or older, and planning the next chapter in your life? Stop by the library to meet representatives from area organizations that need volunteers. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 6: Annex Gallery Opening Reception, 6-8 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Meet Sheila N. Markowitz and enjoy her exhibit entitled *Imagiscapes*. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**May 8: Foster Care & Adoption Second Saturday Luncheon, NOON-2 PM,** BELLEFAIRE, 22001 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Learn more about becoming a foster or adoptive parent. Come for a free, relaxed lunch and talk with current foster parents and Bellefaire JCB professionals. RESERVATIONS & INFO: KAREN, 216-320-8589.



**May 9: Mothers' Day Night Hike, 8-9 PM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. \$3/members, \$5/non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**May 9: Feel the Spirit, 10:30 AM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. John Rutter presents spirituals for choir, soloists, and jazz ensemble. Free. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**May 10: Robotics, 4:15 PM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Students in grades 1-3 build models of machines and animals and learn basic programming. \$20/2 weeks (May 10 & 17). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**May 11: Geranium Sale Order Deadline.** Choose from a variety of annuals, including geraniums, petunias, New Guinea impatiens, purple fountain grass, spikes, and vinca vines, in an assortment of colors to complement your landscaping. New this year are shade impatiens, verbena, and marigolds, and pre-planted 12-inch terra cotta patio pots with colorful flowering plants and trays of assorted tomatoes and herbs. Order forms are available at the Shaker schools, Shaker administration building, Shaker libraries, and online at [www.shaker.org/pto/fundraisers](http://www.shaker.org/pto/fundraisers). INFO: ANNE WILLIAMS, 216-751-7911.

**May 13: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Hot music for a warm May night. Donations appreciated. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**May 14: Shaker High School Art Show Gallery-Opening Reception, 7-9 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Celebrate the accomplishments of Shaker's talented high school artists. Exhibit will

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be on display through May 28. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 15: Plant Sale, 9 AM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. Shop for a variety of annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables, and native plants. Pre-orders are encouraged and must be sent to the Nature Center by April 16. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**May 15: Prom, 8 PM-MIDNIGHT.** The last dance for seniors followed by a last fling from midnight to 4 am at After Prom, an alcohol-free activity sponsored by parents.

**May 18: Patriot Express, 7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) presents a free session on the special benefits available to veterans that can help them get their small business ideas off the ground. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 19: Art, 10:45 AM,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children ages 2-4 and a parent use different art media to explore and learn about colors, designs, and textures. Each week children create new pages for an art portfolio. \$40/4 weeks (May 19-June 9). INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**May 19: Cleveland Institute of Music Musical Luncheon Series: Marshall Griffith & Friends, 11 AM,** SHAKER COUNTRY CLUB, 3300 COURTLAND BLVD. CIM Women's Committee sponsors Grammy, Tony, and Academy Award winning music presented by Marshall Griffith and CIM Alumni. Stay for lunch or take-out. \$30/members; \$35/non-members. INFO: 216-791-5000 EXT. 360.

**May 19: Theatre Awards, 8 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**May 20: Spring Athletic Awards, 6:30 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**May 20: NOBS Forum, 7 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Frank Klein presents *A Bookseller's Retrospective*. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**May 21: Geranium Sale Pickup, 5-8 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL GYM. Pick up pre-ordered geraniums to benefit more than 25 PTO-sponsored clubs and activities at the high school. Pickup also available on Saturday, May 22 from 8 am-noon. INFO: ANNE WILLIAMS, 216-751-7911.

**May 21 & 22: Spring Ice Show: A Red Carpet Affair,** THORNTON PARK. There'll be lights, camera, and lots of action when skating coordinator Erin Schopf directs a group of young skaters in a tribute to the Academy Awards. Klieg lights and quick action are the order of the evening when more than 100 skaters in the City's Learn-to-Skate program and the Shaker Figure Skating Club perform to Oscar-winning music and star figure skater Parker Pennington performs. See and be seen! Saturday matinee at 1 pm and evening show at 7 pm. INFO: 216-295-3461.

**May 21: Onaway School Carnival, 5:30 PM,** ONAWAY SCHOOL. *It's elementary!* There'll be fun and prizes for all at the PTO-sponsored family event.

**May 23: Les Délices, 4 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Debra Nagy directs ArtsPlymouth's Artists in Residence playing French Baroque music. Tickets available online at [www.lesdelices.org](http://www.lesdelices.org)

**May 25: 8th Grade Academic Awards, 7 PM,** SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

**May 25: Healthy Aging: A New Way of Thinking, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Christine B. Stevens, a registered nurse and board member of the Cleveland Area Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, speaks about healthy aging. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 27: Junior/Senior Honors Night, 7 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**May 27: Poetry Back in the Woods, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy poetry read by regional poets. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 29: Tree Hike, 9-10 AM,** THE NATURE CENTER AT SHAKER LAKES. \$3/members, \$5/non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

**May 29: Larchmere Sidewalk Sale, 10 AM-5 PM,** LARCHMERE BLVD. Stroll the Boulevard and find bargains and one-of-a-kind items.

**May 30: Thornton Park Pool Opens, 9 AM-7:30 PM.** Get in the swim at the local pool.

**May 31: Memorial Day.** Schools, City offices, & libraries closed.

**May 31: Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11:30 AM,** STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BLDG. All you can eat pancakes and sausage, coffee, orange juice, and milk. Proceeds benefit the Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund. \$7/adults; \$5/children (ages 5-12); \$3/children under 5. INFO: 216-491-2583.



## In the Circle and Beyond

**THRU MAY 2: Amazing Feats of Aging exhibit.** FAWICK GALLERY AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Created by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the interactive exhibit explores the science of aging with emphasis on healthy aging, how animals age, and the aging brain. Engage in a variety of hands-on activities in a colorful, carnival-themed atmosphere. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR 800-317-9155 OR [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org).

**APRIL 9 & 10: The Jewish Big Brother Big Sister Association Benefit, 10 AM-6 PM,** ETON COLLECTION, 28601 CHAGRIN BLVD. Kilgore Trout celebrates its 33rd anniversary with a knock-your-socks-off event complete with prizes, birthday cake, libations, and fun with some of the store's favorite vendors, including Vivek Nagrani, who will be there with the entire VK Nagrani collection. A portion of every purchase will be donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland and the Jewish Big Brother Big Sister Association. INFO: RACHEL, 216-320-8310.

**APRIL 9: Green Gala, 7 PM,** EXECUTIVE CATERERS, 6111 LANDERHAVEN DR. EchoWatch's second annual gala features appetizers, dinner, a drink ticket, "green" silent auction, and an exciting presentation by Robert F. Kennedy Jr. who addresses issues of sustainability, global warming and other threats to our planet. Tickets: \$100 - \$1,000/person. INFO: STEFANIE SPEAR, 216-387-1609 OR [spear@echowatch.org](mailto:spear@echowatch.org).

**APRIL 12: Cleveland Indians Home Opener, 3 PM,** PROGRESSIVE FIELD. The Indians take on the Texas Rangers. Tickets: \$16-\$262.



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**APRIL 13: Writers Center Stage: Mary Oliver, 7:30 PM**, OHIO THEATRE AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE. Mary Oliver was born in Maple Heights and is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry and prose, including the Pulitzer Prize winning *American Primitive*. Tickets: \$30/person to benefit Cuyahoga County Public Library Foundation. INFO: 216-749-9338.

**APRIL 14: Cleveland Archaeological Society Lecture, 7:30 PM**, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Professor Timothy McNiven of The Ohio State University presents *Significant Others: The Construction of Identity in Greek Art*. Meet-the-professor reception follows the lecture. Free. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR [www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html](http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html).

**APRIL 17: Rain Barrel Workshop, 10 AM-NOON & 2-4 PM**, CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN. Save money and water, and keep your landscape healthy by installing a rain barrel system on your property. Workshop limited to 15 people and one extra barrel. \$60/members, \$75/non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935.

**APRIL 18: Writers & Readers, 2 PM**, CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY LOUIS STOKES WING AUDITORIUM. Kay Ryan, the 16th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry appointed by the Library of Congress. Her poems have appeared in major literary magazines including *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Poetry*, and *The Paris Review*. Ryan has been a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets since 2006 and has taught at the College of Marin in Kentfield, California, for more than 30 years. Free. INFO: 216-623-2800.

**APRIL 18: Opera Theatre-Opera Scenes, 3 PM**, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, 11021 EAST BOULEVARD. David

Bamberger directs a diverse program of opera scenes, fully staged and costumed, with piano accompaniment. Projected translation ensures you won't miss a word. \$15/adults; \$10/ students/seniors/groups of 10+. INFO: 216-791-5000 EXT. 411.

**APRIL 25: Community Concert, 3 PM**, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, 11021 EAST BOULEVARD. Gary M. Ciepluch directs Case Symphonic Winds and Kathleen Horvath directs Case/University Circle Orchestra. Free. INFO: 216-791-5000 EXT. 411.

**MAY 11: Writers Center Stage: Jhumpa Lahiri, 7:30 PM**, OHIO THEATRE AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE. Author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Interpreter of Maladies*, *The Namesake*, and *Unaccustomed Earth* speaks. Tickets: \$30/person to benefit Cuyahoga County Public Library Foundation. INFO: 216-749-9338.

**MAY 12: Cleveland Archaeological Society Lecture, 7:30 PM**, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Professor Patty Gerstenblith of DePaul University presents "Yours, Mine or Ours?: A Discussion of Stewardship and Ownership of Ancient Artifacts." Meet-the-professor reception follows the lecture. Free. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR [www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html](http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html).

**MAY 12: Business Expo, 3-7 PM**, EXECUTIVE CATERERS AT LANDERHAVEN. Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce. Register your business as an exhibitor or attend to see what connections you can make. INFO: ANGIE POHLMAN, 216-397-7322.

**MAY 23: Faculty Recital, 4 PM**, CIM. Guitars International sponsors Jason Vieaux on guitar. Tickets: \$22, \$18 students with INFO: 216-752-7502.



## Physical Fitness

**APRIL 11: City2City 5K to Benefit Providence House, 8 AM**, TOWER CITY CENTER. 5K Race/

Walk & 2K Fun Walk begin at 9 am. Activities including a Kids Fun Run around the fountain and free baby-sitting provided in the Providence House Kids' Zone! \$15/pre-registration. All mailed entries must be received by April 8 at Hermes Sports & Events, 1624 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114.

**APRIL 24: Cleveland 10 Miler**, EDGEWATER PARK, 6500 CLEVELAND MEMORIAL SHOREWAY.

**MAY 1: Celebrate Nurses, 9 AM**, LERNER RESEARCH INSTITUTE. 10K, 5K, & 1M to benefit the Cleveland Clinic Nursing Scholarship Fund. \$18/pre-registration; \$23/race-day registration. INFO: HERMES SPORTS & EVENTS, 216-623-9933.

**MAY 14: Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K Health & Fitness Expo, 11 AM-7 PM**, CLEVELAND CONVENTION CENTER, HALL D. 115+ booths featuring health and fitness products and information.

**MAY 16: Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K, 7 AM**, E. 9TH ST. AND ST. CLAIR (in front of Galleria). The 33rd annual Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon, Half Marathon & 10K features one of the flattest and fastest courses in the country. Enjoy a scenic "tour" of Cleveland and all the amenities of a world-class event. INFO: [www.clevelandmarathon.com](http://www.clevelandmarathon.com).





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Construction** p. 11  
216-320-1727

**Chagrin River Co., Inc** p. 22  
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Floor Show** p. 12  
Bedford Hts. 216-662-5550  
Mentor 440-255-4068  
North Royalton  
440-877-2100  
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calvettabrothers.com

**DiFrancesco &  
Sons, Inc** p. 59  
216-691-6317

**Dureiko Construction** p. 14  
216-321-9555  
dureiko.com

**Ervin & Martin Miller  
Construction** p. 26  
440-223-8095  
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**Gerome's  
Kitchens & Baths** p. 5  
440-473-1900  
geromes.com

**Green Street Solutions** p. 61  
888-476-2010  
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**Henry Fence** p. 66  
440-951-9009  
henryfence.com

**Homestead Roofing** p. 60  
216-382-7677  
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**IBJ Electric** p. 26  
216-233-2306

**Insulation Systems** p. 56  
440-975-1122  
insulationsystems.net

**Karlovec & Company** p. 73  
216-767-1887  
karlovec.com

**Lallo Masonry &  
Concrete LLC** p. 22  
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lallomasonryandconcrete.com

**Lally Roofing** p. 23  
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lallyroofing.com

**P.K. Wadsworth Heating  
& Cooling, Inc** p. 61  
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pkwadsworth.com

**Parma Window  
& Garage LLC** p. 58  
216-267-2300  
parmawindow.com

**R.E. Majer Co** p. 20  
216-721-2600

**Regency Window Co** p. 67  
888-425-1980  
regencywindow.com

**Smylie One Heating,  
Cooling, Plumbing Co** p. 58  
440-449-HEAT (4328)  
smylieone.com

**Somrak Kitchens** p. 57  
216-464-6500 (East)  
440-808-6088 (West)  
somrakkitchens.com

**Verne & Ellsworth  
Hann Inc** p. 71  
216-932-9755  
vehann.com

**Volpe Millwork, Inc** p. 21  
216-581-0200  
volpemillworkinc.com

**Weather King** p. 55  
216-244-3191  
weatherking1.com

## Chef

**Jean Gruber** p. 20  
216-315-0305  
thecookingjean.com

## Childcare/Camps

**Mandel Jewish Community  
Center of Cleveland** p. 60  
216-593-6249  
mandeljcc.org

**Nature Center Camps** p. 6  
216-321-5935  
shakerlakes.org

## Dance

**Cleveland City Dance** p. 20  
216-295-2222  
clevelandcitydance.com

**Studio J Academy  
of Dance** p. 23  
216-292-2720  
studiojdance.com

## Dentistry

**Robert Schneider DDS** p. 22  
321-2545

## Education/Camps

**Hathaway Brown** p. 66  
216-320-8796 x7106  
hb.edu

**Hawken School** p. 50  
440-423-2950 (Pre K-8)  
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www.hawken.edu

**The Ratner School** p. 24  
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Academy** p. 73  
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## Fitness

**Aspire Fitness Studios** p. 21  
216-765-1234  
aspirefitnessstudios.com

## Home Interior

**Larchmere Oriental  
Rugs** p. 71  
216-795-9802  
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**The A.L. Wain Company** p. 22  
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## Landscaping / Construction/Tree Service

**Bremec on the Heights  
Garden Center** p. 24  
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dordaninc.com

**Eastside Landscaping** p. 4  
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eastside-landscaping.com

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hamlandscaping.com

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pattiegroupp.com

**Van Curen  
Tree Service** p. 69  
216-932-9901

## Medical

**South Pointe Hospital** p. 47  
southpointehospital.org

## Painter

**Curb Appeal Painting** p. 4  
216-291-2422  
curbappealpainting.com

## Program/Performance

**Cleveland Institute  
of Music** p. 7  
216-791-5000  
www.cim.edu

**Wake Up & Live** p. 21  
216-561-8608  
wakeupandlives.org

## Real Estate/Relocation

**Paul Blumberg** p. 5  
Howard Hanna  
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Services** p. 27  
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Howard Hanna  
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**Fund for the Future of  
Shaker Heights** p. 2  
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incentive/FundfortheFutureof  
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**Pearl of the Orient** p. 69  
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## Valuables

**650Gold** p. 16, 62  
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## Perfect In Every Way

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

Of all the rituals of the Shaker tribe, among the most complex are the child's school play and music recital. Although seemingly simple —how hard is it, really, to put beloved children on a stage and then applaud whatever they do, no matter how irksome or tinny the result? — in reality the performance is a highly symbolic event, with a rigid set of social norms, including:

**The Introduction:** No presentation of childhood talent (or lack thereof) is complete without a rambling preamble by an authority figure. At a music recital, this is blissfully short, delivered by the music teacher, who stands and says, in a sheepish, somewhat mumbling voice, "Well, um, thanks for coming... and, um, well, OK.... Let's get started." At school productions, however, the intro is presented by a principal who fancies himself a Public Speaker, which means that he feels obligated to Declaim Seriously, whether required or not. Every Principal Speech includes three key elements:

- How Very Proud he is of the children (translation: *I'm happy that none of your hooligans actually got arrested this time, and you're very lucky I turned a blind eye to the whole firecracker-in-a-hotdog incident*);
- A confession that he can Honestly Say that he has never seen a show quite like this (translation: *It sounds so awful you'll be begging me to bring back the First-Grade Bagpipe Corps*); and
- A bold assertion that this presentation is The Absolute Best that the school has ever put on (translation: *How can I go wrong, complimenting you on your misbehaving, no-talent kids?*)

**The Event:** Generally consists of small vignettes of screechy music, poorly acted skits or inadvertent comedy (8-year-old staring at back wall: I THINK THAT I SHALL NEVER SEE A THING AS BEAUTEFUL AS A TWEE. TREE. DARN IT.), except, of course, for *your* child, whose performance will be Adorable and Perfect in Every Way. It's vitally important for parents to know where to sit: Those with younger children, for example, should sit up front, not only for practical reasons (i.e., their kids are tiny and hard to see) but also to make room farther back for those with older children, parents who've long since realized that if you sit in the last row A) your kids can't tell if you're sleeping, and B) everybody back here is tapping on *their* BlackBerries, too.

The only thing parents *must* do is to demonstrate approval after each vignette, no matter how hideous. There are different levels of applause; preschoolers, for example, receive enthusiastic cheers for not falling as they walk across the stage; slightly older children garner sympathy for being forced to wear aluminum-foil hats; middle-schoolers and up are typically expected to play their own instruments, in key, at least 25 percent of the time.

Note: There is a special Hell reserved for Mr. or Mrs. I-Know-You-Listened-to-My-Kid-But-I'm-Way-Too-Important-to-Wait-for-Your-Kid's-Performance. Unfortunately for these parents, they often trip over a size-12 shoe accidentally left in the aisle on their way out, or find that their BMW's tires are inexplicably flat. Hmm.

**The Post-Event Celebration:** It's imperative that a parent do two things after the show:

- Tell the child that he or she was wonderful, even if, for example, the only thing the child has accomplished is to accidentally push a piano off the stage (*I can't believe how strong you are!*) or, even worse, to find him — or herself implicated in the firecracker-hotdog fiasco (*Well, I don't really approve, but it does sound VERY creative. How far DID the pieces go?*).
- Take the child out for a celebratory ice cream, preferable at a place that also serves wine or beer, but that doesn't have music.  
Or a Principal.





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