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april | may 2011

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Photo by Janet Century



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Letters may be edited for publication.

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## Centennial Committee Floats Idea for Memorial Day Parade

Memorial Day is just around the corner. The Shaker Centennial committee is working to grow the Memorial Day parade, and they need your help – and your creativity. Show your Shaker pride by joining with your neighbors to create a float with flair to honor your street in this year's parade. Which neighborhood will have the most streets represented? Which float will be the most creative? Come to the 2011 Shaker Heights Memorial Day Parade to find out! To learn more about how to enter your float in the parade, please e-mail Abbey Greenfield at [agrodin@gmail.com](mailto:agrodin@gmail.com).

## Mayoral, Council, and Board of Education Elections Slated for Fall

Four-year terms for the Mayor, four City Council Members and two School Board Members expire on December 31. Elections for these seats will be held November 8.

City Council members with expiring terms are James Brady, Al Foster, Nancy Moore, and Earl Williams. Residents interested in running for Mayor or a seat on City Council must file a petition by August 10 at 4 pm. Petitions must have a minimum of 205 and a maximum of 615 signatures. Petitions may be pre-checked for accuracy before August 2. The filing fee is \$45. The City Charter does not permit write-in candidates.

School Board members whose terms expire this year are Freda Levenson and Peter Robertson. Residents interested in running for a seat on the School Board must file a petition by August 10 at 4 pm. Petitions may be pre-checked for accuracy before August 2. Petitions must

have a minimum of 75 signatures and a maximum of 225 signatures. The filing fee is \$30.

Interested residents must pull their own petition at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections located at 2925 Euclid Avenue.

## Get Involved

The Shaker Heights Citizens Committee is a political action committee whose purpose is to seek and encourage qualified candidates to run for the school board. If you are interested in learning more about the SHCC process or becoming a member, contact Doug Wang at [dwang@me.com](mailto:dwang@me.com) or Meg Bell at [megbell2@aol.com](mailto:megbell2@aol.com).

## League of Women Voters Holds Forums on Shaker's Economic Future

The League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights has a long and respected history of providing nonpartisan education to voters about political issues and candidates. For example, the LWV-Shaker Heights joined forces with two other local chapters last fall to host candidate forums for the newly reorganized county government. League members also regularly attend city and county government committee meetings in order to provide objective observer reports.

They are perhaps best known for the voter's guide they mail free of charge to every household in Shaker prior to major local elections.

This spring, the League's economic development committee is embarking on an initiative called Sustaining Shaker, a series of forums designed to educate its members about economic issues impacting the City of Shaker Heights and the Shaker schools.

League members Linda Lalley and Mary Mulligan, who are both past presidents of the LWV-Shaker Heights, jointly lead the initiative. Lalley is also past president of the LWV-Ohio, former chair of the budget committee for the LWV-United States, and a former CPA. Mulligan is a former member of the City's Economic Development Committee and is a League observer for the Shaker school board.

The sessions began in January with a roundtable discussion of the 2010 Mayor's Financial Task Force report. A session in February featured the topic "Exploring Alternatives for Sustaining Shaker during Changing Times" with presentations by Mayor Earl Leiken, Planning Director Joyce Braverman, and Economic Development Director Tania Menesse.

"The League has a long tradition of presenting fair and impartial information about the issues and the candidates to the citizens of Shaker Heights," says Mayor Leiken. "Their educational and comprehensive examination of local politics is enormously valuable to our community."

Future sessions are slated to cover the marketability of Shaker Heights for residents and businesses and an examination of the budget issues which impact the Shaker schools. The sessions are currently open only to League members, although anyone interested in attending may join at the door. Membership forms are also available at [shakerlww.org](http://shakerlww.org).

Membership in the LWV-Shaker Heights is open to everyone, male or female. Basic membership dues are \$55 per year, of which the local league keeps only about 30 cents, as the dues also provide membership in the state League and national League.

By joining, members gain access to a wide variety of forums and studies, and can actively participate in education and advocacy efforts at the local, state, and national level.

"Shaker Leaguers are fervent in their devotion to Shaker Heights, but we're watchdogs, too," says Marcia Goldberg, president of the Shaker League. "We want our political leaders to make good decisions based on sound reasoning and public input, and we're here to help."

## Shaker Heights High School PTO's Annual Flower Sale

This spring, you can do a good deed while you beautify your home and garden. The Shaker Heights High School PTO's annual flower sale supports more than 25 student clubs, activities, parent forums, programs, and newsletters.

The sale includes geraniums, petunias, New Guinea impatiens, verbena, purple fountain grass, and vinca vines, as well as already-planted, colorful 12-inch patio pots. Trays of assorted tomatoes and herbs can also be ordered.

All orders must be received and prepaid by May 10. Checks and credit cards are accepted.

Order forms are available now at any of the Shaker schools, libraries, and the Shaker Schools Administration Building. Orders can also be placed online at [shaker.org/pto/fundraisers](http://shaker.org/pto/fundraisers).

Pick up dates are Friday, May 20 from 5-8 pm, and Saturday, May 21 from 8 am-noon, at Shaker Heights High School. Home delivery is available for \$15. For questions, call Anne Williams at 216-751-7911.

## RITA E-File: Fast, Simple, Secure, and Free

RITA E-File is a quick, easy, and secure way to file your municipal income taxes online with the Regional Income Tax Agency. RITA encourages online filing and payment, because it reduces paper

and processing costs, saving taxpayers money.

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- Simple step-by-step calculation of taxes or refunds
- Ability to file even if you moved in 2011
- Electronic transfer of refunds into checking or savings account
- Pay by credit card or ACH (electronic debit of checking or savings account)
- Delay-payment of taxes (file as early as you like and set up payment date for anytime before April 15)

### What is needed to E-File:

- Social Security numbers for you and your spouse
- W-2 forms from all employers
- 1099 forms and Federal Schedules C, E, & F
- Date of move for residents who moved in 2010
- Bank routing number and account number - for fast refund or to pay electronically

To have a RITA payment electronically debited from a checking or savings account, all that is required is the bank routing number and account number found at the bottom of your checks. Credit cards are also accepted. For more information, log onto [ritaohio.com](http://ritaohio.com) or call 800-860-7482.

## Guitarist Jason Vieaux "At Home with the Arts"

The Shaker Arts Council (SHAC) will sponsor an At Home with the Arts (AHA) program featuring renowned guitarist Jason Vieaux, on Friday, April 8 at 7 pm, at Loganberry Books in the Larchmere shopping district.

Vieaux, a Shaker resident, is head of the Cleveland Institute of Music Guitar Department, and is the youngest department head to serve at the prestigious conservatory. He is noted for his engaging, imagi-

native, and virtuosic live performances.

Vieaux began guitar studies at age eight with Jeremy Sparks in Buffalo, New York, and continued study at the Cleveland Institute of Music with John Holmquist. The Cleveland Institute of Music honored Vieaux with their Alumni Achievement Award in 1998.

He has toured throughout America, Europe, Mexico, Canada, the Far East, Australia, and New Zealand. To hear samples of his music, visit [jasonvieaux.com](http://jasonvieaux.com).

The cost of the program is \$30, or \$25 for SHAC members, and includes a wine and cheese reception and dessert afterward. Attendance is limited to 40. Register online at [shakerartscouncil.org](http://shakerartscouncil.org) or send a check made payable to Shaker Arts Council, Box 232, 16781 Chagrin Boulevard, Shaker Heights, 44120. For more information call 216-561-7454, or e-mail [info@shakerartscouncil.org](mailto:info@shakerartscouncil.org).

## Violinist Andrew Sords Returns to Perform with Shaker Symphony Orchestra

Former Shaker resident and acclaimed violinist Andrew Sords will perform with the Shaker Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, June 5 at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, 3450 Lee Road.

The performance begins at 3:30 pm. Sords will perform the Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor. He has performed in concert halls and venues throughout America, Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia.

Sords began his violin studies with Liza Grossman, founder and conductor of the Contemporary Youth Orchestra. He completed his undergraduate education at the Cleveland Institute of Music with violin pedagogues Linda Cerone and David Russell.

Sords also performed for the legendary Midori in master classes in New York and at the University of Southern California. Most recently, he studied under internationally acclaimed violinist Chee-Yun at The Southern Methodist University of



Dallas, Texas.

For ticket information, please call 216-491-1360.

## Welcoming Oaks Win Heritage Award

Laurie Ronis, chair of the City's Tree Advisory Board, nominated this year's winner of the Heritage Tree Award: a pair of large oak trees flanking Brown-Forward Funeral Home on Chagrin Boulevard.

Owners Rob and Judy Forward know that the trees date at least as far back as 1951, when their father purchased the funeral home, but likely are much older.

"I nominated the trees because they are such a welcoming sight, at an establishment where so many people in our community have received comfort. It's wonderful that Rob and Judy have taken such good care of these trees," says Ronis.

Residents can nominate trees by completing an application at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) or by calling the Public Works Department at 216-491-1490. Nominated trees are typically associated with a famous person or significant event, an historical landmark, or unusual in size, form or age.

## Too Mulch of a Good Thing?

As newly planted trees sprout up along tree lawns this spring, City Forestry Superintendent Patrick Neville has a reminder for residents about tree care. In a nutshell: take care with the flare.

"It may be tempting to cover up the exposed part of the tree roots, called the flare, with mulch. While it seems like this would help protect the tree, it can actually have the opposite effect," says Neville.

Mulch can be beneficial to plants and trees, but when placed too thickly or too close to the tree trunk, it prevents air and water from reaching the roots, causing stress to the tree. Water trapped under the mulch can cause root rot. And mounding mulch around the tree can create conditions that are favorable for fungi, pests, and disease.



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To help new trees thrive, residents are asked to follow these guidelines:

- Keep all mulch at least six inches away from the trunk.
- Apply mulch in a thickness no greater than two to four inches.
- Keep the root flare entirely visible.
- If mulch becomes matted, rake it loose to allow water through.
- Mulch breaks down slowly; there is no need to add more each year unless the layer has become very thin.
- Keep lawnmowers and trimmers away from the flare.
- Refrain from using landscape fabric around trees, which slows the delivery of water to the roots.
- Ask landscapers to follow the above guidelines as well.

In addition to proper mulching, residents are asked to help keep new trees watered throughout the spring and summer months. All newly planted trees are accompanied by a hang-tag with guidelines for their care.

To make the watering process easier, the City will once again be using Tree-gator® bags, which were introduced last year with great success.

Residents who have questions about tree care are encouraged to contact Forestry Superintendent Patrick Neville at 216-491-3285, or at [patrick.neville@shakeronline.com](mailto:patrick.neville@shakeronline.com).

## Business News

### Verb Ballets Moves to Shaker Heights

Margaret Carlson, Director of Verb Ballets and a Shaker resident, has announced that her nationally renowned dance company will take up residence at Christ Church on Warrensville Center Road this spring.

The dance company plans to utilize the basement area of the church for its offices, studio rehearsal, and instruction space. The long-term goal is to create a

space that can be used for performances.

Funds to facilitate the move and furnish the space will be provided by The Cleveland Foundation, which provided a \$10,000 grant, the Gund Foundation, which supplied a grant of \$7,500, and a partnership with the City of Shaker Heights, which provided a grant of \$10,000 from its Economic Development and Housing Fund, bringing the total budget to \$28,000.

Verb Ballets brings 11 dancers and office staff to Shaker, and adds to Shaker's reputation as a home for the arts. The troupe has committed to one pro bono performance each year, and to support area youth dance programs through master classes and workshops.

To celebrate its grand opening, Verb is offering eight weeks of evening and Saturday classes beginning April 2. Classes will consist of Adult Ballet, Contemporary Modern, Dance SAFETY (Strength, Alignment, Flexibility, Endurance, Tone, Yoga), and a literacy/creative movement class called Wigglewords for children ages 6-8.

To register or for more information, contact Katie Gnagy at [kgnagy@verbballnets.org](mailto:kgnagy@verbballnets.org), or call 216-397-3757, ext. 2.

You can catch Verb Ballets' latest choreography, Fresh Inventions, at Cleveland Public Theatre DanceWorks, May 5-7. The new pieces will pair local choreographers and composers along with sculptural artists. For tickets, call 216-631-2727, ext. 501 or visit [cptonline.org](http://cptonline.org).

### Woodlands of Shaker Heights LLC Buys Sunrise Assisted Living Facility

The Sunrise Assisted Living facility at 16333 Chagrin Blvd. is under new ownership and began operating as The Woodlands of Shaker Heights, LLC as of January 31. The new owner, Anne-Marie van der Velde, is also a part owner of several assisted living facilities in Indiana.

The Woodlands will continue to provide a full range of services for assisted living and Alzheimer's care. The facility

has retained all of its former Sunrise residents, and has added 14 new residents since January.

"Being a smaller business, we are able to be more flexible and creative in working with a family's financial situation," says van der Velde.

In addition, The Woodlands waives its admission fee to armed forces veterans and their spouses.

Van der Velde has increased the staffing at the facility to better meet residents' needs. She also brought in a new executive director, Shayne Handy, and a new director of community relations, Meredith Woods-Brown. Prospective families are welcome to tour and have lunch at the facility by appointment, by calling 216-751-0930. More information is available at [woodlandsofshaker.com](http://woodlandsofshaker.com).

"We are very proud and excited to be a part of this community," says van der Velde. "We know that this is probably the most difficult decision a family can make, to place a loved one in our care, and we take that responsibility very seriously."

## Neighborhood News

### Sussex

Katie Spotz, the youngest person to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean, gave an inspirational talk to junior high students at St. Dominic School in February. Her epic journey, and her passion to raise awareness of the need for clean drinking water around the world, wowed and challenged the young audience.

Spotz, a 24-year old native of Mentor, became impassioned about the issue while living in Melbourne, Australia during a drought. Her feat drew global attention and helped raise more than \$100,000 for Blue Planet Network, a non-profit organization that brings safe, sustainable water to people around the world.

After more than two years of planning, training, and preparation, Spotz embarked from Senegal in January 2010 and landed in Guyana in March – a journey of



3,038 miles.

"It was spectacular to have someone as influential as Katie Spatz here to inspire and empower the students," says St. Dominic Principal Sue Biggs.

## Shaker News Briefs

• Shaker resident **Paul H. Carleton** is the new chair of the Baldwin-Wallace College Board of Trustees. Carleton is managing director of Carleton McKenna & Co., LLC, which provides strategic and financial consulting services to corporations with a focus on healthcare, technology, and consumer products. In addition to being a B-W graduate and a trustee since 1996, Carleton also serves as a trustee or director for several local organizations, including Playhouse Square, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, UH Medical Group, The Center for Health Affairs, and Bluecoats, Inc.

• City Council has confirmed the Mayor's appointments to the Fair Housing Review Board, which is comprised of five members: the Mayor or his designee; one member of City Council; and three citizen members. The Board administers the provisions of the City's Fair Housing Ordinance and adjudicates complaints.

• Council member **Al Foster** serves as Chairperson (Term: 2010-2011).

**Ann Millette** serves as the Mayor's Designee (Appointed: June 2009).

**Gail Gibson** serves as a Citizen Member (Term: 2010-2012).

**Reginald Williams** has been re-appointed to a new three-year term. His previous term expired at the end of 2010.

The third citizen member position is currently vacant.

## Seasonal Reminders

**Bicycle Licensing:** Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday, April 9 & 16, and May 7, 14 & 21 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 shakeronline.com.

**Child Care Seats:** Is your child buckled up safely? The Fire Department offers free safety checks on car and booster seats required by the State, by appointment only. Call 216-491-1200. Appointments are subject to staff availability.


**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.

**Fire Hydrants:** The Fire Department will be flushing hydrants from April 4 through April 16. See the Calendar at shakeronline.com for streets schedule.


**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.

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

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# The Shaker Schools Update

## Join Us for Shakerfest!

Each spring, the Shaker schools open their doors to the community for Shakerfest, a celebration of our students' musical, theatrical, artistic, and academic talents. We invite you to come see our students in action at a variety of venues. For a complete schedule of events, please visit [shaker.org/shakerfest](http://shaker.org/shakerfest). Admission is free unless otherwise indicated. Highlights include:



### Shaker by Starlight

Learn about the spring and summer constellations, and how planets and solar systems are discovered. The Shaker Heights High School astronomy class and teacher Gene Zajac invite you to join them for the eighth annual Shaker by Starlight planetarium program on April 25, 26, and 27 and May 5 at 6 pm and 7:15 pm at the High School planetarium (room 173). Admission to this popular event is free, but seats fill quickly. Reservations can be made online at [www.shaker.org/shakerbystarlight](http://www.shaker.org/shakerbystarlight) or by calling Karen Dunbar at 216-295-1400. The 50-minute program is open to all ages. Seating is limited to 50 attendees per session.

### An Evening of Jazz

Thursday, April 14 at 7 pm, Shaker Middle School. Come enjoy jazz selections from the acclaimed High School and Middle School jazz bands.

### High School

#### Theatre Ensemble Show

Thursday, April 28, Friday April 29, and Saturday, April 30 in the Shaker Heights High School Large Auditorium at 8 pm. (Free senior adult preview on Wednesday, April 27 at 2 pm.) Tickets may be purchased by calling the Shaker Theatre Box Office at 216-295-4287, or online at [tix.com](http://tix.com).

#### Ice Cream Social & Band Concert

Tuesday, May 3 at 6:30 pm, on the High School front lawn. A Shaker family tradition! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the music, along with an ice cream sundae. Free admission.

#### High School Art Show

Shaker Heights Public Library, 16500 Van Aken Boulevard, 2nd Floor Art Gallery. Outstanding student artwork, including painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, and mixed media will be on display from April 29 to May 21. Opening night: Friday, April 29 at 7 pm.

## Kindergarten Roundup Time

Calling all members of the graduating class of 2024! Children who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2011, will be eligible to enter kindergarten this fall. The Shaker schools offer full-day, tuition-free kindergarten at all five K-4 elementary buildings. Each school holds a number of events to welcome incoming kindergartners and their families to the Shaker schools.

Early registration is encouraged in order to provide the smoothest transition possible for your child. The registration process can be initiated at any evening open house (even if it will not be your child's assigned school) or by visiting the registrar's office at 15600 Parkland Drive on weekdays between 8 am and 4:30 pm. No appointment is necessary.

Please join us for one or more of the following events:



#### BOULEVARD SCHOOL

14900 Drexmore Road, 216-295-4020

- Specials Tour (Art and P.E. class):

Thursday, April 14 from 1-2 pm.

- Classroom Visit & Bus Ride:

Tuesday, May 17 from 1:45-3 pm.

#### FERNWAY SCHOOL

17420 Fernway Road, 216-295-4040

- Kindergarten Open House &

Registration: Tuesday, April 19 at 7 pm.

#### LOMOND SCHOOL

17917 Lomond Blvd., 216-295-4050

- Preschool Bike Parade & Social:

Saturday, April 19 at 10 am.

#### MERCER SCHOOL

23325 Wimbledon Road, 216-295-4070

- Muffins in the Morning:

Wednesday, April 27 at 8 am.

- Kindergarten Open House & Regis-

tration: Thursday, May 12 at 6:30 pm.

#### ONAWAY SCHOOL

3115 Woodbury Road, 216-295-4080

- Kindergarten Roundup:

Friday, April 8 at 9:30 am.

The 2011-12 school year begins on August 23. For any questions about eligibility, school assignment, or registration materials, please contact Glenda Moss, Registrar, at [moss\\_g@shaker.org](mailto:moss_g@shaker.org) or 216-295-4324, or visit [shaker.org/prospective/registration.htm](http://shaker.org/prospective/registration.htm).

### How to **GET READY!** for Kindergarten

Sending children to kindergarten prepared to learn and with an understanding of a school routine is a critical first step toward success. This summer, Carol Nursery School offers its Human Relations Award winning GET READY! program to help entering kindergartners with minimal to no preschool experience get ready for kindergarten.

Young participants spend mornings

involved in play-based activities that incorporate literacy and math skills such as expressing ideas, sharing information, letter and number recognition, and listening to and creating stories. Socialization and mastering school routines are practiced in every session.

The 2011 GET READY! program is funded by the City of Shaker Heights and the Ohio Children's Foundation. The program is four days a week, from 9 am to 1 pm and includes a lunch period.

The 2011 enrollment has been increased to 42 children for an affordable \$60 per Shaker resident child. Non-resident children pay \$72. Financial assistance may be available for qualifying families. For more information, call 216-991-3449 or visit [carolnurseryschool.org](http://carolnurseryschool.org).

### **Alumni in the Spotlight**

**David Cassarett, M.D.**, '85, physician, researcher, and associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, is the author of *Last Acts: Discovering Possibility and Opportunity at the End of Life*, which draws from his experience as a hospice and palliative care physician.

**Ralph Hexter**, '70, was named provost and executive vice president of the University of California, Davis in January. A respected scholar in classics and comparative literature, Hexter formerly served as president of Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass.

**Beth Hise**, '85, an historian and museum curator living in Sydney, Australia, is the author of *Swinging Away: How Cricket and Baseball Connect*, which examines the linked histories of the two sports. An exhibit based on her findings was mounted first at Lord's Cricket Ground in Lon-


don and then moved to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York this spring.

**Amy Lazarus**, '02, executive director of the Sustained Dialogue Campus Network in Washington, D.C., received the 2010 USA Networks "Characters Unite" Award for her work in fighting prejudice and discrimination. Her organization works with students from colleges around the country to alleviate social tensions and make their communities more cohesive. Lazarus is a former leader of Shaker's Student Group on Race Relations.

**Selena Simmons-Duffin**, '04, is a production assistant for NPR's "Morning Edition" in Washington, D.C., where she provides on-air reporting, interviews, and commentary on a wide range of subjects.

**Jamil Smith**, '93, is a producer with MSNBC's "The Rachel Maddow Show" in New York City. Smith honed his production skills at CNN, HBO Sports, and NFL Films before joining MSNBC last July.

**Abdul Williams**, '90, a screenwriter living in Los Angeles, co-wrote the screenplay for *The Lottery Ticket*, a major movie release starring Bow Wow and Ice Cube. The movie chronicles the escapades that befall a young lottery winner over the long weekend as he waits to cash in his \$370 million ticket.

**Robert Wood**, '88, is executive and artistic director of Urban Arias, a new opera company based in Washington, D.C., dedicated to producing short, accessible, and entertaining contemporary operas. Wood made his debut with the San Francisco opera in 2004, and has garnered praise for his interpretations of bel canto works. 

*For the latest news and info about the Shaker schools, please visit [shaker.org](http://shaker.org). To receive regular e-news updates, subscribe at [shaker.org/news](http://shaker.org/news).*





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## REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between September 1 and October 31, 2010 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	2010 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE
15810 ALDESYDE DR	\$550,000	\$ 551,000 (2003)
3325 BRAEMAR ROAD	\$220,000	\$ 222,000 (2008)
22025 CALVERTON ROAD	\$389,000	\$ 305,000 (2003)
2910 CHADBOURNE ROAD	\$174,900	\$ 168,000 (2001)
3290 CHALFANT ROAD	\$325,000	\$ 340,000 (2008)
2680 CHESTERTON ROAD	\$950,000	\$1,000,000 (2009)
2677 COVENTRY ROAD	\$120,000	\$ 240,000 (2002)
3397 DALEFORD ROAD	\$ 80,000	\$ 27,600 (2008)
3315 DORCHESTER ROAD	\$265,000	\$ 335,000 (2003)
22450 DOUGLAS ROAD	\$140,000	\$ 116,667 (2010)
3709 GLENCAIRN ROAD	\$112,500	\$ 115,000 (2009)
3275 LANSMERE ROAD	\$169,900	\$ 128,000 (2006)
17428 LOMOND BLVD	\$170,000	\$ 34,000 (2007)
2886 W PARK BLVD	\$900,000	\$ 840,000 (2003)
2712 ROCKLYN ROAD	\$275,000	\$ 345,000 (2000)
23825 STANFORD ROAD	\$555,000	\$ 705,000 (2006)
23999 STANFORD ROAD	\$252,900	\$ 230,000 (2009)
21075 SYDENHAM ROAD	\$275,000	\$ 430,000 (2001)
18435 VAN AKEN BLVD	\$239,900	\$ 350,000 (2005)
17709 WINSLOW ROAD	\$ 90,000	\$ 240,000 (2005)
18016 WINSLOW ROAD	\$116,000	\$ 215,000 (2007)
17475 S WOODLAND ROAD	\$755,000	\$ 275,000 (2009)
21576 S WOODLAND ROAD	\$266,000	\$ 215,000 (2000)

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

21887 BYRON ROAD	\$ 300,000	\$ 200,000 (1995)
3316 DORCHESTER ROAD	\$ 185,000	\$ 192,500 (1998)
2939 HUNTINGTON ROAD	\$ 207,500	\$ 188,000 (1995)
22900 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$ 460,000	\$ 515,000 (1999)
2867 TORRINGTON ROAD	\$ 440,000	\$ 385,000 (1995)

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

2942 EATON ROAD	\$ 335,000	\$ 262,000 (1991)
3370 KENMORE ROAD	\$ 168,500	\$ 149,000 (1992)
23150 LYMAN BLVD	\$ 222,000	\$ 235,000 (1992)
15800 S PARK BLVD	\$1,350,000	\$ 475,000 (1992)
23220 SHAKER BLVD	\$ 292,500	\$ 242,500 (1994)
19001 S WOODLAND ROAD	\$ 223,000	\$ 237,000 (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

### Apartments:

Norwood Apartments  
Owners: Robert & Randa Jacobs  
3680 Norwood Road  
Certified: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010

### Rental Homes:

3658 Lynnfield Road, Owners:  
Lawrence & Elizabeth Sargent  
Certified: 2002-2004, 2007-2010, 2010

3684 Riedham Road  
Owner: 3684 Riedham LLC  
Certified: 2010

*continued on next page*



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## Spring Brings New Life Celebrate Yours at Our Lady of Peace



### The Catholic Community for the Shaker Square Neighborhood

Masses:

Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 9 & 11 am

Shaker Blvd. and East 126th St.

For information: 216-421-4211

[www.olpchurch.com](http://www.olpchurch.com)

Rev. Gary D. Chmura, *Pastor*

2945 Warrensville Center Rd,  
Owner: Mary S. Anton, Trustee  
Certified: 2004-2008, 2010

18401 Winslow Road  
Owners: Robert & Randa Jacops  
Certified: 2011

### Landlord Training and Fair Housing Compliance

Think you know the basics? Take the Landlord Quiz at [shakeronline.com/landlord](http://shakeronline.com/landlord) to find out. Even landlords with a perfect score can benefit from the City's free, comprehensive Landlord Training Course to stay on top of the latest legal issues, property maintenance tips, marketing strategies, and City requirements. The course also covers Ohio landlord-tenant laws and fair housing compliance.

The next class is in May at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building. The class is free, but space is limited. To register, call 216-361-9240 or email [denglish@thehousingcenter.org](mailto:denglish@thehousingcenter.org).

### Free Seminar: Planning Your Rehab Project

The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission and the Shaker Heights Public Library have teamed up with the Cleveland Restoration Society to present a free seminar for homeowners: Planning Your Rehab Project. The program will be held on Tuesday, April 19 from 7-8 pm at Main Library, 16500 Van Aken Boulevard.

Staff members of the Cleveland Restoration Society will cover how to plan for a rehab project, how to choose the right contractor for the job, and what to look for when reviewing bids. CRS staff will be on-hand to answer questions following the presentation.

The program is free, but reservations are requested and can be made in person at the Library, by calling 216-991-2030, or online at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org).

### Send in Nominations for 13th Annual Preservation Awards

The Landmark Commission is now seeking nominations for the 2011 Preservation Awards program. Exterior projects completed within the last two years are eligible. Recipients are acknowledged for success in preserving, rehabilitating, restoring, or interpreting the architectural integrity and cultural heritage of a Shaker home or building.

Project categories include: Retention of Original Materials, Exterior Restoration, Excellence in Stewardship, Distinguished Landscape, and Architecturally Appropriate Addition.

Property owners, architects, or contractors can nominate themselves and/or others. All residential and non-residential building types are eligible.

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. This awards program is mirrored after the program established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1971.

Please submit nominations by April 29 to the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. Nomination forms and a list of previous award winners are available at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) or by contacting Ann Klavora at 216-491-1436 or [ann.klavora@shakeronline.com](mailto:ann.klavora@shakeronline.com). 







## Library Open House

The Library will host an Open House at 8:30 am Tuesday, May 17 to give local officials and guests an opportunity to tour the newly renovated areas on the second floor of the Main Library, including the newly expanded Computer Center and Training Lab.

Although the new training room features desks from the former Computer Center, the rest of the space has new desks. Likewise, each area has new seating and new computers equipped with the latest Windows operating system and Office 2010 software. In addition, the training area has a state-of-the-art "Smart Board" projection and sound system.

Thirteen workstations in the Training Lab and three in the Computer Center have been purchased from the Library's operating budget with matching funds from a Connect Ohio partnership and its Every Citizen Online (ECO) grant through the federal government's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The remaining 24 workstations in the Computer Center have been financed by a grant from the Library's Endowment Fund with the Cleveland Foundation and from the library's operating budget.

BTOP funds will continue to pay for the basic ECO computer training classes with the goal of teaching more people how to connect to broadband Internet access. Library staff will offer six hours of free training in the areas of mouse use, email, and Internet search each month through November 2012.

Other enhancements on the second floor include a Friends of the Library book sale sorting room, storage space, a maintenance workshop, and office space for staff.

The \$1.5 million bond issue approved

by Shaker voters in 2004 has funded building renovations. Previous expenditures include a new slate roof for the Main Library, library material security systems for both Main Library and Bertram Woods, a new security camera system for Main Library, print and time management software for public computers at both Main and Woods, and automatic front entrance doors at Main Library.

As part of the second and final year of funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, three new public computers – two in the adult area and one into the children's area – have been installed at Woods Branch. Every workstation at Main Library and Woods Branch will be upgraded to include the Windows 7 operating system and Office 2010 software. Many of the library catalog and express stations have been upgraded with late-model equipment.

## State Budget Issues Impact Shaker Library

Like other public libraries across the state, Shaker Library has been affected by the budget battles in Columbus. Since 2008, state library funding has declined 23 percent, and in 2010, the Library's level of state income was its lowest since 1993. While state funding for libraries remained flat, the consumer price index rose 51 percent, and the overall state budget grew 66.7 percent – or 77.6 percent if federal dollars are included.

As late as 1990, most libraries in the state had no local levies. As state support of public libraries has dwindled, however, that has changed. Most libraries now have levies. (Shaker Library sought its first levy in 1974.)

The Library is fortunate to have a community that supports and uses its

library. In the late 1980s local property tax income made up 34 percent of the Library's income; it now represents 66 percent of the Library's total receipts. We would not be able to provide the levels of service that we do without the generosity of our residents.

The Library is grateful to the citizens of Shaker Heights for their continued support for library funding at the local and state levels.

## Looking For a New Career Direction?

Shaker Library and Tri C's Career Development and Transition Services will present four free workshops to help job seekers acquire the skills they need for gainful employment or new careers. The series of four two-hour classes begins May 2. Classes will be held from 1-3 pm Mondays at the Main Library. Participants can attend one or all of the sessions, and can register in person, by phone, or online at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org).

**MAY 2 – RESUMES THAT GET RESULTS**  
How to develop an effective resume.

**MAY 9 – DEVELOPING YOUR JOB SEARCH PLAN**  
The general guidelines and key components for an effective Job Search Plan.

**MAY 16 – NETWORKING...GET WITH IT**  
Learn how to get your message out, to get referrals, and to gain insight into your target market.

**MAY 23 – ACE THAT INTERVIEW**  
Learn the basic guidelines: how to reply to traditional questions, behavioral-based questions, and telephone interviews.

## **LEAP Can Help Make Reading Fun**

Bookshare® is an online library of digital books for people with print disabilities. The Library offers its cardholders access to LEAP the Library eBook Accessibility Program – in partnership with Bookshare and OverDrive, the Library's technology partner for this site.

If you or your child have a disability that makes reading a book difficult or impossible, you may qualify for this service. Proof of Disability (certified by a qualified professional) is required for registration. Individuals can sign up for a free membership and access the Library on their own. Organizations that serve people with print disabilities, such as schools, libraries, or community centers, can sign up and provide access to their students.

Members can download books and newspapers in a compressed, encrypted file. They then read the material using adaptive technology – typically software that reads the book aloud (text-to-speech) and/or displays the text of the book on a computer screen or on Braille access devices, such as refreshable Braille displays.

To sign up for Bookshare, go to [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org) and click on the "Download eMedia" link on the bottom right. You will be taken to a page where you can learn about the LEAP program.

A great number of the books in the Bookshare library are scanned and proof-read by volunteers. Residents interested in volunteering can go to [www.bookshare.org](http://www.bookshare.org)

## **Download Audiobooks, eBooks, Music, and Video – Anytime, Anywhere**

The Library offers best-selling and classic audiobooks, eBooks, music, and video available 24/7 from the library's website. Go to [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org) and, under the "Tools" heading, click on Download

eMedia and browse the collection. Check out with a Shaker Library card and begin to download your eBook to enjoy popular titles in the comfort of your home.

The titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices. Some audio titles can be burned to a CD for on-the-go listening. Titles automatically expire at the end of the lending period, and there are no late fees!

With hundreds of popular fiction and non-fiction titles to choose from, the new collection is guaranteed to have something for everyone - best-selling novels, well-known classics, self-improvement guides, and more. Best of all, this new service, powered by OverDrive, is free with your Shaker Library card.

## **Dickinson Appointed to American Libraries Advisory Committee**

Library Director Luren Dickinson has been appointed to a two-year term on the American Libraries Advisory Committee. The committee reviews and recommends editorial policies for American Libraries magazine, a monthly publication of the American Library Association, which provides oversight and policy implementation within the framework of the ALA Publishing Committee. His term begins in June 2011 and ends in June 2013.

## **Latin Jam with Shari Hunter & Friends**

Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month with vocalist Shari Hunter and Friends at 2 pm Sunday, April 3 at the Main Library in a musical program featuring the sounds and rhythms of today's Latin jazz artists.

Joining Hunter will be George Pearson on keyboard, Clarence Smith on bass, Robert Booker on drums, Lem Adams on xylophone, and percussionist Anthony Taylor.

There is no fee for the program. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2030.

## **NoveList Plus: A Helpful and Fun Database**

Need help finding a good book? Looking for a specific genre or a novel set in a particular location? Looking for a story that reads like the last book you read, or for something to tide you over until your favorite author publishes again? NoveList Plus can help you find your next book, fiction or nonfiction.

Features include the ability to search for an author, title, or series, or to choose a genre and to narrow it further. It also helps to find author read-alikes. If you like Isabel Allende's novels, NoveList will suggest those of Julia Alvarez and Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

NoveList is easy to search, fun to explore, and includes book discussion guides and articles about many terrific books. Access it through the Library's website at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org). Use the top search box on the page to search for "Novelist." You will need a Shaker Library card to use it outside the library.

## **Bicycle Programs at Woods Branch**

Albert Einstein claimed that he thought of the theory of relativity while riding a bicycle. Susan B. Anthony believed that the bicycle did more to emancipate women than anything else in the world.

While bicycling won't make you the next Einstein or Susan B. Anthony, it is good for the mind, body and spirit, and, in that vein, the Library has scheduled a three-pronged series focusing on bicycles that to be held at Woods Branch.

From 2-3 pm Saturday, May 14, the Shaker Heights Police Department will be on site to remind families how to stay safe and have fun on their bikes. Plus, the SHPD will waive the \$5 license fee for all those who bring their bikes and apply for their licenses at the program.

At 7 pm Wednesday May 18, meet Rick Smith, creator of the comic strip "Yehuda Moon & the Kickstand Cyclery,"

which appears in every issue of *Bicycle Times*. Smith will talk about his comic strip and introduce you to some of his characters, including the bike ninja, the



Smith

bike hypochondriac, Fred, Thistle Gin, the Shakers who build the bicycle frames, Kevlar Bead, neighborhood kids, roadies, commuters, and more. In addition, Smith will share his bike commuting experience.

He is also helping to create an online hub for Cleveland and Northeast Ohio cyclists. The rest of his free time is spent with his wife, Tania Menesse, who is Shaker Heights' director of economic development, and their two children.

Following his talk, Smith's books will be available for sale and signing. There is no fee for the program. Reservations are requested and can be made in person, online, or by calling: 216-991-2421.

At 2 pm Saturday May 21, Frank Hall of Bicycle Boulevard will present Basic Bike Know-How when he will talk about how to select a bicycle and offer tips for basic bike upkeep and repair.

Hall is a 1980 graduate of Shaker Heights High School who has been selling and fixing bikes in the Heights since 1978. Trained as an auto mechanic, Frank chose bicycles as a profession for environmental reasons and because he finds that "people are happier and more fun

to work with" when it comes to bikes. He opened Bicycle Boulevard on 20132 Chagrin Boulevard in 1994, where he enjoys not only assembling and repairing bikes, but also helping people choose the right bicycle for their needs.

Hall leads bike rides from his shop between 6:30-8:30 pm Wednesday nights June through September. Riders enjoy a sociable atmosphere while biking approximately 20 miles. To find out more about the bike rides, call Hall at 216-751-2583. To register for program, call 216-991-2421 or register online at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org)

### Shaker High School's Art Exposed II

The Library, Shaker Arts Council, and the Shaker Schools will host a gallery-opening reception and exhibit of some of Shaker Heights High School's best student art from 7-9 pm Friday, April 29 at the Main Library. Last year's exhibit garnered the highest community approval rating of all exhibits in 2010. The Library will close to the public and open its doors to artists, parents, and art appreciators for the evening.

SHHS art department chair, Dan Whitley, has worked with his students to help them learn what is involved in hanging and hosting an art exhibit. The exhibit will be on display through May 20.

### Not Your Mother's Politics: An Intergenerational Discussion

The Library, the League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights, and Case Western Reserve University's Flora Stone Mather Center for Women presents *Not Your Mother's Politics: An Intergenerational Discussion* from 7-8:45 pm Thursday, April 21 at the Main Library.

Participants are encouraged to bring a woman from a different generation with them.

After the last presidential and mid-term elections, it was noted that there were disparities in political views among different generations of women. This observation led to a discussion by cwrw's Center for Women and the Shaker League of Women Voters on the importance of women of different generations opening the lines of communication. It was also the impetus for the *Not Your Mother's Politics* program.

Karen Beckwith, chair of cwrw's Department of Political Science (2010-2011) and Flora Stone Mather Professor, will begin the discussion with background information on patterns of political participation among American women. Beckwith is an expert on politics and gender, and political women and American democracy. There will be a question-and-answer session following Beckwith's presentation and participants will break into small groups to discuss



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**MAIN LIBRARY** ■ 16500 VAN AKEN BOULEVARD ■ 216-991-2030 EXT 3141  
**BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH** ■ 20600 FAYETTE ROAD ■ 216-991-2421 EXT 2241

#### PLAY AND LEARN STATION

##### 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

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

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays,  
& Saturdays

*No registration required.*

#### PLAY AND LEARN STATION

##### FOR CAREGIVERS

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

10 am-noon Wednesdays

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

*Play and Learn programs are a partnership with Family Connections.*

#### SATURDAY PRESCHOOL STORIES

##### AT PLAY AND LEARN STATION

Stories and fun for preschoolers.

11 am Saturdays.

*No registration required.*

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

Join us every Friday for facilitated play time with your special needs child ages 3-5.

1-3 pm Fridays.

*For more information, please call Family Connections: 216-921-2030.*

#### NESTLINGS

It's never too soon to start sharing books with babies! Enjoy songs and rhymes, books and bounces in this class for babies 5 to 15 months, with an adult.

**Spring Session:** March 14-May 3,  
9:30 am, Mondays at Main Library.  
(Class is held on the second floor in meeting room B.)

9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch  
(Must be target age by March 14.)

#### FLEDGLINGS

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

**Spring Session:** March 14-May 3,  
10:30 am Mondays at Main Library.  
(Class is held on the second floor in meeting room B.)

10:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch  
*Register in person, by phone, or online.*  
(Must be target age by March 14.)

#### TERRIFIC TWOS

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

**Spring Session:** March 14-May 5  
10 am Mondays or Wednesdays  
at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays or Thursdays  
at Main Library

*Register in person, by phone, or online.*  
(Must be age 2 by March 14.)

#### PRESCHOOL STORIES

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

1:30 pm Tuesdays & 10 am Thursdays

at Woods Branch

10 am Wednesdays at Main Library

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

#### PAJAMA STORIES AT WOODS BRANCH

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

7:15 pm Mondays, April 18 and May 16  
*Registration begins two weeks before each program.*

#### WRITERS CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY

(Grades 2-4)

An enriching program that encourages children to express themselves using their imagination and words. Poetry, creative fiction, letters, postcards and newsletters, menus, and maps are just some of the literary forms that young writers will explore.

**Spring Session:** March 15-May 3,  
4:15-5 pm Tuesdays.

*Register in person, by phone, or online.*

#### THE HOMEWORK CENTER

**AT MAIN LIBRARY** (Grades 2-6)

Free homework help provided by teachers under the supervision of 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, Tuesdays,  
& Wednesdays

Meeting Room F. The Homework Center is generously funded by MyCom.

#### APRIL IS NATIONAL CARD AND LETTER WRITING MONTH (Grades K-4)

Send some happiness. Make someone smile. Write them a letter! Imagine how happy grandma or grandpa, a favorite aunt, uncle, cousin, or friend would be to receive a letter in the mail. We'll provide the stationery, envelopes, and fun postage

stamps. You provide the writing, drawing, photos, or other fun items you want to send to someone special.

4:15-5 pm Wednesday, April 6  
at Main Library

*In person, by phone, and online registration.*

#### **CELEBRATE JAPANESE CHILDREN'S DAY AT MAIN LIBRARY (Grades K-4)**

Celebrate Kodomo No Hi (Japanese Children's Day)! Imagine a day reserved to honor children. Japanese children enjoy this special day every year, with games, carp kites, sweet treats, and samurai dolls – and now you can too!

4:15-5 pm Wednesday, May 4

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning Wednesday, April 20.*

#### **BIKE SAFETY PROGRAM AT WOODS**

(For families and children)

Bike riding season is here! Shaker Police will be on site to remind families how to stay safe and have fun on their bikes this summer. For attendees who bring their bicycles and apply for their licenses at the program, the Shaker Police Department will waive the \$5 license fee.

2-3 pm Saturday, May 14

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning Saturday, April 30.*

#### **KINDERMUSIK FOR TODDLERS AT WOODS BRANCH**

Music and movement program for 2- and 3-year-olds with an adult

10-10:45 am Friday, May 20

Music and movement program for babies from birth to 18 months with an adult

11-11:45 am Friday, May 20

*Register in person, by phone or online beginning Friday, May 6.*

issues important to them.

The *Not Your Mother's Politics* planning committee is co-chaired by Shaker residents Susan Troia and Colette Hart. Other committee members include Katie Emerson, Jane Finley, Mary Mulligan, and Susan Stechshulte.

The program is free. Reservations are requested and may be made in person, by phone, or online at shakerlibrary.org.

#### **Stephen King's Colorado**

Join Shaker Library's Ed Rossman for a scenic tour of Stephen King's *Colorado*, the panoramic backdrop for his books *The Shining*, *The Stand*, and *Misery*, at 3 pm Saturday, April 16. The interactive multi-media presentation is a celebration of some of King's most beloved work. Rossman taught a course on the works of Stephen King for Red Rocks Community College in Colorado in the 1980s.

Rossman has an M.A. degree in Communications from Ohio University and a Masters of Library and Information Science from Kent State University. In addition to his work as a librarian, he teaches several courses at area colleges.

There is no fee for the program. Reservations are requested in person, by phone, or online at shakerlibrary.org.

#### **Cleveland Restoration Society Programs Offered at Main Library**

The Library and the City's Landmark Commission will co-sponsor a series of free educational seminars on topics of interest to Shaker homeowners. Staff from the Cleveland Restoration Society will offer a variety of helpful lectures followed by question-and-discussion sessions. All programs will be held at the Main Library from 7 to 8 pm.

The first seminar, *Planning Your Rehab*

*Project*, is scheduled for 7 pm Tuesday, April 19 and will offer guidance in how to plan for the project, choose the right contractor for the job, and review the bids.

The program is free. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2030 or online at shakerlibrary.org.

#### **Rightsizing For Seniors: Seamless Relocation Tips For Seniors "On The Move" and their Families**

Lee-Ann Spacek, a real estate consultant specializing in senior transition services, will speak about downsizing housing options, transition living arrangements, and organizing a move for senior adults and their families at 7 pm Wednesday, May 11 at Main Library.

Spacek is the owner of North Coast Residential Relocation and has more than 30 years experience in the residential real estate and relocation business. In the past four years, she has focused on advocacy for seniors downsizing and moving from the larger family home to a smaller, more manageable residence or retirement community.

Spacek has a B.A. from Baldwin-Wallace College and has participated in leadership training at the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University. She has been vice president and general manager at Smythe, Cramer Co., and vice president of Relocation Services at both Smythe, Cramer Co. and Realty One Real Living.

There is no fee for the program. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2030.



**Spacek**

## Teen Scene

### TURN UP THE VOLUME!

#### LEARN DJING AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

Learn hands-on what it's like to execute perfect blends, clean mixes, and unique sounds. Progressive Arts Alliance will show you how.

4-5:30 pm Tuesday, April 5

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning March 22.*

### BE A MUSIC PRODUCER!

#### LEARN BEATMAKING AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

Take a step into the world of music production with Progressive Arts Alliance. Using software and samples, you'll produce tracks and create original music.

4-5:30 pm Tuesday, April 19.

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 5.*

### STEP OUT FRONT!

#### LEARN MCING AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

This is where your self-expression, creativity, djing, and beatmaking skills all come together into your own original style. Progressive Arts Alliance helps you put it all together.

4-5:30 pm Tuesday, April 26

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 12.*

### FAMILY GENEALOGY FOR TEENS

#### AT MAIN LIBRARY

Come with your parent, grandparent, aunt, or uncle and have fun using online resources and genealogy software to follow the trail of your ancestors' lives. Bring information on your family's birth dates and places, marriage records and dates, maiden names, and death information.

Computer Lab Second Floor.

7-8 pm Thursday, April 7

*In-person, phone, and online registration.*

### 7TH ANNUAL TEEN VOLUNTEER FAIR

#### AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for teens ages 12-18 to meet with representatives from area organizations looking for 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 20

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

### EUROPEAN STYLE CAKE DECORATING FOR TEENS AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

Learn the fine art of decorating cakes, cupcakes, and pastries from the professional bakers at Lucy's Sweet Surrender. Get a peek into this exciting career. Best of all, take your beautiful creations home.

4-5:30 pm Wednesday, April 27,

Main Library

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 13.*

4-5:30 pm Thursday, April 28,

Woods Branch

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 14.*

### FINAL TAB MEETING AT MAIN LIBRARY

Members of the Teen Advisory Board will receive their participation certificates and Community Service Hours.

7:30-8:15 pm Tuesday, May 3.

### PSAT FREE PRACTICE TEST & STRATEGY SESSION FOR GRADE 9

#### AT MAIN LIBRARY\*

PSAT practice test: 9:15-11:45 am Saturday, May 14.

Strategy session: 9:15-11 am Saturday, May 21.

You must be registered to take the test. No one will be admitted to the test once the doors close. *Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 30.*

*\*Classes generously funded by MyCom*



## Free Computer Classes in April and May

### EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE

10 AM-NOON, SATURDAYS APRIL 2, 9, & 16

April 2: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. April 9: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. April 16: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

### WINWAY RESUME WRITING

3-4:30 PM, SATURDAY APRIL 2

10-11:30 AM, MONDAY MAY 2

Learn to create a professional looking resume with Winway Resume Deluxe 11. This program offers video segments for learning, a manager for contacts and job leads, and search functions that gather resources into a single page. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse.

### BASIC WORD PROCESSING

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, APRIL 4

Learn to format documents using Microsoft Word software. Topics to be covered include: formatting text and paragraphs, text alignment, the use of toolbars, menus, and context-sensitive menus. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse.

### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL®

7-8:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 5

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Learn the basics of spreadsheet construction, including formatting and design, printing options, creating and using basic formulas. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse to drag and highlight.

### INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT®

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 12

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.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

6:30-8:30 PM WEDNESDAYS,

APRIL 6, 13, & 20

April 6: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. April 13: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. April 20: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

2:30-4:30 PM THURSDAYS,

APRIL 7, 14, & 21

April 7: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. April 14: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. April 21: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

**CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL®**

7-8:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 12

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Explore the ways that Excel can display data as charts and graphs. Learn the basic ways data can be charted, and review chart types to understand how they are used and with what kind of data. Some familiarity with Excel spreadsheets is expected.

**GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 19

Learn to create effective PowerPoint presentations by inserting clip art, Word Art, digital pictures, and even text boxes into slides. Basic familiarity with creating

slides and slideshows is expected.

**INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:****ONLINE JOB HUNTING**

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 16

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, MAY 16

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. Mouse skills are required for this class.

**GRAPHICS AND CLIP ART IN WORD®**

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, APRIL 18

This class explores the various types of objects that can be inserted into a document, including text boxes, clip art, word art, and other types of graphics. Learn how to crop, adjust properties and explore various ways of wrapping text around graphics.

**FORMULAS FOR SPREADSHEETS**

7-8:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 19

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

This class will concentrate on making formulas, which do much of the calculating work in a spreadsheet. We will use a few spreadsheet programs to become familiar with how a formula is constructed, how it works, and how to make new formulas.

**ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 26

Everything in a slide can be animated. Learn the important objects that can be added to a slide and the menus that control them. Participants should be familiar with the basics of creating a slide show, including adding new slides and using graphics. Using the mouse and searching on the Internet are required skills.

**WORKING WITH WINDOWS®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

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 include opening, moving, resizing and arranging windows, copying and pasting, as well as tips and tricks for using the keyboard to make some activities easier. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

**SOCIAL NETWORKING:****MYSPACE, FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN**

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 30

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.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

6:30-8:30 PM TUESDAYS, MAY 3, 10, & 17

May 3: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. May 10: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. May 17: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

**WEB EMAIL**

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 5

Learn to access 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 to click, drag and highlight and be able to navigate websites and type URLs.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

6:30-8:30 PM WEDNESDAYS,

MAY 11, 18, & 25

May 11: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. May 18: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. May 25: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how

to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

## EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE

10 AM-NOON SATURDAYS,

MAY 14, 21, & 28

May 14: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. May 21: Using the Internet, Search tools, Getting an email address, Using email. May 28: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. If time permits we will consider Search Skills, Social Networking, and Cloud Computing, with an emphasis on job skills and services.

## MOUSE CLASS

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 14

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.

## OPENOFFICE.ORG

7-8:30 PM TUESDAY, MAY 24

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

## INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

### GOOGLEMANIA™

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 28

Learn advanced Internet searching strategies using the Google™ search engine, including tips and tricks for finding better information more quickly and efficiently. Topics will include Google Advanced Search, Settings and Preferences, Google Maps, Google Books, and many other

services. Participants must be able to use the mouse to click, drag, and highlight. Basic Internet skills are also required.

## INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

### GOOGLE DOCUMENTS™

7-8:30 PM TUESDAY, MAY 31

With just a web browser, work on documents, spreadsheets, and databases over the Internet. Invite others to edit the documents and work collaboratively. Mousing and Internet skills are needed. Some familiarity with productivity software is useful.

## Book Discussions in April and May at the Main Library

### Book Buzz:

*Tortilla Curtain* by T. Coraghessan Boyle

10 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 12

This social novel is the story of two disparate couples – illegal immigrants from Mexico and wealthy suburbanites – seeking the American Dream in Southern California.

### Mystery Book Discussion:

*Ravens* by George Dawes Green

7:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 12

When two Ohio men headed to Florida for vacation learn that a small-town Georgia family has won \$318 million dollars in the lottery, they quickly hatch a plan to terrorize the family into sharing their winnings.

### Reflections Book Club:

*Bombay Time* by Thrity Umrigar

7:30 PM TUESDAY, APRIL 26

The wedding of a modern Parsi man provides the older women in his unique community an opportunity to reflect on the past and on the recent changes in their culture.

### Book Buzz:

*Pope Joan* by Donna Cross

10 AM TUESDAY, MAY 10

Life during the Dark Ages is recreated in this vivid portrayal of a courageous, inde-



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pendent woman who overcomes oppression to ascend to a position of high authority in the Church.

## Mystery Book Discussion:

*A Beautiful Place to Die* by Malla Nunn

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MAY 10

Who murdered the Afrikaaner police captain in a small South African town in 1952? Investigating Detective Sergeant Emmanuel Cooper encounters resistance from many quarters, including the National Police who enforce the country's apartheid laws.

## Reflections Book Club:

*The Heretic's Daughter* by Kathleen Kent

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MAY 24

An alleged witch and her daughter join forces to fight the injustice, superstition, and hysterical trials in Salem, Massachusetts.

## Poetry Alive at the Library!

*"Poetry isn't a profession; it's a way of life. It's an empty basket; you put your life into it and make something out of that."* – Mary Oliver

April is National Poetry Month and what better way to celebrate than to attend a poetry program? Join poets Max Stark, Lou Suarez, and Clarissa Jakobsons at 7 pm Tuesday, April 5 when they perform their poetry at Woods Branch.

Lou Suarez is the author of two book-length collections of poetry, *Ask and Traveler*, and three poetry chapbooks, *Losses of Moment*, *The Grape Painter*, and *On U.S. 6 to Providence*. He is currently professor emeritus at Lorain County Community College.

Max Stark has been writing poetry for 30 years. A number of his poems have been published in U.S. journals and have been part of staged performances at the Cleveland Play House. He has studied improvisational acting and produced multi-cultural theater.

Clarissa Jakobsons teaches a variety of art and writing classes at Cuyahoga

Community College. The artist and poet is associate editor of the *Arsenic Lobster* poetry magazine, and was first place winner of the Akron Art Museum's New Words Competition in 2005. Her poetry has been published in *Ruminate*, *Qarrtsiluni*, *Ascent Aspirations*, *The Yale Journal for Humanities in Medicine*, *DreamSeeker Magazine*, and *Literary Mama*. Her handmade artistic books have been exhibited at Abecedarium in Denver and the Ingalls Library of the Cleveland Museum of Art.

At 7 pm Tuesday, May 17 at Woods Branch, have fun at The Big Book Party and poetry gathering to celebrate the recently published book, *The Big Book of Daniel: The Collected Poems of Daniel Thompson*. Join Maj Ragain (co-editor) and Michael Bradley (Daniel puppeteer), and many regional poets who will read Daniel's poetry and share stories.

Daniel Thompson (1935-2004) was a Cleveland poet, civil rights activist, and advocate for the homeless. He was the first Poet Laureate of Cuyahoga County. Daniel's Way – a street in downtown Cleveland – was named for him.

For more information about these exciting poetry programs sponsored by Friends of the Shaker Library, call 216-991-2421.

## Recent Additions to Shaker Authors in the Local History Collection

The Moreland Room at the Main Library is home to a unique collection of books by Shaker authors. If you are or know a Shaker author, please let us know. Contact Meghan Hays, Local History Librarian, at 216-367-3016 or mhays@shakerlibrary.org.

The Library is happy to accept donations or to make purchases that best represent the writing talent of our city. Recent additions are listed below.

Evalyn Gates *Einstein's Telescope: The Hunt for Dark Matter and Dark Energy in the*

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*Universe*. W.W. Norton, 2009. Gates, a recent transplant to Shaker Heights, is the new executive director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History at University Circle.

**Robert F. Hartley** *Management Mistakes & Successes*, 10th edition, 25th Anniversary edition. Wiley, 2010. Donated by the author. Hartley has published several popular management and marketing textbooks, some of which have been translated into Polish and Japanese. Hartley has also written two works of fiction, *The Unforgotten: A Love Story*, and *Odyssey from Antietam*, a Medical Novel of the Civil War and Aftermath, which are in the Shaker Authors collection.

**Judah LeBlang** *Finding My Place: One Man's Journey From Cleveland to Boston and Beyond*. Lake Effect Press, 2009. LeBlang, who lived for a time in the Shaker Square neighborhood, tells his own coming out and coming-of-age tale and shares memories of growing up in Cleveland.

**Michael McMenamin & Patrick McMenamin** *The DeValera Deception: A Winston Churchill Thriller*. Enigma Books, 2010. Signed copy donated by Friends of the Library board member David Greene. This is the first in a projected series of historical fiction thrillers by this father-son team; three have been written already. Michael McMenamin is a lawyer with Walter & Haverfield whose previous nonfiction works, *Milking the Public* (1980) and *Becoming Winston Churchill* (2007), are also in the Shaker Authors collection.

**Vanessa Pasiadis** *Don't Call Me Cookie*. Strategic Book Publishing, 2010. Pasiadis is a health care consultant and former teacher in Shaker Heights whose work of young adult fiction deals with issues of eating and obesity.

**Arnold Reisman** *Shoah: Turkey, The U.S. and the U.K.* (2009), and *An Ambassador and a Mensch: The Story of a Turkish Diplomat*

*in Vichy France* (2010). Local historian Arnold Reisman has published several other books on the history and arts of Turkey, many of which are in the Shaker Authors collection.

**Ellen Rogers** *Kasey to the Rescue: The Remarkable Story of a Monkey and a Miracle*. Hyperion Books, 2010. Donated by the author's mother, Lois Rogers. Ellen Rogers, who grew up in Shaker Heights and now lives in Massachusetts, tells a heartwarming tale of how a capuchin monkey helper for the disabled helped her son regain his life after a spinal cord injury.

**Sabrina Scott** *Calling All Parents*. Lumina Press, 2010. An educator and Fernway neighborhood parent discusses her perspective that parents need to be involved in their child's education to help them succeed.

## Recent Gifts to the Library

Recent donations to the Library include a contribution from Ruth Webb to be used for the Library's 75th anniversary. Randy Kammer donated to the Marilyn Kammer Memorial Fund in memory of Irving Gellert, Molly Wood, and Margaret Prejean.

Kenneth Danford made an unrestricted contribution in honor of Susan and Peter Danford and Joan Steinberg made a donation to honor Kate and David Burleigh.

An anonymous donor contributed to the Bertram Woods Branch Fund as well as Rebecca and George Dent, Jr., Barbara and Aaron Saltzman, and Lori Schafer, in memory of Shirley Gendel.

Contributions to the Frances Belman Fund came from Ira and Marsha Moses and from Lissa Moses, in honor of Marsha Moses.

Residents interested in donating to the Library to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one should contact Luren Dickinson at 216-991-2030. Donations

can also be made online at the Library's website using a credit card.

## Have a Question? Email the Library!

Have a question after the library's closed? On the go with no time to call the library? Need to know when your DVDs are due, or if we have books about genealogy? Did you hear about an interesting book and want to know if the library owns it or if we could buy it? Can't put your finger on a specific fact?

Email your question to: [librarian@shakerlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@shakerlibrary.org) and receive an answer via email within one business day. Contact a librarian any time, any day, and receive a quick reply.

## Friends Plan Spring Book Sale in April

Friends of the Shaker Library is busy getting ready for the Spring Book Sale, April 14 through April 17. Under the direction of Lyla Olden, volunteers have been sorting books every Wednesday, packing them in specific categories so they can be easily unpacked and placed on tables for the sale. More than 100 volunteer hours are spent getting ready for the sale, ensuring that those who attend the book sale will find what they want.

If you become a member of the Friends at the Spring Book Sale, you will receive a membership card immediately so there will be no delay in taking advantage of the discounts that area merchants offer Friends' members.

The Friends Members' Preview Sale will be held from 4 to 8 pm Thursday, April 14. Members get first dibs on some outstanding books at bargain prices. Those who are not members may join at the door. The sale opens to the public from 9 am until 4 pm Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16. Bargain hunters will appreciate the Sunday, April 17 Bag Sale from 1 to 3 pm, when all bags of books cost only \$5.



**Winners** of the Library's 13th Annual MLK Student Writing Competition pose with their ribbons. Miles Pistone, Amir Rassoul, Thomas Deibele, Catalina DeLaPena, Grafton Williams, Ethan Gimbel, Lysia Cook, Catherine Aumiller, and Kevin Jennings.

Friends welcomes volunteers to help set up the week of the book sale and to work during the sale. Interested volunteers can sign up at either branch.

## Friends-to-Friends Summit

In March, Friends President Sharon Heslin invited area Friends groups to the Shaker Library for a Friends of the Library Summit. Area Friends groups shared ideas and enjoyed mingling with other Library lovers.

According to Heslin, "It's important for all of our groups to share ideas. A program or enhancement that works in one library community could work in another."

## Endnotes

- Art juried into the 12th annual Barbara Luton Art Show is on display in the Shaker Art Gallery on the second floor of the Main Library through April 21. Art is available for purchase and benefits both the artist and the Library.
- English in Action, taught by Brondy Shanker, meets at 7 pm Tuesdays on the second floor of the Main Library. This free program is for those who would like

to learn to speak and read English. For more information, call the Main Library at 216-991-2030.

- ABLE/GED Classes. Finish your schooling with these classes that meet at 9 am at Main Library. To register and get more information, call ABLE: 216-371-7138.
- Friends of the Shaker Library meets at 7 pm Tuesdays, April 19 and May 17, at the Main Library.
- GameGirlz is held at 4 pm Thursdays, April 28 and May 26 at the Main Library. The program is geared for girls of all ages to teach them how to play Wii and Sony Playstation 3 games or to improve their skills. Games include Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros. Brawl, and PS3's LittleBigPlanet. Registration is required.
- Knit Nights are held from 7-8:45 pm Thursdays, April 7 and May 12 at Bertram Woods Branch. Bring a project and get or give help at this creative evening moderated by experienced knitter Fern Braverman.
- The Library Board of Trustees meets at 6:30 pm Tuesdays, April 12 and May 10 in the Main Library Board Room.
- Main Library will be closed Sunday, April 24 for Easter and will be closed Sundays until October 2. Both libraries will be closed Memorial Day, May 30. 🐣

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# Countdown to Shaker LaunchHouse



JANET CENTURY

**LaunchHouse** entrepreneurs from left: Jonathan Soond of Sunflower Solutions, Brittany Coffin of DownSpout, Rick Arlow of LifeServe Innovations, and Todd Alexander of Tunnel Vision Hoops.

LaunchHouse is ready to transform economic development in the City. A high level of involvement by residents is key.

**STORIES BY JULIE MCGOVERN VOYZEY AND RORY O'CONNOR**  
**PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHAKER LAUNCHHOUSE**

Hammocks, beanbag chairs, laptops, iPads, iPods, iPhones, whiteboards, half eaten sandwiches, the smell of coffee new and old, and a near constant flow of 20-somethings in and out the door. It could be a scene from the movie *The Social Network*, or an office in Silicon Valley.

It is neither. It is Shaker LaunchHouse, the City's new business incubator, hub of entrepreneurial innovation, gathering place, and all around hotbed for new ideas and young entrepreneurs. The whole place has the familiar feel of a college dorm with the unfamiliar (in Shaker at least) edgy, high-tech feel usually found on the coasts. The LaunchHouse offices crackle with energy, ideas, and urgency, and mark a new direction for economic development in Shaker Heights.

There is an unmistakable youthful vigor evident in all that comes out of Shaker LaunchHouse. The website is explosive to the point of being almost giddy, crammed with rapidly changing photos of young go-getters at business meetings, Facebook and Twitter links, links to blogs, links to job postings, links to "My Meetups" postings – and



that's just on the homepage.

At a meeting with Shaker Life, Paul Allen, the company's advisor for potential incubator companies, talked about having live music at LaunchHouse's new headquarters – the 22,000-square-foot former Zalud Oldsmobile building on Lee Road – about how cool it would be if composers became members, and about having a movie theater in the place with themed dinner-and-a-movie events.

"All Shaker residents, not just LaunchHouse members, are invited to our events. It's one of many ways we tie directly into the community," he says.

Behind the onrush of fun ideas and frenetic energy is a serious endeavor that Shaker residents and businesses would be well advised to pay attention to. Shaker LaunchHouse is "not just another incubator," as Allen puts it. It's a public-private partnership between the City of Shaker Heights and LaunchHouse. One of its goals is to engage the entire community in a much-needed and necessary economic development effort.

### **Destiny At Work**

Given the people behind it, LaunchHouse seems destined to have ultimately landed in Shaker. Three of the four LaunchHouse principals are Shaker residents, as is Tom Sudow (see sidebar), connector extraordinaire, who is responsible for setting up the initial meetings among LaunchHouse's founding managing partners, Todd Goldstein and Dar Caldwell, and City officials, including Mayor Earl Leiken and Economic Development Director Tania Menesse. LaunchHouse's two salaried advisors, Paul Allen and Lisa Buchan, are also Shaker residents.

The benefits of collaboration were clear from the outset. LaunchHouse gives the City a chance to recast itself as a place for young entrepreneurs to unleash their creative energy and transform ideas into mar-

## **How LaunchHouse Benefits Shaker Residents**

- LaunchHouse will be marketed as Shaker Heights' first entrepreneurial and venture capital project under the City's Community Improvement Corporation. The CIC was created in 1980 and will be utilized for the first time under this project. It allows the City to take an equity stake in a company as well as to raise federal, state, foundation, and private dollars for economic development projects. The CIC will receive a three percent equity stake in LaunchHouse and ten percent of whatever percentage LaunchHouse receives in their portfolio companies. Moreover, the CIC's stake in LaunchHouse may yield funding for other economic development projects.

- From its new home on Lee Road just south of Chagrin Boulevard, LaunchHouse will help revitalize Lee Road, the Shaker Town Center commercial district, and the Moreland and Lomond neighborhoods. Bringing young, entrepreneurial people to work, eat, shop and live in the area will change the perception of the business climate in Shaker. It is a first critical step to creating a culture of innovation in the City.

- As hiring at LaunchHouse ramps up and new businesses locate at the headquarters, additional income, payroll, and property taxes will be generated.

- LaunchHouse offers educational and networking programming to benefit the City's home-based businesses and entrepreneurs.

- All Shaker Heights residents are encouraged to attend LaunchHouse events, workshops, and classes, such as Startup 101 and the Expert Speaker Lunch Series.

ketable products and viable businesses.

For LaunchHouse, Shaker offered the right mix of support, vision, and resources. "Shaker has the political and business leadership we need to ensure the best chances of success. We saw it in our meetings with the mayor and council," says Paul Allen.

The deep reservoir of business talent and experience among Shaker residents also was a tremendous draw, since the success of the incubator is built on the solid mentoring of its entrepreneurs.

Now, after a \$500,000 investment from the City, the old Oldsmobile showroom on Lee Road is giving the partners and their portfolio companies enough space to nurture the dynamic, cross-pollinating "ecosystem" they envision. That kind of culture, they believe, will draw Northeast Ohio's young entrepreneurs to their headquarters, creating an environment where people and ideas connect, collide, and collaborate, and ultimately new businesses are launched.

The LaunchHouse model for portfolio companies is relatively simple.

After recruiting talented innovators, inventors, and entrepreneurs, LaunchHouse makes a modest investment of roughly \$10,000 in the company, provides business development services, robust mentorship, guidance and networking opportunities, and sets benchmarks, says LaunchHouse advisor Lisa Buchan.

"The goal is to get the prototype and the company generating revenue, reaching profitability with less than \$2 million invested – followed by a liquidity event," she says. A liquidity event can be a sale, a merger, a public offering, or a hefty outside investment in the company. "One of these things will have to occur for a portfolio company to be successful because they will need funds beyond the money invested by LaunchHouse," says Buchan.

Internet technology, alternative energy production and conservation, and medical devices are primary sectors of interest to LaunchHouse. Twelve companies are already in the LaunchHouse portfolio. The T1 Company is one of the 12.

T1 provides businesses with Internet, VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) and

hosted data-center solutions. Founder and President Don Hemmelgarn has been a supporter of the Shaker LaunchHouse since its conception and is eager to settle into the community. "We love the idea of working in the same space with others who share our entrepreneurial spirit, and we are happy to bring our voice, data, and technology resources to LaunchHouse," he says. "Great things come from the sharing of talent and ideas."

LaunchHouse expects to add approximately ten additional companies to their portfolio this year and make investments totaling \$100,000. Along with the infusion of capital, portfolio companies benefit from the full array of LaunchHouse services, including business development support, networking opportunities, and mentorship.

However, a company or individual doesn't have to be a portfolio company to be a member of LaunchHouse. The campus brims with weekly activities – from Friday Happy Hours to early morning "coffee and connection" – calculated to appeal to anyone with an entrepreneurial spirit, including home-based business owners and other interested Shaker residents.

Indeed, the ecosystem the partners envision will thrive only through community engagement and investment, which is why there are so many points of entry into LaunchHouse.

### **Roles For Residents**

A high level of involvement by Shaker residents may well be the key to making LaunchHouse truly transformative for the City and the entrepreneurs alike. Whether it is through a sponsorship, financial investment, an in-kind donation of time and expertise, or simply by attending the community events at LaunchHouse, there is a role for all Shaker residents.

Recently, representatives of the City and LaunchHouse gave a presentation to a group of retired executives from Plymouth Church, at the behest of the church group, which calls itself Fossil Fuel. The church is constantly exploring ways of investing in its community, an endeavor

*continued on page 32*

A Shaker LaunchHouse Portfolio Company

# Tunnel Vision Hoops

Tunnel Vision Hoops' three partners – Clevelanders Carlton Jackson, Michael Walton, and Todd Alexander – are nothing if not passionate about enabling urbanites to grow fresh food year 'round.

Urban farming of course is not new. Food-and-health conscious people have been planting vegetable gardens and fruit orchards on small city plots for years for their own use, either as individuals or as part of a gardening community.

The Tunnel Vision Hoops partners, however, take a much more comprehensive view, well beyond that of personal use.

For one thing, they see urban farming as a serious economic development endeavor, one that will create farming jobs and, eventually, local spin-off food companies, "keeping food dollars in Cuyahoga County," Jackson says.

For another, they see it as at least a partial solution to the food crisis they are certain will happen in the future if steps aren't taken to avoid it, a crisis fomented by world population growth and ever-rising fuel and transportation costs.

Tunnel Vision Hoops' basic product is called a high tunnel hoop house, which is sort of a low-tech, low-maintenance, affordable greenhouse that comes in various sizes, from a backyard model to one up to 96 feet long and 24 feet wide.

"Extending the growing season is what we're all about," says Carlton Jackson.

"For this to be an engine of economic development, urban people need to train to be farmers, and that can't be done effectively if they can work only six months out of the year."

Tunnel Vision Hoops will use LaunchHouse as its manufacturing facility. Jackson, a former corporate marketing executive and consultant, is the product's chief designer. "It is," he says, "a cost-effective way to grow food year-round."

The company officially formed in June of 2010. It grossed \$53,000 in its first six months, even as the partners were refining and fine-tuning the product with the free help of mechanical and aerospace engineering students at Case Western Reserve University. Customers included Case itself, the Cleveland Botanical Gardens Green Corporation, the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, The Ohio State University Research Foundation, the Ohio City Near West Development Corporation, St. Paul Community Church, and Euclid Creek Farm.

The partners point out that there are 3,300 acres of vacant land in the City of Cleveland right now, with 200 acres added every year due to demolition. Says Todd Alexander: "If we could take just ten percent of that acreage for urban farms and put four people per acre to work, we could really make a difference."



**Above:** Shawn Belt of the Cleveland Botanical Gardens Green Corps program.

**At right:** Todd Alexander and Michael Walton, two of Tunnel Vision Hoops' partners.



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**Website:** [tunnelvisionhoops.com](http://tunnelvisionhoops.com)



it calls its “in-place” mission. A relationship with LaunchHouse has strong potential for a place in that mission.

“There is a clear sense of excitement among the individuals in our group about LaunchHouse,” says Lee Makela, a Fossil Fuel member. “LaunchHouse is looking to the future, and even though we ourselves aren’t cutting edge, we do have experience and connections.” He says the group is discussing a variety of ways to get engaged and to engage their congregation.

LaunchHouse envisions an array of engaged, experienced mentors and teachers guiding entrepreneurs through all aspects of starting a business. Many entrepreneurs come to LaunchHouse brimming with fantastic ideas but possessing little or no experience in actualizing a business.

The deep bench of potential teachers and mentors in Shaker is one of the reasons the partners chose to locate their headquarters in the City. A commitment of about six hours per quarter is all that’s necessary, though

some mentoring relationships will extend beyond that if there is a good fit.

LaunchHouse also encourages those with expertise in fields related to small businesses and startups to teach a workshop or hold a lecture.

Some 20 percent of LaunchHouse’s mentors are Shaker residents. “Mentors are one of the greatest competitive advantages Shaker Heights affords entrepreneurs,” says Lisa Buchan. “Great mentors offer something that can be difficult for younger entrepreneurs to find: wisdom, encouragement, and relationships in a particular industry. We’ve developed our own Assessment Tool to better understand how to match entrepreneurs with mentors.”

Some of LaunchHouse’s greatest needs at this early stage are for corporate sponsorships, in-kind donations, and investments.

Opportunities for sponsorships and naming rights range from \$1,500 for an office to \$50,000 for the building. LaunchHouse is also seeking partners to become the exclusive, preferred vendors to portfolio companies and

other LaunchHouse-affiliated startups. The cost for this ranges from \$3,000-\$10,000.

Legal, investment banking, accounting, consulting, advertising/marketing, manufacturing, and technology partners are also being sought, while the Shaker Heights Community Improvement Corporation is accepting tax-deductible cash and in-kind donations to support outreach, startup training for college students, and internship opportunities.

On the for-profit side, investments of up to \$25,000 can be made (by accredited investors) in LaunchHouse’s Innovation Fund.

With several thousand square feet of office space available, LaunchHouse anticipates enticing home-based entrepreneurs out of their basements and dens and into a LaunchHouse office so that they and others will benefit from the collaboration and networking.

LaunchHouse is now ready for take off in Shaker Heights. It promises to be an adventure.

# Countdown to Shaker LaunchHouse

“Internet technology, alternative energy production and conservation, and medical devices are sectors of interest to LaunchHouse. Twelve companies are already in the LaunchHouse portfolio.”

A Shaker LaunchHouse Portfolio Company

# LifeServe Innovations

Rick Arlow, a second-year medical student at Case and Ph.D candidate in biomedical engineering, perfectly fits the profile for a Shaker LaunchHouse portfolio company principal – young, brainy, driven, technologically savvy. His company, LifeServe Innovations, is working on a device – an oxygen delivery system – that will enhance the ability of paramedics and physicians to successfully perform delicate tracheostomies in about a minute.

"We used bio-mimicry in the development of the device," he says over coffee at Shaker Square. "We examined the way vipers use their fangs."

Shaker LaunchHouse is helping LifeServe by trying to round up serious grant money from the Department of Defense. The device would be invaluable to combat troops. "Our goal," Rick says "is to deliver military-specific quality products as fast as we can."

Rick worked as a paramedic during his undergraduate days at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. His business partner, Zack Bloom, just finished a year as an assistant professor of entrepreneurship at Lehigh.

"Our initial idea came out of the fact that Rick was a paramedic. He understood the needs of emergency medicine," Bloom told BusinessWeek.com, which named the pair as one of America's Best Young Entrepreneurs of 2010.

"I learned that paramedics and even doctors are not comfortable doing emergency tracheostomies with the traditional tools," Rick says. "There's a lot of risk of damage to the patient,"

There are six components in the traditional tracheostomy kit, Rick explains. "We are working on one device that can be used in the long term as well as in emergencies."

LifeServe does not plan to sell its products to end users, but to companies that will. The tracheostomy device is part of LifeServe's first product line. The patent on the device is pending, and things could not look more promising for the company. Its advisors include staff and faculty at Lehigh, Case, and St. Luke's Hospital of Bethlehem. Initial R&D money has come from small grants from economic development initiatives and business competitions.

And since the company's founding in 2008, Rick has learned that there's more to his endeavor than biomedical engineering. "One of the things that Zack convinced me of is the importance of doing cost-benefit analyses," Rick muses. Spoken like a true entrepreneur.

**Contact:** Rick.Arlow@Lifeserveinnovations.com

**Website:** lifeserveinnovations.com



## Meet Tom Sudow, The Straw That Stirred The Drink

Shaker LaunchHouse had its birth in meetings among Shaker City officials and LaunchHouse founders Todd Goldstein and Dar Caldwell – meetings arranged by long-time Shaker resident Tom Sudow. Sudow is reluctant to take all the credit – "Mayor Leiken and others immediately saw the possibilities" – but he was the straw that stirred the drink.

Sudow is one of Ohio's preeminent economic development professionals. He is Team NEO's executive in charge of business attraction and the director of business development for The Cleveland Clinic's Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center. When he was the executive director of the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce some years ago, he founded a business incubator in that city. He knew Todd Goldstein from Park Synagogue and was one of LaunchHouse's first major supporters and mentors, when the company was still called Goldstein & Caldwell and headquartered above a pizza parlor in University Heights.

Sudow says Shaker Heights was not the only city in contention for LaunchHouse. "But I'm delighted that things worked out this way. I thought it would benefit both parties, so I did the introduction."

The respect for Sudow among City officials played no small role in smoothing the way to a partnership with LaunchHouse. He is in fact one of the City's economic development advisors. "Tom is just a great guy, very knowledgeable," says Shaker Economic Development Director Tania Menesse. "I look to him for advice and support all the time."

"This model – a public-private partnership – is the best way to do economic development in Shaker Heights," Sudow says. "We all live here because of what the community is – the neighborhoods, the homes, the beauty – and LaunchHouse won't change any of that. This is a very good opportunity for the City and its residents."

Rick Arlow at a LifeServe Innovations presentation.



# Library Court Apartments



Affordable apartments for adults 55 and older.

Opening in Shaker Heights in August 2011.

(located at Chelton Road and Chagrin Boulevard, near Shaker Heights Library)

**Accepting Applications beginning April 9, 2011**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Maintenance-free lifestyle for adults 55 and older
- 44 one- and two-bedroom apartments
- Affordable rents, below market rate, including utilities (except telephone, internet and cable)
- Parking nearby
- Handicap accessible
- Common areas for gathering with neighbors
- Service coordination
- Close proximity to Shaker Heights amenities including the library, grocery stores, restaurants, shopping and RTA



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## Connecting With LaunchHouse

The easiest way to connect with LaunchHouse is to attend one of the workshops or lectures. These deal with starting and/or operating a successful business, including marketing, finance, operations, fundraising, and technology. All workshops and classes are open to nonmembers for a \$5 fee.

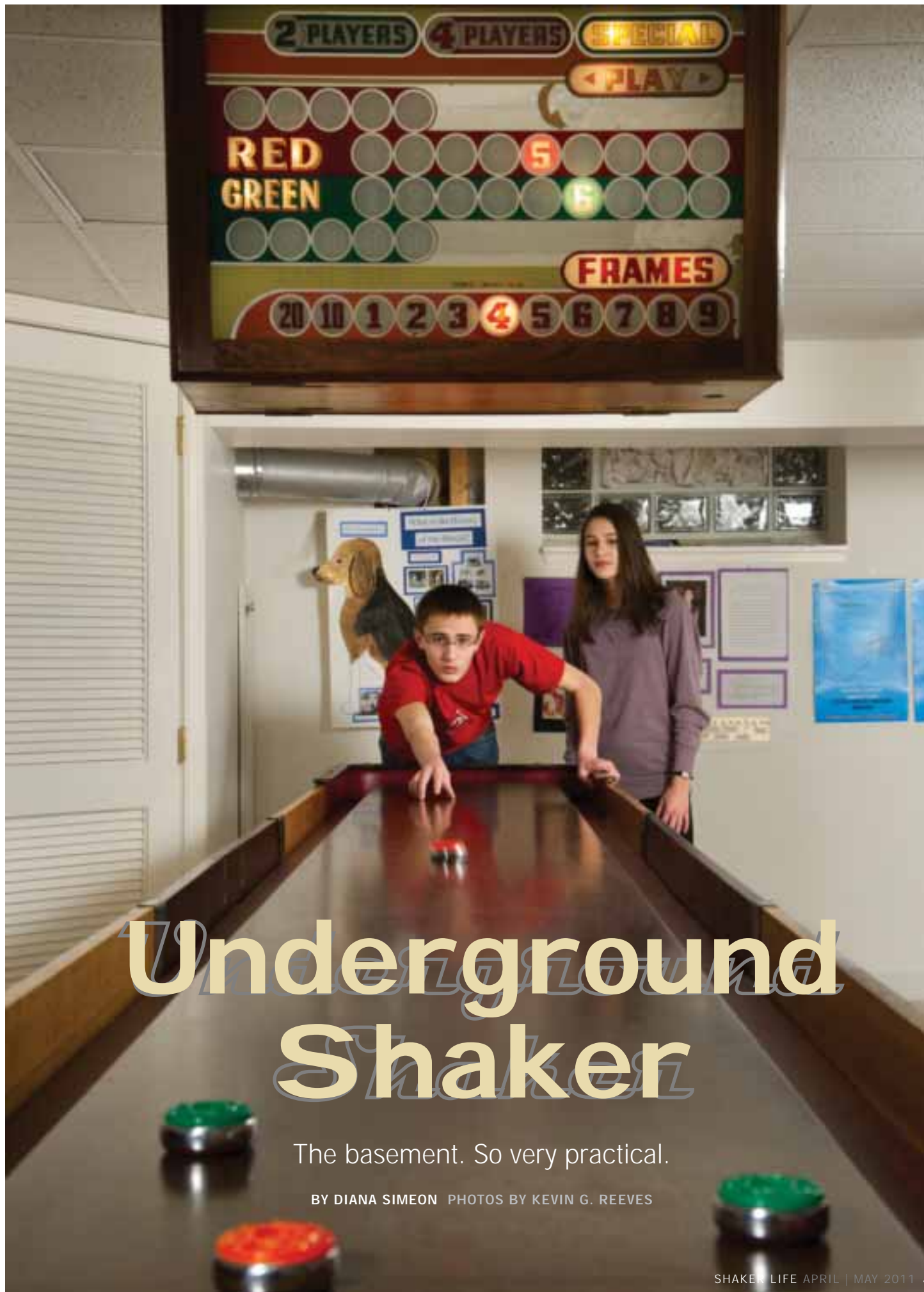
Recent interactive workshops covered topics such as presentation design and writing executive summaries. A nearly standing-room only crowd gathered for a recent hands-on class by Shaker resident Marc Canter focused on running a company online.

Heavily discounted summer, student, corporate, educational, and institutional plans are available to members of LaunchHouse partner organizations. There are three levels of membership – \$29 a month, \$99 a month, and \$500 a month, depending on one's workspace needs. Fees include the workspace, conference rooms, over 100 free educational workshops, free wi-fi, unlimited coffee, free parking, networking, and access to shared services and the collaborative LaunchHouse community. 🌱



JANET CENTURY





# Underground Shaker

The basement. So very practical.

BY DIANA SIMEON PHOTOS BY KEVIN G. REEVES



**Kip Schmidt** (above) in his workshop and (opposite page) at work on a handmade cradle. **Spencer and Anna Seballos** (opening photo) with their amazing shuffleboard machine.

It's where many of us send our children to play and where our teenagers prefer to hang out. Where some of us venture to work on hobbies too messy for upstairs, or to work out on our exercise machines. It's a place to watch movies or play pool or ping-pong, or even shuffleboard. It's a man cave, a mud room, and a laundry room. It's for storage. It's where some of us enjoy a glass of wine from a well-stocked cellar or a drink from a well-stocked bar. Local lore says there's even a bona fide British pub, brought here piece by piece, in a basement somewhere in the city.

Shaker residents adapt their basements for all kinds of purposes. Featured here are examples of just some of the ways the city's residents are using their basements to add not just extra space to their homes, but plenty of function – and fun – as well.

## The Workshop

Step into Kip Schmidt's woodworking shop in the basement of his Malvern-area home and you feel as if you've landed in an episode of *This Old House*. The shop is chock full of woodworking machines – and in a corner of the room, a pile of lumber is waiting to be turned into the one-of-a-kind furniture Kip has been making over the years.

"I've been doing this a long time, but it's only in the last 15 or 20 years that I've gotten serious," says Kip, who moved to Shaker with his wife, Marcy,

and their five children in 1983. Kip, a former lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, is a partner with the executive search firm CTPartners.

The basement workshop is organized into several stations. Along a far wall are the saws (a radial arm and a miter), which Kip ganged together so he can cut long pieces of lumber. Nearby, are a joiner and two sanding machines. The equipment sits on benches built by Kip, who is entirely self-taught. The shop is outfitted with an air-filtration and vacuum system. "So we don't have the mess all over the house. We just have the noise," jokes Marcy.

The beginnings of Kip's latest project are on a table in the middle of the workshop: a chest made of wormy white oak for his youngest son. Kip has made a piece of furniture for each of the children. For his oldest daughter, he built a cherry table and for his oldest son, a hallway bench out of wormy chestnut. He made a blanket chest made from walnut for his second son. For his youngest daughter, Kip created a sideboard out of oak. Each project took two to three weeks.

The first pieces of furniture Kip crafted were cradles for the couple's grandchildren, out of stained white oak with purple-heart slats. "I made two," says Kip. "One that always stayed with us and one that went to the family that had the youngest child."

"We have 15 grandchildren, so they've gotten a lot of use," adds Marcy. The traveling cradle is now in Spokane, Washington, with the Schmidt's youngest grandchild.

But it's not just woodworking that happens in the Schmidt's basement. Along another wall, there is a potting area and through a door and up some stairs, you find yourself in a large greenhouse full of orchids and other tropical

plants, like a fig tree, non-hardy lavender, and bay leaf. It's a lovely surprise on a cold winter's day.

The Schmidts added the greenhouse after they moved to the house in 1994. Kip's handiwork is evident throughout the greenhouse, in the variety of shelves and hanging baskets, all bursting with lush green foliage. Many of the plants are moved to the couple's patio in the summer. "I hang the *Oncidiums* in the Japanese Maple out there," says Kip. *Oncidiums* are a type of orchid.

Finally, back in the basement, the Schmidts also created a play area for the grandchildren (12 boys, three girls). "It was just an old cellar, a storage area, so we waterproofed it and made it into a room for our grandkids," says Marcy.

## For the Kids

For residents with young children, the basement is more often than not the de facto playroom. This is what Atossa Alavi and Bahman Taheri envisioned when they decided to remodel the basement of their Fernway-area Tudor last year. But they also needed a space for guests to stay.

"So, we decided to create a basement that could double as a playroom and a guest room," says Atossa. She and Bahman, both originally from Iran, moved to Shaker from Hudson in 2008.

The couple's basement was partially finished by a previous owner, but it was dreary with old carpeting and dark wood wainscoting. Moreover, at some point "moisture had gotten in through one of the windows, so when we took out the carpet, the wood underneath was rotten."

Initially, the couple considered putting in a new wood floor, but in the end went with laminate. "It's easy to install and clean," she explains.







**Arman and Kimya Taheri** (above) in their basement playroom. The Taheri family's basement bathroom (opposite page). A cheerful blue Mexican tile was used for the vanity and as an accent.

The room was painted, the wainscoting in white and the walls in Atossa's favorite yellow. Unusually for the neighborhood's homes, the basement has full-sized windows, so "we actually get sun down there. It's really nice and bright." A set of freestanding bookshelves divides the play area and guest quarters. A pull-out couch doubles as a bed or cozy place to read.

Next came the bathroom, which was created out of a storage closet. The walk-in shower was custom-made. A European-style towel warmer helps keep the room toasty. And it doubles as a drying rack for the children's snow gear.

Atossa used Mexican tile – a cheerful blue pattern – for the vanity and as accents in the shower and the floor. A large hand-painted Mexican ceramic bowl-style sink provides a charming and colorful focal point.

For Atossa and Bahman and their children, daughter Kimya and son Arman, the basement has become an integral and much-used part of the family's home. It's the scene of many a play date and, Atossa has discovered, a perfect place for birthday parties. For Arman's last birthday, Atossa set up "a bunch of stations downstairs where the kids could sit and do crafts. It really worked out well."

"The kids can run around down there a lot more than they can here," she adds, gesturing to her elegant living room. "Also for guests it's been a lifesaver. It's nice and comfortable."

# Making Your Basement Functional?

## Tips from Contractors

Remodeling a basement is a great way to add extra living space to your home, at a fraction of the cost of building an addition. But as with any home improvement project, it presents some specific challenges. Following are tips from contractors, who advertise in *Shaker Life*, about what to consider in a basement remodel.

### Moisture Management

When residents hear the words “basement remodel,” they often think “ugh, waterproofing.” And for good reason, since waterproofing the outside of a typical Shaker house costs from \$100 to \$120 per linear foot. Certainly, if you have water pouring into your home after a heavy rain, “then you need to address that before you do anything,” says Dan Dureiko, owner of Dureiko Construction. But as Dureiko and others point out, if your basement is merely damp, then it isn’t always necessary to spend a lot of money on waterproofing. Small amounts of moisture can be managed by a properly remodeled basement.

If you do have significant water issues, you have two options: waterproofing the outside of the house or installing an in-house water management system, such as a sump pump. The City of Shaker Heights and most contractors say that while an inside system will work, waterproofing the exterior of the house is preferable.

“An inside system takes water from the outside of the house, brings it inside the house, then takes it outside the house again. Why divert the problem instead of curing the problem?” says Anthony DiFrancesco, a second-generation mason and owner of DiFrancesco & Sons. DiFrancesco also recommends regularly cleaning out window wells and snaking drains. “Drain tile and storm tile need to be snaked out to make sure they are running freely. Sometimes that will solve the problem,” he says.

### Have a Plan

As with any project, it’s important to know exactly what you want to do with your basement before you begin. Making changes during (or after) a remodel can be costly and time-consuming. “You need to ask yourself, ‘Why are you doing this?’ That will have a lot to do with the direction you go in,” says Jim Karlovec, owner of Shaker-based Karlovec & Company Design/Remodel. “Is it a game room? Is it for the kids? Are they four years old or 14 years old? Any well-executed project is going to have a design and planning process.”

### Remember to Breathe

Plan in hand, it’s time to start the remodel. And here’s where moisture management comes back into play, whether or not you have waterproofed. In effect, what you build should breathe, so that the moisture does not get trapped and allow mold and mildew to grow.

“The trick is to build the walls away from the existing basement walls. You want to leave an airspace between the walls, so the area can breathe and any moisture back there will dissipate,” explains Dureiko, who recently completed a major remodel of a Cleveland Heights basement that included a wet bar, vented fireplace, and bathroom.

All materials should be mold resistant, which means using steel studs and mold-proof drywall. Dureiko also recommends the basement floor be sealed, so that moisture cannot wick up into the carpeting. “You should plan to keep a dehumidifier running too,” he adds.

### Know the Codes

There are some specific codes relating to basements and it’s important that you or your contractor understand these before starting the project. For example, if you plan to build a bedroom in your basement, you must have a secondary egress (or exit). This can be a door or a full-sized window that will allow someone to escape from the basement if the main exit is blocked. Another code pertains to glass block windows, which must be vented. Check with the city’s Building Department for additional information.



## Pool, Ping Pong, Foosball ... Shuffleboard?

As children grow into teenagers, many Shaker residents see their basements evolve from playrooms to game rooms, where Lego and Barbies give way to ping pong and foosball – or, for Sandy and Raul Seballos, a vintage shuffleboard table that Sandy's father purchased from a bar on Cleveland's West Side more than 40 years ago.

"We lived in Seven Hills and had a large basement. There was a bar on Lorain Avenue near the old West Tech High School and they had shuffleboards there," says Sandy. My dad liked them and thought one would be great for our basement. I was around five years old. My sister reminded me that we had to stand on a hassock to reach the pucks.

It's a really family-friendly game," says Sandy.

The shuffleboard table, built by the Penn Shuffleboard Company in Philadelphia, now dominates the Seballos' Shaker basement, which the couple originally finished about ten years ago as a playroom for their three children, Spencer, Evan, and Anna. The exact age of the table is unknown, but it's likely that it was manufactured in the late 1930s or early 1940s. Shuffleboard has been around for hundreds of years – even Henry VIII played – but the tables became the rage in this country during World War II, reaching their height of popularity in the 1950s along with the outdoor version, which became ubiquitous in Florida.

The table's board (or playing surface) was originally a standard 22 feet, but Sandy's father cut it down to 18

*continued on page 56*



Sandy Seballos watches Spencer and Anna compete.





# +Guarding Lives

Thornton Park's lifeguards, young as they are, are certified gold.

BY DIANA SIMEON PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO

Watch Thornton Park's lifeguards get a struggling swimmer out of the pool and you can't help but be impressed. Without warning, a whistle blows and a guard leaps into the water. Moments later, more whistles sound, more guards arrive at the scene and, within seconds, the swimmer is pulled from the pool.

"We have a 10-20 rule," explains Pamela Quinn, Shaker's director of Community Life. "The guard has to spot a distressed swimmer in 10 seconds and pull him out in 20 seconds."

Happily, it's not often that Thornton's lifeguards are required to perform such rescues. But thanks to a rigorous training program ad-

opted by the City almost 20 years ago, when a swimmer is in trouble, Thornton's guards will be there – and fast.

Shaker resident Christopher Main learned this the hard way. In 2004, while sitting on the deck with his one-year-old granddaughter after swimming laps, Main developed a life-threatening heart arrhythmia.

"My daughter noticed I was turning blue and falling over in the chair," says Main, who lives in the Sussex neighborhood. Minutes later, Thornton's guards used the automated external defibrillator (or AED) to save Main's life. "The reason that the lifeguards are so pro-

**Some of the** 2010 Thornton lifeguard crew. Front row: Matt Manuszak and Jake Scholl. Back: Diana Jack, Meg Green, Libby Kannard, and Heather Froimson.



*Thornton Park  
Swimming Pool  
opens Sunday, May 29.*

*Information: 216-491-1295*

**Owen Shelton** left, observes swimmers in the deep end, while Ann Marie Kelly plays Simon Says with children.

ficient is that they are so well-trained," says a thankful Main.

Indeed, last summer, Shaker's lifeguards received the highest rating possible from Jeff Ellis & Associates, the organization that developed the training program used at Thornton. Ellis conducts audits to determine the quality of the guard staff. Shaker got gold.

"The training is rigid and it's disciplined," explains Quinn, who has worked with many lifeguards over the years. "The goal is to professionalize our guards."

Training begins in June with a three-day session that is mandatory for all lifeguards, even those who are returning from previous years. Each summer, the City hires between 30 and 40 lifeguards. Guards must be at least 15 years old.

"We start out with the pre-requisites, like swimming 500 yards without stopping or retrieving a ten-pound brick from the deep end," says Shaker resident Libby Kannard, who was a lifeguard for five years and pool manager for the past two years. "Then we move on to specific lifeguard skills, such as jumping off the chair and swimming to the guest in distress."

The guards are also trained in CPR, taught how to use the AED machine, and required to pass a written exam. The training culminates with full-water simulations, where applicants must demonstrate their ability to save a drowning swimmer.

*continued on page 55*







MARC GOLUB

# *Good Things from the Gardens*



## Wandering Freely

The time for glimpsing the glorious gardens of Shaker Heights is fast approaching. The Shaker Historical Society and Museum's 2011 Gracious Gardens of Shaker Heights tour is Sunday, June 19, from 1-5 pm.

The ever-popular event raises money for the Historical Society – and allows tour-goers a rare opportunity to wander freely around the grounds of some of Shaker's most elegant private estates and view the work of Northeast Ohio's pre-eminent landscape designers.

"We'll have seven homes on the tour – fountains, bocce courts, pools, greenhouses, cobblestone courtyards – and unbelievable gardens," says Historical Society Executive Director Ann Cicarella, herself a landscaper with an impressive list of clients in Shaker.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the tour, which is self-directed. Tickets come with a brochure with driving directions to each home and a description of the grounds.

Tickets will be available around the first of May at the Historical Society, 16740 South Park Boulevard, 216-921-1201. The website is [shakerhistory.org](http://shakerhistory.org)

They can also be purchased at Bremec on the Heights Garden Center in Cleveland Heights, Cahoon Nursery in Westlake, Gali's Florist and Garden Center in Beachwood, J. Pistone Market and Gathering Place in Shaker Heights, Jan Dell Flowers in Cleveland, Jubilee Gifts in Cleveland Heights, and Mulholland and Sachs at Eton Square in Woodmere.

## The Rise of the Invasivores

Garlic mustard is one of the most prolific invasive plant species in the U.S. For the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, it has proven to be a curse and a blessing over the last several years – the former because it grows all over the preserve, and the latter because it provides the fodder for one of the Center's most popular fundraising events: Festival, where top local chefs prepare all sorts of imaginative dishes that elevate the lowly plant from invasive villain to culinary superstar.

Festival began in 2008 to raise awareness of invasive plants. Garlic mustard was introduced to America from Europe as a cooking herb in the 19th century. It grows all over Northeast Ohio.

The staff gathers the garlic mustard from around the Nature Center, so it's tender and fresh. They did all the cooking for the first event, which featured one recipe, garlic mustard pesto. The format was changed the following year to a mix-and-mingle event featuring local chefs preparing different dishes using garlic mustard.

This year's Festival is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, with a VIP hour from 6-7 pm and general admission from 7-9 pm. Some of Greater Cleveland's best restaurants and caterers have signed on to cook for the extravaganza this year. They include Coquette Patisserie, fire food and drink, the Greenhouse Tavern, J. Pistone Market and Gathering Place, SASA, Sergio's Sarava, and the Spice of Life Catering Co.

Finding food uses for invasive species has become something of a national trend. The New York Times Week in Review last December featured an article by James Gorman, "A Diet for an Invaded Planet: Invasive Species," in which he playfully coined the word "invasivore."

Well, anything for a good cause.



### 2011 Festival Basics

\* April 14, 7-9 pm

**Reservations:** 216-321-5935

\* VIP hour 6-7 pm

\* **VIP tickets:** \$75

Limited availability.

\* **General admission tickets:** \$50

\* **Beverages:**

beer, wine, and soft drinks



## 2010 Festival Menu

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### *Coquette Patisserie*

**Britt-Marie Culey**

Tart filled with an Almond Cream Cake, Garlic Mustard Root Milk Chocolate Ganache, and Garlic Mustard Leaf Mousse

### *The Greenhouse Tavern*

**Jonathon Sawyer**

Mustard Green Fritters with Wild Ohio Ramps, City Fresh Eggs, and Local Cheese

### *J. Pistone Market & Gathering Place*

**John Pistone**

Roasted Portabella Mushroom with Garlic Mustard, Spinach and Goat Cheese, Hazelnut Romesco Sauce and Micro greens

### *SASA*

**Scott Kim**

Beef Shabu Shabu with Garlic Mustard Edamame Mashed Potatoes

### *Sergio's/SARAVA*

**Sergio Abramof**

Farfalle Frutti di Mare

Chilled Farfalle Pasta with Shrimp, Scallops, and Calamari

### *Spice of Life Catering*

**Brandon Walukus**

Mustard Green Flatbread

Garlic Mustard Greens with Braised Beef, Talao Cheese with a Balsamic Drizzle

### *The Viking Store*

**Adam Wilson**

Garlic Mustard Cornbread with Black Bean Salsa

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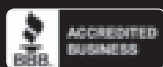
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## The State of the Schools Report 2011

The Shaker Heights schools are balancing two imperatives: the preparation of all students for a rapidly evolving global economy, and the fiscal restraint these times demand. This report from the District provides a snapshot of recent accomplishments, current challenges, and future directions. For those who want more detail, the District website, [www.shaker.org](http://www.shaker.org), offers a wealth of data about finances, student performance, and demographics. (See box on page 47.)

Through collaboration with the City of Shaker Heights, we are able to publish this report to the community in Shaker Life magazine, allowing for the most cost-effective printing and distribution.

### Making a Difference for All Students

Even in challenging economic times, the District continues to move forward on its commitment to support academic achievement for all students. The drive for constant improvement is accompanied by aggressive pursuit of outside funding sources. For example:

- Every student in the District is benefiting from the adoption of the International Baccalaureate program, which stresses enrichment, project-based learning, and a global focus. The program also fosters the development of personal attributes such as integrity, compassion, and responsibility.

- The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation awarded the Shaker schools a total of \$60,000 to help implement the International Baccalaureate program, which will provide enrichment to all students.

- With the cooperation of the Shaker Heights Teachers' Association, the District received nearly \$400,000 in federal Race to the Top funds, to be used over the next four years. The funds will be used for professional development and curriculum planning.

- Teachers are being provided with the training and tools to monitor each student's learning in detail at frequent intervals. This enables the teacher to provide each student with precisely the support he or she needs to achieve growth.

- Early detection of students with special needs, combined with the increased use of intervention techniques, has allowed the District to serve an increasing number of students in regular education classrooms who would previously have been diverted, leading to greater success.

- Co-teaching, in which regular education and special education instructors work side by side in blended classrooms, has demonstrated significant advantages due to the greater degree of individualized instruction for all students in the class. Initially piloted at the High School, co-teaching classrooms are now in place at every building.

- The increased use of teaching technologies, such as interactive Smart Boards and online tutorials, engages students in learning and helps teachers tailor instruction to meet individual needs.

### Continuing the Tradition of Excellence

The District consistently maintains its status as a top producer of National Merit/National Achievement award winners and Advanced Placement Scholars, and as a feeder school for highly selective colleges and universities. Our students also distinguish themselves in numerous academic and arts competitions each year. Following is a small selection of recent accomplishments:

- A 2010 Shaker graduate was named

one of two Presidential Scholars from Ohio. Three members of the Class of 2011 have been nominated for the honor this year.

- In the 2010 National History Day competition, Shaker students captured 30 out of 36 slots to advance to the state competition, and won 12 of Ohio's 16 spots for the national event. A Shaker student won second place nationally in the exhibit category.

- Theatre arts students from the High School advanced to the National Shakespeare competition in each of the first two years of Shaker's participation.

- Shaker was named a "Best Community for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation two years in a row.

- The Middle School library was highlighted by the American Library Association on a national tour of exemplary libraries.

- Shaker's elementary Chinese program and High School CPR training have attracted national attention as best practices.

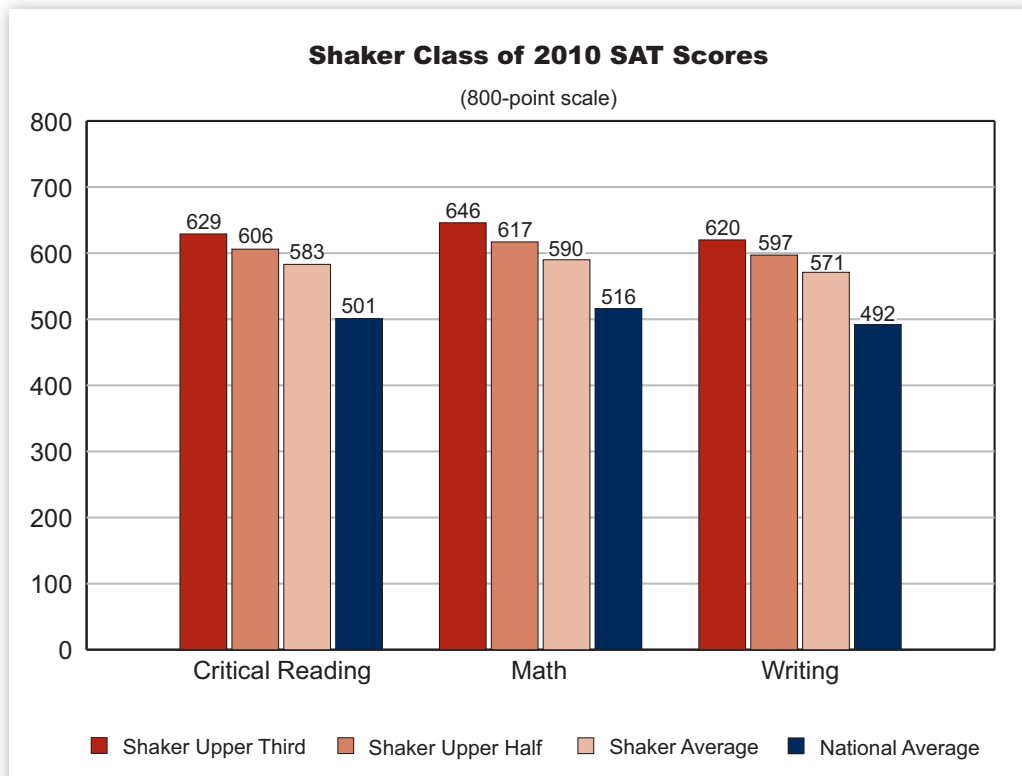
- Hundreds of Middle School and High School students won awards for their performances on national language exams in French, German, Greek, Latin, and Spanish.

- Shaker students continue to win top honors at regional and national competitions, including Science Olympiad, VEX Robotics, Power of the Pen, Model UN, Scholastic Art, and Mathcounts.

- By considerable margins, Shaker students outperform state and national averages on college entrance examinations – the SAT and ACT. The graph at right shows how Shaker's SAT scores stack up against national averages.



**Twenty-nine** Shaker Heights High School seniors have been honored as *National Merit Semifinalists* (NMS), *National Achievement Semifinalists* (NAS), *National Merit Commended Students* (NMC), *National Achievement Commended Students* (NAC), and *National Hispanic Recognition Scholars* (NHR). These scholastically talented seniors are considered top candidates for admission to the most selective colleges. **Pictured** left to right, front row: Diane Ryu (NMC), Erica Schoonover (NAS), Kirby Rayburn (NMS), Molly Wymer (NMS), Ilana Polster (NMS), Isabella McKnight (NMS), Victoria Fydrych (NMC), Leo Katz (NMS), and Robin Su (NMC). Middle row: Annabel Wang (NMS), Adam Cohen (NMC), Michelle Scharfstein (NMS), Marco Cabrera (NHR), Elisa Rodriguez (NMC, NHR), Emma Weitzner (NMC), Trent Gramlich (NMC), and Joshua Tallman (NMC). Back row: Mark Kinney (NAS), Aaron Hicks (NAC), Evan Tuttle (NMC), Wesley Smith (NAC), Jamal Dillman-Hasso (NMC), Thomas (Jake) Scholl (NMC), Brendan Ryan (NMS), and Nathaniel Henry (NMS). **Not pictured:** Joseph Becker (NMC), Isaac Hoffman (NMC), Timothy Krause (NMC), and Miranda Margolis (NMC).





## Achievement for All

### More Years in Shaker = Greater Success

Passage Rate on State Mathematics Test

Grade	Percent proficient after 1-3 years in Shaker	Percent proficient after 3 or more years in Shaker
4	82.7%	89.8%
6	67.3%	81.4%
8	55.1%	81.6%
10	66.1%	86.2%



All Shaker students in grades 1-5 take Chinese for an hour each week, thanks largely to a visiting teacher program underwritten by the Chinese government and the College Board. Shaker's Chinese program has been recognized as exemplary by national professional organizations and news media.

### The Shaker Schools at a Glance

- Eight schools serve approximately 5,500 students, Pre-K through grade 12. Enrollment has been stable for more than a decade.
- Increasing international presence, with families from more than 35 countries.
- Faculty members average 16 years' experience.
- More than 80% of faculty members hold a master's degree or higher.
- The High School is an International Baccalaureate World School. All other Shaker schools are on track to pursue International Baccalaureate World School status.
- 23 Advanced Placement courses are offered at the High School. Shaker Heights High School ranks among top 2% of U.S. high schools in *Newsweek's* annual ratings.
- On the 2010 state report card, the Shaker schools received the equivalent of two A+'s, five A's, and a B.





### **Shaping the Future: The Strategic Plan for the Shaker Schools**

In 2009, the Board of Education and administration launched a major strategic planning initiative to establish the vision for the Shaker schools. The planning process quickly evolved to include extensive feedback from residents, parents, staff, and students from every part of the community.

"The ultimate goal of our strategic planning project is to create measurable performance indicators that we can track, assess, and update in order to continually drive our education program toward excellence in ever-changing circumstances," said Annette Tucker Sutherland, Board Vice President. "In order to set meaningful goals, the Board intentionally sought a process that would involve our community and ensure our teaching staff was included in the planning." Sutherland has been closely involved with the strategic planning process since its inception.

More than 900 intensive interviews were conducted as part of the massive community engagement project known as Imagine Shaker, providing vital input to the planning process. Information from those interviews was used to help identify three key focus areas and goals:

#### **Student Experience**

- Build relationships among faculty, staff, students, and families to help students achieve excellence and advocate for themselves.
- Provide a learning community that is safe, welcoming, inclusive, respectful, and engaging.
- Ensure that academic, enrichment, and extracurricular activities are accessible to all students.

**Shaker Heights High School** earned the distinction of being named an International Baccalaureate World School. An inaugural group of more than 40 juniors stepped up to the challenge of pursuing a rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma.

#### **Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

- Consistently use best research-based teaching practices.
- Ensure a globally competitive curriculum that reflects high expectations for all students.
- Employ instructional strategies and learning opportunities that remove race, socio-economic status, and disability as predictors of achievement.

#### **Collaboration, Communication, and Involvement**

- Engage all parents as active partners in student progress.
- Connect the Shaker community as partners in student success.
- Build community confidence and pride in our schools through effective communication.

Said Board member Peter A. Robertson, who has also been deeply involved in the planning: "I think this document identifies the proper strategic focus of our school district at this juncture. We will insist that it remain as a focus of the work of the schools, and we expect annual revisions so that it can serve as a context for our budget conversations and planning sessions for each school year."

Detailed information about the strategic plan and the process leading to it is available at [www.shaker.org/strategicplan](http://www.shaker.org/strategicplan).





#### For More Information

- Strategic Planning:  
[www.shaker.org/strategicplan](http://www.shaker.org/strategicplan)
- The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report\*:  
[www.shaker.org/news/financial](http://www.shaker.org/news/financial)
- The Report of the Auditor of the State: [www.shaker.org/news/financial](http://www.shaker.org/news/financial)
- Accountability Report and Fact Book\*:  
[www.shaker.org/about/FactBook](http://www.shaker.org/about/FactBook)
- News about student accomplishments:  
[www.shaker.org/news](http://www.shaker.org/news)

*\*Also available at the Shaker Library.*

#### Difficult Decisions for Difficult Times

The convergence of long-standing inadequacies in funding public education in Ohio, the state's reeling economy and inherent limitations in generating local revenue has created challenges for the Shaker Heights City School District.

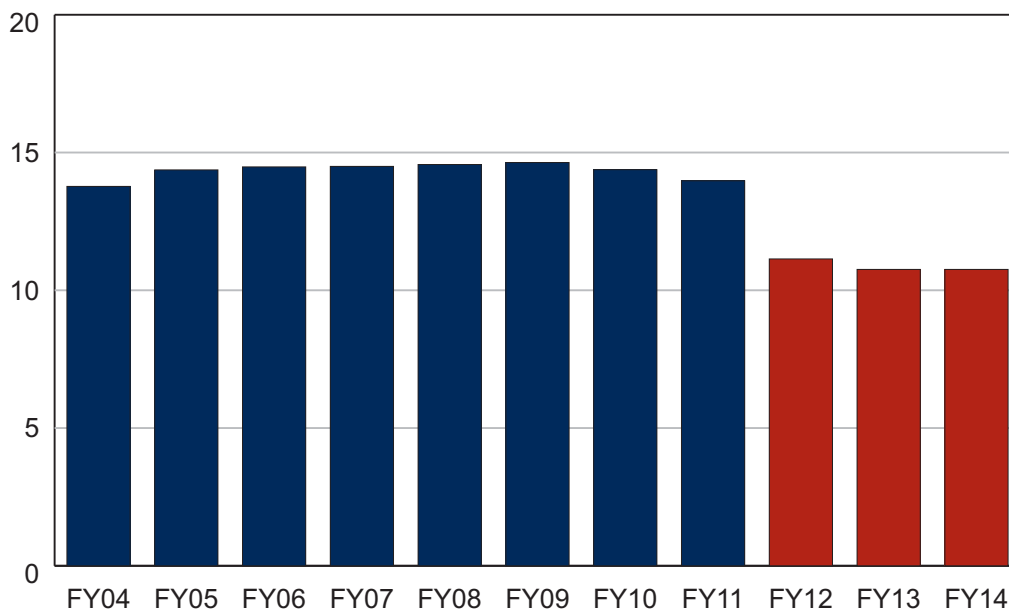
Public education in Ohio has been underfunded for decades, but now, a decrease in state support and a declining tax base have resulted in the mathematical reality that the District's major revenue sources are shrinking at a time when everything costs more.

Draconian measures like slashing programs and laying off teachers in large numbers inevitably would do grave harm to the quality of education. That is not acceptable in a community with high expectations and one whose identity and future are inextricably linked to the quality of its schools.

Fortunately, Shaker residents understand what it takes to sustain a high-caliber educational system and have supported those efforts through the passage of necessary tax levies. It is incumbent on the District and its staff to continue earning that trust with ongoing efforts to reduce costs without destroying the essential character of a Shaker education: excellent teaching, an enriched curriculum, and an understanding of the larger world.

#### State Foundation Revenues

Actual and Projected, In \$ Millions



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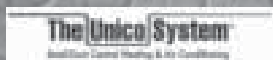
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### Dramatic Decline in State Aid

In the fall of 2008, the Shaker Heights Board of Education deferred an operating levy scheduled for 2009 until May 2010.

The Board was able to do so – thereby deviating from what had been a three-year levy cycle – because the District had enacted a series of cost-saving measures, including budget reductions of \$4.5 million in 2007 that had a sustained impact.

The 2010 levy passed overwhelmingly. But by delaying it for a year, the District relinquished \$9 million permanently. Reductions in public utility property valuations, market-driven decreases in real estate values and the elimination of the tangible personal property tax have resulted in further deterioration of the local tax base in Shaker Heights and throughout Ohio.

Meanwhile, financial support from the State of Ohio, chiefly through Foundation payments, continues to erode. As a result of a projected \$8 billion budget shortfall in Ohio's biennial budget, State Foundation payments to school districts are expected to fall precipitously for the 2012 and 2013 budget years. What that means in Shaker Heights is an expected decrease from \$14 million this year to \$11.1 million next year and about \$10.8 million in 2013.

With the anticipated reductions, the District's State Foundation revenue will be lower than it has been since 2001, even though student enrollment has been stable over that period. Furthermore, this steady







reduction in state support has not stopped the state from continuing to impose unfunded and underfunded mandates over the past decade.

#### Aggressive Cost Containment

With less money coming in, the District has taken aggressive steps to reduce the money going out.

When the District closed the books for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, it had \$1.7 million to carry over to the current year, largely because spending came in about \$1 million under budget. Deferring non-emergency repairs and maintenance, imposing limits on overtime and maximizing the use of federal and private grant money are among the factors that have put the District on pace to come in under budget again this year.

But the District achieved its biggest savings, nearly \$2 million, by reducing 23 positions from this year's budget, mainly through attrition.

As is the case with most school districts in Ohio, personnel costs normally represent about 80 percent of general fund expenditures for the Shaker schools. Given that reality, the District is focused on personnel and is combining job responsibilities wherever possible.

Staff reductions in recent years have centered on support personnel. When trimming has extended to the classroom, the goal is to minimize disruption through subtle changes. For instance, some smaller classes have been combined and electives scaled back.

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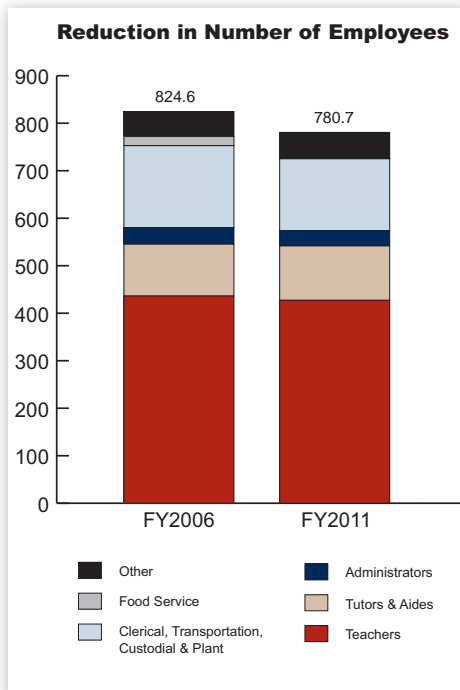


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**Staff reductions** have been prioritized to protect the teaching staff to the maximum degree possible.

### Curbing Health Care Costs

The District continues to look for ways to curb escalating health care costs and has a lengthy track record of success in that regard.

Except for an 18-month period in 2005 and 2006, the District chose a contingent premium option from 2001 until last year. Under the arrangement, the District paid 90 percent of the quoted monthly health insurance premium. Only if the actual claims exceeded the 90 percent projection did the District pay an additional amount at the end of the year – and that amount was capped at 105 percent of the quoted premium. In essence, the District's plan presented only a 5 percent downside risk but had an upside benefit of 10 percent.

The contingent premium option saved \$1.6 million since 2001, when measured against paying a 100 percent premium.

The Shaker schools realized at least \$600,000 of those savings from 2007 through 2009, District records show. The contingent premium option has worked in tandem with the District's working spouse provision, which went into effect in 2007 and requires working spouses of District employees to use their employer's health plan for primary coverage. The shifting of health care costs to spouses' health plans contributed significantly to savings realized under the contingent premium option in recent years.

As part of ongoing efforts to reduce costs, and after a thorough evaluation of options, the District switched from the contingent premium to a self-insurance plan in February 2010. However, the Shaker schools continue to save money from the working spouse provision.

Recently, the District has taken other steps that will save money and increase



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accountability. A health insurance dependent audit last year resulted in the removal of 36 ineligible people from the District's health plan, which will yield an estimated \$70,000 in annual savings. The District is now undertaking an audit of health-care claims, which is expected to result in significant savings.

### Diligence Pays Off

As a result of diligent documentation of expenses associated with children who have special needs, the Shaker schools continue to rank among the top districts in Ohio for reimbursements from two funding sources. Although state budget pressures have caused a precipitous drop in the reimbursement rate, the District still collected nearly \$280,000 in special education state "catastrophic" aid last year. The District also received \$120,000 in federal reimbursements in 2010 through the Ohio Medicaid School Program.

The District conscientiously enforces residency requirements, continuously adding to its repertoire of techniques for preventing and detecting improper enrollment. In 2010, the registrar's office removed 62 students who were found, after investigation, to be improperly enrolled. Many more were prevented from enrolling because they lacked proper documentation of their residency. Collaboration with the Shaker Heights prosecutor has resulted in successful criminal prosecutions and restitution.

The District's financial reporting continues to be recognized for its accuracy and integrity by the State of Ohio and professional organizations. The recently completed audit for the 2009-10 fiscal year was the latest in a long line of "clean" annual audits. The Ohio Auditor of State has given the District awards for excellence in financial reporting for the last several years. The Shaker schools have received similar awards of excellence in financial reporting for 12 consecutive years from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada and the Association of School Business Officials.

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Following upgrades in recent years from Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's, the two major bond rating agencies, the District's bond rating remains at an all-time high, another affirmation of strong financial management.

### **Improving Efficiency**

Looking to the future, the Shaker Heights City School District continues to look for ways to realign the workforce, streamline operations and work more efficiently. An experienced management consultant, who is also a Shaker resident, volunteered her time to perform an operations efficiency analysis in 2010 and identified broad areas for long-term savings. The District is moving forward on the recommendations.

Amid the most difficult economic circumstances to confront the state and metropolitan area in many decades, the Shaker Heights City School District is committed to pursuing all avenues to maximize revenues and reduce expenditures, while maintaining the standard of academic excellence that has helped define this community.



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## Summary of Recent Cost Savings in the Shaker Heights Schools

The following is a summary of recent cost saving steps taken by the District:

- The elimination of 23 positions throughout the School District, mostly through attrition and combining job responsibilities, saved \$2 million this fiscal year.
- Outsourcing all food service eliminated expenditures that had been running \$350,000 annually in recent years. Even with a one-time \$200,000 equipment purchase that allowed us to begin offering hot lunches at five elementary schools, we expect to achieve a net savings of \$150,000 on food service operations this year. We anticipate annual savings of \$350,000 in future years.
- General fund expenditures so far this year are running several hundred thousand dollars under our already trimmed-down budget. The savings result primar-

ily from deferred non-emergency repairs and maintenance, limits on overtime and maximizing the use of federal and private grant money.

- A similar preservation of resources occurred last year. The District ended the 2009-2010 school year about \$1 million under budget due to spending reductions, and revenue exceeded expectations by \$700,000, for a net positive impact of \$1.7 million.
- The District has taken several steps in recent years to curb rising health care costs. These include a contingent premium option, a conversion to self-insurance, a working spouse exclusion, a dependent audit and a forthcoming claims audit.
- The District has protected the local tax base by contesting property tax reductions when the facts indicate the request

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isn't reasonable. In 2009, the District's challenge of 214 residential and 17 commercial properties yielded a net savings of more than \$582,000 in tax dollars. The average savings from such challenges for the three preceding years was \$201,000.

- We brought in \$400,000 last year through our diligent documentation of reimbursable expenses associated with students' special needs. We continue to place in the top districts in the state for dollars reimbursed.

- Our innovative attendance policy is responsible for reducing the use of substitute support staff, such as bus drivers, by an average of 29 percent over the last four years.

- Our extensive use of the Ohio Schools Council cooperative to purchase school buses, insurance, natural gas and electricity continues to save tens of thousands of dollars each year.



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## Guarding Lives

*continued from page 38*

At the end of the three-day training, Quinn and her staff determine which guards to hire. A strong performance during the training is important, but, says Quinn, "We also look at maturity, the ability to take direction and work within a team setting, and how well they work with children and adults."

Training does not end with the three days, however. Throughout the summer, guards attend weekly sessions in which they hone their skills. "Sometimes we'll

do sessions twice a week if we think the kids need to work on a particular skill," says Quinn.

"We don't settle for anything less than the best. We make sure they are thoroughly trained and we're constantly observing them and making sure they are doing their job correctly," explains Kannard, who will graduate from Case Western Reserve University this spring.

One particular skill that Thornton's lifeguards work on intensively is called scanning, which is key to spotting swimmers who need help.

"There are various ways to scan," says Quinn. "You make a pattern, such as up and down or a figure eight, so you are systematically covering the entire zone." Thornton's pool is divided into six zones (including the tot pool). The guards on duty are responsible for scanning their assigned zone every 10 seconds.

A rubber dummy named "Timmy"

helps ensure the guards are scanning effectively. "We put him in the water as much as we can," says Kannard. "If the lifeguards see Timmy, we know that they are scanning their zones."

And if there is any doubt that a swimmer is in trouble, the guards don't hesitate to intervene. "The rule is: If you don't know, go," says Quinn. In fact, before the pool was renovated, a light in the deep end had a tendency to fall out of the wall. "Every once in a while the guard would go in and save the light because they didn't know what it was. We stress: If you don't know what it is, you go in and figure it out."

Thankfully, on average, there are only a handful of pull-outs each summer, most of them minor. It's a safety record that Shaker's lifeguard crew can be proud of.

"I really do think that our lifeguards are the best that we can get. They really care," says Kannard.

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## Underground Shaker

*continued from page 36*

feet. Even so, it was a challenge for Sandy and Raul to get the table into the basement of their Glencairn Road home when they inherited it a couple of years ago. "The board had to go in one piece, so it came through a vent in the glass block window. Luckily, the rest of it could be taken apart," says Sandy.

Hanging from the ceiling above the table is the old electronic scoreboard, which also came from the West Side bar. The scoreboard was broken while in storage. It took a bit of work to find someone who could fix it.

"Our contractor gave it to one electrician and he couldn't figure it out," says Sandy. "Then we tracked down a guy through a vending machine company who is a specialist in pinball games, so he was able to fix it."

The table was originally coin-operated (it cost from 20 to 50 cents to play), but Sandy's father, who learned electronics in the Navy, retrofitted the coin-box with a button that could start the game. This box and the green, yellow, and red score buttons are hanging on Seballos' basement wall. Pushing a button makes a wonderful arcade-like pop as the scoreboard lights up.

These days, the shuffleboard table is used often by the Seballos' children, now teenagers – and the basement is the center of the action during gatherings with friends and families. But, says Sandy with a laugh, her teenagers have yet to discover what she and her sisters figured out long ago: "Our favorite activity was to have one sister at one end and one at the other end and crash the metal pucks so they would make sparks. That was our ultimate goal."



Please send calendar submissions and  
deadline inquiries to [shakerdates@aol.com](mailto:shakerdates@aol.com)

## Ongoing Activities for Families

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions,** THE PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parents and caregivers with children from 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 also includes use of gym and muscle room during specific hours. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-based play for parents and caregivers with children 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 their children birth to age 5, co-spon-

sored by Shaker Library and Family Connections. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

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

**SATURDAYS: Make Room for Daddy, for Families Raising Children 3-5 with Special Needs, 10 AM-NOON,** THE PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Free, drop-in, facilitated playgroup for fathers with children ages 3-8 with special needs on two Saturdays of the month. Grandfathers or siblings under 5 are welcome. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**SATURDAYS: Birthday Parties, 11 AM-1 PM OR 2-4 PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Birthday Parties are available for children birth-6 years Family Connections at Shaker Family Center is the perfect place

to hold a birthday party for your young child. Enjoy lunch or cake in our Party Room and private use of the gym, complete with riding toys and equipment. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

## Ongoing Activities for Adults

**MONDAYS: Pilates Class, 9:30-10:30 AM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Bring a mat and shape up. Fee: \$5 class. INFO: 216-921-3510.

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

**TUESDAYS: Yoga, 6:15-7:30 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Beginners to advanced beginners class. There's no place like ohm. Fee: \$10/class. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**FRIDAYS: Zumba Fitness, 9:30-10:30 AM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Fee: \$3/class. INFO: 216-921-3510.

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

## Destinations...

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

**MAIN LIBRARY**  
16500 Van Aken Boulevard  
216-991-2030

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

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

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

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

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

**SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
20600 Shaker Boulevard  
216-295-4100

**THORNTON PARK**  
3301 Warrensville Center Road  
216-491-1295






# April

## highlights

RIVERA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						<p><b>Edible Books Festival</b> 1 pm, Loganberry Books. (p. 60)</p> <p><b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (p. 60)</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p><b>Latin Jam with Shari Hunter &amp; Friends</b> 2 pm, Main Library. (p. 60)</p>	<p><b>Pilates Class</b> Ongoing. 9:30 am, Plymouth Church. (p. 57)</p>	<p><b>Poetry Back in the Woods</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 60)</p>	<p><b>Barbara Luton Art Competition</b> Exhibit Thru 4/22 Main Library. (p. 60)</p>	<p><b>Drop-in Play Sessions</b> 4/7, 14, 21 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins. (p. 60)</p> <p><b>Knit Night</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 60)</p>	<p><b>At Home with the Arts (AHA)</b> 7:30 pm, Loganberry Books. (p. 60)</p>	<p><b>Giant Garage Sale</b> 9 am, Heights Christian Church. (p. 60)</p> <p><b>Rain Barrel Workshop</b> 10:30 am, Cleveland Botanical Garden. (p. 60)</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p><b>City2City5K</b> 8 am, Tower City. (p. 66)</p>	<p><b>Spring Used Toy Sale Donation</b> 4/11-12 9 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Babes in Nature: Wake Up Spring!</b> 10 am, Nature Center. (p. 62)</p>	<p><b>Used Toy Sale</b> 6 pm, Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Pestival</b> 6 pm, Nature Center. (p. 62)</p>	<p><b>Family Fun Fridays for Families Raising Children 3-5 with Special Needs</b> Ongoing. 1 pm, Main Library. (p. 57)</p>	<p><b>Rain Barrel Workshops</b> 10 am, Nature Center. (p. 62)</p> <p><b>Stephen King's Colorado</b> 3 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 61)</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p><b>Pesticides, Bedbugs, and Lawn Care</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Big/Little: Earth Friends</b> 10 am, Nature Center. (p. 62)</p>	<p><b>Planning Your Rehab Project</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Brown Bag Bingo for Seniors 50+</b> 12:30 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p. 61)</p> <p><b>Teen Volunteer Fair</b> 6:30 pm, Main Library. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Not Your Mother's Politics: An Intergenerational Discussion</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (p. 61)</p>	<p><b>Zumba Fitness</b> Ongoing. 9:30 am, Plymouth Church. (p. 57)</p>	<p><b>Hike with a Friend</b> Ongoing. 3:30 pm, Nature Center. (p. 62)</p> <p><b>Night Ride on the Towpath</b> 8 pm, Century Cycles. (p. 66)</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	<p><b>Parent and Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (p. 57)</p>	<p><b>Spring Eggs-travaganza</b> 1 pm, Chelton Park. (p. 61)</p> <p><b>William N. Skirball Writers Center Stage</b> Pete Hamill 7 pm, Ohio Theatre. (p. 64)</p>		<p><b>Game Girlz</b> 4 pm, Main Library (p. 62)</p>	<p><b>Art Exposed II</b> 7 pm, Main Library (p. 62)</p>	<p><b>Spring Eggs-travaganza</b> 1 pm, Horseshoe Lake Park. (p. 61)</p>

# May highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Writers & Readers: Anchee Min 2 pm, Cleveland Public Library. (p. 64)	2 Resumes that Get Results 1 pm, Main Library. (p. 62)	3	4 Shaker Clothing and Textiles Exhibit Thru 5/24. (p. 60)	5 Numbers by Lottery Gallery-Opening Reception 6 pm, Loganberry Books. (p. 62)	6	7 Cinco de Mayo 7 pm, Hiram House. (p. 62)  Celebrate! An Affair to Remember 6:15 pm, Cleveland Play House. (p. 64)
8	9 Developing Your Job Search Plan 1 pm, Main Library. (p. 62)	10 Yoga Ongoing. 6:15 pm, Plymouth Church. (p. 57)	11 Shakerfest 5/11-6/1 Shaker schools. (p. 62)	12 Play and Learn Station Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 57)	13 Family Fun Fridays for Families Raising Children 3-5 with Special Needs Ongoing. 1 pm, Main Library. (p. 57)	14 PSAT Practice Test 9:15 am, Main Library. (p. 63)  CityMusic Cleveland 11 am, Fairmount Presbyterian Church. (p. 65)
15 34th Annual Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon, Half Marathon & 10K 5/14-16. (p. 66)	16 Networking: Get With It 1 pm, Main Library. (p. 63)	17 Shaker Library Open House 8:30 am, Main Library. (p. 63)	 RIVERA Memorial Day Observation in Shaker		20 Shaker Spring Ice Spectacular: Project Shaker 5/20-21 Thornton Park. (p. 63)	21 10th Annual Band Aid Bash 7 pm, MedWish Warehouse. (p. 65)
	 Memorial Day Observation in Shaker				27 Zumba Fitness Ongoing. 9:30 am, Plymouth Church. (p. 57)	28 Larchmere Sidewalk Sale 10 am, Larchmere Boulevard. (p. 64)
	31 Play and Learn Station Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 57)					

**SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON**, SHAKER SQUARE. The real growth association! Buy fresh and local produce from farmers on the square.

## Art & Exhibits

**THRU APRIL 22: Barbara Luton Art Competition**, MAIN LIBRARY. View the artwork juried into the twelfth annual show. Art is available for sale and a portion of the proceeds benefits the Library Endowment Fund. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**THRU MAY 24: Exhibit: Shaker Clothing and Textiles**, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Rarely seen highlights of the Shaker clothing and textile collection on display. Dresses, coats, rugs, blankets and more. FEES & INFO: 216-921-1201.

# Events for *April*

**April 2: Edible Books Festival, 1 PM**, LOGANBERRY BOOKS AND STRONG BINDERY, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Booklovers, bookbinders, cooks, and craftspeople of all ages are invited to participate. Create an edible creation, vote for the best and then eat them! Bring your nonedible book to display with your edible entry. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 3: The Intersection of Music and Intelligence in Early Childhood, 9:30-10:45 AM**, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Vanessa Bond, Doctoral Candidate at CWRU and Sylvia Easley, Director of Cleveland Music School Settlement's Early Childhood Program and winner of the Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio for 2010, discuss

how music helps to develop motor skills, vocabulary, math, and creativity in preschoolers. Families are welcome and childcare is provided. INFO: SUSAN ALCORN, 216-640-3891.

**April 3: Latin Jam with Shari Hunter & Friends, 2 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month at the Library. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 5: Poetry Back in the Woods, 7 PM**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Max Stark, Lou Suarez, Clarissa Jakobsons read their poetry. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 7, 14, 21: Drop-in Play Sessions, 9:30 AM-NOON**, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Child's play for infants to age eight and parent or caregiver. FEE INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 7: Altered Book Group: Dreams Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM**, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Fifth annual Altered Book Group Show at the Annex Gallery features creations on the concept of dreams. See imaginations at work on these three-dimensional wonders. Artists include Phyllis Brody, Sarah Clague, Gene Epstein, Jacqueline Parsons, Ellen Takas, and Anne Weissman. Exhibit continues through May 2. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**April 7: Knit Night, 7 PM**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Bring a project and get or give help at this creative session led by experienced knitter, Fern Braverman. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 8: At Home with the Arts (AHA), 7:30 PM**, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Shaker Arts

Council presents Jason Vieaux, international classical guitar virtuoso and Shaker resident, in concert followed by a wine and cheese dessert reception. Tickets are limited and cost \$35/person; \$30/SHAC member. Register online at shakerartscouncil.org (select Support/Donate) or send a check, payable to Shaker Arts Council, PMB 232, 16781 Chagrin Blvd. Shaker Heights, 44120. INFO: 216-561-7454 OR EMAIL [info@shakerartscouncil.org](mailto:info@shakerartscouncil.org).

**April 9: Giant Garage Sale, 9 AM-4 PM**, HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 17300 VAN AKEN BLVD. Sale includes over 50 tables of clothing, jewelry, and household items including the popular "Tiffany Tables" with silver and decorative pieces, furniture, bake sale. Lunch will be available. Enter off the circular drive at the rear of the church. \$1/general admission. Have treasures you want to sell? Buy a table for \$25. INFO: 216-561-4800.

**April 9: Rain Barrel Workshops, 10:30-11:30 AM**, CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN, 11030 EAST BLVD. Start saving money and water by installing a rain barrel system. \$60/members of Botanical Gardens and/or Nature Center, \$75/ non-members. \$30 for an extra barrel without Oatey Diverter. \$50 for an extra barrel with Oatey Diverter. INFO: 216-721-1600 X 100 OR REGISTER IN ADVANCE AT [www.cbgbarden.org](http://www.cbgbarden.org).

**April 11: Music in the Morning, 9:30 AM**, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (6 months to three years) and their parents experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays and experimentation with instruments and dance. \$80/7 weeks April 11-May 23. INFO: KAREN



GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**April 11 & 12:** Spring Used Toy Sale Donation, 9 AM-5 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Donate your gently-used or like-new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys, baby equipment, and get a tax deduction. Donated items must be working, clean, containing all pieces/parts and age appropriate. *Plush animals and car seats will not be accepted.* Please include batteries if required. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**April 13:** Used Toy Sale, 6-8 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Calling all frugal moms, dads and grands! Find huge bargains in toys and games. Sale continues from 10 am to noon April 14. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR WWW.FamilyConnections1.org.

**April 16:** Stephen King's Colorado, 3 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy an interactive multimedia presentation of some of King's settings. Free. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**April 17:** Pesticides, Bedbugs, and Lawn Care, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Bedbugs, pesticides, and the environment! Barry Zucker, Director of Beyond Pesticides Ohio, speaks on what can we do to protect ourselves and the environment. INFO: SUSAN ALCORN, 216-640-3891.

**April 19:** Planning Your Rehab Project, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Experts from Cleveland Restoration Society offer guidance in how to plan for your home improvement project, how choose the right contractor for the job, and how to review the bids. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 20:** Brown Bag Bingo for Seniors 50+, 12:30-1:30 PM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY

BUILDING. Bring a brown bag lunch, get your bingo marker, and get set for an afternoon of fun. Coffee and dessert provided. Free. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**April 20:** Teen Volunteer Fair, 6:30-8 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Teens ages 12-18 can meet representatives from area organizations seeking teen volunteers. See where you can lend a hand. Parents welcome. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 21:** Not Your Mother's Politics: An Intergenerational Discussion, 7-9 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights Heights and Case Western Reserve University's Flora Stone Mather Center for Women present a provocative panel discussion on women's roles in politics. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 22:** Good Friday. Schools and libraries closed.

**April 25:** Monday Movies for Seniors 50+, 12:15 PM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided. Free flick with 25-cent popcorn. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**April 26:** Spring Eggstravaganza, 1-2:30 PM, CHELTON PARK.

**April 30,** 1-2:30 PM, HORSESHOE LAKE PARK. Hop on over and search the park for treat-filled eggs at this event for children ages 8 and under. Flower the Clown will create beautiful balloon sculptures; take a chance at guessing the number of jelly beans in a jar for a special prize; search for the elusive golden egg, which holds a summer pool pass for a family of four. Pictures by MotoPhoto will be available for \$5. Free admission. INFO: 216-491-1295.



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## out & about

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

**SATURDAYS: Hike with a Friend, 3:30 PM.** 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.

**April 9: Experiential Gardening Workshop for Families, 10 AM-NOON.** Don't wait until May to begin your gardening season. Learn some easy ways to start your seeds inside and get a head start on your garden. Windows or minimal additional lighting are all that's needed. \$5/person materials fee.

**April 12: Babes in Nature: Wake Up Spring!, 10-10:45 AM.** As spring wakes up after a long winter's nap, there's lots of new growth to explore. Rediscover the wonders of spring with your baby. \$5/ members; \$7/non-members.

**April 14: Festival, 6-9 PM.** A festival festival with a cocktail reception and creative cuisine using garlic mustard, an edible, invasive species, culled from the Nature Center each year.

**April 16: Rain Barrel Workshops, 10-11 AM AND NOON-1 PM.** \$60/members \$75 /non-members. \$30 for an extra barrel without Oatey Diverter; \$50 for an extra barrel with Oatey Diverter.

**April 18: Big/Little: Earth Friends, 10-11:30 AM.** April 22 is Earth Day a great day to learn how to help our precious planet and have fun doing so. \$8/ members; \$12/non-members.

**May 7: Plant Sale, 9 AM-1 PM.** Shop for a variety of annuals, perennials, herbs, edibles, and native plants.

**May 10: Babes in Nature: Birds Bursting in Song, 10-10:45 AM.** *Cheep trills!* Birds are singing from the treetops and sounds abound. Take in the magical music of nature. \$5/members; \$7/non-members.

**May 16: Big/Little: Watch Them Grow, 10-11:30 AM.** *Spring has sprung. It's no longer freezin'! Now's the time for planting season!* Little sprouts can grow some plants of their own while exploring the world of gardening. \$8/members; \$12/non-members.

**April 28: GameGirlz, 4-5:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Video gaming for girls of all ages. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**April 29: Art Exposed II, 7-9 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Expose yourself to the talents of Shaker Heights High school artists at this gallery opening of amazing artwork. INFO: 216-991-2030.

## Events for May

**May 1: National Health Care Choices and Reality: An Honest Conversation, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD.** Will compromise on health care regulations and insurance coverage move us forward or backward? How effective is citizen lobbying versus corporate dollars? Guest speaker will be J.B. Silvers, Ph.D. Professor of Health Systems Management at CWRU Weatherhead School of Management. INFO: SUSAN ALCORN, 216-640-3891.

**May 2: Resumes that Get Results, 1-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Shaker Library and Tri-C's Career Development and Transition Services help participants understand the purpose of a resume, and how to develop an effective one. Review the general guidelines and parts of a resume that get results. Free. INFO: 216 -991-2030.

**May 5: Numbers by Lottery Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD.** Dirk Wales is an author and mixed media artist who has traveled the country sampling one of America's favorite pastimes – buying lottery tickets. In this show, he displays the fruits of his labors, combining his fascination with words, numbers, and images to present a virtual travelogue of contemporary regional America. Exhibit continues through May 30. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**May 7: Cinco de Mayo, 7 PM, TAYLOR HALL AT HIRAM HOUSE CAMP.** Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, beer, wine, margaritas, and live and silent auctions. All proceeds benefit Family Connections' programs for families raising young children. Reservations are required. TICKETS & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**May 9: Developing Your Job Search Plan, 1-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Shaker Library and Tri-C's Career Development and Transition Services help participants explore the importance of creating a job search plan. Learn about the general guidelines and key components. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 11: Shakerfest. SHAKER SCHOOLS.** Celebrate the Shaker Schools when they offer a variety of music and art activities from May 11 through June 1. INFO: 216-295-1400.

**May 11:** Rightsizing for Seniors, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Real Estate consultant Lee-Ann Spacek speaks about downsizing housing options, transition living arrangements, and organizing a move for senior adults and their families. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 12:** Knit Night, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. *Purl up* with a good knitting project book or come to this creative knitters' night led by experienced knitter, Fern Braverman. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 14:** PSAT Practice Test, 9:15-11:45 AM, MAIN LIBRARY. *Pssst, this test is free!* Take the test and come back May 21 to learn your score and get tips on how to raise it. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 14:** Bike Day at the Library, 2-3 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Shaker Heights Police Department will talk about bike safety and issue free bike licenses. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 16:** Networking: Get With It, 1-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Shaker Library and Tri-C's Career Development and Transition Services help participants learn how to "Use the Grapevine" to get your message out, to get referrals, and to gain insight into your target market. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 17:** Shaker Library Open House, 8:30 AM, MAIN LIBRARY. Enjoy refreshments and tour the newly renovated areas on the second floor of the Main Library, including the newly expanded Computer Center and Training Lab. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 18:** Brown Bag Bingo for Seniors 50+, 12:30-1:30 PM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Bring a brown bag lunch, get your bingo marker, and get set for an afternoon of fun. Coffee and dessert provided. Free. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**May 18:** Meet the Author, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Meet Rick Smith, creator of the comic strip, *Yehuda Moon & the Kickstand Cyclery*, who will talk about his comic strip and share his bike commuting experience. Free. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 20-21:** Shaker Spring Ice Spectacular: Project Shaker. THORNTON PARK ICE ARENA. Exciting performances by guest and local figure skaters and Thornton Park's learn-to-skate participants. Tickets



**HAWKEN**  
SCHOOL 

## Some big ideas just won't fit on notebook paper.

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## out & about

available May 2. INFO: 216-491-1295.

**May 21:** **Basic Bike Know-How,** 2 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Frank Hall of Bicycle Boulevard will talk about how to select a bicycle and offer tips for basic bike upkeep and repair. Free. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**May 23:** **Monday Movies for Seniors 50+,** 12:15 PM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided. Free flick with 25-cent popcorn. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**May 23:** **Ace that Interview,** 1-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Shaker Library and Tri-C's Career Development and Transition Services help participants practice their interviewing skills, learn the basic guidelines and how to reply to traditional questions, behavioral-based questions and telephone interviews. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 26:** **GameGirlz,** 4-5:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Video gaming for girls of all ages. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**May 28:** **Larchmere Sidewalk Sale,** 10 AM-5PM, LARCHMERE BLVD. Enjoy a stroll along the boulevard and browse for bargains.

**May 30:** **Memorial Day.** City, schools and libraries closed. Join in the Memorial Day Parade up Van Aken Boulevard. Start and end with a pancake breakfast, 8:30-11:30 AM, THORNTON PARK. All-you-can-eat pancakes, sausages, coffee, orange juice, and milk, with proceeds benefiting Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund. Fee: \$7/adults; \$5/children (ages 5-12); \$3/children under 5. INFO: 216-491-1295.

## In the Circle and Beyond

**APRIL 13:** **Crafting Empire: The Archaeology of Craft Production in Vijayanagara, South India,** 7:30 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. The Archaeological Institute of America presents a lecture by Dr. Carla Sinopoli from the University of Michigan followed by a reception to meet the speaker. Free. INFO: 216-321-4600 OR [www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmmain.html](http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmmain.html).

**APRIL 26:** **William N. Skirball Writers Center Stage: Pete Hamill,** 7 PM, OHIO THEATRE. Novelist, essayist, and journalist Pete Hamill appears to benefit Cuyahoga County Public Library Foundation. Hamill's best-selling works include *Snow in August*, *A Drinking Life*, and *Downtown: My Manhattan*, an account of his love affair with New York. TICKETS: \$30/PERSON, 216-664-6051.

**MAY 1:** **Writers & Readers: Anchee Min,** 2 PM, CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY LOUIS STOKES WING, 325 SUPERIOR AVE. The author of *Pearl of China*, *The Last Empress*, and other works offers an entertaining and thought provoking presentation. Free. INFO: 216-623-2800.

**MAY 7:** **Celebrate! An Affair to Remember,** 6:15 PM-1 AM, CLEVELAND PLAY HOUSE ROTUNDA, 8500 EUCLID AVE. Join Board Chair Sandra Kiely Kolb and Benefit Chair Mebbly Brown (both Shaker residents) to celebrate the history of Cleveland Play House, which moves to PlayhouseSquare this fall. Included are valet parking, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing, and a performance by Susan Egan of Broadway's *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Tickets: \$300-\$1,000/person. INFO: ROBIN MARTINSON, 216-795-7000 EXT. 226 OR [rmartinson@cleve](mailto:rmartinson@cleve)



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**MAY 11: A Complete Cosmos: The Tomb of an Egyptian Governor and Its Secrets, 7:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. The Archaeological Institute of America presents a lecture by Dr. Lawrence Berman from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, followed by a reception to meet the speaker. Free. INFO: 216-321-4600 OR [WWW.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html](http://WWW.case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html).

**MAY 14: CityMusic Cleveland, 11 AM,** FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Margaret Brouwer's world premiere of *A City Story*. Intergenerational concert series is conducted by Joshua Weilerstein and narrated by Scott Plate. Free. INFO: 216-321-8273.

**MAY 17: CityMusic Cleveland, 7:30 PM,** FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Franz Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata in A minor, D821, arranged for cello and orchestra by Luna Pearl Woolf. Free. INFO: 216-321-8273.

**MAY 21: 10th Annual Band Aid Bash, 7-11 PM,** MEDWISH WAREHOUSE, 17325 EUCLID AVE. MedWish transforms its industrial headquarters into a swanky, trendy New York City-style nightclub. WKYC's Mark Nolan will emcee at the party featuring live and silent auctions, music, networking, and a live video conference with an overseas recipient hospital. International food will be provided by Spice of Life, a Cleveland-based catering company dedicated to local, sustainable foods. MedWish International recovers surplus medical supplies and redistributes them to developing nations. Tickets: \$125/person; \$100/person (early bird price until 5/1). INFO: [www.medwish.org](http://www.medwish.org).



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## Heels and Wheels

**APRIL 10: City2City5K, 8 AM, TOWER CITY.** 5K Race/5K Family Fun Walk to benefit Providence House includes a Kids' Fun Run around the fountain and Providence House Pinwheels for Prevention featuring the largest display of pinwheels in Cuyahoga County. All registered participants receive a City2City 5K Race t-shirt! Pre-registration is \$15nd \$20 on race day. INFO: 216-623-9933.

**APRIL 23: Night Ride on the Towpath, 8 PM, CENTURY CYCLES, 1621 MAIN ST., PENINSULA.** 12- to 15-mile bike ride, which usually takes from one and a half to two hours. Bring your bicycle, helmet, and headlight. INFO: 330-657-2209.

**MAY 7: 9th Annual Rock, Walk & Run, 7 AM, ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM, 1100 ROCK AND ROLL BLVD.** 3-mile walk and 5-mile run to benefit the Diversity Center. Mail entries by April 29 to: The Diversity Center, 3645 Warrensville Center Rd. #328, Shaker Heights 44122.

**MAY 14-16: 34th Annual Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon, Half Marathon & 10K.** Enjoy an athletic weekend and a scenic run around Cleveland. INFO: www.clevelandmarathon.com.

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# Sore Backs, Crushed Daffodils, Singed Eyebrows: Ah! Spring

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

Many people move into Shaker Heights each spring and wonder: How can I most easily, quickly, and cost-effectively impress my new neighbors? Shaker Observer offers these helpful tips:

**Big Honkin' Flower Pots:** No self-respecting homeowner in this city goes without (according to the term officially recognized in Housing Code) *Big Honkin' Flower Pots (BHFPs)*. Available at a variety of stores and in a range of materials, the best are ornately cast of concrete or terra-cotta to resemble art stolen from the Vatican, and weigh approximately 10,000 pounds each. Each is then:

- Lovingly filled with ecologically sound, sustainably harvested topsoil from an organic farm in Vermont;
- Planted with a carefully selected mixture of climate-appropriate flowers, started from seeds purchased online from a monastery in Michigan;
- Carried by hand from garage to front stoop, a process accompanied by grunts, groans, stubbed toes and questions from Shaker Man's then-young children including: "What does *that* word mean, Daddy?"

After five years and three compressed vertebrae, Shaker Man and other homeowners begin using dollies or other vehicles for BHFP transport ("Daddy, do you know who bent the wheels on my wagon? *Daddy?*"). After 10 more years, just as Shaker Man can finally look for-

ward to help from his burly 14-year-old son — "We're going to take this slow," our hero intones. "Use your legs. Breathe deep. I don't want you hurting your back the way I did" — they see their 82-year-old neighbor effortlessly carrying pots two at a time.

"What the—"

"Foam!" calls out his neighbor. "Polyurethane, to be exact! Can't tell the difference, can you?"

"Wow, Dad," says 14. "Just 'wow.'"

**Really Loud Power Equipment:** Nothing says "New Homeowner" like a vast array of gleaming equipment with 150+ dB of screaming fury. Indeed, back in the day, there was nothing new, shiny, initialed and numbered — XTS 5023, PX 390, etc. — that didn't make Shaker Man's day a little brighter, at least until it accidentally chopped down all the daffodils or power-washed every scrap of paint off the side of the house. Now, however, college tuition has made "Repaired" the New Black. Which would be just fine, of course, if Shaker Man still knew:

- Where the maintenance manuals were;
- Which two identical red gas cans hold unleaded, and which two have 2-liter oil mixed in; and, most importantly,
- Where the stupid little (*Insert one: wrench, cotter pin, drive belt, ignition key*) has gotten to.

Says 14: "I thought you said you

were a management consultant or something."

**Ultra Deluxe Barbecue Grill:** Peacocks have tailfeathers. Rhinoceri have horns. Shaker Men have...barbecue grills. Less expensive (slightly) than a sports car and manlier (sort of) than a vegetable garden, the Ultra Deluxe Barbecue Grill offers numerous opportunities to inspire envy:

- Exotic materials and features with hyphenated names (*porcelain-enamelled heat deflectors, flush-mounted side burner, stainless steel flavorizer bars*) to inspire beer-fueled arguments about the superiority of the SuperNova 330 vs. the Krakatoa 1290;
- Useless but impressive-sounding measures such as *723 square inches of total cooking area or 43,712 BTU per hour input*, by which males in a civilized culture can measure themselves vs. one another; and, most importantly,
- An assembly process only slightly less complicated than a cruise missile, but with significantly more opportunity for explosion.

Which thankfully, doesn't happen, at least until the first official meal.

"Why isn't my *Individual Electronic Ignition System with SureStart* working?" asks Shaker Man, rotating burner knobs furiously as he peers deep into 723 square inches of mystery. "The manual said—"

WHOOOOOOOMPH!

"43,712 BTUS," 14 says later.

"And no eyebrows."

"Don't—"

"Wow, Dad. Just 'wow.'"



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