

# SHAKER LIFE

City of Shaker Heights, Ohio

**Shaker Centennial 1912-2012**

Construction of City Hall, 1930

april | may 2012

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on the cover: Like all public structures built in Shaker Heights between 1920 and 1940, City Hall was designed in the Georgian Revival style. The architect was Charles S. Schneider of Cleveland.

## MENTOR INSTALLED SERVICES

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- ✓ Hardie Siding Installation
- ✓ Trim Installation
- ✓ Rough Framing
- ✓ Overhead Garage Doors
- ✓ Historical Restorations

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# 2012

## CENTENNIAL

*Shaker Heights, Ohio*



New Neighbors Welcome. Visit [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) or call 216.491.1332 to learn more.

## SHAKER LIFE

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## From Our Readers

I just received the Centennial issue of Shaker Contemporary Living. Thumb-ing through the old pictures of Shaker Heights High I see a picture of the 1932 football team and there is my father in the first row (no. 30)! Truly a little gift of delight.

*Robin Kovachy, SHHS '66  
Littleton, CO*

That's me in the picture at the bottom of page 42. The details are as follows: I was the outgoing student council president at Ludlow School – the year was 1956 (not the 60s), when the newly elected president for the second semester was Sandra Charlotte Driggins, the first black student council president in Shaker Heights. We were in sixth grade, so there's no mistaking the year. It was our first exposure to National Brotherhood Week. I thought it was President Eisenhower who "invented" it.

The photo shows me on the left, shaking hands with Sandra (also my best friend at the time). The late Lee Walter Owen is holding the poster (I think he was VP. He moved away before high school).

Ludlow was a unique community. We had several black families at our school before integration. They lived over the border in Cleveland, mostly on 137th Street, since Shaker was restricted to whites only at the time. It was before the bombing on Ludlow. There were still areas of Shaker where Jews were not welcome either. I received my first hate phone call the night that picture appeared in The Cleveland Press. I was scared, angry and proud....

*Jill Annette Levy Targer, SHHS '62  
Santa Maria, CA*

Congratulations on your publication of Shaker Contemporary Living. I enjoyed reading it from cover to cover, and want to thank all who participated in this outstanding effort.

On another level, one of the best decisions my late husband Morrie (founder of "Shoes for Kids") and I made was to buy a lot on Sulgrave and build our home. We wanted our children to attend the Shaker schools and they did – from Mercer to Byron and the High School.

Although I am now alone in the house I feel safe and secure because I am enrolled in the Fire Department's "Life Safety Alert" program.

*Alice Sayer  
Sulgrave Road*

## 2012

CENTENNIAL  
*Shaker Heights, Ohio*

### Centennial Activities & Events

#### Plant those Centennial Sunflower Seeds

This issue of Shaker Life contains a packet of 'Autumn Beauty' sunflower seeds. The Centennial Committee has provided the seeds to celebrate the ingenuity of the original Shakers, who were the first to develop the seed packet business. The committee hopes that residents will plant them to create a Shaker Centennial Sunflower Garden to share with friends and neighbors. Tours of the gardens are planned as part of the Come Back to Shaker Labor Day Weekend. Follow the planting instructions printed on the packet and they should be at their peak by then.



This particular variety, "Autumn Beauty," is not the very tall single-stemmed variety that needs to be held up with a stake. Autumn Beauty is a branching plant, producing as many as 20 or 25 blooms at once.

More sunflower seeds are available free from the Shaker Historical Society and Museum, across the street from Horseshoe Lake Park. Let's light up all of Shaker with the brilliance of Autumn Beauty this year!

### One Hundred Years of Shaker Heights History? There's an App for That

Did you know that the farmhouse at 19620 Chagrin is reputed to have served as the toll station for the Kinsman Toll Road in the late 1800s? Or that free parking was first offered at the Green Road RTA station during the Great Depression as a way to entice fare-paying riders?

These are just a few of the interesting tidbits found on the Cleveland Historical smartphone app, which now features information about nearly 50 landmark properties in Shaker Heights.

The app puts Shaker Heights history at your fingertips. Developed by the Center for Public History + Digital Humanities at Cleveland State University, Cleveland Historical includes information about the City's 45 individual landmarks, two local landmark districts (Winslow Road and Shaker Square), and the Shaker Village National Register District.

Cleveland Historical is a free mobile software application for both iPhone and Android devices that curates the history of the Cleveland area through stories, historic and current photographs, oral history, audio clips, and archival film footage. Download the app on your smartphone or visit [clevelandhistorical.org](http://clevelandhistorical.org) for more information.

This collaborative project was organized to coincide with the City's Centen-

nial, and was a partnership between the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission and the Shaker Heights Public Library, funded by grants from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Historic Preservation Fund.

The project also included the creation of a free online database of the Building Index Cards for Shaker Heights residences. A dedicated team of Shaker volunteers scanned over 10,000 original Building Index Cards and spent hundreds of hours entering information into the database. Database information typically includes an image of the original building card, plus year of construction, architect, original owner, and materials used. Search for your home's information now at [shakerbuildings.com](http://shakerbuildings.com).

### Shaker Reads: One Community, One Book

The Centennial Education and Learning Committee announces the Shaker Reads project, titled "One Community, One Book." The committee invites the community to unite in the reading of Pulitzer Prize winning author Tracy Kidder's moving portrait of Northampton, Massachusetts, *Home Town*.

The committee selected the book after reviewing numerous suggestions. Discussions of *Home Town* are planned at various locations and times to engage residents from throughout the community. The committee encourages Shaker's many book groups to join in reading and discussing the book within their own groups as well as at one of the five community book discussions listed below.

Loganberry Books, at 13015 Larchmere Boulevard, will sell the book at a 10 percent discount. In addition, Friends of the Shaker Library has purchased 40 copies of the book to be made available in one set of 20 for book groups (only through Main Library) and 10 copies at each Shaker Library for general

circulation.

Community book discussion schedule:

#### TUESDAY, MAY 8

MAIN LIBRARY, 10-11:30 AM

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 19

BERTRAM WOODS LIBRARY, 7-8:30 PM

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

BOOK AND BREW AT ACADEMY TAVERN,  
7 PM

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

PEARL OF THE ORIENT, 7 PM

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 7 PM

### Elegant & Edible Series:

#### *Making the Most – and Least – of Invasive Weeds* Ron Zayac

April 11, 7 PM

Location to be determined

Free

Why are dandelion greens sold at the grocery store? Why do the French buy one of our lawn weeds at the market, and which weed is it? What are ramps, anyway? Many invasive weeds are both free and delicious! Learn which to eat and how to prepare them. And learn how to keep the rest out of your garden. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/InvasiveWeeds>.

#### *Adding Edibles to your Elegant Garden*

April 2012, 7 PM

Location and date to be determined

Free

Many edible plants are easy to grow and very ornamental. This illustrated lecture introduces ways to incorporate edible plants into your garden without traditional rectangular beds of crop rows. Planted your sunflower seeds yet? Sunflowers provide food for humans and birds, and even clean pollutants out of the soil! To register, visit <http://bit.ly/AddingEdibles>.

#### *Recipes for Success*

Kelly Barrett

Cleveland Botanical Gardens

11030 East Boulevard

Cleveland

Date and time to be determined

Free

Just in time to plant your veggies, a practical talk in the garden with answers to your questions: how and when to prepare the garden for planting, how to get proper drainage, how often and deeply to water plants, the truth about fertilizers, how to use mulch, and much more! To register, visit <http://bit.ly/EandERecipes>.

#### *Hands-On Planting Veggies & Fruits*

Sunday, May 20, 2 PM

Shaker Historical Society

16740 South Park Boulevard

Free

Watch or learn by doing from experienced food gardeners as they demonstrate planting a food garden. Pick up tricks of the trade, such as how to give your tomatoes a faster start, which flowers keep bugs away from your edibles, and what "hilling up" means. A family friendly event. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/EandEHandsOn>.

### Centennial Community Service Day: Earth Day at Doan Brook

Community members are encouraged to join volunteers from the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights, Eastside Welcome Club, and Case Western Reserve University to help celebrate Earth Day at the annual Doan Brook Spring Stream Sweep on Sunday, April 22 from 1-4 pm.

Individuals or groups can volunteer to clear a winter's worth of trash and debris from the stream corridor, ranging from the lower reach of Doan Brook in University Circle to the Shaker Parklands area.

Volunteers can meet at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, 2600 South Park Boulevard, or at the Rockefeller Park Lagoon Gazebo in University Circle. Registration



is ongoing throughout the afternoon. For more information, contact Victoria Mills at 216-321-5935 or Adam Hange, Youth Minister, Plymouth Church, at 216-921-3510, [ahange@plymouthchurchucc.org](mailto:ahange@plymouthchurchucc.org). Gloves and trash bags will be provided, as well as refreshments.

### Shaker Cooks: The Centennial Cookbook is for Sale

The recipes are ready! More than 250 well-loved block party recipes and family favorites have been compiled in *Shaker Cooks*, a Centennial cookbook now for sale. The book also includes recipes from Shaker's well-known resident chefs, **Jonathon Sawyer** (Greenhouse Tavern), **Zack Bruell** (Parallax, Table 45, L'Albatros, Chinato, Cowell & Hubbard), **Michael Symon** (Lola, Lolita, B Spot), **Rose Wong** (Pearl of the Orient), and **Donita Anderson** (North Union Farmers Market).

Copies are available at the Shaker Historical Society, Schools Administration Building, Shaker's libraries, and online. Visit the [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) Centennial Merchandise page to place your order now

### Seeking Centennial Volunteers: Bring Enthusiasm

A cadre of enthusiastic volunteers and sponsors has proven Shaker's claim to a remarkable community. The activities and events planned for the Centennial year require hours of work and dedication and there has been no shortage of individuals eager to be of service.

As the year progresses, those talents will continue to be needed, as will financial support, to keep the quality of experience at Shaker standards. If you haven't found an opportunity to participate, there's still a place for your talents.

To make a donation, volunteer, or purchase Centennial merchandise, visit the City's website, [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) and go to the Centennial Merchandise page. You

are the key to Shaker's past, present and future. Welcome aboard!

### Other Events Honor Shaker's Centennial

**Thriving through Adversity:  
Shaker Heights 1930-1955**  
Exhibit Opening  
Sunday, April 8  
Shaker Historical Society

**An Evening of Jazz**  
Wednesday, April 11, 7 PM  
Shaker Middle School Auditorium

**Quest for Peace and Justice through  
Compassion, Creativity and Community**  
Sponsored by The Peace and Justice Ministry of  
Heights Christian Church  
Friday, April 13, 7-9 PM (\$20)  
Saturday, April 14, 10 AM-3:30 PM (\$45)  
(Both/\$60) and 7-8:30 PM (Free)

**Shaping a Culture of Diversity:  
The Integration of Shaker Heights**  
A talk by Virginia P. Dawson, PhD  
Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 PM  
Heights Christian Church  
17300 Van Aken Boulevard  
Free

Sponsored by the Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights and the Fair Housing Review Board of Shaker Heights.

**Concert in Dance**  
Friday, April 20, 8 PM  
Saturday, April 21, 4 PM  
Shaker Heights High School  
Large Auditorium

**Theatre Spring Ensemble Show**  
Thursday, April 26, Friday, April 27,  
Saturday, April 28, 8 PM  
Shaker Heights High School  
Large Auditorium  
Tickets: 216-295-4287, or [www.tix.com](http://www.tix.com)

**High School Art Show Opening**  
Friday, April 27, 7 PM  
Shaker Heights Main Library

**Ice Cream Social & Band Concert**  
Presented with support from the Shaker Schools  
Foundation  
Tuesday, May 1, 6:30 PM  
Shaker Heights High School  
Front Lawn

**Night for Ninth Grade History Day:  
The World of 1912**  
Tuesday, May 22, 6 PM  
Shaker Heights High School  
Large Auditorium

**"One Hit Wonders" Celebrate our  
Shaker Centennial**  
Thornton Park Ice Show  
Friday, May 18, Saturday, May 19  
3301 Warrensville Center Road

**Plymouth Church Tours**  
Memorial Day Weekend  
2860 Coventry Road  
Call 216-921-3510

### Memorial Day Weekend in Shaker: Commemoration and Celebration

As in years past, Memorial Day in Shaker Heights brings together a grateful community to memorialize the nation's war dead, and to honor local heroes serving in all branches of the military.

Plan to meet in front of City Hall at 9 am on Monday, May 28 for placement of a wreath at the war memorial, gun salute, and a brief ceremony of commemoration.

Following the ceremony, the annual Memorial Day parade will proceed east to Thornton Park in the westbound lane of Van Aken Boulevard.

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy the remarkable Shaker Heights High School marching band and the special Centennial parade participants, including local

businesses, the ubiquitous Rocket Car, a horse-drawn carriage, and lots of other home town features.

If you haven't already registered your group, organization, or float for participation in the parade, there's still time to do so by visiting [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com). Volunteer servicemen and women are needed to carry flags from their branch of service, in uniform if possible.

Stick around at Thornton for the official pool opening (at 11 am) and for the Centennial Carnival, including fun for the whole family. Look for University Hospitals, the Centennial's lead sponsor, to play a part in the Carnival's healthful focus. Also part of the holiday will be the Pancake Breakfast at Thornton Park from 8:30-11:30 am.

### Historical Tours of Plymouth Church Memorial Day Weekend

Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights offers guided tours of its historic site over the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Situated at 2860 Coventry Road, the distinctive red brick Georgian building stands on land donated by the Van Sweringen brothers, which they designated for use by a church for the community. Plymouth Church has served Shaker Heights, Shaker Square, and nearby communities since 1916. It has a history of engagement in a variety of community activities and services in addition to its spiritual mission.

Tours are free, but reservations are requested at least one week in advance. Donations are appreciated. Call 216-921-3510.

### Save the Date for Arts & Music Festival: June 16 & 17

Sponsored by the City, the Shaker Arts Council, and the Ohio Designer Craftsmen, the annual Shaker Heights Arts & Music Festival returns Father's Day weekend, Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17.

Two community sponsors are already on board to support this gala event: Heinen's Fine Foods and Ohio Savings Bank. Further sponsorship opportunities are available; contact Marketing Communications Manager Vicki Blank ([vicki.blank@shakeronline.com](mailto:vicki.blank@shakeronline.com)) for more information.

Last year's Festival was a rousing success, drawing large crowds on both days who enjoyed fine arts and crafts at the juried show, superb musical entertainment, and great food from local restaurants. This year's event, coinciding with the City's Centennial year, promises to be another opportunity to shop, dine, dance, and enjoy the company of your Shaker friends and neighbors.

Watch the next issue of Shaker Life for more information about the event, and visit [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) often as details become available.

### Meals On Wheels Celebrates 30 Years Serving Area Residents

Meals on Wheels, a volunteer, non-profit organization that delivers nutritious meals to clients with limited mobility, is celebrating its 30th anniversary of serving the residents of Shaker Heights, Shaker Square, University Heights, and Beachwood. The non-profit organization strives to serve all clients, regardless of their ability to pay.

Meals on Wheels receives no government funding, relying solely on nominal fees and charitable contributions through fundraising or corporate sponsorship. Local sponsors include the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights, Cleveland Clinic's Whole Foods Market, and California Pizza Kitchen. The McGregor Home provides the food for the program.

A small army of 75 volunteers delivers nearly 10,000 nutritious meals each year, in addition to helping with the preparation of the meals, fundraising, and clerical support. Says program director Shirley Baldwin, "Being involved with Meals on

Wheels for almost 30 years has been a very rewarding experience. Working with caring, reliable volunteers is a pleasure. Many have delivered meals without missing a day for 30 years."

Baldwin also enjoys interacting with the many interesting seniors she has encountered. "I marvel at their positive outlook on life, their strength to put up with the aging process, and acceptance of losing some of their independence. That's why Meals on Wheels is such an important service – we help them to be independent a little longer."

Those interested in donating their time or talents to the organization are encouraged to contact Baldwin at 216-991-6376, or to send a check made payable to Meals On Wheels, 3550 Northfield Road, Shaker Heights, 44122. For more information, visit [www.mealsonwheelsshaker.org](http://www.mealsonwheelsshaker.org).

### Remember the Rules for Grass Clippings

The EPA prohibits collection of yard waste in combination with rubbish. To ensure we do our part, please follow these guidelines for the disposal of grass clippings throughout the growing season:

For the month of April ONLY, public works crews will pick up leaves and grass, hedge trimmings, and garden waste from tree lawns (never in the street). Please keep grass clippings and leaves separate from brush.

From May 1 to October 15, place grass clippings in paper leaf bags (available at area stores) and leave on the tree lawn the same day as your scheduled refuse collection. The City will collect a maximum of ten bags per pick-up. Please have your grass bags out on the tree lawn by 7:30 am on your regular rubbish collection day, or no sooner than the night before. There is a 40-pound weight limit per bag.

Please note that during this season, there are two separate collections: one for rubbish and one for grass bags. At no



## CITY NEWS

time may leaves, grass, rubbish, or brush be placed on center strips, park areas, or in the street.

### Changes to Large Item Drop Off at Service Center

The Service Center currently accepts large items for drop-off on Saturdays at 15600 Chagrin Boulevard, from 8 am to 4 pm. Unfortunately, a small but growing number of customers have brought very large quantities of building material debris, some of which is from non-Shaker building sites.

The dumping of these extra amounts of building material and large items has not only caused long delays for our normal drop off customers, but has increased the amount of debris going to the landfill, bringing increased removal fees and causing costly damage to service vehicles.

To ensure that the drop off remains a valuable service to our residents, the following changes have gone into effect:

- Residents may drop off large items one time per quarter per household, and must use personal vehicles only.
- Drop offs may be delivered only in cars, minivans, SUVs and personal pick up trucks.
- Cars with trailers, rental trucks, and other types of trucks or vans are prohibited from using the service.
- As in the past, residents must provide a driver's license and current utility bill (within 90 days) to drop off items.


Residents with unique, one-time situations may submit a special email request one week in advance explaining the circumstances to the Director of Public Works at [public.works@shakeronline.com](mailto:public.works@shakeronline.com).

Acceptable items for drop off include appliances, furniture, building materials, and household items. Items that cannot be accepted include paint, computers, insecticides/pesticides, yard or lawn waste, rocks, bricks, or recyclables. Special col-

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ILLUSTRATION BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

## Your Neighbor's Home Has Been On The Market How Long?

Have the birds in their yard taken roost on their sign?



Weeks passing can turn into months. Your neighbor's home isn't being shown to qualified buyers, and the only time they hear from their salesperson is to reduce the price again. Would you be upset if it were your home? If not, I'm probably not the right REALTOR® for you. When it's time to move and you want results, we should talk.

**Tom FURST**

216.272.2918  
 216.751.8550

**Howard Hanna**  
 SMYTHE CRANE



realtor.com/cleveland/tomfurst

## CITY NEWS

lection times are offered throughout the year; see shakeronline.com for a schedule.

### Nominate a Tree!

Residents have until Arbor Day, Friday April 27, to nominate trees for the Tree Advisory Board's 2012 Heritage Tree awards. Residents are invited to nominate trees in the following categories:

- Association with a famous person or significant event.
- Historical landmark.
- Unusual in size, form, age, or other unusual quality.

Nomination forms are available at shakeronline.com, from the Public Works Department, 15600 Chagrin Boulevard, or by contacting the Superintendent of Forestry, Pat Neville, at 216-491-3285.

Residents wishing to learn more about the health and wellbeing of Shaker's trees may find answers to frequently asked questions at shakeronline.com (search keyword: forestry).

### Avoid the Wait by Scheduling School Immunizations Now

The Shaker Heights Health Department can provide all required and recommended back-to-school immunizations and TB skin testing for children up to 18 years of age. This includes the mandatory TDaP vaccine for incoming seventh graders. Immunizations and TB testing are \$12 each. It is not too early to call and schedule immunization appointments; please call 216-491-1480 now to avoid long wait times.

The Health Department also offers adult vaccines including Tetanus (Td, TDaP), Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, the combination vaccine Twinrix, and others. For a complete list of vaccines offered and their fees, call the Health Department at 216-491-1480 or check shak-

eronline.com.

Beginning in September, the Health Department will offer flu shots for anyone six months and older. Watch for more information in future issues of Shaker Life and at shakeronline.com.

### Ready, Set, Grill!

With Memorial Day around the corner, outdoor chefs are ready for the barbecue season to begin. Before you throw the first burgers on the grill, the Shaker Heights Fire Department has these important safety reminders:

Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outdoors, and kept 15 feet away from the home. Keep grills clean by removing grease or fat buildup, and never leave the grill unattended.

For charcoal grills, be sure to let coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container. Never use any fluid other than charcoal lighter fluid, and follow directions carefully. Never add lighter fluid to an open flame. For extra safety, use a flameless, electric starter – with a proper extension cord for outdoor use.

For gas grills, be sure to check the gas tank hose for leaks before using for the first time each season. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose and check for bubbles, which can indicate a leak. If the grill produces a gas smell, but does not light, have the grill serviced by a professional before using. When lighting the grill, keep the top open. If the grill does not light in the first few attempts, wait five minutes to allow gas to dissipate. Never store a propane gas container indoors.

For any questions about fire safety and prevention, contact the Shaker Heights Fire Prevention Bureau at 216-491-1215.

### Paving the Way for Hungry Families

Gregg Korponic, owner of Star Paving,



would like to thank Shaker residents once again for their generous contributions to the food drive he conducts each holiday season to benefit the Cleveland Food Bank.

This was the fourth year Korponic has collected food items and donations, and his most successful collection to date. "I raised a record amount of money, beating our previous record by one thousand dollars," says Korponic. "This translates to 12,080 meals provided for needy families in the area. I am very thankful for the generosity of the Shaker residents, as well as the warm welcome they provide."

## Business News

### Grow your Business through the Shop Shaker Campaign

Attention: Shaker Home Based Businesses. The City plans to launch a Shop Shaker campaign



through an online searchable database of businesses accompanied by a mobile application. All retail, service, and professional businesses will be able to include business specific promotions on the site. We want to include home based businesses in the action.

We would also like to welcome home based businesses to participate in a Home Based Business Fair at the Centennial's Come Back to Shaker Labor Day Weekend Birthday Party at Horseshoe Lake. All businesses that do not require food preparation are invited to participate. The Centennial Committee will provide tables, chairs and a tent; you bring the rest.

If you'd like to be included in the Shop Shaker database and/or would like more information about the Home Based Business Fair, please fill out a simple form at <http://bit.ly/ShopHBBizFair> or email [tania.menesse@shakeronline.com](mailto:tania.menesse@shakeronline.com).

### Auto Parts Store Opens in Shaker

Advance Auto Parts, the second-largest automotive aftermarket retailer in the U.S., opened a location at Shaker Town Center in March. The store is in the space vacated by CiCi's Pizza, between Park View Federal Savings Bank and Radio Shack.

The venerable company, founded in Roanoke, Virginia in 1928, has been publicly traded since 2001 and debuted on the Fortune 500 list in 2003. It has more than 3,500 stores nationwide, with about two dozen around Greater Cleveland. "It's a great place to work," says the Shaker store's manager, Malcolm Cloud.

"We are extremely pleased to have such a dynamic company at Shaker Town Center," says Tania Menesse, the City's economic development director. "We have great hopes for their success here."

### Sound Investing at Buckeye State Credit Union

The Buckeye State Credit Union is investing in upgrades to its 15808 Chagrin Boulevard address to transform it into the only "fast branch" in Northeast Ohio. A fast branch provides a full array of services to members from other credit unions belonging to the shared nationwide branching network. In Ohio, 106 credit unions belong to the network. There is just one other fast branch in Ohio.

Changes to the property include creation of a vestibule for a walk-up ATM, relocation of the front entrance, expansion of the parking lot and addition of a driveway entrance off of Ludgate Road to improve traffic flow. The property will also be landscaped to highlight the colonial architecture and enhance curb appeal.

Chief Information Officer Charles Stanfield says, "We are excited to bring

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*restore*

*renovate*

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at (216) 421-2080 Ext.156

these changes to this branch. It will enhance Shaker's business community and keep us viable in the City for years to come. We service a lot of the Shaker community. We are trying to make this a more user friendly experience." The Buckeye State Credit Union expects to complete the renovation by early summer.

### ***J. Pistone Opens Early for Breakfast***

Whether you're meeting for a power breakfast or just need a welcoming spot for that first cup of java, J. Pistone now opens at 6:30 am, Monday through Saturday. The popular market and gathering place is located in the "small mall" at the corner of Warrensville Center and Almar roads, and offers breakfast, lunch, and bakery items, as well as prepared foods and catering services.

The breakfast menu includes a frittata du jour, hearty baked oatmeal, egg and cheese wraps, and breakfast paninis. A wide range of specialty teas and coffees are also available throughout the day. J. Pistone is open until 7 pm Monday through Friday, and until 5:30 pm Saturdays. For more information, visit [www.jpistone.com](http://www.jpistone.com) or call 216-283-3663.

### ***A Refreshing New Business at Shaker Town Center***

Refresh Dental opened a new office at 16651 Chagrin next to Heinen's grocery store, consolidating two offices formerly located on Lee Road and Shaker Square. Lead dentist Dr. Brian Jackson says Shaker Town Center was chosen for "ease of access to our patients with its central location and proximity to bus and rapid lines." Three dentists provide adults and children with the latest technologies in dentistry and specialty services in oral surgery and periodontics. For hours of operation, visit [gorefreshdental.com](http://gorefreshdental.com). The Lee Road office is now Refresh Dental's Orthodontic Center.

### ***Law School Clinic Assists LaunchHouse Entrepreneurs***

Shaker LaunchHouse (SLH) entrepreneurs have yet another community resource in their corner: the Milton A. Kramer Law Clinic Center of Case Western Reserve University's law school now provides free legal assistance to LaunchHouse clients. Two Case students work under the supervision of adjunct faculty member Todd Behrens, a partner with the law firm Medley, Behrens & Lewis LLC, to provide counsel in the area of intellectual property law – a must for any startup.

With Behrens' guidance, students draft patent applications and render patentability opinions, among other services. Those services can add up to a large savings for LaunchHouse clients, as legal fees associated with drafting and filing a patent application can run between \$10,000-\$20,000. The law students also benefit tremendously from the opportunity to ply their skills in a real world setting.

"Case Western Reserve University law school involvement has been a great asset to LaunchHouse," says Todd Goldstein, a founder and managing partner of SLH. "The students and the young companies working together can learn a lot about entrepreneurship, education, and innovation."

### ***Shaker News Briefs***

#### ***City Boards, Commissions and Council Committee Assignments***

The following Shaker residents will serve on City Committees, Commissions, and Boards in 2012. Some are re-appointments, many are new appointments. All serve at the request of the Mayor who, along with City Council and City staff, appreciates their time and hard work.

#### ***Architectural Board of Review***

Sandra L. Madison, Chair

Jim Neville, Vice Chair  
Bruce Jackson  
Richard Bauschard – Alternate  
Marc Ciccarella – Alternate  
William Oeflein – Alternate  
Christopher Wynn – Alternate

#### ***Board of Appeals***

Marguerite Bibb  
Vincent L. Cheverine  
Michael E. Jackson  
Arun J. Kottha  
Jeffrey Baddeley – Alternate  
Steven H. Slive – Alternate

#### ***City Income Tax Board of Review***

Leon Gabinet

#### ***City Planning Commission – Board of Zoning Appeals***

John Boyle  
Kevin Madison  
David Weiss

#### ***Civil Service Commission***

Sandra Kiely Kolb, Chair  
William Gaskill  
Lee Trotter

#### ***Communications & Outreach/ Human Relations***

Barbara Andelman  
Lisa Farmer Cole  
Deborah Holston Goode  
Lynn-Ann Gries  
Bob Zimmer

#### ***Community Life & Health***

Rodney Dial  
Rochelle Kirby  
Kevin McCardle  
Chris Ramsay  
Judy Allen – Library Representative

#### ***Economic Development Task Force***

Michael Deemer  
Henry Goodman  
Ross Halloran  
Steve Joseph



Dustin Klein  
Paul Levin  
Ed Long  
Neema Mayhugh  
Brad Meacham  
Steve Strnisha  
Tom Sudow  
David Weiss

### Fair Housing Review Board

Al Foster  
Gail Gibson  
Ann Millette  
Reginald Williams

### Finance

Martin Kolb  
Trent Meyerhoefer  
William Toomajian

### Landmark Commission

Jan Devereaux  
Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells  
Meghan Hays  
Ron Reed

### Neighborhood Revitalization

Felicia Melton  
Kim Pappell  
Myra White  
Brian Yusko

### Records Commission

Paula Rownd

### Safety and Public Works

Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells  
Carl Ewing  
Ron Fountain  
Brad Steinberg

### Tax Incentive Review Council

Patricia Barz  
William Gaskill

### Tree Advisory Board

Lauryn Ronis, Chair  
Ami Horowitz  
Kathy Smachlo, MD

Long-time Shaker resident **David B. Dawson** has retired as the deputy director of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland after 40 years of service.

He attended Vanderbilt University Law School where his focus was public interest law. After interning for an NAACP cooperative law firm in Memphis, he took his first and only job in Cleveland, with Legal Aid. He worked as a staff attorney on a wide variety of cases, including both civil and criminal cases for low-income families and individuals.

Dave and his wife Ginnie have lived on Glencairn for more than 40 years. Both of their children attended Shaker Schools.

Shaker resident **Andy Leach** is director of the newly opened Library and Archives of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. The Library and Archives opened its doors to the public on January 17, and its grand opening dedication will take place on April 9, during the week of events leading up to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 2012 Induction Ceremony.

The Rock Hall's Library and Archives is the world's most comprehensive repository of materials relating to the history of rock and roll, and Leach has overseen its establishment since relocating from Chicago and joining the Rock Hall in 2009.

Andy lives in the Fernway neighborhood with his wife and two children, and they plan to enroll their son in kindergarten at Fernway Elementary School in the fall. He also plays guitar with local bands Brent Kirby and The Lost Fortunes and The New Soft Shoe, both of which also feature drummer and Shaker resident Jon Niefeld.

### Seasonal Reminders

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

**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 on Fridays, subject to technician availability.

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

**Fire Hydrants:** The Fire Department will flush hydrants from April 16 through April 28. See the Calendar at shakeronline.com for streets schedule. If you have any questions, please call the Fire Department office at 491-1200.

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

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

**Trash Delays:** Collections scheduled on or after Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day) will be one day late. Call the Public Works Department, 216-491-1490, to report a missed pickup. Calls must be received the next business day. To receive an email reminder about trash collection after a holiday, sign up for the City's email list at shakeronline.com. 🌿

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

### Future Nobel Laureates?

On a snowy December afternoon, 25 Middle School girls are sitting in Clara Pelfrey's science classroom after school. It's not detention; they have elected to come and hear Serpil Erzurum talk to them about lung health. The Cleveland Clinic specialist in pulmonary, allergy, and critical care is the latest volunteer to address Pelfrey's popular Young Women in Science club, which meets after school several times throughout the year.

Club meetings typically draw between 25 and 40 seventh- and eighth-grade girls who come to learn how women in our community have found their career bliss in science, engineering, or medicine. Last year, Linda Rae, a Shaker parent and president of Keithley Instruments, treated the girls to an insider's tour of the company, a leading manufacturer of electrical testing equipment. Rae explained to the girls how her engineering background led her to the position she holds today.

Earlier this year, Kath Bogie of the Cleveland VA Medical Center gave an interactive presentation about technology advancements in wound care.

At the December meeting, Erzurum helped the girls conduct an experiment using drinking straws to simulate the symptoms of asthma. The girls first recorded their respirations while breathing normally through the straws, then again while holding their noses closed as they breathed through the straws. By comparing their breaths per minute, pulse, and blood oxygenation, they learned how a person's physiology can impact the response to asthma. Erzurum also took the opportunity pass around a tissue example of a smoker's lung to demonstrate the devastating effects of smoking.

Pelfrey's prior experience as a medical researcher at the Cleveland Clinic motivated her to help draw more young women into the sciences. And for many girls, early adolescence can be the turning point.

"As a woman scientist, I've seen firsthand many of the challenges women face in scientific fields which are often dominated by men. If these girls see success-

ful women who have interesting careers in science, they might begin to consider those careers for themselves," she says. "Who knows where tomorrow's Nobel Laureates will start out? Maybe right here in Shaker."



**Members** of the Middle School's Young Women in Science club ask questions of Dr. Serpil Erzurum, a Cleveland Clinic pulmonary, allergy and critical care specialist, during an interactive presentation on lung health.

### Annual Flower Sale: A Piece of Shaker History

The High School PTO Annual Flower Sale celebrates the Centennial of the Shaker schools and community with a pewter-toned commemorative Centennial Pot, specially created to mark the occasion. This longstanding annual fundraiser, originally known as the Geranium Sale, provides support to more than 25 student clubs, activities, parent programs, and newsletters.

In addition to the Centennial Pots, this year's sale offers a variety of annuals in an assortment of colors to beautify your home: geraniums, petunias, New Guinea impatiens, and shade impatiens, as well as purple fountain grass, spikes, and vinca vines.

In keeping with the celebratory theme, confetti hanging baskets will also be offered, as well as colorful planted 12-inch patio pots for either sun or shade. Trays of assorted tomatoes and herbs are also

available.

Orders must be placed and prepaid by check or credit card by May 8. There are three ways to order:

- Pick up an order form at any of the Shaker school buildings or public library.
- Download an order form from the High School PTO page at [shaker.org](http://shaker.org).
- Order and pay online by credit card by visiting [www.PayForIt.net](http://www.PayForIt.net). Click "Fund-raisers."

Flower and plant pick-up dates are Friday, May 18, from 5-8 pm and Saturday, May 19, from 8 am-noon at Shaker Heights High School in the North Gym. Optional delivery is available for \$15. For questions or more information, contact Lauren Bowen at 216-392-1438 or [llbowen46@gmail.com](mailto:llbowen46@gmail.com), or visit the Facebook page for Shaker Heights High School Flower Sale.

Help us preserve the history of the flower sale! Records documenting the Geranium Sale, as it was originally known, date only to the 1970s, but local lore suggests the fundraiser has a much longer history. We need your help to preserve the legacy of this famous Shaker tradition. If you have any information, photos, or documents about the genesis of the fundraiser or the people behind it, please contact local history librarian Meghan Hays at the Shaker Heights Public Library, 216-367-3016 or [mhays@shakerlibrary.org](mailto:mhays@shakerlibrary.org).



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

## Iqbal Makes an Impact

Woodbury Principal Randall A. Yates assigned homework over the winter break:

All faculty, staff, students, and their families were asked to read the book *Iqbal*, by Francesco D'Adamo, for Woodbury's first-ever all-school book read.

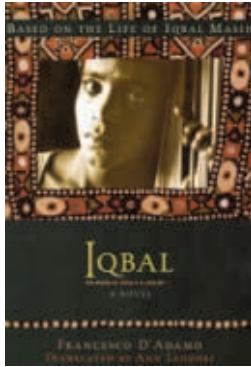
*Iqbal* is a novel about a real-life hero, Iqbal Masih, a 13-year-old boy who was murdered in 1995 after speaking out about his experience as a bonded child laborer in a carpet factory in Pakistan. In his brief life, Iqbal made a tremendous impact by traveling to the United States and Sweden to raise awareness about the plight of child laborers, receiving an international award for his bravery.

Nearly 400 students, families, faculty, and staff members attended the book discussion in January. "For a first-time event, it was amazing to see the number of families involved with the discussion," says Yates.

Parents Emily Geier, Meg Weingart, and Me'Lani Joseph helped make the evening a success by coordinating a pizza dinner and childcare. They also recruited volunteers to help lead small groups using a discussion guide developed with the help of faculty coordinator Ruth Heide.

Students responded well to the book, despite its difficult subject matter. Says sixth-grader Alex Feeling, "The book was a good read for kids because you learn that other kids in the world are truly suffering and starving." Margaret Bartimole agreed. "I think that the book discussion was inspiring and meaningful. I was opened up to the fact that some carpets and products you see every day are made by kids in slavery. I am also happy that there are organizations that help kids in slavery."

The Woodbury PTO collected voluntary \$1 donations at the door, raising nearly \$400 to be donated to an organization working to end child slavery.



## Shakerfest Celebrates the Centennial

Each spring, the Shaker schools open their doors to the community for Shakerfest, a showcase of our students' musical, theatrical, artistic, and academic talents. Many of this year's events also celebrate the Centennial of the Shaker schools. We invite you to come see our students in action at a variety of venues. Here's a sampling:

### An Evening of Jazz

Wednesday, April 11, at 7 pm, Shaker Middle School auditorium. Enjoy a wide range of selections from the acclaimed High School, Middle School, and Woodbury jazz bands.

### High School Art Show Opening

Friday, April 27, at 7 pm, Shaker Heights Public Library, 16500 Van Aken Boulevard. Paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, and more from Shaker's award-winning student artists will be on display through May 11.

**High School Theatre Ensemble Show**  
Thursday, April 26, Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28 at 8 pm in the Shaker Heights High School Large Auditorium. (Free senior adult preview on Wednesday, April 25 at 1 pm.) Tickets may be purchased by calling the Shaker Theatre Box Office at 216-295-4287, or online at [www.tix.com](http://www.tix.com).

### Ice Cream Social & Band Concert

Tuesday, May 1 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 ice cream and birthday cake. Presented with support from the Shaker Schools Foundation.

**Join us!** Admission is free unless otherwise noted. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.shaker.org/shakerfest](http://www.shaker.org/shakerfest). The schools' Centennial kicked off with a special concert by the High School A Cappella Choir, Wind Ensemble, and Chamber Orchestra on February 15. On the program was the world premiere of a piece set to the poetry of Langston Hughes. View video clips at [youtube.com/shakerschoolsohio](http://youtube.com/shakerschoolsohio).

## An Uplifting Experience



**Woodbury students** from Betsy Brindza and Carola Drosdeck's fifth-grade classes performed two authentic Native American dances they learned in a residency project made possible by a grant from VSA Ohio, the State Organization on Arts and Disability. Brindza and intervention specialist Sara Cole wrote the grant to provide an inclusive experience for students with a wide range of abilities. The students made costumes and demonstrated the steps and drumming patterns for the Sun Dance and the Eagle Dance (shown here).



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## REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between October 1 and December 31, 2011 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	2011 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE
3276 ARDMORE RD	\$ 149,900	\$ 254,000 (2006)
2749 ASHLEY RD	\$ 800,000	\$ 276,000 (2008)
19683 CHAGRIN BLVD	\$ 225,000	\$ 333,900 (2004)
19906 CHAGRIN BLVD	\$ 380,000	\$ 479,000 (2004)
3351 DALEFORD RD	\$ 242,000	\$ 262,000 (2002)
22175 DOUGLAS RD	\$ 385,000	\$ 391,000 (2004)
17627 FERNWAY RD	\$ 123,000	\$ 251,000 (2005)
3623 LINDHOLM RD	\$ 134,000	\$ 43,000 (2010)
16620 PARKLAND DR	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000 (2005)
2696 ROCKLYN RD	\$ 280,000	\$ 343,750 (2007)
22150 S WOODLAND RD	\$ 230,000	\$ 215,000 (2002)
17419 VAN AKEN BLVD	\$ 99,700	\$ 71,000 (2008)
23604 WIMBLEDON RD	\$ 251,250	\$ 284,500 (2006)
18501 WINSLOW RD	\$ 75,500	\$ 172,000 (2001)

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

20925 CLAYTHORNE RD	\$ 574,500	\$ 248,000 (1996)
21026 FAIRMOUNT BLVD	\$ 153,700	\$ 144,000 (1997)
2724 LONDON RD	\$ 510,000	\$ 555,500 (1999)
3101 WARRINGTON RD	\$ 196,000	\$ 259,000 (2000)

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

2741 ASHLEY RD	\$ 735,000	\$ 445,000 (1991)
2771 CHESTERTON RD	\$ 460,000	\$ 540,000 (1995)
3296 ELSMERE RD	\$ 284,000	\$ 185,000 (1992)
2871 SEDGEWICK RD	\$ 501,500	\$ 300,000 (1992)
24000 STANFORD RD	\$ 525,000	\$ 510,000 (1994)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

## Fund Your Home Repair and Preservation Projects through Heritage Home Program

Owning an older home provides both challenges and rewards – and often presents unique problems for the homeowner. The Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS) offers expert advice for home repair and restoration through its Heritage Home Program.

Preservation specialists provide guidance on maintenance and remodeling projects through free phone consultations. Personal site visits are available for a modest fee of \$50. In addition, homeowners can use the low fixed-interest rehabilitation loan to fund interior and exterior home maintenance and improvement projects.

Recent changes to the program include reductions in loan program fees and eligibility of houses with vinyl or aluminum siding.

Generally, to be eligible for the loan program the house:

- Must be 50 years old or older.
- Must be three units or less.
- Must be zoned as a residential property.
- May be owner or non-owner occupied.

The CRS team of historic rehabilitation specialists have provided free technical assistance to over 500 Shaker Heights residents and facilitated 99 home repair loans since 2001. To learn more about the program, or to arrange a visit with a CRS Heritage Home consultant, contact Mary Ogle at 216-426-3106 or [heritagehomeprogram@clevelandrestoration.org](mailto:heritagehomeprogram@clevelandrestoration.org).



*To register online for Library programs or reserve a meeting room, visit [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org) and click on the links under Tools.*

### Career Transition Center Open for Business

The Library's Career Transition Center, located in the Community Entrepreneurial Office at Main Library, is a place for job seekers. Staffed by professional career coaches, Bonnie Dick and Ann Hunter, the CTC is open from 9:30 am–5 pm Monday through Thursday and from 10 am–3 pm Fridays.

Bonnie Dick, founder of CTC, also moderates a weekly Monday Morning Jumpstart program, which meets from 10 am-noon at Main Library. Participants meet and gather leads through networking and discuss job-search techniques, new trends, job fairs and open positions.

Each month a featured speaker offers a special presentation. Monday, May 21 at 11 am Suzanne Carle speaks on how to create a customized action plan as a first step in the strategy of landing a new job. Participants in this class will develop their own action plans, with a brief look at the past and focus on the future.

Suzanne Carle is president and Founder of Suite Spot, a business development firm. She has expertise in strategic planning, crisis management, professional development, marketing, public and media relations, sales, and fundraising.

The CTC also offers a variety of job seeker workshops in April and May. Results-Oriented Resumes will be offered from 10 am-noon Thursdays, April 12 and May 24. This workshop teaches job seekers how to sell themselves and focuses on how a job seeker can capture an employer's attention and gain an interview.

Improving Interviewing Skills class is offered from 10 am-noon Thursdays, April 26 and May 31. This workshop teaches job seekers how to learn about the company and the job, how to prepare answers to difficult and probing

questions, and how to discover what the employer seeks so your answers differentiate you from other candidates.

Plan Your Work/Work Your Plan workshop is offered from 10 am-noon, May 10. This workshop helps participants learn how to set achievable goals and to develop a daily and weekly action plan for self-assessment and to monitor progress. Learn how to establish a routine and a plan of action to increase your self-worth and productivity while accommodating your own personal style.

All classes are free. For more information, call the Career Transition Center at 216-991-2030 ext. 3011.

### Friends of the Shaker Library Celebrates the 75th Anniversary of Shaker Library

Friends of the Shaker Library invites the community to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Shaker Library – The Jewel of Shaker – with an informal evening of fun and festivities from 7-9 pm Friday, April 20 at the Main Library when it honors Library donors and doers who have helped the library grow. Enjoy music, light hors d'oeuvres,

beer, wine, and soft drinks as we roll back time to the days of card catalogs and hand-stamped checkouts.

Shaker residents and past Friends presidents Susan Gall and Christine Bretz are co-chairs of this event and welcome all book lovers. Invitations, designed by Susan Cristal, have been mailed to Library supporters. If you have not received your invitation, please call the Library at 216-367-3005 or email [library@shakerlibrary.org](mailto:library@shakerlibrary.org).

### Shaker Library History

Shaker Library's history begins with the first meeting of the board of trustees on April 27, 1937, with David Green serving as president. The longest-serving president was David Dietz (1943-1976), after whom the Bertram Woods Branch Community Room is named. Today's presiding officer, Jeanne Shatten, is the 21st trustee to serve as president.

In 1938, Ellen Ewing was named the first director, and the first Library was opened June 24 in a storefront on Lee Road near the current Main Library. According to the late Mary Lee Sperry Scriven, an original employee, that first space "was designed to have an inviting atmosphere. At the rear of the room were a fireplace flanked by couches, tables with



**Shaker Library** circa 1938-40. Mary Lee Scriven staffs the Circulation Desk. Photo donated by Pete Scriven.



lamps, a rug, draperies at the long windows, and easy chairs.”

Tragedy struck the director in 1949. Another former employee, Ruth Mealand Schwartz, remembers, “Miss Ewing took a vacation cruise on the Great Lakes. It cost her life as she was asphyxiated by smoke in her room, from a fire on the ship.”

Virginia Robinson was then appointed director, serving until 1969. She oversaw construction of a new 25,000 square foot library on Lee Road, which is now the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, in 1951.

A bequest from the estate of area native Bertram Woods made it possible to build a branch library on Fayette Road. It was named after Mr. Woods when it opened in 1960.

Margaret Campbell was the first branch manager. She was named director in 1969 and helped pass the Shaker Library’s first operating levy in 1974. She instituted regular Sunday hours in 1975 before leaving and being replaced by Barbara Luton.

Under Luton’s leadership, the Library was automated and joined the CLEVNET consortium in 1983. She negotiated a lease agreement with the City and began renovating the former Moreland School building, which opened in 1993 as the new Main Library.

Francis Buckley served as director from 1994 through 1998. In 1996, the Library exceeded 1 million items for the first time, and a joint bond issue with the Shaker Schools was successfully passed in 1998.

When Buckley accepted the position of U.S. Superintendent of Documents under the Clinton administration, Edrice Ivory became the Library’s first African-American director. She supervised the renovation of the Bertram Woods Branch in 2003 and helped to pass another bond issue with the Shaker Schools in 2004.

Ivory was succeeded by the current director, Luren Dickinson, in 2005. Dickinson has seen circulation numbers

continue to grow, including the all-time record circulation of 1,369,165 items in 2008. He has also overseen expansion of Internet bandwidth and computer services as the Library continues to blend physical and virtual services.

Help the Shaker Library celebrate its 75th anniversary by joining us for our special “after hours” celebration from 7-9 pm Friday, April 20, at the Main Library, 16500 Van Aken Boulevard.

### Meet the Authors

So, you have an estate plan, a living will, and end-of-life instructions. Do your heirs know where they can find this information? Don’t leave this world by leaving your relatives confused and scrambling for your documents. Meet Nikki Evans, author of *My Survivors’ Guide – All You Need to Know When I’m Gone*, at 7 pm Wednesday, May 2

at Main Library.

Evans calls her book the “ultimate organizer.” First published in 2001, the guide has been updated to include space for user names and passwords for social media sites and other Internet accounts and websites, and is now available online at [mysurvivors-guide.net](http://mysurvivors-guide.net). While this program is offered in celebration of Senior Adult Month, the presentation and information is important for all ages.

John Backderf, also known as “Derf,” will be at Bertram Woods Branch at 7 pm Tuesday, May 8. A Shaker resident, Derf is a nationally known artist whose syndicated comic strip “The City” appears in over 50 newspapers, including *The Plain Dealer*. He has published several anthologies and comic stories, including *Trashed*, a memoir of his time working as a garbage collector; *Punk Rock and Trailer Parks*, which

### Reader of the Month: *Bette Bonder*



**LIVES IN:** Mercer Area

**USES:** Main Library

**LIKES TO READ:** Fiction, Mystery, History, Cookbooks/Food books

**ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOOK:** *Anansi Boys* by Neil Gaiman

**FAVORITE AUTHORS:** Sharon Kay Penman, P.D. James, and James McPherson

**LIBRARY SERVICES:** I use many of the Library’s varied services, but what I like best about the Library is its sense of community. As president of Friends of the Shaker Library, I encourage my community members to become involved in this volunteer organization.

**OTHER INTERESTS:** Cooking, knitting, walking, movies

**FAMILY:** Husband Patrick Bray, semi-retired MD and volunteer teacher at Horizon Science Academy; sons Aaron Bray (SHHS ’02), paramedic with the City of Cleveland, and Jordon Bray (SHHS ’04), writer and graduate student at Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois.

**VOLUNTEER WORK:** Friends of the Shaker Library, Cleveland Public Library, and Horizon Science Academy

**BRIEF BIO:** Bette grew up in Cleveland Heights. She is a Professor of Health Sciences and Psychology at Cleveland State University and is the former dean of its College of Sciences and Health professions. She is co-author of *Culture in Clinical Care* (second edition) forthcoming from SLACK, Inc.

“one-two...



...I can bend over and tie my shoe.”

After surgery, injury or illness, the smallest tasks can sometimes seem insurmountable.

But at Montefiore, you have an entire team of people – doctors, nurses and rehab therapy professionals – who will help you get back to living your life. You’ll get stronger, better, ready to go home.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

is set in the Akron punk rock scene in 1980; and most recently a newly revised version of *My Friend Dahmer*, about his high school friendship with the serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer. For more information about this author, visit his website at [derfcity.com](http://derfcity.com).

Following the programs, the authors will sell and sign books.

### Hot Picks Magazine Collection

Hot Picks is a new collection of magazines at Main Library. These magazines are good, quick sources of information and entertainment and offer readers a way to keep up with current trends. Magazines in the collection include *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Cleveland Magazine*, *Cooking Light*, *Essence*, *InStyle*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *Men’s Health*, *O: The Oprah Magazine*, *People Weekly*, *Prevention*, *Real Simple*, *Shape Magazine*, *ShopSmart*, *Sports Illustrated*, and *Weight Watchers*.

Thanks to the Friends of the Shaker Library, there is a new spinning rack for these Hot Picks located near circulation by the Main Library entrance. They are available to circulate immediately with no limit to the number a customer can borrow.

**Centennial Read**  
(See City News p. 3)

**2012**  
CENTENNIAL  
*Shaker Heights, Ohio*

As part of its Centennial celebration, the City invites the community to join in Shaker Reads, a one-city, one-book promotion. Read and discuss *Home Town* by Tracy Kidder, a story about the disparate characters and qualities that hold a town together. While *Home Town* is set in Northampton, Massachusetts, the book rings true for any home town that inspires allegiance.

The Friends of the Shaker Library is helping the Shaker Reads initiative by underwriting the purchase of forty copies of Kidder’s book. Ten copies are available at both Main Library and Woods Branch.

In addition, readers can borrow a set of the books (up to 20 copies) for their book discussions.

The Library also offers opportunities to discuss the book at 10 am Tuesday, May 8 at Main Library, and at 7 pm Tuesday, June 19 at Woods Branch.

### It’s Not Your Mother’s Politics II: Finding Your Voice

The Library, the Shaker Heights League of Women Voters, and the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women at CWRU have joined forces to present a second *It’s Not Your Mother’s Politics* program, from 6:30-9 pm Thursday, April 26 at Laurel School at One Lyman Circle.

This year’s program focuses on how women find and use their political voices. The interactive panel discussion will be moderated by Linda Lalley, member of the Public Engagement Committee of



**Miller**

the Cuyahoga County transition team and the Board of New Cuyahoga NOW. The keynote speaker is Dr. Dorothy C. Miller, director of the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women and clinical

associate professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at CWRU.

Panelists include Grace Drake, director of the Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs; Jill Miller Zimon, Pepper Pike City Council member; Elizabeth Hajar, consultant at Global Cleveland Initiative and coordinator of Convencion Hispana; and Mexie Wilson, hip-hop activist.

The panelists will share what politics means to them, how it has affected their lives, and how the current political climate has shaped their voices.

Register online at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org) or call Flora Stone Mather Center for

Women, 216-368-0985.

### Recent Donations to the Library

Contributions to the Library in December and January were received from Randy Kammer, who contributed to the Marilyn Kammer Memorial Fund in memory of Minerva Decker and Bema Denilauler. Betty Jarmusch made a donation to honor the memory of Mary Dowling Daley. Gilbert Brucken honored Lois Brucken and Joan Steinberg honored Kate and David Burleigh with contributions to the library.

Other generous contributors included Elliot Morse and Eileen and James Wilkoff. Patricia Freiberg and Steven Schulman donated to the Bertram Woods Landscaping and Garden Fund in memory of Helen and Donald Freiberg.

### American Sign Language Instruction Offered at Main Library

American Sign Language teacher, Valerie Williams, will teach basic signing using role-play and other fun activities in this class appropriate for adults and children ages 10 and older in the company of an adult.

The class meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm beginning April 25 at the Main Library. Registration is required. Call 216-991-2030 ext. 6. Residents can register online or at a library Information Desk.

### Heads Up on Body Language!

So much of our communication is non-verbal – posture, gestures, facial expressions, and even eye movements. Learn to be a better nonverbal communicator at 7 pm Tuesday, May 15 when Holly Klinger visits Main Library. Klinger is an instructor at Bryant & Stratton College and has certification in Nonverbal Analysis. For

more information or to register for the program, call 216-991-2030 ext. 6.

### If These Walls Could Talk: Researching Your Shaker Home's History

Your Shaker Heights home has history. Have you ever wondered who lived in your house before you, or who designed it? Celebrate National Preservation Month and learn about the resources, both tangible and electronic, that can help you discover the story of your Shaker home, at a special presentation cosponsored by the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission at 7 pm Tuesday, May 22 at Main Library.

Shaker Heights Planning Department senior planner Ann Klavora moderates a panel discussion featuring Cuyahoga County Archivist Judy Cetina, Jim Dubelko, Cleveland State University graduate assistant at the Center for Public History and Digital Humanities, and Shaker Library's local history librarian Meghan Hays. Learn about the new online Shaker Building Card database and the Cleveland Historical mobile app featuring Shaker Heights landmarks.

### What's it Worth?

Wondering what that old mantel clock would fetch at auction? The value of a collectible depends on its availability, its condition, and the current market for a particular item.

Friends of the Shaker Library is sponsoring its second antiques appraisal evening from 6-8:30 pm Thursday, May 10 at Main Library. Experts, including Marc Goodman and Linda Katz of Marc Goodman's Antique Mall on Larchmere, will be on hand to give residents a verbal appraisal of what their treasures are worth. If items are too large to carry into the Library, residents should bring clear photographs of their items noting any special markings.

“three-four...



...I can stand up and walk to the door.”

After surgery, injury or illness, the things you used to do easily can sometimes seem next to impossible.

But at Montefiore, you have an entire team of people – doctors, nurses and rehab therapy professionals – who will help you get back to living your life. You'll get stronger, better, ready to go home.

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## Book Discussions in April & May at Main Library

New in town? A good way to meet people is by joining one of the Library's many book discussions. Morning and evening opportunities are available. Register and pick up your books at the Main Library Information Desk.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 10 AM  
*Line By Line* by **Barbara Hacha**

Meet the author when she joins in the discussion. Ohio author Hacha presents a well-researched coming of age novel about life on the rails during the Great Depression through the eyes of a young woman who survived as a hobo.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 7:30 PM  
*On Borrowed Time* by **David Rosenfelt**

Accompanying his girlfriend to Kendrick Falls despite rumors that no man has ever gone to the falls with her and come back the same, Richard suffers a car accident on the journey, only to discover that his girl has disappeared.

TUESDAY APRIL 24, 7:30 PM  
*Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption* by **Laura Hillenbrand**

This is the gripping, true story of a U.S. airman who was the sole survivor after his bomber crashed into the sea during World War II. He had to face thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, a foundering raft, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater.

TUESDAY MAY 8, 10 AM  
*Home Town* by **Tracy Kidder**

Join us for our Shaker Centennial citywide read! (See City News.) The Pulitzer Prize-winning author takes us inside the everyday workings of Northampton, Massachusetts, a place that seems to personify the typical American hometown. The residents' stories take us behind the town's facades and reveal how individuals shape the social conscience of a community and how a disparate group of individuals can find common causes and core values that transform a place into a home.

TUESDAY MAY 8, 7:30 PM  
*Bad Blood* by **John Sandford**

When a murder suspect commits suicide after his arrest for killing a soybean farmer, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension agent Virgil Flowers uncovers a multi-generation, multi-family conspiracy involving a series of monstrous crimes.

TUESDAY MAY 22, 7:30 PM  
*Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by **Helen Simonson**

A retired major and a Pakistani shopkeeper are drawn together by their love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses in this unconventional love story.

Appraisals cost a small fee. Watch the Friends' bulletin board at both libraries for more details on this event.

## Friends Offers a Bonanza of a Spring Book Sale

Friends of the Shaker Library Spring Book Sale offers a bonanza of bargains. Volunteers have worked throughout the winter to organize a huge sale of gently used books on the second floor of the Main Library.

The sale begins with a Members Preview Sale from 4-8 pm Thursday, April 19 when Friends' members get first dibs on a wide selection. Non-members may join at the door. The sale continues from 9 am-4 pm Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21, and ends with the popular Bag Sale from 1-3 pm Sunday, April 22, when all bags of hardback books sell for \$5 and a bag of paperbacks sells for \$3.

For more information or to volunteer for the sale, sign up on the volunteer forms available at the circulations desks at both libraries.

## Art Exposed III

The Main Library will open after hours for artists from 7-9 PM Friday, April 27. Residents can meet the talented Shaker Heights High School art students and enjoy an exhibit of oil painting, portraiture, pastel, charcoal, jewelry, and more. The exhibit, managed by Shaker High School Art Department chair, Daniel Whitely, will be on display through May 11.

## Free Computer Classes in April and May

Spring ahead with new computer skills. Free classes are offered each month in the Main Library Computer Center. Sign up online or call 216-991-2030 ext. 3185 to reserve your place.

**BASIC WORD PROCESSING**

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, APRIL 2

Learn to format documents using Microsoft Word 2010 software. Class topics 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 POWERPOINT 2010®**

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, APRIL 3

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

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.

**WORKING WITH WINDOWS 7®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 10

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.

**INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®**

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 5

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 26

Learn the basics of building a relational database, which connects varieties of data through a field called a key. A birthday can be a "key" that connects or relates separate sources of information (e.g. medical history, school history, and political party affiliation). A Social Security number might be a very useful "key" to include in a database.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

10 AM-NOON TUESDAYS, APRIL 10, 17, 24  
Series of three classes. April 10: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders.

April 17: Using the Internet, Search tools, setting up an email address, and using email. April 24: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. Participation in the ECO grant requires providing some personal information to Connect Ohio for its grant reporting.

**INTRODUCTION TO PUBLISHER 2010**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Explore the Microsoft Office 2010 desktop publishing tool and learn to use it to create flyers and brochures.

**TABLES IN MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®**

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Learn to design and use tables in an Access database.

**EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

10 AM-1 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 14 &amp; 28

This set of classes meets two times. April 14: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders, Using the Internet and web browsers. April 28: Getting an email address, Using email, Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. Participation in the ECO grant requires providing some personal information to Connect Ohio for its grant reporting.

**INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL 2010®**

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 14

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 17

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 ONENOTE 2010®**

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, APRIL 16

Remember when you organized your binder report? Learn to do it electronically. Use Microsoft's tool to create and store digital notebooks to collect, orga-

nize, and manage multiple sources of information.

**FORMULAS FOR SPREADSHEETS**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Learn to make formulas, which do the calculating work in a spreadsheet, and sample some spreadsheet programs to become familiar with how a formula is constructed, how it works, and how to make new ones.

**FORMS IN MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®**

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Learn to make forms do two things in database programs. They make data entry less risky and allow users to see data.

**MACROS IN WORD® AND EXCEL®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Create and explore the uses of macros in Microsoft Office 2010 to accomplish tasks more efficiently.

**QUERIES IN MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®**

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Queries are questions asked of databases. Learn to ask the questions correctly.

**CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL 2010®**

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 28

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 24

Explore the ways that Excel can display data as charts of visual information. 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 2010 spreadsheets is expected.

**MAILMERGE IN MICROSOFT OFFICE 2010**

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, APRIL 30

MailMerge uses list and address information from many sources, like Word tables, Excel sheets, and Access Data Tables. A form letter can be sent to a list of contacts, envelopes and labels can be created from the list information, and catalogs of items or directories of people can be created using MailMerge.

# Kids' Corner

**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

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

A free preschool literacy program offering 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 Babies will be closed the week of April 16 during the Friends of the Shaker Library Book Sale.

## PLAY AND LEARN STATION FOR CAREGIVERS

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

10 am-noon Wednesdays

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

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

Facilitated play time every Friday with your special needs children ages 3-5 years.

1-3 pm Fridays

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

## NESTLINGS (Birth-15 months)

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

Spring Session: Through May 8

9:30 am Mondays at Main Library

9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

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

## FLEDGLINGS (15 through 23 Months)

Experience the wonder of words with your child through stories, songs, movement, puppets, and fun in this story time for children from 15-23 months with an adult.

Spring Session: Through May 8

10:30 am Mondays at Main Library

10:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

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

## TERRIFIC TWOS

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

Spring Session: Through May 9

10 am Mondays & Wednesdays at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays at Main Library

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

## PRESCHOOL STORIES

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

Spring Session: Through May 10

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 Monday, April 16

7:15 pm Monday, May 21

*Register in person, by phone, or online two weeks before each program.*

## TREE TALE TELLERS CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY

(For 3, 4 & 5 year olds with an adult) Join us for stories told by a Tree Tale Teller from Holden Arboretum in celebration of Arbor Day.

1:30 pm Tuesday, April 17

at Woods Branch

10 am Wednesday, April 18

at Main Library

10 am Thursday, April 19

at Woods Branch

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 3.*

## KINDERMUSIK OF CLEVELAND AT WOODS BRANCH

Free demo classes of musical fun and learning.

Friday, May 18, 9:30-10 am for babies from birth to 18 months with an adult, 10:30-11 am for toddlers ages 1½ - 3½ with an adult.

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning May 4.*

## BUTTERFLY HANDS AT MAIN LIBRARY (Grades K-4)

Learn basic signing skills for children with certified signer Nancy Barnett and her signing puppet, Sammy.

Spring Session: April 2-May 7, 4:15-5 pm Mondays

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

## BUTTERFLY HANDS AT WOODS BRANCH

(Birth to age 5 with an adult)

Learn basic signs through songs, finger-



plays, flannel boards, and interaction with certified signer Nancy Barnett and her signing puppet, Sammy.

Spring Session: April 5-May 10, 10:45-11:15 am Thursdays

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

#### **READ TO KING AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(School-age students)

Sign up to read for 15 minutes with a furry friend! King is certified with Therapy Dogs International and loves to listen to stories. Bring a favorite book or choose one from the library shelves, and make a bookmark while you wait.

10 am-noon Saturday, April 14

*Register in person, online or by phone.*

#### **WRITERS CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(Grades 2-4)

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

Spring Session: Through April 24, 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. An adult must be present to register the student at the first visit, and students must be picked up by 6:30 pm.

4-6:30 pm Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Meeting Room F (second floor)

The final date for the Homework Center for the 2011-12 school year

is Wednesday, May 16. *The Homework Center is funded by MyCom.*

#### **AFTERSCHOOL ARTISTS AT MAIN**

**LIBRARY** (Grades 2-4)

Show your true colors as an artist! Create your own art in the style of Michelangelo, Van Gogh, Seurat, and other great artists. The program meets the first Thursday of each month.

4:15-5 pm Thursday, April 5

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

#### **MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL REBECCA**

**AT WOODS BRANCH** (Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time and learn what life was like for Rebecca in 1914, as you listen to a chapter from one of her books, watch a DVD, make a craft, and enjoy a snack.

2:30-4 pm Saturday, April 28

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

#### **BE KIND TO ANIMALS AT MAIN LIBRARY** (Grades K-5)

Learn about kindness to animals and bite prevention. Meet some animals when the Geauga County Humane Society's Rescue Village visits the Library.

4:15-5 pm Tuesday, May 1

*Register in person, by phone or online beginning April 17.*

#### **MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL KIT**

**AT WOODS BRANCH** (Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time and learn what life was like for Kit in 1934, as you listen to a chapter from one of her books, watch a DVD, make a craft, and enjoy a snack.

2:30-4 pm Saturday, May 12

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning April 28.*

### **Free Computer Classes**

*continued from page 21*

#### **ONLINE JOB HUNTING**

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, MAY 1

This class is designed to help job seekers develop the Internet and computer skills needed for online job hunting. Discover websites that can help create resumes; learn about local online resources, and get tips for investigating local companies. Mouse skills are required for this class.

#### **EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

3-5 PM THURSDAYS, MAY 3, 10 & 17

Series of classes. May 3: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders. May 10: Using the Internet, Search tools, setting up an email address and using email. May 17: Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. Participation in the ECO grant requires providing some personal information to Connect Ohio for its grant reporting.

#### **REPORTS IN MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®**

7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 3

An Access Report takes data from a database and presents it by your design. You decide how the records will appear in the report, how they will be ordered, and what information will/will not be included.

#### **GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT 2010®**

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

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

#### **EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE**

10 AM-1 PM SATURDAY, MAY 12 & 26

This set of classes meets twice. May 12: Mouse, Computer Literacy, Using Windows, Using and Maintaining Files and Folders, Using the Internet and

## Teen Scene (Grades 7-12)

Main Library Second Floor  
3:30-8 pm Monday-Thursday

### PSAT FREE PRACTICE TEST AND STRATEGY SESSION

The Princeton Review will administer a PSAT Practice Test, score it, and offer testing strategies the following week. Bring two #2 pencils, a snack, and a calculator. You must be registered to take the test. No one will be admitted to the test once the doors close.

9:15-11:45 am, Saturday, May 5 PSAT PRACTICE TEST

1:15-2:15 pm, Saturday, May 12 PSAT STRATEGY SESSION

*Register in person, by phone, or online at [shakerlibrary.org](http://shakerlibrary.org), beginning April 21.*

### YOUR PLACE IN THE WOODS

#### AT WOODS BRANCH (Grades 7-9)

Join friends in the Community Room after school.

3-4:30 pm Mondays

*No registration required. This program ends Monday, May 21.*

### FINAL TAB MEETING AT MAIN LIBRARY

Teen Advisory Board members receive Certificates of Participation and Community Service Hours.

11-11:45 am Saturday, April 21

### EREADERS, TABLETS & TEENS, OH MY!

See the new electronic gadgets and eReaders and give them a try.

4:15 pm Wednesday, April 18 in the Teen Center, Main Library

3:15 pm Monday, April 30 at Woods Branch

*No registration required.*

### END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION IN THE TEEN CENTER

Special snacks, crafts, and prizes.

4:15 pm Wednesday, May 23

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning May 9.*

## Free Computer Classes

*continued from page 23*

web browsers. May 26: Getting an email address, Using email, Types of Internet resources, Search Tools and how to use them. Participation in the ECO grant requires providing some personal information to Connect Ohio for its grant reporting.

### WINWAY RESUME WRITING

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MAY 12

Learn to create a professional looking resume with Winway Resume Deluxe 14, a program that 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.

### OPENOFFICE.ORG

10-11:30 AM MONDAY, MAY 14

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

### GOOGLEMANIA™

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, MAY 15

Learn advanced Internet searching strategies using the Google™ search engine, including tips and tricks for finding better information more quickly and efficiently. Participants must be able to use the mouse to click, drag, and highlight. Basic Internet skills are also required.

### ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT 2010®

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Learn the 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.

## GOOGLE DOCUMENTS™

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, MAY 22

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

### ONLINE SCAMS AND SPAM

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Criminals and thieves use the Internet to bilk people out of money. Learn to recognize and avoid these scammers and spammers.

### USING OFFICE 2010

3-4:30 PM THURSDAY, MAY 24

This is an Introduction to the suite of software programs called Office 2010. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and OneNote will be introduced through quick demos, with an emphasis on the inter-operability of each with the others.

## Endnotes

- Main Library is closed Easter Sunday April 8.
- Sunday, April 29 is the last day for Sunday hours at Main Library until October 7.
- Both libraries are closed Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day.
- The Library's Morning Needlework Group meets from 10 am-noon Wednesdays, April 4 & May 2. Knit Nights are held from 7-8:45 pm Thursdays, April 19 & May 17 at Bertram Woods Branch.
- ABLE/GED Classes are offered from 9 am-noon Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Main Library Teen Center. To register for these classes, call ABLE at 216-371-7138.
- Celebrate National Poetry Month when Poetry in the Woods features poets Grace Butcher and Terry Provost reading their original poetry at 7 pm April 24 at Woods Branch.

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SHAKER HEIGHTS  
2020





# In With The New

The Shaker Historical Society and Museum has rung in the City's Centennial year by remaking itself as a dynamic and relevant institution.

BY HYL A WINSTON  
PHOTOS BY JANET CENTURY

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

If your first foray into American history involved a teacher insisting that you had to memorize battles and dates, you might think you would not especially be interested in the Shaker Historical Society (SHS) and Museum. Well, think again.

Ann Cicarella, the SHS executive director since July 2010, has breathed new life (of gale force) into the 65-year old organization.

As a landscape designer and former president of the SHS board of trustees, Cicarella has an artistic eye and an appreciation for the history of this wonderful, century-old community.

"We hope to draw visitors into the compelling stories of people and events that make Shaker Heights unique and vibrant," she says.

Cicarella established the museum's first permanent exhibit, "The Van Sweringen Legacy: Shaker Heights, The Rapid and Terminal Tower." And in conjunction with the Shaker Heights Centennial celebra-

tion, the museum will tell the story of the development of Shaker Heights in exhibits throughout this year.

"Ann is making the museum more compelling for Shaker residents and the community at large," says trustee President Keith Arian. "She has been designing dynamic exhibit spaces and, moreover, partnering with outside organizations to expand the museum's offerings. We're seeing a growing number of people of all ages taking advantage of what we have to offer."

Last summer, youngsters from the SHS Bee the Buzz! Adventure Camp, the Cleveland Botanical Garden's Green Corps, and the Shaker Lakes Nature Center Summer Camp helped transform the backyard of the SHS grounds. Nestled on South Park Boulevard near Lee Road, the former Myers estate has been home to the SHS since 1969. Built in 1910, the home's 2.3-acre lot extends from South Park Boulevard through to Shaker Boulevard. The project provided plenty of space for campers



**Mingling at the opening of the SHS permanent Van Sweringen exhibit,** January 2012. Opposite page: Shaker Mayor Earl M. Leiken chats with SHS member Joe Begenfelden. Right: SHS Executive Administrator Patty Cogan, Leslye Arian, SHS Executive Director Ann Cicarella, SHS Education Director Lynne Hutchinson. Below: Christine Gint Auginas, executive director of the Shaker Schools Foundation.



to plan, create, plant, and maintain vegetable, herb, and flower beds.

Students from Cleveland State University, Kent State University, and Ursuline College are furthering their studies in historic preservation, public history, and museums with internships and other educational opportunities at the museum. Recently, a small group of students volunteered for the time-consuming task of photographing the museum's entire collection and entering the photos with descriptions into Past Perfect, a museum software program for cataloging. Past Perfect will eventually be a resource for people anywhere to access the photos and information of the SHS.

The SHS also is attractive to organizations seeking partnerships. For example, when the Viktor Schreckengost Foundation approached Cicarella about a collaboration, the museum proved to be a perfect venue for an exhibit of the paintings, sculptures, home furnishings, and toys created by the famous Cleveland artist.

The SHS staff – Cicarella, Education Director Lynne Hutchinson, and Executive Administrator Patty Cogan – and the trustees are innovating and modernizing so that the museum and its offerings are viable not just for today but for the future. To that end, there has been a crucial focus on redefining fundraising goals, in terms of operating budget and endowment.

Grants Plus, a fundraising consulting firm, provided the board with suggestions for the fund development process and created guidelines for approaching funding sources. The SHS formed a Development Committee, implemented eTapestry, a donor software program, and is establishing a donor recognition program.

“With Ann’s leadership we are form-

ing an economic framework so that the SHS can flourish,” Arian says.

Board member Rick Smith says he sees “a new vigor and courage to embark on new paths. Before, visitors could count on seeing all they needed at the museum once a year or so. Now we’re finding that visitors return at least three or four times throughout the year to see seasonal ex-



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*Each of the four Centennial exhibits, with their historic and even kitschy artifacts, reveals the evolution of Shaker Heights within a larger regional and national context.*

hibits and attend programs.”

To keep everyone abreast of museum goings-on, Smith has upgraded the SHS website ([shakerhistory.org](http://shakerhistory.org)) and made it interactive. Traffic on the website has doubled as users have found a wealth of history plus a calendar of events and descriptions of new SHS-sponsored activities. Among these are:

- Self-guided Shaker walking tours with maps and explanations of points of interest.
- Bike Shaker guided tours, including bike rentals.
- The “Traveling Trunk,” a portable, hands-on exhibition.

A good reason to visit is the new permanent Van Sweringen exhibit. Amid striking oil portraits of Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen, the exhibit tells the life story of the two boys who rose from the poverty of their home in Wooster, Ohio, to become visionary developers and builders in Cleveland.

The Van Sweringens set their sights on the bucolic setting of the Shaker Lakes and the surrounding area to build an “English garden suburb” — Shaker Heights. They purchased 1,366 acres of the former North Union Shaker community for \$1,000,000, dreaming of an exclusive community with elliptical boulevards and park-like streets, with strict regulations regarding architecture, color, and placement of homes.

The Van Sweringens knew that easy access to downtown Cleveland was vital to their plan so they established the Shaker Rapid Transit and then built the 52-story Terminal Tower, which was completed in 1930.

*continued on page 30*

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**Keith Arian**, president of the SHS board of trustees.

## Exploring the Museum

Visitors to the new permanent Van Sweringen exhibit and the Centennial exhibits should allow time to explore the rest of the museum.

Artifacts that the North Union Shakers used for beekeeping, spinning, farming, and other daily activities accompany a 17-minute video about the North Union Shakers and the development of Shaker Heights. A bedroom staged with authentic North Union Shaker items allows visitors to feel as though they are traveling back through time and might catch a glimpse of the young Shaker girl whose hooded cloak hangs on a peg near the bed.

The Jack and Linda Lissauer Gallery on the second floor generally features rotating art exhibits from local artists, galleries, and schools. Recently, the photography work of students from the Cleveland School of the Arts was highlighted. The current installation supplements the permanent Van Sweringen exhibit, and presents the artistic (in language and design) marketing sheets that helped the Van Sweringens sell homes in Shaker Heights.

Smaller items from the North Union Shakers' daily life, which were in storage for several years, can be viewed in the Collection Room. From farm tools to dishes and cups, the large collection is arranged by theme and is a window into a simpler time.

The Elizabeth Nord Library, named for the museum's first curator, contains an extensive collection of books and archival materials about Warrensville Township, the Shakers, and the development of Shaker Heights. The library is open, by appointment, during museum hours, 2-5 pm. Sundays and 2-5 pm Tuesday through Friday.

The Spirit Tree Museum Shop is open during museum hours. It sells Shaker-style boxes, baskets, miniatures, jewelry, ceramics, crafts, Centennial merchandise, and much more.

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**This page:** Michael Cicarella and Dick Parke examine old photos at the SHS Van Sweringen exhibit. Opposite page: Charles Winslow Davis looks at historical material about University School at the museum.



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The brothers never married and were described as shy, private, industrious, generous, and modest. Their simple personal lives belie the grandeur they created. Today, 80 percent of Shaker Heights is located in the Shaker Village National Register Historic District.

Each of the four Centennial exhibits, with their historic and even kitschy artifacts, reveals the evolution of Shaker Heights within a larger regional and national context. The exhibits also feature important cultural aspects of each time period, accompanied by special events.

The first Centennial rotating exhibit, "1905-1930: The Selling of Peaceful Shaker Village" was on display through March. It focused on the Van Sweringens' purchase of the North Union Shaker land to develop a suburban haven for business and professional people working in Cleveland. In their attempt to attract affluent families, the Van Sweringens embarked on an extensive community planning and marketing campaign. They were committed to a fine public school system, yet knew that enticing some of Cleveland's private schools to the new suburb would help to sell homes.

The brothers were able to negotiate new campuses in Shaker Heights for Hathaway Brown School, Laurel School, University School, and John Carroll University. They donated land for the Shaker Heights Country Club and Plymouth Church, and made land available for the Troop A Riding Club, the Cleveland Tennis Club, Moreland Courts, Shaker Square, and more than 300 acres of parks.

The second Centennial exhibit, "1930-1955: Thriving Through Adversity," from April 8 through June 29, addresses the growth of Shaker Heights, the effects of World War II on the community, and the beginning of national recognition for Shaker Heights and its school system.

The lead role that Shaker Heights took to thwart white flight and encourage racial





integration is described in the third Centennial exhibit, “1955-1980: Celebrating Community Spirit,” on display from July 8 through September 30. It also describes the successful grassroots movement to oppose the Clark Freeway being built through the City, and the City’s continued evolution.

“1980-2012: Pathways to the Future,” the final Centennial exhibit, focuses on the rich diversity of the community and economic strategies aimed at ensuring a strong future. This exhibit will run from October 7 through December 30.

“We are eager to tell the stories that have shaped this area,” says Ann Cicarella. “Our goal is to make the SHS a more active, engaging place.”

*Admission to the Shaker Historical Society and Museum is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 6-18, and free for children under age 6. Annual membership, providing free admission to the museum and its library, the quarterly newsletter, and a 10 percent discount at the Spirit Tree Museum Shop, is \$60 for a family and \$35 for an individual.*

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# Doing Inspired Work

Cellular Technology Limited's presence in Shaker has helped the City's economic development strategy move forward. **by Jennifer S. Kuhel** Photos by Paul Sobota



When it came time for Paul Lehmann to choose a new home for his growing biomedical company in 2007, he could have settled anywhere.

But Lehmann chose Shaker Heights.

The 55-year-old founder, president, and CEO of Cellular Technology Limited (CTL), a biomedical company whose products monitor the human immune system, isn't a Shaker resident and he wasn't from Shaker. In fact, he was born in Hungary and educated in former West Germany and Switzerland followed by a post-doctoral training period at UCLA.

So why Shaker Heights?

Because Lehmann, a medical doctor, researcher, and Case Western Reserve University professor who has spent much of his life researching the immune system, believes that life is about balance. Balancing heart and brain. Balancing work and life. Balancing new and old.

And for Lehmann, Shaker is a community with balance.

"We so often separate the intellect and the soul. But they're not separate. If you're not inspired, if you don't have a positive environment, you can't do inspired work," explains Lehmann from the three-story office building at the corner of Chagrin Boulevard and Helen Road that CTL calls home.

"Many think of the intellect and soul as contradictory masters, but for me, they must not be separated. In Shaker Heights you have a feeling of community with houses and walkways. There are places to

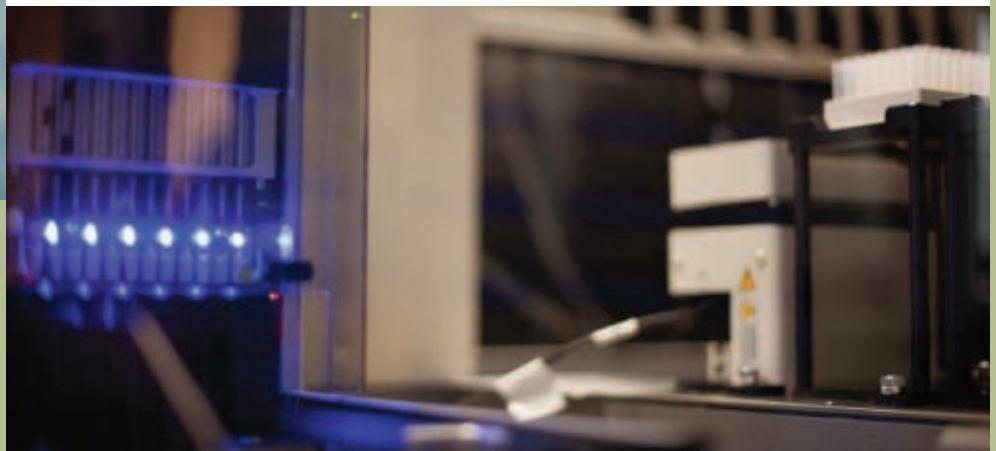


hang out, to walk, to live. Here there is a framework for all of it."

Lehmann is literally building on the framework he sought and values in Shaker. In recent months, after completely renovating the building from inside, CTL embarked on a project also visible to passers-by, an updated main entrance on the west side of the building where the company's 60-some employees work.

Once completed, the new foyer will add three stories worth of natural light to a building already flooded with light, con-

**CTL's** primary business is the manufacture and sale of products that show how well the human immune system is functioning. At left: Shaker resident and CTL employee Jodi Hanson; above: founder, president, and CEO Paul Lehmann.





Lehmann has redesigned the interior of CTL to make employees feel at home.

tributing to the feel of openness that prevails throughout the company.

“Light and views were critical for me when selecting this building,” says Lehmann. The new entrance, which costs approximately \$1 million, comes on the heels of an estimated \$2 million the company has already invested in improvements to the building.

#### THE BRAINS OF CTL

A painting hanging in a CTL hallway best describes what the company does for those who aren’t plugged in to the world of immunology. In successive rows, the painting explains in a simplified way what the company does: “We examine little spots, enlarge the picture and measure the spots.”

Simply put, CTL’s products – namely its ImmunoSpot™ Analyzers with accompanying software and test kits – show how well the immune system functions by accurately measuring how T- or B-cells (the main components of the body’s adaptive

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immune response system) respond to “antigens” such as allergens, microbial proteins, or cancer cell constituents.

Those qualitative and quantitative measures play an important role in vaccine development for infectious diseases, cancer, and diagnostics of multiple sclerosis.

CTL is an internationally recognized player in the field of immune monitoring and works with the Who’s Who in the biomedical industry. The company’s technology has enabled more than 1000 clients worldwide – including the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Harvard, Yale, and Johns Hopkins universities – to perform this testing.

The privately held company, which Lehmann founded in 1998, had revenues around \$10 million for 2011, earned through sales of its analyzers, consumables, and contract research services.

The company’s products are sold around the world, through its distribution offices, with major sales successes in Europe and Asia. CTL makes all efforts to secure the majority of the components locally. Hundreds of the components are manufactured in North Royalton and even their wooden shipping boxes are produced by local Amish craftsmen. Assembly of the analyzers takes place at the company’s Chagrin Boulevard headquarters, as well as research and development and contract research services.

Lehmann started developing the technology behind his company at UCLA and then refined it while working as a professor at Case Western Reserve University, which he joined 18 years ago. His background as a researcher and scientist helped him stay at the forefront of the field and maintain an international leadership role. He remains an adjunct professor at Case’s Department of Pathology, with collaborative ties to former colleagues.

The contract research operation is led by Dr. Magdalena Tary-Lehmann, who is also a medical doctor, PhD researcher, and a former associate professor of pathology, who also maintains an adjunct professorship at Case. She says the strength of the contract research operation is its academic foundation in immunology, combined with the ability to adopt the technology to customers’ specific needs and conduct high throughput testing under Good Laboratory Practice conditions.



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## ATTRACTING THE BIOMEDICAL SECTOR

If there's any doubt as to Lehmann's fondness for Shaker Heights, consider how he gets to and from work: He walks from his home in Cleveland Heights.

"When we chose the building, there were a couple of criteria that were important for me," explains Lehmann. "It had to be reachable without a long commute, ideally by foot. While walking to work takes him 40 to 50 minutes, "it is wonderful exercise and rejuvenates the mind, particularly when strolling these beautiful little streets."

Lehmann says that Shaker's charm often gives clients – who visit for training for up to a week – a warm impression of Cleveland. "Often we take them for walks in the parks, dine them in local restaurants, and share the cultural richness of the area," says Lehmann. "And most of them are surprised how beautiful and livable this area is."

That kind of positive impression is precisely what the City's Economic Development Director, Tania Menesse, hopes will help attract more investment, particularly from the biomedical sector. Shaker's location makes it ideally situated for biomedical entrepreneurs who want to remain tied into the region's medical research base.

"We are just up the hill from University Circle and the HealthTech corridor. Our goal is to create a cluster of second- and third-stage technology companies, many of which will have grown out of the biomedical sector. These clusters are planned at Chagrin/Lee and the Van Aken district," says Menesse, referring also to University Hospitals' Administrative Offices on Warrensville Center Road.

She says the City ultimately expects to have more than 250,000 square feet of office space in the two districts to support restaurants, retail, and vibrant neighborhoods.

"CTL fits perfectly into the industry

mix that the City identified during our economic development planning process in 2010. Biomedical and software companies that build off of Cleveland's strong medical and research community are a core focus of the plan," says Menesse. "With the road restructuring at Warrensville/Van Aken and the transportation study on Lee, we are creating the conditions for private investment in our commercial districts. It is this kind authentic, mixed use environment that entrepreneurs are looking for."

Dar Caldwell, a managing partner at Shaker LaunchHouse, the business incubator near Lee and Chagrin, says his organization actively pursues biomedical and healthcare-related companies as investments.

"It's the success of companies like CTL that will provide a good reason for a company to locate in Shaker," Caldwell says. "Their success story can help create this snowball effect for Shaker and can make it more attractive."

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## THE SOUL OF CTL

Just as Lehmann is helping shift the paradigm for the types of companies the City would like to attract, he is also busy shifting paradigms within CTL's walls.

"Laboratories are often located in basements or dark corridors where one cannot tell if it is day or night with equipment humming around. It is a work environment to which you could not even subject laboratory mice nowadays," Lehmann quips. "So when we started the company, it was very important to create a pleasant environment. You want people to feel at home."

Lehmann has created an at-home feel by filling CTL's public spaces and offices alike with plants and, as mentioned, natural light. The company's walls are lined with original artwork, some reflecting CTL's name in the styles of various artists (think Roy Lichtenstein, for example) by Hungarian artist Gabor Pesthy, while other large murals created by German artist Bela Horvath Morvai are painted in muted, calming tones.

Shaker Heights resident Jodi Hanson has a special appreciation for the homey feel at CTL. Hanson, a researcher, joined CTL last summer and lives just steps away on Helen Road.

*continued on page 60*



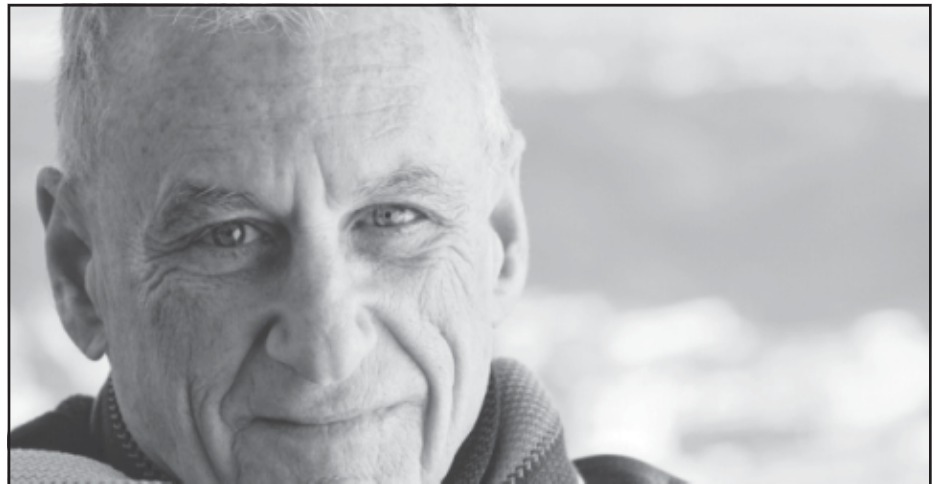
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**Shaker residents** Tom and Jane Lassar made their recent kitchen remodel a positive experience.

Shaker contractors and residents offer advice on how to make the process as painless as possible.

**BY JENNIFER PROE PHOTOS BY KEVIN G. REEVES**

If the kitchen is the heart of the home, a major kitchen remodeling project might seem like invasive surgery. It's sure to cause some initial pain and anxiety, but the results can be highly beneficial, both for the enjoyment of your home, and for its long-term value.

For homeowners who have spent the winter months dreaming and planning for a new kitchen, spring and summer present the ideal time to take the plunge and get the project underway. But before the crew shows up with sledgehammers in hand, there are many important things to know – and do – to help the process go as smoothly as possible.

### *Choose the Right Contractor*

The most important factor to a successful kitchen remodel, of course, is selecting a contractor you can trust. Says Frank Marvaldi, president of Gerome's Kitchen and Bath Design, "Make sure you are dealing with someone who has the proper credentials. They should be certified by the National Kitchen & Bath Association as kitchen

designers, have a good professional reputation, and be in good standing with the Better Business Bureau.”

Bob Somrak, Jr., vice president of operations and owner of Somrak Kitchens, echoes this advice. “In this economy, there are many contractors who have migrated from new-home construction to remodeling, and it’s very important to make sure that the people at the helm of the ship know what they are doing. Get references, check to make sure they’re on the list of registered contractors at City Hall, and if the quote seems too good to be true, it probably is.”

Both contractors feel that offering a showroom to their customers is an important piece of the puzzle. Says Marvaldi, “You need to be able to go see and touch the materials before you make your final selections.”

He also cautions homeowners not to overlook the mechanical requirements.

“Most people put their energy into the aesthetics, but it’s equally important to know how many outlets you will need and where they will go.”

### *Know What’s Expected*

Once you have selected a contractor in whom you have trust and confidence, it’s time to do some logistical planning. It’s safe to assume that your kitchen will be out of commission for at least six to eight weeks, from the time of demolition to what contractors call “substantial completion,” when enough of the work is done to restore functionality.

The first order of business is to sign off on a completed design and budget. Randa Hilal, owner of RH Kitchen and Bath, Ltd., offers this observation from her experience:

“So many times, a homeowner gets this rush of energy to get the work done,

**For Tom and Jane,** the items that make their kitchen special are a hi-tech range hood and stainless steel backsplash, specially curved countertops that matched their curved doors, and a beverage center for Tom.







perhaps in time for a major holiday, and they push to get started too quickly without having a solid design in place. Don't start the demolition until the design is finished – which includes having the final layout done, cabinets ordered, appliances chosen, sink and lighting fixtures selected, and flooring decisions made.”

Hilal points out that certain materials have a long lead-time from order to delivery, such as custom cabinets and high-end appliances, which must be factored into the timing before setting the demolition date. “No one wants to sit around with their kitchen demolished just waiting for materials to arrive,” she says.

Once D-Day has been set, there are myriad details to put into place. John Volpe, president of Volpe Millwork, Inc., provides this helpful checklist for homeowners prior to beginning work:

- Pack up personal items and move them to a safe storage area.
- Go over dust control plans with your contractor.
- Work out a plan for your pets during the remodeling process.
- Let your neighbors know about the remodeling project, including working hours, and provide them contact information for your contractor.
- Check to make sure that permits have been posted.
- Check to make sure that your general contractors' and any sub-contractors' insurance policies are up to date, and get copies for your records.
- Check with your insurance agent about your homeowner's insurance coverage for remodeling.
- Discuss a plan for trash removal with your contractor.

“These are just a few of the main items,” says Volpe. “There are many others.”

### *Be Prepared*

Hilal advises clients to begin preparing a few weeks in advance by clearing out unwanted kitchen items, and packing away those that are used infrequently.

“I also remind them to account for the fact that their meal budget may increase due

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to eating out. If they are on a tight budget, they might consider making as many meals ahead of time as possible and putting them in the freezer for easy re-heating in the microwave," she says.

Establishing a temporary kitchen is a must. Contractors generally advise moving the refrigerator to the dining room, basement, or garage, and setting up a microwave, coffeemaker, dishes and dishwashing area in a separate location with running water. Doing the renovation in the warmer months also makes it easier to grill and eat outside, which can help cut back on the added cost of eating out.

When Jane and Tom Lassar decided their 50-year old Shaker home was due for a kitchen makeover, they found themselves cleaning out much more than the kitchen.

"I think I had some general anxiety about my home being taken over, and I felt the need to have the rest of the house be as orderly as possible," says Jane, publicist for Gray & Company, Publishers.

There is also a practical benefit to purging other areas of the house; your contractor will likely need to commandeer space in your garage or basement to store materials throughout the construction process. "I think it's good to be prepared both physically and psychologically before the construction starts," she says.

For Jane, part of that psychological preparation was hiring a contractor she knew and trusted. "Somrak had done some other projects for us, and we were very comfortable knowing that they would look at everything ahead of time and tell us what to anticipate, so there were no surprises," she says.

### *Communication is Key*

Hilal recommends that homeowners have a long chat with their contractor before the construction process begins.

"Don't assume anything. Get everything agreed upon before demolition begins, including such details as who will be responsible for moving the appliances, where will you put the construction dumpster, etc. I also find that things go more smoothly if the same firm is doing both the design and construction; if that



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is not the case, make sure there is a plan for communication between the two entities.”

Somrak firmly believes in educating customers before the job begins to make sure they understand the entire process. “When they come to the showroom, they are seeing the completed product. When we start, they are getting a lot of separate pieces, and it’s important that they understand how it will all go together.”

Jane Lassar found it helpful to keep a list of questions to go over with the crew at the end of the workday. “If the question wasn’t urgent, I would send an email, just so I wouldn’t forget about it. I didn’t want to constantly interrupt the workers while they were doing their jobs. It’s like any good relationship – there has to be some give and take, and keeping a sense of humor is essential.”

Jane also found it helpful to have a positive support network of friends to talk to, and walk with, when she needed some time out from the noise and mess of the construction process. “It was almost like when your kids are young, and you need that moral support, someone to hold your hand and help you

feel good about the decisions you are making.”

### *Have Fun!*

Tom Lassar, a cardiologist with University Hospitals, was equally involved with Jane in their kitchen remodel. He recommends that homeowners do plenty of homework on the design and materials selection, yet be willing to make compromises and be flexible throughout the process. “You should plan on exceeding your budget, but draw a clear ceiling. Don’t skimp, but don’t break the bank, either. It’s okay to splurge on a few things that really make the project sparkle.”

For Tom and Jane, the special items that made their kitchen unique were a hi-tech range hood and stainless steel backsplash, specially curved countertops that matched their curved doors, and a beverage center for Tom.

Ultimately, says Jane, “It’s important to trust your instincts, and to have a good time with it. Going in, I was determined the make it a positive experience. Now, not a week goes by that we don’t remark on how happy we are with our kitchen – we just love it.” 🐦

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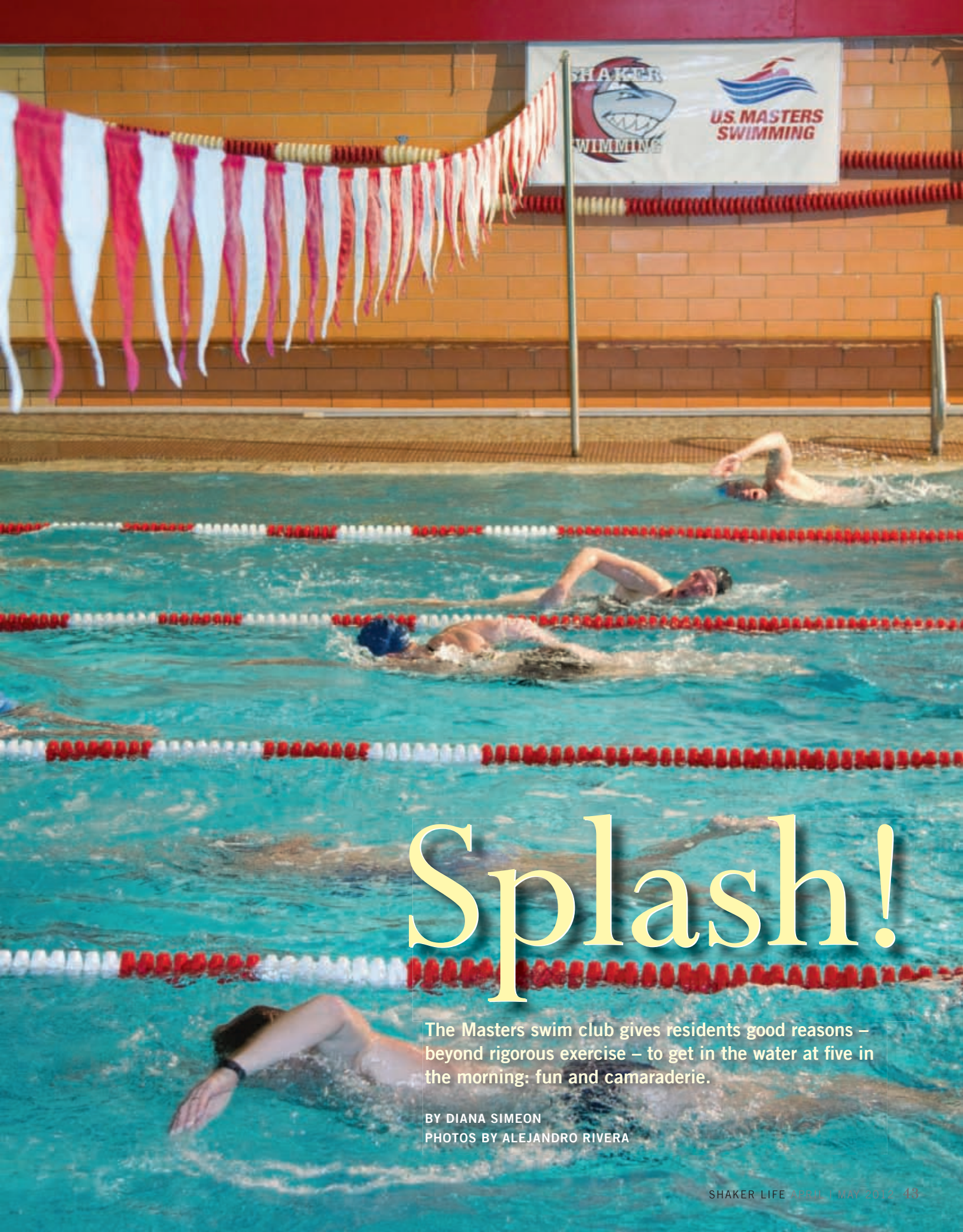
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# Splash!

The Masters swim club gives residents good reasons – beyond rigorous exercise – to get in the water at five in the morning: fun and camaraderie.

BY DIANA SIMEON  
PHOTOS BY ALEJANDRO RIVERA



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*The Shaker Masters swim on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 5:45 to 7:15 am, at Shaker Middle School; Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:45-7:15 am at Woodbury School, and Saturdays from 7 to 8:15 am at Woodbury. In June and July, all sessions are held at Thornton Park. (August is an off-month.) For information, including membership fees, contact Eric Peterson at Peterson\_e@shaker.org*

While most of us are hitting the snooze button, Shaker's Masters swimmers are wide awake and in the water, pulling on their goggles for a 90-minute workout.

And that's a workout with a capital W. "We make them a little tired by the time they leave," says coach Eric Peterson.

Tired indeed. During a recent Saturday session at Woodbury School, the club's "main set" – which in swim parlance means the main part of the workout – was more than 50 25-yard lengths of the pool, freestyle, in sets of 200, 100 and 50 yards. And that's after a warm-up of 16 lengths, plus a few additional lengths of drills or kicks with a board, and it's followed by a cool-down of eight lengths. In all, a typical workout is in the neighborhood of two miles.

But it's not just for the exercise that Masters swimmers are willing to show up at 5:45 am Monday to Friday or at the comparatively leisurely hour of 7 am on

Saturdays. Watch a practice and within minutes, you'll notice it: the between-sets chatter; the bursts of laughter; the conspicuous camaraderie. This group is having a lot of fun.

"This is such a positive group," says Peterson, who also teaches swimming at Woodbury School, is head coach of the Shaker High swim team, and runs the popular youth version of the Masters, the Shaker Sharks. "They work well together and encourage each other."

For those unfamiliar with how the sport is organized in Shaker, the term "Masters" might conjure up a picture of a retired Michael Phelps or Dara Torres racing back and forth across the pool.

Not true, says Peterson. "It's for anyone 18 and over. Many of our members swam competitively, but many did not." If you can swim only a length or two, you're welcome to join.

The Masters club roster includes members who took up the sport within the past year to those who have been swimming for most of their lives. Members range in age from their early 20s to their mid-60s.

Member Jaqi Hummel points out that the Masters membership includes Shaker residents from all walks of life: "transplant surgeons, lawyers, consultants, teachers, NASA engineers, social workers, former college swim stars, triathletes, a mother

of triplets, and others just looking for a great cardio-vascular workout.”

With Shaker’s long tradition in swimming – a men’s High School team was founded in 1941 and there was a local women’s club, The Sharcs (yes, with a “c”) as early as the mid-1930s – it may come as a surprise that the Masters club got its start just nine years ago.

But it was strong off the block, as swimmers say.

It all came together over the summer of 2003. Residents Chuck Lawrence and Margaret Bayless were regulars at early-morning lap-swim sessions at Thornton. “We would swim with the lap swimmers, but would try to do the workout that the Shaker High kids were doing,” explains Lawrence. (The High School team works out at Thornton during the summer, as do the Shaker Sharks.)

“When Eric saw us doing that, he invited us to swim with the High School team. We felt like we were really moving up in the world,” he adds.

As the summer was drawing to a close, “we asked Eric if he would start a Masters team,” explains Bayless. “He gave us three mornings a week and said, ‘We’ll see how it goes.’”

Bayless and Lawrence spread the word and on the first official day of practice, more than 20 swimmers showed up. Within a couple of months, the number of swimmers doubled; within a year it doubled again to over 80, where it remains today.

In 2007, Peterson added three practices to the club’s schedule for a total of six per week. Practices are held year-round: from September to May, the Shaker Masters train “short-course” (25-yard lengths) at Woodbury and the Middle School; during the summer, they train “long-course” (50-meter lengths) at Thornton Park, a particular treat says Bayless. “You’re outdoors, the sun is rising and the weather is beautiful. Even when it’s raining it’s fun.”

**Masters** Pam LeRose (previous page) and Jackie Matthews, Gina Suozzi, Beth A. Casey, and Nathan Levitan.







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**Swim coach** and motivator extraordinaire Eric Peterson.

### **All Ages, All Levels**

To accommodate such a diverse group of swimming enthusiasts, Peterson organizes them into six lanes based on ability.

“Eric tailors the workout for each level,” explains Bayless, who began swimming in the 1980s and now works out with the Masters six days a week (she clocked 550 miles last year). “Speed-wise we are all over the place, so the fast lane may do eight of something that my lane may do six of.”

Swimmers can switch lanes as they improve, or if they just want to take it easy.

“We’ve got a wide range of abilities and a wide range of goals,” says Peterson, who notes that building the endurance that 90 minutes of swimming requires, no matter the skill level, takes time.

“Many of our swimmers started out in the slowest lane doing one or two lengths at a time. They’ve built up and now are swimming faster and doing all four strokes and all the lengths. But that can take weeks, months, or even years.”

That was certainly Jaqi Hummel’s experience when she joined the Masters a couple of years ago. “When I started, my goal was to stay in the water for 45 minutes. It was only this past summer that I finally made it to the end of a practice. It took a long time to develop that stamina,” she says.

Shaker resident Deborah Peters tells a similar tale. “I swam in high school, but then stopped for 20 years, so I started in the slow lane and just got better.”

Peters swims five mornings a week and last year logged 500 miles. “I get up at 5 a.m. At first I was like, ‘What am I doing? It’s dark out.’ But now I love it. I have so many friends here and it gets my day off to a great start.”



**Sarah Dietrich** takes a short break from the Masters vigorous workout.

There's also a one-Saturday-a-month-after-practice breakfast, where members can catch up on dry land. "So many of us have kids in the same schools, with the same teachers, so we've all grown together over the years," says Kurt Jensen.

Meanwhile, if you're competitively inclined, the Masters offers that too. Many of the members have participated in area swim meets, including those run by Lake Erie Masters Swimming, which is made up of 11 Northeast Ohio Masters clubs, including Shaker. A two-mile open water swim held each summer at Edgewater Park in Cleveland is also popular with members.

At the end of the day (or, in this case, at the beginning of the day), it's not the workout alone that swimmers say keeps them coming back for more. It's the camaraderie of the members – and Coach Peterson.

"Just knowing that your friends are going to show up and Eric will be there is so motivational," says Bayless.

"When you have a great coach, your limits are stretched, and there is also a push that comes from working out in a group that you don't get as an individual," says Jensen.

Last year, Peterson was awarded the Kerry O'Brien Award by U.S. Masters Swimming in recognition of his work with the Shaker Masters; the award is the second highest given by the organization. Peterson has also been named Lake Erie League Coach of the Year for many years running for his coaching of the Shaker High team and the Sharks.

Among the swimmers, appreciation for their coach runs deep. Says Chuck Lawrence: "Every morning, when the alarm goes off, you think, 'I can't do this. This is just impossible.' And if you had to do it by yourself, it would be impossible. But you come and Eric tells you what to do and at 7:15 when the practice is over, you can't believe what you've just accomplished." 🌸



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# The State of the Schools Report 2012

As the Shaker Heights Schools celebrate 100 years of leadership and excellence in public education, we look to the future with a renewed commitment to rigorous academics, high achievement for all students, unmatched student opportunities, and continued fiscal vigilance. This report provides a snapshot of the District's recent accomplishments, current challenges, and future directions. For more detail, visit the District's website at [shaker.org](http://shaker.org) for a wealth of data about finances, student performance, and strategic initiatives.

Through collaboration with the City of Shaker Heights, we are able to publish this report to all residents of Shaker Heights using the most cost-effective printing and distribution.

## Continuing the Tradition of Excellence

Shaker students and faculty members continue to distinguish themselves in numerous academic areas each year. Following is a small selection of recent accomplishments:

- A record 159 Shaker students were named Advanced Placement Scholars in 2011 – the highest number in school history. Last May, 444 Shaker students took 984 AP exams, with 73 percent

earning a score of three or higher on a five-point scale. All students taking AP courses are required to take an AP exam. About one-third of Shaker students take at least one AP course during their time at Shaker.

- A 2011 graduate was named one of three Presidential Scholars from Ohio, the second year in a row that a Shaker student has received this designation. Two other Shaker students were selected as candidates for the program.

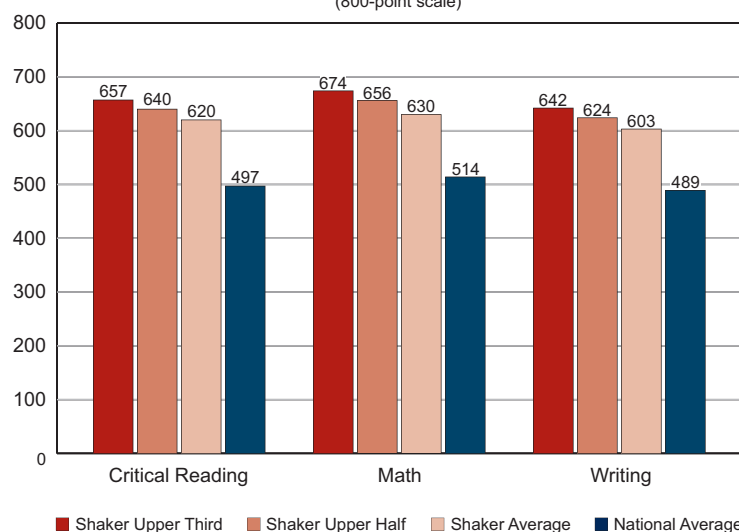
- In 2011, the number of African-American students taking the ACT college entrance exam increased significantly, matching the number of white students taking the exam for the first time. The mean score for African-American students rose by a full point (on a 36-point scale), and white students' scores stayed steady.

- The class of 2012 outperformed the state and national averages on the SAT and ACT by considerable margins. The graph below shows how Shaker's SAT scores stack up against national averages.

- In the 2011 National History Day competition, Shaker students captured 23 out of 29 slots to advance to the state competition, where they went on to win

**Shaker Class of 2012 SAT Scores**

(800-point scale)





12 out of 18 slots to compete at the national event. Shaker students took several top-ten places at the national event, including a first-place win in the original website category.

- Shaker was named a “Best Community for Music Education” by the NAMM Foundation for a third year in a row.

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

- A Shaker student advanced to the National Geographic Bee in 2011.

- Four out of 10 finalists in the 2011 Maltz Museum’s “Stop the Hate” Essay contest were Shaker students.

- A Shaker student received the 2012 Gold Medallion Hispanic Heritage Youth Award for Science.

- Shaker students won top honors at regional and national competitions, including Science Olympiad, VEX Robotics, Poetry Out Loud contest, MathCounts, Model UN, and the Scholastic Art competition – which produced a record number of 51 awards for the High

School in 2012.

- Four Shaker students won first-place blue ribbons in the 2011 Cleveland Clinic Art eXpressions Program for artwork they created based on scientific research.

- Six Shaker students participated in the prestigious Cleveland Clinic Summer Internship program, and numerous other students were selected to participate in various Saturday internship programs with area medical and scientific researchers.

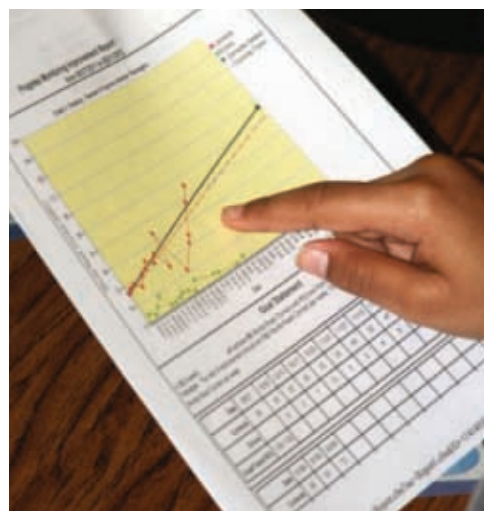
### Putting Strategy into Action

In 2009, the Board of Education and administration launched a major strategic planning initiative to establish the vision for the Shaker schools. As part of the planning process, residents, parents, staff, and students throughout the community were asked to talk about their hopes and dreams for the schools. Last April, the Board voted to adopt the Strategic Plan.

The faculty and staff are now implementing specific action items from the Plan, which reflect the major themes and ideas brought forth through the community feedback process: achievement for all students; high quality teachers and curriculum; engaged, hard-working stu-



**Melissa Becerra**, second-grade teacher at Boulevard Elementary School, uses an interactive computer program called AIMSweb to track a student’s progress toward meeting the specific learning objectives they have set together.



**In 2011**, the NAMM Foundation named Shaker a “Best Community for Music Education” for the third year in a row.





**Bus driver** Fred Taylor encourages students to embrace the IB learner attitude of “confidence” (displayed above the driver’s seat) as he greets them each day. Two attitudes are displayed at a time on every Shaker school bus, on a rotating basis.

dents; enhanced parental involvement; current and accessible technology; enhanced participation in co-curricular activities; and expanded facilities.

A cornerstone of the Strategic Plan, encompassing all these themes, is adoption of the highly regarded International Baccalaureate program at all grade levels. International Baccalaureate is designed to help students develop the intellectual, personal, emotional, and social skills to live, learn, and work in a rapidly globalizing world. In addition to its global focus, the program emphasizes creative problem solving, hands-on projects, inquiry-based learning, and community service.

Following is a sampling of the ways the community’s aspirations are reflected in Shaker classrooms.

#### “Achievement for all students”

- The Strategic Plan emphasizes the need to provide more learning time for students who are encountering difficulty. In response to this need, the Middle School has added more structure and support to its after-school homework center in the school library. Staffed by certified teachers and volunteers, the center offers both tutoring and homework help. Students who are struggling can be assigned to the center; students are also welcome to drop in.

- Faculty and staff are developing targeted intervention plans to involve parents with students who are in danger of receiving a failing grade in any subject area. By intervening early and enlisting parents in the effort, teachers hope to reverse sliding performance.

- According to data from the Ohio Department of Education, students who have been in the District for three years or longer achieve at higher levels on average than those with less time in Shaker. In order to help new students get up to speed as quickly as possible, the Registrar’s office now assesses the academic progress of incoming students in grades 5-12. At the K-4 level, new students are assessed at their school. This rapid assessment helps the schools plan more effectively for appropriate placement, instruction, and support services if needed.

#### “High quality teachers”

- A long-term professional development plan is in place for all faculty members, to ensure that their teaching practices align with state content standards, International Baccalaureate principles, and research-based best practices.
- Teachers have been trained in new technology and data-interpretation tools to help them advance their own professional skills, as well as to help them work



**Longtime resident** Henry Chisholm brings an engineering degree from Yale and years of experience to bear as he works with a student at the Middle School tutoring center.





directly with students to establish and monitor individualized goals. Frequent progress monitoring allows for prompt intervention when a student falls behind.

- The District is tapping into federal Race to the Top funds to support teachers' professional growth in areas that dovetail with the Strategic Plan. To date, these funds have helped educate teachers on new state curriculum standards, overall curriculum alignment, International Baccalaureate training, and online professional development tools.

### “Engaged, hard-working students”

- Research shows that students perform better when they have a clear understanding of teachers' purposes and expectations. To this end, teachers are now posting the learning objective for each lesson in the classroom, providing visual reinforcement of the "big idea" being covered. Students are expected to understand the objective well enough to discuss the relevance of the lesson.

- All staff in the District, including faculty, support staff, and substitutes, are reinforcing the qualities of character known as the International Baccalaureate learner attitudes in their daily interactions with students, from the moment they step on the buses each morning. The Shaker Schools Foundation helped coordinate signage depicting the at-

titudes on all Shaker buses, which was made possible by a generous alumni gift from the class of 1961.

### “Enhanced parental involvement”

- The District has expanded the vehicles used to communicate with parents, including a more user-friendly website, a new mobile website that can be accessed by smartphone, and more frequent and targeted e-news bulletins.

- In partnership with the PTO, the District is piloting the use of social media to connect with parents of incoming kindergarten students.

- The schools continue to expand the use of ProgressBook (an online grade book) so that parents can keep track of their students' progress and communicate with teachers.

- Incoming High School students and their parents are provided with practical information about what it takes to succeed at Shaker and how to recover when academic performance slips.

### “Enhanced participation in co-curricular activities”

- Participation in co-curricular activities helps students succeed academically and socially. To find out why some students are not participating, an assess-



The rapidly rising use of smartphones led the District to develop a mobile version of its website. A 2011 report by the Pew Research Center indicates that 83% of all U.S. adults own a cell phone, 42% of whom are smartphone users. The study found that mobile phones are the primary source of internet access for at least one-fourth of all smartphone users.

## More Years in Shaker = Greater Success

### Passage Rate on Ohio Achievement Assessment

Subject	Percent proficient after 1-3 years in Shaker	Percent proficient after 3 or more years in Shaker	Increase in percent proficient
5th Grade Reading	78%	82.9%	4.9%
5th Grade Math	66.9%	81.7%	14.8%
5th Grade Science	74%	81.8%	7.8%
11th Grade Reading	90.9%	98.2%	7.3%
11th Grade Math	83%	93.5%	10.5%
11th Grade Social Studies	89.1%	96%	6.9%
11th Grade Science	77.4%	90.9%	13.5%
11th Grade Writing	94.5%	97.4%	2.9%

Note: Social Studies and Writing Assessments are not administered in grade 5.

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ment of the co-curricular opportunities currently offered to students in grades 5-12 is in progress. Using surveys and focus groups, staff members are setting out to identify student interest and barriers to involvement.

- New databases are being developed to connect students with expanded opportunities for community service, service learning, and senior projects. The database will include listings of community members who are willing to share their professional expertise with students and help foster career awareness.

## Next Steps

An independent external review will be conducted after the end of the 2011-12 school year to monitor the overall progress of the Strategic Plan. This written review will examine progress toward each of the performance indicators to identify emerging challenges, strengths, and opportunities and will serve as a guide for adjustments to goals and action plans. This external review process will be repeated at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

The Strategic Plan and the Accountability Report and Fact Book (a statistical compendium) are available on the District's website, shaker.org, or by calling 216-295-1400.

## Cost-Cutting Helps Offset Loss of State Funds

Aggressive cost-reduction measures have allowed the School District to overcome deep cuts in state aid and a declining local tax base to bolster an already strong financial position.

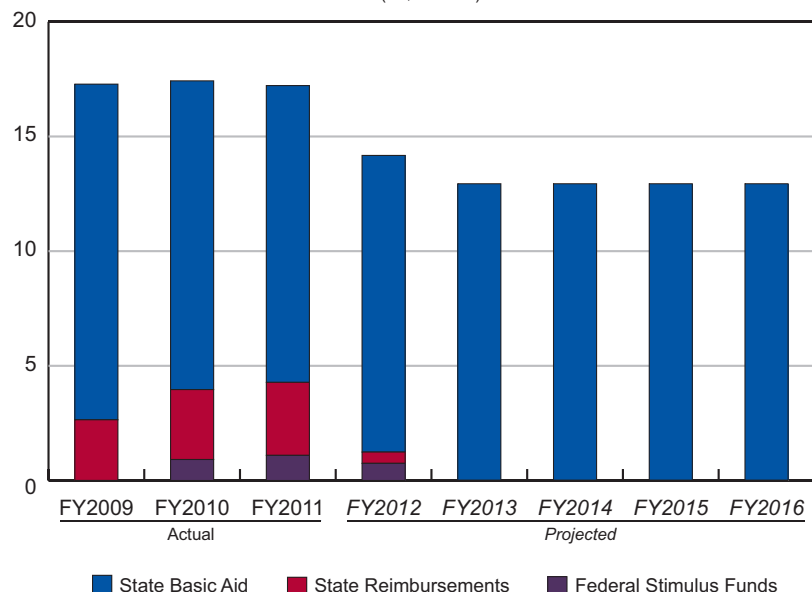
A key to the robust financial outlook is that the District is achieving millions of dollars in savings in wages and benefits as a result of collective bargaining agreements reached last year.

Those agreements, made possible through the cooperation of employees, have enabled the community to sustain a high-caliber educational system in the face of revenue challenges brought on by the nation's worst economic conditions in 80 years.

The District's tradition of financial stewardship has been recognized at home through strong voter support of necessary property tax levies. Externally, the Ohio Auditor of State has regularly acknowledged the strong financial management of the Shaker school district, and in recent years major national bond rating agencies have cited its sound financial performance. In February, amid the difficult circumstances imposed by cutbacks in major revenue sources, Standard & Poor's affirmed the District's AA+ bond rating – which remains at an all-time high.

## Shrinking Revenues from State and Federal Sources

(in \$ millions)





## Employees Do Their Share

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. So it is not surprising that meaningful reductions in expenditures can be achieved only if cost containment is focused heavily on personnel – workforce size, wages, and benefits.

In April 2011, the Board of Education and the Shaker Heights Teachers' Association approved a three-year contract that froze salaries at existing levels. The contract was retroactive to January 1, 2011. Three-year agreements with the District's other collective bargaining groups took effect July 1, 2011, and also call for a freeze in base salaries.

Following a total freeze in the first year, teachers and other bargaining employees receive a one-percent lump-sum stipend in both the second and third years. They are eligible for step increases in the second and third contract years.

The District's non-bargaining employees – administrators, tutors, aides and security personnel – are subject to the same provisions as those in the teachers' contract.

The one-percent stipends don't change base salaries. What this means is that, since base salaries were frozen in

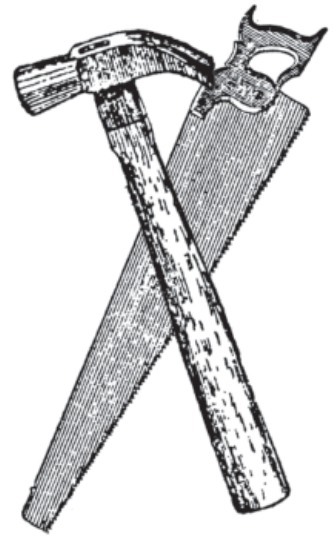
2010 as well, the same wage schedule will be in effect for four years.

Given that the District spends approximately \$70 million annually on salaries and benefits, a four-year freeze on base salaries will result in significant cost avoidance and will continue to have an impact going forward. For example, it would have cost the District an estimated \$583,000 if employees had received just a one-percent raise this year, according to Treasurer Bryan C. Christman.

Mark Freeman, superintendent of schools, lauded district employees for understanding the District's financial challenges and for appropriately putting them in the larger context of the nation's economic difficulties.

Meanwhile, the District is continuing to make judicious reductions in the size of the workforce. For the fiscal year ending in June, the Shaker schools have already realized \$709,000 in savings, primarily by eliminating 10 positions. This follows the reduction of 23 positions from the previous year's budget, which saved nearly \$2 million.

These reductions are in addition to downsizing that occurred when the District eliminated 40 jobs in the 2007 school year, primarily through attrition and combining job responsibilities.



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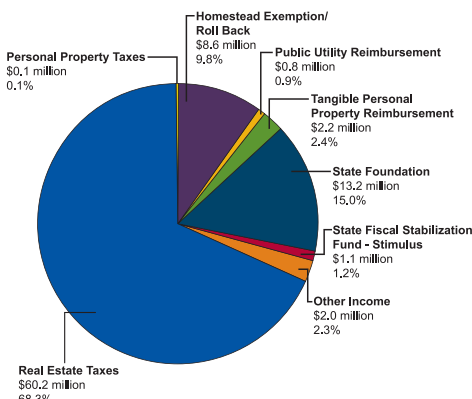
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### Fiscal Year 2011

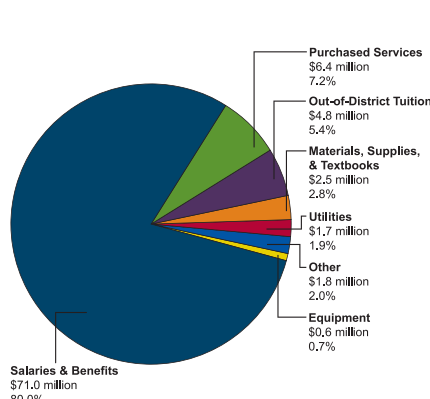
#### Revenues

Total = \$88.2 million



#### Expenditures

Total = \$88.8 million





## Reducing Health Care Costs

The Shaker schools continue efforts to control health-care costs. A series of changes will offset a projected 11-percent annual growth rate in health insurance costs this year and the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

Effective in January 2012, the employee share of the premium rose from eight percent to 12 percent. In addition, deductibles and co-payments increased. The net impact of plan changes is estimated at \$833,000 per year in ongoing savings.

The District's self-insurance plan went into effect in February 2010 after a thorough analysis indicated it would be the most cost-effective plan going forward. Except for an 18-month period in 2005 and 2006, the District selected a contingent premium option from 2001 until 2010.

In essence, the contingent premium was an attractive option because the District had a greater upside benefit than downside risk if claims amounts exceeded projections. The results were quite favorable. Records show that the plan saved \$1.6 million from 2001 through 2009, when measured against paying a 100-percent premium.

The Shaker schools took two other significant steps that have resulted in long-term savings. First, the "working spouse" provision took effect in 2007 and requires working spouses of District employees to use their employer's plan for primary coverage. According to District records, more than 200 spouses were shifted from primary to secondary coverage and 23 employees changed from family to single coverage on the schools' health insurance plan. The changes save the District an estimated \$250,000 a year.



**Thirty-six** 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: Hannah Lyness (NMC), Aleksa Kaups (NMS), Hannah McCandless (NMC), Claire Lo (NMS), Burcu Kahriman (NMC), Lukun Zhang (NMC), and Maneesha Pimplikar (NMC). Second row: Rachel Jensen (NMS), Kristen Amaddio (NMC), Rachel Shafran (NMS), Audrey Steiner-Malumphy (NMC), Joan Thompson (NMC), Shoshana Bieler (NMC), Diana Ponitz (NMC), Rachel Shaw (NMC), Morgan Hammonds (NAS), and Jackson Laskey (NMC). Third row: Matthew Krantz (NMS), Nia Morgan (NAS, NMC), Brianna Stack (NMC), Spencer Seballos (NHR, NMC), David Levitz (NHR), Noah Eisen (NMC), Benjamin Walker (NMS), Joshua Barnett (NMS), Vincent Gassman (NMC), and Ian Limoli (NMC). Top row: Jiawei He (NMC), Nathan Sun (NMS), Terence Conlon (NMS), Karim Ragab (NMC), and Brian Benton (NMC). Not pictured: Anamaria Boyd (NHR), Benjamin Claus (NMS), Jack Lawrence (NMC), Rachel Shands (NAS).





A dependent audit, completed in 2010, resulted in annual ongoing savings of \$70,000 by removing from the District's health care plan employees' dependents deemed ineligible for benefits.

## Operating Efficiencies

Around the same time, the District outsourced its food-service operations and saw immediate improvement to the bottom line. Even with one-time equipment purchases that make it possible to offer hot lunches in five elementary schools, the District realized a net savings of \$100,000 last year and anticipates saving \$350,000 annually into the future.

Through the years, the District also has made extensive use of the Ohio Schools Council cooperative to purchase school buses, library books and materials, insurance, and utilities.

The Shaker schools have participated in several electricity consortia over the years, including a program that began in the fall of 2009. As a result of state legislation that partially deregulated the delivery of electricity in Ohio, the Ohio Schools Council negotiated a contract with a supplier that brought a 14-percent reduction over rates established by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. According to District estimates, the reduction translated to approximately \$280,000 in savings over two years.

In another recent example of the purchasing power of the schools council cooperative, the District saved \$6,000 to buy four buses that went into service in

October. The district paid \$1,500 per bus less than it would have by purchasing the vehicles directly from a vendor, according to Business Administrator Robert Kreiner.

The District's transportation division is using technology to ensure that the fleet of 44 buses operates as efficiently as possible. For instance, buses are equipped with a system that monitors idling to cut down on fuel consumption, and the majority of buses run three routes in the morning and afternoon.

## Declining State and Federal Aid

Under Ohio law, school districts are mandated twice a year to issue five-year financial forecasts, which serve as planning tools.

In the District's most recent forecast, adopted by the Board of Education in October, Treasurer Christman underscored the importance of budget reductions going forward and called for additional annual budget savings of \$1.5 million, starting in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

These budget reductions are essential in light of significant cuts in state aid. For the two-year period ending June 30, 2013, the Shaker schools will receive about \$8.3 million less from the state than the amount for the previous biennium.

That lost revenue includes approximately \$1 million a year in federal stimulus funds that came to the District through the state and about \$2.75 mil-

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lion a year through the accelerated elimination of the tangible personal property tax and public utility reimbursement payments.

Looking ahead, the District will lose about \$21 million over seven years, including the \$8.3 million over the current biennium.

Those numbers illustrate the importance of maximizing other revenue opportunities whenever possible. Fortunately, the District has a strong track record in that regard.

From 2007 through 2011, the diligent documentation of reimbursable expenses has allowed the District to bring in \$3.1 million from three programs that serve students with special needs. The District continues to

place among the top school systems in the state for dollars reimbursed.

In another example, the District has protected the local tax base by contesting residential and commercial property tax reductions when the facts indicated the request wasn't reasonable. These efforts yielded a net savings of \$915,000 in tax dollars from 2009 through 2011.

The treasurer's office also closely monitors expenditures and revenues during the year, a fact borne out by looking at the District's performance – actual revenue and expenditures versus budgeted amounts – over the last five years. During that span, the District averaged nearly \$2.6 million in favorable budget variance that was



Approximately 600 students were among those who had the opportunity to see President Obama in person when he spoke at the High School in January – his second visit to Shaker since taking office.



available to carry over to the next fiscal year.

It is this kind of vigilance and aggressive cost-cutting measures that have permitted the District to avoid a return to the ballot before 2013, or perhaps even 2014 despite the drastic reductions in state funding.

## Exemplary Stewardship


The Shaker schools continue to receive recognition for accuracy and integrity in financial reporting. The audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, is the latest in a long line of “clean” audits. The District recently garnered another Auditor of State’s Excellence in Financial Reporting Award and has been so honored each year since 2006. This honor is given to governments that publish a comprehensive annual financial report in compliance with a strict set of standards. Fewer than three percent of public entities audited by the Auditor of State re-

ceive this award.

The Shaker schools have received similar awards of excellence in financial reporting for 13 consecutive years from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada and the Association of School Business Officials, International.

In its February affirmation of the District’s AA+ bond rating, Standard & Poor’s assigned a stable outlook that “reflects our expectation that officials will continue to successfully manage the district’s levy cycle while maintaining stable financial operations and good general fund reserves on cash basis.”

This affirmation may come into play soon, helping the Shaker schools save interest costs on borrowing to finance anticipated improvements to buildings and grounds.

Comprehensive financial information is available on the District’s website, [shaker.org](http://shaker.org), or by calling the Treasurer’s Office at 216-295-4316. 



## Stay Informed About the Shaker Schools



**Join our e-mail list.** When you provide us with your e-mail address, you’ll receive the schools’ e-newsletter and other information. We will use your e-mail address only for school purposes. Register at [shaker.org/subscribe](http://shaker.org/subscribe).



**Visit us on the web.** Our website, [shaker.org](http://shaker.org), offers a wealth of information, from curriculum to library resources to financial data. Visit often to find out what’s happening.



**Find us on Facebook.** “Like” our page at [facebook.com/ForShakerSchools](https://facebook.com/ForShakerSchools). There you’ll find news items, photos, and conversation – including some content that is exclusive to Facebook.



**Go mobile.** Our new mobile website lets you use your smartphone or tablet to access news, calendars, and more. Check it out on your mobile at [m.shaker.org](http://m.shaker.org), or scan the code at left using your phone’s QR scanner.



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## Doing Inspired Work


*continued from page 37*

"Now that I'm really into the job, I realize how lucky I am," she says. "I've had jobs at The Cleveland Clinic and downtown. Both of those involved a lot of commuting. Our kids had things going on at school and I always wanted to be close by. I really enjoy the flexibility and freedom."

Working at CTL has been a perfect fit for Hanson's career and family life, she says, adding that Lehmann is genuine in his commitment to building a sense of community in Shaker Heights.

"Paul had a chance to go anywhere and decided to stay here because of his love for the area. CTL truly is a little gem in Shaker," she says.

Lehmann envisions a time when the company will outgrow the Chagrin Boulevard office space, but adds with a smile, "There's an old saying that if you want to amuse the gods, you tell them your plans."

So for now, Lehmann is content with CTL's ongoing construction and improvements to its space. "We are proud to be in Shaker and we put our money where our mouth is. We live here. We work here. We showcase to visitors our pride in this community." 



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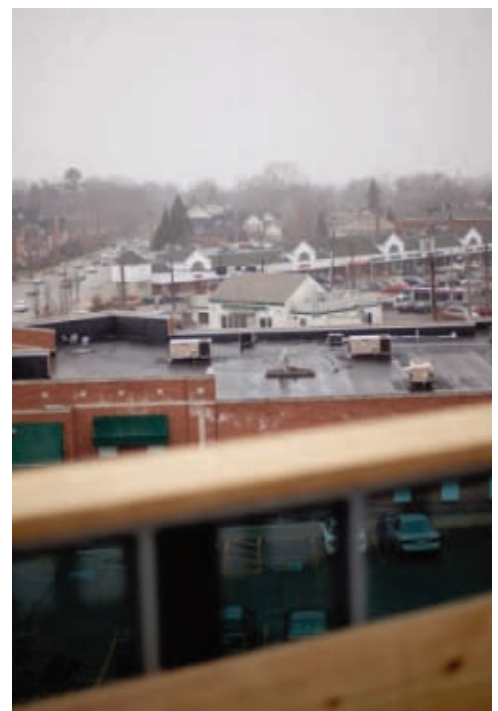
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## Ongoing Activities for Families

**MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: Free Homework Help, 4-6:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Free homework help for children in grades 2-6 provided by teachers under the supervision of Cheryl Darden. An adult must be present to register the student at the first visit. Last Homework Help session is Wednesday, May 16. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions,** THE PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Stay cool in the air-conditioned playroom, where parents and caregivers with children ages birth to 5 years old can play and make friends. Playroom is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 am-noon or Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 4-6 pm. Use of gym and muscle room during specific hours also included. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 AM-NOON** MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-based play for parents

and caregivers with children 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-sponsored by Shaker Library and Family Connections. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

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

**SATURDAYS: Saturday Gym, 10 AM-12 NOON,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. A place for parents and children, birth-6 years, to climb, jump, ride trikes, and play during the colder

months thru April 14 (No session April 8). All children must be accompanied by an adult. FEES AND PASS INFO: 216-921-2023.

**SATURDAYS: Make Room for Daddy, for Families Raising Children 3-5 with Special Needs,** TWO SATURDAYS PER MONTH **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. Grandfathers or siblings under 5 are welcome. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**BIRTHDAY PARTIES:** Birthday Parties are available for children birth-6 years, **SATURDAYS 11:30 AM-1:30 PM OR 2:30-4:30 PM,** and **SUNDAYS 11 AM-1 PM OR 1:30-3:30 PM.** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. The perfect place to hold a birthday party for your young child. Enjoy private use of the gym with riding toys and equipment. FEES AND INFO: 216-921-2023.

## Ongoing Events for Adults

**THRU APRIL 26: Barbara Luton Art**

*continued on page 64*

*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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>The State of the Universe: A Cosmological Update</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (p. 64)	<b>2</b> <b>Toy Donation Drop-off</b> 4/2-3 9 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 64)	<b>3</b> <b>Weight Watchers</b> Ongoing. 5:30 pm, St. Peter's Church. (p. 64)	<b>4</b> <b>Knit Morning</b> 10 am, Main Library. (p. 64)	<b>5</b> <b>Used Toy Sale</b> 6 pm, Shaker Family Center. (p. 64)	<b>6</b> <b>The Seven Last Words</b> 1 pm, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 64)  <b>Owl Prowl at Lake View Cemetery</b> 7 pm. (p. 68)	<b>7</b> <b>Edible Books Festival</b> 1 pm, Loganberry Books. (p. 64)
<b>8</b> <b>Shaker Heights 1930-1955: Thriving Through Adversity</b> Exhibit 4/8-6/29 Shaker Historical Society. (p. 64)	<b>9</b> <b>Parent &amp; Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)	<b>10</b> <b>Mystery Book Discussion</b> 7:30 pm, Main Library. (p. 65)	<b>11</b> <b>An Evening of Jazz</b> 7 pm, Shaker Middle School. (p. 65)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Festival!</b> 6 pm, Nature Center. (p. 68)  <b>Nathan Carterette on Piano</b> 7 pm, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 65)	<b>14</b> <b>Spring Eggstravaganza</b> 1 pm, Horseshoe Lake Park. (p. 66)
<b>15</b> <b>From There to Here: Local Immigrants in Transition</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (p. 66)	<b>16</b> <b>Monday Morning Jumpstart</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 64)	<b>17</b> <b>Shaping a Culture of Diversity: The Integration of Shaker Heights</b> 7:30 pm, Heights Christian Church. (p. 66)	<b>18</b> <b>Welcome Spring Luncheon</b> 12:15 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p. 66)	<b>19</b> <b>Knit Night</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 66)	<b>20</b> <b>The Jewel of Shaker: 75th Anniversary Celebration of Shaker Library</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (p. 67)	<b>21</b> <b>Organ Recital</b> 3 pm, Plymouth Church. (p. 67)  <b>Saturday Gym</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Free Homework Help</b> Ongoing. 4 pm, Main Library. (p. 61)	<b>25</b> <b>Female Entrepreneur Summit</b> 7:30 am, Mayfield Village. (p. 73)	<b>26</b> <b>Mimi Testen Designs Jewelry Open House</b> 11 am. (p. 69)  <b>It's Not Your Mother's Politics II: Finding Your Voice</b> 6:30 pm, Laurel School. (p. 69)	<b>27</b> <b>Spring Ensemble</b> 4/27-28 8 pm, Shaker High School. (p. 69)	<b>28</b> <b>Family Bird Hike</b> 10 am, Nature Center. (p. 68)  <b>Giant Garage Sale</b> 1 pm, Heights Christian Church. (p. 69)
<b>29</b> <b>The Rapid Through the Years</b> 4 pm, Shaker Historical Society. (p. 70)	<b>30</b>					



# MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>Ice Cream Social &amp; Band Concert</b> 6:30 pm, Shaker High School. (p. 70)  <b>Wm. N. Skirball Writers Center Stage: Colm Toibin</b> 7:30 pm, CSU. (p. 74)	<b>Lunch &amp; Learn: Taking Care of Your Feet</b> 12:15 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p. 70)			<b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (p. 64)
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Paul Newman: The Man, The Movies, The Legacy</b> 4 pm, Shaker Historical Society. (p. 70)	<b>Monday Morning Jumpstart</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library. (p. 64)	<b>Book Buzz</b> 10 am, Main Library. (p. 70)  <b>Cleveland Chamber Music Society</b> 8 pm, Plymouth Church. (p. 70)		<b>What's It Worth?</b> 6 pm, Main Library. (p. 70)		<b>Saturday Gym</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Les Délices</b> 4 pm, Plymouth Church. (p. 71)		<b>Heads Up on Body Language</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (p. 71)  <b>Yoga</b> Ongoing. 6:15 pm, Plymouth Church. (p. 64)	<b>Parent &amp; Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center. (p. 61)	<b>Knit Night</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 71)	<b>Shaker Spring Ice Spectacular: One Hit Wonders</b> 5/18-19 Thornton Park. (p. 71)	<b>Community Meal</b> Noon, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 71)
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Heights Chamber Orchestra</b> 7:30 pm, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 71)	<b>Shaker Heights High School Senior Art Show</b> Thru 6/29 Main Library. (p. 72)	<b>If These Walls Could Talk: Researching Your Home's History</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (p. 72)		<b>Poetry in the Woods</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (p. 72)	<b>Yappy Hour</b> 5:30 pm, Thornton Park. (p. 72)	<b>Larchmere Boulevard Sidewalk Sale</b> (p. 72)
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
	<b>Memorial Day Observance and Parade</b> (p. 72)	<b>Transformative Toastmasters</b> Ongoing. 6:30 pm, Christ Episcopal Church. (p. 64)	<b>Free Homework Help</b> Ongoing. 4 pm, Main Library. (p. 61)			

## OUT & ABOUT

**Exhibit, MAIN LIBRARY.** View the art juried into this year's annual art competition. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MONDAYS: Monday Morning Jumpstart, 10 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY. A Jobs Club for those seeking employment moderated by Bonnie Dick, Founder of Career Transition Center. Participants gather leads through networking and discuss up-to-date job search techniques, new trends, job fairs, and open positions. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT 3011.

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS: ABLE/GED Classes, 9 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY TEEN CENTER. Pre-register for these classes through ABLE at 216-371-7138.

**TUESDAYS: Weight Watchers, 5:30 PM,** ST. PETER'S CHURCH 18000 VAN AKEN BLVD. Weigh in begins at 5 pm followed by meeting at 5:30 pm. INFO: 800-651-6000 OR 800-374-9191.

**TUESDAYS: Yoga, 6:15 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Flexible instructor can help you find your karma. \$10/class. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**TUESDAYS: Transformative Toastmasters, 6:30-7:30 PM.** UNITY OF GREATER CLEVELAND IN CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. The club meets every Tuesday. Open to all. INFO: 216-751-1198.

**WEDNESDAYS: Heights 12-Step Meeting, 8 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Take the first step here. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON,** SHAKER SQUARE. The market returns with fanfare to the open air on April 7. Buy fresh and local and enjoy shopping with

your neighbors. INFO: 216-751-7656.

## Events for APRIL

**APRIL 1: Spring Recess.** Shaker Schools closed. Classes resume April 2.

**APRIL 1: The State of the Universe: A Cosmological Update, 9:30-10:45 AM,** FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Evalyn Gates, executive director and CEO, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, speaks about the strange, dark substances that fill the cosmos and what we know about dark matter and energy. She also discusses our changing views about the past history and evolution of the universe and our own galaxy. INFO: 216-741-2320.

**APRIL 2 & 3: Toy Donation Drop-off, 9 AM-5 PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER GYM. Family Connections will accept tax-deductible donations of gently used or like-new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys, baby equipment, etc. Items must be in working order, clean, containing all pieces/parts, and age appropriate. Please include batteries if required. Donations are accepted in the Shaker Family Center gym. Plush animals and car seats will not be accepted. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**APRIL 4: Morning Needlework, 10 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY. A morning complement to Knit nights! Bring a knitting or crocheting project and work with others. Refreshments and the friendly assistance of an experienced needlewoman is available. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 4: Used Toy Sale, 6-8 PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER GYM. This is the real best buy. Huge bargains in children's toys. Sale continues from 10 am-noon April 5. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR FamilyConnections1.org.

**APRIL 5: 6th Annual Altered Book Group Exhibit Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM,** ANNEX GALLERY, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. The Altered Book Group meets monthly to share ideas about making art with books. The painters, musicians, writers, fabric artists, and potters have focused on the theme of "Identity" for this year's exhibit. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**APRIL 6: Good Friday.** Shaker Schools closed.

**APRIL 6: The Seven Last Words, 1 PM,** CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. A service of poetry and music featuring Haydn's string quartet, The Seven Last Words of Christ, an excerpt from the St. Matthew Passion, and new poems by Byrdie Lee. Nancy Cooke and Gino Raffaeli, violin; Luane Lasky, viola; Diane Mather, cello; Jonathan Cooper, baritone. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**APRIL 7: Edible Books Festival, 1 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Have your cake and eat it too at this fun afternoon where participants create edible art that has something to do with books. INFO: 216-795-9800 or loganberrybooks.com/edible-books.

**APRIL 8 THRU JUNE 29: Shaker Heights 1930-1955: Thriving through Adversity.** SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. The second exhibit in the Centennial year series. In 1935, 152 homes with a median cost of \$10,500 were built;



## OUT & ABOUT

World War II united the community in creating Victory Gardens; Gruber's Restaurant opened in 1952 and became the gathering spot for athletes, celebrities, and high society. INFO: 216-921-1201.

**APRIL 10: Book Buzz, 10-11:30 AM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Read and discuss *Line By Line* by Barbara Hacha, a coming-of-age novel about life on the rails during the Great Depression as seen through the eyes of a young woman who survived as a hobo. The author will attend and participate in the discussion. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 10: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM, LOMOND SCHOOL.** Regular meeting of the Shaker Heights school board.

**APRIL 10: Mystery Book Discussion, 7:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Read *On Borrowed Time* by David Rosenfelt and discuss whodunit. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 11: An Evening of Jazz, 7 PM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL.** Enjoy the sounds of the award-winning student musicians from the Shaker Schools.

**APRIL 12: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD.** INFO: 216-795-9800.

**APRIL 13: Nathan Carterette on Piano, 7 PM, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD.** Carterette plays works of Bach, Medtner, Quentin Kim, Bartok, and Liszt. \$10/person suggested donation; students free. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**APRIL 14: Last Day to Purchase Early Bird Pool Passes.** THORNTON PARK. Dip into your wallet today for a discounted pool pass that won't sink

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## OUT & ABOUT

your budget. INFO: 216-491-1295.

**APRIL 14: Read to King, 10 AM-NOON**, MAIN LIBRARY. Enjoy reading to a furry friend! King is certified with Therapy Dogs International and loves to listen to stories. Sign up for a 15-minute time slot and make a bookmark while you wait! INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 14: Spring Eggstravaganza, 1-2:30 PM**, HORSESHOE LAKE PARK. *Eggs*ceptional family fun for children ages 8 and under. Search the park for treat-filled eggs. Take home a balloon sculpture by Flower the Clown, guess the number of jelly beans in a jar for a special prize, and search for the elusive golden egg, which holds a summer 2012 pool pass for a family of four. Free INFO: 216-491-1295.

**APRIL 15: From There to Here: Local Immigrants in Transition, 9:30-10:45 AM**, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Kim Adams, director of the Cleveland office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, speaks about the thousands of immigrants the U.S. attracts annually, including undocumented workers, and the services provided to locals seeking residency and citizenship. How does the system work for legal immigrants versus those whose status is less clear? INFO: 216-741-2320.

**APRIL 17: Shaping a Culture of Diversity: The Integration of Shaker Heights, 7:30 PM**, HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 17300 VAN AKEN BLVD. A talk by Virginia Dawson sponsored by the Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights and the Fair Housing

Review Board of Shaker Heights. INFO: 216-491-1457.

**APRIL 18: Welcome Spring Luncheon, 12:15 PM**, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Enjoy a catered lunch followed by short dramatic readings by Shaker resident Peter Lawson Jones. \$8/person; paid reservations required by April 11. No refunds. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**APRIL 19: Knit Night, 7-8:45 PM**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Bring a project and get or give help at this session led by experienced knitter, Fern Braverman. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**APRIL 19-22: Book Sale, 4-8 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Friends of the Shaker Library begins its bonanza of a book sale with its popular Preview



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## OUT & ABOUT

Sale for members. Not a member? Join at the door for first dibs on a huge selection of books at bargain prices. The sale continues 9 am-4 pm Friday, April 20 & Saturday, April 21. Sunday, April 22 Bag Sale hours are 1-3 pm when all bags of books cost \$5. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 20: The Jewel of Shaker: 75th Anniversary Celebration of Shaker Library, 7-9 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Friends of the Shaker Library celebrate the library's 75 years of community engagement! Co-chairs Susan Gall and Christine Bretz invite the community to a festive evening to help keep Shaker Library dazzling! Tickets: \$15-\$75/person. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 21: Community Meal, NOON, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD.** Enjoy a deliciously prepared, free meal in an atmosphere of friendship, community, and dignity. All are welcome. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**APRIL 21: Organ Recital, 3 PM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD.** Kyle Ballantine performs. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**APRIL 22: Sustainability and Energy: A Long Term Approach, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD.** Roger Saillant, executive director of the Fowler Center for Sustainable Value at CWRU's Weatherhead School of Management, discusses how sustainability can help our economy without compromising our lifestyle. Interdisciplinary work, newly formed "sustainability circles," and peer-based learning play a role. INFO: 216-741-2320.

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## The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

2600 South Park Boulevard INFO: 216-321-5935 OR [shakerlakes.org](http://shakerlakes.org).

**TUESDAYS: Stone Oven Days, 2267 Lee Road.** Botany good food lately? The Stone Oven offers a tasty selection and donates a percentage of the day's sales to the Nature Center.

**APRIL 6 THROUGH JUNE 29: Art on View: Painting with Thread, Passion for Embroidery.** Embroidery "paintings" by Eugenia Vainburg. Artist's Reception: 5:30-7:30 pm Friday, April 20. Free.

**SUNDAYS, APRIL 15-MAY 20: Audubon Spring Bird Walk Series, 7:30 AM.** Rise and shine and take a cheap hike. Free. Meet in the parking lot.

**APRIL 6: Owl Prowl at Lake View Cemetery, 7-8:30 PM.** Nature Center naturalists lead a night hike at Lake View Cemetery. Learn the habits and habitats of owls. \$7/person; reservations required. Call Lake View Cemetery: 216-421-2687.

**APRIL 9-13: Spring Break Camp, 9 AM-3 PM.** Children in grades K thru 5 gain an appreciation of nature during a week filled with adventure and discovery, hikes, games, crafts, interactive learning, and fun. Register for one to five days. Bring a lunch; snacks provided. Extended care available from 3-5:30 pm.

**APRIL 10: Babes in Nature: Wake Up, Spring!, 10-10:45 AM.** Bring your little buds to see what's new in nature. \$5/stroller for members, \$7/stroller for non-members.

**APRIL 13: Festival!, 6-9 PM.** I smell a party! This cocktail-style reception features creative cuisine made from garlic mustard, the edible herb pulled from our grounds. Festival participants include chefs from

Coquette Patisserie, fire food and drink, The Greenhouse Tavern, J. Pistone Market and Gathering Place, Mackenzie Creamery, Noodlecat, SASA, Sergio's/SARAVÁ, and Spice of Life Catering Co. VIP Hour, 6 to 7 pm, \$75/person. \$50/person general admission from 7 to 9 pm.

**APRIL 16: BIG/little: Earth Friends, 10-11:30 AM.** April 22 is Earth Day. Have fun learning how to help the Earth. \$8/members, \$12/non-members.

**APRIL 17: Environmental Town Hall: "The Kings of Flint," 7-9 PM.** As part of the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival, watch "The Kings of Flint," featuring karate masters Jacky and Dora King. After teaching self-defense to the youth of Flint, Michigan, the Kings decided to focus on farming to help their community. \$5/person.

**APRIL 19: Tales n' Trails: Spring Wildflowers, 2-3:30 PM.** Look to the ground for a spring inspiration of colors, from wildflowers to red-and-black salamanders. \$2/person.

**APRIL 22: Annual Stream Clean Up of Cleveland's Doan Brook, 1-4 PM, NATURE CENTER.** Celebrate Earth Day and make a difference. Volunteer as an individual or a group to clear a winter's worth of trash and debris from the stream corridor, ranging from the lower reach of the brook in University Circle to the Shaker Parklands area between Cleveland and Shaker Heights. Volunteers may also meet at the Rockefeller Park Lagoon Gazebo in University Circle by Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and East 105 Street. Registration at both sites will be ongoing during

the afternoon, with gloves and trash bags provided, as well as refreshments. Volunteers are encouraged to register in advance as signed waivers are required. INFO: MARY RYAN, 216-321-5935 EXT. 234 OR EMAIL: [ryan@shakerlakes.org](mailto:ryan@shakerlakes.org).

**APRIL 28: Family Bird Hike, 10 AM-NOON.** Bring the family to learn about the colorful birds that visit the Nature Center in spring. Work on binocular skills and check on local nesters. Limited number of binoculars available on a first-come, first-served basis or BYOB (Bring your own Binoculars).

**MAY 3: Pollinators, 6:30-8 PM.** Cleveland Museum of Natural History field naturalists Judy Semroc and Larry Rosche lead a photographic journey into the fascinating world of pollination. Learn who is pollinating and what they need to be successful. Techniques for improving gardens and meadows to attract more pollinating species will be discussed, and important plant species known for their attractant attributes will be presented. \$8/members, 12/non-members.

**MAY 8: Babes in Nature: Birds Bursting in Song, 10-10:45 AM.** Listen for the tweet sounds of nature as we look for birds in the treetops. \$5 per stroller/members, \$7 per stroller/non-members.

**MAY 12: Plant Sale, 9 AM-1 PM.** This year's Plant Sale offers a variety of affordable native plants, perennials, annuals, herbs, and vegetables. Annuals can be purchased individually or in pre-arranged hanging baskets and container gardens. For pre-orders delivered to your home,

please order by April 16. Catalog and order forms available at the Nature Center or on the website.

**MAY 13: Second Annual Mother's Day Family Bird Hike, 2-4 PM.** Bring Mom and look for mother (and father) birds to see who is nesting here. Limited number of binoculars available on a first-come, first-served basis. No *perches* necessary; it's free.

**MAY 17: Tales n' Trails: Abuzz with Colors and Sounds, 2-3:30 PM.** Look to the trees for their bright colors, listen to the melodious calls from their foliage, and check the marsh to see what's blooming. \$2/person.

**MAY 17: Environmental Town Hall: "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time," 7-9 PM.** Join us for an encore presentation of the documentary about Leopold and his extraordinary career that shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects that connect people and land. After the movie, join in a discussion of living the land ethic in our diverse communities. \$5/person.

**MAY 21: BIG/little: Froggy Time, 10-11:30 AM.** Don your mukluks and get hopping as we look for frogs and learn about their habitats. \$8/members, \$12/non-members.

**MAY 21-26: Marsh Planting Week, 9 AM-NOON.** Volunteers are needed to help plant native species for our Marsh Restoration Project. INFO: BRANDON HENNEMAN, 216-321-5935 EXT. 237.

**APRIL 23: Monday Morning Jumpstart: How to Research Your Job Search, 11 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY COMPUTER LAB. The Monday Morning Jobs Club moves to the Computer Training Lab for a class in using the Library's reference resources to help in a job search. No registration required. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT. 3011.

**APRIL 24: Poetry in the Woods, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy poetry read by regional poets Grace Butcher and Terry Provost. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 24: Tuesday Evening Book Discussion, 7:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Read and discuss the book *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 25: American Sign Language Instruction, 6:30-7:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. American Sign Language teacher Valerie Williams will teach basic signing using role play and other fun activities in this class, which is appropriate for adults and children over 10 with an adult. The class meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Registration is required: 216-991-2030 ext. 6.

**APRIL 26, 27 & 28: Mimi Testen Designs Jewelry Open House, 11 AM-7 PM,** 24060 WIMBLEDON RD. Shaker High graduate (1972) and lifelong Shaker resident Mimi Epstein Testen opens her jewelry design studio and showroom. Bring a friend and receive 15 percent off of your purchases. Cash or check, no credit cards. Refreshments provided by Lucy's Sweet Surrender. INFO: 216-751-8624.

**APRIL 26: It's Not Your Mother's Politics II: Finding Your Voice, 6:30-9 PM,** LAUREL SCHOOL, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. An interactive panel discussion moderated by Linda Lalley, past president of the League of Women Voters of Ohio and member of the Public Engagement Committee with the Cuyahoga County transition team. Keynote speaker is Dr. Dorothy C. Miller, director, Flora Stone Mather Center for Women and clinical associate professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at CWRU.

The program is co-sponsored by the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women at CWRU, the Shaker Library, and the Shaker League of Women Voters. INFO: Susan Troia, 216-991-7186.

**APRIL 27 & 28: Spring Ensemble, 8 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Students write, direct, and perform their own playlets.

**APRIL 27: Art Exposed III Gallery-Opening Reception, 7-9 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Shaker Library opens after hours for artists. Meet the young and talented Shaker Heights High School students and enjoy an exhibit of their artistry, including oil painting, portraiture, pastel, charcoal, jewelry, and more. Exhibit is on display through May 11. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**APRIL 28: Giant Garage Sale, 1-4 PM,** HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 17300 VAN AKEN BLVD. Enter at Winslow Road door. Over 50 tables of bargains plus a furniture section, Tiffany tables, household goods, children's clothing and toys, flea market/thrift shop, and food court, country kitchen, and homemade baked goods. Admission: \$1/person. INFO: 216-561-4800.



## OUT & ABOUT

**APRIL 28: Baroque Trumpets, Organ and Timpani, 2 PM**, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Cleveland Orchestra trumpeters Michael Miller, Lyle Steelman, and Jack Sutte join organist Barbara MacGregor and timpanist Josh Ryan in a collection of heroic music and trumpet concerti. \$10/person suggested donation \$5/students. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**APRIL 28: Meet American Girl Doll Rebecca, 4:15-5 PM**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Students in grades 1-5 can travel back in time and learn what life was like for Rebecca in 1914. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**APRIL 29: The Rapid Through the Years, 4 PM**, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Local author Jim Toman talks about the history of the Rapid's route from Shaker Heights to Public Square, how the Shaker Rapid has changed over time, and the different fleets of street railway cars that have served it over the years. Free/members, \$5/non-members. INFO: 216-921-1201.

## Events for MAY

**MAY 1: Be Kind to Animals, 4:15-5 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Children in grades K-5 can meet the animals when the Geauga Humane Society's Rescue Village visits the library. Learn all about bite protection and how to care for animals. Donations of cat or dog food to the animals of Rescue Village are appreciated. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 1: Ice Cream Social & Band Concert, 6:30 PM**, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL FRONT LAWN. Strike up

the band for a smashing student centennial celebration for Shakerites of all ages.

**MAY 2: Morning Needlework, 10 AM-NOON**, MAIN LIBRARY. A morning complement to Knit Nights. Bring a knitting or crocheting project and work with others. Refreshments and the friendly assistance of an experienced needleperson will be available. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 2: My Survivors' Guide, 7 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Nikki Evans of Spotlight Writing has written a helpful workbook detailing the important papers you need to leave for loved ones. Following her program, books will be available for sale. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 2: Lunch & Learn: Taking Care of your Feet, 12:15 PM**, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Dr. Edward Nemet from South Pointe Hospital's Wound Healing Center explains how to manage diabetes-related foot problems. Lunch sponsored by The Woodlands of Shaker Heights and South Pointe Hospital. Call 877-390-1732 or visit [clevelandclinic.org/HWC](http://clevelandclinic.org/HWC). Free with reservations. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**MAY 6: Paul Newman: The Man, The Movies, and The Legacy, 4 PM**, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Celebrate the Centennial learning about one of Shaker's most famous natives. Learn about Newman's childhood in Shaker Heights and his legacy through spirited vignettes and movie clips. Free/members, \$5/non-members. INFO: 216-921-1201.

**MAY 6: Choral Evensong, 4 PM**, CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Christ Church Choir sings the sublime

choral music of Howells, Parry, Bruckner, and Rose with organist Todd Wilson. Reception follows. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**MAY 8: Book Buzz, 10-11:30 AM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Join in the Shaker Centennial citywide read! Read and discuss the book *Home Town* by Tracy Kidder and share your thoughts about what gives a place a sense of home. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 8: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM**, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 15600 PARKLAND RD. Regular meeting of the Shaker Heights school board.

**MAY 8: Cleveland Chamber Music Society, 8 PM**, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Tenor Lawrence Brownlee accompanied by Martin Katz. Tickets are required and available online at [ticketsales@clevelandchambermusic.org](mailto:ticketsales@clevelandchambermusic.org).

**MAY 8: Meet the Author: "Derf," 7 PM**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Shaker author John Backderf, aka "Derf," is the nationally known creator of the syndicated comic strip "The City." He has published several anthologies and comic stories. Following the program, books will be available for sale and signing. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**MAY 8: Mystery Book Discussion, 7:30 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Read the multi-family conspiracy *Bad Blood* by John Sandford, and discuss whodunit. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 10: What's It Worth?, 6-8:30 PM**, MAIN LIBRARY. Friends of the Shaker Library presents its second annual antiques appraisal event. Bring up to three items that you can carry and have them informally appraised by the experts at this

event. FEES & INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 10: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7-9 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Enjoy the jazzy sounds in a cool bookstore. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**MAY 12: Meet American Girl Doll Kit, 2:30-4 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Students in grades 1-5 can travel back in time and learn what life was like for Kit in 1934. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**MAY 12: Carnival Themed Benefit, 7-11 PM,** TAYLOR HALL AT HIRAM HOUSE CAMP. Join us for a fun adult night of dinner, drinks, carnival games, and silent auction. Proceeds benefit Family Connections' programs for families of young children. Reservations are required. TICKETS & INFO: 216-921-2023 or fam

ilyconnections1.org.

**MAY 13: Les Délices, 4 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Debra Nagy directs Games & Diversions featuring guest soprano Ellen Hargis. Tickets at the door or at lesdelices.org.

**MAY 15: Heads Up on Body Language!, 7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. It goes without saying. Learn what your body language says about you, what to do and what not to do during an interview or presentation. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT. 6.

**MAY 17: Knit Night, 7-8:45 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Bring a project and get or give help at this session led by experienced knitter Fern Braverman. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**MAY 18 & 19: Shaker Spring Ice Spectacular: One-Hit Wonders.** THORNTON PARK. In honor of the Shaker Heights Centennial celebration, enjoy performances from beginners to experienced figure skaters. TICKETS & INFO: 216-491-1295.

**MAY 19: Community Meal, NOON,** CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Enjoy a deliciously prepared, free meal in an atmosphere of friendship, community, and dignity. All are welcome. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**MAY 20: Heights Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 PM,** CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3445 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Justin Miller, organ, conducted by Anthony Addison. Selections by Humperdinck, Jacob, Rheinberger, and Dvorak. Free-will offering fol-

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## OUT & ABOUT

lowed by a reception. INFO: 216-991-3432.

**MAY 21: Shaker Heights High School Senior Art Show,** MAIN LIBRARY. The works of talented Shaker seniors, available for purchase. Exhibit continues through June 29. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 21: Monday Morning Jumpstart with Suzanne Carle,** 11 AM, MAIN LIBRARY. Get some business tips from certified facilitator and professional development coach Suzanne Carle, president of Suite Spot, a business development firm. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030 EXT. 3011.

**MAY 22: If These Walls Could Talk: Researching Your Home's History,** 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. In celebration of National Preservation

Month, Shaker Heights Planning Department senior planner Ann Klavora moderates a panel discussion about the resources that can help you discover the story of your Shaker home. Learn about the online Shaker Building Card database and the Cleveland Historical mobile app. Co-sponsored by the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission and the Shaker Library. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 22: Tuesday Evening Book Discussion,** 7:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Read and discuss the unconventional love story Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 24: Poetry in the Woods,** 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy poetry read by regional poets. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MAY 25: Yappy Hour,** 5:30-7:30 PM, THORNTON PARK. Community Life and PETCO offer a fun-filled social event for canines and their resident families. Yapatizer special available: \$10/resident dog. Reservations requested: 216-491-1295.

**MAY 26: Larchmere Boulevard Sidewalk Sale.** Stroll the Boulevard and browse in boutiques filled with antiques and uniques.

**MAY 28: Memorial Day.** City, Schools and Libraries closed. Join in the spectacular Centennial Memorial Day Parade. You won't see one like this for another 100 years. Celebrate at the Thornton Park All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11:30 am. Proceeds benefit the Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund. \$7/adults, \$5 children 5-12, \$3/child.

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## In the Circle and Beyond

**APRIL 3: Pianofest, 7:30 PM**, MIXON HALL, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, 11021 EAST BLVD. Directed by Paul Schenly, Pianofest features CIM student and faculty performances with lively commentary, bringing great piano literature to life. Reception follows. \$5/person, students with ID free. INFO: 216-791-5000 EX. 411.

**APRIL 5: Opening Day, 3:15 PM**, PROGRESSIVE FIELD. Cleveland Indians open the season against the Toronto Blue Jays. Tickets: fieldboxoffice.com.

**APRIL 11: Cleveland Archaeology Society Lecture, 7:30 PM**, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE

OVAL. Professor Quetzil Castaneda of Indiana University presents *The Universal Citizen Heir: Archaeology and the Tourist in the Modern Museum*. Free with a reception to meet the speaker following the talk. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.

**APRIL 13: New York Gypsy All-Stars, 7:30 PM**, GARTNER AUDITORIUM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART. Part of the Viva! series, this performance blends traditional Gypsy and Turkish melodies with a jazz and funk sensibility, creating an exhilarating sound. Band members hail from Macedonia, Greece, Turkey, and Brooklyn, New York. \$39-\$44/museum members, \$40-\$45/non-members. INFO: 216-421-7350.

**APRIL 17: William N. Skirball**

**Writers Center Stage: Anne Lamott, 7:30 PM**, OHIO THEATRE, PLAYHOUSE SQUARE, 1511 EUCLID AVE. Anne Lamott is the author of many novels and nonfiction. Her latest novel, *Imperfect Birds*, was published in 2010. Tickets: \$30/person with proceeds to benefit Cuyahoga County Library Foundation. INFO: 216-664-6051.

**APRIL 25: Female Entrepreneur Summit, 7:30 AM-5 PM**, 700 BETA BANQUET AND CONFERENCE CENTER IN MAYFIELD VILLAGE. Cleveland Business Connects magazine and Ursuline College host an all-day summit featuring keynote speaker Arianna Huffington of the Huffington Post, who will speak from noon-1:30 pm followed by a Q&A session. Tickets: \$195 for CBC magazine subscribers, \$295 for non-subscribers. INFO:



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## OUT & ABOUT

216-831-9557 OR [cbcmagazine.com/FES/2012](http://cbcmagazine.com/FES/2012).

**APRIL 26: A Celebration of Hope, 5:30 PM,** RENAISSANCE CLEVELAND HOTEL, 24 PUBLIC SQUARE. Alzheimer's Association benefit dinner honors P. Kelly Tompkins with its champion award for his long-standing commitment and dedication to the Alzheimer's Association. INFO: [ala.org/cleveland](http://ala.org/cleveland).

**MAY 1: William N. Skirball Writers Center Stage: Colm Toibin, 7:30 PM,** WAETJUN AUDITORIUM CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY. This prolific author counts many novels, short story collections, and plays among his published works, and is currently the Leonard Milberg Lecturer in Irish Letters at Princeton University. Tickets: \$30/person with proceeds to benefit Cuyahoga County Library Foundation. INFO: 216-664-6051.

**MAY 9: Cleveland Archaeology Society Lecture, 7:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Professor Mary Miller of Yale University presents *A Millennium of Maya Painting*. Free with a reception to meet the speaker following the talk. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR [case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain](http://case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain).

**MAY: 11-12, 17-19: Chicago, 7 PM,** WILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, 2181 MIRAMAR BLVD. Heights Youth Theatre presents the dark musical comedy. Tickets: \$10/person, cash or checks only. Box office opens 45 minutes prior to performance. INFO: [heightsyouththeatre.org](http://heightsyouththeatre.org).

**MAY 19 & 20: Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon Weekend.** A race for everyone: Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K, 5K, and kids' run. INFO: [clevealandmarathon.com](http://clevealandmarathon.com).

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# Prettynormal Activity

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

So often we look in faraway places, when what we seek is all around us. Take paranormal activity, for example; you could, of course, fly an airplane through the Bermuda Triangle, or dimwittedly call out for vampires in a Transylvanian forest, but why travel when equally eerie *Mysteries of the Shaker Household* are so close to home. To wit:

**The Kitchen Force Field:** Shaker Man first noticed an insidious magnetic charge near the kitchen sink when his children were small. Oddly enough, this force only strengthened as his offspring became taller, repelling their every attempt to put dirty plates, cups, and silverware into the dishwasher. Indeed, this energy is now so powerful — especially its effect on Shaker Man's six-foot-one, gunboat-shoed, 15-year-old son — that it sometimes flings dishes into the farthest corners of the house, where they remain hidden — by scrambled gamma rays? An alien cloaking device? — for weeks on end, only revealing themselves when moldy milk fumes pierce the force's powerful fog.

Although experts differ, Shaker Man believes the force can be attributed to one of the lesser-known X-Men, Dr. Itwuz Knotmee, along with her clumsy henchman, Dr. Thatiz Knotmidish. He knows this because their names have been invoked in every conversation (ever) about kitchen clean-up:

Shaker Man: "Hey, which genius thought it was a good idea to leave this [banana peel, bowl of cake batter, wok full of garlic tofu] on the [counter, table, new living room chair]?"

"Itwuz Knotmee," says his 19-year-old daughter.

"Thatiz Knotmidish," says 15, who unfortunately doesn't realize that the marinara on his pinky is the same color as that in the offending bowl, leaving him caught red-handed. Almost as red, in fact, as Shaker Man's face.

"I got this, Dad," says 15 quickly.

Next morning, however, our hero can hear Dr. Itwuz laughing in the distance: "Mwahaha..."

**The Haunted Basement:** There are few things scarier than the inhabitants of Shaker Man's basement:

- A 34-year-old, rusted boiler that whines, whistles, screams, leaks, bangs, and generally sounds like Curley of the Three Stooges (Nyuk-Nyuk! Weebiebeebeebeebee!). The last HVAC specialist to visit shook his head for five minutes before saying, in a whisper like a priest about to perform a particularly terrifying exorcism: "This is a catastrophe waiting to happen."

"Come on, how bad can it be?"

"I'll pray for you."

- A 23-year-old washer-and-dryer combo (clad in festive baby-poop yellow sheet metal) with only enough knobs left to run one at a time. "It's like a nursing home for 1980s appliances," marveled one repairman. "Where's your glitterball?"

Shaker Man's kids find other relics even more unnerving. 15: "What's in the black box, Pops?"

"That's my manual typewriter."

"You're kidding. Wow, you are old."

"That's nothing," says 19. "Look at these record albums. Who's Peter Frampton, Dad? And why do all these guys have such big hair?"

"That was the style. Here's a picture of me with long h—"

19 and 15: "NOOOOOOOOOOO!"

**Paranormal Activity:** Perhaps most disturbing is the fact that Shaker Man's 89-year-old house is now full of mischievous poltergeists. Just last week, for example, a third-floor window inexplicably blew open in the middle of the night, banging loudly against the house. In an unsettling twist, the window's latch, which should have held tight, appeared to have suddenly rusted through after not being painted for 15 years.

Shaker Man: "That's strange."

19: "Oh, it's a mystery, all right."

Other unearthly doings follow. A towel rack, improperly installed seven years ago and wobbly ever since, drops to the bathroom floor in the middle of a party, *for no apparent reason*. Three plants, unwatered for four months, wither and die, *for no apparent reason*.

The most dramatic paranormal evidence comes late Thanksgiving night, after all are in bed, when a 150-pound light fixture/pot rack falls from the kitchen ceiling, crushing several pots and leaving deep scars in the wooden floor where, just hours earlier, the entire family was standing. This is especially odd since Shaker Man permanently fixed the exact same light fixture-pot rack *not three days before*.

"That's spooky," says Shaker Man, surveying the wreckage.

"Oh, absolutely," says 19. "Uncanny, even. I mean, really: What are the odds?"

"It's like we have a ghost who doesn't know how to use a wrench," adds 15.

Shaker Man nods: "Itwuz Knotmee..." 🌿

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