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City of Shaker Heights, Ohio

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february | march 2013

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on the cover: The first Stokes Scholars graduates. (See page 48.) The program was established by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association under its president, Shaker resident Carter Strang (front, middle). Flanking him are former Congressman Louis Stokes, the program's namesake, and program co-chair Ayesha Bell Hardaway, both Shaker residents.



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## SHAKER LIFE

FEBRUARY | MARCH 2013  
 VOLUME 31 ISSUE 1

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

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

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 SHAKER LIFE is published six times per year by the  
 City of Shaker Heights, Department of Communications &  
 Outreach, Victoria Blank, director. It is distributed free to residents of  
 the Shaker Heights City School District. Extra copies are available  
 at area newsstands for \$3.50. See [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) for locations.

For general City information, call (216) 491-1400 or  
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## A Hero Among Us

Detective Parker Adrine of the Shaker Heights Police Department was awarded the Medal of Heroism in recognition of his hard work and dedication as a member of the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force. The award is given to police officers who demonstrate extraordinary bravery or act in an exemplary and extraordinary manner while at substantial risk of personal harm. Adrine was instrumental in apprehending three armed suspects during a drug operation in the City of Cleveland.

### AHa! Presents: The Jim Carr Trio and Music of America's Cultural Heritage

The Shaker Arts Council (SHAC) invites you to enjoy a colorful mosaic of American music when the Jim Carr Trio performs on Friday, April 26, as part of the AHa! (At Home with the Arts) series. The performance takes place in a handsome Shaker Heights home, location to be announced. The evening begins at 7 pm with a reception featuring hors d'oeuvres and beverages, followed by the Jim Carr Trio's performance at 8 pm.

The band's rich and lively repertoire celebrates diversity by giving a fresh musical twist to Celtic, Latin, jazz, and contemporary American standards played by eight-string guitarist and vocalist Jim Carr, master fiddler Nikki Custy, and versatile vocalist Laura Webster.

"Music is a great way to bring communities together," says AHa! committee chairman Jim Simler. "Not only will the audience have a good time, they'll also discover and learn about the art of different cultures represented by their own neighbors."

Tickets are \$30 (\$25 for SHAC members) and can be purchased by credit card at [shakerartscouncil.org](http://shakerartscouncil.org), or by check made payable to Shaker Arts Council and mailed to PMB 232, 16781 Chagrin Blvd., Shaker Heights, 44120.

Exchanges are subject to availability. Please contact SHAC at 216-916-9360 for more information, including the availability of wheelchair seating and other accommodations.

### Pool Pass Rates to Increase

Rates for early bird, pre-season, and regular pool passes will go up by \$5 for the upcoming season. Previous fee increases for early bird passes occurred in 2004, pre-season passes in 2010, and regular season passes in 2007. In addition, non-resident punch pass rates will increase by \$10 and all daily admission rates by 50 cents. The nanny rate for an early bird pass will increase to \$75. The new fee structure is needed to cover pool maintenance, fuel costs, and to offset a hike in the minimum wage which will affect the cost to hire lifeguards. Early bird passes are on sale now through April 13.

## Business News

### Council Approves Circle Heights Alliance Grant Application

In its continuing efforts to boost local job creation and economic development, City Council has approved an application for a \$100,000 State of Ohio Local Government Initiative Fund grant. The grant would allow for a feasibility study for economic development cooperation across the Circle

Heights Alliance, a group that includes Shaker Heights, Cleveland Heights, South Euclid, University Heights, and East Cleveland as well as University Circle Incorporated (UCI).

The grant does not require a cash match from the participating communities and credits the in-kind services and support provided by the economic development professionals from each city and non-profit. The scope of work to be studied was developed by Don Iannone of the Sourcing Center with support from the Cleveland State Levin College of Urban Affairs Public Administration Center.

The strategic focus of the grant is to build capacity for ongoing collaborative economic development that leverages the resources of the Heights communities, the Heights Area Chamber, and UCI to produce measureable benefits, such as increased commercial development, job growth, and possible tax-base sharing strategies.

"Bringing professional jobs to this district requires a program of land and building inventories – information which clearly, and in a district-wide fashion, identifies sites, transit corridors, financing options, and demographic profiles," says City Economic Development Director Tania Menesse.

### Don't miss a thing



Subscribe to **Mayor Earl M. Leiken's** Monthly Updates.

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## Up and Running: Cleveland Running Company Clinics

Ready to get off the couch? The Cleveland Running Company offers a series of four running and sports injury prevention clinics each Sunday in February to get – and keep – runners moving. Each clinic will last about an hour and a half and feature exercises for the following areas:

- Mobility/flexibility
- Balance/core strength
- Foot and lower leg injuries and prevention
- Upper body strength

The cost is \$10 per class or four classes for \$30. Visit [clevelandrunningcompany.com](http://clevelandrunningcompany.com) for times and details.

Need to add more get up and go to your weekend? Every Saturday morning at 8:30 am, the Cleveland Running Company organizes a free group run open to all levels, usually between 3 and 13 miles.

## Annual LaunchHouse Gala to “Create, Inspire, Sustain”

Shaker LaunchHouse hosts its annual



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

The event features dinner, dancing, and a silent auction in support of Cleveland entrepreneurship. Through

the community’s continued support, LaunchHouse has created an environment that develops entrepreneurs, fosters innovation, and provides educational opportunities.

Gala donations will be used to provide entrepreneurship experiences for students, speaker series, and internship programs at LaunchHouse. For more information, visit [Launchhouse.com/gala](http://Launchhouse.com/gala).



## Shop Shaker!

The City’s new mobile app is a happy little place where work and life meet. You can support local businesses and foster your community’s economic development. Find what you need and find it here: [work-live-shakerheights.com/shop/](http://work-live-shakerheights.com/shop/)

**Kelly Green** and Jeff Fisher of The Cleveland Running Company.

PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO





## Shaker News Briefs

### City Council Approves Appointments for 2013

#### ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW

Alternate member **Richard Bauschard**, architect, approved as a regular member for the remainder of his term.

Regular member **Bruce Jackson**, architect who formed Square One, Inc., Architects and Planners, reappointed as an alternate for a three-year term.

Alternate member **Marc Ciccarella**, principal of the architecture firm Studio Techne, reappointed as an alternate member for a three-year term.

#### BOARD OF APPEALS

Regular member **Earl Williams, Jr.**, Council member, reappointed for a two-year term.

Alternate member **Nancy Moore**, Council member, reappointed for a two-year term.

Regular member **Arun Kottha**, attorney with Tucker Ellis, reappointed for a two-year term.

Alternate member **Jeffrey Baddeley**, attorney with Ulmer & Berne, reappointed as a regular member for a two-year term.

#### BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS/ CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

**John Boyle, III**, Senior Fellow, CSU, reappointed for a six-year term.

#### FAIR HOUSING REVIEW BOARD

**Gail Gibson**, former executive director for the Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights, reappointed for a three-year term.

#### LANDMARK COMMISSION

**Ron Reed, FAIA**, principal of the architecture firm Westlake Reed Leskosky, reappointed to a three-year term.

**Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells, LEED AP**, project manager with the architecture firm City Architecture, reappointed to a three-year term.

### U.S. Secretary of Transportation Nominates Shaker Resident

**Mark J. Sundahl**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Administration at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, has been appointed to the Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee (COMSTAC) by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. The COMSTAC advises the Office of Commercial Space Transportation within the Federal Aviation Administration regarding new regulations governing private space activity. Sundahl is a leading expert on the law of outer space and focuses primarily on the business, legal, and policy issues arising from the recent increase in private space activity. He has lectured around the world on space law and his writings have appeared in numerous leading academic journals. He holds a J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, and a Ph.D. in Classics from Brown University.

### 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.

**Child Care Seats:** Is your child buck-

led 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.

**Customer Service Nominations:** The City appreciates nominations from residents for outstanding customer service – above and beyond expectations – provided by City employees. Nominations are accepted all year long for recognition in the spring of 2013. Instructions can be found on the City website, shakeronline.com as well as at the reception areas of City Hall, Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, Court, Police, Fire, Public Works and Thornton Park.

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

**Horseshoe Lake Park Picnic Permits:** Dates fill up fast! Priority is given to in-person requests at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, which begin March 19. Phone-in and online reservations begin March 20. Permits are limited to the large pavilion. Permission for use of both pavilions may be granted to larger groups. Two weeks advance notice of requested date is required. Call 216-491-1351. The park is available M-SU from May 28 to September 1 and weekends in September. The park is open, but no reservations will be taken, for Memorial Day, July 4 or Labor Day. Pavilions may be used on a first-come, first-served basis on these holidays.

## CITY NEWS

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**Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations:** Nominations are accepted at any time for this award, to be given to an individual or group exemplifying Dr. King's values. Find the nomination form at [bit.ly/MLKAward](http://bit.ly/MLKAward).

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

**Snow and Sidewalks:** When snow, ice, or slush accumulate, residents must clear sidewalks by 9 am of the following day. Please provide a safe path for children walking to bus stops or to school, as well as for neighbors and postal carriers. If using a snow thrower, please use care when redistributing the snow. Be sure it is on the tree lawn immediately in front of your house.

**Snow and Driveways:** The City does not plow residential driveways; snow removal contractors must be registered with the Police Department and their permit clearly displayed. Do not push snow into the street, onto sidewalks or onto another person's property.

**Snow and Parking:** Residents are asked not to park their cars in the street when snow reaches a depth of two inches or more.

**Trash Delays:** Collections scheduled on or after the Presidents' Day holiday will not be delayed. Call the Public Works Department, 216-491-1490, to report a missed pickup. Calls must be received the next business day. To receive an email reminder when pickup is delayed a day, sign up for the City's email list at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com).

For more information on the City's Codified Ordinances, visit [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com).

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### We won't be able to live through all the chaos!

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### It will not be completed on time!

Every construction project should run smoothly and on time, if it is planned and organized correctly. At Dureiko Construction we strive for organization at all times. Through the systems we have created and continue to upgrade we are able to control and organize every aspect of a project. When we have control and organization we are able to deliver your project on time! *For an example of an onsite organization technique we use visit our home page at ([www.dureiko.com](http://www.dureiko.com)) click on the "What to Expect" button and view the "job desk" video.*

**To find out more call us at 216/321.9555,  
or visit us on the web at [dureiko.com](http://dureiko.com)**



### Shining Through

Shaker Heights High School students **Hope Gerald** and **Gyosi Wingo** recently stepped into the spotlight to take a bow for their entrepreneurial success.

LightHouse Ohio, an organization affiliated with business accelerator Shaker LaunchHouse, asked area teachers and guidance counselors to nominate students who exemplified entrepreneurial spirit and potential. Hope's Roadside Lemonade Stand and Gyosi's urban streetwear company, LAF, were among 11 companies honored at "A Night of Recognizing Student Entrepreneurs" at Shaker LaunchHouse.

According to LightHouse managing partner Zach Schwartz, the students will be encouraged to join their flagship summer program, LEAP, which aims to develop student entrepreneurs by providing them with workspace, mentoring, and potential funding.

Over the course of several summers, Hope operated her roadside lemonade stand Monday through Friday from 11 am to 5 pm, rising early each day to provide fresh baked goods along with

fresh-squeezed lemonade. "I even took the lemonade stand on the road to a few church events, which was very profitable," she says. The fruits of her labor yielded more than \$3,000, some of which the senior used for school supplies and test fees.

"Hope serves as a great example of the passion and business savvy required to succeed as an entrepreneur," says Schwartz.

Gyosi, a junior at the High School, found a way to channel his creative streak into a business by applying the graphic designs he honed in his art classes at Shaker into fair-trade apparel such as hats, t-shirts, and scarves. His clothing often carries thought-provoking messages, such as "Someone else is happy with less than what you have." Students like what they see, and order on the spot.

Says Schwartz, "Through Gyosi's designs and organic materials, he calls attention to issues often ignored, like poverty, human trafficking, and genocide. We cannot wait to see what he does in the coming year."

### Superintendent Search On Track

The Shaker Heights Board of Education has completed the initial phases of a national search for a new District Superintendent, and is on track to identify potential candidates this spring. Current Superintendent Mark Freeman announced in September that he will step down in July after 25 years in the position. The Board has retained the services of Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates (HYA) to assist in conducting the search. The goal is to have a new superintendent in place for the 2013-14 school year.

Last December, the Board solicited input regarding the desired skills and characteristics for the next superintendent by holding numerous focus groups with community stakeholders and staff members, as well as two public meetings. Members of the public were also invited to complete an online survey. HYA collected and analyzed the data to help develop a leadership profile for the position.

In the next phase of the search, HYA will identify semifinalists for the job based on internal interviews conducted by the firm. The Board will then interview those semifinalists and reduce the number to three candidates, who will visit the District. Members of a broadly representative stakeholders' advisory committee will have an opportunity to meet the finalists and give feedback.

Once the Board has identified a preferred final candidate, HYA will perform a deep background check, arrange for the Board to visit that candidate's current place of employment, and assist in contract negotiations.

For more information and updates, visit [shaker.org/SuperintendentSearch](http://shaker.org/SuperintendentSearch).



**Shaker High** students and entrepreneurs Hope Gerald and Gyosi Wingo.



## Alumni Profiles

**Ross Babbit**, '86, was named senior vice president of programming and production at Travel Channel, where he produces the new weekly show "NFL Road Tested: The Cleveland Browns." The show airs Tuesday nights at 10 pm and gives viewers a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to move the NFL team from city to city during the regular season, including how the players are fed, clothed, and housed on the road. Prior to joining Scripps Networks Interactive in 2004, Babbit spent nearly five years as a producer of breaking news and feature stories for The CBS Early Show in New York. He has also worked as a writer and producer at Food Network, Comedy Central, and ESPN, among others.

U.S. Representative **Marcia Fudge**, '71, was unanimously named as the chair of the influential Congressional Black Caucus for a two-year term. The job entails setting the political agenda for more than 40 black members of the House of Representatives and acting as a national spokesperson on issues affecting black Americans. Fudge holds a law degree from Cleveland State University and is the former mayor of Warrensville Heights. She represents Ohio's 11th District, which includes Shaker Heights.

**Drew Schultz**, '06, released his de-

but album, "Back to Class," in September of 2012. The album benefits the music programs of the Detroit Public Schools, and consists of 16 songs written, arranged, and produced by Schultz. The record features The Four Tops, members of the Funk Brothers, Ken Knox of Chairmen of the Board, Lenny Pickett, and many others. Drawing on his experience leading the drum line for the Shaker Heights High School marching band, Schultz earned his stripes as percussionist, archivist, and substitute conductor for the legendary Motown group, the Four Tops. He has also performed with the Temptations, Aretha Franklin, Martha Reeves, and the Miracles, among others.

**Celeste Terry**, '75, was named outstanding field instructor of 2012 for the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. The prestigious award recognizes Terry's work with national and international graduate social work students. Terry earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Bridgeport and completed her master's degree from Case in 2003. She is assistant executive director of the United Black Fund of Greater Cleveland, Inc., and author of the book, "Transforming Non-Profits for Relevancy in Challenging Times."

## A Night for the Red & White at the Tudor Arms Hotel

On Saturday, March 9, join your friends and neighbors to celebrate A Night for the Red & White at the newly renovated Tudor Arms Hotel, DoubleTree by Hilton at 10660 Carnegie Avenue in University Circle. The festivities begin at 7 pm and include dinner, dancing, silent auction, and student performances.

Now in its 21st year, the annual benefit has raised more than \$2 million for the educational enrichment of all Shaker students. Since 1992, proceeds have helped to enhance opportunities in the arts, technology, health, and fitness. Each year, the celebration brings together several hundred parents, faculty members, graduates, and community leaders.

The Tudor Arms was named for the magnificent two-story oak timbered Tudor Room, which features a massive fireplace and artisan plaster reliefs. The building opened in 1931 as The Cleveland Club, a private men's athletic club. Bob Hope and Al Capone are among the guests reputed to have spent time at the club.

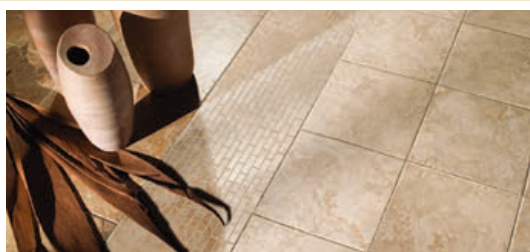
To register for the event or make a donation, visit [shaker.org/redandwhite](http://shaker.org/redandwhite). For questions, call 216-295-4325.



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

Housing transfers between September 1 and November 30, 2012 appear below. The first list includes only those properties that have had a prior sale within the last 10 years. Excluded are “quit claim” transfers as well as those resulting from foreclosure, in which the sale price is not reflective of the property value.

ADDRESS	2012 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE
3257 CHADBOURNE RD	\$230,000	\$213,000 (2002)
19635 CHAGRIN BLVD	\$289,900	\$250,000 (2011)
3336 DORCHESTER RD	\$265,000	\$225,000 (2006)
2750 ENDICOTT RD	\$385,000	\$485,000 (2006)
17111 FERNWAY RD	\$239,000	\$295,000 (2002)
3265 GRENWAY RD	\$177,500	\$255,000 (2004)
24100 HAZELMERE RD	\$220,000	\$239,900 (2004)
3714 LATIMORE RD	\$120,000	\$184,500 (2007)
23450 LAURELDALE RD	\$400,000	\$405,000 (2004)
3448 LYNNFIELD RD	\$119,780	\$305,000 (2005)
3539 LYTLE RD	\$124,000	\$176,000 (2003)
2921 MANCHESTER RD	\$304,000	\$300,000 (2007)
16100 PARKLAND DR	\$400,000	\$562,500 (2005)
21177 S WOODLAND RD	\$200,000	\$249,000 (2004)
3013 WARRINGTON RD	\$195,000	\$280,000 (2007)
3232 WARRINGTON RD	\$120,000	\$120,000 (2011)

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

3382 AVALON RD	\$215,000	\$235,000 (2001)
3208 CHADBOURNE RD	\$ 65,000	\$124,000 (1999)
24144 DUFFIELD RD	\$229,900	\$219,000 (1998)
3610 GLENCAIRN RD	\$100,000	\$170,000 (2000)
2985 KINGSLEY RD	\$290,000	\$299,000 (1997)
3113 LUDLOW RD	\$137,000	\$162,000 (1998)
3604 PALMERSTON RD	\$117,000	\$143,700 (2001)
2943 SEDGEWICK RD	\$536,600	\$311,000 (1997)
3698 TOLLAND RD	\$165,000	\$164,900 (1999)

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

2564 CHESHIRE RD	\$ 95,000	\$ 64,000 (1994)
3255 LEE RD	\$187,500	\$154,000 (1993)
18200 SHELBURNE RD	\$675,000	\$380,000 (1993)
3642 SUTHERLAND RD	\$115,000	\$138,000 (1992)
21830 WESTCHESTER RD	\$187,500	\$188,500 (1995)
18932 WINSLOW RD	\$165,000	\$157,000 (1996)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

## Send in Nominations for 15th Annual Preservation Awards

The Landmark Commission is now seeking nominations for the 2013 Preservation Awards program. Exterior projects completed within the last two years are eligible. Projects may be nominated in the following categories: Retention of Original Materials, Exterior Restoration, Excellence in Stewardship, Distinguished Landscape, and Architecturally Appropriate Addition. Property owners, architects, or contractors can nominate themselves and/or others. Nominations can be submitted for all residential and non-residential building types.

The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission established its Preservation Awards program in 1998 to recognize and highlight efforts by property owners who have preserved and improved their properties. This awards program is mirrored after the program established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1971.

Nominations must be submitted by April 26 to the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. Contact Ann Klavora at 216-491-1436 or [ann.klavora@shakeronline.com](mailto:ann.klavora@shakeronline.com) for a nomination form or more information.

## Changes to Point of Sale Fees

Point of Sale (POS) inspection fees have been amended by City Council to cover the costs associated with administering that activity. They were last increased in 2008. Sellers of residential real estate in Shaker Heights are required to obtain a POS inspection prior to the sale of the property. This legislation has been highly effective in preserving the City's homes, and ensuring that properties are brought up to code at the time of sale or shortly thereafter. Fees are:

Single-family home: \$200

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- Stump Grinding
- Tree Moving

## REAL ESTATE NEWS

### Changes to Point of Sale Fees

*continued from page 11*

Two-family home: \$300

Apartment building: \$200 for first

unit, \$50 for additional units

Condominium unit: \$150

### New Shaker Renovator Properties for Sale

Qualified rehabbers are invited to participate in a City housing improvement program designed to encourage the renovation of dilapidated homes. The Shaker Renovator program encourages high quality renovations of properties bought by qualified rehabbers who then put the property on the market, and has a documented track record of successfully restoring properties to productive use. Two qualified rehabbers are currently undertaking the renovation of properties in the City.

**Joe Alberino**, Alberino Construction, has renovated **3381 Dorchester Road**, a 5-bedroom, 3-1/2-bathroom property in the Fernway neighborhood. This house was placed on the market early in the year. A second Alberino Construction renovation is planned at **21300 Sydenham Road**, a 4-bedroom, 3-1/2-bathroom home in the Mercer neighborhood. This fully renovated home should be available for sale in March. To learn more about either property, contact Joe at 216-534-5042.

**Don-Pre Renovations LLC** is renovating two homes in the Fernway neighborhood. The home at **16608 Aldersyde Drive** will have 5 bedrooms and 5 full/2 half bathrooms. No details about **3305 Avalon Road** are available at the moment, but both homes will be fully renovated and ready for sale by summer. To see photos from other homes this contractor has renovated, visit their Facebook page at facebook.com/don-pre-renovations-llc. To learn more, contact Gayle Prebis at 216-346-9533.

In order to qualify as Shaker Renovators, the contractors must have completed at least two renovation projects in the City within the previous 18 months. Qualified projects are ones that include upgrades beyond the correction of code violations, and where the interior work meets Shaker's quality standards. Contractors who qualify are permitted to put 100 percent of estimated repair costs in escrow (as opposed to 150 percent) and are not required to submit interior drawings unless structural changes are made. Shaker Renovator projects receive free publicity on the City's website and here in Shaker Life.

Contractors can learn more about the Shaker Renovator program at shakeronline.com/for-residents/housing-incentives/renovation-program.







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## LIBRARY NEWS

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

### In Memoriam

Shaker Library Trustee Ken McGovern died on Thanksgiving morning. A resident of Shaker since the 1960s,



McGovern

McGovern was an independent planning and development consultant who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania architecture school and earned his master's degree in City Planning from Harvard University.

His career spanned a variety of senior management positions in both the public and private sectors. A resident of the Malvern area, he volunteered extensively for the City and the Schools, including service as a Library Trustee since 2004, with three years as Board President, from January 2006 to January 2009.

The McGovern Family requested that memorial donations in his name be sent to The MAC Fund of the Shaker Schools Foundation, 15600 Parkland Drive, Shaker Heights,

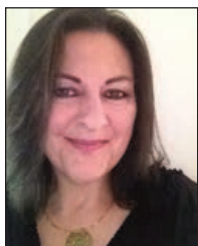


**Library Board president** Jeanne Shatten presents the book, *SynergiCity*, which was purchased in Ken McGovern's memory, to his widow, Mary Lynne McGovern and his daughter, Julie Voyzey. The Library also presented the family with a resolution of commendation.

44120 or to the Shaker Heights Public Library.

### Meet the Authors at the Library

Shaker Heights is home to some fine writers and the Library will host two of them this February.



Tayer

Meet Kellie Bellamy Tayer at 7 pm Wednesday, February 6 at Main Library when she discusses her new book, *The Gypsy Thief: The Talisman Trilogy (Volume 1)*.

Set in modern day Rhode Island, her book is the story of Laura Calder and her love for two boys: Andrew Easton, a descendant of King George the First, and Miguel Dos Santos, a mysterious gypsy who has royal ties of his own. It is a story of family honor and the lengths we will go to protect the ones we love. The story will be continued in its sequel, *The Dark Prince*, and concluded in *The Shadow King*.

Tayer lives in the Lomond area and is a former newspaper reporter and author of three previous novels. *The Gypsy Thief* is her first novel for young adults and is the first book in The Talisman Trilogy. She has three children: Jordan, Kayla and Thomas and one grandson, Maximus. Tayer is currently working on the first book in a new romantic love triangle series also for young adults, tentatively titled *Crescent Summer*. Read more on Kellie Tayer's blog.

Following her talk, there will be a drawing for a signed copy of the book and for a "magical" necklace, which is at the heart of her novel.

Meet Sam Thomas, author of *The Midwife's Tale*, at 7 pm Wednesday, February 20 at Woods Branch when



Thomas

he discusses his book and the fascinating history of midwifery. A history teacher at University School, Thomas has received research grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Newberry Library, and the British Academy. He has published articles on topics ranging from early modern midwifery to girls' education in colonial Kenya.

Thomas lives in the Fernway area with his wife and two sons. Described by Publisher's weekly as a "superb first mystery," *The Midwife's Tale* is his first novel.

### Taking Pictures Today: From Cellphones to SLRs (Single Lens Reflex cameras)

Learn how to get the best pictures from your camera even if it's from a cellphone. Rick Santich, owner of MotoPhoto in Shaker Heights and ProEventPhoto, will talk about the best ways to share and save photos at 7 pm Wednesday, February 13 at Main Library.

During his presentation, Santich will provide information on the latest picture-taking techniques as well as take questions from the audience. Photographers of all skill levels are welcome.

### Why Preservation?

Mary Ogle from the Cleveland Restoration Society will offer a brief overview of historic preservation history at 6:30 pm Tuesday, March 12 at Main Library. In addition to her talk on the importance of taking a  
*continued on page 16*



## The DVD/Blu-Ray Shelf: Romantic Movies For Valentine's Day

The agonies and ecstasies of romance and the prevailing power of love are the themes in these films. Enjoy one or all of them.

**Adam.** Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment, 2010. Hugh Dancy plays a man with Asperger's Syndrome, who senses an opportunity for his first real human connection when a pretty woman takes an interest in him. His attempts to control his social skills and the young woman's willingness to learn to love him play well against the twists and turns of the plot and its poignant ending. (95 minutes) Rated PG-13

**Boomerang.** Paramount Home Video, 2002. The tables are turned on a womanizer, played by Eddie Murphy, when he sets out to seduce his new boss, played by Robin Givens. He is shocked to find that she treats him the same way he has treated other women. The excellent supporting cast of Halle Berry, David Alan Grier, Martin Lawrence, Grace Jones, and Eartha Kitt enhances the fun. (116 minutes) Rated R

**Desert Hearts.** MGM Home Entertainment Inc., 2001. Set in 1960s Nevada and based on Jane Rule's novel, *Desert of the Heart*, this film explores the awakening desires of a reserved, female professor who must spend six weeks on a ranch outside of Reno in order to obtain a divorce from her husband. When she meets the owner's adopted daughter, a young, self-assured, gay casino worker, they are drawn to one another and attempt to find happiness in a world that's not quite ready for their romance. (91 minutes) Rated R

**High Fidelity.** Touchstone Pictures, 2000. Based on a novel by Nick Hornby, Rob (John Cusack) is an obsessive record collector who catalogs his life into mix tapes, and decides to revisit his failed relationships to learn why he can't find happiness. His co-workers, played by Jack Black and Todd Louiso, add even more zaniness to the film. Jack Black is at his obnoxious best, and the ending is so romantic viewers will want to make their own mix tapes, too. (114 minutes) Rated R

**I Know Where I'm Going.** Criterion Collection, 2001. A young Englishwoman (Wendy Hiller), determined to increase her social status by marrying a wealthy, middle-aged industrialist, is stranded in a Scottish town where she falls in love with a debonair naval officer (Roger Livesey). Will she marry for love or money? Subplots include an ancient Scottish curse, a devastating whirlpool, and some charming local people. The real draw of this film is the romantic landscape of the Hebrides, filmed entirely in black and white. (116 minutes) Not rated.

**In the Mood for Love (Hua yang nian hua).** The Criterion Collection, 2002. In this elegant film, a journalist (Tony Leung) and his secretary (Maggie Cheung) live next door to each other in a crowded apartment building in Hong Kong in the early 1960s. When they discover their spouses are having an affair, they are drawn together by anger and sorrow and gradually fall in love. Determined to uphold their marital vows, the couple discovers they have the most romantic secrets of all. In Cantonese with English subtitles (98 minutes) Rated PG

**Me and You and Everyone We Know.** Metro Goldwyn Mayer, 2005. A recently divorced shoe salesman (John Hawkes) becomes entangled with a quirky, young artist (Miranda July) who supports herself as driver for the elderly. Seemingly mismatched, they fumble their way toward intimacy, as do his two sons experiencing their own tricky relationships – six-year-old Robby is having a bizarre Internet romance with a stranger and 14-year-old Peter has become a guinea pig for the neighborhood girls “practicing” for future romantic encounters. (92 minutes) Rated R

**Now, Voyager.** Warner Home Video, 2001. In this classic 1942 romance, a middle-aged spinster (Bette Davis) suffers a nervous breakdown, and after spending time in a sanitarium, has a brief love affair with a man (Paul Henreid) she meets on a cruise. The star-crossed lovers never marry, but she ends up raising his daughter. The clothes, jewelry, and hairstyles of the time are exquisite. (118 minutes) black and white. Not rated.

**Punch-Drunk Love.** Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment, 2003. This off-kilter comedy is the story of a troubled novelty store salesman (Adam Sandler), whose seven domineering sisters try to help him find love. While his idiosyncrasies range from endearing to troubling, an angelic woman (Emily Watson) takes an interest in him. (95 minutes) Rated R

**Wolfe 9.** Music Box Films, 2010. Seemingly content with her husband of 30 years, a seamstress in her mid-60s has an affair with a 76-year-old man whose clothing she mends. She confesses her infidelity, but admits she wants to continue her affair in this film that examines the power of love and sex in the later years. In German with English Subtitles (98 minutes) Not rated.

"five-six..."



...now I can swing  
my sticks."

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## LIBRARY NEWS

preservation approach in our homes and neighborhoods, she will highlight some common preservation blunders.

Ogle joined the Cleveland Restoration Society in June 2011 after completing her master's degree in Historic Preservation at Ursuline College. As Heritage Home Program Specialist, she helps homeowners by providing preservation-based technical assistance and facilitating the low-interest loan program. The lecture is cosponsored with the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission.

### Coming Soon: Express Checkout

As part of the Library's ongoing efforts to provide innovative, customer-driven services to the community, plans are underway to implement a self-serve checkout system at both Main Library and Woods Branch in early April.

The new system will afford cardholders increased convenience and greater privacy as well as allow staff the flexibility to provide more proactive customer service.

Those accustomed to ATM machines and self-checkout in retail settings will find the technology familiar. If help is needed, staff will be on hand. Staff will continue to help visitors with library card registrations, fine payments, and other customer service transactions at the Help Desk.

### Recent Donations to the Library

In September and October, Shaker Library received a generous contribution from Evelyn and Dave Greene to be used to refurbish the bathroom on the Main Library's second floor. Randy Kammer contributed to the Marilyn Kammer Memorial Fund in memory of Stacy Borell, Ruth Markowski, and Norton Rose, and to honor Mary Ann Huey and Sammie G. Young, Sr., Dee Jeffers and Charlie Mahan Elliott

Palevsky, Betty Sorna, John Benner, Bonnie Burns, and John Delaney.

Donations to the Local History collection were received from Carl Moravec, who donated two of his books, *An Illustrated History of Philosophy* and *Six World Religions*. Carol King Phillips-Bey donated a copy of her 1998 Kent State University dissertation on Shaker Heights Schools: *African-American Students' Perceptions of the Factors that Led to Their Mathematics Level Placement in an Integrated, Suburban School District*. The Shaker Heights Centennial Committee donated approximately 200 CD-ROM copies of a digitized 1922 Shaker map to be given to the public. Donations from Pete Doolittle included: Shaker Heights High School's *Gristmill* yearbooks from 1927 and 1929; Denison University's *The Adytum* yearbook from 1932; Flora Stone Mather College's "My Diary" autograph and memory book from 1933, and Flora Stone Mather College's *The Polychronicon* yearbook from 1934. In addition, the Local History collection received an anonymous donation of Shaker Heights High School yearbooks from the 1970s.

### CLEVNET Scarf Weaves Its Way to Both Libraries

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of CLEVNET and to demonstrate the collective borrowing power of a network of more than 32 libraries, a group of library public relations and marketing specialists embarked on a creative project to visually demonstrate their "CLEVNET Common Thread." They asked CLEVNET library knitting groups to create a 12-by-12-inch square depicting their libraries, and then wove the squares together to form a long scarf, which will be on display from February 11 to 25 at



## LIBRARY NEWS

Main Library and from February 27 to March 13 at Woods Branch. Shaker Library's Knit Night group, under the supervision of Fern Braverman, contributed two squares to the project.

### Poetry in the Woods

Poetry in the Woods features jazz poets in February for Black History Month and a group of women poets in March in honor of Women's History Month.

Vince Robinson & The Jazz Poets will perform poetry along with their blend of contemporary, traditional,



Robinson

and original jazz compositions at 7 pm February 14 at Woods Branch.

Robinson is a pianist, performance poet, and arts advocate. An active member of the Nia Arts Alliance, Robinson was a member of the Cleveland Poetry Slam teams that competed at the National Poetry Slam in 2003 and 2004. He performs throughout the Midwest and hosts the Nia Coffeehouse, a bi-monthly open mic poetry event, at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Cleveland Heights.

Take Nine poets, Gail Bellamy, Kathleen Cerveney, Katie Daley, Meredith Holmes, Bonnie Jacobson, Rita Grabowski, Darlene Montonaro, Linda Goodman Robiner and Cindy



Take Nine Poets

Washabaugh, will perform their poetry at 7 pm March 14 at Woods Branch.

Together their work has been published in more than 100 local and national journals, e-journals, anthologies, and soon on a music and poetry CD. But above all, they are nine friends who laugh together on a regular basis, and challenge and support each other in their shared love of the written and spoken word.

### Monthly Book Discussions

#### Book Buzz

10 AM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

*The Grace of Silence: A Memoir*

by Michele Norris

The host of NPR's *All Things Considered* set out to write a book on the hidden conversation on race but along the way unearthed painful family secrets. Remarkably candid in examining her own complex racial legacy, the author includes interviews with ordinary Americans and observations.

#### Whodunit?

7:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

*The Stranger You Seek*

by Amanda Kyle Williams

Offered a second chance by the Atlanta Police Department to catch a serial killer who has eluded him for years, former FBI profiler Keye Street begins a cat-and-mouse chase with an adversary who has a personal interest in her.

#### 4th Tuesday Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

*Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Brought up in a strict Somali Muslim family, the author relates how she survived civil war, female circumcision, beatings, forced marriage, and life in four countries under dictatorship before seeking asylum in the Netherlands where she spoke out for

"seven-eight..."



...I have a steady gait"

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Neighbors have commented on how much better the yard looks, maybe the best it has looked in 20 years. I tell them about you, because all I did was ask you to take care of it. Thank you!!

**Shaker Resident**

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## LIBRARY NEWS

the rights of Muslim women and the reform of Islam, placing her life in danger.

### Book Buzz

10 AM TUESDAY, MARCH 12

*Fieldwork* by **Mischa Berlinski**

Accompanying his girlfriend to Thailand, a journalist becomes intrigued by the story of an American anthropologist found dead of suicide in a Thai prison where she was serving a life sentence for murder. He quickly becomes immersed in the details of her mysterious life among the hill tribes.

### Whodunit?

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 12

*Stagestruck* by **Peter Lovesey**

When a pop diva is brutally attacked minutes before a performance and the chief suspect is found dead, Detective Peter Diamond uncovers bitter rivalries among the cast and crew.

### 4th Tuesday Book Discussion

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 26

*The Art of Racing in the Rain*

by **Garth Stein**

The narrator of this insightful novel, Enzo, knows he is different from other dogs. He is a philosopher with a nearly human soul and an obsession with opposable thumbs, who has educated himself by watching television and by listening closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver.

**Library Co-sponsors Series of Genealogy Classes with the African-American Genealogical Society at Main Library**

This February and March the Library will host a series of classes on genealogy research, led by African-American Genealogy Society of Cleveland mem-

bers Deborah Abbott and Cathy Neal.

Deborah A. Abbott, Ph.D., is past president of the African-American Genealogical Society of Cleveland. She is a retired professor of counseling at Cuyahoga Community College and an adjunct faculty member at the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research at Samford University in Alabama. While she specializes in African-American genealogy, Abbott enjoys teaching genealogy methodology.

Cathy Neal is a 14-year resident of Shaker Heights. A member of the African-American Genealogical Society of Cleveland since 2000, she is currently president of the organization, as well as the website chair. She has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Classes include:

### INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY

6-8:30 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Deborah Abbott will cover the important steps to follow when beginning a family search and how to find and use the available tools and resources online and in the Library.

### USING CENSUS RECORDS

7-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Cathy Neal will discuss the most important tool in the genealogist's kit of resources: the U.S. Census Record. She will explore the variety of data available within the census and explain how to understand and search census records online.

### USING VITAL RECORDS AND SOURCES FOR GENEALOGY

6-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Deborah Abbott will discuss the ways vital records, such as births, deaths, and marriages, can be used to fill in significant gaps in a family search, and where and how to look for this information.



## SPRING DROP-IN GENEALOGY CLINIC

10:30-2 PM SATURDAY, MARCH 30

MAIN LIBRARY TEEN CENTER

Bring your family research notes, your questions, or your problems, and members of the African-American Genealogical Society will be available to guide you both on paper and online.

## Call for Artists

Artists interested in entering the library's 14th Annual Barbara Luton Art Competition can pick up an entry at either library or download one from the Library's website. The contest is named in honor of Barbara Luton, a former Library director who managed the renovation of Moreland School into the current Main Library.

Entries will be accepted from 2 to 6 pm Friday, March 1 and from 11 am to 3 pm Saturday, March 2. A non-refundable entry fee of \$25 for up to two pieces is required at the time of entry.

Past winners include local artists Gary Williams, Horace Reese, Terry Sciko, John Harmon, Johnine Byrne, Jerome White, David Brichford, Daniel George, Mary Ryan, Amy Lewandowski, Paula Zinsmeister, Judy Takacs, and Ted Yu.

The Barbara Luton Art awards include a purchase award not to exceed \$1,000 for the Best of Show; \$200 for First Place; \$100 for Second Place; \$50 for Third Place and certificates for honorable mention. Awards will be presented at the Gallery opening reception from 2-4 pm Sunday, March 24 and the exhibit will continue through April 20.

For more information about the art contest, please call the Library at 216-991-2030.

## Monday Morning Jumpstart Special Events

Every Monday morning, from 10 am until noon, Bonnie Dick of the Career Transition Center moderates a jobs club for people in transition. The meeting allows job seekers the opportunity to meet others and gain insights about job-hunting strategies. On the last Monday of each month a featured guest speaks on a topic of interest to job seekers.

At 11 am Monday, February 25, attorney Michael Fine will talk about managing credit and debt problems



Fine

during a career transition. During his presentation, he will outline job seekers' legal rights and their options for dealing with credit and debt problems. In addition, he will discuss how they can protect themselves from scams.

Fine is an attorney whose practice focuses on helping consumers manage credit and debt problems and fight oppressive behavior of debt collectors. He has defended clients in lawsuits brought by credit card companies and other financial institutions, and has litigated many business cases.

At 11 am Monday, March 25, Hazel Brown, Human Resources Consultant, and Judy Collister, vice president of Human Resources at Park Place Technologies, will present "Inside Perspectives from HR Professionals: Learn 'How Things Work.'" Their presentation will include an overview of the recruiting and hiring processes at different types of organizations, both large and small, as well as for-profit and nonprofit companies, followed by a question-and-answer period and discussion.

## Teen Scene (Grades 7-12)

**Teen Center**, Main Library, 2nd Fl  
3:30-8 Monday-Thursday

*Spring Recess Hours: 1-5:30 pm  
Thursday, March 28 & April 1-4*

### ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

Join us for card making, cookie decorating, and other sweet treats! Make a card for someone special or just for fun!

4:15-5 pm Weds., February 13

*In-person, phone, and online registration began January 30.*

### YOUR PLACE IN THE WOODS

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

Join friends after school in the Dietz Community Room.

3-4:30 pm Mondays

*No registration required. No program  
Presidents' Day, Monday, February 18.*

### THINK SPRING (Grades 7-12)

Celebrate the first day of spring by making spring-themed crafts, including a homemade chia pet that you can take home and watch grow.

4:15-5 pm Wednesday, March 20

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

### READING PAYS OFF FOR TEENS!

Teens (12-17) can earn coupons to pay off current overdue fines on Shaker Library material by reading.

3-5 pm February 12, March 12 & 29 at **Main Library**

3-5 pm February 21, March 7 and & 2-4 pm March 29 at **Woods Branch**

### COMMUNITY ACTION

#### SERVICE FOR TEENS

Help your neighbors and earn community service hours at a teen service learning project.

11 am-noon Saturday, February 23

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

# Kids' Corner

**MAIN LIBRARY** • 16500 VAN AKEN BOULEVARD • 216-991-2030 OPTION 7  
**BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH** • 20600 FAYETTE ROAD • 216-991-2421 OPTION 7

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

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  
and Saturdays

6-8 pm Tuesdays

*No registration required.*

## **PLAY AND LEARN BABIES**

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

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays  
and Saturdays

*No registration required.*

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

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

10 am-noon Wednesdays

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

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

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

1-3 pm Fridays

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

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

## **NESTLINGS** (birth to 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: March 11-May 7

9:30 am Mondays at Main Library

9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

*No registration required.*

## **FLEDGLINGS** (15 to 24 months)

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

Spring Session: March 11-May 7

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-old children with an adult.

Spring Session: March 11-May 8

10 am Mondays and Wednesdays

at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays at Main Library

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

## **STEPS (SECURITY, TOUCH, EYES, PLAY, SOUND) EARLY BRAIN DEVELOPMENT FAMILY WORKSHOPS**

Five-week sessions for parents, caregivers, and children. Shaker Library and Beech Brook offer the STEPS program as an opportunity for families and caregivers of children from birth to age 5 to learn ways to nurture

brain development and help children enter school ready to learn.

6:30-7:30 pm Tuesdays beginning  
February 5 at Woods Branch

6:30-7:30 pm Thursdays beginning  
February 7 at Main Library

*Register in person, by phone or online beginning two weeks before the programs.*

## **PRESCHOOL STORIES**

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

March 12-May 9

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

10 am Wednesdays at Main Library

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

## **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.

March 7-April 18

10:45-11:15 am Thursdays

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning February 21.*

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

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

March 4-April 15

4:15-5 pm Mondays

*Register in person, by phone, or online beginning February 18.*



**SATURDAY FAMILY STORYTIME  
AT MAIN LIBRARY**

Stories and fun for the whole family.  
Spring Session: March 16-May 11  
10 am Saturday  
*No registration required.*

**PAJAMA STORIES AT  
WOODS BRANCH**

Stories for children ages 3 and up  
with or without an adult.  
7:15 pm Mondays February 18 &  
March 18  
*Register online, in person, or by phone  
beginning two weeks before each pro-  
gram.*

**READ TO KING AT MAIN LIBRARY**  
(School-age students)

Enjoy reading with a furry friend!  
King is certified with Therapy Dogs  
International and loves to listen to  
stories. Bring a favorite book or  
choose one of the library's many  
dog-friendly titles. Students can sign  
up for a 15-minute time slot.  
3:30-5 pm, Wednesdays,  
February 20 & March 20  
*Register in person or by phone begin-  
ning two weeks before the event. Those  
who register online should also call  
the Children's Department to choose a  
specific time slot.*

**THE HOMEWORK CENTER  
AT MAIN LIBRARY**

Free homework help for students in  
grades 2-8. An adult must be pres-  
ent to register the student at the first  
visit. Students must be picked up by  
6:30 pm.  
4-6:30 pm Mondays, Tuesdays &  
Wednesdays  
Meeting Room F (second floor)  
(Closed Presidents' Day, Feb. 18.)

**WRITERS CLUB**

(Grades 2-4)  
Haiku, acrostic, cinquain, and even  
concrete – what do these forms all  
have in common? It's poetry, of  
course. Calling all poets wherever you  
are. Come and read and write poems  
about anything at all, and showcase  
your work at a reception at the end.  
April 9-May 14  
4:15-5 pm Tuesdays at Main Library  
4:15-5 pm Wednesdays at Woods  
Branch  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning Tuesday, March 26.*

**MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL ADDY  
AT WOODS BRANCH** (Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time to 1864 and learn  
what life was like for Addy on the  
Underground Railroad. Enjoy a read-  
ing from one of the books in the doll's  
series, watch a DVD, make a craft,  
and enjoy a snack.  
2:30-4 pm Saturday, February 16  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning February 2.*

**INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH WITH  
MANGO LANGUAGES AT MAIN  
LIBRARY** (Grades K-6)

Learn some basic Spanish conversa-  
tional skills with Mango Languages,  
a fun online program available on all  
Library computers and from the com-  
fort of your own home, with a library  
card. With Mango you'll be speaking  
the language right away!  
4:15-5 pm Thursday, February 21  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning February 5.*

**CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS  
BOOK PARTY AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(Grades K & Up)  
Snap your fingers and be a super-  
hero! Join us for activities, crafts,  
and a snack as we celebrate Captain  
Underpants. Don't miss a top-secret  
misadventure!  
2-2:45 pm, Saturday, March 9 in  
Meeting Room F  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning February 23.*

**INTRODUCTION TO IRISH WITH  
MANGO LANGUAGES AT MAIN  
LIBRARY** (Grades K-6)

Learn some Irish words and phras-  
es and impress your friends on St.  
Patrick's Day! Mango Languages is  
available on all Library computers,  
and also from home, with a library  
card.  
4:15-5 pm Tuesday, March 12  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning February 26.*

**MEET AMERICAN GIRL DOLL  
SAMANTHA AT WOODS BRANCH**  
(Grades 1-5)

Travel back in time to 1904 and learn  
what life was like for Samantha in  
Mount Bedford, New York. Enjoy a  
reading from one of the books in the  
doll's series, watch a DVD make a  
craft, and enjoy a snack.  
2:30-4 pm Saturday, March 16  
*Register in person, by phone, or online  
beginning March 2.*

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Free Classes for Jobseekers and Others in Transition

The Career Transition Center is a place for job seekers in transition and career change. It is located in the Community Entrepreneurial Office (CEO) on the second floor of the Main Library and is open from 9:30 am-5 pm Monday-Thursday and from 10 am-3 pm Fridays, where staff offer free one-on-one job coaching and job referrals. In addition to individual counseling, CTC staff offers free afternoon workshops at Main Library. Register online or by calling the Career Transition Center at 216-367-3011.

#### IMPROVING INTERVIEWING SKILLS

1-3 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1-3 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Preparation is the essential ingredient for a successful job interview and begins with research to insure the job is right for you. Learn how to find what the employer is seeking so your answers differentiate you from other candidates.

#### NETWORKING EFFECTIVELY

10 AM-NOON, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14

1-3 PM THURSDAY MARCH 14

A network of people helps you gather information about industries, trends, and new career fields. Learn how to build and maintain business relationships that can help in your job search and career.

#### APPLICATIONS THAT GET NOTICED

10 AM-NOON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

1-3 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Most job applications are completed online, and a computer scans them for keywords for skills, education, and experience important to the employer. It also scans for keywords that could screen out candidates. Learn how to tackle the questions on online applica-

tions to ensure yours will be read.

#### PLAN YOUR WORK/ WORK YOUR PLAN

10 AM-NOON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

An action plan can increase your productivity. Learn to set achievable goals and develop a daily and weekly action plan to track accomplishments and monitor progress.

#### RESULTS-ORIENTED RESUMES

1-3 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

10 AM-NOON THURSDAY, MARCH 28

In job searching, your principal "sales tool" is a well-designed, targeted resume. This workshop will teach you what will catch the employers' attention and make them want to interview you.

#### KEYS TO FINDING THE HIDDEN JOBS

1-3 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Wouldn't it be great to be the only applicant for the job you seek? Learn the research required to find the best job for you and to learn about positions before they are advertised.

#### TIME MANAGEMENT FOR JOB SEEKERS

1-3 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 19

Many job seekers do not spend time efficiently to get the best outcome for their time invested. Learn the ABC method and how to overcome obstacles to find success!

### Computer Classes in February and March

The Library offers free training classes on a variety of topics, from the basics of computers to more advanced use. All classes meet in the Main Library Training Lab. Please register by calling 216-991-2030 and choosing Option 9.

#### EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE

10 AM-NOON AND

3-5 PM SATURDAYS, FEBRUARY 2, 16 AND MARCH 2

Through a grant from Connect Ohio, this series of three classes covers the basics of computer use. Successful completion of the series entitles attendees discounts on Broadband access and rebuilt computers.

#### MACROS IN WORD® AND EXCEL®

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Learn how to use macros, a series of steps grouped together as a single step, to save time.

#### OPENOFFICE.ORG

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Can't afford the software? Try this 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.

#### GOOGLE DOCUMENTS™

10-11:30 AM WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

3-4:30 PM SATURDAY, MARCH 16

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

#### INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT ACCESS 2010®

6:30-8:30 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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 field that connects or relates separate sources of information together about a person, such as medical or school history, or political party affiliation.



## LIBRARY NEWS

### INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT 2010®

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12  
7-8:30 PM MONDAY, MARCH 4

Learn how to create a slide show with text and graphics, edit slides, and add sound and animation. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL 2010®

10-11:30 AM WEDS., FEBRUARY 13

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

### TABLES IN MICROSOFT

#### ACCESS 2010®

6:30-8:30 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14  
Learn how to design and use data tables in Access.

### MAILMERGE IN MICROSOFT

#### OFFICE 2010

7-8:30 PM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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 or directories can be created using MailMerge.

### GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT 2010®

10-11:30 AM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Learn how to insert clip art, Word Art, digital pictures, and text boxes into PowerPoint slides. Basic familiarity with creating slides and slideshows is expected.

### CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL 2010®

10-11:30 AM WEDS., FEBRUARY 20  
7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Explore how Excel can display data as visual charts; learn the 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.

### FORMS IN MICROSOFT

#### ACCESS 2010®

6:30-8:30 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21  
Forms do two things in database programs. They make data entry less risky and allow users to see data.

### GOOGLE MAPS

3-4:30 PM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Get directions, do property research, and take virtual strolls down streets. Need to go somewhere? Want to walk or bike instead? When's the next bus coming? Find the answers using Google Maps!

### ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT 2010®

3-4:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26  
7-8:30 PM MONDAY, MARCH 18

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, adding new slides and using graphics. Using the mouse and searching on the Internet are required skills.

### FORMULAS FOR SPREADSHEETS

10-11:30 AM WEDS., FEBRUARY 27  
7-8:30 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 21

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

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



### The Catholic Community for the Shaker Square Neighborhood

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For information: 216-421-4211

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# Summer

## Outdoor Adventure Camps

June 17 through August 15

- New storytime program for parent and child, ages 2½-7
- Full day camps for children ages 5-15
- Half-day camps for ages 2½-5
- Overnight camps for children ages 11-15
- New off-site field trips and rockwall climbing classes
- Early Bird discounts until March 1
- Scholarships available

*Explore Nature Inside & Out*  
Visit [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org) to register!



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[www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org) • (216) 321-5935, ext. 235

Nature Center  
AT SHAKER LAKES

## LIBRARY NEWS

### QUERIES IN MICROSOFT

#### ACCESS 2010®

6:30-8:30 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

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

### EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE

10 AM-NOON TUESDAYS,

MARCH 5, 12 & 19

Through a grant from Connect Ohio, this series of three classes covers the basics of computer use. Successful completion of the series entitles attendees discounts on Broadband access and rebuilt computers.

### EVERY CITIZEN ONLINE

10 AM-NOON WEDNESDAYS,

MARCH 6, 13, & 20

Through a grant from Connect Ohio, this series of three classes covers the basics of computer use. Successful completion of the series entitles attendees discounts on Broadband access and rebuilt computers.

### REPORTS IN MICROSOFT

#### ACCESS 2010®

6:30-8 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 7

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 or will not be included.

### GOOGLEMANIA™

10-11:30 AM SATURDAY, MARCH 16

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



### End Notes

- **ABLE/GED Classes** are held from 9 to 11:30 am Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Main Library Teen Center. Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) is for adults who need help in basic skills, reading, writing, and math. General Education Development classes consist of reviews of reading comprehension, social studies, writing, mathematics, and science in preparation for the General Education Diploma (GED). Participants must pre-register by calling the ABLE office at 216-371-7138.

- **English In Action**, a free program for those seeking to learn to read and speak English, meets at 7 pm every Tuesday at Main Library.

- **Knit Mornings** are held from 10 am to noon Wednesdays, February 6 and March 6 at Main Library. Knit Nights are held from 7-8:45 pm Thursdays, February 21 and March 21. Bring a project and get or give help at these creative mornings and evenings led by experienced knitters Fern Braverman and Elfriede Heaney. All skill levels are welcome and no registration is required.

- **American Sign Language classes** at Main Library. Valerie Williams will teach basic signing using role play and other fun activities from 2-3 pm Sundays at Main Library February 3 through March 24. The class is progressive, building from one skill to another, and is appropriate for adults and children over 10 accompanied by an adult. Homework is also expected. Registration began January 7.

- Main Library and Woods Branch will **delay opening** until 10:30 am Friday, March 15 for staff training and development. Main Library will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 31. 🐰

# Explore



## Summer at Laurel

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# *the love goes both ways*

How a family of prominent musicians – all members of The Cleveland Orchestra – found a home in Shaker.

**BY SUE STARRETT**

Shaker Heights has attracted many groups of residents over the years, beginning with the Shaker religious sect. Later, Cleveland's captains of industry, lawyers, doctors, middle-class workers and, lately, international families have all found a home here. The community is also home to a number of musical artists, and The Cleveland Orchestra's October 11 performance at Shaker Heights High School, supported by the Alfred Lerner In-School Performance Fund, reminded residents of the daily presence of these world-class musicians in our community. Indeed, the students who were coached by Orchestra musicians that morning may also encounter them at Horseshoe Lake, Shaker Square, or the grocery store.

Many of The Cleveland Orchestra's music directors and board presidents live or lived in Shaker (see chart), and for years, our music-loving residents have supported the Orchestra as patrons, donors, and volunteers.

The Cleveland Orchestra is one of the finest in the world, and its musicians are considered among the very best in their profession. They have many choices about where to live and how to spend their leisure time, and 21 of the ensemble's 102 members make their homes in Shaker Heights. Seventeen other Shaker residents sing with either the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus or the Blossom Festival Chorus, and 11 Shaker Heights High School students belong to the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra.

And the love goes both ways, as Shaker is home to 408 households that subscribe to Cleveland Orchestra concerts.

Half of the Orchestra members who live in Shaker Heights are principal or assistant principal players, including the Orchestra's internationally known concertmaster, William Preucil. Three other members of the Preucil family – each an accomplished violinist – also make their homes in Shaker: Bill's daughter Alexandra, known as Lexi, his sister Jeanne Preucil Rose, and Jeanne's husband Stephen Rose.

**The Preucil-Rose family**, from left: William Preucil, Lexi Preucil, Jeanne Preucil Rose, and Stephen Rose in the Grand Foyer of Severance Hall. PHOTO BY ALEJANDRO RIVERA.



**Cleveland Orchestra** bassist and Shaker resident Scott Dixon (center) works with members of the Shaker Heights High School chamber orchestra. PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES

A recent conversation with this extended family revealed their high regard for the beautiful architecture, tree-lined streets, outstanding public and private schools, and proximity to University Circle. (They also appreciate the City's backyard trash pickup.)

Most importantly, they know that Shaker is a community that values the arts and welcomes artists.

In 1995, Bill Preucil, his wife Gwen, and Lexi led the way to Shaker, when Bill took the job as the Orchestra's concertmaster. They relocated from Rochester, New York to the Mercer neighborhood because they were interested in enrolling Lexi at Laurel School.

After the birth of their second daughter, Nicole, the Preucils needed a larger home but didn't want to give up what they loved about their neighborhood. So they built on a vacant lot rather than moving elsewhere.

Bill is one of the world's great musicians by any measure. At 16, he graduated with honors from the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. Before joining The Cleveland Orchestra, Bill had been a member of the Grammy-winning Cleveland Quartet for seven seasons – which is based in Rochester – and was concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra from 1982 to 1989. He is a graduate of Indiana University and serves on the faculties of the Cleveland Institute of Music and Furman University. His busy schedule includes international performances as a guest soloist with other orchestras, and as a member of the Atlanta-based Lanier Trio, which has been performing in the U.S. and Europe with the same musicians since 1986.



## What Exactly Does a Concertmaster Do?

Stephen Rose and Jeanne Preucil Rose were next to arrive in town. Steve joined the Orchestra's first violin section in 1997 and became principal second violin in 2001; Jeanne joined the first violins in 1999. They became friends while earning their bachelor of music degrees at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and they later graduated with advanced degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester.

Steve now chairs the violin department at CIM. As an undergrad at CIM, Jeanne nannied for a Cleveland Orchestra family who lived in the Lomond area, so she and Steve knew where they wanted to buy a house when they moved here. After the Preucil-Rose household expanded to include their children Maddie and Nathan, they moved to the Mercer area.

Lexi attended Laurel and graduated from CIM's Young Artists Program; she also earned her bachelor of music degree at CIM. As a teenager, she served as concertmaster of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, and in 2008, joined her father and aunt in The Cleveland Orchestra's first violin section. She was 12 when her family moved to Shaker and has fond memories of "the outdoors and the lakes, the fantastic schools, and the amazing kids. It's so family-friendly here."

Bill and Jeanne were raised in Iowa City, Iowa, by professional violinist Doris and violist William Preucil, who would establish the Preucil School of Music there to teach the Suzuki Method of violin instruction. All four of their adult children are professional string players. Bill started playing at age five. He says that being in Shaker Heights reminds him of his time in Iowa City, though "it's a little more cosmopolitan here, yet with Midwestern values. It's very comfortable." Jeanne remembers walking to school and playing outside

*continued on page 31*

Shaker resident William Preucil was appointed concertmaster of The Cleveland Orchestra by Music Director Christoph von Dohnányi in 1995 and served for seven years in that capacity. He is now in his 10th year as Franz Welser-Möst's concertmaster. In a symphonic orchestra, the concertmaster is second only to the music director (a.k.a. the conductor) in importance.

The concertmaster plays first violin, and is expected to possess superior playing ability, broad musicianship, and a great deal of on-stage poise. The concertmaster tunes the orchestra for rehearsals and concerts, and plays all the violin solos except concertos, which are performed by a guest artist – although the concertmaster sometimes is featured as a guest artist.

And, as the liaison between the orchestra and the music director, the concertmaster is expected to lead by example.

The concertmaster sits to the conductor's left on stage and is visible to all of the violins, as well as the violas, cellos, and basses. Sometimes, if a guest conductor is vague or somewhat inexperienced, it falls to the concertmaster to lead the orchestra – subtly.

The position demands a great deal of behind-the-scenes work. The concertmaster establishes techniques for consistent bowing, phrasing, and the overall sound for the entire string section. This requires extensive study of scores and knowledge of what the composer intended, as well as intimate familiarity with how the music director wants to interpret the piece. Preucil is expected to keep the music director's vision at the forefront and to provide musical continuity when the music director is not on the podium.

Some of the duties of concertmaster cannot be codified. Preucil recalls a mid-performance moment when a hornet landed on von Dohnányi's back. Preucil said later, "I gave him a good whack with my bow. He turned around and looked at me like I had just shot him. Then he saw the thing buzzing around and he understood."

– Sue Starrett



KEVIN G. REEVES

## The Cleveland Orchestra's Shaker Heights Residents

### Musicians

NAME	POSITION	YEAR JOINED TCO	CHILDREN IN CITY SCHOOLS
Trina Struble Bourne	Principal Harp	1992	
Hans Clebsch	Horn	1996	Luis, 9th grade, High School
John Clouser	Principal Bassoon	1997	Theodore, 5th grade, Woodbury Timothy, 1st grade, Boulevard
Marc Damoulakis	Percussion	2006	
Maximilian Dimoff	Principal Bass	1997	Isabel, 11th grade, High School Xavier, 9th grade, High School
Elayna Duitman	Second Violin	2010	David, 4th grade, Boulevard Lukas Verhage, Kdg, Boulevard
Scott Dixon	Bass	2007	
Shachar Israel	Asst Principal Trombone	2009	
Mark Kosower	Principal Cello	2010	
Emilio Llinas	Asst Principal Second Violin	1968	Emilio, SHHS '84 Loren, SHHS '88
Michael Mayhew	Associate Principal Horn	1997	
Jesse McCormick	Horn	2006	
Ioana Missits	Second Violin	2000	Alexander Lee, 5th grade, Woodbury Adrian Lee, 2nd grade, Lomond
Alexandra Preucil	First Violin	2008	
William Preucil	Concertmaster	1995	
Lynne Ramsey	First Asst Principal Viola	1988	Chris Irvine, SHHS '08 Chloe Thominet, 12th grade, SHHS (CIM Young Artist)
Jeanne Preucil Rose	First Violin	1999	Nathan, 6th grade, Woodbury Maddie, 4th grade, Mercer
Stephen Rose	Principal Second Violin	1997	Nathan, 6th grade, Woodbury Maddie, 4th grade, Mercer
Robert Walters	English Horn	2004	
Yu Yuan	First Violin	2001	
Jeffrey Zehngut	Second Violin	2011	

*For more information about these musicians, visit [clevelandorchestra.com/about/people.aspx](http://clevelandorchestra.com/about/people.aspx).*

### Music Directors

NAME	TENURE
George Szell	1946-1970
Lorin Maazel	1972-1982
Christoph von Dohnányi	1984-2002
Franz Welser-Möst	2002-present

### Musical Arts Association Board Presidents

NAME	TENURE
Thomas L. Sidlo	1939-1953
Frank E. Joseph	1957-1968
Ward Smith	1983-1995
James D. Ireland III	2002-2008
Dennis LaBarre	2008-present





**Some of** The Cleveland Orchestra members who live in Shaker. Front row: Hans Clebsch, Elayna Duitman, Ioana Misits, Jeanne Preucil Rose, Trina Struble Bourne, Yu Yuan. Back row: Robert Walters, Marc Damoulakis, Stephen Rose, Jesse McCormick, Mark Kosower, and Jeffrey Zehngut. PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES

as a child and feels that Shaker is a similarly safe place for her children. Steve, who grew up in Natchitoches, Louisiana, didn't experience a real fall or winter until moving north. "I would have never imagined living in a neighborhood like Shaker; it's really a dream."

The Preucil-Rose family also enjoys the easy commute to University Circle. "I don't have to use an expressway to go to work. It's great, a pretty drive," says Bill. Steve says that their friends from other American orchestras are amazed that they can arrive at Severance Hall in 15 minutes. "They also are impressed that Shaker has street after street of beautiful homes, with such a variety of architectural styles."

Though they all spend many hours practicing, performing, and teaching, the Preucil-Rose family members find time to enjoy being part of the Shaker community.

"It was so cool when the Orchestra performed at Shaker Heights High School," says Lexi, who teaches privately and was happy to see some of her students among Shaker High's own orchestra musicians. Eight Cleveland Orchestra members, including Jeanne and Lexi, also took time to work with the school's chamber orchestra that day. The school's orchestra director, Donna Jelen, was thrilled: "The coaching session was a phenomenal opportunity for our students. The effects of the session and the subsequent performance by the Cleveland Orchestra were obvious. All three of my orchestra groups came to class with fresh energy and a renewed sense of purpose, and the results were magnificent."

Jeanne and Steve have come to know a number of families through Nathan's participation in Shaker baseball's traveling team. All the Preucils attend his games, and Steve and Nathan often go to High School football games. Lexi studies ballet at Cleveland City Dance (and Nicole is a ballet student at the Cleveland School of Dance). They all love the restaurants at Shaker Square and enjoy walking their dogs in the median park along Shaker Boulevard. Bill plays golf, often at Canterbury, and Jeanne gardens.

"For my birthday a few years ago I got a pond with fish, and I love sitting there watching them and enjoying the plants and flowers. I love to walk around the mazes of streets, looking at all of the houses. Even now, ten years later, I don't really know all of the street names, but somehow they all lead me back home. We travel a lot, but there is no place like home." 🌿







## ANNUAL CAMPS & PRESCHOOLS ROUND-UP

# Answers from an expert

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Dr. Deborah Friedman, a prominent Shaker pediatrician, sorts through some of the issues that commonly confront first-time campers and their parents.

**By Diana Simeon**

During the throes of winter, it's hard to remember those long and lazy days of summer. But if you are thinking about sending your children to camp this year, then it's time to do just that. Most camps, including those here in Shaker, are now enrolling for the coming season.

For many families, camp is old hat. For others, it's brand-new territory. To help sort through what parents may want to know before signing their children up for summer camp, Shaker Life caught up with Deborah Friedman, MD, a Shaker resident and pediatrician with Suburban Pediatrics, which is part of the University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital network.

Not only does Dr. Friedman see plenty of prospective campers at Suburban Pediatrics' office on Warrensville Center Road, she's got up-close camp experience too. She's volunteered in the infirmaries at Camp Wise in Chardon and the Goldman Union Camp Institute in Zionsville, Indiana. Her four teenage daughters, who attend Shaker Schools, have been to all kinds of camps over the years.

**Dr. Deborah Friedman** with daughters from left: Rachel Marek, Leah Marek, Sarah Marek, and Rebecca Marek. PHOTO BY GREEN STREET STUDIO



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## *Why go to camp?*

Camp can be a great experience for children. It gives them an opportunity to socialize in a new setting, spend time away from their parents, and learn new skills. For younger kids, camp is often an extension of preschool. There might be different activities or more outdoor play, but children are still learning how to trust and respect an adult teacher, how to connect with other children, how to explore the world and how to separate from their parents. These are important skills for younger children.

As children get older, camps can present opportunities to learn a specialized skill or just to do something completely different from their normal routine. Camp also challenges kids by taking them a little bit outside of their comfort zones. There are wonderful teenage and adult role models at camp. They are energetic and can do things with kids that parents often don't have the time and energy for.

## *What should I look for in a camp?*

The first thing to explore is what your child wants from camp. Then look at a camp's reputation and accreditation. There are so many different kinds of camps. Your child can go for a few days, a week, even up to eight weeks or more. There's sleep-away camp and day camp. There are special-interest camps, where the focus is on performing arts, sports, hobbies, or even special needs. And there are traditional outdoor camps, where kids spend time doing a variety of activities, socializing and enjoying nature.

At many camps, swimming is included. That is an excellent skill that every child should learn. You want a social environment that you think your child will be comfortable in. Look at the leadership of the camp. Who's running it and how do they structure the day? What kind of training do the



counselors receive? For example, for younger children, you want to make sure the staff has been trained to work with preschoolers.

### *How do I know my child is ready for camp?*

Younger children are ready for camp when they can separate from their parents and play independently or with other children. They should also be verbal enough to express their needs. If a child is doing well in preschool, then he probably will be fine in most age-appropriate camp settings.

For sleep-away camp, the age will vary from child to child. Some children do better if they start in the teen years, but that's not universal. Many do well at overnight camp much younger; many overnight camps begin around third grade, or about age 8. It's important for parents to ask themselves if their child wants to go to sleep-away camp. That's not the only indicator to consider, but a child who wants to go will likely be more ready than one who does not want to go. Does he or she have a sense of independence? Is your child able to spend the night away from you, say at a friend's house or a grandparent's house? Older children should also be able to take care of their basic needs, including hygiene, before they go to sleep-away camp.

### *What about homesickness?*

Homesickness is really common. The first week, children will often write letters that say, "I hate it here" or something else that makes parents want to come to the rescue. But children are frequently better off if we don't make a major intervention. Often, by the time we get that letter home, they're over it. If you're really worried, then calling the camp and getting the director's perspective on how your child is doing is appropriate. But talking to your child

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directly can be counter-productive because it can just add to what she's feeling.

### *What's helpful to say in a letter to a homesick child?*

You can write a supportive note to your child, where you acknowledge her feelings, but then move on and tell her that you love her and miss her, but you're sure she is fine. It's also helpful to focus on something your child is doing at camp that's positive. Maybe it's something that's going to happen at camp or something she's mentioned.

Also reassure your child that you are doing fine because sometimes homesickness is about kids worrying about what's going on at home. You can say you're busy doing whatever it is you're doing, so your child knows that your life is continuing in a positive way.

### *Does my child need a physical for camp?*

Probably. A lot of camps require medical information, which can include forms signed by a doctor or a physical exam.

### *What if my child gets sick?*

Most sleep-away camps have a well-stocked infirmary, staffed with either a nurse or a doctor. Often, if a camper is mildly ill, the first person to know will be the counselor. That person probably has had some training about what to look for in terms of serious illness or injury. If it's a persistent complaint or concern, your child will be brought to the infirmary to be evaluated. Most camp infirmaries can handle mild illnesses and injuries – bug bites, poison ivy, minor injuries, colds, sore throats, fevers, and other typical things. If your child needs further evaluation, he probably will be taken to a medical facility, at which point the camp should call the parent.

*continued on page 39*

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### Get Ready! Program

Back in the day, kindergarten was a lot like nursery school: lots of play, a story or two, and home by noon for lunch.

No more. In Shaker and most communities in the United States, kindergarten is now a full-day affair, where five-year-olds are expected to be acclimated to a classroom setting from the get-go.

But for children who've never been to school, this can be a tough transition. In Shaker, a summer program called Get Ready! is here to help.

The five-week program is offered by Carol Nursery School and the City's Recreation Department.

"It's for children who've had little or no preschool experience and who are entering kindergarten this fall," explains Carol Nursery Director Sara Miller. "It orients them to what school will look like when they get there."

Get Ready! is based at Carol Nursery in the Family Connections building, 19824 Sussex Road, and staffed by the school's teachers. The program's play-based curriculum helps children learn classroom routines, as well as listening and cooperation skills. And there's lots of literacy and math in the mix too.

Additional support for Get Ready! comes from PNC Grow Up Great. In 2011, the program won a Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Human Relations from the City.

This summer, Get Ready! will run from Monday to Thursday, 9 am-1 pm, June 24 to July 25. Lunch is included. Cost is \$60. Contact Carol Nursery at 216-991-3449 for more information.

# Programs for the Little Ones

## Carol Nursery's 80th Anniversary

How many nursery schools can say they've served more than three generations of Clevelanders? Not many, but Shaker's Carol Nursery School sure can.

The school is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. It was founded in 1932 on East 105th Street and has been a fixture in Shaker since 1985, when it moved from University Heights.

Carol Nursery is located in the Family Connections building, where it offers classes for children ages two to five. It has a Three-Star "Step Up to Quality" rating from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. That's the highest possible rating by the agency, and it was one of the first preschools in Ohio to get it.

No surprise, then, that Carol Nursery has been popular among Shaker families for many years. Currently, around 140 students are enrolled at the school.

"Carol has such a warm, accepting environment," says enthusiastic Shaker resident Adrienne Allotta. "It's enabled my son to become more independent and acclimated to classroom learning."

That's the goal, explains Director Sara Miller. "Our program seeks to meet children's major developmental needs through play-based learning. We individualize our curriculum to support our students socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically. The result is a confident child who has gained the social and academic skills needed for the next step in the school."

Carol Nursery is celebrating its anniversary with a party on April 13 at the historic Rockefeller Center on Mayfield Road. Tickets for the event are available at 216-991-3449. All proceeds go to the school.



GREEN STREET STUDIO

# Local Camps

## Shaker Heights Recreation Department

### TRADITIONAL CAMPS

For children grades K-2, the traditional camp includes creative arts and sports, such as swimming, t-ball, soccer, and basketball. Children grades 3-8 are able to design their own camp day, choosing from a variety of activities such as chess, arts and crafts, hiking, science, scrapbooking, swimming, volleyball, golf, soccer, and floor hockey. Field trips are part of the schedule for both age groups.

### SPORTS & SPECIALTY CAMPS

Shaker also offers the following sports camps: baseball, basketball, fencing, flag football, golf, lacrosse, field hockey, skateboarding, soccer, and tennis.

Specialty camps include: art, math, nature studies, science, and computer camps. Also offered: Safety Town, Safety Town Counselor in Training, Teens Learning to Connect (community service-oriented activities), Shaker on Stage (theater), outdoor multi-sport adventure camp, jazz camp and band camp.

Glide and Slide Camp is designed for ages 5 and older. This camp includes group skating and swimming lessons, as well as open skating and swimming.

Preschool in the Park is a program focused on literacy and physical activity for preschoolers 3-5 years, accompanied by an adult caregiver.

A camps brochure is mailed to all residents along with the spring/summer recreation brochure. Schedules also available at Thornton Park, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, City Hall, and both Shaker Heights public libraries. For more information, contact the Recreation Department, 216-491-1295, or shakeronline.com.

### The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes offers a variety of weekly camps, all with an outdoor adventure theme. Half- and full-day camps are available for children age 3-½ to 13; campers ages 11 to 15 can also sign up for overnight camps. Camps run from June 17 to August 15. Registration started in January. For more information, contact Rana Bottino, 216-321-5935, ext. 226, or shakerlakes.org.

### Carol Nursery School

Get Ready! is a five-week program for children entering kindergarten in the fall. Carol Nursery School, in partnership with the Shaker Heights Recreation Department, offers the program, which is specifically designed for children who have had little or no preschool experience. A play-based curriculum taught by Carol Nursery teachers helps orient children to being in a school environment. A special focus is placed

on practicing classroom routines, listening and cooperation skills, with important emphasis placed on literacy and math skills. The program is offered Monday to Thursday, 9 to 1 pm, June 24 to July 25. Lunch is included. For information, contact Carol Nursery School at 216-991-3449.

### Early Childhood Enrichment Center (ECEC)

Located in the Family Connections building at 19824 Sussex Road, the ECEC camp offers the Summer School Age Camp, which spans the 10 weeks that Shaker Schools are not in session. The camp is open to children 6 to 8 years old and includes swimming lessons at Thornton Park, cooking, nature activities, and field trips. For information, contact ECEC at 216-991-9761 or ececsaker.org.

### Hathaway Brown

Broad Horizons for Beginners is for boys and girls, ages 3 and 4, who are entering preschool or pre-K. There is also Broad Horizons camp for girls K-8, where campers participate in a variety of activities (swimming, lanyard, art, stitchery, and more). Dates for that program are June 17 to July 25. HB also offers an August vacation camp, July 29-August 16, for boys and girls ages 3-14. For information, contact Siva Grossman, 216-320-8085, or hb.edu.

### Laurel School

Summer at Laurel (June 17-August 9) features camp experiences for boys and girls, pre-K to grade 12. New offerings include: Adventure Camps, Equestrian Camps, Sports Camps, and Theater Camps along with favorites, including Gator Train Camp for the youngest campers, The Magic Tree House Camp for first- and second-graders, and the Daring Camp for third- and fourth-graders. Weekly science camps are designed and led by the Great Lakes Science Center. Laurel Summer Institute offers for-credit courses in speech, Performing Arts, and SAT Prep for girls and boys in grades 9-12. Register online at laurelschool.org/summer by March 1 and get a five percent discount. For more information, contact Summer at Laurel at 216-455-0154 or summer@laurelschool.org.

### University School

University School offers K-12 co-ed and all boys summer day camps, sports camps, and academic enrichment programs. Held at the Shaker Heights and Hunting Valley campuses, the summer programs are led by experienced US coaches and faculty. From football to swimming and from Theater Camp to the Leadership Academy, there is something for all ages. For complete program listings and to register, visit us.edu. For more information, contact Debbie Linich at 831-1984



***My child takes medication. How do camps handle that?***

Many children take medications, so it's not unusual. Most traditional camps have prescription and over-the-counter medicines held by the infirmary with some system for dispensing them. Make sure you look at the camp's policies. Don't just throw your child's medication in his duffle bag. Many camps are going to systems where parents are required to use certain pharmacies to fill the prescription, so it's labeled and packaged in a certain way.

***What if my child has a serious allergy or other medical issue?***

With day camp, it's similar to school. For example, for a child with a severe allergy, the counselor would carry the EpiPen. But I do think that for parents of children with serious allergies or other serious medical issues, there can be anxiety about sleep-away camp. There are some steps parents can take. For example, children with a serious food allergy should know what they're allergic to, what the symptoms are, and what foods they should avoid. Camps need to know this too, and actually a lot of camps are already avoiding certain foods that many children are allergic to. They may, for instance, have a nut-free campus. You might also be more cautious about which camp you choose. Consider picking a camp where your child will be near a medical facility in case of an emergency.

Want more? There are two resources that many parents find helpful. The American Camp Association ([aca-camps.org](http://aca-camps.org)) offers a database of more than 2,400 accredited camps, as well as tips for selecting a camp. The National Camp Association ([summercamp.org](http://summercamp.org)) offers a free service called CampQuest, where parents can get recommendations for overnight camps based on their criteria (interests, budget, region, special needs). 🐾

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# Black History

## *as it happened*

When Cynthia Barta, the owner of C & B Liquidations, a Shaker Heights-based household liquidation service, was hired last winter to sell the contents of a Ludgate Road home, she was flabbergasted when she went down into the basement to see what might be worth salvaging.

She was confronted with a wall-to-wall collection of rare and valuable books and documents related to the African-American experience – a collection that had been forgotten for nearly 45 years.

The collector was the Rev. Charles Butcher, who had been affiliated with one of Cleveland's historic ministries – St. John African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church on East 40th Street. (The church is a Cleveland Historic Landmark and on the National Register of Historical Places.) Butcher died in 1966.

Barta had been called in by relatives because Butcher's wife, Mary Olmstead Butcher, had recently moved out of the Ludgate home and into The Woodlands of Shaker Heights assisted living facility on Chagrin Boulevard.

"The collection was so vast, it was confusing at first," Barta says. "Filing cabinets and shelves were just crammed with stuff. It was all over the place."

Among the thousands of items, the cache included:

- Noted 17th-century cartographer John Ogilby's *Atlas of Africa*, published in 1670.
- First editions of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Color Purple*, and W.E.B. Dubois' *Color and Democracy*.
- Pre-Civil War abolitionist pamphlets.
- Bills of sale for slaves.
- African-American poetry, including Cleveland's Langston Hughes and Paul Laurence Dunbar.
- Materials from Wilberforce University, the first private U.S. African-American college, located in central Ohio.
- One of the largest collections of A.M.E. Church material in America.

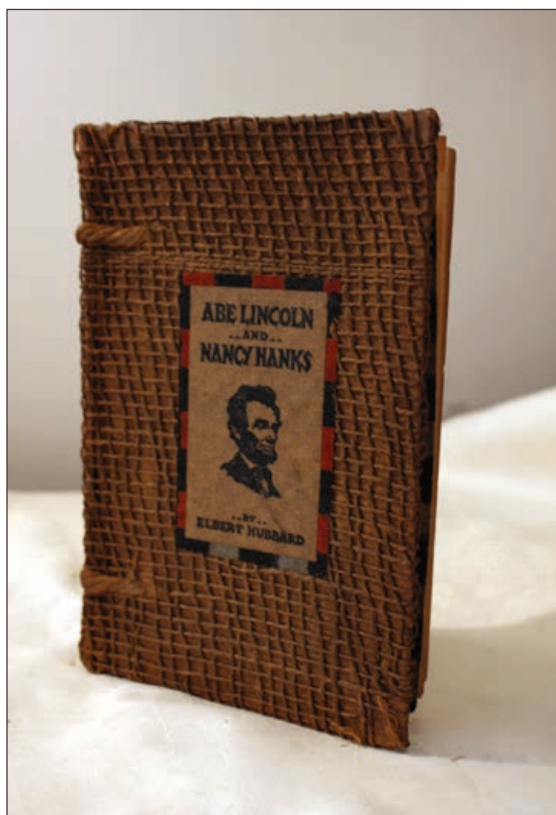
*continued on page 43*

**Cynthia Barta**, at her home, poses with an item from the vast collection of the late Rev. Charles Butcher. The drawing depicts the people who started the A.M.E. Church's Sunday School program. The man in the oval at the top is Daniel Payne, one of the founders of Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio in 1856. Payne, a bishop in the A.M.E. Church, was the first president of Wilberforce and the first African-American university president in the U.S. PHOTO BY JANET CENTURY



**Rev. Charles S. Butcher** (in suit and tie) with other A.M.E. Church officials in an undated photograph. PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY BUTCHER. **Opposite page:** The Butcher collection contained the hand-crafted book *Abe Lincoln and Nancy Hanks* by Elbert Hubbard. Hubbard was the founder of the Roycrofters in 1895, a community of craft workers and artists in East Aurora, New York. Some of them were bookbinders. The community also had a publishing arm, the Roycroft Press. The Roycrofters were part of the Arts and Crafts movement, and were a major influence on American architecture and design in the early 20th century. Hubbard also was widely known for his essay "A Message to Garcia," which extolled the virtues of excellence and hard work in business dealings.





Barta temporarily halted the process of liquidating the household and spent a good part of 2011 researching the material and “locating institutions that would best serve the collection and commemorate Reverend Butcher. I felt that this incredible piece of African-American history was placed in my hands for a reason. I was adamant that Reverend Butcher’s life’s work would be preserved.”

As a result, a large portion of the A.M.E. material was sold to the Church historiographer in Nashville and to Emory University in Atlanta, where The Charles S. Butcher Collection was formed.

Barta declines to give the amount of money realized from the sale, most of which has gone to Butcher’s widow, Mary, herself the author of a memoir called *Tho There Be No Tears: My Gram Was a Slave – Her Story and Mine*.

“Suffice to say Mary is set up for probably the rest of her life.”

— Rory O’Connor

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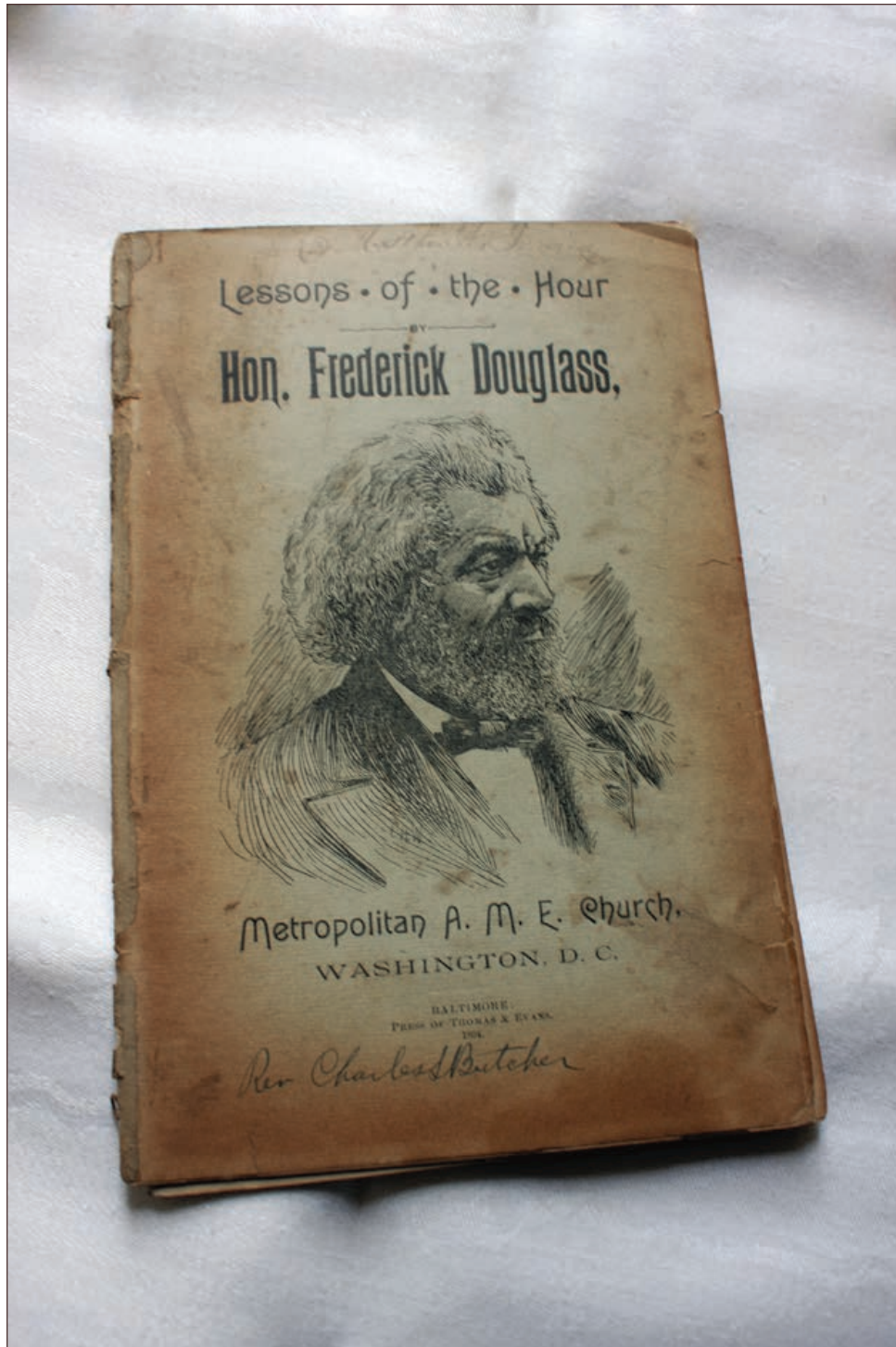
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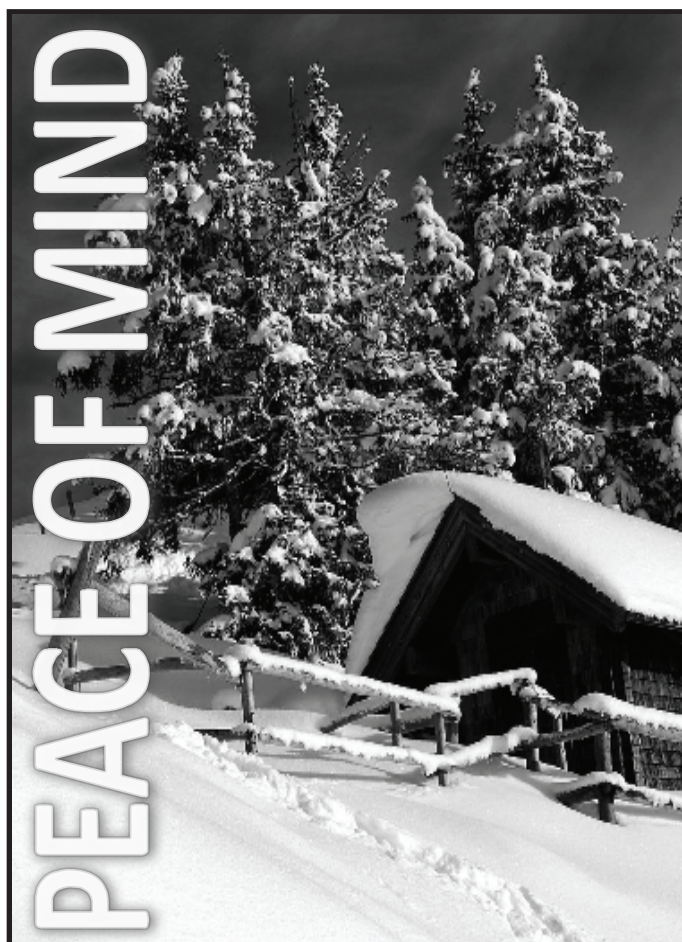
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**A rare gem** in the Butcher collection was “Lessons of the Hour,” a passionate speech that the great abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglass gave in January 1894, to the A.M.E. Church in Washington, D.C. Thomas & Evans, a publishing house in Baltimore, issued the speech that same year. An excerpt: “We claim to be a Christian country and a highly civilized nation, yet, I fearlessly affirm that there is nothing in the history of savages to surpass the blood chilling horrors and fiendish excesses perpetrated against the colored people by the so-called enlightened and Christian people of the South.” For a full text of the speech, go to [antislavery.eserver.org](http://antislavery.eserver.org), click “Legacies,” and scroll down to “Lessons of the Hour.” **Opposite page:** James Ogilby’s *Atlas of Africa*, published in 1670, was the oldest and most fragile part of the Butcher collection. The page from the atlas reproduced here is an illustration of “Nether Ethiopia” with fanciful flora and fauna. Ogilby was a Scottish cartographer and scholar who translated Homer and Virgil. In 1674 he was appointed His Majesty’s Cosmographer and Geographic Printer, a job that carried a substantial salary. Ogilby is perhaps best known for compiling and publishing the first British road atlas the year after his appointment. PHOTOS BY ALEX WELCH





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## Books to Help with African-American Genealogy Research

Because of slavery, the scarcity of written records, and segregated record keeping, African-American genealogical research poses many pitfalls and challenges. Shaker Library has a number of books on genealogy in general, and on African-American genealogy in particular, and is a good place to learn how to begin your family search.

In addition to books and online resources, the Library has organized a series of genealogical workshops in collaboration with the African-American Genealogical Society, Cleveland from February through April at the Main Library.

*A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage* by **Carter Smith and Emily Anne Croom**. Betterway Books, 2003. (Black Studies 929.1 S64) Step-by-step instructions and a systematic approach to research can help both the beginning and experienced researcher.

*Black Genesis: A Resource Book for African-American Genealogy* by **James M. Rose and Alice Eichholz**. Genealogical Pub. Co., 2003. (Reference R 929.1 R79) This helpful book is updated from its initial publication in 1978, and is divided into chapters state by state. Each listing includes valuable information on where to find other repositories of African-American history.

*Family Pride: The Complete Guide to Tracing African-American Genealogy* by **Donna Beasley**. Macmillan, 1997. (Black Studies 929.1 B36) Faced with the scarcity of written family records? This book suggests helpful resources, such as the Freedman's Bureau, the Negro Baseball Leagues, the National Archives and the Internet, and includes step-by-step instructions on how to search and organize the results in order to publish a family record.



*Finding a Place Called Home: A Guide to African-American Genealogy and Historical Identity* by **Dee Parmer Woodtor**. Random House, 1999. (Black Studies 929.1 W89) This comprehensive guide to tracing African-American ancestry includes suggestions for methods of investigating and interpreting records and census reports, interviewing, where to find records, using the Internet, and also discusses the family reunion movement.

*Finding Oprah's Roots: Finding Your Own* by **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** Crown Publishers, 2007. (Nonfiction 929.1072 G25) Readers who've watched Gates' PBS documentaries on African-American genealogy will enjoy his family search for Oprah Winfrey. A proponent of gathering oral histories, he counsels blacks to get past the hurtful history of slavery that clouds the genealogical research. He also suggests the use of DNA testing to establish ties to specific ethnic groups in Africa.

*Finding Your People: An African-American Guide to Discovering Your Roots* by **Sandra Lee Jamison**. Perigee Books, 1999. (Black Studies 929.1 J32) African-American genealogical research presents particular challenges, and this book offers advice and recommends tools to help identify and work through them.

*How to Trace Your African-American Roots: Discovering Your Unique History* by **Barbara Thompson Howell**. Kensington Pub. Corp., 1998. (Black Studies 929.1 H86) Find worksheets and easy-to-read genealogical charts in this book.

*In Search of Our Roots: How 19 Extraordinary African Americans Reclaimed Their Past* by **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** Crown Publishers, 2009. (Nonfiction 973.0496 G25) Using DNA testing, the author and a team of geneticists and researchers traced 19 prominent African Americans through U.S. history and back to Africa. 🌿

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Vacation Camp is also available during spring break, March 18 – 29.



**Stokes Scholars Program** co-chairs Ayesha Bell Hardaway and Anne Owings Ford; Brandon Brown, Stokes Scholar and student at Oberlin College; Trevor Scott, Stokes Scholar and student at Cleveland State; Drew Odum, Stokes Scholar Mentor and attorney at Tucker Ellis; Paul Smith, Stokes Scholar Mentor and attorney at Tucker Ellis; and Carter Strang.



# Diversity and Pride

The Stokes Scholars Program gives minorities a leg up in the legal profession.

BY SUE STARRETT

As the president of the 6,000-member Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Shaker resident Carter Strang has launched a new initiative to help ensure that more minorities seek employment in law and related fields. The Stokes Scholars Program offers paid summer internships at local law firms, courts, and legal nonprofit organizations to college students who are graduates of the Cleveland and East Cleveland school districts.

“It is no coincidence that I wanted to live in Shaker,” says Strang, a partner at the law firm Tucker Ellis. “We focus on diversity and pride ourselves on inclusion as a community.”

The seeds for the Stokes Scholars Program were planted in 2006, when the bar association recruited attorneys, including Strang, to teach basic Constitutional Law to small groups of high school students to help them pass the social studies portion of the Ohio Graduation Test. The 3Rs program teaches rights, responsibilities, and realities to 10th graders in the Cleveland and East Cleveland districts. This led to the establishment of mock trial teams at several high schools and summer internship programs at several local law firms, with Tucker Ellis first among them.

While the 3Rs program captures high school students’ enthusiasm for the law, it was soon discovered that continuity of interest was lost during the students’ college years. The Stokes program was created to fill the enthusiasm gap.

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association has been a model for others – the 3Rs Program has won state and national awards – and continues to take a leadership role under Strang’s thoughtful guidance.

At Tucker Ellis, Strang specializes in energy and environmental law, mass tort and product liability, and oil and gas. His law career began at Arter Had-den with a summer job in 1983; he was hired as an associate in 1984, became a partner, and worked there until the firm dissolved in 2003. He has been with Tucker Ellis since then.

Strang also has been a member and president of the Federal Bar Association Northern Ohio Chapter. That experience prepared him for mission-based projects. Not only was the Stokes Scholars Program ready to begin three days after Strang was sworn in as the Cleveland bar association’s president, another new initiative, the Citizens Legal Academy, launched in September. Strang’s other plans include a medical/legal summit in April and a Great Lakes summit, as well as the creation of task forces on civility and professionalism, and law school debt.

It all started with a teaching job at Shaker Heights High School.





**Above,** Shaker High's 1976-'77 hockey team. Strang, an assistant coach at the time, is in the second row at the far right. In the black and white photo, which ran in the New York Times in 1991, Strang coaches a group of Youth Hockey players at Thornton Park. PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARTER STRANG.



***Where did you grow up and attend college? What brought you to Shaker Heights?***

I grew up in Massillon, and my family moved to Kent in 1964, when my dad became head football coach at Kent State University. I graduated from Kent Roosevelt High School in 1969, and from Kent State University's Honors College in 1973. I later earned a Master of Education degree at Kent. I moved to Shaker Heights in fall 1974 as a teacher at Shaker High.

I had interviewed in Shaker with Bob Morris, who anticipated an opening – and needed coaches. In those days, you had to teach in order to coach. Being hired by Shaker was a dream come true. My degree was in social studies, so I taught government, U.S. history, and criminology. I was assistant coach for football and ice hockey, both of which I'd played at Kent State.

***How did the Stokes Scholars Program come about? What does the***

***program involve?***

Shaker connections so often come around. Congressman Louis Stokes was one of the guest speakers in my criminology classes at Shaker High. He was very high-profile at that time. Last year when I approached him about Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's new pipeline program, he remembered being at the high school. He was so excited about the Scholars Program that he not only lent his name, he also became involved.

We established no GPA requirements for the Stokes Scholars Program, but asked applicants to write an essay about their interest in the law, provide references, and participate in interviews. Fifty students applied, 19 were accepted, and 18 finished the eight-week program last summer.

We didn't want our Scholars to feel lost, so we paired each one with a mentor. Not only did the mentors meet daily with their young colleagues, they have committed to continuing their relationships with the



Stokes Scholars through college and, we hope, law school. We held a graduation ceremony to which the students, their families, and their mentors were invited, and Louis Stokes was one of our speakers. We hope to build the program to 25 Stokes Scholars this summer.

Our message to the 3Rs students and the Stokes Scholars is: There are people in this community who value you. And we're going to demonstrate that not with our words but with our conduct. Through both programs we're breaking down walls that have for far too long separated too many urban public school students from opportunity. Our motto is: Changing Lives One Student at a Time.

***What prompted you to attend law school?***

I often invited guest speakers to my criminology classes; one was Tom Chema, an attorney from Arter Had-

den, and his work interested me. About the same time, some of my teacher colleagues were starting law school. I needed a new challenge, so in 1980 I began taking night classes at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and earned my degree in 1984. At least seven of my former students were also enrolled there, and I felt a lot of pressure to do well. They still called me 'Mr. Strang.' I left teaching in 1983 so that I could go full-time to law school. We had no income for that year, and two little boys.

***Tell us about your family.***

While I was teaching at Shaker, one of the football players told me about a home economics teacher, Jan Heinlen. We dated, married, and had three sons: Steven, Carson, and Kevin. Steven graduated from Shaker in 1999 and is an attorney at Gallagher Sharp; he and his fiancée are looking for a house in Shaker Heights. Carson (SHHS

2001) played ice hockey for the Air Force Academy for one year, and then was an academic, all-conference baseball player at Union College in New York. He lives in Boston and is in law school. Kevin is a 2006 Shaker graduate and was a music major at Skidmore College. He is also in Boston.

Some years later, after Jan and I divorced, I went on a blind date with Deedra Siegel, a speech and language therapy specialist at Mercer. We subsequently married and live on Chalfant Road. Deedra's two sons, Adam and Jason, also are Shaker alumni.

***When did you become involved with the local bar association?***

It was through the 3Rs. I volunteered and was assigned to John Hay High School, which I passed every day on my way to work. I wondered what was going on in the building, what kind of education the students were receiving. Well, I fell in love with the students

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**Strang** and his wife Deedra Siegel Strang, a speech pathologist at Mercer Elementary School. PHOTO COURTESY OF CARTER STRANG.

and the teachers there. Eventually, Tucker Ellis became a partner with the school, and the 3Rs has grown to include 500 attorneys.

***The Citizens Legal Academy is your latest initiative. Tell us about that.***

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association has been doing great things for young people, and we felt we needed to do something to increase the general public's knowledge and appreciation of our legal system and the attorneys and judges who practice in it. We are presenting free quarterly programs on hot button legal topics, in partnership with representatives of the legal profession and related organizations.

Our first Citizens Legal Academy focused on election law and was held at the Board of Elections. The second, on consumer and investor fraud, was in conjunction with the FBI, FTC, and Justice Department. Future programs will provide insight on immigration law, consumer protection, foreclosure,

criminal law, and domestic relations. (Details are at [clemetrobar.org](http://clemetrobar.org).)

***What do you do when you're not working?***

When my sons were younger, I coached for Shaker Youth Baseball and the Shaker Youth Hockey Association and was involved in Cub Scouts. Those were good connections to the community. I started biking about 10 years ago, when my orthopedic surgeon told me to stop running. I cycle to and from work at least three to four days a week.

We started a cycle club at Tucker Ellis, and we also have created Club CMBA, which focuses on the passions and interests of our members. About 400 attorneys are involved in the biking club, book club, performing arts group, and the dining group. These social interactions are fun, and they promote civility and respect in our profession. 🍷



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# The State *of the* Schools Report 2013

PHOTOS BY COLLEEN MCCREARY,  
KEVIN G. REEVES, CAYDIE HELLER

**“A community is known by the schools it keeps.”** This phrase is as true today as it was 100 years ago, at the founding of our District. Community members can take pride in the outstanding accomplishments of our students, our distinguished and committed faculty, and solid fiscal management, all of which are hallmarks of the Shaker schools.

This report provides an overview of the District’s initiatives, student achievement, fiscal accountability, and strategic direction for the future. 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.



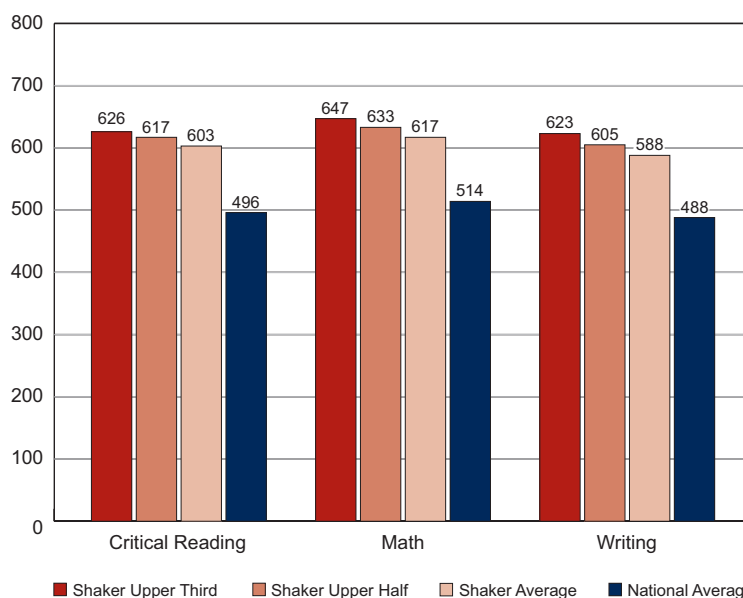
## Continuing the Tradition of Excellence

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

- 145 Shaker students were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars in 2012. Last May, 379 Shaker students took 807 AP exams, with 83 percent earning a score of 3 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.
- 18 graduates of the class of 2012 became the first Shaker students to earn an International Baccalaureate Diploma. In the class of 2013, 14 students are IB Diploma Candidates, and 86 additional students are taking one or more IB courses. Externally-graded exams are required in IB courses.

- The class of 2013 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.

**Shaker Class of 2013 SAT Scores**  
(800-point scale)





**The Gateway** to the Underworld was one of several winning graphic arts entries submitted by Shaker students to the Ohio Junior Classical League Convention.

- In the 2012 National History Day competition, Shaker students captured 21 out of 27 slots to advance to the state competition, where they went on to win 14 out of 18 spots for the national event. Six Shaker students' projects ranked in the top 15 at the national level.

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



**Going global:** Four of the eight Shaker schools are now officially recognized as International Baccalaureate World Schools, with the others well on track for authorization. Boulevard School celebrated with a parade.

- Shaker students received myriad awards at the Ohio and National Junior Classical League Convention, and performed well in the Medusa Mythology Exam as well as the National Classical Etymology Exam.

- Shaker students won top honors at regional and national competitions, including Science Olympiad, VEX Robotics, MathCounts, the Ohio Grade Level Chess Championship, Model UN, Power of the Pen, and the Scholastic Art competition.

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

- The High School and Middle School orchestras and bands received a total of eight "Superior" and six "Excellent" ratings at the Ohio Music Educator Association (OMEA) state level competitions.

- The Dobama Young Playwrights Competition resulted in five Shaker students being selected to have their works professionally staged at the theater in 2012. Only seven works in total were chosen for the honor.

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

- Shaker graduates are overwhelmingly college-bound, and those who enroll tend to stay there. Between the years of 2008-2010, the percentage of Shaker graduates who enrolled in college directly from high school ranged from 81-87 percent. Eighty-nine percent of 2010 graduates who enrolled in college remained enrolled beyond freshman year, and 99 percent of those attending a four-year private or out-of-state institution remained enrolled.

Members of the class of 2012 were accepted to a diverse array of colleges and universities, including all the Ivy League schools, Ohio public institutions, and private colleges. A sampling of the more than 130 schools accepting Shaker students includes:

American University  
 Art Institute of Chicago  
 Bates College  
 Berklee College of Music  
 Brown University  
 Carleton College  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 Cleveland Institute of Music  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 Dartmouth College  
 Davidson College  
 Duke University  
 Georgetown University  
 Harvard University  
 Haverford College  
 Howard University  
 The Juilliard School  
 Kenyon College  
 Miami University  
 University of Michigan  
 New York University  
 Northeast Ohio Medical University  
 Northwestern University  
 University of North Carolina  
 University of Notre Dame  
 Oberlin College  
 Oberlin Conservatory of Music  
 The Ohio State University  
 Ohio Wesleyan University  
 Ohio University  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 Pomona College  
 Princeton University  
 Smith College  
 Spelman College  
 University of Virginia  
 Washington University in St. Louis  
 College of William and Mary  
 Yale University



## Assessing Student Achievement

Although most Shaker students are performing well, intensive efforts are being made to improve the academic standing of those who are struggling.

- To address the challenges posed by mobility, new students who transfer into the Shaker schools are immediately assessed upon enrollment to assist with appropriate placement and services.
- Shaker students' scores were higher on 17 of 24 state tests in 2011-12 than in the previous year.
- State test scores rose in every area where Shaker students fell below the state standard in 2010-11.

## High Quality Teaching

- The Shaker schools continue to attract and retain high quality faculty members, drawing more than 100 applications for every open teaching position. This allows the District to select teachers who demonstrate a passion and commitment to educating all students.
- The District's staff includes approximately 500 teachers, about 83 percent of whom hold master's degrees or higher. Their average teaching experience is 15 years.
- 100 percent of Shaker teachers are designated as "Highly Qualified" according to criteria provided by the Ohio Department of Education.

• All teachers and other staff members benefit from ongoing professional development in a wide range of areas, including International Baccalaureate, state standards, strategies to meet the needs of all learners, classroom management, and the use of technology to enhance learning.

• Upon completion of professional development, all participants provide a written plan for how to implement and share the information with colleagues in order to maximize the investment of time and resources.

• Teachers and administrators are collaborating to develop new ways of evaluating teachers and principals. Peer evaluation and other evaluation models developed last year are currently being piloted across all grade levels and will be implemented next school year in accordance with state legislation.



**Thirty-one members** of the Class of 2013 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: Lawrence Shelven (NAS), Ini Umosen (NMC, NAS), Megan Mathur (NMC), Brenton Sullivan (NAC), Lauren Woyczynski (NMC), Kristen Leonard (NMC), Evelyn Ting (NMC), Ann H. Carter (NMC), Clara Kao (NMS), and Rebecca Smith (NMC). Second row: Ari Ross (NMC), Nicholas Haubrich (NMC), Matthew Langhinrichs (NMS), Nicholas Murray (NMC, NHR), Ana Sinicariello (NHR), Lauren Vavruska (NMC), Claire Crosby (NMS), and Alexa Steiber (NMC). Third row: Aaron Rabinowitz (NMC), Gregory Lanese (NMC), Daniel Murphy (NMS), Luke Mesiano (NMC), Kate Connors (NMS), Jacob Gardner (NMC), Alexander Friedman (NMS), Jordan Isenberg (NMC), and Nathan Steinberg (NMC). Not pictured: Ryan Claus (NMC), Spencer Gilbert (NAC), Isabel Robertson (NMS), Juan Schwartzman (NHR).



**Fernway rocks the vote:** From registration through the final count, Fernway's mock election was like the real thing. But instead of deciding the next President, their votes determined the outcome of the spirit wear challenge. The winner, in a landslide: hats.



**Take Action** club members from the High School volunteer their time after school to tutor elementary students.

*The dynamic features of the Strategic Plan seem to have created a District culture characterized by a shared vision, systematic improvement, consistency and coherence without decreasing creativity, high expectations, and accountability.*

– Strategic Plan Independent Year One Audit Report

## Strategic Plan Update: The Year One Report

The Board of Education and administration launched the strategic planning process in 2009. The Board voted to adopt the two-year plan in 2011. It covers a range of goals and strategies, grouped broadly under the categories of student experience; curriculum; instruction and assessment; and collaboration, communication, and involvement. An external review of the District's Strategic Plan was completed in August 2012 to provide an update on the progress toward initiatives outlined in the plan.

- The independent reviewer commended the District for its “visionary approach for improving the overall quality of education leading to high

success rates in the Shaker Heights Schools,” and found that “a significant degree of work was accomplished during year one.”

- In particular, positive progress was noted with regard to the implementation of school climate surveys, increased outreach to parents of students receiving targeted intervention, and enhanced communication to community stakeholder groups.

- The use of a comprehensive database tracking and analysis system has assured follow through on action plans, tasks, and data collection.

Recommendations for Year Two included:

- Refine action items regarding student

experiences to more closely align with items from the school climate surveys.

- Determine more efficient procedures for follow-up with parents of students receiving targeted intervention.
- Consider additional methods for measuring progress on performance indicators.
- Revise action plans, tasks, and work plan activities as needed based on year one findings.

## The International Baccalaureate Journey

- The District is on track to become one of the first in Northeast Ohio to offer the International Baccalaureate program in grades K-12. All eight schools are using the program's instructional approach, which emphasizes problem-solving and hands-on learning with a global focus.

- Shaker Heights High School became an International Baccalaureate World School in 2010, and the first cohort of International Baccalaureate diploma candidates graduated in 2012. Eighteen members of the class earned the prestigious IB Diploma.

- Boulevard, Lomond and Mercer elementary schools have joined Shaker Heights High School in becoming authorized as International Baccalaureate World Schools. The schools underwent an intensive site inspection by members of the International Baccalaureate Organization last spring.

*IB connects everything we do – history with science, English with math. IB prepares us for college and teaches us about the real world, not just for a test at the end of the year.*

– Emily Hirsch,  
2012 IB Diploma recipient





**Hands-on learning** brings the curriculum to life. As part of a study of the history and significance of the Silk Road, Middle School students got up close and personal with live silk worms.

- The International Baccalaureate authorization process is on the horizon for Fernway and Onaway elementary schools, and is now under way for Woodbury and the Middle School as well.

- The Shaker schools' journey to adopt the International Baccalaureate program in all grades was recently profiled in the national professional magazine *School Administrator*, which included an interview with Superintendent Mark Freeman.

### **Fiscal Vigilance Continues**

Six years of strategic cost cutting have enabled the Shaker Heights City School District to strengthen its financial position in the face of significant reductions in major revenue sources, including an unexpected drop in local property tax support starting this year.

Ongoing savings achieved through this vigilance have allowed the Shaker schools to delay a necessary return to the ballot for an operating levy until 2014. This marks the second consecutive time the District has extended its levy cycle from the customary three-year interval to four years.

The District's strong financial performance continues to be recognized outside of Shaker Heights as well. The Ohio Auditor of State repeatedly has acknowledged the District for excellence in financial reporting, and international associations of government finance and business officials have bestowed similar recognition. Last year, the District was one of a handful in Ohio to receive top-tier marks from two national bond rating firms, a distinction that helped the Shaker schools save hundreds of thousands of dollars when issuing bonds.

It is only through this financial stewardship and the shared sacrifices

of its employees that the District has been able to sustain the high-quality educational system that has defined the community and that Shaker Heights residents expect.

### **Continuing Losses in State Aid**

As a result of an \$8 billion state budget shortfall, state aid to public school districts fell precipitously for the 2012-2013 biennium and is expected to remain at the reduced level for years beyond. For the Shaker Heights schools, reductions amounted to approximately \$8.3 million over the two



**Living history:** To study migration, students use artifacts and documents from the Shaker Historical Society to reconstruct a family's story. This Lomond student traced a family whose sons served in the military during the Jim Crow era.



**Play on:** The new multipurpose synthetic field and resurfaced track at the High School have dramatically increased opportunities for Shaker students to participate in athletics.



**Student-led conferences** prompt pupils to reflect on what they are learning and how they can improve. Here, an Onaway third grader shares his goals with his teacher and mother.

school years and a projected \$21 million over seven years.

Unlike those long-anticipated cuts in state aid, the magnitude of reductions in property tax collections wasn't known until last August. That's when Shaker school officials learned that the 2012 Cuyahoga County reappraisal would result in a property tax revenue loss of \$1.8 million due to reductions in assessed value. The impact of the reductions will be about \$900,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The full impact will be felt in the 2014 fiscal year.

Apart from this loss of revenue attributable to a decrease in assessed value, the District faces inherent limitations on the revenue side because the tax base is overwhelmingly residential. Commercial and industrial property generates less than 10 percent of the assessed valuation in Shaker Heights, and very little land is available for future commercial development. The District has cooperated with the efforts of the City of Shaker Heights to promote economic development with the goal of growing the commercial tax base.

Fortunately, however, the District is in a position to withstand substantial reductions in, or limitations on, major revenue sources and still push an operating levy back to 2014. The District was able to cushion the impact of the revenue cuts because the 2012 school year ended with a favorable budget variance of \$2.3 million that was available to carry over to the current year.

Such carryovers have been commonplace for the District. Treasurer Bryan Christman and his staff closely monitor expenditures and revenue during the year to stay within budget parameters. It's no accident that actual expenditures and revenues collectively have beaten budget targets in each of the last six fiscal years, resulting in an average of nearly \$2.6 million available to carry over to the next year.



Long-range financial planning documents also make clear that further cost-trimming is expected. The school system's Five-Year Forecast for the years ending June 30, 2013 through June 30, 2017, call for annual budget savings of about \$1.4 million.

Treasurer Christman prepared the District's latest Five-Year Forecast in October, which was subsequently approved by the Board of Education. Under Ohio law, school districts are mandated twice a year to issue five-year financial forecasts, which serve as planning tools.

### **Labor Contracts Yield Big Savings**

Shaker school employees have done their part to retain a top-quality educational system amid an environment of decreasing revenues and increasing costs.

Teachers are in the third and final year of a contract with the Board of Education that will expire on December 31 of this year. Three-year agreements with the other collective bargaining groups representing Shaker school employees are scheduled to expire six months later, on June 30, 2014.

All of the contracts included a total freeze in base salaries the first year. For the second and third years, teachers and other bargaining employees receive a one-percent lump sum stipend and are eligible for step increases as well.

The one-percent stipends don't change base salaries. Considering that base salaries also were frozen in 2010, the same wage schedule will be in effect for four years.

Administrators, tutors, aides and security personnel – the District's non-bargaining employees – are subject to the same provisions as those in

the contract with the Shaker Heights Teachers' Association.

As is the case with most other Ohio school districts, personnel costs usually represent about 80 percent of general fund expenditures for the Shaker schools. Accordingly, the shared sacrifice of employees has translated to big savings.

Given that the District spends about \$70 million a year on salaries and benefits, a four-year freeze on base salaries results in significant cost avoidance and will continue to have an impact in the future. Had employees received raises of just one percent, it would have cost the District an estimated \$580,000 annually, according to Treasurer Christman.

The District will soon be at a crossroads, however, with respect to compensating its workforce – especially what has been a seasoned, accomplished teaching staff, more than 80 percent of whom have earned master's degrees or higher. The District's teaching staff averages 15 years of experience, compared with the statewide average of 12.9 years, according to 2011 data.

"On the one hand, many of the District's more experienced teachers are preparing to retire soon and for the most part will be replaced by younger teachers who will be lower on the salary scale," said Mark Freeman, superintendent of Shaker schools.

"On the other hand, although the District has been able to recruit top teaching talent despite the salary freeze, it could become more difficult to do so in the coming years without increasing compensation," the superintendent said. In recent years, salaries for teachers in Shaker Heights have fallen behind other east suburban school districts such as Beachwood and Orange.



**Parent volunteers** play a vital role in helping all students succeed. Here, a parent works with a Woodbury student to reinforce reading skills.

#### **Resources on the Web:**

##### **Strategic Plan**

[shaker.org/strategicplanning.aspx](http://shaker.org/strategicplanning.aspx)

##### **Financial Information**

[shaker.org/finance.aspx](http://shaker.org/finance.aspx)

##### **International Baccalaureate**

[shaker.org/ib](http://shaker.org/ib)



**Going for the gold:** The Mercer PTO has taken a healthier approach to fundraising with its own version of the Olympic Games. The closing ceremony marked the end of a week of spirited fitness challenges.

## Reining in Health Care Costs

In the meantime, the Shaker schools are continuing efforts to control other costs.

Several recent changes will offset a projected 10 percent growth rate for health insurance costs this fiscal year.

Effective in January 2012, the employee share of premiums rose from eight percent to 12 percent, with deductibles and co-payments also increasing. The net impact of plan savings is estimated at \$833,000 per year in ongoing savings. Continued favorable experience will result in a reduction in health insurance rates for 2013, which will produce a favorable budget variance in the hundreds of thousands of dollars at the end of this fiscal year.

To mention one other health care example, the District will also save an estimated \$250,000 this year from the so-called "working spouse" provision. This provision took effect in 2007 and requires working spouses of District employees to use their employer's plan for primary coverage. The changes have saved a total of \$1.5 million over the last six years.

Among the District's other initiatives to save money and improve efficiency:

**Workers' Compensation.** The District regularly evaluates the financial impact of switching from a retrospective rating option to a self-insured plan, but Treasurer Christman indicated that there does not appear to be sufficient savings potential to change at this time. By using the retrospective rating option for the past six years, the Shaker schools have realized nearly \$1.2 million in net savings, including more than \$240,000 in 2012.

On the operational side, the District's business department continues to follow best practices by participating in prevention programs in conjunction with the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation. The goal is reducing claims, thereby ultimately lowering annual premiums.

**Online payment system.** The District introduced the Pay For It system in August 2008 for the convenience of parents and efficiency of operations. Its features include direct download of payment information to the cafeteria point-of-sale system; automated e-mail notice to parents when a student's account balance falls below a specified threshold; and the ability to download fee payment information directly to the District's student information system.

Online payments have risen dramatically, more than doubling from \$330,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, to \$722,000 for the year ending June 30, 2012. The online system has not only improved operational efficiency but has minimized cash payments in school buildings, reducing risk of loss or theft.

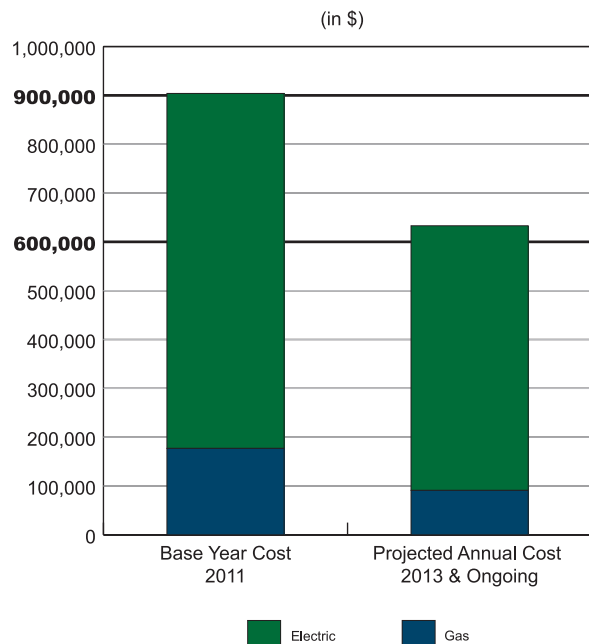
**Rebidding contracts and reevaluating needs.** By rebidding its copier contract that expired in 2011, the District has achieved estimated ongoing savings of \$35,000 per year. In another example, the schools save \$56,000 annually following an evaluation of telecommunication needs, which resulted in changing vendors and eliminating excess line capacity.



**A bright idea:** Lighting retrofits in all buildings will cut electricity consumption by 50 percent and enhance the learning environment.



## Energy Conservation Measures to Yield Annual Savings Over \$280,000



**Ohio Schools Council.** Through the buying power of this cooperative, the District has saved tens of thousands of dollars through the years on purchases of buses, insurance, utilities and library books and materials.

**Energy conservation measures.** The District undertook four major energy conservation projects this year with projected cumulative savings of approximately \$4.6 million over 15 years, which will more than offset the initial investment of \$2.4 million. See box at right for details.

## High Bond Ratings Reduce Borrowing Costs

The strong financial management demonstrated through the years helped the District save taxpayer dollars when it borrowed money last fall to finance energy conservation projects, high school stadium improvements, and bus purchases.

The Shaker schools combined the \$4.2 million capital improvement and equipment bonds with refinancing debt the District issued in 2005 for building and facilities improvements. The refunding is akin to refinancing a home mortgage loan.

The District's solid financial footing helped save money on the two borrowings. The schools received outstanding ratings from two national bond rating agencies, Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services. Such ratings influence the perceptions of investors who purchase the bonds and translate to lower interest rates for the borrower.

Moody's awarded the District its highest mark, Aaa, on the two offerings last fall. Concurrently, Moody's affirmed the same rating on the District's outstanding general obligation bonds. Out of 239 Ohio school districts Moody's has currently rated, only eight received the Aaa rating.

S&P assigned its AA+ rating to the two bond offerings and reaffirmed the same long-term rating for the District's general obligation debt. Of the 122 Ohio school districts S&P rated, only four received the AA+ rating.

The combination of the outstanding ratings and the refunding mechanism itself will save nearly \$598,000 over the 13-year life remaining on the

*continued on page 62*

## Greener, Brighter, Cheaper

The District undertook four major energy conservation projects this year with projected cumulative savings of approximately \$4.6 million over 15 years, which will more than offset the initial investment of \$2.4 million. What's more, the upgrades improve the learning environment with brighter lighting and more even heating.

The four major projects involved:

**Replacing old light fixtures** with energy-efficient overhead lighting in every building. The new lights reduce kilowatt-hour consumption by 50 percent and are considerably brighter, creating a better environment for learning and working.

**Replacing radiator steam traps** at all eight school buildings, improving energy efficiency and comfort while reducing gas consumption.

**Upgrading building controls** to allow for zoned temperature control. A new integrated platform replaces three separate units, allowing the system to be serviced more easily. The upgrades also make it possible for maintenance personnel to assess building systems remotely.

**Replacing two chillers** at the High School that had failed mechanically. One chiller serves the east wing of the building, which houses the administrative office and science classrooms, and one serves the library.

To finance these projects, the District took advantage of a state program that allows school districts to borrow money at favorable rates and pay back the loan within fifteen years from the energy cost savings. Current projections indicate the District will be able to achieve simple payback within nine years, well within the period allotted. (Fluctuations in the price of gas and electricity will factor into the actual savings.)

Thanks to its top-tier bond rating, the District received the lowest possible interest rate for the loan. And by hiring its own consultants for the process, rather than using a turnkey energy services company, the District saved an estimated \$1 million. Using this approach also allowed the District to retain control over the scope of the project and to use local service providers wherever possible.

## School District Savings Since 2007

### Beating Budget Targets

- A six-year average of \$2.6 million – The treasurer's office closely monitors expenditures and revenues throughout the year to stay within budgeted amounts. Actual expenditures and revenues collectively have beaten budget targets in each of the last six fiscal years, when the District averaged nearly \$2.6 million in funds available to carry over to the next fiscal year.

### Workforce Reductions (mostly through attrition and combining responsibilities)

- \$2.6 million over the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years – Elimination of 33 positions.
- \$4.5 million in FY2007 – Elimination of 59 positions. Although some jobs were restored in subsequent years due to increased demand, a majority of the reductions have been sustained.

### Collective Bargaining Agreements

- \$1.2 million over the two previous years – Through the cooperation of its employees, the District has kept salary increases below those of many area school districts by freezing base salaries over four years. The District would have spent nearly \$1.2 million more on salaries and fringe benefits with just a one-percent increase in 2011 and 2012.

### Reimbursable Expenses Associated with Special Needs Students

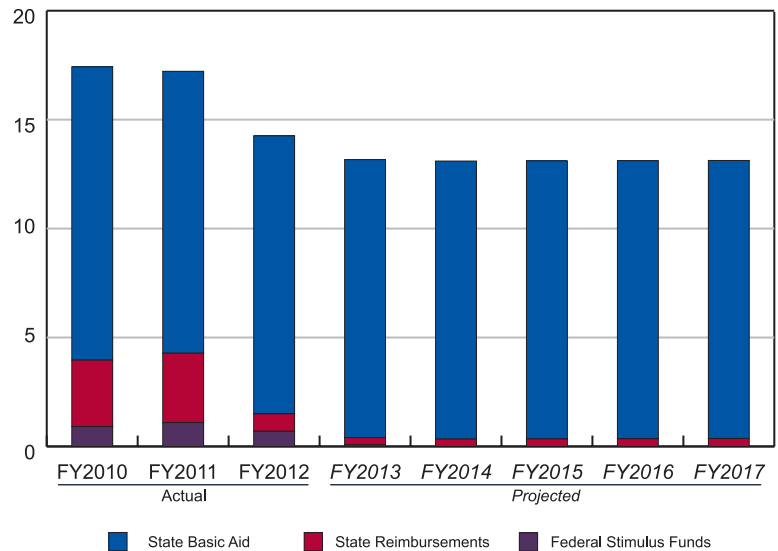
- \$3.5 million from 2007 through 2012 – Diligent documentation of reimbursable expenses has allowed the District to bring in this money from three programs. The District continues to place among the top school systems in the state for dollars reimbursed.

### Protecting the Local Tax Base

- \$1.7 million over the 2008, 2009 and 2010 tax years – This is the savings to the District from challenges to property tax reductions when the facts indicate the request wasn't reasonable.

## Shrinking Revenues from State and Federal Sources

(in \$ millions)



## High Bond Ratings *continued from page 62*

\$5 million in refunded bonds, according to figures furnished by Stifel, Nicolaus and Company Inc., the bond underwriter.

The Shaker schools also continue to receive recognition for accuracy and integrity of financial reporting. The audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, is the latest in a long line of "clean" audits. For the same audit, the District received the Auditor of State's Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. The Shaker school system has been honored each year since 2006 with this award, which is given to fewer than three percent of public entities audited by the Auditor of State.

The District has received similar awards for 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.



## 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://www.facebook.com/ForShakerSchools). There you'll find news items, photos, and conversation – including some content that is exclusive to Facebook.



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Please send calendar submissions and deadline inquiries to shakerdates@aol.com

## Ongoing Activities for Families

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

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

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

based play sessions just for home 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 the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Fridays of the month. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**SATURDAYS: Saturday Gym, 10 AM-NOON,** GYM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. A place for parents and children, birth-6 years to climb, jump, ride trikes, and play on Saturday mornings thru April 20. (No sessions February 16 and March 30.) All children must be accompanied by an adult. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**Birthday Parties: 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. Family Connections at Shaker Family Center is a great place to hold a birthday party for your little one. Enjoy private use of the gym filled with riding toys and equipment. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

## Ongoing Activities for Adults

**MONDAYS: Monday Morning Jumpstart, 10 AM-NOON,** MAIN LIBRARY. A jobs club moderated by Career Transition Center's Bonnie Dick. Meet other job seekers and gain insights about job strategies. INFO: 216-367-3011.

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

**THURSDAYS: Open Bridge, 1-4 PM,** STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

*continued on page 66*

*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

# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> <b>Family Fireside Night: Starry Night Hike</b> 6:30 pm, Nature Center. (p 70)	<b>2</b> <b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (p 66)
<b>3</b> <b>St. Dominic School Open House</b> Noon. (p 66)	<b>4</b> <b>Cleveland Food Bank Benefit Clinic</b> 5 pm, Main Library (p 66)	<b>5</b> <b>Stone Oven Days</b> Ongoing. 2267 Lee Road. (p 70)	<b>6</b> <b>Winter Orchestra Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker Middle School (p 66)	<b>7</b> <b>Introduction to Genealogy</b> 7 pm, Main Library (p 66)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Saturday Gym</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p 63)
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Valentine's Luncheon for Adults 50+</b> 12:30, Tubbs Jones Community Building (p 66)	<b>14</b> <b>Gene's Jazz Hot</b> 7 pm, Loganberry Books (p 66)  <b>Poetry in the Woods</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods (p 67)	<b>15</b> <b>Bread Distribution</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Christ Episcopal Church. (p 66)	<b>16</b> <b>Play and Learn Station</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library (p 63)
<b>17</b> <b>Plymouth Arts</b> 4 pm, Plymouth Church (p 67)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Sports Boosters Meeting</b> 7:30 pm, Shaker High School. (p 67)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Introduction to Spanish with Mango Languages</b> 4:15 pm, Main Library (p 68)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>Exploring, Integrating, Selling Local Food</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church (p 68)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Play and Learn Station</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library (p 63)	<b>27</b> <b>Band Contest Preview Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker High School. (p 68)	<b>28</b> <b>Open Bridge</b> Ongoing. 1 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p 63)		



# MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <b>Third Quarter Principal and Parent Coffee</b> 7:30 am, Shaker High School. (p 69)	2 <b>ArtsPlymouth Presents Jane and Ludwig</b> 7:30 pm, Plymouth Church (p 69)
3 <b>Parent and Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center (p 63)	4	5 <b>Kindergarten Open House</b> 7 pm, Mercer School. (p 69)	6	7 <b>Kindergarten Open House</b> 6:30 pm, Boulevard School. (p 71)	8 <b>Bread Distribution</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Christ Episcopal Church. (p 66)	9 <b>A Night for the Red &amp; White</b> 7 pm, Tudor Arms Hotel. (p 71)
10	11	12 <b>Stone Oven Days</b> Ongoing. 2267 Lee Road. (p 70)	13 <b>New Stages 31 3/13-16</b> 7 pm, Shaker High School (p 71)	14 <b>Open Bridge</b> Ongoing. 1 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (p 63)	15 <b>Kindergarten Open House</b> 9:30 am, Onaway School. (p 71)	16 <b>Experiential Gardening Workshop for Families</b> 10 am, Nature Center. (p 70)
17	18	19 <b>Writers Center Stage: Ann Patchett</b> 7:30 pm, Ohio Theater (p 74)	20 <b>Choir and Orchestra Pre-Trip Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker High School. (p 72)	21	22 <b>Band Pre-Trip Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker High School. (p 72)	23 <b>North Union Farmers Market</b> Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (p 66)
24  31	25	26 <b>Stone Oven Days</b> Ongoing. 2267 Lee Road. (p 70)	27 <b>Parent and Child Play Sessions</b> Ongoing. Shaker Family Center (p 63)	28	29	30 <b>Saturday Gym</b> Ongoing. 10 am, Shaker Family Center. (p 63)

## OUT & ABOUT

COMMUNITY BLDG. All card players welcome. \$1 per person. INFO: 216-491-1295.

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

**SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON,** SHAKER SQUARE. County farmers bring their wares inside. Buy fresh and local, seasonal produce and meet friends at the indoor market. INFO: 216-751-7656.

### Picture This: Art About Town

**Call for Artists:** Applications for the Library's 14th annual juried art competition are available at the information desks or online. The winning piece is purchased by the Library and cash prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place. INFO: 216-367-3005.

## Events for FEBRUARY

**FEBRUARY 3: Civic Leadership: New Voices-Next Steps, 9:30-10:45 AM,** FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Richard T. Andrews, president of AGC Media, leads a discussion with Cecil Lipscomb, executive director, United Black Fund; Michael T. Jeans, regional director, Urban Partnership Bank;

Clint Bradley, associate director, Grubb & Ellis Realtors, and Gigi Traore, political organizer and civic activist. INFO: 216-751-2320 OR [firstunitariancleveland.org](http://firstunitariancleveland.org).

**FEBRUARY 3: St. Dominic School Open House, NOON-2 PM,** 3455 NORWOOD RD. Tour the school and meet the teachers. INFO: 216-561-4400.

**FEBRUARY 4: Cleveland Food Bank Benefit Clinic, 5-7 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Drop-in clinic to learn about food assistance (formerly Food Stamps), Medicaid, and cash assistance. Help is available to determine eligibility and to apply. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 6: Winter Orchestra Concert, 7 PM,** SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Students perform in concert. INFO: 216-295-4100.

**FEBRUARY 7: Introduction to Genealogy, 7-8:45 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Dr. Deborah Abbott will cover the most important steps to follow when beginning a family search and how to access the available tools and resources both online and in your local library. This introductory class is for both beginning and experienced genealogists. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 12: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM,** ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. Monthly meeting of the School Board. INFO: 216-295-4322.

**FEBRUARY 12: Library Board Meeting, 6:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Monthly meeting of the Library Board. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 13: Valentine's Luncheon for Adults 50+, 12:30-2 PM,** STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Join friends for entertainment and a delicious lunch. Space is limited. An \$8 reservation is due by February 8. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**FEBRUARY 13: Taking Pictures Today - From Cell Phones to Single Lens Reflex Cameras, 7-8:45 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Rick Santich, owner of MotoPhoto in Shaker Heights and ProEvent Photo will talk about good picture-taking techniques and answer your questions. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 14: Kalahari Getaway, SANDUSKY, OH.** Take a quick family getaway and have a blast at America's largest indoor water park. And save money too! Take advantage of special group rates for Shaker Heights' families and friends. \$119 (a \$249 value) includes standard room overnight accommodations and four admission passes to the water park. Up to two additional guests may be added to your room for \$20/person, which also includes water park fees. To book a getaway, call Kalahari Resorts: 877-525-2427 and ask for the City of Shaker Heights Group Rate. Want to stay two nights and make it a weekend? Ask the reservationist for the special Friday night rate.

**FEBRUARY 14: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Local jazz combo performs in the Lit Arts room at Loganberry Books. Free cookies. Donations for the band gratefully accepted. INFO: 216-795-9800.



## OUT & ABOUT

**FEBRUARY 14: Poetry in the Woods, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy poetry read and performed by Vince Robinson and the Jazz Poets. This exceptional group has been performing for the past 10 years at a variety of places, including the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**FEBRUARY 17: The Fiscal Cliff: A Political Quandary?, 9:30-10:45 AM,** FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Joseph White, chair of CWRU Department of Political Science, discusses how we will be affected by governmental budget decisions. Is responsible budgeting and debt control a relic of the past? INFO: 216-751-2320 OR [firstunitariancleveland.org](http://firstunitariancleveland.org).

**FEBRUARY 17: Plymouth Arts, 4 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Artists in Residence musical ensemble Les Delices join Nigel North, a lutenist of legendary stature, to present *Portrait of Love*, a performance of love songs and lute solos with a pre-concert lecture at 3:30 pm. Tickets are required and available online at [lesdelices.org](http://lesdelices.org).

**FEBRUARY 18: Presidents' Day.** No classes for Shaker Schools' grades K-12.

**FEBRUARY 18: Pajama Stories, 7:15 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Night-time stories for children ages 3 and older. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**FEBRUARY 19: Sports Boosters Meeting, 7:30 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. All parents are welcome.



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## OUT & ABOUT

**FEBRUARY 21: Professional/Clerical Day.** No classes for Shaker Schools' grades K-6.

**FEBRUARY 21: Introduction to Spanish with Mango Languages, 4:15-5 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Children in grades K-6 are invited to learn some basic Spanish conversational skills with the fun and educational Mango Languages, an online program available on all the Library's computers and from the comfort of your home, with a library card. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 21: Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society Forum: Book Arts with Bonne de Blas, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD.** Bonnie De Blas, book artist and poet, is the asso-

ciate editor and book arts editor for Kattywompus Press and member of the Cleveland and Columbus Pudding House Salons. Co-founder and former director of Arts Books Cleveland, her artists' books are in the Special Collections of the Cleveland Public Library and galleries in France and Mexico. INFO: nobweb.org.

**FEBRUARY 22: Conference Day.** No classes for Shaker Schools' grades K-12.

**FEBRUARY 24: Exploring, Integrating, Selling Local Food, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD.** INFO: 216-751-2320 OR firstunitariancleveland.org.

**FEBRUARY 27: Band Contest Preview Concert, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.**

**FEBRUARY 27: Using Census Records, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Cathy Neal of the African-American Genealogical Society will discuss how genealogists use the U.S. Census Record, explore the data available, and explain how to understand and search census records online. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**FEBRUARY 28: Kindergarten Open House, 7 PM, LOMOND SCHOOL.** Parents and guardians of children entering kindergarten this fall can meet the principal, teachers, and tour the school. INFO: 216-295-4050.

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## OUT & ABOUT

### Events for MARCH

**MARCH 1: Third Quarter Principal & Parent Coffee, 7:30 AM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.** All high school parents are welcome for conversation with the head of the school. INFO: 216-295-4200.

**MARCH 1: Barbara Luton Art Competition Art Entry Day, 2-6 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Artists who wish to enter the 14th Annual Barbara Luton Art Competition can enter up to two pieces of art. Entry fee: \$25. INFO: 216-367-3005.

**MARCH 2: Barbara Luton Art Competition Art Entry Day, 11 AM-3 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Artists who wish to enter the 14th Annual Barbara Luton Art Competition can enter up to two pieces of art. Entry fee: \$25. INFO: 216-367-3005.

**MARCH 2: ArtsPlymouth Presents Jane and Ludwig, 7:30 PM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD.** Internationally renowned soprano Jane Eaglen joins Bluewater Chamber Orchestra. Tickets are required and are available online at [lesdelices.org](http://lesdelices.org).

**MARCH 5: Kindergarten Open House, 7 PM, MERCER SCHOOL.** Parents and guardians of children entering kindergarten this fall can meet the principal, teachers, and tour the school. INFO: 216-295-4070.



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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. The Stone Oven donates a percentage of the day's sales to the Nature Center.

**FEBRUARY 1: Family Fireside Night: Starry Night Hike, 6:30-8 PM.** Bundle up and bring your family and friends to a "Starry Night" hike. Afterwards warm up around the fireplace as we search for the artistic star in all of us with a fun night of sky-themed art activity led by Heights Arts' Debbie Apple-Presser. Refreshments will be served. Call ext. 235 to register. \$5/person or \$25/family maximum 6.

**FEBRUARY 8: Owl Prowl at Lake View Cemetery, 6-8 PM.** Enjoy a brisk winter hike under the full-moon at The Lake View Cemetery and watch and listen for animal and bird activity. You never know whooo you might see. To register, call Lake View Cemetery: 216-421-2687. \$10/hiker; children under 3 free.

**FEBRUARY 10 AND MARCH 10: Seasonal Bird Walk, 8:30-10:30 AM.** Meet in the Nature Center parking lot. Free. Binoculars available for use.

**FEBRUARY 23: Pancake Breakfast with the Birds, 8 AM-NOON.** The Nature Center and the Rotary Club of Shaker Heights join efforts to host the annual Pancake Breakfast with the Birds. Enjoy delicious pancakes, sausage, cof-

fee and juice, and learn about the habits and habitats of birds. Plus, enjoy live birds of prey show, activity stations with crafts and guided nature hikes. Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club of Shaker Heights Third Grade Dictionary Project and the Nature Center. \$8/adults; \$5/children ages 4-10; free for children 3 and under.

**MARCH 16: Experiential Gardening Workshop for Families, 10 AM-NOON.** Learn how to start your seeds inside to get a head start on your outdoor garden. Windows or minimal additional lighting are all you need! \$8/members; \$10/non-members. Cost includes seed, soil, and materials.

**MARCH 23: Constructing a Rain Garden with Native Plants Workshop, 10-11:30 AM.** Presented by Garrett Ormiston, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Natural Areas Division, and Josh Koppen, Green Triangle. Cost: \$8/members, \$10/non-members.

**B'EARTH'DAY PARTIES:** Create a unique and memorable party for your child to celebrate his or her special day – the natural way! Amazing Animals, Dinosaur Times, Letterboxing and Shelter Building "Survival Skills" are just a few fun themes. Check out the website for more information or call for rates and reservations.



**MARCH 7: Kindergarten Open House, 6:30 PM,** BOULEVARD SCHOOL. Parents and guardians of children entering kindergarten this fall can meet the principal, teachers, and tour the school. INFO: 216-295-4020.

**MARCH 9: A Night for the Red & White, 7 PM,** TUDOR ARMS HOTEL DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, 10660 CARNEGIE AVE. The 21st annual Friends of the Shaker Schools Foundation's annual Black Tie Block Party to benefit the Shaker Heights City Schools brings together parents, faculty, and community leaders to benefit the students. This year's executive team includes Marisa Matero-Maury, Irene Meyerhoefer, Sally Hirsh, and Nancy Longman. INFO: CHRISTINE AUGINAS, 216-295-4325.

**MARCH 10: Spring ahead!** Turn clocks forward one hour.

**MARCH 12: Board of Education Meeting, 6 PM,** ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. Monthly meeting of the School Board. INFO: 216-295-4322.

**MARCH 12: Why Preservation? 6:30 PM,** MAIN LIBRARY. Mary Ogle, Heritage Home Program specialist with the Cleveland Restoration Society, will share a brief overview of historic preservation history and highlight some common preservation blunders. This lecture is co-sponsored with the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**MARCH 13-16: New Stages 31, 7 PM,** SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Enjoy productions written and directed

by students. Additional performances are held at 9:15 pm March 15 & 16. INFO: 216-295-4200.

**MARCH 14: Gene's Jazz Hot, 7 PM,** LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Local jazz combo performs in the Lit Arts room at Loganberry Books. Free cookies. Donations for the band gratefully accepted. INFO: 216-795-9800.

**MARCH 15: Kindergarten Open House, 9:30-11 AM,** ONAWAY SCHOOL. Parents and guardians of children entering kindergarten this fall can meet the principal, teachers, and tour the school. INFO: 216-295-4080.

**MARCH 16: ArtsPlymouth: Organ Recital by Kyle Ballantine, 3 PM,** PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860

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## Lower & Middle School Parent Visitation

Wednesday, February 13, 2013  
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Lyndhurst  
8:45 am

## Lower & Middle School Parent Visitation

Thursday, March 7, 2013  
Grades PS-8  
Lyndhurst  
8:45 am



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## OUT & ABOUT

COVENTRY RD. Plymouth's senior intern plays his final Masters recital on the Holtkamp/Hemry pipe organ. INFO: 216-921-3510.

**MARCH 17: Navigating Higher Education in a New Economy, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. INFO: 216-751-2320 OR firstunitariancleveland.org.**

**MARCH 19: ArtsPlymouth: Takacs Quartet with Garrick Ohlsson, Piano, 7:30 PM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. This concert is presented by the Chamber Music Society. Tickets are required and are available online at clevelandchambermusic.org.**

**MARCH 20: Choir and Orchestra Pre-Trip Concert, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. INFO: 216-295-4200.**

**MARCH 22: Band Pre-Trip Concert, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Shaker's best band performs before its tour. INFO: 216-295-4200.**

**MARCH 24: Physician Assisted Death: Is It Time for Re-Evaluation?, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Stuart Youngner, chair, Department of Bioethics, CWRU School of Medicine, speaks about physician-assisted death, which is legal in several states. Is managing our own death**

"the very last human right?" INFO: 216-751-2320 OR firstunitariancleveland.org.

**MARCH 24: Barbara Luton Art Competition Gallery Opening and Awards Ceremony, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the artists juried into this year's art show and enjoy their original art. INFO: 216-991-2030.**

**MARCH 27: Getting Started with Medicare during Coffee, Cookies & Conversation, 10-11 AM, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Get a basic understanding of how Medicare works and how it affects you. This discussion is designed to make Medicare easy to understand and**



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## OUT & ABOUT

to answer questions before you register. Free. INFO: 216-491-1360.

**MARCH 28-APRIL 5: Spring Recess.** Shaker Schools are closed.

**MARCH 31: Easter Sunday.** Main Library is closed.

## Beyond the City Limits

**FEBRUARY 13: Cleveland Archaeology Society Lecture, 7:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Professor Leigh-Ann Bedal of Pennsylvania State University at Erie speaks on "Petra: An Urban Oasis in the Arabian Desert." The free lecture is followed by a reception to meet the speaker. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR [case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html](http://case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html).

**FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 2: CIM Opera Theatre, 7:30 PM,** 11021 EAST BLVD. David Bamberger, director of the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra and Harry Davidson, conductor, present Francis Poulenc's 1956 "Dialogues of the Carmelites." The CIM production will perform the official English version. INFO: 216-795-3211.

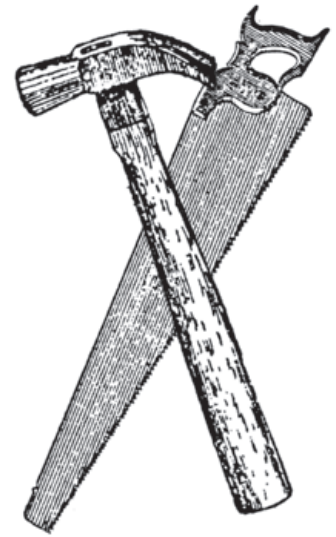
**FEBRUARY 8: VIVA! & Gala Presents Juan Siddi Flamenco, 7:30-9:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, GARTNER AUDITORIUM. This is the Cleveland debut of flamenco's most thrilling dancers, musicians, and singers. Siddi is recognized for his stunning choreography and creative staging. INFO: 216-421-7350.

**FEBRUARY 16: VIVA! & Gala present The Idan Raichel Project, 7:30-9:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, GARTNER AUDITORIUM. Voted Israel's musician of the decade, Idan Raichel has worked with 100 different musicians and singers to fuse traditional Middle Eastern instruments with electronic sounds, and to combine Jewish music with that of regions ranging from West Africa to Latin America and India. Appearing with a seven-member ensemble, Idan makes his Cleveland debut in a special acoustic performance. INFO: 216-421-7350.

**MARCH 2: Paprika!, THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL, 1515 WEST 3RD ST., CLEVELAND.** An Orchestrated Grand Ball and Silent Auction recognizing the world famous Cleveland Orchestra and its Hungarian Lineage, sponsored by the Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel. TICKETS AND INFO: JUDIT E. PUSKAS: 330-869-5726 OR [jpuskas@uakron.edu](mailto:jpuskas@uakron.edu) OR ELIZABETH PAPP TAYLOR: 216-295-9234 OR [erpt@adelphia.net](mailto:erpt@adelphia.net), OR ALBERT L. LADANYI: 216-991-4498.

**MARCH 9: Writers & Readers: Temple Grandin, 2 PM,** CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, 325 SUPERIOR AVE. Scientist, scholar, animal rights advocate, and best-selling author Temple Grandin is autistic. Her newest book, *Different...Not Less* (2012) offers hope and encouragement for those with autism and their families. Free. INFO: 216-623-2800.

**MARCH 13: Cleveland Archaeology Society Lecture, 7:30 PM,**



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## OUT & ABOUT

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Professor Brian Rose of the University of Pennsylvania speaks on "Assessing the Historicity of the Trojan War: Excavations at Troy 1988-2010" and presents the results of the excavations at the site during the last 24 years. The free lecture is followed by a reception to meet the speaker. INFO: 216-231-4600 OR [case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html](http://case.edu/artsci/clsc/casmain.html).

**MARCH 15: VIVA! & Gala Present Naseer Shamma & Ensemble, 7:30-9:30 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, GARTNER AUDITORIUM.** Iraqi musical master and oud (lute) virtuoso Naseer Shamma, one of the most celebrated exponents of classical Arab music, makes his Cleveland debut. INFO: 216-421-7350.

**MARCH 17: St. Patrick's Day, 2:04 PM, SUPERIOR AVE. AND EAST 18TH ST.** The annual parade that celebrates everything Irish travels southwest on Superior Avenue to East Roadway and ends at the intersection of Rockwell Avenue and East 6th Street. Grand Marshall is Kevin McGinty and the Irish Mother of the year is Una Ellis.

**MARCH 19: Writers Center Stage: Ann Patchett, 7:30 PM, OHIO THEATER.** Meet the author of *The Patron Saint of Liars* and *Bel Canto*. \$30/person benefits the Cuyahoga Library Foundation. TICKETS: [playhousesquare.org/writerscenterstage](http://playhousesquare.org/writerscenterstage).

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# The Daddy Debt Load

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

One of Shaker's most venerable businesses is a secretive, quasi-governmental conglomerate that almost no one knows: Dad, Inc. Shaker Observer went undercover to probe some of this shadowy organization's many subsidiaries:

**The Bank of Dad:** Founded in the mid 1990s, the bank started with a single depositor, also known as the Beloved Daughter. From humble roots – the bank's first deposit were two shiny pennies locked in a high-security #10 envelope in Dad's desk drawer ("Nobody could find it in that mess, Daddy!") – the bank experienced rapid growth, accepting a wide array of currencies including:

- 47 worthless foreign coins brought back by traveling neighbors;
- 22 miniature candy bars (to prevent theft by little brothers); and
- 17 Build-A-Bear Certificates.

ATM service began in the 2000s, with \$20 bills for pizza parties, ice cream, and gas dispensed from a lifelike wallet left unattended on a kitchen counter. Unfortunately, faulty accounting and undocumented spousal withdrawals often resulted in dispenser failure, resulting in cancellation of the Dad-Is-An-EZ-Touch program in 2008.

The Bank of Dad recently updated its technologies ("Hey, Dad," offered Number One Son, eyeing the manila folder containing the Bank's financial system. "Ever hear of a spreadsheet?") but faces a financial challenge as rising costs for college tuition, video gaming systems, and various bunch-of-hooley "educational" trips (Debate in the Bronx! Junior Semester in Stockholm!) outstrip the Bank's sagging energy and income. Note: The

Bank was recently turned down for a government bailout by The Ohio Lottery, despite a sure-fire investment of \$10 in MegaMillions tickets.

**The Court of Dad:** All disputes in the Republic of Dad are adjudicated in the Court of Dad, Judge Dad presiding. The early days of the Court were busy ones, as high-stakes cases involving missing American Girl furniture ("You took it!") or mysteriously smashed Lego sculptures ("You broke it!") filled the docket. Contracts limiting access to certain rooms or truck videos were also drafted, signed and witnessed before the Court.

The system functioned efficiently until the so-called Dad Spring of 2012, in which restive teenage citizens began to question the authority of the Court and the Republic's Constitution itself. Things came to a head during a contentious trial when Dad, unable to recuse himself, had to use two chairs so that he could appear as both a witness and judge, on one occasion angrily overruling his own objection.

"This is ridiculous!" exclaimed Beloved Daughter. "Why are you Judge Dad in the first place?"

"Because I was appointed—"

"—By the legislative branch, as which you also serve," said Number One Son. "Even though you're also the executive branch—"

"—It's not Dad's fault if he wins every election."

"You're the only registered voter!" said Beloved.

"Exactly!" said Shaker Man. "Who else would Citizen Dad vote for?"

**Dad Organizational Resources & Knowledge:** Declining bank fortunes and political unrest have refo-

cused Dad Inc.'s activities in recent years toward advisory services provided through Dad Organizational Resources & Knowledge, also known as DORK. Yet growth in this segment has been slower than expected; citizens of the Republic enjoying newfound freedoms are reluctant to request advice from their former ruler. Efforts to spur sales by offering "free" consultations on dating or college course selection have been met with protests including placards and chants such as "WHY WOULD I LISTEN TO A DORK?" or "I DON'T NEED SOME DORK TELLING ME WHAT TO DO!"

Recent months have seen an increase in demand for strategic services, usually related to:

- Planning of aforementioned bunch-of-hooley trips;
- Last-minute copy-editing of massive term papers; and
- Management tips regarding volunteer minions at the school newspaper or during Shakespeare-on-the-Green's production of Richard III.

Unfortunately, many of these projects are linked to requests for additional lines of credit (or outright grants) from the Bank of Dad, limiting profitability and adding to the corporation's already considerable debt load. "I am not made of money!" the CEO announced at a recent board meeting on the side porch. Protesters took to the streets again, however, after he announced an ill-conceived new strategy for Dad Inc. involving his "[dang] kids staying home and working night and day while [he] goes off gallivanting around the [dang] world, [dang it]."

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