

# Our schools continue to make the grade!

Congratulations from Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer!

Once again, Shaker Heights City Schools earn welldeserved, national recognition.

Devoted educators and enthusiastic parents continue to provide tireless energy to ensure that the ongoing national reputation for academic excellence of the Shaker Heights City Schools remains as one of

the pillars of strength in this very special community. A partial list of the school system's accomplishments in 2007-08 gives testimony that their efforts again give reason for a sense of community pride.

131 Advanced Placement Scholars in 2007, based on their success on three or more AP

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 $oldsymbol{1}$  Presidential Scholar in the Arts.

 $17\,$  National Finalists and  $4\,$  Alternates in





Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer is delighted to be part of Shaker Heights, a wonderful community where commitment to education plays an important role in creating an outstanding quality of life.

Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer Shaker Heights Office 20710 Chagrin Blvd. • Shaker Heights Ohio 44122 Phone: 216-751-8550

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Avalon Lofts' developer Gordon Premier joins new residents Evelyn Brown and Jim Sanfilippo. >>

Cover photograph Marc Golub



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# shaker life

**AUGUST | SEPTEMBER 2008 VOLUME 26 ISSUE 4** 

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

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For general City information, call (216) 491-1400 or EMAIL: city.hall@shakeronline.com

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# city news

#### Greener Pages for Shaker Life

The paper in this issue of Shaker Life consists of 10 percent post-consumer recycled content. This is one small step toward a greener publication. Join us in the effort by recycling your magazines. All paper products can be placed in brown paper bags or tied with string for regular pick-up. See the Green Shaker stories in this issue for more information about recycling.

#### Signs of the Times

Residents soon will be able to own a piece of history when Shaker updates its street signs to comply with state mandates. All cities are required to comply by 2012. The iconic black and white, custom-made signs date back to the 1950s, but now must make way for new signs with a super-reflective background and 6-inch lettering, making the signs easier to read.

New signs will be installed over the summer, and in the ultimate act of recycling, the old ones will be made available for residents to purchase. For details, contact the Planning Department, 216-491-1430.

#### Lee Named New Police Chief



Scott Lee was named new Chief of Police effective June 1, 2008. A committee of Shaker residents that included Geoffrey Mearns, Virginia Davidson, Michael Shinn,

assisted Mayor Earl Leiken in the selection of the new Chief. City Council member Rob Zimmerman, who chairs the Safety & Public Works Committee, also participated in the process, which he described as "rigorous and thorough." The firm of Daniel T. Clancy and Associates also consulted in Lee's selection.

Mayor Leiken commented that Chief Lee "has performed very ably as Interim Chief since January, and he brings outstanding experience and skill to the position."

Lee holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Kent State University, and is a Marine Corps Reserve veteran. He has served on the Shaker force since 1986, and was deputy chief from 1999 to 2007. He also has

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Secretary to the Mayor Julie Krausslich displays the new street sign when Moreland Boulevard was renamed Van Aken in 1951. PHOTO COURTESY SHAKER HTS PUBLIC LIBRARY.

#### **Avalon Station Incentives** Attractive to Buyers

The City of Shaker Heights, the National City Housing Affordable Mortgage Program (NCHAMP), and the Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights are combining forces to make ownership of an Avalon Station Loft unit affordable to a broad spectrum of buyers.

The award-winning condominiums, located on Van Aken Boulevard between the Avalon and Lee road rapid transit stops, epitomize upscale urban living, with their contemporary and spacious interiors, rooftop garden, and proximity to amenities and transportation. Most of the incentives apply to two-bedroom units on the first, second or third floors and are available individually or in combination:

- Buyer's Closing Bonus. Receive a closing bonus of between \$5,000 and \$12,000 (based on purchase price), with no income requirements.
- Low Interest Mortgage Loan. Pay 1.5 percent below the current market rate, with no income requirements.
- Down Payment Matching Loan. Pay half the current Wall Street Journal rate on matching funds up to \$18,000 for 10 years, no prepayment penalty and no income requirements. City, school, and library employees receive an additional grant of \$1,000 to be used on upgrades to the unit.
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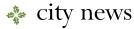
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#### Police Chief Lee

continued from page 3

served as head of the Shaker Investigative Bureau.

In addition to Chief Lee's promotion, the Police Department has promoted both Commander Michael A. Schwarber and Captain Steven Hammett to deputy chiefs. Deputy Chief Schwarber has been with the Police Department since 1984, and will continue in his role as Uniform Bureau Commander. Deputy Chief Hammett has served the Department since 1990 and heads the Auxiliary Services Bureau.

#### **Five Minutes** with the New Chief Q&A

What areas do you intend to focus on as Shaker's new Chief of Police?

My goal is to deliver the highest level of service possible to the community while at the same time re-evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of how we deliver that service. I have met with many residents in the past few months and most have expressed a high level of satisfaction - but we can't rest on our laurels. We are working at continuing our strong partnership with citizens and particularly with the neighborhood associations.

#### In your opinion, how is the current force positioned to address safety issues in our community?

We have a highly intelligent and very motivated corps of officers. I'm fortunate to have inherited a department full of visionary leaders who rise to the occasion at hand. I really feel we provide one of the highest levels of service in the county, if not the state.

#### What has been the biggest change in your transition from "Interim Chief" to "Chief?"

The transition has been fairly smooth. I think the biggest thing I've had to adjust to is answering to the title of Chief when people call.

#### Calling All Dads

The Shaker Heights Dads' Club adds its name to the roster of Shaker organizations. The Club has official non-profit status from the State of Ohio and is modeled after the successful Chagrin Falls Dads' Club.

The organization's bi-laws call for furthering the educational process of the Shaker schools, its students, graduates, and community as well as providing services as needed. It promotes community endeavors for fathers living in Shaker Heights and surrounding communities. Open to all interested fathers, Shaker Dads provides an opportunity to meet other fathers who are dedicated to the well being of the community and its children.

The group meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 8:45 pm at Brennan's Colony on Lee Road in Cleveland Heights. (They are looking for a suitable Shaker Heights location.) Eric Ludwig, 216-798-3395, is the Club's president. The next meeting is August 5. Web: www.shakerdads.com.

#### Flu Shots for Everyone

Once again, the Health Department makes it easy for residents of all ages to get a flu shot. Call to schedule a flu shot appointment beginning the week of September 15.

The Health Department offers flu shot clinics throughout the months of October, November and December. The first clinic date is Tuesday, October 28. FluMist, the nasal spray vaccine, will also be available for children aged 2-18 years. The cost of the flu vaccine remains the same as last year, \$25. Pneumonia shots are available at a cost of \$40.

Another convenient option for residents is the Point of Distribution (POD) Drill, to be held at the Middle School Saturday, November 1; watch the next issue of Shaker Life for details. The POD drill features walk-through and drivethrough access, and has the added benefit of helping health care providers and volunteers prepare for emergency situations. Residents can make appointments for the POD Drill beginning September 15.

The Health Department also offers back-to-school immunizations, as well as other shots commonly needed for traveling out of the country. Check shakeronline.com for available vaccines and their costs, or call the Health Department at 216-491-1480.

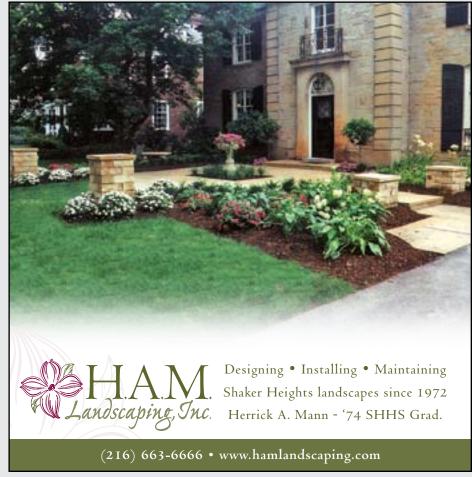
#### Vacationers -Leave the Light On!

To make sure your home stays safe and secure when you're away for the day, or for an extended vacation, the SHPD recommends keeping in mind the three 'L's: lights, locks, and landscaping.

Crime Prevention Officer Gerald Jankowski reminds homeowners, "Every theft is a crime of opportunity; using lights and secure locks and trimming shrubbery are keys to home and personal security." Following these common sense tips can give you peace of mind to enjoy your vacation:

- Use motion detector and/or dusk-todawn lighting outside, and place lights on timers inside.
- Check all door and window locks to make sure they're secure. Ideally, all locks should be keyed to one key, with an emergency key hidden but accessible.
- Trim any shrubbery that might obscure doors and windows, to keep from providing "cover" to someone trying to gain entry.
- Let the SHPD know when you go on vacation, by calling 216-491-1220.
- Have a friend or neighbor pick up the mail and papers.
- · Lock your car, even if you leave it in the garage; keep electronics and other valuables out of view. Make sure the garage is closed and locked.
- Your address should be clearly visible from the street for emergency purposes. For more tips on home security, call the Crime Prevention Unit at 216-491-1230.







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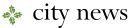
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#### **Shaker Trees** Take the Limelight

The Tree Advisory Board, in conjunction with the Photography Club of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, welcomes resident involvement in an upcoming, year-long photography project featuring Shaker's most notable trees.

The idea: residents suggest trees they would like to see portrayed, over four seasons, by photographers from the Nature Center. Trees can be on public or private property and should be visually appealing due to color, size, form, or other interesting characteristics.

Submissions should include the address or location of the tree as well as the name and phone number of the nominating resident, along with an explanation of why the tree is a good candidate for photography. Once the trees have been photographed, the City and Nature Center intend to showcase them in a special exhibit. To submit a tree for consideration, email your suggestion to patrick.neville@shakeronline.com or mail it to the Department of Public Works, Attn: Patrick Neville, City Hall, 3400 Lee Road, 44120. Submissions will be accepted through April of 2009. For more information, call 216-491-1490.

#### Shaker News Briefs

 Heights Christian Church presented Peace Awards last spring to two outstanding Shaker Heights High School students for exemplary work in the community. Each award also carried a \$500 educational stipend.

Ashley Hughes was selected for her leadership role with Student Group on Race Relations (SGORR), where she worked to develop healthy relationships among a diverse body of students. SGORR also met with Israeli and South African high school students to help them form organizations in their own countries. For the past three years, she organized a diversity forum at the Cleveland City Club. She will attend Duke University this fall.



Joshua Davidson was selected for his work as the founder and president of the SHHS chapter of Students for a Democratic Society, whose main focus is to promote peace. He belongs to the Ambassadors for Unity, which works to improve communications throughout the Jewish community. He is also an active member of Cleveland Peace Action and the Northeast Ohio Anti-War Coalition. He spoke at an anti-war conference in Cleveland earlier this summer.

• The Shaker Heights Rotary Club in May gave its annual award to one firefighter and one police officer for outstanding service to their departments and the community at large. Fire Department honoree Lt. Shaun Probert has been a firefighter/paramedic, fire inspector, and SWAT paramedic for 16 years. He acted swiftly and decisively in leading a rescue crew through a smoke-filled apartment fire last year, helping to bring two of the three victims to safety. Probert is married

with three children. He also is active with the Mitochondrial Disease Foundation. Sergeant Troy Allison has been a member of the SHPD since 1998, serving in the Uniform Bureau and rising to the rank of Sergeant in 2004. He has served as a Field Training Officer and is the Assistant SWAT Team Commander. His research on Conductive Energy Devices, better known as the Taser, convinced the Department to acquire the device, substantially reducing injuries to officers and suspects. He is married with three children.

• The SHPD welcomes three new members to the force, replacing three officers who have retired. The new officers are enrolled in Field Training and should be active by the end of the year.

Laura Combs, 23, of North Royalton, is a 2008 graduate of the Cleveland Heights Police Academy. She has an associate degree in Law Enforcement and a degree in Corrections from Cuyahoga Community College. She formerly was a dispatcher for the City of Brecksville.

Jessica Marie Huffman, 25, of Lyndhurst, is a 2004 graduate of the Cleveland Heights Police Academy, and has prior experience as an officer with the Cleveland Clinic and Geauga Lake Police Departments.

Daniel Saggio, 25, of Parma, is a 2008 graduate of the Cleveland Heights Police Academy. He holds a Criminology/ Sociology degree from Cleveland State University, and is a former member of the Marine Corps Reserve Weapons Company in Akron.

#### Seasonal Reminders

**Bicycle Licensing:** Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm August 2, 9, 16, 23 and September 13 and 27 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. New

# It's A Great Time To Up-Size In Shaker Heights!

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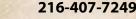


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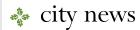
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licenses are \$5. Re-issued licenses are 50 cents.

Bicycle Riding: Helmets are required for everyone 5 and older when operating a bicycle and for all passengers regardless of age. Bicyclists may not ride more than two abreast in a single lane and must ride as near to the right side of the roadway as possible. Children under the age of 14 may ride bikes on the sidewalk, but must yield the right of way to pedestrians.

Computer Round-up: August 16 and 17, 23 and 24, Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Blvd. Bring any of the following items: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, terminals, modems, cables, software, printers, cartridges, cell phones and accessories. INFO: 216-491-1490.



Fire Hydrants: The Fire Department will be flushing hydrants from September 15 through September 27. See the Calendar at shakeronline.com for streets schedule.

Go Green Rebate Program: Income eligible residents can receive a rebate for their energy audit and up to 25 percent of approved costs for energy efficient improvements (up to \$1,000). Find out more by calling 216-491-1370.

Lost Pets: If you have lost a pet, call the Public Works Department at 216-491-1490 (after hours or emergencies, 216-491-1499).

Parking Ban: Parking is not allowed on Shaker streets between 2 and 6 am.

Household Hazardous Waste Roundup: September 6 and 7, Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Blvd. Includes oil or solvent-based paint, sealers, primers, coatings (aerosols or liquids); varnishes, polyurethanes; paint thinners; pesticides; household cleaners; motor oil, car batteries; adhesives, driveway sealer; kerosene, gasoline; mercury, fluorescent bulbs. No latex paint. INFO: 216-491-1490.

Yard Waste: From May 1 to October 15 residents must use the specifically marked Shaker logo paper yard waste bags for leaves and grass. The bags are available at many area merchants and most City buildings for \$1.00 for each 30-gallon bag. Cost of the bags goes toward paying for the separate collection and composting program.

Sewer Safety: Prevent sewer problems before they begin!

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

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

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#### REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between April 1 and May 31, 2008 appear below. The 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	200 SALE I			PRIOR SALE PR	-	C	ESTIMATED DNSTRUCTION COST
22276 CALVERTON ROAD	\$ 299	9,900	\$	311,900	(2000)	\$	12,000 (1934)
3102 CHADBOURNE ROAD	\$ 22	7,500	\$	260,000	(2002)	\$	16,000 (1921)
3308 CHADBOURNE ROAD	\$ 240	0,000	\$	225,000	(2003)	\$	12,000 (1925)
2584 CHESHIRE ROAD	\$ 14!	5,000	\$	61,000	(1999)	\$	6,000 (1922)
21025 COLBY ROAD	\$ 350	0,000	\$	325,500	(2006)	\$	27,500 (1948)
2685 CRANLYN ROAD	\$ 400	0,000	\$	375,000	(1998)	\$	19,500 (1931)
2708 CRANLYN ROAD	\$ 490	0,000	\$	535,000	(2000)	\$	18,500 (1939)
22539 DOUGLAS ROAD	\$ 356	5,500	\$	450,000	(2005)	\$	11,000 (1936)
21276 FAIRMOUNT BLVD	\$ 28	5,000	\$	350,000	(2002)	\$	22,000 (1930)
2855 FALMOUTH ROAD	\$ 320	0,000	\$	265,000	(2003)	\$	15,000 (1945)
2992 FONTENAY ROAD	\$ 48	7,000	\$	400,000	(1998)	\$	35,000 (1938)
3326 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$ 136	5,900	\$	207,000	(2000)	\$	6,000 (1921)
2725 INVERNESS ROAD	\$ 50!	5,000	\$	492,000	(2001)	\$	11,500 (1933)
3315 KENMORE ROAD	\$ 28!	5,000	\$	225,000	(2002)	\$	17,000 (1925)
3076 KINGSLEY ROAD	\$ 802	2,500	\$	875,000	(2006)	\$	50,000 (1924)
3567 LATIMORE ROAD		3,800	\$	168,000	(2006)	\$	13,500 (1928)
3283 LEE ROAD		0,000	\$	300,000	(2003)	\$2	250,400 (1993)
19219 LOMOND BLVD	\$ 22!	5,000	\$	185,000	(1998)	\$	15,000 (1946)
2854 MANCHESTER ROAD	\$ 42!	5,000	\$	337,500	(1997)	\$	12,000 (1934)
17121 SCOTTSDALE BLVD	\$ 147	7,725	\$	173,000	(2004)	\$	9,500 (1931)
19413 SCOTTSDALE BLVD	\$ 213	3,000	\$	137,000	(2004)	\$	15,000 (1939)
19600 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$1,190	0,000	\$1	,060,000	(2006)	\$	35,000 (1927)
20540 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$ 287	7,000	\$	187,000	(2007)	\$	35,000 (1954)
3309 STOCKHOLM ROAD		5,000	\$	160,000		\$	7,000 (1922)
3564 STRATHAVON ROAD	\$ 136	5,250	\$	76,500	(2006)	\$	8,000 (1923)
20776 SYDENHAM ROAD		5,000	\$	300,000		\$	15,000 (1941)
3722 TOLLAND ROAD	\$ 150	0,560	\$	144,000	(2000)	\$	24,500 (1951)
3102 WARRINGTON ROAD		9,900	\$	216,500		\$	6,500 (1916)
3123 WARRINGTON ROAD	•	5,650	\$	148,850		\$	17,000 (1924)
3157 WARRINGTON ROAD		0,500	\$	255,000		\$	9,000 (1921)
22376 WESTCHESTER RD	\$ 299	9,000	\$	161,000	(2007)	\$	31,000 (1953)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

#### Certified Shaker

Certified Shaker is a program that recognizes rental properties that meet or exceed the City of Shaker Heights' standards of excellence, and encourages rental property owners to make their properties the best they can be.

Congratulations to the new Certified Shaker property owners, listed below. These represent some of the best rental properties the City has to offer.

For a complete list of certified properties and to find out about vacancies, call 216-491-1332 or check the City's website, shakeronline.com. To learn more about becoming certified, call 216-491-1370.

#### Apartments:

15500 Van Aken Blvd, Ashby Arms (owner Brian Cook)

#### Rental Homes:

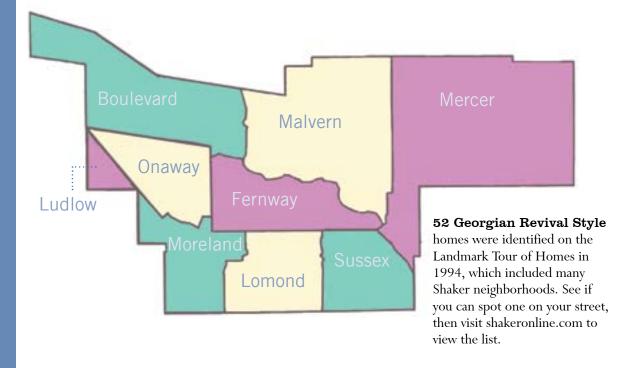
3324 Aberdeen Road (Karen Miner) 3366 Elsmere Road (George and Andrea Holt) 2870 Ludlow Road (Jeff and Sue Comfort) 3631 Rawnsdale Road (Judy Immerman Payne) 3459 Glencairn Road (David Chrien) 2879 Ludlow Road (David Kramer)



# shaker neighborhoods: Georgian Revival



Gorgeous Georgian Revival estate in Mercer.



Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen insisted on quality architecture. How lucky for the Shaker Heights homeowners of today. The brothers were ridiculed in their day for creating "castles" in modest neighborhoods, but those same homes retain the bone structure to support modern upgrades, energy efficiency modifications and generations of redecorating efforts.

The architectural style described below was widely used in Shaker Heights between the 1920s and the 1950s for schools, churches, commercial and public buildings and residences.

Georgian Revival Style buildings are located throughout the City, and the style remains popular even today in examples such as the Real Living, Realty One office building on Shaker Boulevard and the Sunrise Assisted Living facility at Chagrin Boulevard and Lee Road, both of which are recent examples of the Georgian Revival style.

#### Look for:

- Formal and symmetrical front façades
- Substantial cornices, or horizontal trim, in brick, stone, or wood
- Wood cornices painted white to complement red brickwork
- Hipped or gabled roofs

- Less prominent chimneys, sometimes hidden behind a parapet wall
- Prominent doorways wide and welcoming with raised panels or small windows for visual interest
- Overscaled door surrounds, entryways, and porches with intricately detailed moldings and trim
- Large and numerous window openings evenly spaced across the façade almost always double-hung sash with individual panes of glass divided by muntin bars
- Arched and circular windows are also quite common
- Windows placed almost flush with the exterior surface of the walls to allow a great deal of light into interior spaces
- Symmetrical center hall interiors with a central stairway
- Interior woodwork, including base boards, wainscoting, and mantels, painted white or ivory

- Raised panel doors, built-in bookcases, china cabinets, and breakfast nooks
- Living and dining room ceilings with elaborate plaster moldings

#### Georgian Revival Style Tax\* (not resale) Values:

- Single family homes estimated from \$143,400 to \$1,560,000.
- Single family homes range in square footage from 1,378 to 10,090.
- Two-family homes estimated from \$187,000 to \$210,800.
- Two-family homes range in square footage from 2,520 to 3,324.
- \*Based on Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office Market Valuation.

To learn more about the character and specific charms of each of Shaker's neighborhoods, visit www. shakeronline.com/relocationbuying/ ShakerNeighborhoods.asp.



Ludlow



Malvern



Malvern





Moreland / apartment building

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2008 2009 SERIES

FOR TICKETS CALL 216.749.9486 OR VISIT WWW.WRITERSCENTERSTAGE.ORG

# UP NEXT OHIO THEATRE PLAYHOUSE SQUARE



DAVID MCCULLOUGH October 21, 2008

David McCullough, "master of the art of narrative history," is a two-time Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winning author and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom – the nation's highest civilian award. His latest book, 1776 – a New York Times bestseller – has been called a "classic," and his acclaimed biography John Adams is now a seven-part mini-series running on HBO.



YOUNG LITERARY ICONS

March 3, 2009

Colson Whitehead, recipient of the MacArthur Foundation "genius award," and Anisfeld-Wolf Award for writing novels with inventive plots that weave American folklore and history into the stories. His titles include *The Intuitionist and Apex Hides the Hurt: A Novel.* 



JANE & MICHAEL STERN

December 2, 2008

Jane and Michael Stern are the authors of more than thirty books about America. Their "Road food" column for *Gourmet* magazine has won the James Beard award three times. Their website, www.roadfood.com, was named a Top Site by *PC Magazine* and Best of the Web by Forbes.com.



Jonathan Lethem is the author of seven novels, including *Motherless Brooklyn*, a National Book Critics Award winner, and *The Fortress of Solitude*. He has also published a novella, two short story collections and a volume of essays.

These young authors will be interviewed by NPR commentator and national book reviewer Nancy Pearl.



**JOHN UPDIKE** May 12, 2009

John Updike is an American novelist, poet, short story writer and literary critic. His "Rabbit" books, Rabbit Run and Rabbit Redux, helped establish him as a leading author of his generation. His best known titles are The Widows of Eastwick and The Witches of Eastwick. His most recent works are Due Considerations and Terrorist.

# library news



#### Library Receives \$16,000 Grant for Out-of-School Time Activities

The Shaker Library received a \$16,433 grant from Cuyahoga County for out-ofschool time programs and activities for teens. Grant money will be used to open the Main Library Teen Center earlier in the day on weekdays and on Saturdays, to offer summer enrichment programs for teens, and to purchase a Nintendo Wii, Sony Playstation, and Microsoft Xbox with flat-panel screens and games.

According to Library Director Luren Dickinson, "We have always had teens at the library. Now we have the extra funds to involve them in productive out-ofschool activities, to provide enrichment opportunities, and to build a relationship with them so they grow to have an appreciation of libraries and what we offer."

For a schedule of events and programs, call the Youth Services department at 216-991-2030 ex. 3141.

#### Library Board Looks to Renovate Unfinished Areas of Main Library

The Library selected four architectural firms - Holzheimer Bolek + Meehan Architects, Van Dyke Architects, LLC, Bostwick Design Partnership, and studioTECHNE - to present their designs and explain their visions for the renovation of the unfinished areas of Main Library's second floor and the redesign of library services.

The Library Board will vote on the best proposal and work with the selected architect to finalize the design and layout of the areas to be finished, renovated, or reconfigured, using the remaining funds from the 2004 school-library bond issue. If all timelines are met, construction could begin in early 2009.

#### Celebrate the End of Summer Reading

Families are invited to celebrate a successful summer of reading when The Passport Project Global Dance and Music Collective visits the Main Library at 2 pm Saturday, August 2 for a dynamic demonstration of dance, drumming, and capoeira, a 400-yearold martial art that blends music, dance, singing, and acrobatics in a holistic approach to self-defense.

Following their performance, the group will offer workshops in drumming and dance. Register by calling the Main Library children's desk, 216-991-2030.

#### Don't Forget Your Library Card

The computers at both libraries have been installed with time-management software. The new feature allows visitors to log on to the computers independently, and new automatic payment machines allow residents to prepay for printing documents using their library cards. Don't forget to bring your card the next time you visit the library.

#### Library's Meet-the-Author Series Continues in August with John Gorman

Meet John Gorman, author of Buzzard: Inside the Glory Days of WMMS and Cleveland Rock Radio when he visits Bertram Woods Branch at 7 pm Wednesday, August 27. Listen as he takes you behind the scenes during the station's heyday from 1973 to 1986.

Gorman began his broadcasting career in Boston and moved to WMMS in 1983. Over the next 13 years he helped to turn the station into one of the most popular and influential rock stations in the country. He served as music director and program director, and eventually became operations manager of WMMS and WHK.

continued on page 17

#### Reader of the Month

TIM BURKE

**AGE:** 58

LIVES IN: Lomond area **USES:** Main Library **READS:** Every day

ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOOK: Kim by Rudyard Kipling

OTHER FAVORITES: The Little Sister by Raymond Chandler, Rendezvous with Rama by Arthur C. Clarke, Pandora's Star by Peter F. Hamilton, Red Storm Rising by Tom Clancy, The Teachings of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of Knowledge by Carlos Castaneda

LIKES TO READ: Science-fiction, cultural anthropology, philosophy, history DOESN'T LIKE TO READ: Politics, social science, biographies

WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LIBRARY: The people who work there INFLUENCES: Whim, previous exposure, and friends' recommendations

OTHER INTERESTS: Gardening, mountain climbing, and biking

FAMILY: Three cats; Bob, Lizzie, and Grey

BRIEF BIO: Moved to Shaker from San Diego 16 years ago to work in research at the Cleveland Clinic.



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

#### PLAY AND LEARN STATION AT MAIN LIBRARY

A free preschool literacy program with interactive opportunities for parents and caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years. No registration is required.

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

1–3 pm Thursdays

6-8 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

#### PLAY AND LEARN BABIES

A special room filled with literacybased activities just for babies birth to 18 months and their parents and caregivers. No registration is required. 10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6–8 pm Thursdays

#### PLAY AND LEARN STATION FOR CAREGIVERS

A preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years. A onetime registration is required; please call Shaker Family Center at 216-921-2030.

10 am-noon Wednesdays

Play and Learn Station will be closed the week of August 25.

#### **NEW! NOT YET TWO:**

**CREEPERS** (For babies who have begun to creep & crawl)

It is never too soon to start sharing books with babies! You and your little one will enjoy songs and rhymes, books and bounces in this new class. FALL SESSION:

September 23-November 12 9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch 9:30 am Wednesdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, September 6.

WALKERS (For babies who have begun to walk)

Experience the wonder of words with your child through stories and songs, movement and puppets.

FALL SESSION:

September 23–November 12 10:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch 10:30 am Wednesdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, September 6.

#### **TERRIFIC TWOS**

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

(Must be 2 years old by October 1.) FALL SESSION:

September 22–November 13

10 am Mondays or Wednesdays at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays or Thursdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, September 6.

#### PRESCHOOL STORIES

Stories and fun for 3-,4-,& 5-yearolds.

FALL SESSION:

September 8-December 11

10 am & 1:30 pm Mondays at Main Library

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

No registration is required; however, groups are asked to make special arrangements.

#### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL STORIES**

Listen to stories and songs on a Shaker Heights City School District bus.

10 am Monday, August 11 at Main Library

Registration begins July 28

10 am Tuesday, August 12 at Woods Branch

Registration begins July 29.

#### **PAJAMA STORIES**

Stories for children ages 3 and up with or without an adult. 7:15 pm Monday, September 15 Registration begins September 2.

#### MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT AT WOODS BRANCH

Week of September 2: Make a paper bag scarecrow.

#### THE HOMEWORK CENTER AT MAIN LIBRARY

For students in grades 2 through 6. 4-6:30 pm Mondays & Wednesdays in Meeting Room F (second floor) beginning Monday, September 8.

Homeworkhelp provided by teachers and education students under the supervision of Mrs. Cheryl Darden, Special Education Supervisor, Cleveland Public Schools.

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

#### THE WRITER'S CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY (Grades 2–4)

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

4:15 pm Tuesdays

FALL SESSION:

September 23-November 18 Registration begins September 9.

#### AFTERSCHOOL AUTHORS AT WOODS **BRANCH** (Grades 2–5)

Read, write, publish! A series of fun workshops for kids who love to write.

FALL SESSION:

September 24-November 19 4:15 pm Wednesdays

Registration begins September 10.

## library news

NASA PRESENTS "LIVING IN SPACE" AT MAIN LIBRARY ( $Grades\ K-5$ )

Meet Bill Crell from NASA and learn what astronauts wear, what kind of food they eat and other interesting facts about living in space.

4:15–5:15 pm Wednesday, September 17 Registration begins Wednesday, September 3.

continued from page 15



Gorman

Gorman won the Radio Consultant of the Year at the 1985 Pop Music Convention and was named Operations Director of the Year in 1995 by Billboard magazine. He was inducted into the Radio Television Broadcaster's Hall of Fame of Ohio in 2000.

Following his talk, his book will be available for sale and signing. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2421.

#### Shaker Library and The Lit

September is *Be Kind to Writers and Editors* month — and what better way for aspiring authors to celebrate than with a series of talks with writers on writing and the creative process. The Library and The Lit present three Sunday afternoons with authors Mary Doria Russell, Scott Lax, and Paula McLain.

AT 2 PM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, Mary Doria Russell, award-winning author of the critically acclaimed best-



Russell

sellers *The Sparrow, A*Thread Of Grace, and Dreamers of the Day, talks about writing historical fiction.
Russell has been called the most versatile novelist in contemporary American literature, having written

classic "first contact" science fiction, a tense and wrenching World War II thriller, and even a romance set against the background of the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference.

Now she has taken on the iconic Western. *Eight To Five, Against* is set in Dodge City during the summer of 1878 when Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday formed the unlikely but enduring friendship that led to the gunfight at the OK Corral.

She was a paleo-anthropologist with specialties in bone biology and biomechanics and did extended field work in Australia and Croatia. She spent four years writing computer manuals before beginning her first novel.

AT 2 PM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, Scott Lax, author of the book and movie *The Year That Trembled*, about the effects of the Vietnam War on a group of friends in a small Ohio town, talks about how



Lax

to incorporate personal experiences into your writing.

Lax graduated from Hiram College with a B.A. in English. During his varied career, he has drummed for Bo Diddley and worked in a

two-man think-tank at Comedy Central Television. He taught The Novel at The Wildacres Writers' Workshop in North Carolina, and in October 2007, he was the Director of the Fairmount Center for the Arts' Writers Conference. He is senior writer for *Northern Ohio Live* magazine and writes a weekly column, "Everyday People," for The Sun News. He is currently working on a novel



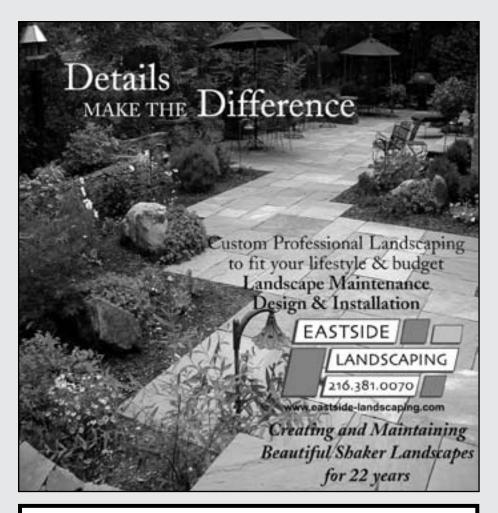
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## library news

scheduled for completion this year.

AT 2 PM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, Paula McLain, author of A Ticket to Ride, a family portrait that explores the darker sides of love and loyalty, speaks on writing across genres and how to transition from poetry and memoir to fiction.

McLain has published two collections of poetry, "Less of Her" and "Stumble,



McLain

Gorgeous," and a memoir entitled, Like Family: Growing Up in Other People's Houses, which details the fourteen years she and her two sisters spent in the foster care system in the 1970s and '80s after being aban-

doned by both parents.

McLain received her M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Michigan and has since been a writer-in-residence at Yaddo, The MacDowell Colony, and The Ucross Foundation Residency Program. She teaches part-time at John Carroll University, and is a core faculty member in the low-residency MFA Program in Poetry at New England College.

#### Library Seeks Reel Recommendations

Want to be in pictures? Recommend your three all-time favorite movie titles, get your photo taken, and join other Reel Recommendation experts starring on the walls of Main Library's Movies & Music department. For more information call 216-991-2030 ex. 3134.

#### September Afterschool Special Presents Living in Space

The Library's afterschool special at 4:15 pm Wednesday, September 17 will be out of this world! Bill Crell, NASA retiree and speaker from the John Glenn Research Center, talks to students in grades K-5 about the principles of flight.

Crell explains what it's like to live in space and will bring a pressurized flight suit to talk about its features. He also explains how gravitational pull is important to us. Crell has conducted more than 400 presentations.



Crell

According to him, "Earlier in my NASA career I thought if the opportunity ever presented itself for me to go into space, I wouldn't hesitate. But now I'm content to be a supporter of the space program and to inspire others."

Registration begins September 3. Call the Main Library Youth Services desk, 216-991-2030.

#### The Bookshelf: Appreciating The Natural World

The Amateur Naturalist: A New Look at a Classic Subject by Nick Baker. National Geographic, 2004. This appealing guide to the natural world offers ideas for observing, understanding, appreciating, and interacting with the wonders around us.

Butterflies in the Backyard by Scott Shalaway. Stackpole Books, 2004. Learn about the natural history of common species of butterflies and moths, and find out how to attract them to your backyard and garden with feeders and flowers.

Green Inheritance: Saving the Plants of the World by Anthony Huxley. University of California Press, 2005. With beautiful photographs and detailed drawings, this updated edition of Huxley's study of our relationships with plants includes new information about extinction and conservation.

Life in Cold Blood by David Attenborough. Princeton University Press, 2008. From salamanders to tortoises and alligators to snakes, the author examines the worlds of amphibians and reptiles, including their long biological history and threats to their future.

Marshes: The Disappearing Edens by William Burt. Yale University Press, 2007. After viewing these stunning photographs of marshlands and their elusive inhabitants, readers will have a new appreciation for this amazingly fragile and rapidly disappearing ecosystem.

Natural Acts: A Sidelong View of Science and Nature by David Quammen. W.W. Norton & Company, 2008. This collection of captivating essays by a highly regarded nature writer includes recent works as well as original columns from Outside magazine.

The Search for Lost Habitats: 30 Years of Exploring for Rare and Endangered Plants— Book 1 by Perry K. Peskin. Orange Frazer Press, 2006. Written by a Shaker Heights author, this delightful volume is beautifully illustrated with gorgeous color slides and has many references to nearby natural areas.

Shadow of the Bear: Travels in Vanishing Wilderness by Brian Payton. Bloomsbury, 2006. The author traveled around the world to study the eight remaining species of bears, animals that have fascinated humans throughout history.

The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion and Daring by Richard Preston. Random House, 2007. This is the remarkable story of passionate young adventurers who explore a world virtually untouched by humansthe amazing canopy of the giant redwood trees of Northern California.

Wildflowers of Ohio by Robert L. Henn. Quarry Books, 2008. This outstanding guide is arranged by color, and for each flower includes a stunning photograph, description, comments, range, habitat, and blooming period. Its compact size and ease of use make it a perfect hiking companion.

#### Teen Scene

#### TEEN ANIME CLUB AT WOODS BRANCH

Anime fans get together to watch films, learn about Japanese culture and munch on Japanese snacks.

11 am-12 noon Thursday, August 7

3:30-4:30 pm Thursday, September 18

#### T.A.B. (TEEN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING) AT MAIN LIBRARY

7:30-8:15 pm Tuesday, September 16 First Meeting for 2008-09 Board Members.

#### Computer Classes at Main Library

August and September are the months when everyone heads back to school. Perhaps now's the time to take a Computer Class at Main Library and it's free! Registration is required by calling 216-991-2030 ex. 3185.

#### MOUSE CLASS

10-11:30 am Saturday, August 2 (Registration began 7/21) 10-1:30 am Saturday, September 6 (Registration begins 8/25) Learn to use the computer mouse in one session.

INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT® 6:30-8 pm Monday, August 4 (Registration bean 7/28) 10-1:30 am Thursday, September 11 (Registration begins 9/2) Learn to create a slide show with text and

graphics, to edit slides and to add sound and animation.

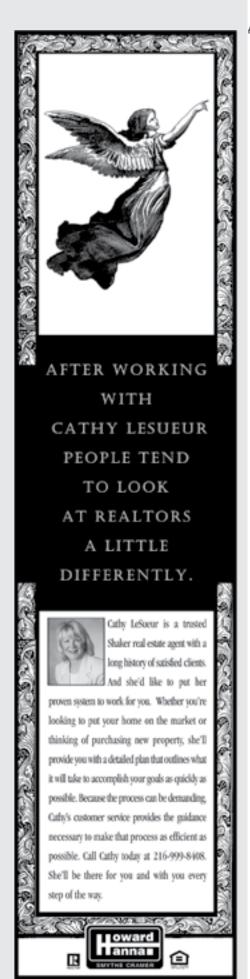
#### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL®

10-11:30 am Tuesday, August 5 (Registration began 7/28) 3-4:30 pm Friday, August 15 (Registration begins 8/4) 6:30-8 pm Monday, September 5 (Registration begins 9/8) Learn the basics of spreadsheet construction, including formatting and design, printing options and using basic formu-

#### MAILMERGE

las.

10-11:30 am Wednesday, August 6 (Registration began 7/28) 10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 30 (Registration begins 9/22) MailMerge utilizes information from many sources, like Word tables, Excel sheets, and Access Data Tables.



## 🍠 library news

INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS™ 10-11:30 am Thursday, August 7 (Registration began 7/28) 10-11:30 am Thursday, September 25 (Registration begins 9/15) Learn to work with the Microsoft database program to build databases.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS: GOOGLEMANIA™ 10-11:30 am Friday, August 8 (Registration began 7/28) 10-11:30 am Tuesday, August 26 (Registration begins 8/18) 6:30-8 pm Monday, September 8 (Registration begins 9/2) Learn searching strategies, tips and tricks for finding better information using Google.

INTERNET CLASS 10-11:30 am Saturday, August 9 (Registration began 7/28)

10-11:30 am Saturday, September 13 (Registration begins 9/2)

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

GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT® 6:30-8 pm Monday, August 11 (Registration begins 8/4) Learn to create effective PowerPoint presentations using clip art, Word Art, and digital pictures.

CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL® 10-11:30 am Tuesday, August 12 (Registration begins 8/4) 3-4:30 pm Friday, August 22 (Registration begins 8/11) 3-4:30 pm Friday, September 19 (Registration begins 9/8) Explore the ways that Excel can display data as charts and graphs.

WINWAY RESUME WRITING 10-11:30 am Wednesday, August 13 (Registration begins 8/4) Learn to create a professional looking resume with Winway Resume Deluxe 11.

CREATING AND USING TABLES IN ACCESS™ 10-11:30 am Thursday, August 14 (Registration begins 8/4) This class explores designing and using tables in an Access database.

BASIC WORD PROCESSING 10-11:30 am Saturday, August 16 (Registration begins 8/4) 10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 16 (Registration begins 9/8) Learn how to format documents using Microsoft Word software.

ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT® 6:30-8 pm Monday, August 18 (Registration begins 8/11) 10-11:30 am Thursday, September 18 (Registration begins 9/8) Everything in a slide can be animated. Learn objects that can be added to a slide and the menus that control them.

HOW TO BUILD A WEB PAGE 10-11:30 am Tuesday, August 19 (Registration begins 8/11) 10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 23 (Registration begins 9/15) This 90-minute class explores HTML, the language used to create many of the web pages found on the Internet.

CREATING AND USING FORMS IN ACCESS™ 10-11:30 am Thursday, August 21 (Registration begins 8/11) Forms do two things in database programs. They make data entry less risky and allow users to see data.

10-11:30 am Saturday, August 23 (Registration begins 8/11) 10-11:30 am Saturday, September 27 (Registration begins 9/15) Learn to access a web email account and to send and receive messages.

WEB EMAIL

WORKING WITH WINDOWS® 6:30-8 pm Monday, August 25 (Registration begins 8/18) 10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 9 (Registration begins 9/2) This class is designed for those who are not comfortable using multiple windows.

CREATING AND USING QUERIES IN ACCESS™ 10-11:30 am Thursday, August 28 (Registration begins 8/18) Queries are questions asked of databases. Learn to ask the right questions.

#### Readers Welcome at **Book Discussions**

Book Discussions resume in September with a unique line-up of books sure to please almost every reader's appetite. Residents can register and pick up books at the library where the discussions are held at least one month before the discussion date.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, AUGUST 26 AT MAIN LIBRARY Janis Williams leads the discussion of The Rule of Four, Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason's mystery set on the campus of Princeton University.

10 AM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AT MAIN LIBRARY Lynda Thomas leads a discussion on Joyce Carol Oates' book, The Falls, a family drama set against the backdrop of Niagara Falls.

7 PM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AT MAIN LIBRARY Peter Brown begins his Mystery Book Discussion series with the book, Stalin's Ghost by Martin Cruz Smith, a

page-turner that will have readers wondering who dunit it when Moscow-based Senior Investigator, Arkady Renko, investigates a murder-for-hire scheme.

2 PM MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AT BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH Sara Schiller leads a discussion on the book Waiting by Ha Jin, an unusual love story of an ordinary Chinese man who straddles two worlds - his traditional Chinese heritage and the new rules of the Chinese Communist Party.

12 NOON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 AT MAIN LIBRARY Janis Williams leads a discussion on Revenge of the Kudzu Debutantes by Cathy Holton, a delicious yarn about friendship and marriage, secrets and retribution, and how nothing stays hidden for long.

7 PM WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT MAIN LIBRARY Ed Rossman leads a Business Book Discussion on Ram Charan's book, Know-How: The 8 Skills that Separate People Who Perform from Those Who Don't.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 AT MAIN LIBRARY Janis Williams leads a discussion on Kate Furnivall's debut novel, The Russian Concubine, a love story about a young Russian exile and a freedom fighter set in war-torn 1928 China.

#### Library Partners with Playhouse Square to Offer Theatre Discount to Mamma Mia

Shaker Library and Playhouse Square have teamed up to offer discount tickets to the Wednesday evening, August 6 performance of MAMMA MIA!, the ultimate feel-good show that combines ABBA's greatest hits with a tale of love, laughter, and friendship.

Order forms are available at the information desks at both libraries and online at www.shakerlibrary.org. A portion of the proceeds benefits children's program-

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## library news

#### Friends Elect Officers and **Sell New Products**

The newly elected officers of the Friends of the Shaker Library 2008-09 term are:

Martha Sivertson, President Nikki Evans, Vice President/Membership Tim Burke, Vice President/Book Sales Jacquelyn Challener, Treasurer Joyce Chappelle, Recording Secretary Judy Felber, Corresponding Secretary

Friends of the Shaker Library is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the library and its programs. Friends raise funds through semi-annual book sales, membership campaigns and the sale of merchandise. Membership remittance envelopes are available at both libraries and new Friends are always welcome to play as active a role in the organization as they

Friends' merchandise includes white ceramic mugs that sell for \$5 each (\$4 for Friends members), lightweight zippered tote bags that sell for \$6 each (\$5 for Friends members), The Doors of Shaker posters, which sell for \$20 (\$15 for Friends), and flip-top cookbooks that sell for \$10 (\$8 for Friends members). Merchandise is available at the Circulation desks at both libraries.

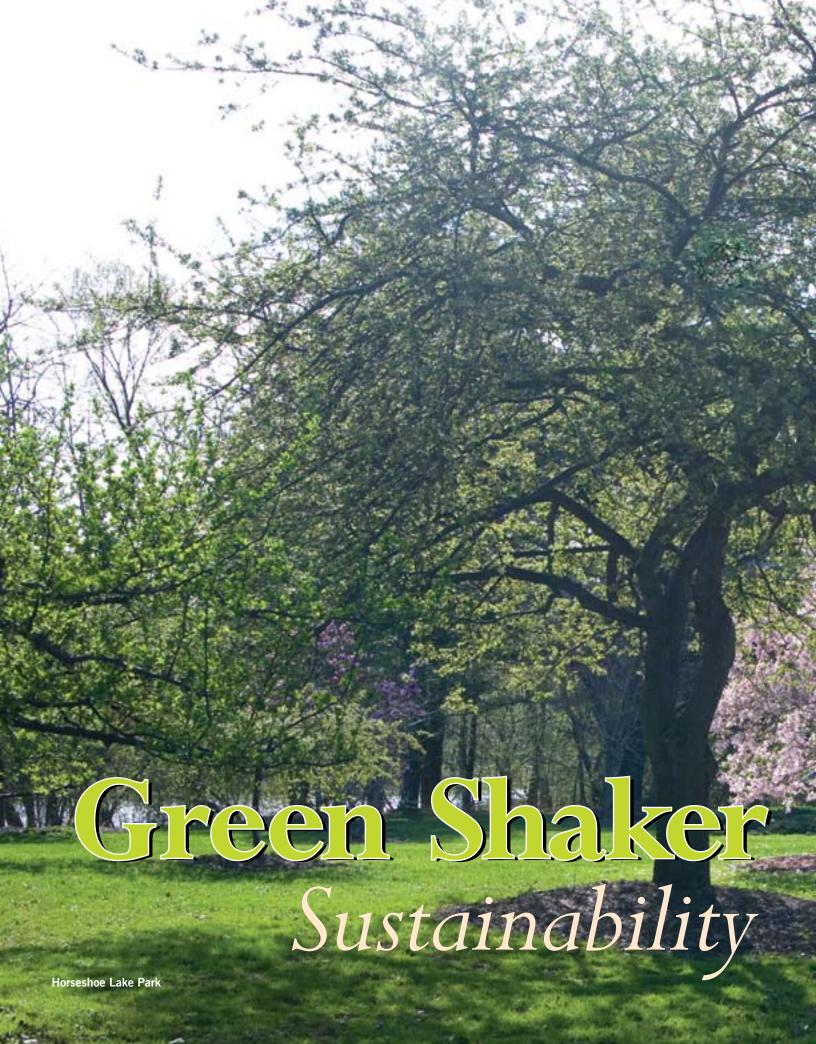
#### **Endnotes**

 Knit Night at Woods Branch will be held from 7-8:45 pm Thursday, September 11. Bring knitting needles, a ball of yarn and your creativity to the drop-in session led by experienced knitter, Fern Braverman. All residents interested in joining the group to get or give help are welcome.

- Watch first-run movies free at the Main Library thanks to the Friends of the Shaker Library, which funds the movie licensing rights. At 2 pm Saturday, August 23 at Main Library, families can watch the G-rated film, Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus Best of Both Worlds Concert, which captures the 14year-old singing sensation in concert at different venues on her 54-city tour in 2007, when she performed as both Miley and her alter ego, Hannah Montana.
- The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Main Library from 3 to 7 pm Monday, September 22.
- The Library Board meets on Monday, September 8 in the Main Library Board Room.
- The Library's annual Constitution Read Aloud, co-sponsored with the DAR Moses Cleaveland Chapter, will be held at 2 pm Sunday, September 21 at the Main Library. Residents who wish to join in the Read Aloud should call the Main Library, 216-991-2030.
- The Library received three awards for its public relations materials from the American Library Association at its annual meeting in Anaheim, California. The library's American Girl Doll bibliographies, the children's summer reading materials, and the Friends' Door Hanger advertising their Fall Book sale were cited for excellence. Shaker Library was the only library to receive three awards and has been a consistent national award winner for library PR materials since 1989.









#### Sustainabili "Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." - United Nations' Brundtland Commission, 1987

As a "garden city" developed around public transportation, walkable neighborhoods and open parkland, the City of Shaker Heights has a long history of protecting natural resources. Carrying this proud tradition forward into the 21st century relies on creativity and effort on the part of City government, the School District, private businesses, and individual residents.

Shaker's original developers, Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen, "were trying to be sustainable for their time," notes Joyce Braverman, director of Shaker's Planning Department. To this day, Shaker promotes "smart growth" in a variety of ways, from reusing existing developed land and transit-oriented development, to supporting green building practices and enhancing Shaker parklands.

In 2003, Shaker became only the second community in Ohio to pass legislation encouraging the use of energy-efficient, high-performance building materials and methods for new construction and renovations.

To Braverman, a sustainable project is "one that is relevant now and is still going to work in a hundred years. People want to live near transit. They want walkable distances to parks, the library, stores, schools, retail services, and restaurants."

Recent sustainable projects include several new higher-density housing developments, revitalization of retail districts, major renovation of rapid transit stations, completion of the continuous bike route through Shaker, construction of highly energy efficient "demonstration" homes, and the City's Go Green energy efficiency program, which is uni<mark>que</mark> in the Midwest.

Prime examples are the Lofts at Avalon Station, the renovation of Horseshoe Lake Park, and the City's new Firehouse. These highlight how we in Shaker strive to become a more sustainable community.

#### The Lofts At Avalon Station

Most rooftops present an impervious asphalt surface, which results in excess storm water runoff and higher ambient temperatures in the summer. At Avalon Station, Heartland Developers, Inc. installed a lush green haven atop the condo's parking garage.

A large grassy lawn is bordered on two sides by graceful beds, mass-planted with drought-tolerant, native perennials and shrubs such as rudbeckia, sedum, spiraea, and fountain grass. Honey locust and maple trees will eventually provide ample shade and cooling to the garden. Clematis and trumpet vine wind their way up the metal trellises that border each unit's patio that faces the garden. While a few small drains are scattered in the lawn, the rooftop garden will reduce runoff to the storm sewer by an astonishing 90 percent.

Creating the green roof was a given for Heartland's president, Gordon Premier.

"We wanted to create this area as a really nice place, with lots of trees," he explains. "The garden lowers the ambient temperature and helps save on cooling costs for residents."

Moreover, he says the garden will be maintained "as organically as possible," without synthetic fertilizers or herbicides.

Premier is pleased to offer additional green features at Avalon, including high-efficiency heating and cooling, thermal windows with reflective glass, extra insulation, and recycled decking material. The units feature large windows to take advantage of breezes and natural light.

On a scorching June afternoon, several residents got to know each other on the shady side of the garden, which was a good 15 degrees cooler than the parking lot underneath us. The Lofts has already attracted a diverse group of seniors, empty nesters, and young professionals, who all appreciate Avalon's location for its walkability.



Developer Gordon Premier (left) at Avalon lofts with residents Dustin Heldman and Matthew Harrison. The roof garden is in the background. PHOTO BY MARC GOLUB

Octogenarian Matthew Harrison moved from his Lee-Harvard residence when it was "time to get out of his house and into a condo." He says he likes to walk to all the shops and "be a part of things."

Soon-to-be newlyweds Evelyn Brown and Jim Sanfilippo are eager to shorten costly commutes to their jobs in downtown Cleveland at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Both emphasize the walkability of the neighborhood and proximity to shopping and entertainment districts across the East Side. And Dustin Heldman, a young professional from Cincinnati via St. Louis, mentions, "I've got a lot of friends here in Shaker."

Premier, who lives at Heartland's Shaker Glen development on Warrensville Center Road, firmly believes that these forward-thinking residents represent just the tip of a trend.

"We're developing not just a building, but a lifestyle - a community within a community. People want a neighborhood feeling. They don't want to be in the middle of nowhere."





#### Shaker's Green Firehouse

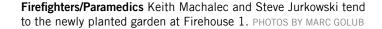
The City's new Firehouse 1 on Chagrin Boulevard incorporates many green building elements. Chief Don Barnes lists the many efficient, yet everyday, features of the building:

"We used concrete wherever possible, which is a non-petroleum product. The outer walls are brick, which is a natural insulator, and we have excellent insulation in the walls. There are lots of operational windows, for light and fresh air. We use fluorescent lighting, low-E style reflective glass, low-flow toilets, and a comprehensive exhaust system to eliminate the diesel fumes from the building. We also chose not to air-condition the apparatus bays, to conserve energy."

There's even an organic vegetable garden maintained by and for the crews.

The department also collects aluminum cans on behalf of the Northern Ohio Fire Fighters' Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) program. ACBC provides fire safety education, camps for kids who are burn victims, and recently helped put a new wing on the MetroHealth Burn Unit.

Residents can drop off cans at the Fire Department at any time.







The Horseshoe Lake Master Plan is a blueprint for how a park can be made both more sustainable and enjoyable at the same time.

In the first phase of the plan, which is now complete, non-native, invasive vegetation was selectively thinned and "no-mow" areas of natural grasses and animal habitat were increased.

At the same time, new paved paths to accommodate those on foot and bikes – and a wetland boardwalk - have made the park more inviting. The trails will reverse the damage done to trees and wetland by walkers who created paths of their own through the underbrush.

As residents rediscover Horseshoe Lake, they will also enjoy new picnic pavilions and spaces for public performances and community events.

An exciting new set of interactive play areas also have been installed, which re-use boulders, sandstone, and tree trunks that were already on site. The biggest kid-magnet seems to be the towering spider web rope-climber (opposite page). Opportunities to climb, swing, and dig abound. A new tree house was built of Trex decking, which is a product made of 50 percent recycled wood and 50 percent recycled plastics (including grocery bags).

The park now has a native-plant rain garden of its own (this page) to provide drainage for the handicapped parking area. Instead of asphalt, Planning Director Joyce Braverman says that this 300 square feet of greenery will filter and divert 12,000 gallons of storm water per year.

Trail improvements at Horseshoe Lake, and the completion of the trail at the Shaker Boulevard median strip are part of the larger vision to provide "a continuous path from the Shaker Lakes to Lake Erie," says Braverman. Signs will be added in the next year marking the route.



PHOTOS BY CAYDIE HELLER

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#### No Child Left Inside: A Cure for Nature-deficit Disorder

When thunder booms, or an acorn falls out of a tree, children of all ages want to know why. Where does the water go? How come things grow? Children should be learning about these things when they're outside playing, not just when they're taking a class. Some studies show that children in the U.S. spend an average of only 30 minutes of unregulated time outdoors per week, while the Kaiser Family Foundation says that a child's average weekly exposure to television and other media is almost 45 hours a week.

The resulting "nature-deficit disorder" means many children have little firsthand knowledge of, or experience with, the outdoors. Together, the City of Shaker Heights and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes have constructed a children's "treehouse" as one element of the natural playground in the renovated Horseshoe Lake Park, in accordance with the Horseshoe Lake Park Master Plan. These park improvements will allow the Nature Center and the City to work collaboratively to ensure that no child is left inside.

The handicapped-accessible treehouse takes advantage of existing natural features in the park to create a diverse, open-ended playscape that encourages imaginative play and interest in nature. The treehouse is nestled between the natural playground and the lake, on the south side of the park. It was designed at an intimate scale that is comfortable for one child, two friends, or a summer camp group from the Nature Center.

Local children worked with the landscape architect, McKnight & Associates, to provide ideas about the design. The roof design, for instance, was inspired by a turtle shell. The contractor was Lally Construction.

Benches allow visitors to relax and reflect.

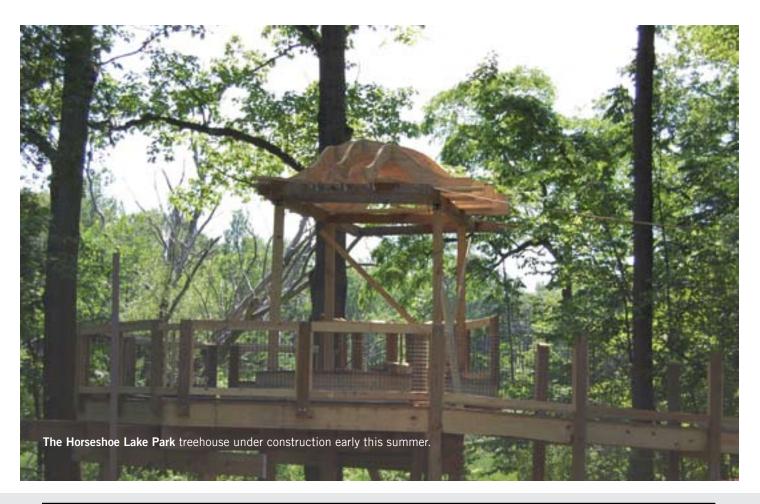
A grant from the Hershey Foundation and City funds paid for the project. The Nature Center will incorporate the treehouse into its programming, while the the City of Shaker Heights will own it and maintain it along with the other park facilities.

– Ann Klavora

Ann Klavora is a City of Shaker Heights planner.









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#### Sustainable Contacts

Go Green Rebate Program subsidizes energy efficiency rebate programs. Contact Jayme Lucas, 216-491-1373 www.shakeronline.com/about/incentive/EnergyEfficiencyPrograms.asp

Nature Center at Shaker Lakes sponsors "Laudable Lawn" sustainable landscaping program, offers rain barrel construction workshops, hosts "green building" workshops. 216-321-5935, www.shakerlakes.org

**Department of Public Works** comprehensive residential recycling program. 216-491-1490, www.shakeronline.com/services/collection/Recycling.asp

Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Donate and/or purchase quality used and surplus building materials at a fraction of regular prices. Proceeds from ReStores help local affiliates fund the construction of Habitat houses within the community. 216-429-1299, www.clevelandhabitat.org



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At the City and the schools, recycling is taken seriously. Residents demand it, and the financial and educational benefits are substantial.

By BETH FRIEDMAN-ROMELL PHOTOS BY MARC GOLUB

Do you think that being green is more expensive than doing business as usual? Guess again. The City of Shaker Heights has discovered that sustainable practices improve the institutional bottom line.

Says Public Works Director William Boag, "The City is looking to address all the services we provide to residents in the most economical and environmentally friendly way. The more we recycle and the less waste that goes to the landfill, the cheaper it is for Shaker."

Overseeing this monumental effort is Business Services Manager Patricia Speese, more affectionately known as the "recycling guru." She even won a Trash Oscar from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District in 2005, the year that Shaker more than doubled its recycling, which is now close to fifty percent.

"Each year, we do something more" as a community to reduce, reuse, and, of course, recycle, says Speese. The City now recycles all types of paper and cardboard, 1-7 plastic (which includes many food containers), glass, aluminum, and yard waste. Special collection days are held for electronics, hazardous waste, and large items. Allowing residents to co-mingle many recyclables and providing regular pickup makes it easy for residents to form the recycling habit.

The financial benefits for the City are substantial. For example, the Caraustar company pays Shaker about \$20,000 for paper and cardboard. That's instead of the \$25 per ton Shaker used to have to pay to haul away co-mingled recyclables.

"Now we have a zero-dollar contract with Waste Management Recycle America to take our [non-paper] recyclables, which are brought to our own transfer station here at Public Works." Patti happily reports. "A large packer truck hauls the recyclables to Waste Management once or twice a week. Combined savings on fuel and landfill fees amounts to about \$80,000 a year for paper and commingled items.

And that's not all. Area gardeners and kids love the free wood chip mountain near the old canoe dock at Lower Shaker Lake. This organic mulch is part of the tremendous volume of tree trimmings that Public Works handles each year. Grass clippings, brush, leaves, and other organic matter represents about 50 percent of Shaker's recyclables. All told, recycling efforts saved the City a whopping \$314,053.39 in 2007.



### Shaker Recycling at a Glance

Amount of waste recycled in 2007 46.21 percent

Recycled material diverted from landfills in 2007 9,851.11 tons

Rubber tires recycled in 2007 708

Tons of paper recycled in 2007 678

Trees saved in 2007 11,526

Total dollar amount saved by the City through recycling \$314,053.39



"The more residents recycle, the more money we save," emphasizes Boag. "We need their help to make this work." He suggests simple strategies, like using a mulching mower rather than bagging grass clippings, to save time and money. (The clippings are great fertil-

Speese encourages residents to make sure they don't put recyclables in with the regular trash, but to use the City-provided containers, or large blue plastic trash bags. Paper should be in a brown bag, or tied with string. Drop-in recycling is welcome at the Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Blvd., on Saturdays and Sundays, from 9 am to 4 pm.

Recycling addresses output, but controlling the input of energy and materials is even more important from a sustainability standpoint.

"The beauty of Shaker is in its older, elegant buildings and street design," Boag observes. "But maintaining public buildings that are 80 years old also leads to extra costs. In upgrading infrastructure, we're always moving forward, but we can't incur millions in up-front changes. We are migrating toward newer technologies without changing the beauty of the buildings."

That's where Peter Mekesa, Shaker's building superintendent, comes in. Nobody has thought about squeezing more efficiency from Shaker's gracious old structures than Mekesa. It may not be as glamorous as a grassy roof, but these incremental energy upgrades result in a smaller carbon footprint and big savings for the City.

Mekesa has overseen the conversion of



the City's lighting to fluorescent technology, which uses less energy, lasts longer, and doesn't heat up so much. But he's not satisfied. "I try different ones to find the right color, one that's not too blue. I'm also looking forward to even better technologies that won't contain any mercury, to eventually replace fluorescents."

Mekesa's staff have improved heating and cooling efficiency through vigilant maintenance and selective upgrades. Programmable thermostats, low-flow water fixtures, and cleaning and oiling equipment on a regular schedule all provide a good return on investment.

"We have recycling bins in all the public buildings, and encourage employees to use them. We also try to buy as many green cleaning supplies as possible. We're still investigating a steam cleaning option," Mekesa says.

"Really, we do the same things homeowners should be doing too," Mekesa observes.



Resident Albert Martin takes some mulch from the free organic woodchip mountain at Lower Shaker Lake.

Future generations will bear the burdens of current wasteful practices, so it makes sense to instill sustainable habits in our children. All Shaker schools now recycle paper through the fund-raising Abitibi Paper Retriever program. Operations Manager Fred Shalhoup reports that the Shaker Heights school district purchases green cleaning supplies, and does not apply chemical fertilizers or pesticides on school grounds.

The District has adopted other conservation practices as well. For instance, drafty old windows - in some cases dating to the 1920s - have been replaced with energy-saving new models in six of the eight schools. This summer's projects include full window replacement at Mercer and partial replacement at the Middle School. Furthermore, the District is investigating the possibility of installing passive solar panels at the Middle School and Woodbury to heat the swimming pools.

More good news: the District recently adopted an "Integrated Pest Manage-



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ment" program, which emphasizes preventive practices over routine pesticide application.

Perhaps the biggest waste challenge in the schools, and the one over which families have most control, is found in the lunchroom. A lot of compostable food and recyclable packaging goes into the garbage. While there have been some efforts at individual buildings to collect bottles and cans, there has never been a District-wide push for lunchroom recycling, according to Cindy Gorfido, District Food Service Supervisor.

That is, until now. In the 2008-09 school year, Onaway Elementary School will launch a pilot lunchroom waste reduction and recycling program that is meant to become a model for the entire District.

Fred Shalhoup says Waste Management, the company that hauls the District's trash, is now offering a new singlestream recycling program to schools at no extra charge. All recyclables will go into the same container, and will be picked up by Waste Management on a different day from the regular trash.

The Onaway PTO Environmental Committee (which includes this writer) will coordinate the effort between the District, Onaway staff, students, and families.

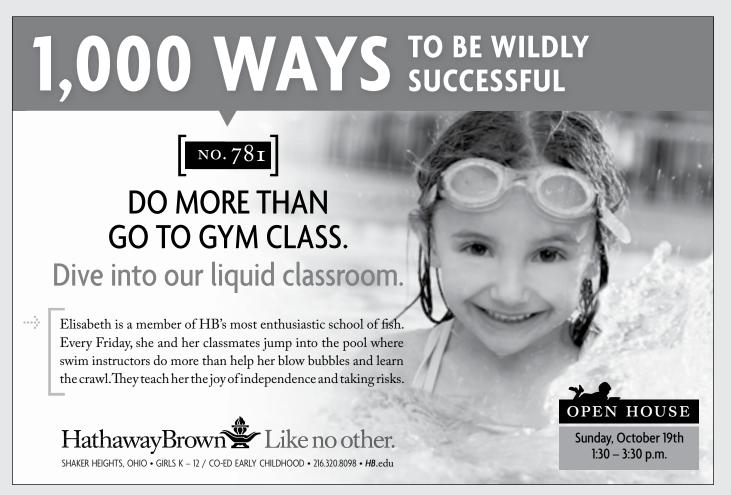
Educating the Onaway community will be an essential part of the process. The committee has already been busy promoting the virtue of reusable containers and discouraging the purchase of bottled water and single-serve throwaways. Onaway now offers water in large coolers at PTO events and will step up the effort in the fall through written communication, a fundraiser, and a demonstration table at PTO events.

In May of 2007, Kathleen Rocco, Educator for the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, presented a program, "Where Does the Trash Go?" to Onaway students. Students learned what parts of their lunch end up as sweaters or backpacks, and what ends up in the landfill.

Onaway is gearing up to take the county-wide "Zero Waste Challenge" in 2009. The school that produces the least waste by weight on the selected day will win a park bench (made of recycled milk jugs, of course) from the Solid Waste District.

Taking the challenge will take practice and patience, as students and staff become accustomed to sorting what once went into a single bin. But the committee is confident that lunchroom recycling will soon become an ingrained habit that will be carried back to students' homes, as

Incoming Onaway Environmental Committee chair Todd Corbin says, "We want kids to be aware that their actions have an effect on everything. We can lead by good example – if someone sees you recycling, maybe they'll do the same. When you see someone acting against the Earth's best interest, maybe you'll take a stand."■

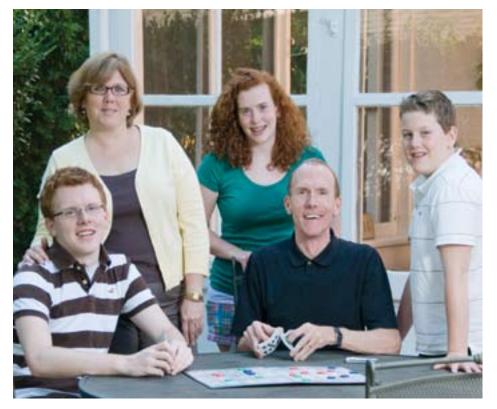


# back to school

by nancy o'connor photos by kevin g. reeves

Shaker's convenient location, natural beauty, and distinctive homes are big draws for new-comers. But landing in a premier public school district is the primary reason cited by 70 percent of new residents in 2007 for moving to Shaker Heights.





Matthews family from left: Patrick, Jacqueline, Michaela, Tom, and Conor.

The Shaker Heights City School District's robust curriculum, innovative academic support programs, renowned fine and performing arts programs, and expansive extracurricular offerings regularly put Shaker schools in the local, regional, and national spotlight.

In May, Newsweek designated Shaker Heights High School among the top two percent of public high schools nationwide, based on student participation and performance in Advanced Placement courses. SHHS was the only high school in Ohio named to the Wall Street Journal's list of the top 65 feeder schools for the nation's elite colleges. To aid you and your children in taking full advantage of all that the Shaker public schools have to offer, we consulted those in the know: school principals, staff, and families.



#### Parent Pointers: A Grateful Family Jumps Right In

Michaela Matthews had been a student at Woodbury Elementary School for just two weeks when she told her mother, "I'm so happy we moved to Shaker."

The Matthews family had moved here from Syracuse, New York, in November 2004, after Tom Matthews took at job at Case Western Reserve University as director of Career Services. The family moved to town on a Monday, and the children – Michaela and her brothers Patrick and Conor – started school the next morning.

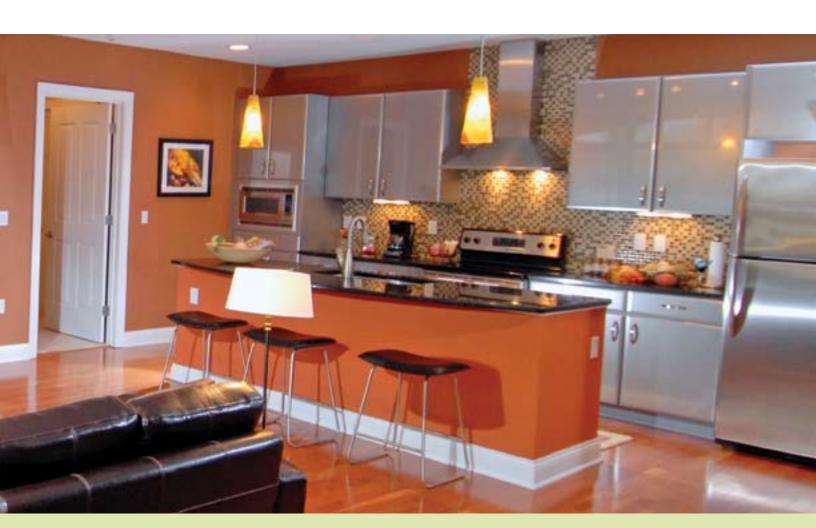
"They were nervous and a little scared," mom Jackie Matthews remembers, "but they jumped right in. After that first day, they were thinking this was great. They quickly saw how many opportunities this school system offered them."

Meanwhile, Jackie scoured the Shaker Schools website (www.shaker.org) and the school newsletters. She was immediately impressed by how approachable her children's teachers were, and as a working mom – she is director of Quality at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation – she appreciated being able to communicate with them via e-mail.

Today, with two kids at Shaker High – Patrick is a senior, Michaela, a freshman – and her youngest son entering Shaker Middle School, Jackie remains an ardent supporter of the Shaker public schools.

"When I hear people complaining about this or that, I tell them, 'You don't know how good you've got it here!' Great, welcoming teachers, the outstanding music program, the late bus, the before – and after-care option – we are so grateful for all that the Shaker schools offer."

Her best advice for new school families "is to just trust the school system. Shaker does a great job of creating diversity in the classroom and opportunities for all kinds of students. I'd also encourage more parents to attend Open Houses. You can see what's going on in the classroom and talk informally with your child's teacher. Lastly, I love the school calendar. Everything is in it – keep it and use it."



...without changing your location...



# 10 Tips for Making the Most of Your Child's Shaker Education

#### 1. Educate Yourself On The Options

At the start of the school year, devote time to reviewing your school's Handbook (provided at all grade levels) and Program Planning Guide (for grades 7-12), which are distributed to students and posted online at the Shaker schools site, www.shaker.

Consult with teachers, guidance counselors, and fellow parents to learn about courses, academic enrichment programs, and intriguing electives suited to your child's interests and abilities. And watch for feature stories in this magazine on interesting academic programs, students, and school activities.

#### 2. Instill Healthy Study Habits At Home

Fernway Elementary School Principal Christopher Hayward offers these suggestions for ensuring a productive learning day:

- Organize your child each night so that the morning routines run smoothly. Make sure the backpack is packed, homework is finished, appropriate clothing picked out, and school supplies packed.
- Younger children should play outside after school every day and be in bed by 9 pm to ensure adequate rest.
- Children should read or be read to for a minimum of 20 minutes each night.
- Limit screen time (TV, computer, video games) to an hour or less each day.

Colleen Longo, principal at Boulevard Elementary School, says, "Send your child to school prepared to learn. That means a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast. Also, children will worry when they have forgotten lunch, lunch money, homework, library books, or gym shoes, so check backpacks carefully. Students cannot learn if they are anxious, hungry, or sleepy."

Teachers suggest that parents designate an "official" homework location for students of every age. "Ensure that your child has a regular time and place to study," advises Shaker Middle School Principal Randall Yates. "This area should be in a public location of your home, with good lighting and as many resource tools as you can provide." The Middle School issues a daily planner to help students keep track of assignments. Using the daily planner helps students develop good organizational habits and gives parents a window into what's happening at school.

#### 3. Encourage Your Child To Take On Academic Challenges

Shaker's open-enrollment policy means all students can participate in any given course, and students are encouraged to pursue the highest level of instruction matching their motivation, interest, and previous learning. Starting at Woodbury, enriched mathematics and language arts are available, and at the Middle School and High School, several subjects are taught at the College Preparatory, Honors, and Advanced Placement (AP) levels.

#### 4. Promote Involvement In Extracurricular Activities

The socialization, stress relief, and simple fun offered by pre-school, lunchtime, and after-school extracurricular programs are important to a child's overall education, and provide a healthy balance to the rigors of academics. At Shaker schools, there's no shortage of options.

continued on page 53





# real sense of communi

Q&A By Mary Elizabeth Hurn

Judith King-Calnek has been quite busy since she graduated from Shaker Heights High School in 1977. She has been teaching anthropology, theory of knowledge, and history at the United Nations International School (UNIS) in Manhattan since 1994.

UNIS is a private K-12 school founded in 1947 by the families who worked at the United Nations. It currently has about 1,450 students representing 119 countries.

It's appropriate that Judith would end up teaching at a school whose mission is to provide "an optimal environment for learning and teaching." She grew up in Shaker's Ludlow neighborhood – one of the first of Shaker's neighborhoods to be integrated. Her family was civically active in the 1960s and '70s. Her father, the late Drue King Jr., a physician, was on the Shaker Heights Board of Education in the early 1970s. Her mother, Frances, was a Girl Scout leader and a force in the Ludlow Community Association.

Judith has three older siblings, Drue, Crystal, and Carol. She attended Pomona College in Claremont, California, with a major in International Relations. While at Pomona she studied in Brazil and participated in foreign exchange programs in Mexico and Guatemala. She received her MA, MEd and PhD from Columbia University's Teachers College. She is also a recipient of the Thomas Watson fellowship.

Today she lives in New Rochelle, New York, with her husband, Terry Calnek, who coaches basketball and teaches. They have two sons, 20-year-old Kimani, who attends Pitzer College in Claremont, and 17 year-old Khemet, a junior at UNIS. She gets back to Shaker a couple times a year.

"There was a real sense of community when I was growing up in Shaker," she says. "It provided me with a solid foundation socially and academically."

She is currently on sabbatical from the UNIS to do research for a historical piece on free African-Americans in pre-Civil War Louisa County, Virginia. She took some time out from her busy schedule to speak with Shaker Life about how her rich life was shaped by her growing up in the Ludlow neighborhood, her love of Brazilian music, and how she injured her knees dancing in the streets.





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Tell us about teaching at the United Nations International School. Your classmates from SHHS are curious.

It's really an amazing place. It's on F.D.R. Drive overlooking the East River. I have fantastic students and wonderful colleagues. I'd say 50 percent of the students are U.N. kids and 50 percent are from New York. I teach humanities, but it varies each year. When I return from sabbatical I'll teach history, theory of knowledge, and anthropology in the high school.

We use English when we teach, for the most part. But in 6th through 10th grades, students have the option of taking history or social studies classes in French. The school emphasizes languages. It starts in kindergarten, where the students can take French or Spanish.

### You studied international relations in Brazil. What attracted you?

I was an undergrad. It was really an accident that I ended up in Brazil. I had been studying Spanish since I was in 8th grade at Woodbury Jr. High. I prided myself on my Spanish and I wanted to go to a country that had a large Afro-Latin program. This was 1980, and I couldn't find the kind of program I wanted in Spanish-speaking South America, and I didn't want to go to Spain. So I went to Brazil. Everyone said, "You'll learn Portuguese." I said, "But I've worked so hard on Spanish!" I took Portuguese classes in Brazil. In a month I was conversant.

#### And you've gone back many times since.

You get hooked. Brazil is just such an amazing place. Its history, culture, and people are incredibly rich. I also got involved in music and dance while I was there, mostly modern and Afro-modern.

I actually injured my knees dancing on cement floors and in carnivals and in the streets, over and over.

You program Brazilian music for Music Choice as well as Sirius Satellite Radio. How did you get into that?

I've always loved music. When I came back to the States in 1983 after studying abroad I worked at a radio station in Washington, D.C., WPFW. I had my own weekly Brazilian music program. Then I moved to New York and worked for 10 years at WGBO. I've written liner notes for many Brazilian music albums.

#### Tell me about growing up in Shaker Heights.

I was born at St. Ann Hospital. I attended Shaker schools from kindergarten on. I often heard, 'Oh, are you Dr. King's daughter?' or 'Is Carol King your sister?' It was wonderful. It's funny because a lot of people talk about how they have such warm feelings for college. Well, I have warm feelings for Shaker Heights High School. It's a really special place.

My time at Ludlow Elementary also was very special. I've talked about this with many people who were there when I was. The Ludlow neighborhood - Shaker in general – is a community in the true sense of the word. Living in a community is work. It's like a marriage. You can't just show up and expect it to work. We have to communicate to understand each other.

As a kid I was not consciously articulating this, but I was living it. Reflecting on it I can see it clearly. When I hear and see some of the issues going on there I realize people don't understand communities are always works in progress - like a democracy. You can't have democracy if people don't participate. You can't have



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a successful community if people aren't engaged.

#### Your parents were well-known civic leaders.

My father, Drue King Jr., passed away in 2005. He was just about to receive the Harvard Foundation's Humanitarian Award. There was a big article about him in the Plain Dealer's Sunday magazine some months before he passed. My mother served on many committees and boards – the Cleveland Foundation, Case Western Reserve University, the YWCA. She still lives in Shaker, at Sunrise, an assisted living home.

#### What are some of your favorite memories?

There's so much I loved. At school people were so funny. I just remember walking to the playground at Ludlow and there were all these people and kids there. Everyone knew each other. I had a real sense of security. I had great classes and wonderful teachers. Back then people were the best thing. It was very diverse and open, it was not perfect, and it had problems. But it was really striving to be more than it was, especially the Ludlow community. People were alive, people were working at things. It was wonderful.

### What do you make sure to do when you go back?

I always drive to look at our two houses, one on Becket and one on Litchfield. There was also a great coffee shop in Shaker Square called Arabica. This was long before Starbucks. People would come through and chat and stay forever.





#### Back to School

continued from page 47

Woodbury School offers approximately 25 clubs, sports, and arts-related activities for students. Shaker Middle School boasts as many as 50 extracurricular activities; and the number is as high as 70 at Shaker High.

Activity Fairs held at the start of the school year at the Middle School and High School provide a great way to learn about the extracurricular options, and most schools also distribute a booklet with club descriptions and meeting times.

These activities build teamwork, foster a sense of responsibility, build teacher-student relationships outside the classroom, and bring students together around projects or shared interests.

#### 5. Take Advantage of Academic Support Resources

Help is available at every turn for students needing additional assistance with schoolwork. Most teachers hold after-school conferences up to four days a week offering additional instruction and personalized help to students.

Tutoring Centers staffed by certified teachers also operate several evenings each week. Children in K-6 use the Elementary Tutoring Center housed in the library of Woodbury Elementary School; the Tutoring Center at Shaker High is geared to students in grades 7-12. There's no charge for the tutoring services, and no reservations are required, but families must provide their own transportation.

Homework help is also available from school librarians, who can suggest reference books, help with research, and connect students with the right resources for their learning needs.

A variety of helpful materials are also posted online in the "Resources for Learning" section of the district's website at www.shaker.org.

"Key components of our online libraries are the information databases that provide accurate, authoritative information for students to use in their schoolwork," says Kathy Fredrick, the District's director of Library Media and Instructional Technology. These databases cover a wide variety of topics and curriculum areas. The password needed for access to the databases is available from the student's school library or from the District Library Office.

#### 6. Communicate, Communicate, Communicate

What with school bulletins, teachers' notes, PTO newsletters, a comprehensive website, and e-news from the District's Communications Office and PTO, there's no excuse for being out of the loop.

Another valuable information resource is the Shaker Schools PTO calendar, which is provided free to every registered school family at the start of the year, courtesy of the Shaker Heights PTO Council and the School District. This will help you keep up with





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school and community activities, and it puts the contact information for all PTO officers and committee members at every school at your fingertips.

Read everything that comes from school, whether in the mail or in your student's backpack. The schools and PTO make a concerted effort to consolidate information into easy-to-read parent bulletins. Check your student's backpack weekly—and if the bulletin disappears, you can find it online.

Make sure the school always has upto-date contact information for you and for your emergency backups — and don't forget to notify the school when your cell number or e-mail address changes.

### 7. Share Concerns and Report Problems Promptly

Ongoing and open communication between school personnel and parents is vital to student success. Inform your child's teacher immediately if an issue arises that is negatively affecting your child's educational experience. Most often, the problem can be resolved by you and the teacher. Guidance counselors, team leaders, and school principals can also assist in problem resolution and are committed to assuring a good educational experience for all students.

#### 8. Speak Up about Special Needs

If you suspect your child has a learning disability and may be eligible for special education, Special Education Director Patty Ott recommends talking with your child's teacher first.

"Request intervention assistance from your child's teacher, specialists, and school psychologist," she says. "If an evaluation for a suspected disability is needed, par-

ticipate in the evaluation and review the Whose Idea Is This? pamphlet from the Ohio Department of Education, which outlines the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)." (The pamphlet is available in the Handbooks section of the District website.)

If a child is eligible for special education services, an Individualized Education Program will be developed to determine special services from the following continuum: regular classes, special classes, special schools, home instruction, instruction in hospitals and institutions, and provisions for supplementary services, such as resource room and itinerant instruction in conjunction with regular class placement.

The District offers the services of a parent mentor to help families who need information, guidance, or support through any phase of the special education process.

#### 9. Participate, Participate, **Participate**

The positive impact of parents' involvement in their child's education can't be overstated.

Shaker teachers stress the importance of attending Open Houses, parent/teacher conferences, and curriculum nights. Just as important is your participation at home through the interest you show in your child's school day and the supervision you provide to ensure adequate time is spent in study.

Even working parents will find ample opportunities to get involved in classroom and school activities through PTO, booster groups, and co-curriculars like Science Olympiad. Whether you can give a lot of time or just a few hours, involvement connects you with teachers and other parents – and shows your child that school is a priority.



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#### 10. Make Friends While Making a Difference through PTO

Each Shaker school has a Parent-Teacher Organization that offers ways to become involved in your child's school and to connect with other parents. All parents and guardians are automatically members of the PTO, at no charge.

"Becoming involved in Shaker PTO puts you on the fast track to meeting your Shaker neighbors beyond your block, and learning, close up, about the community your child is in 6-plus hours a day," says Sharon Midura, the PTO Council president.

She says that parents will learn more about the factors that influence and shape the education process. "By participating in school activities where you interact with students, you'll be able to keep up on the latest social matters that influence your children. You can also build lasting friendships with other Shaker parents. But most important, you send a loud and clear message to your children that education matters."

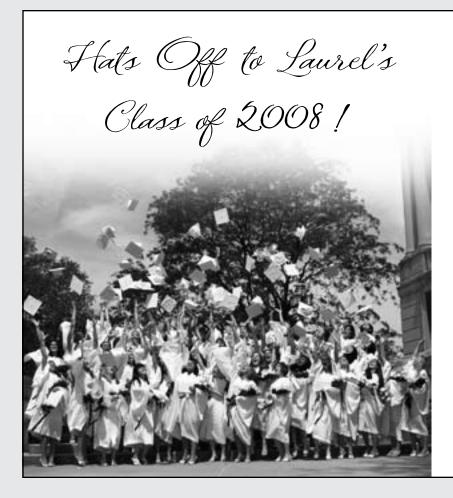
For more information, go to www.shaker.org/ pto.

#### Have You Registered Yet?

If you haven't already registered your school-aged child, head to the Registration Office ASAP. Registrar Glenda Moss emphasizes that parents or legal guardians must reside in Shaker Heights and appear in person to register their children.

An enrollment packet can be requested online at www. shaker.org or you can call (216-295-4321) or stop in at the Registration Office in the School Administration building. Documents required for registration include a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, immunization record, three proofs of their Shaker residence, and any custody or special school records.

"Registration takes only a few minutes," Moss promises, "but it is a good time for parents to ask questions regarding the schools and the community. We often share tips on where to shop for groceries, City recreational activities, or to how the Shaker Rapid works. Parents are also given maps and additional handouts to help in their transition."



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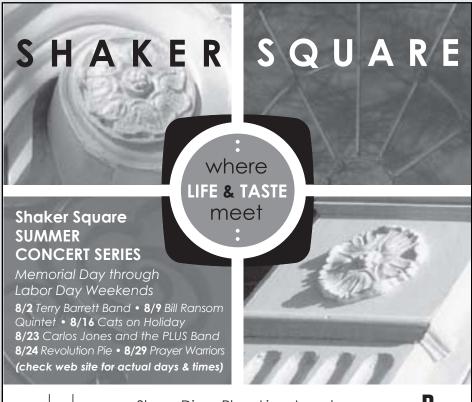
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- Shaker Heights High School is consistently ranked among Ohio's top schools in the number of National Merit, National Achievement, and Advanced Placement Scholars.
- Shaker High offers a full range of interscholastic athletics, including lacrosse, swimming, hockey, tennis, basketball, volleyball, football, fencing, and crew.
- The Shaker schools are eleven-time winners of the "What Parents Want" award given by School Match, a national organization that assists corporations and parents in locating top schools.
- The High School's Theatre Department has been named a National Center of Excellence by the National Council of Teachers of English.
- In 1999 and 2004, the High School was named a Grammy Signature School by the National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences Foundation.
- Shaker High has been named an "Outstanding School" at the Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art competition multiple times, producing more award winners than any other school.
- Shaker High students have been state and national award winners in the National History Day Contest, U.S. Physics Team, and Math League competitions, foreign language examinations, the Federal Reserve Challenge, and Scholastic Art, and Writing Awards programs.
- Shaker High's college attendance rate is approximately 85 percent, with graduates attending Ivy League schools and other competitive universities across the nation.

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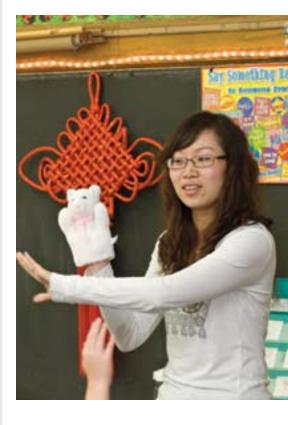
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# For Elementary Students and Their Parents

To help alleviate anxiety, Onaway Principal Lynn Cowen recommends that new elementary school families visit their school and if possible, their teacher, well before the first day.

"It helps to walk the building, meet friends on the playground, and even peek inside the new classroom," Cowen says. "Most of the elementary schools also host a new family night."

Attending "New Family Play Dates" organized by the PTO is another way to ease the transition into a new environment for the child and parent.

"It's a great opportunity for kids to meet one another in a play atmosphere and feel comfortable with the school playground, and it's also a chance for parents to meet one another," says Mercer Principal Lindsay Florence.

Florence also suggests that parents call the school to introduce themselves. "Mercer and the other Shaker schools are very open and welcoming, and staff members are available to answer any questions people may have."

# out & about



#### **Ongoing Activities**

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: Homework Center, 4-6:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Beginning September 8 students in grades 2-6 can drop-in for FREE homework help provided by teachers and education students supervised by Cheryl Darden. The project is funded by Friends of the Shaker Library. INFO: 216-991-2030.

MONDAYS: Learning English as a Family (LEAF), 6:45-8 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Literacy for non-English speaking families. Weekly group time for children, adult ESL class and bi-weekly home visits. INFO: 216-921-2023.

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions, 9:30 AM-NOON. PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 3 can play, make friends, and network. Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 4-6 pm and Friday 3:30-5:30 pm for parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

TUESDAYS: English in Action, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Brondy Shanker leads free English classes for non-English speaking people. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Free, dropin, literacy-based play for parents and caregivers with children birth to age 5. co-sponsored by Shaker Library and Shaker Family Center. Thursday afternoon hours from 1–3 pm and evening hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 pm. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

WEDNESDAYS: Play and Learn Station for Home Day Care Providers, 10 AM-NOON. MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop in literacy play sessions just for home day care providers and their children birth to age 5, co-sponsored by Shaker Library and Shaker Family Center. INFO: 216-921-2023 OR 216-991-2030.

FRIDAYS: NEW "Family Fridays" Parent and Child Play Session, 9:30 AM-NOON, PATRICIA S. MEARNS FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. (NOTE: Friday session not included with Playroom membership, but members may upgrade for small fee to include Friday session.) Parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5 can play, make friends, and network. FEES AND INFO: 216-921-2023.

SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON, SHAKER SQUARE. Buy fresh and local produce from Ohio farms and meet neighbors at the market. INFO: 216-751-7656 or www.northunionfarmersmarket.



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16500 Van Aken Boulevard 216-991-2030

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216-321-5935

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3450 Lee Road 216-491-1360

**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

# august hiahliahts

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday~	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
					1 14th Annual Twilight at the Zoo 7 pm, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. (pg. 66)	End-of-Summer Reading Celebra- tion 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 64)				
Thornton Park's 50th Birthday Party, 1 pm. (pg. 64)	4	5 The Stars of Cain Park 7:30 pm, Alma Theater. (pg. 67)	6 MAMMA MIA! 8/5-10 Playhouse Square. (pg. 67)	7	NEW "Family Fridays" Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 61)	9 North Union Farmers Market 8 am, Shaker Square. (pg. 61)				
10	Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 61)	English in Action Free English classes for non-English speaking people. Ongoing, Main Library. (pg. 61)		Nature Center Photography Club 7 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 64)	Jewelry & Gift Show 8/15-16 11 am, 24060 Wimbledon. (pg. 64) Bat Night at Lake View Cemetery 8 pm. (pg. 64)	16				
17	Marching Band Camp 8:30 am, Shaker Middle School. (pg. 64)	Sports Boosters Meeting 7:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 64)	20	Play & Learn Station 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 61)	22	Free Family Flick "Hannah Montana/Mi- ley Cyrus Best of Both Worlds Concert." 2 pm, Main Library (pg. 64)  Dog Days 10 am, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. (pg. 67)				
24 13th Annual Biathlon & Walk 8:30 am, Bellefaire JCB. (pg. 64)		Shaker schools open.	Meet the Author John Gorman, 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 65)	28	29	Cleveland National Air Show 8/30-9/13 Burke Lakefront Airport. (pg. 67)				



# september highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
	City offices, schools and libraries closed.	Play & Learn Station 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 61)			Friday Night Skate, Thornton Park. (pg. 65)	Bark in the Park/ Doggie Dip 10 am, Thornton Park. (pg. 65)				
Cookout & Carnival Noon, St. Peter's Lutheran Church. (pg. 65)	Homework Center Opens Ongoing. 4 pm, Main Library. (pg. 61)	9 College Planning 7:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 65)	10	Knit Night 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 66)	Backpacks for Buckeye-Wood- land School Plymouth Church. (pg. 66)  Gallery-Opening Reception 6 pm, Malcolm Brown Gallery. (pg. 66)	Shaker Family Center's Annual Open House Benefit 7 pm. (pg. 66) Annual Race for the Cure 8 am, Malls B & C, Cleveland. (pg. 67)				
Writers on Writing Mary Doria Russell. 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 66)	Fall Outdoor Classes for Children, Nature Center. (pg. 66)	Living in Space 4:15 pm, Main Library. (pg. 66)		Play & Learn Station 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 61)	19	Chalk Festival 11 am, Cleveland Museum of Art. (pg. 67)				
Constitution Read Aloud 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 66)	Red Cross Bloodmobile 3 pm, Main Library. (pg. 66)	CityMusic Cleveland 7:30 pm, Fairmount Presbyterian Church. (pg. 66)	Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center (pg. 61)	25	NEW "Family Fridays" Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 61)	Play & Learn Station 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 61)				
Writers on Writing Scott Lax. 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 66)	29	ROSH HASHANAH								





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# Events for August

August 2: End-of-Summer Reading Celebration, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Passport Project Global Dance & Music Collective demonstrates and teaches dance and drumming. INFO: 216-991-2030.

August 3: 50th Birthday Party, 1-7 PM, THORNTON PARK. Thornton Park celebrates its birthday by rolling back prices at the concession stand to the good old days of the 1950s. Join in dance contests, watch 1950 flicks all-day at the ice arena, play games, and have fun like in the fifties! INFO: 216-491-1295.

August 4—September 30: Exhibit, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Shaker Schools: Photographs and Memorabilia. INFO: 216-921-1201.

August 11-15: Raider Hockey Camp, 8 AM-5 PM, THORNTON PARK. Boys & girls can sharpen their blades and hone their skills during this cool camp at the local ice arena. INFO: CALEB WYSE, 216-491-2581.

August 14: Nature Center Photography Club, 7-9 PM, NATURE CENTER. Photoshop Elements: Slide Show Function. Using the Hawaiian island of Molokai as an example, Phil Hart demonstrates how to develop photographic slide shows using Photoshop Elements 6. INFO: 216-321-5935.

August 15 & 16: Jewelry and Gift Show, 11 AM-5 PM, 24060 WIMBLEDON RD. Mimi Epstein Testen's original designs in Dichroic glass jewelry and gift items, necklaces,

bracelets, pendants, rings, earrings, name badge holders, purse hangers, wine bottle stoppers, magnet sets and more. 20% discount for those who bring a friend! INFO: 216-751-8624 or www.dichroicdesigns-shaker. com.

August 15: Bat Night at Lake View Cemetery, 8–10 PM, LAKE VIEW CEMETERY. A Nature Center naturalist will teach about these not-so-creepy creatures. Bats will be netted, banded and released. \$5/person; \$12/family. Registration required. INFO: 216-421-2665.

August 15: Marching Band Rookie Day, 8:30 AM-3 PM, SHAKER HIGH.

August 18–22: Marching Band Camp, 8:30 AM-3 PM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Shaker High band camp. Music on the move. INFO: 216-295-4200.

August 19: Sports Boosters Meeting, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH. Join a team of parents and help support all Shaker sports and athletes.

August 21: New Family Orientation, 9 AM, WOODBURY SCHOOL. New to town with a 5th or 6th grader? Visit Woodbury School and get the scoop.

August 23: Free Family Flick, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Watch the Grated film, Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus Best of Both Worlds Concert. Free. INFO: 216-991-2030.

August 24: 13th Annual Biathlon & Walk, 8:30 AM, BELLEFAIRE JCB, 22001 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. 3-mile run and 12-mile bike with post-race picnic. INFO: 216-320-8297 or www. bellefairejcb.org.

August 27: Meet the Author, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Meet John Gorman and hear about the good old days a WMMS. INFO: 216-991-2421.

August 28: 9th Grade & New Family Orientation, Activity Fair & Ice Cream Social, 6:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH. Come back to school and see what's cool.

#### School Bells

August 25: St. Dominic's School

August 26: Shaker Schools

August 27: Laurel School

September 2: Hathaway Brown

School

# Events for September

Sept. 1: Labor Day. City offices, schools and libraries closed.

Sept. 5: Friday Night Skate, THORNTON PARK. INFO: 216-491-1295.

Sept. 6: Bark in the Park/Doggie Dip, 10 AM-2 PM, THORNTON PARK. Bring the dogs for a dunk in the pool and some kibbles and bits at the doggie buffet. INFO: 216-491-1295.

Sept. 7: Cookout and Carnival, NOON-4 PM, ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 18000 VAN AKEN BLVD. 125th anniversary celebration. INFO: 216-561-2511.

Sept. 9: College Planning, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH. SATs, college visits, tuition sticker shock? Senior parents unite! Get the low down on higher education.



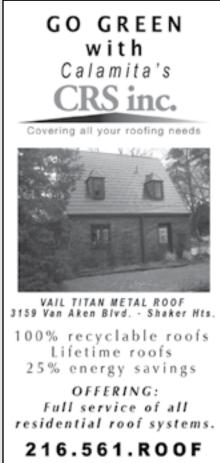


making sure my mom is resting her hip and not trying to clean her house."

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Sept. 11: Knit Night, 7-8:45 PM, WOODS BRANCH. Bring a knitting project and get or give help. Experienced knitter, Fern Braverman, moderates. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**Sept. 12:** Backpacksfor Buckeye-Woodland School, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Miss the old routine of buying school supplies. Get in the giving grove and help start school kids start the year with school supplies. DONATION INFO: www.plymouthchurchucc.org.

Sept. 12: Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM, MALCOLM BROWN GALLERY, 20100 CHAGRIN BLVD. View PRINTWORKS, a showcase featuring original prints by Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Charles White, Joseph Norman, Charles Sebree, Jacob Lawrence, and others. Exhibit on display through November 1. INFO: 216-751-2955 or www.malcolmbrowngallery.com.

Sept. 13: Shaker Family Center's Annual Open House Benefit, 7-10 PM. Elegant cocktail event in a gracious home features catering by J. Pistone, an open bar and silent auction. RESEVATIONS & INFO: 216-921-2023.

Sept. 14: Writers on Writing, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Mary Doria Russell talks on how to write historical fiction. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 15: Fall Outdoor Classes for Children, NATURE CENTER. For class dates, times and fees, call: 216-321-5935 ex. 235 or www. shakerlakes.org.

Sept. 17: Living in Space, 4:15 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. NASA speaker talks about astronauts, what they wear and what they eat. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 21: Constitution Read Aloud, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Community leaders and members of the Moses Cleaveland DAR read the Constitution for National Constitution Week. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 22: Red Cross Bloodmobile, 3-7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.

Sept. 23: CityMusic Cleveland, 7:30 PM, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. CityMusic's 5th anniversary season begins with a concert featuring the Brahm's Double Concerto. Violinist Kyung Sun Lee and cellist Edward Arron play Brahms under the baton of guest conductor Danail Rachev, assistant conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Families welcome. Concert, art exhibit, and child-care are all free. Please arrange for child care by calling 216-321-5800. INFO: 216-321-8273.

Sept. 27: Homecoming, 2 PM, SHAKER HIGH. Watch the Raiders tackle Warrensville High then see the students in their finery for the Homecoming Dance from 8–11 PM.

Sept. 28: Writers on Writing, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Scot Lax speaks on transforming personal experience into art. Aspiring authors can hear how to incorporate personal experience into their writing. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 30: Rosh Hashanah. Schools closed.

# In the Circle and Beyond

AUGUST 1: 14th Annual Twilight at the Zoo, 7 PM-MIDNIGHT, CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO, 3900 WILDLIFE WAY. Graze with the animals. Enjoy appe-

#### out & about

tizers, the wild sounds of 14 bands, T-shirts, raffle tickets and the resident wildlife. Tickets: \$75. INFO: 216-661-6500 EX. 4421.

AUGUST 1-3: Twinsburg Twins Days Festival, 9 AM-10:30 PM, GLEN CHAMBERLIN PARK, RAVENNA RD., TWINSBURG. Multiple attractions include food, music and fun at this fest where it's ok to see double. Fee: \$3. INFO: 330 425-3652.

AUGUST 5: The Stars of Cain Park, 7:30 PM, ALMA THEATER. Evening of song highlights from past theater seasons. TICKETS & INFO: 216-529-9411.

AUGUST 5-10: MAMMA MIA!, PLAYHOUSE SQUARE. Be the first in line to see this feel-good romp with music by ABBA. TICKETS & INFO: 216-241-6000.

AUG. 14-17: Feast of the Assumption, MAYFIELD RD. Venire un venire tutto! Come one, come all for this celebration on the streets with music, dancing, artwork, rides, street vendors, food and fireworks. INFO: 216-421-2995.

AUGUST 23 & 24: Dog Days, 10 AM-3 PM., CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. 10th annual canine celebration. See rescue dogs, therapy dogs and service dogs, and meet Balto, the Museum's resident hero dog, who helped save people in Nome, Alaska. Learn about the evolution of dogs and what wolf-like features they can look for in their own pooches. August 24: 1-5 pm. INFO: 216-231-4600.

AUGUST 30-SEPT. 13: Cleveland National Air Show, BURKE LAKEFRONT AIRPORT. This year's top-flight activity for families features the Blue Angels. Tickets & info: 216-781-0747 or ww.clevelandairshow.com.

SEPT. 13: 15th Annual Race for the Cure, 8 AM, MALLS B AND C IN DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND. Lace up your pink running shoes and run for the cure.

SEPT. 17: Cleveland Archaeology Society Lecture, 7:30 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATIONAL HISTORY, ONE WADE OVAL IN UNIVERSITY CIRCLE. Dr. Cameron McNeil from Queens College speaks on The Importance of Cacao at Ancient Copan (Honduras): Ancestor Trees and Fertility. Iconography links cacao to fertility, rebirth of ancestors, the feminine and maize. Reception to meet the speaker follows. Free. INFO: 216-231-4600.

SEPT. 20: Chalk Festival, 11 AM-4 PM, CLEVELAND ART MUSEUM FINE ARTS GARDEN, 11150 EAST BLVD. Chalk it up to an artistic afternoon! Watch chalk artists at work or chalk your own picture. Large square and 24-color box of chalk: \$16; small square and 12-color box of chalk: \$8 September 21: noon-5 pm. INFO: 216-421-7340.

SEPT. 27: RACE: Are We So Different?. CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. View an exhibit of he stories of race from biological, cultural, and historical points of view. Interactives, historical artifacts, photographs, and multimedia presentations offer an unprecedented look at race and racism in the United States. INFO: 216-231-2600.

#### Save the Date

OCT. 5: 5th Annual Family Fall Festival, 1-6 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Family Center benefit features food, games, arts & crafts, pony rides, petting zoo, Flower the Clown, Euclid Beach Rocket Cars, inflatables, and much more. INFO: 216-921-2023. ■

# Start the Fall Semester at Our Lady of Peace



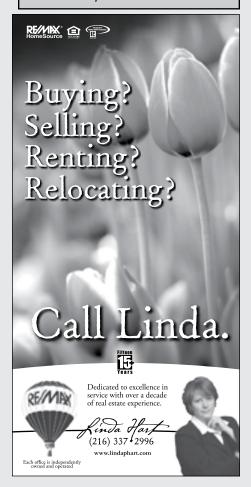
#### The Catholic Community for the Shaker Square Neighborhood

Masses:

Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 9 & 11 am

Shaker Blvd. and East 126th St. For information: 216-421-4211 www.olpchurch.com

Rev. Gary D. Chmura, Pastor



# shaker observer

#### I'll Just Wait in the Car. Or Not. BY JOHN R. BRANDT

There is no rite of passage in Shaker more painful than that of a teenager learning to drive – unless, of course, it's that of the parent learning to teach someone to drive. A comedy in four acts begins with:

**Temps:** A thick booklet of obscure driving regulations (Section 8: If you hit a deer and cause its death, you may take possession of the deer by law, as long as you report the collision to a game protector or other law enforcement officer within 24 hours....) causes weeks of worry by straight-A student 15½ over whether she will be able to pass a test on the shape of a stop sign or the proper response to a yellow light.

"It means drive like hell," Shaker Man's father (her grandfather) nods sagely, "Cause it's about to go red."

"Grampa!"

"Don't listen to him," Shaker Man says. "But you need to stop worrying. Look: Thousands of stupid people get driver's licenses every year. The roads are full of morons. And they all passed this test! Why wouldn't you pass it, too?"

"Inspirational," Ms. Shaker Man says. "And not elitist in the least. Just the example we want to set for our children."

Driving school: When Shaker Man was 16 (in a different century, his daughter points out), driver's ed was a lay-up course taught by dimwitted football coaches. (Shaker Man's instructor once defined DWI, in all seriousness, as "Drunk While Intoxicated.") In this century, however, would-be drivers attend private schools taught by hypercaffeinated stand-up comic wannabes, who wave their arms and recycle tired jokes while dorky teenage boys lob paperwads at unamused teenage girls.

"Looks like my driver's ed," says Shaker Man, inadvertently strolling into the classroom to pick up 15½.

"Dad," she hisses. "Wait in the car!"

**Observation:** For 30-odd years, Shaker Man has believed he was a competent (if not practically racecar-ready) driver. But that was before 15½ began critiquing his skills.

"You're speeding."

"Three miles an hour, maybe. Four, tops."

"It's still speeding."

"Nobody goes the limit. You'd get run over."

"Is that what you're supposed to be teaching me?"

It's even more fun when 11, whose entire driving experience consists of driving Model T's on rails at Cedar Point, joins in.

"Dad," he says after a u-turn on a downtown street. "Was that strictly legal?"

"Well, I don't think it was specifically not legal. I mean, I didn't see a sign."

"I'm telling Mom."

Driving Practice: You haven't lived until you've sat next to your child, your darling baby, and nearly had your head put through the windshield by her panicked stab at the brake pedal. SCREEECH! Or been pressed back into your seat at 18 G's by her equally forceful punch at the accelerator. VROOOM!

"Wow," she says. "That was way more intense than I thought."

Mostly, though, it's driving at five to 10 miles per hour through Highland Cemetery (The people in here are already dead, 151/2 says, so I can't kill them if I screw up), practicing turn signals by the tombstones, except when it's time to pass a snooz-

"I can't do it."

"Why not?"

"He's a policeman. What if he

"He's sleeping off a cruller. He doesn't even know you're here."

"Dad."

The ensuing fire drill – Shaker Man and 151/2 running around the car to exchange places, 11 asking from the back seat What the heck is going on?, car doors slamming- wakes our civil servant, who rolls down the cruiser's window as Shaker Man eases past.

"Driving lessons?"

"How'd you guess?"

"Good place for it," says the man in blue. "But I'd slow it down if I were you. Hate to have to write you up in front of your daughter." He nods. "And son."

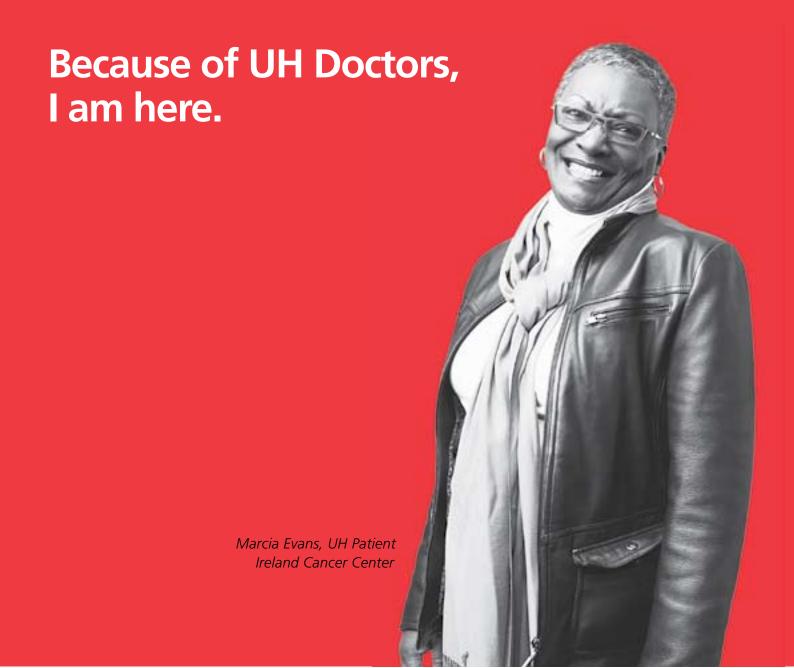
"For 13 miles per hour? I mean, come on. 14, tops!"

"It's still speeding."

"But nobody goes the limit.

"Sir," says Blue, "Is that what you're supposed to be teaching

Adds 11: "I can't wait to tell Mom."



As the health of her mother began to fail, Marcia Evans visited every day to watch over her. Years passed before Marcia realized she had been ignoring her own health. It was then, during a regular mammogram, that UH Doctors detected early stage breast cancer. The lump was removed at University Hospitals Case Medical Center and Marcia was then referred to the cancer care specialists at the UH Ireland Cancer Center for a new genetic test called Oncotype DX. Without the test, chemotherapy would be the assumed treatment after surgery. However, the test results said otherwise for Marcia. In fact, it placed her expected rate of recurrence at only five percent. Therefore, she avoided unnecessary chemotherapy, and was able to resume seeing her mother on a daily basis. Something that meant the world to both of them.

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