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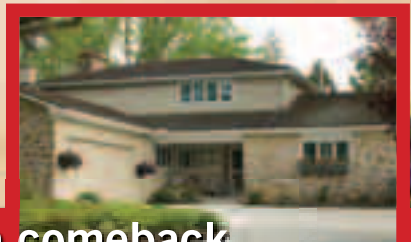
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august | september 2007
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features + departments

on the cover:

The City's oldest shopping center has found new life with caring tenants who put Shaker first. ►►

Cover photograph
Marc Golub

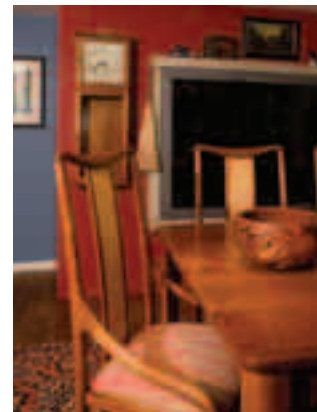


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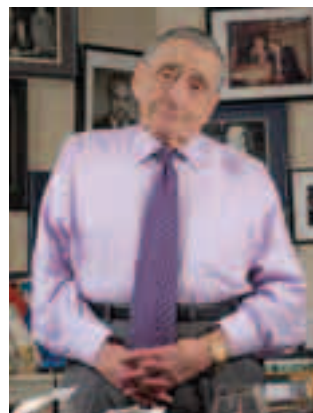


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shaker renters...



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EMAIL: city.hall@shakeronline.com

The views of the individuals and organizations
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Thornton Park is Back and Better Than Ever!



PHOTO BY CAYDIE HELLER

The Memorial Day re-opening of Thornton Park broke the record for the most number of guests in its history! More than 3000 wrist bands were distributed that day, twice the previous record.

Residents swarmed the Park, eager to see the changes and enjoy the many new ways to have fun. The Current Channel was hugely popular, packed with grinning kids. Also popular were the skateboard park, the basketball court and the special inflatable games brought in for the day (see photos).

Since Memorial Day, long-time pool users, including those who use it for daily lap swims, have declared their pleasure with the improvements to the existing 50-meter pool. Its new lining and aluminum gutters add new efficiency and sparkle.

The inflatable games may be gone, but the rest of the park fixtures are now in place for good. Residents of all ages can look forward to many years of making memories at Thornton Park!

Winslow Road: a Local Landmark

Tudor timbering and leaded glass windows distinguish them. Single access front doors reveal vast and versatile duplex interiors. They are the homes along Winslow Road from Avalon to Farnsleigh, and they are one of Shaker's historic treasures. And now, Winslow Road is a local landmark.

Formal recognition of the unique character of Winslow Road was achieved through a process that began in 2002, and that included more than six public meetings.

Two-family owners take advantage of the special opportunities that these spacious homes afford: operation of small home-based businesses in them; housing a parent or other relative in the adjacent unit to keep a watchful and protective presence; living in one suite and earning rental income from the second one.

The Winslow neighborhood benefits from local landmark designation in a number of ways. Studies around the country suggest that property values increase faster in local historic districts. New owners will be required to respect the character and buildings of the neighborhood, maintaining their properties according to guidelines established to protect historic and aesthetic materials and features.

Winslow meets the criteria for preservation because of the following unique qualities:

- It is the only street in Shaker Heights that consists entirely of two-family houses.
- 73 percent of the houses were constructed by 1929, making it one of the oldest streets in the City.
- The overall design of Shaker's two-family homes is unique; they have one front entrance. By sharing one entry, the two-family homes retain the appearance of single-family homes.
- Many of the homes were designed by top architects and architectural firms of the era, specifically Charles Schneider (who



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also designed Plymouth Church and City Hall), Fox, Duthie and Foose, and George Burrows.

In addition to its new local landmark designation, Winslow is within an area of Shaker Heights that has long been on the National Register of Historic Places. Approximately 75 percent of Shaker is within the Shaker Village Historic District. Though different, the two designations signal the importance of preserving this street's historic properties.

For more information about the process of Winslow's historic designation, visit shakeronline.com/dept/planning/WinslowRoadHistoricDesignation.asp.

City Seeks Emergency Response Volunteers

Are you calm in a crisis? Dedicated to serving others in need? You may be a candidate to join the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), being launched this fall by the City Fire and Health

Departments. The goal is to train and prepare community volunteers for disasters that could impact our area. Similar groups are already operating throughout the nation, including several in Cuyahoga County.

A series of seven training sessions will educate members of the CERT team regarding basic disaster response skills, including fire safety, disaster assessment, team organization, and medical operations. CERT members will then be able to assist first responders as needed, participate in regional emergency response drills, and help educate the community regarding emergency preparedness.

The first training class will begin in September of 2007 and members will participate in the Health Department's annual pandemic flu drill. In the event of an actual emergency, team members would need to be available on a 24/7 basis. For more information or to express interest in volunteering, contact the Health Department at 216-491-1480.

Going the Extra Mile: Citizens Customer Service Award Recognizes Excellence in Our Community

It's no secret that Shaker residents expect a high degree of excellence in the services they receive. It is for just this reason that the Citizens Customer Service Award was created. Once in awhile, an individual or group of City employees stands out from the crowd for going above and beyond even the highest expectations.

The award was first introduced in 2005 to formally recognize City staff who receive praise from residents for exceeding their expectations. This year's award was presented to two employees of the Public Works Department, Mark Melaragno and Howard Rhoad. Sherrie Futch, a resident who encountered an unusual and alarming situation nominated them: a sinkhole that appeared on her front lawn near the



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City crews (top from left): Eric Tysinger, Walt Palcisco, Anthony Johnson and Chaun Shell; (bottom): Howard Rhoad and Mark Melaragno.



sidewalk and driveway. She wrote the City to say that “during the course of diagnosing and repairing the problem, Howard and Mark and their staffs went above and beyond the call of duty. They did their best to help us figure out what might be causing the problem, brought us safety cones to keep pedestrians from the danger area, and generally walked us through the entire process.” She further noted that they “exhibited the kind of customer service attitude that is so rare today. If every employee took the kind of interest in their customers that they do, the world would be a better, more stress-free place.”

The first group to receive the award was the Public Works Department’s Sewer Crew, Anthony Johnson, Walt Palcisco, Chaun Shell, and Eric Tysinger. This group of dedicated workers has consistently wowed residents, actually winning the award two years in a row. Through well over a dozen phone calls, letters and emails, a clear picture emerged of a group that was willing to do whatever it took to help homeowners. Resident David Bergholz wrote that the crew “did a wonderful job, were

PHOTOS BY CAYDIE HELLER

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persistent and stayed until after midnight to solve the problem.” Another resident, George Middlebrooks, was grateful that the crew suggested further testing to solve “a nine-year mystery,” praising the crew as “exceptional, helpful, kind, and patient.”

If you have had an experience with a City employee who went to extraordinary lengths to remedy a problem and who demonstrated creativity or resourcefulness in providing assistance, the City would like to hear from you. Nominations for a Customer Service Citizens Award are welcomed and can be submitted using a downloaded form from shakeronline.com. Under “City Departments,” click “Human Resources.” Then click on the page titled “Citizens Customer Service Award.” You may also contact Cait Farrell for assistance at 216-491-1427.

Pop Quiz

Shaker Heights is: (A) a lovely, tree-lined community in Northeast Ohio; (B) a hot new indie folk rock band in the UK; (C) both of the above. If you answered C, you can consider yourself hip to the latest music scene. A new band called The Shaker Heights is taking the UK by storm – or at least, part of it. Billed by their website as an “alternative folk-rock pop” band, they have built a loyal fan base in their native Aylesbury, England and in the Oxford area.

An interview with the band’s leader reveals, “the name came from a small town in America that I spotted in an Atlas. I liked the tie between the grandiosity of ‘heights’ and the rock’n’roll link of ‘Shaker.’ The band cites the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and Velvet Underground as its influences, among others. To check out their vibe, link to www.matchboxrecordings.co.uk/artists/shakerheights.htm. If you like what you hear, you may become one of their groupies, known aptly as ... Shakerites.

Running for Wishes

The Shaker Heights Fire Department invites you to brighten a child’s life by “Running for Wishes.” The SHFD,

in partnership with the Make-A-Wish Foundation®, is sponsoring a 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk on Sunday, August 19 at 9 am. Registration begins at 8 am at the Shaker Heights Fire Department, 17000 Chagrin Blvd. The fee is \$15 if received by August 5th, or \$20 the day of the event. All registered participants receive a t-shirt, some exercise and that warm feeling that comes from helping a child whose life is shadowed by serious illness.

For more information or to obtain a registration form, contact Hermes Sports & Events at 216-623-9933 or www.hermescleveland.com.

City Offers Much-Needed Shot in the Arm

Whether you’re off to kindergarten, college or the Amazon, there’s one place you may need to stop first: the Shaker Heights Health Department!

Once again, the Health Department will be offering both regular and expanded immunization clinic hours (evening and weekend) for required back-to-school immunizations, as well as college, travel and flu immunizations.

All clinics will be held in the basement of City Hall, at 3400 Lee Road. Appointments are required; to make an appointment or for clinic hours, call 491-1480. Hours and fees are also available at shakeronline.com.

- All required back-to-school immunizations, as well as Tuberculosis screening tests, are provided at \$12 each.
- College-bound students and other adults can receive Tuberculosis screening tests and immunizations for Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (TDaP), Meningococcal, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B and Twinrix (combination of Hepatitis A and B). The cost of these vaccines is determined by market price and can be obtained by calling the Health Department. These vaccines, as well as MMR, Polio and Pneumonia, are available year-round.
- The Health Department will again be offering seasonal flu shots to residents



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of all ages in October, November, and December. The Health Department will begin taking flu shot appointments the week of September 17. The first flu shot clinic will be held on Tuesday, October 30. The cost of the flu shot will be \$25; Pneumonia shots are also available for \$40. Look for more information on flu shots in the next issue of Shaker Life, and on the City website, shakeronline.com.

F is for Fire House Cooking

That's the title of the latest in the WVIZ/PBS series of cooking shows. This one, airing live on Saturday, August 11 at 11 am and rebroadcast at 3 pm, will feature the cuisine of the Shaker Heights Fire Department. The four-hour show will also include cooking firefighters from ten other Cleveland area communities. Each department is contributing ten recipes which are compiled in a cookbook that is presented to those who pledge donations to the station during the August fund drive.

Pictured is Jeff Tibjash, one of several firefighters who cook up meals for the Shaker crews. WVIZ producer Dennis Knowles came to Shaker's new Fire House on Chagrin to film Jeff preparing something delicious for lunch in the House's state-of-the-art kitchen. Portions of this shoot were used by the station to promote the August 11 program. Be sure to tune in!



PHOTO BY CAYDIE HELLER

Shaker News Briefs

- The Shaker Heights Rotary Club annually honors a firefighter and a police officer for dedication to their department and the Shaker Heights community. Fire Department honoree **Lt. Kenneth Bruening** has been with Shaker for 15 years, during which time he has been instrumental in the successful achievement of the Department's accreditation status. He is a dedicated member of the Department and a great mentor to the younger firefighters. He is a father of five and volunteers much of his time to 4-H activities in Geauga County. **Detective Carl Green** joined Shaker's Police Department in 1989 and has served in the Uniform Bureau and Investigative Bureau, being promoted to the position of detective in May 1993. During his tenure with the Investigative Bureau, Green has served as Scientific Investigation Unit detective. His knowledge of crime scene processing, fingerprinting, and photography has been of great benefit to the department. Additionally, he is always willing to respond day or night, to assist the Uniform Bureau in



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processing crime scenes and evidence. Green was also a member of the Special Weapons and Tactics Team. His outstanding performance has allowed the Shaker Heights Police Department to maintain its reputation as a model agency within the law enforcement community.

- **Corporal Timothy Keck** retired from the Shaker Heights Police Department in June with more than 24 years of service. Keck was a valuable K-9 handler. Corporal Edward Curtin also retired recently from the SHPD, with 21 years of service. During his tenure he served as a detective on the Investigative Bureau, Strike Force Unit, as well as the Traffic Division.

Both men consistently demonstrated outstanding skills and knowledge, as well as loyalty and dedication to the Police Department and the Shaker community.

- SHPD welcomes three new officers to the force: **Martin Dunn**, **William Martin** and **William Wedeking**. After orientation and training, the SHPD anticipates assigning them to a platoon by November. All three officers have experience in other police departments.

- The Fire Department has hired **Ryan Blecick**, an experienced firefighter and paramedic.

- Bike patrols were reinstated this summer to serve as the eyes and ears of the Police around key playgrounds and neighborhoods.

- Shaker Heights resident **Howard Bram** was recently inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame in recognition of 55-plus years as an outstanding advocate for Ohio's seniors. During his career, Bram served as president of the National Association of Jewish Homes for the Aged and the Association of Ohio Philanthropic Homes for the Aged (AOPHA.) He has chaired many committees and serves on various boards including the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Jennings Center for Older Persons. The award, bestowed by the Ohio Department of Aging, cites Bram's "passionate idealism and outstanding interpersonal skills" as key to passing a levy supporting the new Cuyahoga Options for Elders program.

Bram joins the ranks of more than 300 individuals who have been inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame since 1977.

Seasonal Reminders

Playing in the Street: Roller skating, roller blading, skateboarding or riding in any type of coaster or toy vehicle in the street is prohibited unless permission has been given to close streets for block parties.

Block Party Requests: Register at least two weeks in advance to close streets for block parties, races or parades. For more details and to send an online email registration (preferred), visit the City website, shakeronline.com.

Bicycle Licensing: Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm August 4, 11, 18, and 25 and September 15 and 29 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. Cost is \$5 (re-issued licenses are 50 cents); please bring the owner's Social Security number.

Go Green Rebate Program: Home-owners are eligible for discounted energy audits (\$300). Depending upon results and budget, up to 25% of repair costs may be rebated. Find out more by calling 216-491-1370.

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

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

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

Security: The Police Department reminds residents leaving town on vacation to lock securely all windows and doors and to make arrangements for the house to be checked periodically, the newspapers and mail to be picked up and the lawn to be mowed regularly.

For more information on the City's Codified Ordinances, visit shakeronline.com/cityhall/documents.

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REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between March 1 and April 30, 2007 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	2007 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
3333 AVALON ROAD	\$207,500	\$215,000 (2004)	\$ 15,000 (1931)
3369 AVALON ROAD	\$192,500	\$186,000 (2001)	\$ 7,500 (1924)
3256 BRAEMAR ROAD	\$237,000	\$237,500 (2004)	\$ 9,500 (1941)
22029 DOUGLAS ROAD	\$277,000	\$225,000 (1997)	\$ 34,000 (1953)
22639 DOUGLAS ROAD	\$437,000	\$447,000 (1999)	\$ 11,000 (1936)
23523 DUFFIELD ROAD	\$199,000	\$160,000 (2002)	\$ 25,000 (1951)
23585 DUFFIELD ROAD	\$224,000	\$259,755 (2000)	\$ 15,000 (1947)
16729 FERNWAY ROAD	\$315,000	\$233,000 (1998)	\$ 15,000 (1928)
2873 GLENGARY ROAD	\$532,500	\$490,000 (2002)	\$ 16,000 (1916)
3279 GRENWAY ROAD	\$210,000	\$275,000 (2004)	\$ 12,000 (1925)
3117 HUNTINGTON ROAD	\$200,000	\$172,000 (2002)	\$ 6,500 (1917)
3555 LYTLE ROAD	\$120,000	\$113,334 (2006)	\$ 10,500 (1930)
22176 PARNELL ROAD	\$580,000	\$570,000 (2001)	\$ 11,500 (1934)
3674 PENNINGTON ROAD	\$120,000	\$ 80,000 (2005)	\$ 3,500 (1941)
2728 ROCKLYN ROAD	\$299,900	\$290,000 (2006)	\$ 35,000 (1952)
22326 RYE ROAD	\$274,000	\$200,000 (2004)	\$ 32,000 (1954)
21849 SHAKER BLVD	\$493,000	\$482,000 (2002)	\$ 64,000 (1956)
23149 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$209,500	\$260,000 (2000)	\$ 40,000 (1956)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

Landlords Benefit from Discounted Screening Services

Landlords, screen your tenants to be sure you are putting your property into the hands of well qualified renters. Screening services include a credit history, criminal background check including sex offender information, eviction information, verification of employment history and experience with previous landlords. Having a neutral party conduct tenant screening is a recommended fair housing practice.

Screening up front saves you from problems later on. Take advantage of discounted rates for screening services made available to all Shaker Heights City School District landlords. Call Jeff Malone with Rental Services, Inc. at 800-325-4793 Call or visit www.arentalservicesinc.com.

Certified Shaker Properties

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 listings 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.



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Rental Homes

24173 Duffield Road
(Bruce and Karen Altchouler)

Apartment Building

2540 North Moreland
Shaker Park East Apartments
(David Goodman)



Licensed (15930) Bonded Insured

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Incorporated

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any job \$250 or more

Electrical Contractors
Paul & Andrea Holland
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shaker neighborhoods

Boulevard

Fernway

Lomond

Ludlow

Malvern

MERCER

Moreland

Onaway

Sussex



Hazelmere Road

Year built: 1952

Square ft: 1766

Style: Ranch

Attached garage, clapboard siding and double-hung windows.



Calverton Road

Year built: 1928

Square ft: 2222

Style: French

Notable

Architects: Fox, Duthie and Foose

Cedar shake roof with low-set dormers that break the roof line. Large vertical windows throughout.



Calverton Road

Year built: 1931

Square ft: 2344

Style: French

Steeply pitched hip roof. Stone used for minimal decoration. Large vertical case-ment windows on the first floor.

Mercer neighborhood home values* range from: \$220,000 to \$600,000
Mercer home square footage ranges from: 1,700 to 4,000

Looks like: Depends on where you are in this largest of Shaker's neighborhoods. Could be cozy, contemporary, ranch, traditional or stately, all in a large and lovely environment conducive to walking, running, biking and strolling.

Feels like: The best of both worlds: close to Cleveland's business, arts, sports, and medical centers, yet still in proximity to suburban amenities, including public and private schools both in Mercer and nearby.

Walk to: The new and improved Thornton Park – by foot or ride a bike. Easy to reach, lots to do, right in Mercer's backyard. The fireworks are front and center – some residents enjoy them from their own yards. Playgrounds at all three area schools and Thornton Park.

**based on Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office Market Valuation*

Lyman Circle

Year built: 1931
Square ft: 2400
Style: English -
 Jacobethan

Notable

Architects: Dunn and Copper

Stone window frames and ornamentation. Slate roof, leaded glass windows, and multiple chimneys.



Duffield Road

Year built: 1949
Square ft: 2653
Style: Colonial

Notable

Architect: Moulthrop

Combines brick and wood clapboard siding in a more contemporary Colonial style. Slate roof and double-hung windows are classic elements.



Stanford Road

Year built: 1938
Square ft: 3839
Style: Colonial - PA
 Farmhouse

Notable

Architects: Fox and Duthie

Fieldstone façade with tinted mortar to accentuate the irregular shapes of the stone. Simple gable roof accented with dentil molding.



Close to: Nifty shops and slice of campus life at Fairmount Circle. Also, Bertram Woods Branch Library, the shops at Almar, Green Line RTA.

Named for: Mercer Elementary, built in 1953.

Community Associations: Visit shakeronline.com for contact information.

A neighborhood profile of rental and condominium units will appear in the December issue.

PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO

Boulevard

Fernway

Lomond

Ludlow

Malvern

MERCER

Moreland

Onaway

Sussex



Stunning Executive Offering



\$695,000

Munro Copper gem on park-like lot. Formal main rooms. 7 bedrooms, 4.1 baths. Updated kitchen, porch, library, family room. Lovely porch. Elegant.
Liz Nuechterlein • (216) 999-8292

Very Special Tudor



464,500

Pretty and unusually bright Tudor. Fresh, light decor, beautifully refinished floors. Fantastic kitchen with white cabinets and stainless appliances. 5 bedrooms, 3.1 baths.
Winnie Dietsch • (216) 999-8600

Classic Brick Colonial



\$370,000

Center hall colonial. Warm natural woods. 6 bedrooms, 3.1 baths. Updated kitchen, porch, rec room. 2 fireplaces, French doors. Home Warranty.
Liz Nuechterlein • (216) 999-8292

Shaker Beauty



\$289,900

This Tudor offers 5 bedrooms, 3.1 baths, large family room with built-ins, hardwoods, mud room, rec room, updated kitchen, and 3 car garage.
Kay Shea/Linda Wilkshire. 440-473-1305

Spacious and Sophisticated



\$224,900

This home has it all: family room, den, rec room, 3 fireplaces, breakfast room, porch, A/C, sprinkler system. 3 bedrooms, 2.1 baths. Very pretty!
Winnie Dietsch • (216) 999-8600

Look At This!



\$209,900

Very pretty colonial with fresh decor, fireplaces in living and rec rooms. First floor family room. Private master suite. 4 bedrooms, 3.1 baths. Lovely yard.
Winnie Dietsch • (216) 999-8600

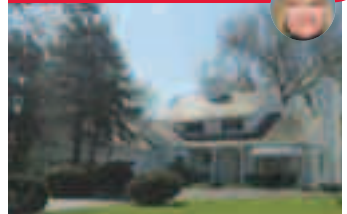
Lots of Extras!



\$209,750

Brick 2 family with central air and fabulous lower level. Great kitchens, hardwood floors, screened porches, Super 3rd floor.
Caple-Henderson Team • (216) 999-8326

Wonderful Condo Alternative



\$200,000

Well maintained. Possible master on 1st. 2 full baths. Updated kitchen. Family room. Formal living and dining rooms. Beautiful oversized yard.
Liz Nuechterlein • (216) 999-8292

English Style home



\$189,900

Colonial with soft painted walls and many windows. Updated kitchen, hardwoods, 4 bedrooms, 2.2 baths. Sun room, mud room, patio, 2 car garage. Shaker compliant.
Linda Wilkshire • (216) 999-3022

Charm-filled Colonial



\$183,250

Recently remodeled kitchen and baths. Spacious living room with fireplace, wood floors. 4 bedrooms, 1.1 baths. Lower level family room. Patio, screened porch.
Beth Z. LaRue • (216) 702-8093

Bright and Sunny Colonial



\$182,000

Charming brick colonial with large yard, living room with leaded glass bay window. 3 bedrooms and 2 baths on 2nd. 3rd floor suite with bath. Eat-in kitchen, den.
Beth Z. LaRue • (216) 702-8093

Well Maintained 2-Family



\$149,750

Newer furnaces, C/A, hot water tanks. Freshly painted. Appliances included. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchens. Total 7 bedrooms, 3 full baths.
Caple-Henderson Team • (216) 999-8326

Specialty Built Home



\$129,900

One of a few like-built homes in Shaker. Solidly made brick with hardwood floors. 3rd floor suite. Fresh, neutral decor. Fenced back yard.
Caple-Henderson Team • (216) 999-8326

Beautiful Complex



\$79,900

One of the larger units in the complex. Estate, "As is". 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, plus walk-in closets each bedroom. Phenomenal storage. Excellent value.
Earlene Hancock • (216) 348-3772

Condo With Private Garden



\$55,900

Fresh fenced garden area. Soft earth toned unit to complement any accessories. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1.1 baths. Royal Court complex. Reasonable fees.
Caple-Henderson Team • (216) 999-8326

Simply Beautiful Kitchen



\$49,000

Enjoy newer cabinets, appliances, solid surface countertops. A smart choice for easy living in this 2 bedroom, 2 bath flat overlooking Shaker Country Club.
Tom Gron • (216) 348-3132



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Strategic Planning Update

The Strategic Planning Committee developed new mission and vision statements for the Library, which were approved at the June meeting of the Library Board. (See sidebar.)

The Strategic Planning Committee has been busy meeting to solicit and compile comments from community members of all ages. Discussions and surveys about library service took place with a crowd of 60 adults at an April community meeting, with teens and their parents at the April Teen Volunteer Fair, with attendees in the Teen Center, with younger children at the Bertram Woods Branch, and with preschoolers and their grown-ups who visited the Play and Learn Station.

As a result of this research, the committee revamped the library's Vision, Values, and Mission statements, and identified service priorities for the next stage of the planning process. They are: To create young readers: emergent literacy; To satisfy curiosity: lifelong learning; To stimulate imagination: reading, viewing, and listening for pleasure, and to visit a comfortable place: physical spaces.

The Strategic Planning Committee identified the following goals for the Library:

- Preschool children will have programs and services designed to ensure that they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.
- Community members will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and continue to learn throughout their lives.

- Community members who want materials to enhance their leisure time will find what they want, when and where they want them, and will have the help they need to make choices from among the options.
- Community members will have safe and welcoming physical places to meet and interact with others.
- Teens who visit the library will have resources and activities that productively engage their attention.

Library staff will identify measurable objectives for reaching these goals and present them to the Strategic Planning Committee for review. The edited document will then be sent to the Library Board for approval at their September meeting and will also be posted on the library's website.

MISSION

Shaker Heights Public Library provides an extraordinary range of books and other resources and activities for a lifetime of enrichment and enjoyment in an environment that exemplifies the inclusive ideals of our community.

VISION

Shaker Heights Public Library will be indispensable to every member of our community.

VALUES

Community responsiveness
Continuous improvement
Diversity and inclusiveness
Education
Equal access to information
Excellent service
Fair employment
Fiscal responsibility
Intellectual freedom
Lifelong learning
Organizational collaboration
Outstanding employees
Trustworthy information

Adopted by the Shaker Heights Public Library Board of Trustees June 11, 2007.

Library Helps Patrons SCORE

For the past year, the Library has partnered with the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) to help advise people who are interested in starting their own businesses. Last year the library offered 80 consultations; this year the library has already scheduled 50.

Residents interested in this service can call or visit the Main Library and complete a short form. The Library faxes or emails the form to the SCORE office where they match a consultant with the skill set needed for the particular business start-up venture. The consultant contacts the patron for a mutually convenient meeting at the library. SCORE volunteers with many years of business experience offer their advice and guidance, free of charge. While the SCORE volunteers offer their business expertise, librarians research books and Internet resources.

The program has been so well received by SCORE that the organization is considering expanding their partnerships in the Cleveland Heights and South Euclid library systems.

Library Plans Three-Part Abraham Salon

As part of its continued series of "What If?" programming, the Library has planned a three part series entitled, What if Jewish, Christian and Muslim People explored Their Common Roots? The three religions share a common ancestor in Abraham. Using the book, *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths* by Bruce Feiler as a starting point, the Library will host a three-part salon exploring the history of three great religions and their modern relationships.

The first program will begin at 7 pm Wednesday, September 19 at Main Library and will be moderated by Zeki Saritoprak, the Bediuzzaman Said Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies at John Carroll



Saritoprak

University. Dr. Saritoprak earned his B.A. in Divinity, his Master's degree in Islamic Theology and Philosophy and holds a Ph.D. in Islamic Theology (The Science of Kalam) from the University of Marmara, Turkey. He has studied Arabic language and is the Founder and former President of the Rumi Forum for Interfaith Dialogue in Washington, D.C. He has taught at Harran University (Turkey), Georgetown University, the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. and Berry College in Rome, Georgia. Dr. Saritoprak is also the author of several books and academic articles in Turkish, English, and Arabic.

The series will continue at 7 pm Wednesday, October 24 with an exploration of the rituals and celebratory foods of the three faiths, with particular focus on the meanings of the items served at a Passover Sedar, an Easter meal and at Eid ul Fitr, the Muslim festival breaking the fast of Ramadan.

The salon concludes at 7 pm Wednesday, November 14 with a discus-

sion of the book, *The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew — Three Women Search for Understanding*, which documents the experiences of three mothers whose attempt to write a children's book about the commonalities among their religions became complicated by their differences.

For more information about the library's Abraham Salon or to register call the Main Library, 216-991-2030.

Library Partners with Playhouse Square

Shaker Library has formed a partnership with Playhouse Square and will offer discounts to library patrons on its Discovery Theatre series. The collaboration will yield ticket discounts for Shaker residents and a portion of the proceeds collected will be donated to the library to support children's programming.

The Discovery series begins with the musical, *Max and Ruby*, the top-rated television show inspired by Rosemary



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Reader *of the* Month

NANCY KING SMITH

AGE: 61

LIVES IN: Mercer area

USES: Woods Branch

LIKES TO READ: Magazines, fiction, books about the environment, Joy Book Club selections, travel.

ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOOK: *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf

OTHER FAVORITES: *The Kite Runner* (Khaled Hosseini), *Refuge* (Terry Tempest Williams), books by Barbara Kingsolver

DOESN'T LIKE TO READ: Science Fiction, Fantasy

LIBRARY SERVICES: Using the online catalog, especially for obscure books, browsing, and borrowing audiobooks for road trips.

WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LIBRARY: Ability to obtain books from different libraries in the CLEVNET network.

INFLUENCES: Book reviews in magazines and newspapers, recommendations from friends.

OTHER INTERESTS: Kayaking, bicycling, yoga, travel, time with family (especially 14-month old granddaughter) and friends, summers in the Adirondacks

FAMILY: Husband, Kemp Smith, a consultant with Six Sigma; two adult daughters, Kara (SHHS '97) and Haley (SHHS '01).

BRIEF BIO: Smith grew up in California and earned her B.A. from Pomona College. She worked in the National Teacher Corps in Philadelphia, taught elementary school in Schenectady, New York and received her M.S. degree from Goddard College. She served as executive director of the Cleveland Children's Museum and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. Currently, Smith's the Coordinator of the Great Lakes Beaming Bioneers Conference in Cleveland.



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Kids' Corner

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

Free preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for parents or caregivers to explore with their children, ages 0 to 5 years.

10 am–noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6–8 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

No registration required.

PLAY AND LEARN BABIES AT MAIN LIBRARY

A special room filled with literacy-based activities just for babies from 0 to 18 months and their parents or caregivers.

10 am–noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6–8 pm Thursdays

No registration required.

PLAY AND LEARN STATION FOR CAREGIVERS AT MAIN LIBRARY

Preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for caregivers to explore with their children, ages 0 to 5 years old.

10 am–noon Wednesdays

A one-time registration is required; please call Shaker Family Center, 216-921-2023.

PLEASE NOTE: The Play and Learn Station and Play and Learn Babies will be **closed August 25 through August 29.**

BOOK BABIES

Stories, songs, games, and rhymes for one-year-olds with an adult.

Fall Session: September 25–November 14

Babies 12–18 Months old

(Must be 12 mos. old by October 1.)

9:30 am Tuesdays at **Woods Branch**

9:30 am Wednesdays at **Main Library**



continued

Babies 18–24 mos. old. (Must be 18 mos. by October 1.)

10:30 am Wednesdays at

Main Library

10:30 am Tuesdays at **Woods Branch**

In-person registration begins at 9 am, Saturday, September 8 for Shaker Heights City School District residents. Non-residents may call to register beginning Tuesday, September 11.

TODDLERS

Stories, songs and movement for 2-year-olds with an adult. (Must be 2 years old by October 1.)

Fall Session: September 24–

November 15

10 am Mondays or Wednesdays at

Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays or Thursdays at **Main Library**

In-person registration begins at 9 am, Saturday, September 8 for Shaker Heights City School District residents. Non-residents may call Tuesday, September 11 to register.

PRESCHOOL STORIES

Stories and fun for 3-, 4-, & 5-year-olds.

Fall Session: September 10–November 15

10 am & 1:30 pm

Mondays at **Main Library**

1:30 pm Tuesdays or

10 am Thursdays at **Woods Branch**

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

BACK-TO-SCHOOL STORIES

Stories for 3-, 4-, & 5-year-olds told on a big, yellow school bus

10 am Monday, August 13 at **Main Library**. *Registration begins July 30.*

10 am Thursday, August 16 at **Woods Branch**. *Registration begins August 2.*

PAJAMA STORIES AT WOODS BRANCH

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

7:15 pm Monday, September 17.

Registration begins September 4.

MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT AT WOODS BRANCH

Week of September 17 – Make an autumn door hanger to take home.

THE WRITER'S CLUB AT

MAIN LIBRARY

An enriching program for children in grades 2–4 that encourages them to express themselves using their imagination and words. Poetry, creative fiction, writing letters, postcards and newsletters, as well as creating menus and maps are just some of the writing forms that young writers will explore.

Fall Session: September 25–

November 13

4:15 pm Tuesdays. *Registration begins September 11.*

AFTERSCHOOL AUTHORS AT WOODS BRANCH

Read, write, and publish at this series of fun workshops for kids in grades 2–5 who like to write.

Fall Session: September 26–

November 14

4:15 pm Wednesdays. *Registration begins September 12.*

STRANGER DANGER

Shaker Heights Police Department's Jerry Jankowski explains why it's important to be careful around strangers and offers advice on ways to be safe. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children, or they must sign the permission slip (available at the Children's desk) for their children to attend. This program is geared for children in grades K–4.

4:15 pm Tuesday, September 18 at **Woods Branch**. *Registration begins September 4.*

4:15 pm Wednesday, September 19 at **Main Library**. *Registration begins September 5.*

AMERICAN GIRL® DOLLS THROUGH HISTORY

Explore the world of one of the American Girl Dolls. Listen to a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft and enjoy a snack from that doll's time period. The series is geared for children in grades 1–4.

Meet American Girl® Doll Samantha
2–4 pm Friday, October 12 at **Main Library.**

2–4 pm Saturday, October 13 **Woods Branch.**

Registration begins 2 weeks before each program.

PAWS FOR READING

Have you ever read to a dog? Dogs from Buckeye Therapaws will be at the library for four sessions and boys and girls in grades 1–4 can sign up for one 30-minute session or all four. Bring a favorite book from home or select a book at the library and read to a special dog assigned just to you!

2–4 pm Saturday, October 6 or Saturday, October 20 at **Woods Branch.**

2–4 pm Saturday, November 3 or Saturday, November 17 at **Main Library.**

Registration begins 2 weeks before each program.



Well's bunny siblings. Residents who wish to take advantage of the ticket discount and help the library can plan to attend the 2 o'clock program on October 27. Ticket reservation forms are available at the circulation desks and at the children's desks at either library.

Other shows in the series are The Musical Adventure of Flat Stanley in November, The Very Hungry Caterpillar in January and Addy: An American Girl Story in March.

Teen

School starts Tuesday, August 28!

Now's the time to get your Required Summer Reading and Suggested Summer Reading titles from the Shaker Heights Public Library!

T.A.B. (Teen Advisory Board) MEETING AT MAIN LIBRARY

7:30–8:15 pm Tuesday, September 18

Calling all teens in grades 7 to 10 who live or go to school in Shaker. Bring your creativity and ideas to help with programming, suggest contests, select prizes and help with library events. Meet people you might not otherwise meet! Monthly meetings are held from 7:30–8:15 pm during the school year at the Main Library. Teens earn community service hours, too. Bring your special interests and talents to light at the library. Applications are available at either library. For more information, contact Audrey Leventhal, 216-991-2030 extension 3186 or email her at aleventhal@shakerlibrary.org.

TEEN ANIME CLUB AT WOODS BRANCH

3:30–4:30 pm

Thursday, September 20

First Meeting of the new Teen Anime Club!



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Local History Corner

Big things are happening in the little Moreland Room at the Main Library – home of the Local History Collection. This summer the Library is augmenting its ongoing collaboration with Cleveland State University's Special Collections Department by becoming one of four remote access sites cataloging and entering material into their Cleveland Memory website and database. Over the next several months the Library will add additional digital images into the Shaker Heights Public Library Photograph Collection, which can be viewed at <http://www.clevelandmemory.org/shakerheights/>.

Local History librarian, Meghan Hays, continues to index 130 rolls of microfilm of house plans that the City gave the Library. Most of the plans are for houses built in the mid 1940s and beyond. She is also busy organizing several boxes of old class photographs and other materials that had been warehoused in closets in the Fernway School PTO room. Some of the photographs date back to the 1920s.

Fernway alumni, who wish to help identify classmates from the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s for our records, can contact the Local History Librarian to arrange for a time to view the photographs. Additionally, schools, PTOs, community and neighborhood organizations with old materials are urged to consider donating them to the Library's Local History Collection where they will be organized, cared for, and made available to the public.

Volunteers are always welcome! If you have a good sense of organization, a love of history, and a few hours of time each week, please contact the Local History Librarian at localhistory@shakerlibrary.org or call 216-367-3016.

New additions to the Local History collection of books by Shaker authors include:

Donald Cozzens, *Freeing Celibacy*. Collegeville, MN: The Order of Saint Benedict, 2006.

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David Pogue (SHHS Class of 1981), *Windows Vista for Starters: The Missing Manual*. Sebastopol, CA: Pogue Press/O'Reilly, 2007.

Valentina Sgro (SHHS Class of 1973), *Patience and the Porsche*. Cleveland: Green Square Publishing, 2007.

Fall Book Discussions Are Scheduled: Readers Wanted

Book Discussions resume in September and the Reflections Book Discussion group, led by Janis Williams, is seeking new members. The group meets at Main Library from noon to 2 pm on the second Saturday of each month and light refreshments are served. The first meeting of the new season will be held September 8 to discuss Augusta Trobaugh's charming mystery, *The Tea-Olive Bird Watching Society*, about a group of genteel Southern ladies who bird watch, bake, and bump off an

abusive judge.

The Second Tuesday Book Discussion Group, led by Lynda Thomas, resumes at 10 am Tuesday, September 11 at the Main Library. The theme for the first seven of these monthly sessions is Women in Culture, and readers will explore a variety of books that portray women in Afghanistan, Africa, India, China and the United States. The first book in the series is *Women of the Silk* by Gail Tsukiyama.

Monday afternoons at 2 pm at Woods Branch, Kim DeNero-Ackroyd leads an afternoon book discussion. The book to be discussed on September 10 is Kiran Desiri's novel, *The Inheritance of Loss*.

Mystery Book Discussions are led by Peter Brown and meet at 7:30 pm the second Tuesday of the month at the Main Library. The September 11 selection is *Still Life* by Louise Penny, a mystery about a hunting accident - or was it a murder - and whodunit?

Tuesday Evening Book Discussions are led by Janis Williams and are held at 7:30 pm the last Tuesday of the month at the

Main Library. The September 25 discussion features Sara Gruen's book, *Water for Elephants*, a story about love and loss set under a Depression-era circus tent.

If business is your bag, Ed Rossman leads book discussions on popular business topics every other month at 7:30 pm the first Wednesday at the Main Library. The book for September 5 is *The Winning Spirit: 16 Timeless Principles That Drive Performance Excellence*. Authors Joe Montana, Tim Mitchell and Bruce Henderson reveal their secrets to success on and off the fields.

Register and pick up books at the library where the discussions will be held.

Free Computer Classes

There are no Computer classes during the month of August. Free classes resume in September and highlights include Job Hunting Online and How to Build a Web

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Page. Registration is on a first-sign-first-served basis and begins on the Monday of the week before the class. There are no waiting lists and the only prerequisite for the introductory classes is skill using the mouse. Unless otherwise noted, please call the Main Library Computer Center at 216-991-2030 ext. 3185 to register on the dates indicated.

MOUSE CLASS

10-11 am Wednesday, September 5
(REGISTRATION BEGINS AUGUST 27)
New to the computer? Learn how to use the mouse.

INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS

4-5:30 pm Wednesday, September 5
(Registration begins August 27.)

Learn how to work with Microsoft's database program to build databases, enter information into a data table and generate queries and reports.

INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL

4-5:30 pm Friday, September 7
(Registration begins August 27)

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

BASIC WORD PROCESSING

10-11:30 am Saturday, September 8

Learn how to format documents using Microsoft Word software. Participants must be able to use the mouse. Registration begins August 27.

WORKING WITH WINDOWS

6:30-8 pm Monday, September 10
10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 11
(Registration begins September 3.)

Learn how Windows works! This class is designed for those who can navigate the Internet and work with programs, but are not comfortable using multiple windows. Participants must be able to use the mouse.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

GOOGLEMANIA™

4-5:30 pm Wednesday, September 12
(Registration begins September 3.)

Learn advanced Internet searching strategies using the Google™ search engine, including tips and tricks for finding better information more quickly and more efficiently.

GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT

6:30-8 pm Monday, September 17
(Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext 3156 beginning September 10.)

Learn how to create effective PowerPoint presentations using clip art, Word Art, and digital pictures.

MAIL MERGE

10-11:30 am Tuesday, September 18
(Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext 3156 beginning September 10.)

Mail Merge utilizes list and address information from many sources, like Word tables, Excel sheets, and Access Data Tables. Explore them all – and more.

ONLINE JOB HUNTING

6:30-8 pm Wednesday, September 19
(Registration begins September 10.)

A major obstacle in job searching online is information overload as there are hundreds of websites. This class will help acquaint you with Internet and computer skills to help in your job search. Learn about useful features that good Internet job sites should have, how to avoid scams and websites that might waste your time, and discover sites to help you create resumes and practice for job interviews! We will also review local job online resources and offer tips for investigating local companies.

HOW TO BUILD A WEB PAGE

10-11:30 am Thursday, September 20
(Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext. 3156 beginning September 10.)

continued

library news

This 90-minute class explores HTML, the language used to create many of the web pages found on the Internet. Participants must be able to use the mouse and have basic keyboarding skills.

CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL

4-5:30 pm Friday, September 21

(Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext. 3156 beginning September 10.)

Explore the ways Excel can display data as charts and graphs, and learn the basic ways data can be charted.

ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT

6:30-8 pm Monday, September 24

Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext 3156 beginning September 17.)

Everything in a slide, including text boxes, can be animated to some extent. Learn the important objects that can be put into a slide and the menus that control them.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

SCAMS AND SPAM

4-5:30 pm Wednesday, September 26

(Register by calling Walter Lesch at 216-991-2030 ext 3156 beginning September 17.)

Criminals and thieves use the Internet to bilk people out of money and to get their personal information. In addition to these scams, more than half of all email traffic is composed of unsolicited bulk commercial email called SPAM. Learn the scams to help recognize and avoid them.

WEB EMAIL

10-11:30 am Saturday, September 29

(Registration begins September 17.)

Learn how to set up free e-mail accounts and how to send and receive messages. Participants must be able to use the mouse and navigate websites and type URLs.



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The newly elected officers for the Friends 2007–2008 term are:

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Michael Davis,

Vice President/Book Sales

Tim Burke, Vice President/Book Sales

Jacquelyn Challener,

Recording Secretary

Joyce Chappelle, Secretary

Karen LaJoe, Treasurer

Friends of the Shaker Library is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the library and its programming. 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 wish.

The Friends unveiled new tote bags and ceramic mugs at their Annual Ice Cream Social at Woods Branch. The red and black, zippered tote bags are made of a durable yet lightweight fabric and sell for \$6 each (\$5 for Friends members). The ceramic mugs are white and sell for \$5 each (\$4 for Friends members). Both are imprinted with the Friends' new Shhhhhaker design and are available at the Circulation desks at both libraries.

Endnotes

• Summer Knit Nights at Woods will be held 7–8:45 pm Thursdays, August 9 and September 20. The drop-in sessions are led by experienced knitter, Fern Braverman. Residents interested in joining the group to get or give help with a project are welcome.

• Watch free first-run movies at the Main Library thanks to the Friends of the Shaker Library, which funds the movie licensing rights. Movies are shown at 6:30 pm Thursdays August 2, 16 and September 6 and 20.

• View the artwork of Kate Uhlir on the Main Library art gallery wall through August 10. Uhlir paints and teaches senior citizens in the ENCORE Program at Cuyahoga Community College East and at the Cleveland Heights Community Center. Uhlir writes a regular feature for the arts publication, *Artist Review Today*.

• The art of Alexandra Brin will be featured on the Main Library art wall from August 20 through September 28. Information about each artist and each exhibit is available at the Main Library. All art work is available for sale, and a small portion of the sales benefits the library.

• The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Main Library 3–7 pm Monday, August 13.

• Rick Santich of MotoPhoto and Portrait Studio presents a Digital Photography Workshop at 7 pm Tuesday, August 14 at the Main Library. Residents can register at Main Library.

• The Library Board meets on Monday, September 10 in the Main Library Boardroom.

• The Library's annual Constitution Read Aloud cosponsored with the DAR Moses Cleaveland Chapter will be held at 2 pm Sunday, September 16 at the Main Library. Local celebrities and elected officials will read the Constitution. Want to join the read aloud? Call the Main Library, 216-991-2030.

• The Library received two awards for its public relations materials from the American Library Association at its annual meeting in Washington, DC. The library's book discussion brochures and its book, *Silver Apples of the Moon: Art and Poetry*, were cited for excellence. ■

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born in the

fifties

Shaker's "younger" homes offer flexibility for today's families, including empty-nesters looking for one-floor living.

BY BETH FRIEDMAN-ROMELL

PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO



The Cannons' 1954 Mercer area home (previous pages).
A new bath is part of the first floor master suite.

The word “diversity” describes more than the composition of Shaker’s population – it also applies to the City’s varied housing stock. While many fine Shaker homes were built prior to World War II, many others – about 2,500 single-family homes – are post-war designs, featuring such convenient amenities as master bathrooms, attached garages, first-floor laundry rooms, and central air. Many families are discovering how these homes can fit perfectly with the diverse stages of their lives.

Margaret and George Cannon have experienced over a century of housing styles in their successive Shaker residences. Their first, a charming 1846 Western Reserve two-bedroom farmhouse on Fairmount Boulevard, was a cozy abode for a young family. A move to a 1917 South Park carriage house provided space, grace, and an in-ground swimming pool for their teenage daughter, Sarah (a 2004 Shaker Heights High School graduate). Two years ago, the empty-nesters found the perfect home for their changing needs in a well-proportioned 1954 colonial on a double lot in the Mercer neighborhood.



the Cannons

Both Margaret and George, a retired principal of Fernway Elementary School, say they love Shaker’s housing, schools, walkability, strong sense of community, and access to area businesses and the Rapid. “It’s a very inviting way to live,” comments Margaret. Nevertheless, Realtor Liz Nuechterlein encouraged them to look at “every possibility” in the eastern suburbs, including townhomes and condos, when they were house-hunting.

“We wanted to plan for the future,” explains Margaret, who serves as law director for Shaker Heights and Beachwood, and is a partner in the firm of Schottenstein, Zox, and Dunn. “We were looking for a home in which it would be possible to live entirely on one floor, should the need arise.”

The Cannons knew they’d found their next home as soon as they stepped in to the wood and stone house adjacent to the Shaker Rapid. There was plenty of living and storage space, good traffic flow, a large yard, and a recently updated kitchen. The original tile and fixtures in the home’s four bathrooms were also in excellent condition. The Cannons decided to purchase the home and renovate part of the main floor to accommodate



The Cannon home dining area.

Young Residence Roundup

Of the 9,368 total dwellings in Shaker Heights, 3,720 were built after 1944, according to the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office. The breakdown:

1 FAMILY	2,539
2 FAMILY	188
CONDO	993

their desire for one-floor living.

This project wasn't too daunting for George, a third-generation carpenter whose "retirement" is occupied with his business, called The Club House Custom Woodworking. While outside contractors performed the majority of construction work, George provided most of the woodworking and trim.

The Cannons "completely gutted" two bathrooms and a den to create a new first-floor master suite. Their bedroom features a fabulous view of the newly landscaped back yard from a set of bay windows, which they added. George's handiwork is in evidence in the capacious walk-in closet with his-and-hers built-ins.

George says his favorite room is the bright and airy master bath, which provides a large walk-in shower with bench, sunken tub, marble double vanity and separate water closet. Thus the east wing of the main floor is a private retreat.

Little structural work was needed in the combined living room/dining room area, tastefully decorated in blues and reds. From George's beautifully crafted cherry and birdseye maple dining room set, guests enjoy a screened-in fireplace and another great view of the yard, which is accessible from the living room.

The new glass doors lead to a large stone patio, where the Cannons entertain. A new fountain, a group of mature trees, Japanese maples, rhododendrons, and other plantings installed by Abate Landscaping "keep the inside focus outside year round," Margaret says.

Previously, access to a small patio was through the so-called Florida room, adjacent to the dining room. "It used to have a built-in brick grill and vent," George says, "but the first time we tried to use it, we could smell the burgers for four days afterwards." Out it went. The cheery room, which features two walls of windows and a hand-made Mexican tile floor, now serves as George's study.

While tasteful paint and wallpapering, quality construction, and elegant furnishings give the home a timeless feel, they've retained a fun 1950s flavor in the bathrooms and basement rec room. The bathrooms were in great shape, so decorator Debbie Latson searched long and hard to find wallpapers that would coordinate with the '50s color schemes.

In the basement, the Cannons replaced kelly green carpeting with linoleum tiles, a '50s-era product that is also environmentally friendly. The red and beige diagonal checkerboard pattern fits perfectly in the casual rec room, which has exercise equipment and a TV area. In the corner, a gleaming red and chrome grill from a 1939 Ford convertible attests to George's other passion, restoring antique cars.

The Cannons have loved each of their Shaker homes in different ways. "This is our community, our home. As we looked around at other places, we realized how much we value Shaker," concludes Margaret.

Marvelous Mercer Makeover

"I can always tell a George Burrows house," Nancy Barnett remarks, relaxing in her stylishly renovated kitchen. Like so many of her Mercer-area neighbors, Nancy and her husband, Bill, are drawn to such Burrows architectural trademarks as large paneled dens, first-floor laundry rooms, and eat-in kitchens.

But after 17 years in their home, the Barnetts and their three teenaged children felt they needed better flow and organization in their living space.

"We looked around for a bigger home, but didn't really find anything we liked, so we decided to renovate," Nancy explains.

From August through November 2004, the Barnetts lived on cereal and grilled food while Cleveland Tile and Cabinet transformed their kitchen, laundry, and powder room — all without changing the footprint of the house. They are thrilled



the Barnetts



The Barnetts' newly-renovated laundry room.





The Barnetts' kitchen features granite countertops, white cabinetry, and stainless steel appliances.



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Do You Live in a Burrows Home?

After the Van Sweringen brothers, Cleveland native George H. Burrows (1893-1970) probably has had more impact on the architecture of Shaker Heights than anyone else. His career as an architect spanned 50 years, resulting in the construction of about 1,000 homes and commercial properties in Shaker Heights. He was proud to live and work in the community he helped so much to shape.

Burrows' styles included Tudor Revival, English/Arts-and-Crafts Cottage, Colonial Revival/Georgian, and Modern/Split Level. His work is characterized by fine traditional materials, interior built-ins, and, in the post-World War II houses, split-level floors and attached garages.

Burrows also designed numerous finely detailed two-family homes, which were designed to look like single family residences, such as the gracious examples found on Winslow Road.

Burrows' commercial projects include many buildings on the south side of Chagrin Boulevard between Lee and Avalon roads. He designed bowling alleys, shopping centers, and several theaters, including the (now demolished) Kinsman-Lee Theatre. His split-level apartment design, found in examples on Van Aken Boulevard between South Woodland and Drexmore roads near Shaker Square, received a patent.

A comprehensive list of Burrows' Shaker Heights projects is available at shakeronline.com.

with the new bright, open, floor plan designed by Leo Shiekh.

The sleek, streamlined kitchen features black and tan granite countertops, white cabinetry, and stainless steel appliances (including a trash compactor that reduces their waste by half). A combination of recessed and pendant fixtures provides both task and general lighting. Soft gray walls and a handsome hardwood floor warm up the space. The island/breakfast bar seats up to six and serves as “a cool place for hanging out with friends and family,” Bill says. He enjoys listening to music piped in through their new speaker system. Bill plays bass in a local band when he’s not on the job as Vice President and General Counsel for State Industrial Products.

It’s clear that Nancy, who interprets and teaches sign at Cuyahoga Community College and Shaker’s Early Childhood Education Center, is mad for organization – everything has its place in the gleaming kitchen.

“I have so much cabinet space that some are empty,” she marvels. Nancy values the full-extension drawers, built-in wine rack, under-island storage and more – there’s even a shelf for her eclectic teapot collection.

Notably absent, however, is the task desk so commonly found in today’s kitchen remodels. A razor thin laptop and monitor rests atop the island, near a rear window.

“I fought that really hard,” Nancy admits, “but I use it all the time. The designer said, ‘You will always sit by the window. Nobody wants to look at a wall.’ I have a desk upstairs and I never use it.”

Organization remains a priority in the revamped laundry adjoining the garage. An entire wall is devoted to cupboards, cubbies, and hooks for the active clan’s

continued on page 58

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The Twain Have Met

In the 21st Century, China and other Asian nations are emerging as political, cultural, and economic superpowers. The Shaker schools are moving aggressively – in the classroom and through travel – to prepare students for this new reality. **BY NANCY O'CONNOR**

There was **silence** at China's Great Wall
after the Shaker Heights High School
Marching Band finished playing.

“At first, we wondered if maybe the audience wasn't pleased,” recalls bass drummer Allison Lanese. “But then we learned that the people did enjoy the concert, but that clapping just isn't a Chinese tradition.”

Lanese was one of 200 Shaker High band members who traveled to China with nearly 200 more band directors, teachers, and parent chaperones this spring. The cultural lesson in no-hands-clapping was just one of many that the contingent would learn during their adventure.

The 2006-07 school year could fairly be called The Year of Asia for the Shaker schools. The year saw the 20th anniversary of the High School's interdisciplinary Asian Studies program and the introduction of Mandarin Chinese classes, as well as the band's historic trip. It's all part of a concerted effort to prepare students for a world in which China and other Asian nations will be dominant players.

“China is an emerging world power that we read about in the news every day,” says Adrian Pocaro, associate director of bands. “It's opening its doors to the West through various cultural exchange programs and, of course, through the 2008 Beijing Olympics, so we decided that this would be a great opportunity for the students.”

The marching band played at “four fantastic venues,” says Pocaro. “Our first performance was on the Great Wall, one of the most famous spots on the planet. In some locations, such as Wang Fuming Street in Beijing, we were the first musical group to perform in 15 years, by our understanding. Our performance on Nanjing Road in Shanghai was complemented by a simulcast on two jumbotrons.”

The final performance was a concert for the Shanghai Foreign Language School. “It was a wonderful opportunity to build relations between the Shaker students and those at our sister school,” Pocaro says. The band played jazz, pop, and traditional marches, but the musical pieces most popular with the Chinese audiences were movie themes such as “My Heart Will Go On” from *Titanic*.

Shaker is one of only four school districts in Ohio to have hosted a Chinese teacher through a state-supported exchange program. Better yet, she is staying for a second year to keep building the program.

“We also played a Chinese folk piece arranged by Band Director Tom Deep entitled ‘Colored Cloud Chases Moon’ that was a big hit with the audiences,” Pocaro says.

“The Shaker band members were magnificent ambassadors during the whole course of the trip,” Pocaro reports. “They behaved professionally at all times and really impressed the audiences wherever they were, whether or not they were performing. To this day, we are hearing about how well the students represented the Shaker community – and our nation.”

Eleven of the band members enjoyed a distinct advantage on the trip, especially when it came to bargaining in the Chinese marketplaces. They were students from the high school’s inaugural Mandarin Chinese class taught by Li Luling, a visiting instructor from China.

“The shopkeepers were shocked when my American students could negotiate prices in Chinese,” says Li, who accompanied the students on the trip. Four of her students wrote about their travel experiences in essays that ran in both Chinese and English in *The Erie Chinese Journal*, a regional newspaper serving Chinese communities in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

This year, Li will teach both first- and second-year courses in Mandarin, China’s official language, and assist school officials in phasing in elementary-level programming about the Chinese language and culture.

Before coming to the U.S. through a program run by Hanban, a Chinese government agency dedicated to promoting the Chinese language worldwide, Li taught English at Beijing’s Hubei International School. She admits to being homesick when



The Mok family: Jen, John, Alex, and Chris. **The Goldfarb sisters** (at right) from left: Stephanie, Samantha, and Victoria. **Shaker High** Mandarin teacher Li Luling (opposite page).

PHOTOS BY KEVIN G. REEVES



she first arrived in Shaker Heights in August 2006, but she has come to love the community.

"Not just a new country, and new education system, but this was also the first time out of my country." Jim Paces, Shaker's director of curriculum, "has been like an American dad to me." For the most part, she has been able to adjust to American lifestyles, educational practices, and even driving. (But she still can't stomach cheese.)

Among the students eager to take Li's course were the Goldfarb sisters – twins Samantha and Victoria, now sophomores, and Stephanie, now a freshman at Yale – who share a penchant for foreign languages and were delighted at the chance to add Chinese to their repertoire. The three found Li's love for her culture infectious and enjoyed the challenge of studying a language built on pictures and symbols rather than a

familiar alphabet.

"We also learned so much about the country of China," says Samantha. "We studied Chinese holidays and traditions and learned about their foods and other everyday-life things."

Brothers Alex and Christopher Mok also enrolled in the class at the urging of their mother, Jen, a native of China who hoped to further her sons' interest in their heritage as well as their ability to converse with her in Chinese at home.

Alex, now a University of Wisconsin freshman, found it helpful "to be in an environment in which we could hear and speak the language more frequently." Both sons, Jen says, "are now more willing to talk with me in Chinese. I'm very happy!"

According to Jim Paces, who has been instrumental in expanding the district's Asian programming, Shaker is one of only four school districts in Ohio to have

"The international population in Shaker Heights reflects the sort of experience that we want to provide our students. We want to expand their international perspectives and understandings."

– Jim Paces

continued on page 43



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The lights of ultramodern Shanghai.
PHOTO BY TOM ABELSON.

Shaker Student Musicians, Here, There, and Everywhere

Over the past decade, Shaker student musicians have performed in England, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Italy, and Spain. The trips sponsored by the music and art departments are but one aspect of the District's efforts to foster international travel and exchange.

For nearly 30 years, Shaker has had a strong student and faculty exchange program with the Ratsgymnasium in Goslar, Germany. The school also has exchanges with schools in England, Russia, Japan, Mexico, France, and China. In addition, the High School annually hosts international students for a full-year stay through organizations such as American Field Service.

These experiences, along with courses in world languages, history, and economics, are intended to broaden students' understanding of different cultures and their role as citizens of the world.



SHHS Asian Studies Specialist
Terry Pollack in his home. PHOTO BY KEVIN G. REEVES.

The Art in Asian Studies

“Asia is half the world and all of time,” says Marjorie Williams, the Cleveland Museum of Art’s Director of Education and Public Programs and co-founder of Shaker High’s Asian Studies program.

The Museum’s world-renowned collection of Asian art is comprehensive in scope and geography. It encompasses works of art from China, Japan, Korea, India, Central Asia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Nepal, Kashmir, and Tibet, from the Neolithic to the 20th century.

“All art is an embodiment of culture, history, people, and inventions,” Williams says. “The cultures in Asia are among the most continuous surviving cultures in the world. The religious systems and philosophies have spread beyond the geographical boundaries to other countries and cultures.”

For more information on the collection, visit www.clevelandart.org or call 216-421-7350.

hosted a foreign teacher last year through a state-supported exchange program. This year, Li will be joined by two more Chinese instructors. Moreover, the Shaker Heights School District has been selected by the state to pilot an elementary curriculum beginning in 2008-09.

Superintendent Mark Freeman points out that “The addition of two more teachers, courtesy of The College Board, will enable us to reach beyond the high school and begin developing introductory Chinese language and culture programs at the elementary and middle school levels.”

Shaker has enjoyed key advantages when pursuing grants and competing with other districts to obtain native-speaking teachers.

“We had a lot to build on, with our Asian Studies program and Japanese exchange already firmly in place,” Paces says, “Consequently, we were positioned to ramp up quickly with the Chinese exchange and language program when the opportunities became available.”

Some 40-50 high schoolers routinely enroll in Asian Studies, the year-long, interdisciplinary course offered in conjunction with the Cleveland Museum of Art and Beachwood High School. Focusing on China and Japan in alternate years, the course explores each country’s history, politics, culture, and art. Students usually meet on Wednesday evenings and take advantage of the museum’s outstanding Asian art collection with monthly class trips. (While the museum undergoes renovation, instructors are bringing the lessons to the students at their

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Band members on Tiananmen Square, looking at the Forbidden City (from left): Kristen Sinicariello, Sophia Bellin-Warren, Ellie Seitz, Erin Bozarth, Lauren Holloway, Loren Shatten and Harold Erkins. PHOTO BY RICK HORVATH.

The Small Mall

BY RITA KUEBER PHOTOS BY MARC GOLUB

The City's oldest shopping center has found new life with caring tenants who put Shaker first.

It's probably safe to say that most people who drive by the compact retail space at Warrensville Center and Almar roads in the Mercer neighborhood have never been inside any of the six businesses housed there, if they even notice the building at all – despite its handsome matching green awnings and tidy window boxes.

The Almar Building, as it's known in the neighborhood – and it really is an old-fashioned neighborhood place – is home to old-fashioned sorts of businesses: a dry cleaner, a florist, a barbershop (which actually calls itself a barbershop and intends to remain such), a gift shop, a beauty salon, and a restaurant/deli.

Merrill Sands, the 83-year-old son of the building's late long-time owner, Joseph M. Sands, says that years ago the City gave the building an historic places designation, but he, or anyone else, does not know what happened to the plaque, and he doesn't remember the building ever having a formal name.

The Almar Building is used for convenience in this story, and as a small tribute to a family of early Shaker residents. William Kehres owned a farm at the corner of Kinsman and Warrensville Center Road, and when the farm was subdivided, two streets were named for his daughters, Helen and Alma. Years later, when Alma's husband was a Shaker Heights councilman, he added his wife's middle initial "R" to the street, because he knew she didn't like her name.

City records show that the structure was designed and built in 1926 by the firm Morris & Weinberg. It cost \$12,000. Architect Charles Morris helped design the Cuyahoga County Courthouse before going into partnership with Joseph Weinberg. The firm's best known work is Belle-faire, the childrens social service agency on Fairmount Boulevard, dedicated in 1929.

Shaker's population exploded during the 1920s, from 1,800 residents in 1920 to 18,000 by 1930. Photos taken in the early '30s, when Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen were developing the land near the Almar Building, show huge empty tracts surrounding narrow two-lane roads. "It was pretty much a moonscape," says Sabine Kretzschmar, executive director of the Shaker Historical Society and Museum.

Shaker Heights finally was incorporated as a municipality in 1930 under Mayor William Van Aken, who apparently wanted to tear down the Almar Building and use the lot for multiple family living. He had already signed the re-zoning documents as early as 1927, only a year after the building was put up. But the building was already housing retail businesses, so the City apparently backed off the re-zoning.

Originally there were just three stores, all in what is now J. Pistone. The building was soon acquired by Joseph Sands, a principal in the Sands Manufacturing Company, which made hot water heaters at its factory at E. 55th and Broadway. According to Joseph's son, Merrill, his father took ownership sometime in



Sgro's Barbershop owner Trish Sgro and her father Joe.



the mid-1930s.

“Father, over a period of time, would pick up pieces of property left over from an original purchase by rather large companies, like Forest City,” Sands says. “He’d follow them around a bit and buy something adjacent. He was a big believer in development. He had parcels all over the city and sold almost all of them.”

After Joe Sands died in the early 1960s, the Almar Building went into a bank trust. Rumors swirled: The bank wanted to erect condominiums in place of the building; the bank wasn’t maintaining the building despite tenants’ complaints and that Shaker Heights forced the bank to make repairs.

The only solid information in City records indicates that permits were filed in 1955 for storefront work, 1967 for storefront and interior remodeling, 1976 for exterior remodeling, and in 1997 for work on the parapet wall, restoring the façade with its brick-and-scroll stone work, bringing it closer to its original appearance. The current tenants pay rent to Sharon Arslanian, part of the family famous for their expertise in the care and cleaning of oriental rugs.

Arslanian purchased the building in 2005 as an investment, but also out of love for the building itself.

“The shops are so charming,” she says. “I manage the property myself and I just love going there. The owners of the shops are all really good people. They’re all small business owners, really the backbone of this country. We try to support them, and we enjoy every one of them.”

Sgro’s Barbershop

Joe Sgro, founder of Sgro’s Barbershop, recalls being told that in the mid-1930s the building housed Shaker Market and a barbershop. The barber, Alex Kish, apparently lived with his mother in the building’s basement apartment. An antique bathtub is still down there. Kish also worked as a night watchman at Republic Steel.

Then in 1962, a barber named Nick Randazzo moved his shop from Harvard Road and joined with Kish. But the regular business hours interfered with Kish’s sleep, so he moved out. Sgro bought the business in 1982. Randazzo and another barber, Charlie Conforto, stayed on for 14 and 12 years respectively. Today, Joe’s daughter Trish owns and operates the shop.

Arithmetic tells us that the space has been a barbershop for roughly 75 years, give or take a couple of years. Merrill Sands continues to get his hair cut at Sgro’s.

Trish Sgro has a vision. She wants to keep a family-friendly, no-appointment-necessary, reasonably priced barbershop so that “the art of the barber” remains alive and well.

The new floor she recently installed is deliberately retro, and she’s keeping the old barber chairs. She just commissioned a stained glass window for the shop, commemorating the founding of Sgro’s in 1964. She hands a visitor a price list from a salon at a local mall. “Do you believe those prices?” she says laughing. “Why fight male DNA? Men aren’t fooled. They don’t need ‘treatments’ to look good.”

Z Studio

Z Studio is part retail, part studio. The space that housed interior designer Mildred Thomas for decades is still a creative and colorful place. After a career in television, owner David Zieleniec built a business that includes textile and jewelry design, retail and wholesale. Between consulting for private clients and frequent trips to Turkey to purchase stones, he opened Z Studio in 2005.

"It's not a normal retail space because part of my collection of textiles and African art is on the walls, but not for sale," he says. Still, Z Studio aims for regular hours and either Zieleniec or his store manager is there Tuesday through Saturday.





A.J. Heil Florist

Jeremy Rettger has owned A. J. Heil Florist since 2005. The shop is a full-service florist with three employees. A.J. Heil is a well-known name to generations of Shaker residents. The store has been in business since 1940. Its original location was at Shaker Square, above a bowling alley. A fire there caused the storage cases to fall through the buckled floors onto the lanes.

But all's well that ends well. "This is a great building with lots of character," Rettger says. "I think our plaza has a great little dynamic."



In Style and Barri Lee

Gloria di Franco has been the owner of In Style for five years, although she's worked there for 20. Before she bought the shop, it was called Hair Happening. In Style's client base is "friends and their families."

"We've had families coming to us for years," di Franco says. "They brought their children, who are now bringing their own children to us. I always loved this spot and it's a joy to own it now."

Plato Anton, owner of Barri Lee Cleaners, owns eight dry cleaning stores around Greater Cleveland. He has been in the business since 1954 when he opened Michelle Cleaners, which has three stores on the East Side.

"We had this little French poodle named Michelle," he says "Dry cleaning was invented in France, so we wanted to tie into that." He purchased Barri Lee in 1978 and simply kept the name.

Barri Lee Cleaners handles everything from shirts to table linens and drapes, and uses an exclusive cleaning process called Sanitone. Anton is one of only two cleaners in Cleveland qualified to use the process, which he says is endorsed by leading clothing manufacturers.

The actual dry cleaning takes place in Richmond Heights, but for 20 years the store in the Almar Building has been a handy drop-off and pick-up point for the neighborhood. Home delivery is available too.

"This shopping strip is like the good old days, when there used to be a little store of some sort every two or three blocks in a residential area," Anton says. "Our clients really like the convenience – and we merchants do our part to keep it looking good."

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John Pistone and his sister Joan Pistone.

J. Pistone Market and Gathering Place

J. Pistone fills its 3,000 square feet with tempting homemade dishes from main courses through desserts. Co-owner Joan Pistone grew up in the neighborhood and always liked the building. After running a downtown restaurant for 28 years, the family decided to try something different – to offer high-quality food to take home.

She describes the business as about 60 percent catering and 40 percent in-store sales, with clients all over Shaker, from businesses along Chagrin Boulevard to neighbors stopping by for lunch or dinner.

“Cooking is time-consuming,” Pistone says, “We make whole meals, but many people come in just for side dishes – roasted vegetables, or the rice or starch dishes.”

Most days the 40 seats inside and 30 on the patio are filled at lunchtime. Joan keeps fresh plantings and pansies in the window boxes. She remarks that many past ‘improvements’ in the

space were anything but. The front windows were covered up for years, when there was a small grocery market there. “When we exposed the windows I was shocked at the beauty of the store,” she says. “It’s one of our biggest selling points. I think it’s the prettiest building in Shaker.” ■



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Q&A PHOTOS BY JANET CENTURY

Sam Miller, co-chairman and treasurer of Forest City Enterprises, is a long-time Shaker Heights resident and one of Greater Cleveland's most prominent businessmen and philanthropists. Forest City, founded in 1921, is arguably the most important real estate development company in Northeast Ohio and one of the largest in America, with about \$9 billion in assets and offices coast to coast.

Earlier this year, the 85-year-old Miller generated considerable media buzz when, during a passionate speech at an Inside Business magazine luncheon at Landerhaven, he announced his intention to personally finance a regional discussion of how governments in Cuyahoga County can be reorganized in order to improve economic development and stop what Miller sees as a serious brain drain.

Regionalism means different things to different people, which is one reason it has not progressed too far over the years. In its purest form, regionalism means one governmental system for the entire county, all services, police, fire, and schools rolled into one. In a far less radical form, it might mean some cooperative joint ventures, like joint emergency dispatch, which is already underway in some jurisdictions. Miller favors the more radical path. While such a form of government may never supplant Cuyahoga County's myriad communities, the impetus of his initiative may pave the way for significant progress.

More important, he wants to put a mechanism in place to implement such a reorganization. But there are no concrete details, as yet, on what this consolidated county government would look like. The only near certainty is that the Cuyahoga County suburbs and the city of Cleveland itself would lose much of their autonomy under whatever system is finally voted on.

But that's the idea. Miller calls Cleveland and its suburbs as they are now a "welfare system for public officials." Hundreds of politicians would be out of work if his effort is successful. That being the case, Miller acknowledges that igniting the tinder of such a revolution will be far from easy.



Sam Miller and long-time executive assistant Eleanor Fanslau, have worked together for more than 50 years.

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Not surprisingly, his challenge is the talk of the town. And with his pledge of \$2 million to seed the movement, Miller is being taken very seriously by many politicians and community leaders of every stripe.

Miller sees this as his legacy to the city and region he loves. He titled his Landerhaven speech "Everyone Wants To Go To Heaven, But No One Wants to Die." Shaker Life talked to him about his controversial vision at his office at Tower City Center in downtown Cleveland.

How long have you lived in Shaker Heights?

Oh, about 40 years, almost half of my lifetime.

Where are you originally from?

I grew up in the slums at East 61st and Kinsman. My father was a junk man and we had a blind horse. I was the only white kid in Woldridge Elementary School. I never even heard of Shaker Heights in those days. The furthest I went from home as a kid was old Luna Park on Woodland. Radio was just beginning. People didn't get around the way they do today. Nobody in my neighborhood had any idea that Shaker Heights existed.

What brought you to Shaker?

I had four kids, and the Shaker school system was a nationally known treasure. In fact, you could travel anywhere in the country and everyone knew of Shaker Heights. It is one of the great suburbs in America.

Your speech at Landerhaven caused quite a stir.

It's too bad that it was left to me to do this. As I said, I'm 85. It's obvious that things in Cleveland are not going well, and it's been like this for some time. You'd think that the city's political leaders would have sensed something was wrong when young people started moving away.

I'll put my own money into it. At 85, I don't know whether I'll be around next week. I walked through The Plain Dealer the other day and the obituary writer gave me her card. What does that tell you? No, the need to do this is not about Sam Miller. It's for young people and their families and their kids. It's about whether they want a future or live in deepening stagnation.

How do you fix things?

We have entirely too much government in the county. We are spending \$3 billion on government and we can no longer afford to do that. We have nearly 60 different governmental entities in the county. We have nearly 500 elected officials and all the bureaucracy and costs that go along with that.



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Can't some of this be rectified by a regional approach to functions such as police and fire?

There is a lot of talk of consolidating those services under what they are calling regionalism. I don't think that is the answer. That will take too long and the politicians will hide behind regionalism and call it progress. We need to change the county government.

Look, change is not going to come from the top. We have allowed government to get bloated. It is the only growth industry in the region. What's worse is that government is not working for the people that elected it. Instead of creating jobs with an economy that grows and prospers, we've created a welfare system for public officials. Change is going to have to come from the bottom up, and it will happen when people finally face reality.

What is that reality? Will voters in affluent suburbs like Shaker Heights support changes that affect the way they live?

If you don't think that the lifestyle that we enjoy in Shaker Heights is in jeopardy, all you have to do is to look at what is happening in Cleveland. The reality is that there are fewer jobs, fewer businesses, problems in the schools and good people are moving elsewhere. The kids getting out of college don't want to settle here. This will only get worse unless we act. Shaker Heights is not isolated from what is happening around it.

Do you think people are ready for change?

It is not a matter of choice. When it gets painful enough it will happen. But if we are smart, we will take charge of our future. Look at the Catholic church here. The diocese is closing more than 40 churches. That is facing up to reality.

What's being done to make these changes happen?

Right now we are looking for the best way to proceed. It is important that an effort be put together that is above politics as much as possible. First, it is important that the public understand that the future of this county is in jeopardy.

Since I made that speech I've got-

ten calls and letters from a lot of people wanting to help. I've had a number of conversations with suburban mayors who have vision, including Shaker Mayor Judy Rawson. They see what has to be done. This is a good sign. But change has to come from the bottom up, from citizens and voters.

There have been a number of attempts over the years to change government at a county level. They all failed because of the insular political attitudes that developed in the city and the suburbs over the past century. Places like Columbus – Franklin County – grew because people looked at it as a whole. But we here dwell on our individual parts and forget that it is the sum that counts.

Some of the political leaders you've criticized have enjoyed your support in the past.

We all make mistakes.

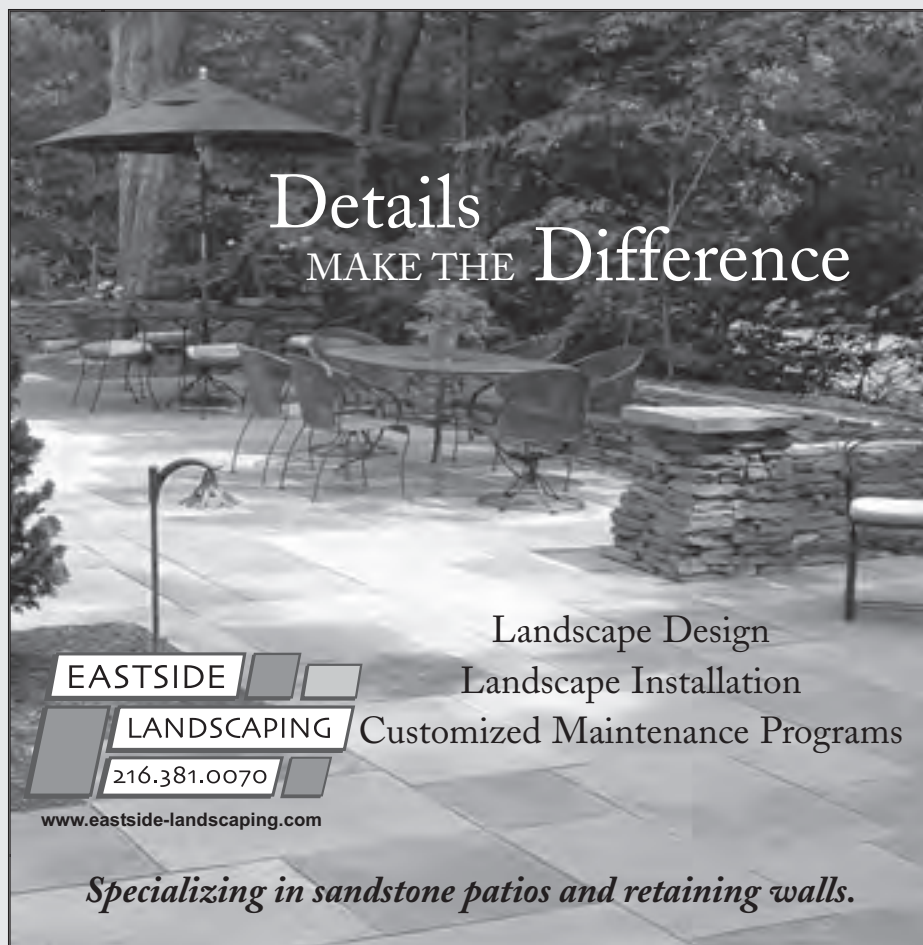
How do we know a change in government would work?

We know it has worked in other places such as Louisville, Indianapolis, and Columbus. Think about the county as a business, maybe a hedge fund. The first thing that you would do is rid it of all its costly redundancies. One of the mayors I spoke with is a businessman, and when he looks at all the government waste in the county he gets angry, it goes against his business sense.

This change is not so massive as to create confusion. The people who will be jeopardized will cause some confusion, of course. There is some shame in that. We elect people to lead us and they turn their backs on the very issues that deal with prosperity, out of fear of losing their jobs. On the other hand, that does not say much about the citizenship of those of us who vote.

Is that why you called your speech "Everyone Wants To Go To Heaven, But No One Wants to Die"?

Yes. Everyone is standing around waiting to go through Heaven's gate, but you have to do something good and then die to get in. In other words, action has to be taken. But nobody wants to. ■



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Born in the Fifties

continued from page 35



outerwear and sports equipment. New countertops were built over existing cabinets. On close inspection, pewter pulls are revealed to be whimsical renditions of shirts and pants.

"Found those at Lowes," Nancy confides.

Like the Cannons, the Barnett's powder room featured 1950s Mondrian-esque tile that was in great shape, so they simply spruced up the room with a new toilet, pedestal sink, and chrome light fixture. Nancy's carpenter made a new mirror, as the old medicine cabinet was a non-standard size.

Nancy seems most proud of her idea to open up the back hallway to improve flow to the kitchen. By knocking down a wall and borrowing space from the den's closet, they gained two feet of walking space and storage galore. This small structural change, plus a similar opening up of the wall between kitchen and dining room, created a much more expansive feel in the rear of the house.

This third-generation Shaker family is here to stay. They treasure the neighborhoods, trees, parks, and sidewalks they grew up with. Moreover, Nancy believes the Shaker schools have provided great preparation for college and the world beyond.

Bill puts it more simply. Although they have lived in Cleveland, several East Side suburbs, as well as in California and Chicago, "Shaker feels like home."

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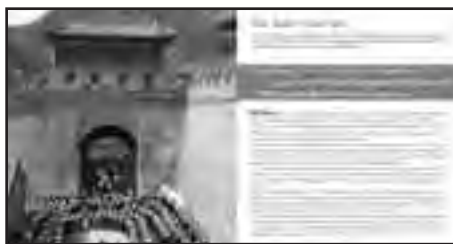
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The Twain Have Met

continued from page 43



high schools.)

Social studies teacher Terry Pollack continues to teach the course that he helped to launch 20 years ago with help from Freeman, who then oversaw curriculum. Shaker English teacher Bill Newby (now retired), the Beachwood school's then-superintendent Dr. Bob Monsor, and Marjorie Williams, Director of Education and Public Programs at the art museum, also contributed time and talent to the creation of the program. Dana Noble of the High School's English faculty came on board later and contributed significantly to its further development.

"At the time we started with this, our curriculum was very Eurocentric," Pollack says of the decision to develop the Asian Studies course. "We saw that much of the future of the U.S. lay in Asia. This course opens the door for kids to think of Asia as an exciting, opportunity-filled, marvelous place to live and work. It also breaks the stereotype that all Asians are alike. Japanese and Chinese, for example, are like night and day."

To make the program truly effective, he says, "we wanted to immerse students in the culture of the country, so we forged a three-week student exchange program with a sister school in Takatori, Japan."

At the time, he says, China couldn't provide the health and safety necessities for a three-week visit. "But medical care has improved tremendously, so three years ago we established an exchange with the Shanghai Foreign Language School." About a dozen of the kids enrolled in Asian Studies participate in the exchange each year.

continued on next page



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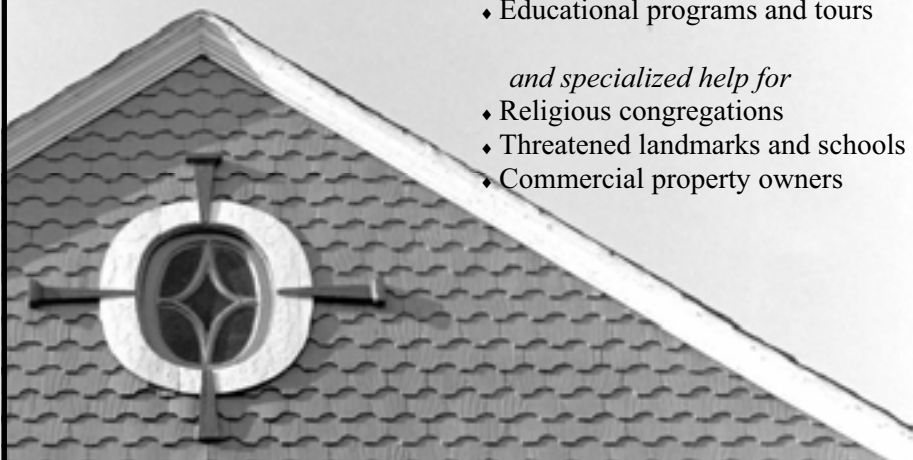
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Pollack, who travels frequently to both China and Japan, is delighted that Shaker High is now offering Mandarin Chinese classes. "The study of Asia has always been relevant, and it's important to teach a language that half a billion people speak." Students interested in learning Japanese, he says, can study with Ruth Fazekas, who offers classes in her Shaker Heights home.

Paces is equally excited about the ongoing expansion of the Asian curriculum at all grade levels and the student and teacher exchanges with Japan and China.

"It fits with our mission to have our students gain knowledge of our global society. It furthers our strong emphasis on world languages and cultures and increases cultural awareness and sensitivity."

Approximately four percent of Shaker High's student population is of Asian/Pacific descent, Paces points out, "and each year, Shaker gets as many as 50 new families from over 30 different countries. The international population here in Shaker Heights reflects the sort of experience that we want to provide our students. We want to expand their international perspectives and understandings."

Asian coursework also has very practical applications, he believes. "China is an economic superpower, the largest consumer market in the world. Learning about the country, its customs, and its language will also enhance the employability of our students. Many Greater Cleveland companies are making connections with China, including Moen Faucet and Parker-Hannifin. They are bringing in teachers to equip their employees to better communicate with and do business with the Chinese."

"Our students will gain a better understanding of the world and appreciation of other cultures, especially one that will play an increasingly important role in the world," echoes Freeman. "We live in a global economy with instant communication. Understanding this is part of being an educated person in the 21st century."



Shanghai. PHOTO BY RICK HORVATH.



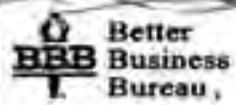
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Ongoing Activities for Families

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. 4-6 pm Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays and 3:30-5:30 pm Fridays. For parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS BEGINNING SEPT. 6: Drop In Sessions, 9-11:30 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Child's play for infants to age 8 and parent or caregiver. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

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

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS BEGINNING SEPT. 6: Drop-In Sessions, 2-3:30 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Child's play for infants to age 8 and parent or caregiver. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

WEDNESDAYS: Play and Learn Station for Home Daycare Providers, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in literacy play sessions for home daycare 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.

PLEASE NOTE: The Play and Learn Station and Play and Learn Babies will be closed August 25-29.

Ongoing Activities for Adults

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

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.

SATURDAYS: Stewardship Saturdays, 10 AM-NOON, NATURE CENTER. Environmentally friendly activity and rewarding way to contribute to the Nature Center's mission by helping with outdoor projects. Be prepared to dig in and get your hands dirty. INFO: 216-321-5935 or www.ShakerLakes.org.

SATURDAYS: Nature Walks, 3:30-4:30 PM, NATURE CENTER. Meet at the front door for a free, naturalist-led trek around the trails. INFO: 216-321-5935 or www.ShakerLakes.org.

Destinations...

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

MAIN LIBRARY
16500 Van Aken Boulevard
216-991-2030

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

**SHAKER COMMUNITY BUILDING
COMMUNITY COLONNADE**
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 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




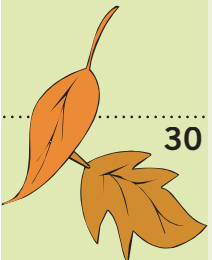
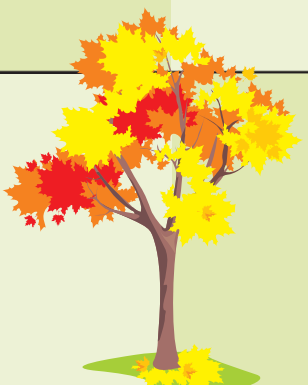
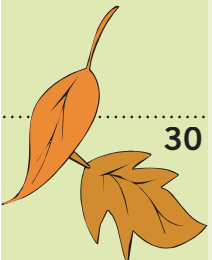
highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Young Audiences of NE Ohio's ArtWorks Shaker Square (pg. 66) Gallery-Opening Reception Loganberry Books (pg. 66)	Free Flick "Dreamgirls" 1:30 pm, Community Building (pg. 66) ENCORE School for Strings 7:30 pm. (pg. 74)	Concrete Classic 8 am - 8 pm, Cavs and Lake Erie Monsters host 3-on-3 Youth Hoops Tournament. (pg. 75)
 5 Rain Barrel Workshops Nature Center. (pg. 66) Thornton Fest 1-4 pm. (pg. 66)	6 Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 63)	7 Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch Series Noon-1 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 66) Blue Lunch Evans Amphitheater, Cain Park. (pg. 75)		9 ArtsPlymouth Community Festival 6 pm, Plymouth Church. (pg. 66)  Knit Night 7-8:45 pm, Woods Branch. (pg. 67)	10	11
12	13 Back-to-School Stories 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 67)	14 Basic Website Development 1-3 pm, Fairhill Computer Center (pg. 67)	15	16 Using Outlook to Get and Stay Organized 1-3 pm, Fairhill Center (pg. 67) Family Fun in the Forest 5-8 pm, Nature Center (pg. 68)	17 	18 North Union Farmers Market 8-noon, Shaker Square (pg. 63)
19 Run for Wishes 8 am, Shaker Heights Fire Department. (pg. 68)	20 Main Library Art Gallery through September 28. (pg. 68)	21 Sports Boosters Meeting 7:30 am, Shaker High. (pg. 68)	22	23 	24 Bat Night at Lake View Cemetery 8-10 pm. (pg. 68)	25 Love Letters 7 pm, Laurel School. Ann V. Klotz directs the Pulitzer Prize-nominated play by A.R. Gurney. (pg. 68)
26 British Car Show 9 am-3:30 pm, Shaker Square. More than 100 classic cars. (pg. 68)	27	28 Mum Sale 8/28-9/29 Shaker Middle School. (pg. 68)			31	

back to school



september highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Larchmere Sidewalk Sale Stroll the boulevard for one-of-a kind finds. (pg. 68)
2 Shaker vs. Collingwood Football. 2 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 68) ▽	3 ▲ LABOR DAY	4 Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch Series noon-1 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 69)	5 Heights Youth Theatre Auditions 4-8 pm, Wiley Middle School in University Hts. (pg. 69)	6 Annex Gallery Opening Reception 6-8 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 69)	7 Free Friday Flick "The Departed." 1:30 pm, Shaker Community Building (pg. 69) Friday Night Skate Thornton Park	8 Girl Scout Recruitment Fair 10 am-noon, Main Library. (pg. 70) Doggie Dip Thornton Park Pool. (pg. 70)
9 	10 Art 10:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 70) Kids Cooking 4 pm, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 70)	11 Basic Digital Photography 1-3 pm, Fairhill Computer Center. (pg. 72)	12 Music in the Mornings Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 72) 	13 ROSH HASHANAH Nature Center Photography Club 7-9 pm. (pg. 72) Basic Genealogy and Family Reunions Using a Computer (pg. 72)	14	15 Fall Family Festival 11 am-2 pm, Hathaway Brown. (pg. 72) Open House Benefit to support Shaker Family Ctr. (pg. 73) 
16 Constitution Read Aloud 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 73)	17 Band Boosters Meeting 7 pm, Shaker High Band Room.	18 Parent University 7:30-9 pm, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 73)	19 Art II 4:15 pm, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 73)	20 Roller Skating 4 pm, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 73) Parenting Classes 6-8 pm, Shaker Family Center (pg. 74)	21 Leroy Henderson Photography: Protest Through 11/10. Malcolm Brown Gallery. (pg. 74)	22 YOM KIPPUR
23 	24	25 Play & Learn Station 10 am, Main Library (pg. 63)	26	27 Curriculum Night & Open House 7 pm, Shaker Middle School (pg. 74)	28	29 
30 						

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Events for August

Thru August 10: Flowers & Beauty from the Outside to the Inside. MAIN LIBRARY ART GALLERY. View the oils and pastels of artist Kate Uhler. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Aug. 2: Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio's ArtWorks, 6 PM, SHAKER SQUARE. Free and open to the public. INFO: 216-561-5005 or www.yaneo.org.

Aug. 2: Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOK ANNEX GALLERY, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. The Russian Eye of Anastasiy Safari. Meet the photographer who has traveled from his native Russia to the Baltic states to Cleveland, Ohio with his camera. His photos bespeak a worldly influence and an interesting perspective. See how Cleveland appears against an international landscape. Show runs through Sept. 3. Free. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Aug. 3: Free Friday Flick, 1:30 PM, COMMUNITY BUILDING. Jamie Foxx, Beyonce Knowles, Jennifer Hudson and Eddie Murphy star in *Dreamgirls*, a tale of dreams, stardom and the high cost of success in the cutthroat recording industry. Info: 216-491-1360.

Aug. 5: Rain Barrel Workshops, NOON-1 PM & 1:30-2:30 PM, NATURE CENTER. Hands-on rainwater harvesting workshops are barrels of fun! Construct your own take-home rain barrel that will capture the pure rain water that garden plants prefer, free of salts and other additives. Rain barrels direct moisture away from building foundations and prevent storm water runoff from the local watersheds. \$30/member; \$37/non-member. Register by Aug 4: 216-321-5935.

Aug. 5: Thornton Fest, 1-4 PM, THORNTON PARK. Join the fun before summer's done! Games and prizes for the family. Mini basketball tournament, skateboard demos, stroller derby and Flower the Clown.

Aug. 6-10: Soccer Camp, 9:15 AM, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 N. PARK BLVD. Girls ages 4 and up (as of fall '07) can learn individual skills, team tactics, and the intricacies of the game from HB Head Soccer Coach, Dennis Weyn. Half-day camp ends at 11:45 am; Full-day camp runs until 2:15 pm. FEES & INFO: 216-320-8796 EXT. 7253.

Aug. 6 & 9: No-Charge, One-Time Intro Class for Beginning Computer Use & Mousing Skills for People 50 & Better, 10:30 AM-NOON OR 1-2:30 PM, FAIRHILL CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. Over the hill on computer skill? Get on a roll with one of these introductory classes. INFO: 216-421-1350, EXT. 125.

Aug. 6-17: Superstart, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 N. PARK BLVD. Boys and girls in grades 3 through 8 (as of fall '07) can get a jump-start to the new school year and refresh math, reading, writing or study skills. FEES & INFO: JILL SPANO, 216-320-8796 EXT. 7152.

Aug. 7-10: Academy International Field Hockey Training Camp, 9 AM-1 PM, HATHAWAY BROWN. Camp for field hockey players in grades 9-12 hosted by an Academy International Field Hockey coach. FEES & INFO: 216-320-8796.

Aug. 7: Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch Series, NOON-1 PM, NATURE CENTER. Eco eats! Enjoy a brown bag lunch and a timely environmental talk and discussion. Free. INFO: 216-321-5935.

Aug. 9: ArtsPlymouth Community Festival, 6 PM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Passport Project Global Journey at Plymouth Church lets you explore music, dance and visual arts through workshops and performances. All ages are welcome. Free entertainment; food is available for purchase. For more details visit: www.plymouthchurchucc.org.

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Aug. 9: 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.

Aug. 9: Nature Photography Club, 7-9 PM, NATURE CENTER. Joseph Polevoi will share his creative endeavors in Photoshop, called Photo Phun. The Akron Art Institute graduate was a cartoonist with the 2nd Army in WWII, worked for the Cleveland Press as an artist, and was art director for Ohio Bell. He will also offer his critique of club members' photo shoot around Horseshoe Lake. Free. INFO: SARA THORNE-BRIECHLE, 216-321-5935 X 237 or www.ShakerLakes.org.

Aug. 13: Back-to-School Stories on a School Bus, 10 AM, MAIN LIBRARY. Get on the big, yellow school bus and listen to stories about school. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Aug. 13: Red Cross Bloodmobile, 3-7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.

Aug. 14: Basic Website Development, 1-3 PM, FAIRHILL COMPUTER CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. Develop a website for personal or professional use. Learn easy and fun ways to create web pages using drag and drop techniques and free website templates. This 4-week class for those age 50 or better is taught by peers. \$50/person. INFO: 216-421-1350, EXT. 125.

Aug. 14: Basic Digital Photography Workshop, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Aug. 16: Using Outlook to Get and Stay Organized, 1-3 PM, FAIRHILL COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. This 4-week class covers calendar, scheduling appointments, tasks, notes, and address book and contacts. \$40/person. INFO: 216-421-1350, EXT. 125.

Aug. 16: Family Fun in the Forest, 5-8 PM, NATURE CENTER. Come for hot dogs, veggie dogs and marshmallows by

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Aug. 16: NOBS Forums, 7PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Aug. 19: Run For Wishes, 8 AM, SHAKER HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT, 17000 CHAGRIN BLVD. SHFD Local 516 sponsors a 5K run and one-mile fun walk to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. \$15 preregistered and \$20 on race day. All mailed entries must be received by Sunday, August 5. Make checks payable to HERMES and mail to: Hermes Sports & Events, 1624 St. Clair Ave. Cleveland, 44114. INFO: 216-623-9933 or www.hermescleveland.com.

Aug. 20: Main Library Art Gallery. Enjoy the drawing, mixed media and watercolors of Alexandra Brin on exhibit through September 28. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Aug. 21: Sports Boosters Meeting, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH TEACHER'S CAFETERIA. Get off the bench! All good Shaker sports parents are invited to join the team!

Aug. 24: Bat Night at Lake View Cemetery, 8-10 PM, LAKEVIEW CEMETERY. A Nature Center naturalist teaches about these not-so-creepy creatures. Bats are netted, banded and released. \$5/person; \$12/family. Registration required. INFO: 216-421-2665.

Aug. 25: Love Letters, 7 PM, LAUREL SCHOOL, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. Head of School Ann V. Klotz directs the Pulitzer Prize-nominated, epistolary play by A. R. Gurney to benefit Laurel's Theatre Department. Tickets: klobe@laurelschool.org.

Aug. 26: British Car Show, 9 AM-3:30 PM, SHAKER SQUARE. North Coast Triumph Association returns to the Square when they roll in with more than 100 classic cars.

Aug. 28-Sept. 29: Mum Sale, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Add some color to your fall garden and help support the Middle School PTO. INFO: 216-295-4100.

School Bells

AUG. 27: St. Dominic School

AUG. 28: Shaker Schools

AUG. 29: Laurel School

AUG. 30: University School

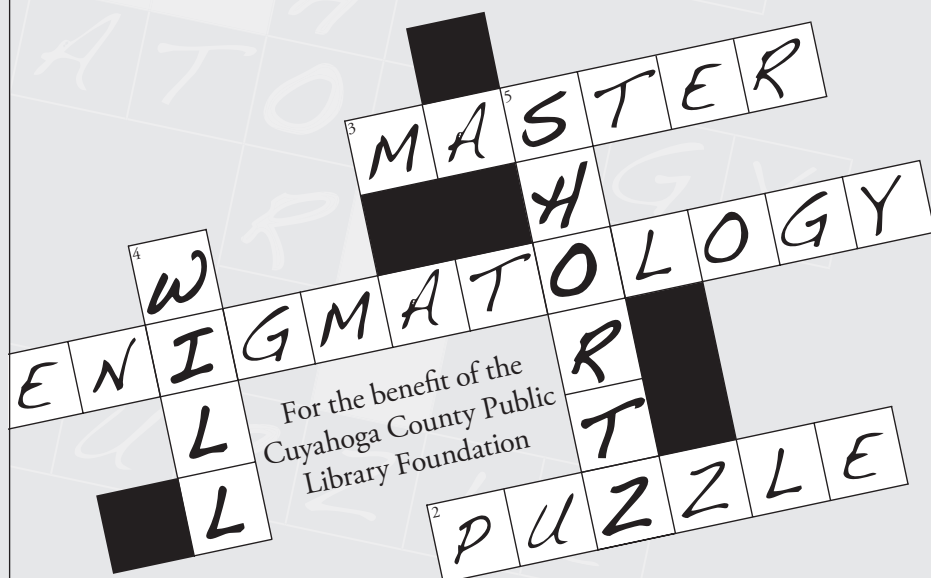
SEPT. 4: Hathaway Brown School

Events for September

Sept. 1: Larchmere Sidewalk Sale. Merchants take to the streets to sell their wares. Stroll the boulevard for bargains and one-of-a-kind finds.

Sept. 1: Shaker versus Collingwood, 2 PM, RUSSELL H. RUPP STADIUM AT SHHS. First and ten! Shaker football opens its season and the band plays on!

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Sept. 3: Labor Day. City, schools and libraries closed.

Sept. 4: Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch Series, NOON-1 PM, NATURE CENTER. Enjoy a brown bag lunch and a timely environmental talk and discussion. Free. INFO: 216-321-5935.

Sept. 5: Heights Youth Theatre Auditions, 4-8 PM, WILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, 2181 MIRAMAR BLVD. Youth in grades 1-12 are invited to audition for parts in *Children of Eden*, a Stephen Schwartz musical based on the story of creation. Please come prepared with a song and sheet music. INFO: PAM FINE, 216-556-0235. To confirm dates and times, visit www.heightsyouththeater.com.

Sept. 5: Back-to-School Night, 7-9 PM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD. Parents of children in grades 1- 8. INFO: 216-561-4400.

Sept. 5: Curriculum Night, 6 PM & 7:45 PM, WOODBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Parents and guardians can meet teachers and learn about expectations for the year. 6 pm for 5th grade parents & 7:45 pm for 6th grade parents. INFO: 216-295-4150.

Sept. 6: Annex Gallery Opening Reception, 6-8 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Meili's Acquisitions: Chinese Peasant Paintings. Show runs through October 1. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Sept. 7: Free Friday Flick, 1:30 PM, COMMUNITY BUILDING. Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon and Jack Nicholson star in the Oscar-winning film, *The Departed*, about two men from opposite sides of the law. INFO: 216-491-1360.

Sept. 7: Friday Night Skate, THORNTON PARK. Blades of steel and barrels of fun.

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Sept. 8: Girl Scout Recruitment Fair, 10 AM-NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Troop recruit for adults and girls interested in learning more about Girl Scouting. Join and form troops. Girls must be accompanied by an adult. You do not need to have a daughter in scouting to become involved. INFO: MARGARET KROLIKOWSKI, 216-283-7824.

Sept. 8: Doggie Dip, THORNTON PARK POOL. Canines take over the pool and give new meaning to the term lap lane. Owners welcome to dip with their dogs. Après swim buffet for dogs only. \$2/resident dog; \$4/nonresident dog. Badly behaved mutts must wear muzzles!

Sept. 8: Shaker versus Bedford, 2 PM, SHHS. It's Raider Day! Get the red out and show your school spirit.

Sept. 8: 50th Anniversary & Homecoming Luncheon, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, LUDLOW SCHOOL. Come back to Ludlow School for a look at the community's 50-year history, mingle with notable neighbors past and present, and adjourn to the Cleveland Skating Club at 2500 Kemper Road for a luncheon buffet. INFO: KEN KOVACH, 216-283-4061 or kennethjkovach@wowway.com.

Sept. 10: Art, 10:30 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2-4) and a parent use different art media to learn about colors, design and textures. Children create a new page each week of the 5-session series to compile their own portfolio. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

Sept. 10: Kids Cooking, 4 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Young Children (ages 3-8) enjoy cooking real food with a parent's help and prepare simple, wholesome recipes during this 4-week session that runs through Oct 1. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

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Sept. 11: Basic Digital Photography, 1-3 PM, FAIRHILL COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. Learn the basic concepts of digital photography and cameras, how to transfer photos from your camera to the computer, how to do basic photo editing, store, print and email photos. The 4-week class focuses on the use of Picasa, a free software program. This class for 50 and better is taught by peers. \$40/person. INFO: 216-421-1350, EXT. 125.

Sept. 12: Music in the Mornings, 9:30 AM OR 10:30 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (birth to 3) and their parents experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays, and experimentation with instruments and dance during this 7-week series that continues through Oct 24. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

Sept. 13: Rosh Hashanah. Shaker Schools closed.

Sept. 13: Nature Center Photography Club, 7-9 PM, NATURE CENTER. Photo Club member Lori Molesky will show and tell about her beautiful work with nature. Free. INFO: SARA THORNE-BRIECHLE, 216-321-5935 X 237 or www.ShakerLakes.org.

Sept. 13: Basic Genealogy and Family Reunions Using A Computer: A Workshop Open to the Community, 10 AM-NOON, FAIRHILL CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. Learn how to use the computer to trace your family's history and bring them together. \$5/person. INFO: 216-421-1350, EXT. 125.

Sept. 15: Fall Family Festival, 11 AM-2 PM, HATHAWAY BROWN. Fun for the whole family with live music, a Winking Lizard BBQ, children's games, prizes, and HB sporting events, including volleyball, tennis, cross country – and more. INFO: 216-320-8796.

Sept. 15: Open House Benefit, 7-10 PM, SHAKER HEIGHTS HOME. Benefit to support the child and parent edu-

cational programs of Shaker Family Center. INFO & RESERVATIONS: 216-921-2023.

Sept. 16: Constitution Read Aloud, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Hear the powerful words of our constitution read aloud by community leaders and celebrities. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 17: Band Boosters Meeting, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH BAND ROOM.

Sept. 18: Parent University, 7:30-9 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parent University features a topic of interest to parents of young children. \$5 donation requested. INFO: 216-921-2023.

Sept. 19: What If Jewish, Christian and Muslim People Explored Their Common Roots?, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Islam, Judaism and Christianity share a common ancestor in Abraham. Using the book, *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths* by Bruce Feiler, this three-part, scholar-led program explores the history of three great religions and their modern relationships. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Sept. 19: ART II, 4:15 PM. HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 4-6) and a parent or caregiver have fun learning to paint like Picasso, build like Rodin, and print like Warhol. Children work with a variety of media including paint, clay, pastels, and water colors during this 4-week series that continues through Oct. 10. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

Sept. 20: Roller Skating, 4 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2½- 8) learn to roller skate safely using music for simple rhythm and movement activities



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that coincide with skating skills. 6-week series continues through Oct. 25. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

Sept. 20: Parenting Classes, 6-8 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Stressed out? Come to this 8-week series of parenting classes that includes dinner and childcare. RESERVATIONS & INFO: 216-921-2023.

Sept. 20: Knit Night, 7-8:45 PM, WOODS BRANCH. Get out your knitting needles and yarn and drop in to get or give help. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Sept. 20: NOBS Forums, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. Bring your books and Show & Tell. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Sept. 21: Leroy Henderson Photography: Protest, MALCOLM BROWN GALLERY, 20100 CHAGRIN BLVD. View a showcase of evocative black and white photographs that capture the deep and conflicted emotions of anti-war pro-

tests. A native of Richmond, Virginia, Henderson lives and works in New York City. His images are from two separate bodies of work and time — the Vietnam War and the current war in Iraq. The exhibit remains on view through November 10.

Sept. 21: PTO with the Principal, 7:30-9 AM, SHAKER HIGH. Meet the Ed head and learn about PTO opportunities before you go to work.

Sept. 21: Indians versus Oakland Athletics, 7 PM, THE JAKE. Shaker Credit Union takes one for the team! Members get discounts. Lower Reserved \$11 (Reg. \$22); Bleacher \$7 (Reg. \$14). INFO: 216-752-6111.

Sept. 22: Yom Kippur.

Sept. 27: Curriculum Night & Open House, 7 PM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Parents and guardians are invited to meet teachers and follow their students'

schedules. INFO: 216-295-4200.

Sept. 29: All-day Teacher Workshop, LAUREL SCHOOL, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. Laurel's Artist-in-Residence and Master Photographer Tillman Crane conducts an all-day workshop open to all teachers in Northeast Ohio. INFO: Stan Bender, sbender@laurelschool.org.

In the Circle & Beyond

AUG. 2 & 3: ENCORE School for Strings Student and Faculty Recitals, 7:30 PM, Western Reserve Academy Chapel. Gifted string students from around the world perform at the Chapel on the Western Reserve Academy campus and at St. Mary's Church, 340 North Main Street in Hudson. Free. INFO: www.cim.edu.

AUG. 3: Twilight at the Zoo, 7 PM-MIDNIGHT, 3900 WILDLIFE WAY. Go wild! Graze on hors d'oeuvres and cool bever-



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ages while zipping through the Zoo to the beat of 14 different bands. TICKETS & INFO: 216-661-6500.

AUG. 4: Concrete Classic, 8 AM-8 PM, On the Concrete outside the Q. Cavaliers and Lake Erie Monsters host 3-on-3 Youth Hoops Tournament, Hockey Showcase & Fan Fest for boys & girls ages 9-18. Hoop it up then tour the Cavs' and Lake Erie Monsters' locker rooms. REGISTRATION & INFO: NATIONAL BASKETBALL ACADEMY, 216-378-0932.

AUG. 7: Blue Lunch, 8 PM, EVANS AMPHITHEATER CAIN PARK, 1904 LEE RD. Big sound blues for a little ticket price.

AUG. 12: Kelly Clarkson, 7:30 PM, Quicken Loans Arena. Don't miss *A Moment Like This* when the original American Idol and Grammy-award winner comes to Cleveland. Tickets: \$69.50-\$39.50/person. INFO: 216-241-5555.

AUG. 15-8: Feast of the Assumption, MAYFIELD RD. Holy Rosary Church in Little Italy celebrates on the street with music, dancing, artwork, rides, street vendors, food and fireworks. INFO: 216-421-2995.

SEPT. 1-3: Cleveland National Air Show, 9 AM-4:45 PM, BURKE LAKEFRONT AIRPORT. Jump into the cockpit for a photo op, test your equilibrium, pack a parachute and watch planes and demos. Highlights include the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Jet Demonstration Team, and more. Tickets: \$19/adults; \$12/children ages 6-11; children under 5 are free.

SEPT. 15: Cleveland Metroparks Zoo's 125th Anniversary. Don't monkey around! This anniversary bears acknowledgement.

SEPT. 15 & 16: Chalk Festival, University Circle, 11 AM-4 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, 11150 EAST BLVD. Enjoy featured chalk artists and entertainment for free. Chalk your own pictures for a fee. FEES & INFO: 216-707-2483.

SEPT. 19: CIM Orchestra at Severance Hall, 8 PM, 11001 EUCLID AVE. Carl Topilow conducts the next generation of professional classical musicians when they perform at Severance Hall. Free, but tickets are required. INFO: 216-231-1111.

SEPT. 26: CIM Orchestra, 8 PM, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, 11021 EAST BLVD. Carl Topilow conducts CIM students. Free; seating passes distributed 30 minutes before the concert. INFO: 216-795-3125. ■

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Ex Libris Vir Shaker

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

In days of old, Shaker wives might wonder what their husbands were up to during evenings spent in secret rituals at the Masonic Temple or the old watering hole. These days, however, it's Shaker Man and his brethren who are left to puzzle about what takes place during that unique suburban institution known as "The Book Club."

As a public service, then, Shaker Observer has conducted extensive surveillance on various Book Clubs, and is now able to reveal what really happens at these undercover (or between-the-cover) events:

Women Only, Please: This is in the category of "Duh," for three reasons:

1. Shaker Man and his ilk don't read books, or at least not the kind you talk about. *Clutch Maintenance on the 1967 GTO*, for example, does not easily lend itself to an Oprah-like discussion of metaphor and the larger issues of life.
2. When men do read books, they don't talk about them. Should a man be forced into reading a 900-page novel (if trapped, for instance, on a rainy vacation in a condo with screaming children and without ESPN), his reaction will be *It was good*, or *It was bad*, or, most likely, *It was long*. No amount of prodding will alter or cause elaboration upon this final opinion.
3. Most importantly, men aren't invited (see below).

Book Clubs Aren't Really About Books: This is readily apparent to

any husband who has heard his wife announce "I didn't get a chance to finish *The Incredibly Sad Story of Some Messed-Up Chick Who Pined for a Jerk in Exotic Locales*" as she skips out the door giddy as a schoolgirl. Instead, the Book Club offers an intellectually acceptable reason to get together monthly with friends, consume large amounts of cheese and chardonnay and talk about the husbands they left at home to manage the kids.

There Are Many Flavors of Book Club: Some older clubs are serious as heart attacks, requiring members to complete 20-page background research papers on the book in question. (Note: These clubs, much like the original Shakers themselves, have trouble maintaining membership as age and term paper-induced celibacy take their toll). Other clubs barely read at all, focusing mainly on book-length transcriptions of talk-show rants from rabid right-wingers (e.g., the best-selling *Why Liberals Should All Be Killed... Slowly*). Most clubs are somewhere between these extremes, but experts agree that it's important to clarify expectations up front, before drinks are hurled and coffee tables are broken, especially if the meeting is in your home.

Spouses Will Eventually Be Involved: Like all exclusive, gender-based groups, the Book Club will eventually ask itself (whether out of guilt, enthusiasm or self-interest, it's unclear) "Hey, wouldn't it be fun if

we got our spouses together?" The answer will be "Yes," in part because no one will actually ask the spouses if *they* think it will be fun to chat about books they've never heard of. Nevertheless, much effort will be put into selecting a date that works for all couples, planning the menu, and selecting a book that both men and women will like. As this is obviously impossible (imagine chick-lit with golf, beer, and machine guns), the club will eventually select the memoir of some vaguely serious celebrity, which would be a fine choice if the husbands were actually told about the required reading ahead of time, and not on the morning of the event.

"Sorry," Ms. Shaker Man says. "But you don't really have to read it."

"It's a book club," he replies. "It seems to me that the book is a pretty important part of it."

And so our hero dutifully whisks himself to the local bookstore, and then spends the rest of Saturday bravely ignoring the call of the lawnmower and the keening of the uncleaned garage. After fighting his way through the entire memoir — detoured by the odd nap here and there — he declares himself ready for discussion.

And when, later that evening, he is asked his opinion, he winks at Ms. Shaker Man, looks at the assembled crowd with wine glasses in hand, and declaims:

"It was long." ■



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