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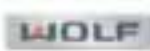


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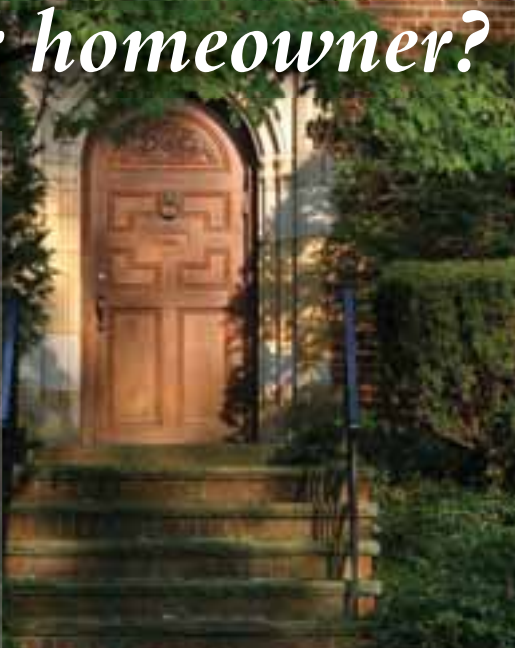


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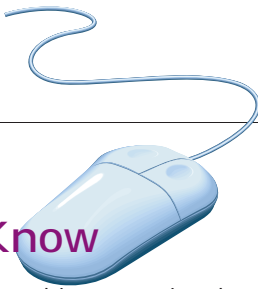
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Landmark Commission Presents 2008 Preservation Awards

The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission presented its 2008 Preservation Awards in September to the following winners, recognizing their efforts to preserve and improve their properties in a manner that reflects the historic nature of the City.

3630 Fairmount Boulevard, First Baptist Church – A local landmark since 1977, the church was designed by the firm of Walker and Weeks and was constructed in 1928. The original windows were wood casements and were replaced in the 1950s or 1960s with steel casement windows. In 2002 the Landmark Commission approved an application to have 250 of the 400 windows replaced. Special care was taken to locate a window with a similar profile and appearance to the existing windows.

The windows were constructed of a composite material that is recyclable. All of the stained glass and specialty windows remained intact.

In 2007 the Church returned to the Landmark Commission seeking approval to replace the balance of the windows on the northwest wing of the Church. The award recognizes their care and consideration in finding an appropriate match to retain the integrity of the original wood windows.

Shaker Heights City Schools – Over the years, great care has been provided to the school buildings, respecting their architecture and fine detailing. A district-wide window replacement was initiated using an aluminum-clad wood window. The window sash, window framing, and the architectural detail surrounding windows were carefully designed as an integral component of the style, scale and character of each building. Replacements have been completed at Boulevard, Fernway, Lomond, Mercer, Onaway and Woodbury Schools, in addition to the High School. This award acknowledges the care shown in the window replacement projects performed on these historic buildings.

2860 Coventry Road, Plymouth Church – Charles Schneider was the architect for Plymouth Church, which was the first congregation to be established in the quickly developing Shaker Village. It was hailed at the time as "the most beautiful and convenient colonial-style church in America." In 2007, Plymouth Church presented a Master Plan for the Exterior Restoration and Fabric Stabilization to the Landmark Commission. The first phase focused on stabilizing the main sanctuary building including re-roofing, new flat roofs with copper flashing, tuckpointing and brickwork, wood window restoration, tower – wood trim elements replaced to match the details, color, and craftsmanship of the original, metal replaced in kind and/or restored in place, front step waterproofing and rebuild and chapel dome

Community Building Renamed in Honor of Stephanie Tubbs Jones

The Shaker Heights Community Building at Lee Road has been renamed the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, in honor of the late U.S. Representative. Tubbs Jones died last August of a brain aneurysm at the age of 58. The dedication ceremony last October included Mayor Earl Leiken, Council members, the honorable Marcia Fudge, the Rev. Dr. Marvin McMickle, the Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe, and many other colleagues, friends and family members. The renamed building is a tribute to Tubbs Jones's commitment to her district and the country.

Make Fire Safety Checks Part of "To Do" List

Keep fire safety top of mind with these important reminders from the Shaker Heights Fire Department. "We want your holidays to be joyous and safe," says Assistant Chief Wayne Johnson.

Christmas Trees

When purchasing an artificial Christmas tree, look for a "Fire Resistant" label.

If purchasing a live tree, check for freshness; the needles should be soft. Cut one inch off the bottom of the trunk before placing in the stand, and add water daily. Dry trees can burn in seconds. Live trees should be removed from the home as soon as possible. Most Christmas tree fires occur on New Year's Day.

Use only non-combustible materials to trim the tree.

Lights

Use only UL approved light sets. When decorating outside, be sure to use light sets and extension cords marked "for outdoor use."

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Preservation Awards

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re-roofing. Additional work continues. The proposal that was presented to the Commission was in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which the Commission's Design Guidelines are based on. The \$2 million investment bears witness to the commitment the congregation and Building and Grounds Committee have made in maintaining and preserving their Landmark building.

The Landmark Commission citizen members are Sarah Beimers, Jan Devereaux, Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells, Meghan Hays, Nancy Kennedy, and Ron Reed. The Commission is chaired by Councilman Brian Gleisser.

City Teamwork Wins Powerful Results for Resident

Many residents lost power temporarily last September due to high winds from Hurricane Ike. For most, the result was a few days without the comforts of lighting, television, and computers. For Mercer area resident Suzy Silver, the storm created a more serious situation. Her disabled adult daughter, Rebecca, depends on a G-tube powered by an electric pump for a continuous feeding every night. When the Silvers lost power, Rebecca's overnight feeding was in jeopardy.

When the power company could not promise to restore power that day, Silver contacted City Hall to ask for help.

Both Sandi Hurley, the City Nurse, and the Fire Department's Senior Administrative Assistant Jan Hetzel immediately understood the need for prompt action. They gathered the appropriate medical information and Hetzel spoke directly with the office of medical certification at the power company. The Silvers were promised priority service.

"Thanks to the help of the Shaker Heights Fire Department, our power was restored the same day we called the City," says Silver. "I am so grateful for everyone's help. I don't know what I would have done."

Silver is relieved – and others with similar concerns will be as well – that both the power company and the Fire Department now have the information they need to assure prompt help in an emergency. Residents who are medically at-risk can provide the Fire Department with information about specific medical needs. That information is then linked to their phone numbers in the dispatch system. To learn more about this service, call the Fire Department at 216-491-1200.

Fire Safety Checks

continued from page 3

Follow specified recommendations concerning the maximum number of sets that can be strung together.

Turn off all lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

Fireplace Safety

Never burn wrapping paper in the fireplace; it burns extremely fast, which can ignite creosote in the chimney.

Before starting a fire, check to make sure the flu is open and remove all decorations, stockings, etc., from the front of the fireplace. Always use a fireplace screen.

Never go to bed before the fire is extinguished, and never close the damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. This can force toxic carbon monoxide into the home.

Portable Heater Safety Guidelines

Assistant Chief Johnson is also concerned about the use of space heaters during the winter months. He says, "Recent surveys find that most Americans are concerned about the increased costs of heating their homes and intend to use alternative heating sources in order to reduce their bills. It's very important to be safe when using them."

Don't assume that an electric heater is safe because it has no open flame. Most fires involving electric heaters are caused by coming into contact with furniture, draperies, or bedding. Place heaters well away from anything flammable.

Never block a room exit with a space heater.

The SHFD does not recommend use of kerosene heaters. They use a combustible

liquid and are not vented, which can cause dangerous levels of carbon monoxide to build up in the home.

As always, the SHFD reminds homeowners to check smoke detectors to make sure the batteries are working. Smoke detectors must be installed on each level of the home. Homeowners should also establish and practice a Home Fire Escape Drill that includes two escape routes out of the home.

Fire Department Wins "Safe Kids" Award

University Hospitals' Rainbow Injury Prevention Center has presented the Shaker Heights Fire Department with an award for Outstanding Efforts in Fire and Burn Prevention. Rainbow is the lead agency for the Greater Cleveland Safe Kids/Safe Communities Coalition, a network of community members working together to prevent childhood injuries.

"This year, the SHFD was the hands-down, unanimous winner," says Kathryn Wesolowski, program manager at Rainbow. The department was lauded for its "Partners in Prevention" campaign to educate homeowners about fire prevention. From June through September firefighters canvassed more than 800 homes door to door, and completed 342 comprehensive fire safety surveys. As a result, the department installed smoke detectors and replaced batteries, free of charge. Homeowners who already met safety requirements were entered in a weekly drawing for free pizza. The department will repeat the program annually. "Our goal is to have working smoke detectors in every home in Shaker," says Fire Chief Donald Barnes.

Firefighters also instituted a "Smoke Detector Blitz" in the Sussex neighborhood in response to a tragic home fire that claimed the lives of three children last year. Rainbow partnered with the SHFD to provide the smoke detectors. Says Wesolowski, "The firefighters took this terrible tragedy, which affected them greatly, and used it to further the dialogue about fire safety and prevention. All their efforts took extra time, extra training, and dedication beyond their core duties."

Wesolowski also praised the department for having "the most active child passenger safety program on Cleveland's eastside." She notes that the time and attention the department provides for checking child safety seats requires significant effort to stay up to date on installation guidelines. "They truly see injury prevention as part of their mission," she says, "and they deserve to be recognized for their dedication."

Shaker News Briefs

- The Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland's Dietrich Diabetes Research Institute (DDRI) presented its 2008 Lifetime Achievement in Diabetes Research Award to Shaker resident, Richard W. Hanson, Ph.D. Hanson is the Leonard & Jean Skeggs Professor of Biochemistry at Case Western Reserve University. He is one of two Cleveland area residents to receive the award. The award recognizes select scientists, researchers, or physicians who have significantly contributed toward improving the quality of life for those living with diabetes. For more than 30 years, Hanson has pioneered the use of molecular biology to better understand the control of metabolism. His most recent work led to the development of the "super mouse" to study the impact of gene modification on metabolism.

Seasonal Reminders

Brush and Leaves on the Tree Lawn: Use of the tree lawn for clippings, leaves or brush ends on December 15, after which collection vehicles are equipped with snow plows. Landscapers must haul yard waste until the month of April when tree lawn collection resumes.

Bicycle Licensing: Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm December 6, 2008 and January 10, 2009 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. New licenses are \$5. Re-issued licenses are 50 cents.

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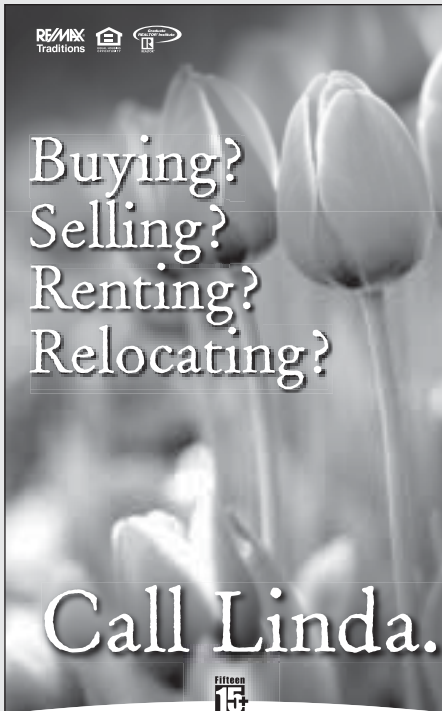
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REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between July 1 and August 30, 2008 appear below. The list includes only those properties that have had a prior sale within the last 10 years. Excluded are "quit claim" transfers as well as those resulting from foreclosure, in which the sale price is not reflective of the property value.

ADDRESS	2008 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
20749 ALMAR DR	\$ 144,500	\$140,000 (2007)	\$ 8,000 (1937)
3325 BRAEMAR ROAD	\$ 222,000	\$110,000 (2007)	N/A
20700 BRANTLEY ROAD	\$ 720,000	\$565,000 (2002)	\$ 25,000 (1926)
21226 BYRON ROAD	\$ 360,000	\$350,000 (2003)	\$ 19,000 (1932)
2985 CARLTON ROAD	\$ 460,000	\$249,900 (2002)	\$ 20,000 (1923)
3091 CHADBOURNE ROAD	\$ 195,000	\$192,500 (1998)	\$ 7,500 (1917)
3293 CHALFANT ROAD	\$ 218,000	\$310,000 (2003)	\$ 12,000 (1928)
3721 CHESTERTON ROAD	\$ 920,000	\$950,000 (2004)	\$ 20,000 (1937)
2825 COVENTRY ROAD	\$ 303,000	\$116,000 (2007)	\$ 8,850 (1916)
3289 ELSMERE ROAD	\$ 215,000	\$190,000 (2002)	\$ 11,000 (1924)
3326 ELSMERE ROAD	\$ 167,900	\$190,000 (2004)	\$ 10,500 (1925)
2733 ENDICOTT ROAD	\$ 450,000	\$505,000 (2004)	\$ 18,000 (1916)
16629 FERNWAY ROAD	\$ 185,500	\$195,000 (1999)	\$ 14,000 (1925)
17315 FERNWAY ROAD	\$ 295,000	\$146,500 (2007)	\$ 15,000 (1928)
3602 GLENCAIRN ROAD	\$ 149,000	\$170,000 (2005)	\$ 8,000 (1941)
2873 GLENGARY ROAD	\$ 707,750	\$532,500 (2007)	\$ 16,000 (1916)
2889 GLENGARY ROAD	\$ 790,000	\$600,000 (2000)	\$ 20,000 (1937)
22825 HOLMWOOD ROAD	\$ 245,000	\$265,000 (1998)	\$ 23,000 (1937)
3345 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$ 289,900	\$212,000 (1999)	\$ 14,000 (1924)
3256 KENMORE ROAD	\$ 309,000	\$335,000 (2003)	\$ 13,000 (1926)
2911 LEE ROAD	\$ 235,000	\$106,667 (2007)	\$ 45,000 (1975)
17011 LOMOND BLVD	\$ 226,000	\$175,500 (2007)	\$ 12,000 (1930)
19800 MARCHMONT ROAD	\$1,100,000	\$800,000 (1999)	\$ 35,000 (1926)
19815 MARCHMONT ROAD	\$ 401,000	\$540,000 (2003)	\$ 24,000 (1928)
3569 NORMANDY ROAD	\$ 130,000	\$ 65,000 (2007)	\$ 12,000 (1949)
16520 PARKLAND DR	\$ 770,000	\$608,000 (1998)	\$ 24,500 (1924)
3310 STOCKHOLM ROAD	\$ 276,500	\$302,000 (2004)	\$ 9,000 (1923)
3336 STOCKHOLM ROAD	\$ 295,000	\$218,000 (2002)	\$ 20,000 (1950)
3364 STOCKHOLM ROAD	\$ 365,000	\$382,000 (2005)	\$ 10,000 (1924)
3656 SUTHERLAND ROAD	\$ 212,000	\$228,000 (2005)	\$ 10,000 (1927)
3721 SUTHERLAND ROAD	\$ 184,500	\$205,000 (2003)	\$ 12,000 (1929)
3678 TOWNLEY ROAD	\$ 181,500	\$155,500 (2000)	\$ 11,000 (1931)
3674 TRAVER ROAD	\$ 201,000	\$250,000 (2005)	\$ 9,500 (1928)
3626 TRAYNHAM ROAD	\$ 201,250	\$204,000 (2004)	\$ 11,000 (1935)
3242 WARRINGTON ROAD	\$ 260,000	\$248,000 (2000)	\$ 10,500 (1926)
18100 S WOODLAND ROAD	\$ 460,000	\$321,000 (1998)	\$ 50,000 (1955)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

More Real Numbers! *Continued on page 10.*

Seasonal Reminders

continued from page 5

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

Jogging: Street joggers may not obstruct traffic and are required to wear reflective clothing at night.

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.

Snow Policy: Residents are asked not to park their cars in the street when snow reaches a depth of 2" or more. Please remember that residents are responsible for clearing snow and ice from the sidewalks fronting their property when snow is less than 6 inches deep; the City plows sidewalks only if the snowfall is deep and when scheduling allows. The City does not plow residential driveways; snow removal contractors must be registered with the Police Department and their permit clearly displayed. Do not push snow into the street, onto sidewalks or displace it onto another person's property.

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

shaker neighborhoods:

Test Your Knowledge

1



What style is this Fernway neighborhood house?

- a) Tudor Revival
- b) French Electric
- c) Georgian Revival
- d) English Cottage

2

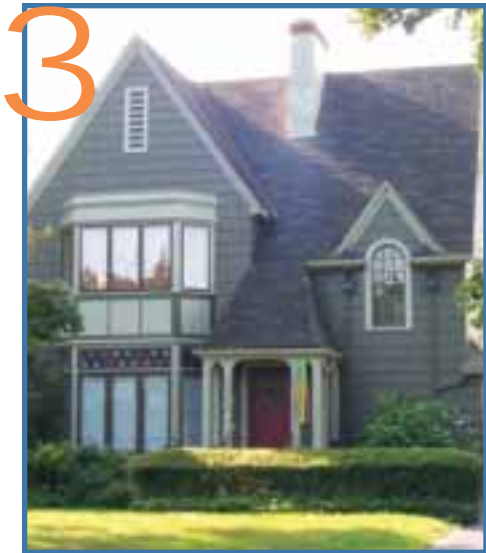


What style is this grand home in Boulevard?

- a) Tudor Revival
- b) French Electric
- c) Georgian Revival
- d) English Cottage

In the **Neighborhoods** section of the previous four issues of Shaker Life, we have described four architectural styles commonly found in Shaker Heights: Tudor Revival, French Eclectic, Georgian Revival, and English Cottage.

These styles developed from the Van Sweringen mandate that new homes be designed by an architect and be built in one of, or in various combinations of, three styles: English, French, and Colonial. The homes of Shaker Heights were to be unique, each with its own character, incorporating architectural details from the three styles, and using the highest quality materials. This tradition has continued over the years through a commitment to quality overseen by an Architectural Board of Review and published guidelines as to paint color choices, fence designs, and other design components.



Sussex claims this cozy home.
What style is it?

- a) Tudor Revival
- b) French Eclectic
- c) Georgian Revival
- d) English Cottage

The four styles described in the magazine are summarized below. See if you can identify which of the pictured houses belongs to which style.

Tudor Revival Style

- Tall, narrow windows, often with leaded glass, in multiple groups, bay windows
- Crenellated (indented or notched) towers
- Pointed or elliptical arches over windows and doors
- Steeply pitched, slate roofs
- Decorative half-timbering with stucco, masonry or wood siding
- Massive, elaborate chimneys

French Eclectic Style

- Steeply pitched, hipped roofs with flared eaves or multiple dormers
- Clapboard siding or masonry and/or stucco
- Patterned brick work in basket weave or checkerboard designs
- Tall casement windows with leaded glass panes or double-hung windows
- Massive chimneys, small balconies at second story level, and round towers with conical roofs

Georgian Revival Style

- Formal and symmetrical front façades
- Substantial cornices, or horizontal trim, in brick, stone, or wood
- Wood cornices painted white
- Hipped or gabled roofs with less prominent chimneys
- Prominent doorways with raised panels or small windows
- Overscaled door surrounds, entryways, and porches with intricately detailed moldings and trim
- Large and numerous double-hung windows spaced evenly

English Cottage Style

- Brick or stone and stucco construction
- Decorative half-timbering
- Informal, picturesque appearance
- Steeply pitched roof and roof line carried down to first story level or gabled and/or hipped roofs
- Rounded eaves, curved "eyebrow" roof elements or curved roofs with flared eaves
- Casement windows with leaded glass or tall and thin double-hung windows
- Massive, asymmetrically placed chimneys with decorative masonry

Answers are on page 10.



Your guess for this beautiful Malvern estate?

- a) Tudor Revival
- b) French Eclectic
- c) Georgian Revival
- d) English Cottage

NEW! SALE WITHIN 15 YEARS

ADDRESS	2008 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
19125 FAIRMOUNT BLVD	\$ 141,750	\$109,000 (1996)	\$ 22,000 (1955)
22639 FAIRMOUNT BLVD	\$ 138,000	\$123,500 (1995)	\$ 7,500 (1938)
3392 KENMORE ROAD	\$ 235,000	\$207,900 (1994)	\$ 16,500 (1930)
3158 KINGSLEY ROAD	\$ 517,000	\$367,500 (1997)	\$ 22,000 (1927)
16101 ONAWAY ROAD	\$ 465,000	\$182,500 (1993)	\$ 10,000 (1945)
3263 STOCKHOLM ROAD	\$ 240,000	\$223,000 (1996)	\$ 26,000 (1948)
2877 BRIGHTON ROAD	\$ 387,000	\$244,000 (1994)	\$ 12,000 (1922)
3053 HUNTINGTON ROAD	\$ 255,000	\$160,000 (1994)	\$ 20,000 (1925)
3256 LANSMERE ROAD	\$ 345,000	\$215,000 (1993)	\$ 12,000 (1929)
2771 SHERBROOKE ROAD	\$ 850,000	\$575,000 (1993)	\$ 28,000 (1937)

NEW! SALE WITHIN 20 YEARS

ADDRESS	2008 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
3210 WARRINGTON ROAD	\$254,000	\$150,000 (1992)	\$ 18,000 (1924)
3721 GRIDLEY ROAD	\$117,500	\$100,000 (1992)	\$ 8,600 (1939)
22062 RYE ROAD	\$200,000	\$169,000 (1990)	\$ 37,000 (1954)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

Become “Certified Shaker”

Give yourself a leg up on the competition by attaining certification in this unique program, which is offered to landlords at no charge. Among other benefits, properties that meet or exceed City standards of excellence are promoted on the City’s website and are shown to prospective renters by relocation specialists.

Congratulations to the following Certified Shaker property owner. This listing represents one 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 how to qualify, call the Housing Specialist at 216-491-1333.

Rental Home:

3532 Norwood Road
(Brian Cook) Certified 2008

Answers to the

Shaker Neighborhoods
Test Your Knowledge Quiz:

1. French Eclectic Style
2. English Cottage Style
3. Tudor Revival Style
4. Georgian Revival Style

To learn more about the character and specific charms of each of Shaker’s neighborhoods, visit www.shakeronline.com/relocation/buying/ShakerNeighborhoods.asp. ■



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When the Beatles Came to Cleveland

Listen, Do You Want to Know A Secret? September 15, 1964, Cleveland police stopped the Beatles in mid-performance when the audience stormed the stage at Public Hall. The city banned future Beatles concerts.



Schwensen

It was another *Hard Day's Night* on August 14, 1966, when the Beatles were back performing to riotous fans at Municipal Stadium. Relive the days of Beatlemania at 7 pm Wednesday, December 3 at Main Library when Dave Schwensen presents

The Beatles in Cleveland, a multimedia retrospective of the Beatles' concerts in Cleveland.

Motivational humorist and syndicated radio host (What's So Funny?) Schwensen, author of *The Beatles In Cleveland: Memories, Facts & Photos about the Notorious 1964 & 1966 Concerts*, takes you behind the scenes and on stage with the Fab Four and includes a display of never-before published photos and memorabilia. The evening's grand finale is a film of the rare footage of the Beatles' wild 1966 concert at Cleveland Muny Stadium.

Schwensen is also the author of *Comedy FAQs and Answers: How The Stand-up Biz Really Works and How To Be A Working Comic: An Insider's Guide to a Career in Stand-up Comedy*. He was a talent coordinator for the TV show *Evening at the Improv*, and worked at Improv Comedy clubs in Hollywood and New York City. He also served as a comedy consultant for *The Tonight Show*, *Late Night with David Letterman*, *The Today Show*, and *Comedy Central*.

Schwensen has designed and teaches business courses on using humor to improve productivity, sales, and teamwork for Cleveland State University.



These courses have been added to the curriculum at Youngstown State

University and The University of Akron, and both are available for training seminars.

Following his multimedia program, Schwensen's books will be available for sale and signing. For more information or to reserve your place, call the Main Library at 216-991-2030.

Celebrate Kwanzaa at the Library

The celebration of Kwanzaa was created to introduce and reinforce seven basic values of African culture, which contribute to building and reinforcing family, community, and culture among African Americans.

These values are called the *nguzo*

Reader of the Month

JUDY FELBER

AGE: 67

OCCUPATION: Retired from *The Plain Dealer* and as a substitute teacher.

USES: Main Library and Bertram Woods.

LIBRARY SERVICES: Free computer classes.

WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LIBRARY: "The competent and friendly staff that is always eager to find the information I request."

LIKES TO READ: French and British History. Reads four newspapers daily and five magazines each week.

DOESN'T READ: Science fiction.

ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOOK: *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert.

OTHER FAVORITES: *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo.

OTHER INTERESTS: Traveling with her husband; swimming; spending time with her six grandchildren; playing with her dog, Molly.

FAMILY: Husband, Richard Felber. Stepchildren: Andrew Felber, Casey Bankhurst (SHHS '76), Linda Wirtshafter (SHHS '78).

BRIEF BIO: Judy was born in Scranton, PA, graduated from Marywood College, and attended graduate school at John Carroll University. She worked as a reporter at *The Plain Dealer* then as the public relations director at The Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. She returned to the Cleveland area and worked as an editor for *The Sun Newspapers* and was a substitute teacher in five school districts, including Shaker Heights. Now retired, Felber volunteers with The Horvitz Palliative Care Unit at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and with Friends of the Shaker Library.



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library news

saba, which means "seven principles" in Swahili. Families are invited to celebrate Kwanzaa at 7 pm Tuesday December 30 at the Main Library. Storytellers will weave their magic with tales about the celebration. In addition there will be singing, dancing and lots of music.

This family program is free. Reservations are requested, 216-991-2030.

Shaker Library's Got Game – Video Games – to Lend

The Library offers a small rotating collection of video games through a pilot program funded by membership in the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System. Video games are available to library cardholders in good standing ages 10 and older. Cardholders may borrow one game title per card for one week. Games cannot be reserved or renewed, and overdue fees are \$1/per day. Game titles change every three months.

Current video games available for the Nintendo Wii system are Fire Emblem: Radiant Dawn, Hannah Montana: Spotlight World Tour, The House of the Dead 2 & 3, Mario Party 8, Super Mario Galaxy, and Wall-E.

Games for PlayStation 3 include Ghost Recon, The Incredible Hulk, NCAA Football, and Tony Hawk's Project 8. Games for the xBox 360 system are Assassin's Creed, Command and Conquer: Kane's Wrath, Conflict: Denied Ops, Guitar Hero II, Lost Planet: Extreme Condition, NHL 2008, Perfect Dark Zero, Rock Band, Spiderwick Chronicles and Table Tennis.

Knit a Cap for Kids

Looking for a knitting project? Shaker Library staff and members of the Library's Knit Night are working on a Caps for Kids community service project. Volunteers knit or crochet hats, which the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's Project ACT will distribute to homeless children from pre-

school age to 12th grade.

Knit one of the patterns below, or knit or crouch your own favorite pattern. Bring the finished product to Bertram Woods Branch and the Library will display the caps at the Circulation Desk where readers can enjoy the community's creativity.

All caps must be received by December 11. For more information, call: 216-991-2421.

Here are two simple patterns published with permission of Madrona Fiber Arts.

BASIC CHILD'S HAT - Sizes are for a toddler, small child, larger child.

Worsted weight yarn and size 7 or 8 needle. Gauge is not that important. This pattern can be worked in the round or back and forth.

Cast on 72(80, 88) stitches and work K1 P1 rib for 1"(1", 1 1/2").

Change to stockinette stitch and work until total length is 4 1/2"(5", 6").

To decrease

Row 1: K6 K2 tog across row.

Row 2 and every even row: knit if working in round, purl if working back and forth on 2 needles.

Row 3: K5 K2 tog across row.

Row 5: K4 K2 tog across row.

Continue to decrease in this manner until you complete the K1 K2 tog row.

Repeat row 2 and knit 2 tog across row. Cut yarn and run it through stitches on needle. Finish off.

EVEN EASIER CHILD'S HAT

Worsted weight yarn and size 11 and size 6 needles. Pattern can be knit in round or back and forth with 2 needles.

Cast on 54 stitches and size 11 and knit in stockinette stitch for 2 1/2 inches.

Change to size 6 needles and work 4 rows in stockinette stitch. Change back to size 11 needles and work 4 more rows.

To decrease

Row 1: K2 tog across row (27 stitches),
Row 2: K1, K2 tog across row (18 stitches)

Row 3: K2 tog across row.

Row 4: K1, K2 tog across row.

Cut yarn and run through stitches. Finish off.

Library Sponsors 11th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Writing Contest

The Library invites youth in grades 3-8 to enter its 11th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Writing Contest. This year's contest seeks short contributions of poetry or prose asking students to write about someone they know personally who embodies the ideals of Martin Luther King.

Winning entries will be published on the Library's website and their words will be incorporated into a poster. First-place winners in each category - grades 3 & 4, 5 & 6, and 7 & 8 - will also receive U.S. Savings Bonds.



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PLAY AND LEARN STATION

AT MAIN LIBRARY

A free preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for parents or caregivers to explore with their children from birth to age 5. *No registration is required.*

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

1-3 pm Thursdays

6-8 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

(Closed Thursday, December 25 and January 1.)

PLAY AND LEARN BABIES

AT MAIN LIBRARY

A special room filled with literacy-based activities just for babies from birth to 18 months with their parents or caregivers. *No registration is required.*

10 am-noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6-8 pm Thursdays

(Closed Thursdays, December 25 and January 1.)

PLAY AND LEARN STATION

FOR CAREGIVERS AT MAIN LIBRARY

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

10 am-noon Wednesdays

(Closed Wednesday, December 24.)

Play and Learn programs are offered in collaboration with Shaker Family Center.

BUTTERFLY HANDS

AT WOODS BRANCH

Learn basic signs through songs, finger plays, flannel boards, and interaction with certified baby signer, Nancy Barnett, and her signing puppet Sammy.

Infants and older, with an adult (for beginners)

Fridays, January 23-February 27

Session 1 - 9:30 am

Session 2 - 10:30 am

Registration begins Friday, January 9.

For children in grades K-4 (for children at all levels of signing skills)

4:15 pm Mondays, January 26-March 2

Registration begins Monday, January 12

STORY TIME FOR CREEPERS

It is never too soon to start sharing books with babies! Enjoy songs and rhymes, books and bounces in this class for babies who have begun to creep and crawl.

Winter Session:

January 13-March 4

9:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

9:30 am Wednesdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, December 13.

STORY TIME FOR WALKERS

Experience the wonder of words through stories and songs, movement, puppets and fun in this story time for children under two who have begun to walk.

Winter Session:

January 13-March 4

10:30 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

10:30 am Wednesdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, December 13.

STORY TIME FOR TERRIFIC TWOS

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

Winter Session:

January 12-March 5

(Child must be 2 years old by January 1, 2009)

10 am Mondays or Wednesdays at Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays or Thursdays at Main Library

Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, December 13.

PRESCHOOL STORIES

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

10 am or 1:30 pm Mondays at Main Library (No programs Monday, January 19.)

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

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

PRESCHOOL FAIR AT MAIN LIBRARY

Representatives from area preschools are available to offer information and answer questions.

6:30-8 pm Thursday, January 22

Rooms E & F

No registration required.

PAJAMA STORIES

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

7:15 pm Mondays, December 15 & January 26

Registration begins two weeks before each program.

MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT WEEKS**AT WOODS BRANCH**

December 15–20: Make a candle to brighten your home.

January 19–24: It's time to make a paper clock!

THE WRITERS CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY

(For children in grades 2–4)

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

Winter Session: January 13–March 3

4:15 pm Tuesdays

Registration begins Weds., December 16.

AFTERSCHOOL AUTHORS**AT WOODS BRANCH**

(For children in grades 2–5)

Read, write, and publish in this series of fun workshops for kids who love to write

Winter Session: January 14–March 4

4:15 pm Wednesdays

Registration begins Tuesday, December 17.

AFTERSCHOOL SPECIAL:**HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD**

(For children in grades K–5)

Learn how kids from around the world celebrate the winter holidays at this special presentation by American Field Service (AFS) students from Shaker Heights High School.

4:15–5:15 pm Tuesday, December 9 at

Woods Branch

Registration began Tuesday, November 25.

4:15–5:15 pm Wednesday, December

10 at Main Library

Registration began Wednesday, November 26.

MEET AMERICAN GIRL FELICITY

(For children in grades 1–5)

Listen to a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft, and enjoy a snack from Felicity's era.

2–3:45 pm Saturday, December 13 at Woods Branch

Registration began Saturday, November 29.

2–3:45 pm Saturday, January 10 at Main Library

Registration begins Saturday, December 27.

MEET AMERICAN GIRL JOSEPHINA**AT WOODS BRANCH**

(For children in grades 1–5)

Hear a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft and enjoy a snack from Josephina's era.

2–3:45 pm Saturday, February 7

Registration begins Saturday, January 24.

THE HOMEWORK CENTER**AT MAIN LIBRARY**

(For children in grades 2–6)

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

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4–6:30 pm

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

(The Homework Center is closed from December 15 through January 7. It reopens Monday January 12.)

The library is closed Monday, January 19 in honor of Martin Luther King.

Contest rules and application forms are available in the Children and Teen Departments at both libraries. The contest ends December 12 and winners will be notified in January.

The Awards Reception will be held at 4:30 pm Friday, January 16, 2009 at the Main Library, when the children will read their winning entries and receive their prizes.

Meet-the-Author Series at Woods Branch Continues with Michael Swiger and Marcia Pledger

Meet author Michael Swiger at 7 pm Tuesday, December 2 at Bertram Woods Branch when he speaks about writing and discusses his latest legal thriller, *Lethal Objection*, which has been described as "quirky, suspenseful and gutsy." One of the main characters lives in Shaker Heights and readers will enjoy the author's references to local venues. Michael Swiger is a graduate of Ohio University and an honors student at Reformed Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Lethal Ambition*, An Edward Mead Legal Thriller and has also published two novels under the pen name Michael Andrew. His short stories and essays have appeared in many national publications.

Swiger serves on the pastoral staff at The Gospel House Church in Walton Hills, where he works in prison ministry. He is currently finishing *To Kill a Saint*, and is working on *Lethal Obsession*, his third book in the Edward Mead Legal Thriller series.

Marcia Pledger visits Woods Branch at 7 pm Wednesday, January 21 to speak about her book, *My Biggest Mistake and How I Fixed It*.

A graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Pledger is a business reporter with The Plain Dealer and writes a weekly column about mistakes business people have made and how they fixed them.

Her book has been described as "...a must read and will surely find a

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place as a permanent desktop reference for both aspiring entrepreneurs as well as experienced professionals in either large or small companies."

Following their talks, the authors' books will be available for sale and signing. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2421.

Back By Popular Demand: Joe The Coupon Guy

Back by popular demand at a time when everyone needs a bargain! Meet Joe Daugirdas — "The Coupon Guy" — at 7 pm Monday, January 12 at Bertram Woods Branch and learn to clip coupons to stretch your dollars and save on items from gasoline to groceries.

Joe Daugirdas has been honing his shopping skills in the area for years and typically saves 70 to 80 percent on groceries. He has taught a "Savvy Shopper" class at Lakeland Community College and has been active with Junior Achievement programs teaching pre-teens and teens the value of fiscal responsibility.

A full-time employee at Applied Industrial Technologies, Daugirdas was an Auxiliary Policeman for 17 years with the City of Willowick.

News from the Local History Librarian

The Shaker Historical Society and Library continue to draw many interested residents and local history buffs to the popular series, Shaker Heights 101, where participants learn Shaker Heights history, and get tips and information for researching their Shaker Heights homes.

Another installment is planned for April 2009. Shaker Historical Society Executive Director Sabine Kretzschmar and Shaker Heights Public Library Local History librarian Meghan Hays have also presented specific programs to Shaker neighborhood associations about their neighborhood history, and are happy to do so for interested neighborhood associations.

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The History display case, near the front door of Main Library, has a rotating collection of items on loan from the Shaker Historical Museum. Future displays will include winter fun, cooking, and local theater.

The Library is missing Gristmill yearbooks from the years 1934, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, and 1995. Help make the collection complete by donating a copy. Gristmill Yearbooks are available for anyone to view in the Library – just ask the Local History librarian, or any reference librarian at the Information Desk, for help.

For a small fee, residents can obtain large-scale photocopies of house plans if their plans are on microfilm in our collection. The Library has a large flatbed scanner to digitize photographs from the Library's files to add to an online collection in Cleveland Memory, at www.clevelandmemory.org/shakerheights/. Staff can also make digital scans of local history materials for patrons for a small fee.



From our digital collection: Happy Local History Holidays. In 1959, Fernway School students Cal Caminati, 12, and his sister, Laura, 8, (left) arranged a group of carolers beside a Christmas tree while brother and sister, Bruce Horovitz, 7, and Benita, 8, displayed a silver Chanukah menorah.

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Kendal at Home is an affiliate of The Kendal Corporation, a Quaker-related, not-for-profit organization providing communities and services for older people for over 35 years. Kendal at Home is available to residents of Northeast Ohio.

Interested in local history? Have a penchant for organizing and an hour or two to spare each week? Volunteer to help in the Library's Local History department. Help is needed processing and organizing material, preparing images for digitizing, and indexing house plans. Call Meghan Hays at 216-367-3016, or email her at mhays@shakerlibrary.org if you wish to volunteer, donate items, or learn more about the Local History collection.

Teen Scene

SPECIAL TEEN CENTER HOURS

Teen Center Hours during Shaker Schools Winter Recess:

1-6 pm December 22, 23, 29 and 30
1-5:30 pm December 26 and January 2
1-5:30 pm Friday, January 23 (No School)

GET YOUR GAME ON! AT MAIN LIBRARY

Gaming for Teens ages 12-17
2-4 pm Monday, December 22
2-4 pm Tuesday, December 23
To register, call 216-991-2030 ext. 3186 beginning December 15.

T.A.B. (TEEN ADVISORY BOARD)

MEETING AT MAIN LIBRARY

7:30-8:15 pm Tuesday, January 13
Meeting for 2008-09 Board Members

The Bookshelf:

The World of Abraham Lincoln

2009 marks the Bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln. These book suggestions offer more information about the man, the mystique, and the myth of our country's 16th president.

The Gettysburg Gospel: The Lincoln Speech that Nobody Knows by Gabor Boritt. Simon & Schuster, 2006. The author describes the devastation at Gettysburg that preceded and influenced Lincoln's now-famous speech.

House of Abraham: Lincoln and the Todds, A Family Divided by War by Stephen William Berry. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. A



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University of Georgia historian recounts Lincoln's relationship with his wife's troubled, Southern family and its impact on his presidency.

Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America by Andrew Ferguson. Atlantic Monthly Press, 2007. With his family in tow, the author visited Lincoln sites and interviewed Lincoln buffs across the country to reveal the former president in this sometimes-cynical, sometimes-funny book.

Lincoln and Douglas: The Debates that Defined America by Allen C. Guelzo. Simon & Schuster, 2008. Seven famous debates, held during the 1858 race for a U.S. Senate seat, propelled Lincoln into the limelight.

Lincoln Legends: Myths, Hoaxes, and Confabulations Associated with Our Greatest President by Edward Steers, Jr. and Harold Holzer. University of Kentucky Press, 2007. The author outlines – and debunks

– many untruths about the 16th president in this well-researched book.

The Lincolns: Portrait of a Marriage by Daniel Mark Epstein. Ballantine Books, 2008. This account of the union of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln stands apart from predecessors because of its poetic and sensitive telling.

Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson. William Morrow, 2006. This fast-paced book vividly describes the events surrounding John Wilkes Booth's assassination of Lincoln.

President Lincoln: The Duty of a Statesman by William Lee Miller. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. The author, a University of Virginia historian, focuses on President Lincoln's moral strengths and the role they played in his efforts to preserve the Union.

Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Simon & Schuster, 2005. A Pulitzer Prize-winning author and presidential historian illuminates the circumstances that led Lincoln to appoint political opponents to his Cabinet, and describes the unique alliance that guided the country through one of its most tumultuous periods.

The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics by James Oakes. W.W. Norton & Co, 2007. Read how the positions of two, initially opposed Civil War figures came to be more closely aligned.

Computer Classes at Main Library

Include learning a new computer skill in your New Year's resolutions. Classes are small with hands-on help and all are free of charge. Residents looking for a job will find the Winway Resume Writing and Internet with Experts: Online Job Hunting classes especially



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10-11:30 am Thursday, December 4
(Registration began 11/24.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, January 2
(Registration begins 12/22.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, January 15
(Registration begins 1/5.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, January 24
(Registration begins 1/12.)

Learn the basics of spreadsheet construction, including formatting and design, printing options and using basic formulas.

MOUSE CLASS

10-11:30 am Saturday, December 6
(Registration began 11/24.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, January 5
(Registration begins 12/29.)

Learn to use the computer mouse in 90 minutes.

INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT®

6:30-8 pm Monday, December 8
(Registration begins 12/1.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, January 3
(Registration begins 12/22.)

Learn to create a slide show with text and graphics, to edit slides, and to add sound and animation.

CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL®

10-11:30 am Thursday, December 11
(Registration begins 12/1.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, January 16
(Registration begins 1/5.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, January 31
(Registration begins 1/20.)

Explore the ways that Excel can display data as charts and graphs.

MAIL MERGE

3-4:30 pm Friday, December 12
(Registration begins 12/1.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, January 29
(Registration begins 1/20.)

Mail Merge utilizes information from

many sources, like Word tables, Excel sheets, and Access Data Tables.

INTERNET

10-11:30 am Saturday, December 13
(Registration begins 12/1.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, January 12
(Registration begins 1/5.)

Learn to find and use a variety of online resources and to "surf" the web.

INTERACTIVE INTERNET

6:30-8 pm Monday, December 15
(Registration begins 12/8.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, December 31
(Registration begins 12/22.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, January 30
(Registration begins 1/20.)

There are many exciting websites that offer much more than just text and pictures. Explore some of the more interesting, interactive websites of the day, with Training Specialist Walter Lesch as your guide.

LAUREL SCHOOL'S 4TH ANNUAL ARTISAN BAZAAR

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GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT ®

10-11:30 am Tuesday, December 16
(Registration begins 12/8.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, January 10
(Registration begins 12/29.)

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

HOW TO BUILD A WEB PAGE

10-11:30 am Wednesday, December 17
(Registration begins 12/8.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, January 3
(Registration begins 12/22.)

This 90-minute class explores HTML, the language used to create many of the web pages found on the Internet.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

SCAMS AND SPAM

10-11:30 am Thursday, December 18
(Registration begins 12/8.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, January 17
(Registration begins 1/5.)

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

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

GOOGLEMANIA™

3-4:30 pm Friday, December 19
(Registration begins 12/8.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, January 10
(Registration begins 12/29.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, January 31
(Registration begins 1/20.)

Learn searching strategies, tips and tricks for finding better information using the Google™ search engine.

WEB EMAIL

10-11:30 am Saturday, December 20
(Registration begins 12/8.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, January 26
(Registration begins 1/20.)

Learn to access a web email account and to send and receive messages.

ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT ®

10-11:30 am Tuesday, December 23
(Registration begins 12/15.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, January 17
(Registration begins 1/5.)

Everything in a slide can be animated.

Learn the objects that can be added to a slide and the menus that control them.

WORKING WITH WINDOWS ®

6:30-8pm Monday, December 29
(Registration begins 12/22.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, January 7
(Registration begins 12/29.)

This class is designed for those who are not comfortable using multiple windows.

WINWAY RESUME WRITING

10-11:30 am Tuesday, December 30
(Registration begins 12/22.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, January 28
(Registration begins 1/20.)

Learn to create a professional looking resume with Winway Resume Deluxe 11 software.

GRAPHICS AND CLIP ART IN WORD ®

10-11:30 am Thursday, January 8
(Registration begins 12/29.)

Explore the types of objects that can be inserted into a document.

MACROS IN WORD ® AND EXCEL ®

10-11:30 am Thursday, January 22
(Registration begins 1/12.)

Create and explore the uses of macros to accomplish tasks more efficiently.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

ONLINE JOB HUNTING

3-4:30 pm Saturday, January 24
(Registration begins 1/12.)

This class is designed to help job seekers develop Internet and computer skills to help in online job hunting.

Save Money! Join a Library Book Discussion Group

Library book discussions offer opportunities to read and discuss something other than the financial situation, and the books can be borrowed free. Book Discussion dates, times and selections are listed below. Browse the titles, borrow the books, and join in a lively discussion.

2 PM MONDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT

WOODS BRANCH

Killer Riches by Chassie West

Retired DC police officer Leigh Ann Warren sets out to find her missing grandmother and in the process uncovers her own missing heritage.

10 AM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson

After being sheltered for seven weeks in a small Pakistani village, the author vows to return and build the town's first school.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

The Bad Quarto by Jill Paton Walsh

The amateur staging of an obscure version of Hamlet provides Imogen Quy, amateur sleuth and nurse at St. Agatha's College, Cambridge, with clues indicating that the death of a young research fellow was anything but accidental.

NOON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

Murder with Peacocks by Donna Andrews

In this lighthearted mystery, Meg is busily planning three chaotic weddings – including one that uses live peacocks as lawn decorations – when an unpopular out-of-town visitor is found dead. All indications lead to foul play, and subsequent disasters threaten to dampen the wedding festivities.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

Jim The Boy by Tony Earley

A 10-year-old boy takes his first tentative steps toward adulthood in a tiny southern town in the early 20th century, measuring himself against the high standards set by his mother and uncles and the long shadow cast by his dead father.

NOON SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil by Deborah Rodriguez with Kristin Ohlson

The author went to Afghanistan as a nurse's aide, however she soon dis-

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- M. Levy Shankman, Shaker Heights parent

Mandel JCC Day Camps

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January 4: Registration for Mandel JCC members

January 11: Registration open to the community

June 22: First day of camp

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library news

covered that her skills as a trained hairdresser were more valuable. This is the true story of her struggles to establish the country's first modern beauty school.

**2 PM MONDAY, JANUARY 12 AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

The title alone is sufficient to invoke curiosity and the impromptu letters, between a London journalist and eccentric residents of Guernsey, provide a heartwarming, but realistic glimpse of a German occupied British island during WWII, where books and recipes became a lifeline.

**10 AM TUESDAY, JANUARY 13 AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

Blood from a Stone by Donna Leon

An illegal alien from Africa who is selling fake designer bags is killed in a crowded Venice market in this mystery in the Commissario Guido Brunetti series.

**7:30 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 13 AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

The Corpse in the Koryo by James Church

After botching a surveillance assignment, a North Korean state security officer finds himself threatened by competing forces in the country's military and intelligence establishments.

**7 PM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

Farewell, My Subaru: An Epic Adventure in Local Living by Doug Fine

This humorous story about the author's attempt to go green provides many surprising facts about alternative energy, organic and locally grown food, and climate change. A good read for anyone considering going green.

**7:30 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

Suite Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky

Published years after her death, this is the fictionalized account of the German



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Occupation of France. The author, a Russian Jew who immigrated before the war, vividly chronicles a life before the war and her final days in Auschwitz.

Library and Shaker Family Center Co-sponsor Preschool Fair

Shaker Library and Shaker Family Center invite families to a Preschool Fair from 6:30 to 8:00 pm Thursday, January 22 on the second floor of the Main Library.

Representatives from area early childhood programs share information about their programs, and parents have the opportunity to meet directors and staff members and explore the wide variety of options for their children.

The Play and Learn Station is open that evening as well.

For more information, call the Main Library children's department at 216-991-2030 ex 3141.

Friends Funds Free Family Films

Thanks to Friends of the Shaker Library, which underwrites the movie licensing rights, families can enjoy free family flicks on Saturday afternoons at Main Library. Bring your treats and the kids.

Watch the G-rated Disney robot romp, *WALL-E* at 2 p.m. Saturday, December 27 and on 2 p.m. Saturday, January 24, watch *The Little Mermaid*.

Keep Your Place in Line!

Many people sign up to place a popular book or movie on reserve, but are afraid that their items will come in when they're traveling for the holidays. Don't be discouraged! Simply call or visit the Library and ask that the items be suspended, just like the newspapers or mail. Call either library for details.

Holiday Hours

Both libraries are closed Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December

25. Both libraries close at 6 pm Wednesday, December 31 and are closed Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

Both libraries are closed Monday, January 19 for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Weather Reminder!

The Library closes when the snowfall, wind chill factor, and road conditions make travel hazardous. During blizzard conditions when travel advisories are in effect, please be sure to call ahead to make sure that the library is open.

In the event of a weather emergency, please make contingency plans for your school-age children, who may be at the library and need a ride home. Rest assured that no fines will be charged for material returned a day late due to a Library closing.

End Notes


- **Poetry Back in the Woods** will be held at 7 pm Wednesday, December 10 at Woods Branch and will feature readings by poets R.A. Washington and Keisha Foster, and Terry Provost.

- **Knit Nights:** 7 pm Thursdays, December 11 and January 8 at Woods Branch.


- **The Library Board** meets at 6:30 pm Mondays, December 8 at Woods Branch and January 12 in the Main Library Boardroom.

- **Friends of the Shaker Library** meets at 7 pm Tuesdays, December 16 and January 20 at the Main Library.

- **Words to Live By**, a display of fiber art by Contemporary Cloth Artists, is on display on the Art Wall on the second floor of Main Library from December 2-January 2. Meet the artists at the Gallery-opening Reception at 7 pm Tuesday, December 2. ■



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Flooring Takes Center Stage

BY RITA KUEBER

PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO





The stuff beneath your shoes is a make-or-break factor when it comes to how a finished room in your house looks, feels, and flows into the next room. The choices are no longer limited to shag or linoleum – in fact the choices are dizzying. But with a little guidance from the pros, Shaker Heights homeowners can regain their equilibrium to plan and create the perfect floor.

A floor isn't complicated. A house has a structure to hold sub-flooring in place that can be covered by tile, vinyl, hardwood or laminates, then enhanced by area rugs or carpeting. What is complicated is how flooring interacts with the rest of the house in terms of heat and moisture, as well as the appearance and durability of the floor as it interacts with your sofa or walls, cabinets, or even the washing machine.

Shaker Life talked to experts in flooring/covering who routinely work in Shaker, and who agree: No matter what part of the house you're working on, when it comes to fashion for the foundation of the room, education is key, as it drives expectations. Think quality balanced with budget, vision with practicality, public and private spaces, and most importantly, lifestyle.

Tom Pope's South Park Boulevard home (these pages and opening spread) has elegant flooring throughout, installed by The Floor Show.





How Is The Room Used?

“The floor probably isn’t where people start to decorate or redecorate, but it has a major impact on a room,” says Jim Karlovec, owner of a Shaker-based design-build firm.

“We encourage people to think about who uses the room and how. A family with three small children and two big dogs has wear and tear and muddy prints, so they probably shouldn’t consider a marble floor. A house that’s difficult to heat probably should avoid a ceramic or stone floor. And you always want something for your room that’s architecturally appropriate,” he says.

While some homeowners will hire an architect, then a contractor, as a design-build firm Karlovec takes responsibility for the entire process. “Space planning is a skill. We encourage people to think about how the space inside their home functions for them,” he says “If our client is 50 years old or more, we ask about aging in place because older people need modifications to doorways, lighting and heating systems, and as they age, their needs change.”

Love It While You Live There

Lance Calvetta, with brothers Austin and Jason, own The Floor Show. The nine-year-old retail business has a 4,000 square foot showroom packed with samples and flooring systems. Four stores are scattered throughout the region, but the Miles Road location is the mother ship, offering shoppers advice and tours of the choices available today.

“We only work with good-looking lines to narrow down the choices. It’s not as hard as you might think,” Lance says. Their approach is to determine the material first – hardwood, tile, or carpeting. Factor in traffic for the room, budget, length of home ownership, and the style of the house, which leads to colors and patterns.

“That actually gives you fewer choices. We have tons of tile, for example, but asking a few questions points to what’s going to work best for you.” When asked about neutral colors to keep a home salable, he advises, “Buy what you want, and love it

Oriental carpeting is used to beautiful effect in this Chesterton Road home.





while you live there.”

The Floor Show employs about 30 crew members to handle their client installations, and the Calvetas pride themselves on having an experienced installation crew on each job. “Our tile guy does floors, bathrooms, backsplashes, but he always does tile,” Lance says. “He wasn’t out yesterday laying carpet.”

“When you come in and we talk, I go to your house. I measure the job. I write the work order. I talk with the installer that morning before he goes out,” Lance says. The brothers plan to move to a new building next door, with a showroom of 6,000 square feet, freeing up the current space to showcase furniture.

Preserving the Shaker Home Heritage

With 26 years of experience, Dan Dureiko estimates his design-build firm spends 90 percent of its time working in Shaker Heights homes. With a staff of four and additional trusted trade contractors, Dureiko spends the vast majority of his time on kitchens, usually the last project for the homeowner to take on and the one project that needs the most design work and planning.

“Most Shaker homes have hardwood floors in the kitchen, made from Douglas pine, or maple, sometimes oak as in the rest of the house,” Dureiko says. “We advise people to save what they have, it’s the greenest solution and often the best option, even if we have to remove layers that were glued or stapled on top of the original.

“We’ve seen some real damage,” he continues. “I’ve heard contractors tell homeowners ‘I can’t sand that floor.’ But my team and I go the extra mile. Real hardwood is three-quarters of an inch thick, so some days there’s a lot of sanding. We’ve used reclaimed wood to preserve the floor’s character, nicks and all. We’ve done the same with tile. We’ve taken the time to search for tile so we get pieces from the right period.”

Like his fellow design-build firm owner Karlovec, Dureiko is a stickler for getting the right details for each individual house.

Margaret Dobbins enjoys lush carpeting in her Rawnsdale Road home.





"I've done mostly traditional kitchens, and some Scandinavian and Arts & Crafts kitchens," Dureiko says, "but I've never done a European kitchen – they don't fit these houses," – meaning the space-age look of glass and steel surfaces, minimalist lines, no moldings, and big splashes of color. "One of the reasons we're in the business," Karlovec says, "is to preserve our Shaker heritage."

Rich Wools & Hand-dyed Yarns

That perfect new or restored hardwood floor may be crying out for the final touch – an authentic oriental rug – one that will last for generations, or maybe already has.

Erdogan Gezer, a native of Turkey, has been involved in the rug business since the late 1970s. Over the past ten years he and partner Sarah Matters have owned and operated Larchmere Oriental Rugs, a showroom glowing with the jeweled hues of rich wools and hand-dyed yarns.

Even the untrained eye can tell the difference between chemically dyed and organically-dyed rugs – a difference so pronounced, Matters and Gezer liken using such a rug to subbing plastic roses for the real thing in an important centerpiece.

The variety and breadth of designs available are startling. Besides the traditional "Persian" rugs with their elaborate geometric designs in repeated patterns, there are the kilim (flat weave) rugs, perfect foils for the most contemporary designs. Still others have a soft pile and a tone-on-tone subtlety that belie their exotic origins. The showroom also offers folk-art rugs from Nepal and handiwork from Tibetan refugees whose families have been making rugs for generations.

"We want our customers to take advantage of our knowledge," Gezer says. "We try to create trust – we know people don't know much about all this," Matter adds.

Restoring antique rugs is also part of the firm's services. A worn rug can

Sarah Matters and Erdogan Gezer at their Larchmere showroom.





Floor Facts

- Linoleum, now called sheet vinyl, has been almost entirely replaced with an environmentally sensitive version of the heavy flooring called Marmoleum, made from linseed oil, wood flour, resin, jute, and limestone.
- Laminate floors, which resemble hardwood, are called floating floors, as they are not attached to the sub-floor. They interlock in a tongue and groove pattern, similar to hardwood floors.
- Oak, maple, pine and other hardwoods are cut and fitted, and need a little breathing room as the material expands and contracts in hot and cold weather. Coving or shoe molding hides the gap between the wall and the floor with an elegant finish. Bamboo, a renewable resource, is being used as a hardwood floor material.
- Ceramic and porcelain tiles are made all over the world and are used in bathrooms and kitchens. There are four grades of hardness. Porcelain tiles are made from silica sand and fired at high temperatures, creating a more expensive tile. Ceramic tiles are made from clay and are fired at lower temperatures. There is overlap in price between the two types of tile, but the smaller each piece of tile, the more expensive it is.
- Carpeting is made in a variety of textures – plush, patterned, frisé (think shag, but better looking) from either polyester or nylon. Polyester is less expensive, but also less durable. Nylon is considered a better overall, but as with tiles, there is a price overlap between nylon and polyester. Wool carpeting and hand-made carpeting are the most expensive and the most durable. Dupont has created carpeting called Smart Strand. Thirty-seven percent of this attractive frisé carpeting is made from a corn-based polymer.

be repaired by expert weavers working with wools and fragments of the proper age. Cleaning these specialty rugs is also a service the firm offers – a thorough washing on both front and back and air-drying restores the deep colors. “People end up holding a piece of history in their hands,” Matters says.

The same can be said of each house in Shaker Heights, and the stewardship homeowners bring to the community. “In flooring these days we have better products at better price points,” says Jim Karlovec. “There’s never been a better time to work on an old home.” ■

RESOURCES

Jim Karlovec
Karlovec & Company
216.767.1887
www.karlovec.com

Lance, Austin & Jason Calvetta
The Floor Show
23860 Miles Road
216.662.5550
www.calvettabrothers.com

Dan Dureiko
Dureiko Construction
216.321.9555
www.dureiko.com

Erdogan Gezer & Sarah Matters
Larchmere Oriental Rugs
12812 Larchmere Boulevard
216.795.9802
www.larchmererugs.com

Opposite: Contemporary tile in a South Park Boulevard kitchen.

Above: A concrete floor made from recycled material at a Ludlow Road “green” home.



Laura Jacqmin's play *Happyslap* is shown being workshopped in the 2006 Seabury Quinn Jr. Playwriting Festival at Ohio University. The play went on to be produced at OU in 2007. It also received a workshop production at the Contemporary American Theater Festival in 2006, and was a winner of the Global Age Project at Aurora Theatre Company in 2007. PHOTOS COURTESY LAURA JACQMIN



Q&A

Changing the Rules of the World

Shaker's prize-winning playwright talks about her experiences in Shaker schools, the creative process, and her latest projects.

BY SUE STARRETT



Earlier this year, Laura Jacqmin, Shaker Heights High School class of 2000, was named recipient of the second annual Wasserstein Prize for her play *And When We Awoke There Was Light and Light*.

The prestigious \$25,000 award was established in honor of the late playwright, Wendy Wasserstein, and is funded by the Educational Foundation of America. It is intended to provide assistance to an emerging woman playwright "to whom \$25,000 will make a substantial difference in a professional life."

Jacqmin, a product of the Shaker school system, happily qualifies. She is a resident playwright at Chicago Dramatists, a member of the New Voices Network, and a co-founder of the Yale Playwrights Festival. She earned her bachelor's degree at Yale University and her MFA degree from Ohio University.

The Wasserstein Prize was bestowed on Laura in November in New York City, and her winning play received a reading at Second Stage Theater in New York at that time, as well.

How were you nominated for the Wasserstein Prize and how did you hear the good news?

An anonymous group makes the nomination, and this was actually my second. I was asked to send one copy of my script and a resume. I sent my play in December 2007 and found out on April 1. I actually was home in Shaker when the call came – from playwright Christopher Durang – but if I don't recognize the number on my caller ID, I won't pick up. It's just as well, because I got very emotional when I listened to his voicemail.

continued on page 52



a landmark's transformation

BY NANCY O'CONNOR

PHOTOS BY JANET CENTURY

Many restaurateurs have run fine dining establishments with their names etched on the front door. But how many have run restaurants located on streets named for their ancestors?

Bill Van Aken's not-strictly-Italian eatery, Via Van Aken Ristorante, sits in the middle of Van Aken Center along Van Aken Boulevard, which was named for his grandfather William, mayor of Shaker Heights from 1917 to 1950.

"I have pictures of my grandmother doing the ribbon-cutting at the opening of this plaza," says Van Aken.

Van Aken grew up in Shaker Heights, and raised his three children here. For years, he and his kids were regulars at The Italian Café in Van Aken Center, and when he heard the restaurant was for sale, he was interested. With his second wife, Barbara, he bought the restaurant in October 2004.

"One of the first things we did was hire Pete," Van Aken says, referring to his executive chef, Anastasios "Pete" Corfias, the former sous chef at Giovanni's in Beachwood. "He's been a big plus for us." Other distinguished veterans of Giovanni's kitchen include Sergio Abramhoff of Sarava at Shaker Square and Sergio's in University Circle, and Iron Chef and Shaker resident Michael Symon.

Via Van Aken has come a long way from the neighborhood checkered-tablecloth take-out parlor it once was. Along with the menu, its interior also has been revamped, decorated in rich greens and dark wood, with a baby grand piano in the handsome, renovated bar area.

The menu features a wide array of pasta, pizza, steaks, and seafood, including favorites like Lemon Herb Florida Grouper, Dijon Crusted Filet Mignon, and Veal Scaloppini Marsala. The winter months usher back a pan-roasted Maple Leaf duck breast, lamb shanks, and Greek Mousaka. Garlic balls, one holdover from The Italian Café menu, continue to be best-sellers, and, says Corfias, "you can't go wrong with the Chicken Piccata."

He also dares the hearty to order his classic spaghetti and meatballs. "You get nearly a full pound of meatballs in a single order. Few people can eat the whole thing."

Van Aken changed the restaurant's name in 2006. "We came up with 'Via Van Aken' because it is owned by the Van Aken family, at Van Aken Center, on Van Aken Boulevard." The new name also reflects the menu's broadened scope. While Italian dishes still dominate, Corfias also enjoys offering a number of specials with Greek, Spanish, and Asian influences.

"I'll just add specials on a whim," he says. "I'll ask myself, what do I feel like making today? What have I got? This is where we go out of the Italian box. Bill is happy as long as it tastes good and the clients like it."

Osso Bucco, foreground, and Lemon Herb Florida Grouper at Via Van Aken.



Bill Van Aken in his restaurant.

Van Aken recently began offering a Sunday Brunch, in part to fill the void left by the closing of neighbor Eddie Sand's Blue Line Café. Sunday dinner hours were also added, and with the Cleveland Browns scheduled for several late afternoon and prime-time kickoffs this season, the lounge stays open until midnight on Sundays. "So now we're open seven days a week, and we're killing ourselves," he says with a laugh.

Regardless of the Browns' record, winter is a busy time at the restaurant. Reservations are recommended on Friday and Saturday nights, especially if dining between 6 and 8:30. Corfias adds some hearty cold-weather dishes to the menu this time of year, but that doesn't mean they have to be fancy, he says. "Cleveland is a meat and potatoes kind of place. Make a really good meat loaf, and people will love it."

Van Aken is proud that his restaurant enjoys a reputation as a friendly, neighborhood restaurant, and his deep Shaker roots mean lots of familiar faces come through his door.

"I grew up on Douglas Road, in the Mercer area. It was a great neighborhood, with a lot of kids. I still keep in touch with several other people from that street.

"A lot of people call our bar the 'Cheers' bar," he continues. "It's a neighborhood atmosphere. The Quas and the Murphys are here, a lot of the old Shaker families. And

I like that, because they all knew my dad. That's one of the really nice things about this place."

Bill was the youngest of William and Dorothy Van Aken's four children, who also include Nancy, Mary Alice, and Louise. "I was the baby, with three older sisters. It was like having four moms," he jokes. "It was murder." His father was an attorney who ran the Van Aken & Bond law firm. He also served in the Ohio House of Representatives and on Shaker Heights City Council in the 1950s.

Via Van Aken reaches out to non-profits and community groups through several fund-raising projects. The restaurant recently hosted an evening of food, drinks, and music for the Heights Youth Theatre, with 20 percent of each dinner check going to the theatre.

"We try to help the neighborhood associations, Shaker Family Center, the Shaker High football team, the Shaker Ice Show, St. Dominic Church, and others," says Van Aken. "It helps the restaurant and the staff connect to the community."

Via Van Aken is also a popular spot for holiday parties, rehearsal dinners, and other corporate and family functions, and has an active catering and take-out business. If you're not already a Via Van Aken regular, stop in soon. As chef Corfias puts it, "New customers wish they'd found the place sooner."

Via Van Aken Ristorante

Van Aken Center
20153 Van Aken Blvd.
216-752-9994

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 11:30 am-9 pm; Friday, 11:30 am-10 pm; Saturday, 5-10 pm; Sunday Brunch, 10 am-3 pm; dinner, 4-8 pm; Lounge, 1 pm-midnight).

Piano Bar: Wednesday through Saturday evenings, 6:30-9:30 pm.

Every Plate is a Deadline

What if you threw a party for 800, and no one came?

That was the unpleasant possibility Shaker Heights newcomer Patrick O'Connor (no relation to this writer) faced on March 8 as he watched an historic blizzard bury Cleveland under two feet of snow.

The volume of white stuff must have been startling enough in itself for someone reared in Texas and who has spent the bulk of his career there and in Florida.

But it wasn't just the snow that had the executive chef at the InterContinental-Cleveland concerned. That very night, 800 guests were expected at the hotel for the Shaker Schools Foundation's annual "A Night for the Red and White" fundraiser. "What am I going to do with all this food?" he worried.

Looking back, he shakes his head in wonderment. "I was amazed – 500 people attended, despite the storm." One of those in attendance, Foundation board member Lauren Bowen, agrees that "it was extraordinary that so many turned out. And the InterContinental was very good to us," she says. "They worked with us so that we didn't lose any money on the buffet." (2009's event again will be held at the InterContinental.)

Table 45 at the InterContinental-Cleveland has some of the area's top culinary talent. Center left is Shaker resident Table 45 owner Zack Bruell. Executive Chef O'Connor is center right. Sous Chef Thomas Shrenk is at far left, and Restaurant Chef Rich Argoso is at far right.



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Pulling off parties like the Foundation's fundraiser is part of a day's work for the 39-year-old O'Connor, who oversees all food services for the InterContinental, Ohio's only five-diamond hotel. His charges include the upscale Table 45 Restaurant and Bar, owned by Shaker resident Zach Bruell; the North Coast Café, which serves breakfast and lunch; room services for guests of the InterContinental Hotel, InterContinental Suites Hotel, and the Cleveland Clinic Guest House; and hundreds of private parties, fundraisers, and other banquets held at the facility each year.

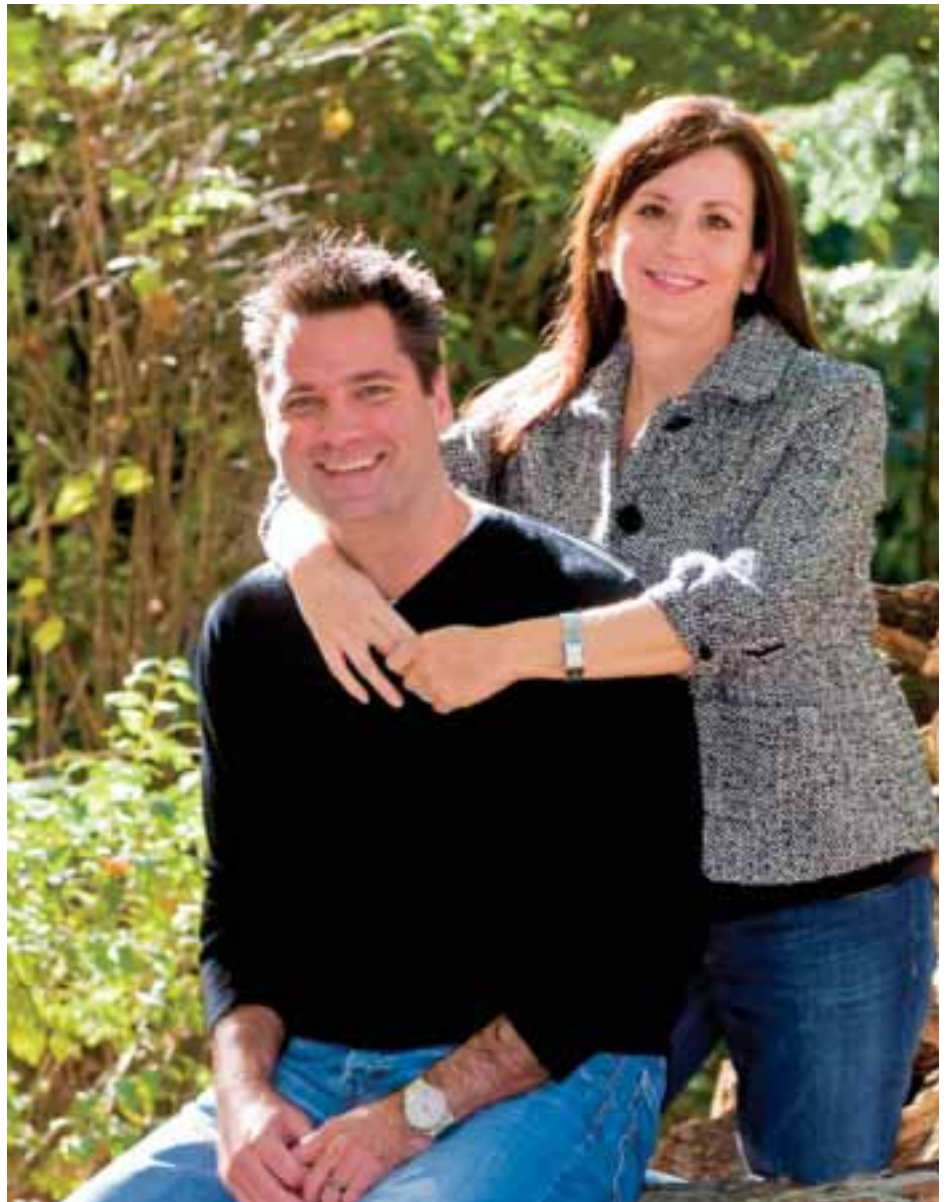
It's a dream job for O'Connor, who discovered early in his career that the hotel industry suited him better than the solo restaurant world. "Hotel work has many more dimensions. I like that. It offers more creativity and," he admits, "more headaches."

His culinary career was launched in his childhood kitchen. Born in Pontiac, Michigan, he moved with his family to Houston at age seven. "I was the oldest of six children, and my mom hated to cook, so I helped out."

He studied at the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Then, desiring to learn more about pastry, he worked for three years at the Four Seasons Hotel in Houston. To hone his business skills, he studied restaurant management at Florida International University in Miami.

At just 25, he found himself Executive Chef at Waterways in Miami. But two years later, feeling he needed to learn still more, he returned to Houston and

Patrick and Jill O'Connor outside their Shaker home, October 2008.



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worked as a line chef at the Ritz Carlton. He spent another eight years at Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin in Orlando, which boasted 18 restaurants, 2,500 guest rooms, and frequent banquets for groups as large as 8,000.

He joined the InterContinental family after accepting a position at its Dallas location. In January 2008, he was transferred to Cleveland. The prestige of the Cleveland Clinic appealed to him, as did "being presented with a new dynamic of clientele – some are sick, or have relatives and friends who are sick." Making people happy, he notes, "is one of the greatest joys of my job."

On the flip side, he points out, "Chefs have a lot riding on their shoulders. Like art, food appreciation is personal. Every plate is a deadline, and the quality has to be consistent. Plus, there is the business side of it, keeping bosses happy."

The hours can also be grueling. He works between 60 and 80 hours a week. "A mentor once told me that you can have a wife, but you marry the business. It can be hard on family when you work nights, weekends, and holidays."

That didn't deter him, however, from marrying Jill Evans last summer, and the two are expecting their first child in February. All the more reason why O'Connor is glad to have settled in Shaker Heights.

"I always rent when I first move to a new city, to get a feel for the place. Being close to work was my top priority. I looked downtown, and around University Circle, but wasn't seeing what I wanted. Then, our realtor showed us an apartment in a coach house on a beautiful South Park estate, and we took it." He's now just a short drive from work, and come blizzard or baby, just a short drive from home. ■



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Corfias: "Whatever my girlfriend Kaitlin wants cooked on the grill."

O'Connor: "We're big fans of Mexican food, but my favorite thing to cook is just food – there's so much to try."

(Second) Favorite Restaurant:

Corfias: Lure Bistro in Willoughby

O'Connor: Sarava at Shaker Square

Cookbook that Belongs In Every Kitchen:

Corfias: "The Culinary Institute of America workbook. It's my Bible. As long as you can measure, you'll do pretty well with it."

O'Connor: Le Guide Culinaire, by legendary French chef Escoffier

Essential Tools in Every Kitchen:

Corfias: "Your hands. I have no time for meat thermometers."

O'Connor: "High quality chef and paring knives. I like Mack and Shun brands."

Favorite TV Chef:

Corfias: "Alton Brown of the Food Network. It's like 'Bill Nye the Science Guy meets food.'"

O'Connor: "Gordon Ramsay. Hell's Kitchen, Kitchen Nightmares. He gets away with what every chef wants to do but can't, like throwing pots and pans."

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Climbing Mountains

Organist Florence Mustric has recorded a series of CDs featuring one of Greater Cleveland's most unusual instruments.

BY RORY O'CONNOR


PHOTOS © JOE GLICK PHOTOGRAPHY

Florence Mustric is one of the most talented of Shaker's numerous and gifted amateur musicians. She also might be the most physically fit. She told The Plain Dealer arts writer Donald Rosenberg that recording her recently released CD of classical music, *East of Berlin*, on a unique old pipe organ "was like climbing mountains."

So she demonstrates for Shaker Life, punctuating the explanation with words like "strenuous" and "aerobic."


"Up here you have four keyboards," she gestures. "Down here you have the pedals. You're playing with both your hands and feet," she gestures again, pumping her shoulders, raising and lowering her legs. "And to top it off, this music is very challenging."

The reference is to the CD's centerpiece, Mussorgsky's famous "Pictures at an Exhibition," which Mustric, a graduate of Oberlin College and the Cleveland Institute of Music, transcribed for organ. This is not to leave out several pieces by three other composers – Ben-Haim, Sokola, and Suda – that round out the CD. Combine the extraordinary music with the unique



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instrument on which Florence performed – the Beckerath pipe organ at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on West 30th Street in Cleveland – and you have a musical (and physical) workout nonpareil.

Then add into the mix Alan Bise, one of Greater Cleveland's preeminent recording engineers and a very exacting classical music producer. He had his recording gear set up in the church, getting every pitch and nuance while Florence wrestled with and caressed the enormous Beckerath. "I finish a piece, and Alan says, 'That was great, Florence. Can we do it again?'"

Mustric performs on the Beckerath the first two Wednesdays of every month for a free program called Music Near the Market. Robert Myers, Trinity's music and choir director, plays the last two Wednesdays. But for all their talent, the real attraction in the choir loft is the Beckerath.

Built in German workshops in the early 1950s, it was the first pipe organ Rudolph von Beckerath built for the international market. It came to Cleveland down the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1956 and was trucked to Trinity and assembled by technicians who had accompanied it on its journey. Beckerath himself came a few months later for a run-through.

According to the Beckerath web site, the instrument "was regarded as an absolute novelty" when it got here. It has 3,467 pipes, some as small as a little finger, some 16 feet long.

It is a purely mechanical instrument (as opposed to electrical) and as such could have been built in the 17th century were it not for the tiny electrical motor that silently pumps air to the pipes. "The Beckerath is beautiful, you can clearly hear every nuance of every pitch," Mustric says, calling it a "showcase" instrument.

"Beckerath had instruments all over Europe, but he wanted one in the United States," she says. "This was difficult for him because he had been in the German army during the Second World War."

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A partial array of the Beckerath organ's 3,467 pipes as seen from the church floor.

That's to say, in post-war America, some strong prejudices remained against German combat soldiers. But Trinity's organist and choir director at the time, Ralph Schultz, was not hobbled by resentment. He just wanted a great instrument. He ordered the Beckerath sight unseen, based on a recommendation by Robert Noehren, who taught organ at the University of Michigan.

"Gee, I don't know, back in those days it probably would have cost somewhere around \$50,000 maybe?" Mustric says.

Mustric and Bise began recording in November 2006, took a break in December and January, and wrapped in March 2007. It was a harsh winter, frequently making recording impossible. The radiators in the church clanged, and there were blizzards that kept at least one of the registrants – those necessary human adjuncts to organ performance who operate the instrument's numerous stop knobs – from showing up.



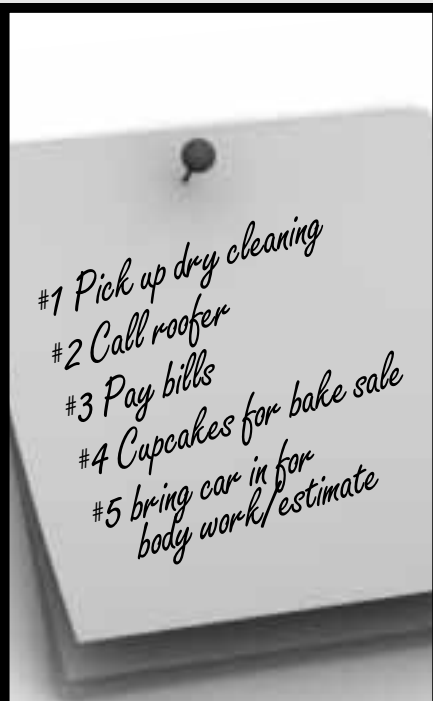
But eventually they recorded enough music for five CDs, which will be released as a series by the MSR Classical label. *East of Berlin*, the first in the series, was released in June 2008. It has been entered in the 2008 Grammy competition. Rosenberg, writing in *Gramophone* magazine, said, "Mustric plays the Mussorgsky as if the work were born for organ."

Mustric, a native Cleveland, financed the recording sessions herself. She makes her living as a writer and editor, but just because she doesn't earn a living from music day-to-day, it seems somehow disingenuous to call her an amateur: Her musical dedication, her world-class skills, and her master's degree in organ performance mark her otherwise.

And, interestingly, she does not keep an organ in her Shaker Boulevard home.

She practices on a piano, taking a much-needed break from mountain climbing. ■

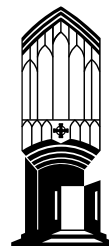
Florence Mustric's CD can be purchased from her web site, www.Florencemustric.com or from MSR Classical at www.msrdc.com

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Changing the Rules

continued from page 37

What is the genesis of the play you submitted?

The way I write is to come up with the seed of an idea, but I don't really start until I know the last scene. If you know the end, it will change the way you thought you were going to get there. For *And When We Awoke There Was Light and Light*, I had the idea in the summer of 2007, when a friend from Shaker was visiting. The play is about an American teenage girl's online relationship with an African child warrior. I wrote it in three weeks last November, as a commission for the Victory Gardens Theater here in Chicago.

As a woman playwright, did you feel a kinship with Wendy Wasserstein before receiving this honor?

I hadn't met her, but she is one of the people I grew up reading. At holiday time I'd put random plays on my gift list, and by the eighth or ninth grade, I was reading Sam Shepard, Edward Albee, and Wendy Wasserstein. After I received the prize, I reread *The Heidi Chronicles* and realized there is a lot of overlap with her themes and mine.

This isn't the first honor you have received. What other forms of recognition and support have come your way?

I keep a spreadsheet of all the grants I apply for and I always think, "If one thing works out...." I was fortunate to receive the 2006 Ohio University SEA research and development grant, which led to my residency with the American Antiquarian Society. It was there that I found background information for *10 Virgins*, which was just staged by Chicago Dramatists and is my first full-length play to be produced.

Happyslap was a winner of Aurora Theatre Company's 2007 Global Age Project in Berkeley, California. I have had a lot of short work produced, including three works for Collaboraction in

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Chicago, a one-act for Perishable Theatre in Providence, Rhode Island, and a piece at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

You have said elsewhere that Chicago is fertile territory for aspiring young playwrights and that in New York, it's harder to be noticed. However, you do have an East Coast presence.

I belong to a theater company in New York, The 24 Hour Plays: Old Vic/New Voices at Atlantic Theater. Last summer 40 of us – all under the age of 26 – got together and in a 24-hour time span wrote, rehearsed, and produced a show! My one-act play, *Ski Dubai*, premiered there in August of this year. But since I graduated from Ohio University in 2006, I have lived in Chicago. My position at Chicago Dramatists will last through 2009. I am fortunate to be able to have readings of my works there, and I also teach, which I love. It feels very natural,

helping people learn how to say what they need to say.

Tell us about your experience in the Shaker schools. When did you start writing?

I remember writing a story in the third grade at Fernway Elementary School. In the sixth grade I wrote a play that won the Marilyn Bianchi Award from Dobama Theater, where I later took two workshops.

All through high school I was involved in theater. I took Ensemble junior year and realized that acting was not my area, but I think I wrote for New Stages every year. I wrote all the time and really appreciated Ned Galloway's playwriting classes.

I also played French horn and was in the pit for all the musicals. High school for me was evenly split between theater and wind ensemble. First period was band, and second period was playwriting.

From Shaker High you went to Yale, and

then to Ohio University. How did your college experiences shape you?

When I applied to Yale, I sent examples of my plays and a recording of myself playing French horn. I wanted to pursue both, and I was in the Yale Symphony Orchestra my freshman year. But I had a scheduling conflict the following year, and I haven't looked back. I loved writing and directing at Yale. It's a supportive environment, so do-it-yourself.

Because I was involved in all aspects of production, I ended up co-founding the Yale Playwrights Festival in my junior year. There were few opportunities for undergraduate playwrights, so I decided to do something to change that. My mentor was Tracy Letts, who won a 2008 Pulitzer Prize for August: Osage County.

After I graduated in 2004, I went to Ohio University for my MFA, and I can't say enough about the program. I learned so much and wrote so much. You think you know a lot after reading a lot




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of plays, but you have to write.

What are your goals in writing a play?

I have two overall missions in writing: to work on telling a totally different story every time and to put it in a different package every time. I vary my scene structures and change the “rules of the world” to keep things interesting.

What are some of the ongoing themes in your writing?

I write a lot about American foreign policy, indirectly; the ambiguity of heroism; personal responsibility in the face of tragedy; what it is to be a woman and an American; the relationship of fathers and daughters. I write about everything. If I can move someone to a different emotional plane, that's good.

Will the \$25,000 stipend make a difference in your life?

It is the greatest gift! I am already so fortunate. I have parents and grandparents who have been supportive spiritually, financially, and so on. Then I got to go to Yale and luckily had a scholarship for Ohio University. But I was at a point in Chicago where something needed to happen. I thought about going to a temp agency or working at Starbucks. But the prize gives me two years when I don't have to go to Craig's List every day to look for additional work.

What's next?

I have several new projects, and now I have the freedom to work on them. One is a musical; it's a new and different world of writing, and it's set in Cleveland. The composer is a Shaker friend, Jacob Feitler. The next project is called Holiday Girl, and it's a dark comedy, a satire. Another is a comedy that explores how Americans can be moved to torture. And I have 10-page snippets of things that need to be developed. I've been this busy since March, and it's great! ■

Ongoing Activities for Families

MONDAYS: Learning English as a Family (LEAF), 6:45-8 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Free literacy program for non-English speaking families with children ages 2½-5. Weekly sessions offer adult ESL class, while children play in the Patricia S. Mearns Family Playroom with LEAF early childhood educators. Bi-weekly home visits with early childhood educators also offered. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

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

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions, 9:30 AM-NOON, PATRICIA S. MEARN'S FAMILY PLAYROOM AT SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parents and caregivers with children ages birth to 5 years old can come to play, make

friends, and network. Playroom is also open from 4-6 pm Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. FEES AND INFO: 216-921-2023.

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS: Drop-In Play 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.

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. Afternoon hours: 1-3 pm Thursdays and Evening Hours: 6-8 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays. INFO: 216-991-2030 OR 216-921-2023.

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

in literacy play sessions just for home day care providers and their children birth to age 5, co-sponsored by Shaker Library and Shaker Family Center. INFO: 216-991-2030 OR 216-921-2023.

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

SATURDAYS: Family Gym, 10 AM-NOON, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Parents play with their children (birth-6 years old) while they enjoy exercise equipment and activities in the gym and muscle room, (No sessions Dec. 27, Jan. 3, and 17.) Discount passes available at Shaker Family Center. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

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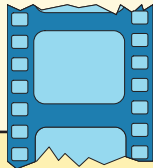
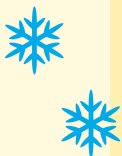
**SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& MUSEUM**
16740 South Park Boulevard
216-921-1201

SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
20600 Shaker Boulevard
216-295-4100








THORNTON PARK
3301 Warrensville Center Road
216-491-1295

december

highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Deadline for Nominations Human Relations MLK award. (pg. 58)	Meet the Author Michael Swiger. 7 pm, Woods Branch. (pg. 58) Writers Center Stage Jane & Michael Stern, 7:30 pm, Ohio Theatre. (pg. 64)	Toy Donation Drop-off 12/2-3 9 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 58) The Beatles in Cleveland 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 59)	Used Toy Sale 10 am, Shaker Family Center Gym. (pg. 59) 	Ragtime 12/4-6 8 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 59)	Annual Jewelry Show 12/5-7 11:30 am, 2951 Drummond. (pg. 60)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Laurel School's Artisan Bazaar 12/6-7 10 am, One Lyman Circle. (pg. 60)	Winter Concert, 7:30 pm, Hathaway Brown School. (pg. 61)	Babes in Nature 10 am, Nature Center. (pg. 61)	Poetry Back in the Woods 7 pm, Woods Branch. (pg. 61)	Gene's Jazz Hot: In Concert 7 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 61) Caps for Kids 9 am, Woods Branch. (pg. 61)	Dichroic Designs of Shaker Heights Thru 12/30. (pg. 58)	Teddy Bear Tea 12:30 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (pg. 61)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Holiday Open House 2 pm, Shaker Historical Museum. (pg. 61)	Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band Concert 7:30 pm, Shaker High.	Concert Band & Concert Winds 7:30 pm, Shaker High.	4th Annual Senior Holiday Dinner 12:30 pm, Tubbs Jones Community Building. (pg. 61) Choir Concert 7:30 pm, Shaker High.	38th Annual Thornton Park High School Hockey Tournament 12/17-21 (pg. 61)	Celebration of Lights 5:30 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 61)	
	HANUKKAH 22 CityMusic Cleveland 7:30 pm, Fairmount Presbyterian Church. (pg. 66)	23	CHRISTMAS EVE 24	CHRISTMAS DAY 25	KWANZAA 26 Court closed.	27 Free Family Flick "Wall-E" 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 60) 
28	29	30	31			
	Parent & Child Play Sessions Ongoing. 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center (pg. 55)	Kwanzaa Celebration 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 62)				

january highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3
			 			
4	5 Drop-In Play Sessions, Ongoing. 2 pm, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 55)	6 Play & Learn Station Ongoing. 10 am, Main Library (pg. 55)	7	8 Annex Gallery Opening Reception & Gene's Jazz Hot, 6 pm, Loganberry Books. (pg. 62)	9 Winter Concert in Dance, 7 pm, Shaker High	10 North Union Farmers Market Indoor Winter Market, 9 am, Shaker Square. (pg. 62)
11 Bernarda Fink, 7:30 pm, Severance Hall. (pg. 66) 	12 Mom & Tot Dance Class, 10 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 62) Joe the Coupon Guy, 7 pm, Woods Branch. (pg. 62)	13	14 Understanding Your New Baby, 10 am, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 62)	15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Student Writing Contest Reception, 4:30 pm, Main Library. (pg. 63)	
18 US Figure Skating Championships 1/18-25 Quicken Loans Arena (pg. 66) 	19 MLK, JR. DAY Schools, city offices, court and libraries closed.	20 Inauguration, Noon, Main Library. (pg. 63)	21 Meet the Author, Marcia Pledger 7 pm, Woods Branch. (pg. 63) 	22 Preschool Fair, 6:30 pm, Main Library. (pg. 63) Jazz Band Concert,, 7 pm, Shaker Middle School. (pg. 63)	23	24 Discovery Day, 10 am, Hathaway Brown School. (pg. 63)
25 Sixth Annual Northeast Ohio Band Invitational 2 pm, Severance Hall. (pg. 67)	26	27	28 Winter Orchestra Concert, 7:30 pm, Shaker High. 	29 Martin Luther King Celebration, 7 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 63)	30 Godspell, 1/16 & 1/30 7 pm, Heights Youth Theatre Wiley Auditorium. (pg. 66)	31 Merce Cunningham Dance 8 pm, Playhouse Square. (pg. 67)



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Events for *December*

Thru January 25: **Hats Off,** SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Explore history through fashion with this exhibit that features a selection of hats and bonnets from the Shakers to the present day. FEES & INFO: 216-921-1201.

Dec. 1: **Deadline for Nominations** for the Human Relations MLK award. INFO: 216-491-1400 OR WWW.SHAKERONLINE.COM

Dec. 1–Dec. 30: **Dichroic Designs of Shaker Heights,** 24060 WIMBLEDON RD. Open for holiday shopping by appointment. Call and schedule a time to shop for unique, hand-crafted jewelry and gift items, vintage purses, collector magnets and more...with a portion of the proceeds benefitting The Gathering Place. Also custom made Breast Cancer Survivor Jewelry for sale with all profits going to The Gathering Place. INFO: MIMI TESTEN, 216-751-8624.

Dec. 2 & 3: **Toy Donation Drop Off, 9 AM-3PM,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Drop off your gently used or like-new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys, and baby equipment and get a tax deduction. Donated items must be clean, working, containing all pieces and parts, and age appropriate. Please include batteries for items that require them. NO stuffed animals or car seats accepted. INFO: 216-921-2023.

Dec. 2: **Meet the Author, 7 PM,** BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Meet author

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out & about

Michael Swiger who will talk about his writing and discuss his latest thriller. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Dec. 2: Meet the Artists, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the Contemporary Cloth artists whose work is on display on the Main Library's second floor through Jan. 2. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Dec. 2: St. Dominic School Band Concert, 7 PM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD.

Dec. 3: The Beatles in Cleveland, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Dave Schwensen gives a multi-media presentation about the Fab Four's two concerts in Cleveland. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Dec. 4: Used Toy Sale, 10 AM-5 PM, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER GYM. Browse and buy the bargains and benefit the Family Center. INFO: 216-921-2023.

Dec. 4, 5 & 6: Ragtime, 8 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. The Tony Award-winning musical version of E.L. Doctorow's 1975 novel. TICKETS & INFO: 216-295-4258.

Dec. 4: Luncheon & Entertainment Package, 11:30 AM-3:45 PM, TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Enjoy lunch at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building followed by *A Christmas Story* at the Cleveland Play House. \$40/person. INFO: 216-491-1360.

Dec. 4: Annex Gallery-Opening Reception, 6-8 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS, 13015 LARCHMERE BLVD. *Exceptional Light* is an exhibit of David Perelman-Hall's photography. The Cleveland Heights photographer's work includes portrait, land-



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out & about

scape, nature, close-up, and digitally altered fine art photography. Show continues through January 5. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Dec. 5, 6 & 7: Annual Jewelry Show, 11:30 AM-4:30 PM, 2951 DRUMMOND RD. Lois Becker's annual sale features hand made necklaces, bracelets, earrings and pins, hand painted and decorated vests, and bead kits for kids. INFO: 216-921-3083.

Dec. 6: Sugarplum Workshop, 9-11:30 AM, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. Help your children experience the joy of holiday giving by making gifts for family and friends. Crafts range from 25¢ to \$2.75 with most under \$1. INFO: 216-921-3510.

Dec. 6: Breakfast with Santa, 10 AM-NOON, CLEVELAND SKATING CLUB, 2500 KEMPER RD. Pancake breakfast and story time, free Santa hat and goodie bags. Plus one lucky someone will win a Christmas tree. \$7/person. INFO: DEBRA HEGLER, SHAKER HEIGHTS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 216-392-8688.

Dec. 6 & 7: Laurel School's Artisan Bazaar, 10 AM-5 PM, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. A juried show featuring beautiful handcrafted arts and crafts by Northeast Ohio's finest artisans. Sunday hours: 11 am-4 pm Admission: \$3/person. INFO: 216-464-1441.

Dec. 7: Community Forum: Inside Cleveland Arts: Who are the Winners?, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. How are arts groups chosen to receive local tax revenue? Join Tom Schorgl, President of Community



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Partnership for Arts and Culture, and Cathy Boyle, Executive Director of Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, in a forum on the present and future direction of the arts in Northeast Ohio. Light refreshments and childcare provided. INFO: SUSAN ALCORN, 216-640-3891.

Dec. 7: St. Dominic Guild "Little Folks Shop," 10 AM-1 PM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD. Gifts to fit the littlest budgets and the biggest hearts. INFO: 216-561-4400 EX.172.

Dec. 8: Winter Concert, 7:30 PM, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 NORTH PARK BLVD. A showcase of all three Hathaway Brown Upper School music ensembles: HB Singers, Bravuras, and Orchestra. The concert features classic works by composers such as Handel and Mozart, holiday selections, folk songs and more. The orchestra and choirs perform the finale from the Solemn Vespers by Mozart. Free. INFO: 216-320-8796 EX. 7122.

Dec. 9: Babes in Nature, 10-10:45 AM, NATURE CENTER. Explore a variety of sensory experiences to introduce babies (ages 2 months to 2 years) and their caregivers to the natural world. Fee per stroller: \$5/members; \$7/non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 EX. 235.

Dec. 10: Poetry Back in the Woods, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Enjoy poetry read by poets, R.A. Washington, Keisha Foster, and Terry Provost. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Dec. 11: Gene's Jazz Hot: In Concert, 7-9 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS. Gene Epstein on bass, Seth Rosen on guitar and mandolin, Bill Kenney on clarinet, and vocals by Peggi Cella.

Join them for some hot holiday cheer. Donations for the band warmly accepted. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Dec. 11: Caps for Kids, 9 AM-9 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Hats off to community volunteers! Bring your knitted or crocheted cap to the library to be delivered to Project ACT. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Dec. 13: Whose Tracks Are These?, 10-11 AM, NATURE CENTER. Take a naturalist-led trek to follow the tracks. Free. INFO: 216-321-5935.

Dec. 13: Teddy Bear Tea, 12:30-2 PM, TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Dress up and bring a favorite teddy bear or doll. Enjoy tea, sandwiches and cookies while listening to stories. \$7/family. INFO: 216-491-1360.

Dec. 14: Holiday Open House, 2-5 PM, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Annual open house with music, refreshments, and a silent auction of miniature decorated holiday trees. Bring your family, friends and neighbors. Free. INFO: 216-921-1201.

Dec. 15: Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

Dec. 16: Concert Band & Concert Winds, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

Dec. 17: Choir Concert, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

Dec. 17: 4th Annual Senior Holiday Dinner, 12:30 PM, TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Get decked out and come to a free, festive holiday lunch. RESERVATIONS: 216-491-1360.

Dec. 17-21: 38th Annual Thornton Park High School Hockey

Tournament, THORNTON PARK ICE ARENA. High sticks, hat tricks, and hijinks at this high school holiday tourney. INFO: 216-491-1290.

Dec. 18: Knit Night, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Take a break from the holiday hoopla and drop in and knit. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Dec. 19: Holiday Night Lights, 4-9 PM, TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING. Dinner at Sokolowski's at University Inn in Tremont followed by a Lolly the Trolley tour of Cleveland's Holiday Lights. \$30/person (cafeteria-style dinner not included.) INFO: 216-491-1360.

Dec. 19: Celebration of Lights, 5:30-8 PM, NATURE CENTER. Learn about holiday traditions from around the world as you trek about the Nature Center. \$10/member adult; \$15/non-member adult; \$5/12 & under member; \$10/12 & under non-member; children 2 & under free. Registration required. INFO: 216-321-5935.

Dec. 22: Hanukkah

Dec. 22-Jan. 4: Shaker Schools Winter Break. Classes resume January 5.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve. Schools, libraries & city offices closed. Court closes at noon.

Dec. 25: Christmas Day. Schools, libraries, city offices, and court closed.

Dec. 26: Court closed.

Dec. 26: Kwanzaa.

Dec. 27: Free Family Flick, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Too much holiday hap-



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pininess? Take the kids to the library to
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E*. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**Dec. 30: Kwanzaa Celebration, 7
PM, MAIN LIBRARY.** Music, stories and a
celebration of traditional African val-
ues of family, community responsibil-
ity, commerce, and self-improvement.
One of the values, *Nia*, encourages us
to look within ourselves and to set
personal goals that are beneficial to
the community. INFO: 216-991-2030

Events for January

Jan. 1: New Year's Day. Schools,
libraries, city offices and court
closed.

**Jan. 8: Annex Gallery Opening
Reception & Gene's Jazz Hot, 6-8 PM,**
LOGANBERRY BOOKS. View the exhibit,
*Polaroid Transfers & Poetic Broad-
sides* by Ann Caywood Brown and Hugh
Brown. Ann is a painter and pho-
tographer. Hugh has a collection of
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of poetry rendered in a visual dis-
play that make the work sing both in
word and display. Some are by famous
authors such as John Updike, and are
signed. Gene's Jazz Hot plays next
door in the LitArts room. INFO: 216-
795-9800.

**Jan. 9: Winter Concert in Dance,
7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.**

**Jan. 10: North Union Farmers
Market Indoor Winter Market, 9
AM-NOON, SHAKER SQUARE.** The market
goes inside on Saturdays in the two
store fronts between Dewey's and
CVS. Buy fresh and local and keep
warm. INFO: 216-751-7656.

**Jan. 12: Mom & Tot Dance Class,
10 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD
DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE
CENTER.** Dancing with a parent or
caregiver, children (ages 2-4 years)
learn basic dance skills and explore
rhythm, balance, and coordination.
Energetic music and props encour-
age movement discovery. \$60/5 week
session thru Feb. 23. INFO: KAREN
GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Jan. 12: Dance for Young
Children, 11 AM, HANNA PERKINS
CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/
CHILD RESOURCE CENTER.** Boys and girls
ages 3½-4 years learn simple dances
and are encouraged to explore move-
ment creatively. Using fun music and
props, children explore rhythm, bal-
ance, and coordination (parent stays
but doesn't participate). \$60/5-week
session (Jan. 12-Feb.23) INFO: KAREN
GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Jan. 12: Joe the Coupon Guy, 7
PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH.** Get some
money saving tips from the master of
coupon clippers. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**Jan. 13: Babes in Nature, 10-10:45
AM, NATURE CENTER.** Explore a variety
of sensory experiences to introduce
babies (2 months to 2 years) and
their caregivers to the natural world.
Fee per stroller: \$5/members; \$7/
non-members. INFO: 216-321-5935 EX
235.

**Jan. 14: Understanding Your New
Baby, 10 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER
FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-REINBERGER
PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910
MALVERN RD.** Parent group for parents
of new babies. Discuss sleeping, eat-
ing, crying, parental fatigue, baby-sit-
ting, in-laws & spouses, and whatever
else you want to discuss. Group led
by Deborah Paris, L.I.S.W. \$150/10-

out & about

week session thru Mar. 18. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

Jan. 15: N.O.B.S. Forums Show And Tell, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS. Crow about your new finds and treasures. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and we learn from peers what makes something collectible. Personal stories, mysteries, and questions welcome. You might learn something new about your own book. Donation: \$3/person. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Jan. 16: Laurel School Pre-Primary "Drop-in," 9:30 AM, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. Contact Laurel's Admission Office: 216-464-0946.

Jan. 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Writing Contest Reception, 4:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the winners in the Library's 11th annual student writing contest and hear them read their heart-warming essays. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Schools, city offices, court and libraries closed.

Jan. 20: Inauguration, NOON. Watch the historic event on the library's big-screen TVs then check out a book on presidents and the process.

Jan. 21: Laurel School Pre-Primary Admission Morning, 8:45 AM. Contact Laurel's Admission Office: 216-464-0946.

Jan. 21: Meet the Author, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Meet Marcia Pledger, author of *My Biggest Mistake and How I Solved It*. INFO: 216-991-2421.

Jan. 22: Bloomsday & Austeniana Clubs, 7 PM, LOGANBERRY BOOKS. The Bloomsday Club is working its way through the great *Ulysses* by James Joyce. The Austeniana Club has already devoured all of Jane Austen's published novels, and will discuss the *Pride and Prejudice* trilogy spin-off by Pamela Aidan. The Fitzwilliam Darcy, Gentleman trilogy begins with *An Assembly Such as This*, and continues with *Duty and Desire* and concludes with *These Three Remain*. INFO: 216-795-9800.

Jan. 22: Preschool Fair, 6:30-8 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Drop in and explore your preschool options. INFO: 216-991-2030.

Jan. 22: Jazz Band Concert, 7 PM, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Woodbury and Shaker Middle School students band together to offer a jazz concert. INFO: 216-295-5581.

Jan. 24: Discovery Day, 10 AM-NOON, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 NORTH PARK BLVD. Early Childhood and Kindergarten visitation event. Children enjoy a fun-filled morning of activities, music and play, while parents meet the teachers and visit the classrooms during this introduction to the enriched Early Childhood and Kindergarten programs at Hathaway Brown School. Free. Call 216-320-8098 by January 21 to reserve your place.

Jan. 28: Winter Orchestra Concert, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

Jan. 29: Martin Luther King Celebration, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. The City's Human Relations Commission presents a gala event with the high school choirs, the



Georgia Murray knows the benefits of the Shaker Heights community because she grew up and raised her family here. After cheering for the Red Raider football team, Georgia would head over to Draeger's to enjoy a hot fudge sundae. Traditional values. Simple pleasures. Fine homes. Ongoing commitment to excellence. All make Shaker an exceptional place to call home.

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out & about

Woodbury School bell choir and recognition of the Library's writing contest winners. INFO: 216-491-1400.

Jan. 30: Winter Visitation Day, 8:15 AM-1:30 PM, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL. Girls interested in applying for grades 2-12 are invited to discover how the school offers its students *a thousand ways to be wildly successful*. Tour the school, attend classes, and meet students and faculty. Optional program and tour for parents is offered from 8:30-9:30 am. Free. Reservations are required. INFO: 216-320-8767.

Jan. 30: Laurel School Primary School Preview, 8:45 AM. Contact Laurel's Admission Office: 216-464-0946.

In the Circle and Beyond

THRU JAN. 18: Artistic Luxury: Fabergé, Tiffany, Lalique, THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, 11150 EAST BLVD. A comparative study of the artistry of the three most prominent designers of jewelry and luxury goods at the end of the Gilded Age. Many of the objects are from private collections and have rarely been seen. TICKETS & INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

DEC. 2: Writers Center Stage, 7:30 PM, OHIO THEATRE AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE. Meet Jane & Michael Stern, authors of more than thirty books about America and the "Roadfood" column for *Gourmet* magazine. (Their review of Shaker Square's Balaton: "A meal at Balaton is Old-World elegant.") Tickets: \$30/person. INFO: 216-749-9486.

DEC. 3: Chamber Music Festival: Faculty Recital, 8 PM, CIM KULAS HALL, 11021 EAST BLVD. The Chamber music festival from December 3-12, features

strings and string/piano, brass and woodwind chamber music performed by faculty and guest artists, including the esteemed Cavani String Quartet with Joshua Smith on flute. Free. INFO: 216-791-5000 OR www.cim.edu.

DEC. 5: Annual Poinsettia Show, 10 AM-4 PM, ROCKEFELLER GREENHOUSE, 750 EAST 88TH ST. Enjoy a display of holiday flowers thru January 2. Free. INFO: 216-664-3103.

DEC. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27, AND JAN. 2 & 3: Peter Pan, 8 PM, BECK THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 17801 DETROIT AVE. Audiences of all ages will love J.M. Barrie's timeless story set to music and filled with pirates, fairies, feats of flying, and the dastardly Captain Hook. Sunday matinees at 3 pm. INFO: 216-521-2540.

DEC. 6, 7, 13 & 14: Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Christmas Tree Adventure, 10:15 AM, ROCKSIDE STATION. Ride to the Village of Peninsula, visit Heritage Farms and pick out your tree for the holiday. Enjoy a cup of cocoa or cider and watch your tree get bundled and delivered to the train for transport back to your car. \$25/adults, \$12/children (3-12). INFO: 330-657-2000.

DEC. 7: Winter Lights Lantern Festival and Holiday CircleFest, 1:30-5:30 PM, THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART. Entertainment and lantern-making highlighted by a procession of illuminated dancers, giant puppets and handmade lanterns. Free. INFO: JIM KOPNISKE, 216-707-2261.

DEC. 10: "Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jesus" with Christopher Taylor, piano, 7:30 PM, OLD STONE CHURCH, 91 PUBLIC SQUARE. Part of The Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around

Town series. \$29/person; \$27/CMA members. INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

DEC. 12: Sabotage In The Arctic: The Fate of The Submarine Nautilus, 7:30 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Dr. Stewart B. Nelson provides an illustrated presentation that recounts both the ill-fated 1931 expedition and his re-discovery of the historic Nautilus. Free. INFO: 216-231-4600.

DEC. 13: Youth String Camerata, 11 AM, CIM. CIM beginning and preparatory orchestras join with the Youth String Camerata to present an end-of-semester concert. Free. INFO: 216-791-5000 OR www.cim.edu.

DEC. 13: "Des Canyons aux Etoiles" with the Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble, 7:30 PM, PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 2592 WEST 14 ST. Part of The Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town series. Conducted by Tim Weiss, The Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble performs *Des Canyons aux Etoiles*, a tone poem in three parts commissioned by Alice Tully to celebrate the bicentennial of the U.S. Declaration of Independence. \$29/person; \$27/CMA members. INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

DEC. 14: Art Concert for Special Needs Families, 3-5 PM, CLEVELAND MUSIC SCHOOL SETTLEMENT, 11125 MAGNOLIA DRIVE, UNIVERSITY CIRCLE.

DEC. 18: Powering the Universe with Massive Stars, 8 PM, THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Astronomy Lecture Series with Dr. Salley Oey from the University of Michigan who explains how the processes of massive stars drive the



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out & about

evolution of the host galaxies and, ultimately, the universe itself. INFO: 216-231-2071.

DEC. 22: CityMusic Cleveland, 7:30 PM, FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Not-Your-Usual-Holiday-Concert. Join the musicians of CityMusic Cleveland's professional chamber orchestra to enjoy exquisite music and meet your civic leaders and neighbors. The concert is free; the art exhibit is free; the child-care is free, but needs to be arranged by calling the church in advance at 216-321-5800. INFO: 216-321-8273.

JAN. 4: "La Nativité du Seigneur" with Karel Paukert, organ, 2 PM, ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2747 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Part of The Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town series. Former CMA musical arts

curator, Karel Paukert returns to the concert series with his offering of *La Nativité du Seigneur* for organ, the composer's primary instrument. Free, but tickets required. INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

JAN. 11: Bernarda Fink, 7:30 PM, REINBERGER CHAMBER HALL AT SEVERANCE HALL, 11001 EUCLID AVE. Part of The Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town series. Argentine mezzo-soprano Bernarda Fink returns to Cleveland for her recital debut in a program of works by Franz Schubert and Antonín Dvořák. Fees: \$34; CMA members \$32. INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

JAN. 16 & 30: Godspell, 7 PM, HEIGHTS YOUTH THEATRE WILEY AUDITORIUM, 2181 MIRAMAR BLVD. 2 pm matinees Jan. 17, 24, 25, and 31. Tickets: \$9/adults;

\$8/seniors and 6 and under. INFO: www.heightsyouththeatre.org.

JAN. 18-25: U.S. Figure Skating Championships, QUICKEN LOANS ARENA. All session passes are available now from U.S. Figure Skating. Call 719-635-5200 or visit the official website at www.cleveland2009.com/.

JAN. 21: Cavani String Quartet 25th Anniversary Concert, 8 PM, CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, 11021 EAST BLVD. The Cavani String Quartet, Cleveland's internationally renowned, award-winning chamber music ensemble celebrates their 25th Anniversary. Annie Fullard (violin), Mari Sato (violin), Kirsten Docter (viola), Merry Peckham (cello) perform pieces by Felix Mendelssohn in honor of his 200th birthday. Free. INFO: 216-791-5000 or www.cim.edu.

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out & about

JAN. 23: Mixon Hall Masters Series, Richard Goode on Piano, 8 PM, CIM. Hear some of the world's greatest talents. This event features renowned pianist, Richard Goode, one of today's leading interpreters of classical and romantic music. \$40/person. INFO: 216-791-5000 EX. 411 or cim.edu to purchase online.


JAN. 25: Sixth Annual Northeast Ohio Band Invitational, 2 PM, SEVERANCE HALL. Strike up the bands! The University Circle Wind Ensemble, Case Symphonic Winds and Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony II, directed by Gary M. Ciepluch, perform with guest high school bands. Tickets: \$5-\$15. INFO: 216-231-1111.


JAN. 28: Showtime at High Noon, NOON, OHIO THEATRE AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE. University of Akron Steel Drum Band presents "Welcome to the Caribbean." Free.

JAN. 31: Merce Cunningham Dance, 8 PM, PLAYHOUSE SQUARE, 1519 EUCLID AVE. Part of The Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town series. The seminal dance company performs Cunningham's much lauded 1970 work, *Second Hand*, with costumes by visual artist Jasper Johns and a score by John Cage, Cunningham's longtime collaborator and close artistic colleague. Cost: \$25-\$60. INFO: LAURA ANDREWS, 216-707-2265.

Donations Wanted! A Night for the Red and White auction committee seeks items for its LIVE and silent auction at this year's fund-raiser. To donate items and services call or email Caroline Weingart, 216-295-9076 or weingart@ameritech.net.

■





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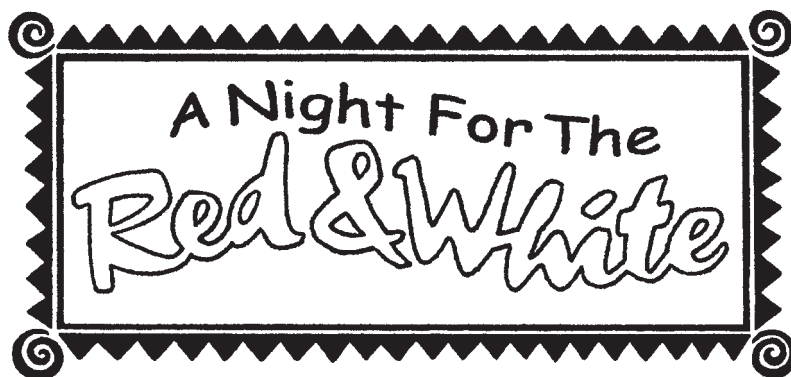
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facebook follies

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

No shared item in the Shaker household causes as much friction as the family computer, as generations, spouses, and siblings collide over issues including:

Selection: Although there are many flavors of computer – Windows or Mac, desktop or laptop, Dell or Lenovo or HP or Toshiba, etc. – every user agrees on one basic premise: that he or she alone is correct in his or her choice, and anyone who disagrees is a misguided, bigoted idiot, or worse. This behavior is galling enough between spouses –

“You must not have read the latest *Times* computer review, obviously.”

“No, I was doing something more productive than reading computer reviews, *obviously*.”

– but is completely maddening when exhibited by a smartypants 11-year-old who has read every “PC for Dummies” book ever published. He hands his father a sheaf of what looks like military specifications and says (or, more accurately, Shaker Man *thinks* he says): “Will it have a 256-kilowacker for the overdrive 780-flugigabyte dual processor in super-cooled VRAM digiwhatzit mode?”

“Uh...flugigawhigger...ZRAM...well...no...”

“But, Dad—”

Parental note: You cannot win this argument without resorting to Because-I-Said-So, which will leave you in charge but ridiculed forever for the lame computer you insisted upon. Get as many kilowacked flugigaboogers as your mini-Einstein tells you to.

Placement: Every school and par-

enting resource recommends installing the family computer in an open area, to discourage children from accessing inappropriate online material such as porn or badgerbadger.com or virtualstapler.com (the latter two, annoying favorites of the junior set). This works well for approximately five minutes, or until someone else watches TV or opens a book too loudly in the same room.

“Can’t you see I’m trying to do *work* here?” says 11’s 16-year-old sister.

“Well,” smirks 11, “it seems like you’re trying to Facebook.”

“Dad! He’s looking over my shoulder!”

Separating the two works well for approximately five minutes more, or until 16 discovers that 11 – banished permanently to the other side of the room – has pulled out a pair of binoculars to see what’s on Sissy’s screen.

Parental note: Do not, repeat NOT, laugh so hard at this point that you fall down, lest 16 think you are not taking her seriously ever, and you always take his side, just because he’s younger, or funny, etc., etc.

Maintenance: In a bow to Ozzie-and-Harriet stereotypes, it will be assumed by all that the man of the house is in charge of all computer and information technology maintenance, despite his complete inability to program the VCR or DVD or TiVo or even to stop his alarm clock from making that WAH-WAH-WAH noise at 5:43 every morning. This means, for example, that the wireless network will work in the entire house only on

Tuesdays and Thursdays in months with an “R,” with intermittent availability in the upstairs bathroom the rest of the year.

Parental note: It’s unclear whether 11 knows quite as much as he thinks he does, and therefore possible that he will break the laws of physics if allowed to rewire network, causing reversal of Big Bang and destruction of entire universe, or at least the computer. Hire a professional while everyone is out and take credit.

Embarrassment: Most delightfully of all, enhanced all-family computer access allows parents to expand their already considerable ZOE’S (Zones of Embarrassment) into cyberspace. 16, for example, believes that she is free of parental interference until the moment she receives an email from her mother that reads: Guess what? I have a Facebook page now, too!

A flurry of emails ensue:

– Mom, that is NOT OK. Please change photo immediately.

– But that’s a great picture of you and me. You want me to tear it in two?

– You look like you’re trying to be a model. And DON’T friend me. Or any of my friends. And please tell all of your friends not to friend me, either.

– What if they just want to acquaintance you?

– Not FUNNY, Mom.

Parental Note: Really, is there anything more enjoyable than watching your children cringe? Get your own Facebook page, put up your favorite poem or karaoke video, and then friend every person your own Sweet 16 knows. Let the fun begin! ■

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*Marcia Evans, UH Patient
Ireland Cancer Center*

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[South Franklin Circle neighbor, Fran Bayless: wife, mother, fast-running nature photographer.]

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