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## Correspondence With An Editor, 21st Century-Style

We have reproduced an email thread among a resident reader, the Shaker Life editor, and a Shaker Life photographer.



**From:** Jean Spinosi-Rond  
**Date:** December 8, 2008  
**To:** Rory O'Connor  
**Subject:** "Flooring Takes Center Stage" Article

Hello Rory –

My husband and I really enjoy Shaker Life – you and your team do a wonderful job highlighting interesting stories that pertain to Shaker. This is a bizarre request, but I thought there's no harm in asking. We're in the midst of looking for a bulldog and absolutely fell in love with the one on page 34 of the December-January issue, in the "Flooring Takes Center Stage" article. I'd love to know where the owners got their adorable dog! Of course, I'd be thrilled to contact them directly, if they're okay with that.

I appreciate your help.  
 Happy Holidays,

Jean Rond  
 Fernway Resident

**From:** Rory O'Connor  
**Sent:** Monday, December 8, 2008  
**To:** Green Street Studio

Jeanne –

FYI. Do we know anything?

Rory

**From:** Jeanne VanAtta  
**Date:** December 8, 2008  
**To:** Rory O'Connor

Hi Rory,

Yes we do. My contact was Mathew. I don't have his email address.

Isn't he adorable? The dog. Oscar.

Jeanne

**From:** Rory O'Connor  
**Date:** Mon, 8 Dec 2008  
**To:** Jean Spinosi-Rond

Jean –

Here's the information on the dog from the photographer, Jeanne Van Atta. Hope it helps.

Rory

**From:** Jean Spinosi-Rond  
**Date:** December 8, 2008  
**To:** Rory O'Connor

Rory –

Thank you so much! Ironically, I know the family. I'm going to call and get the scoop on the dog.

Again, thanks so much!

Jean Rond  
 Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

## City Awarded \$4 Million Grant for Warrensville/Van Aken Improvements

An intersection that has stymied motorists and pedestrians for decades is on its last legs. The City has secured a \$4 million grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation to reconfigure the roads and traffic pattern at the intersection of Warrensville, Van Aken, Chagrin and Northfield. ODOT approved the joint application by the City of Shaker Heights and the Cuyahoga County Engineer's office last November. The confusing and congested intersection sees 45,000 cars per day, and has one of the highest accident rates in the county.

"The reconfiguration of the streets from six roads to four is the cornerstone of our entire Van Aken/Warrensville Development Plan," says Mayor Earl Leiken. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$10 million. The City will contribute \$2.3 million from the economic development fund, and the county will contribute \$500,000. Shaker is applying to various sources for the remainder. Construction is slated to begin in 2012.

The new plan will: reduce the intersection from six legs to four; terminate Van Aken Blvd. at Farnsleigh; relocate Northfield to the south to terminate at Warrensville; create regular shaped redevelopment parcels; extend the rapid transit tracks through the intersection; and create an intermodal (bus and rapid) station in the current location of Northfield Road.

*continued on page 4*

## \$4 Million Grant

*continued from page 3*

“The improved traffic flow will help us achieve our ultimate goal, which is to enhance economic development opportunities and create a mixed-use district with retail, housing and office space,” says Joyce Braverman, Director of Planning. The development plan was created in 2008 using funding from NOACA, and was based on significant resident input from three public meetings.

## City Presents MLK Award for Human Relations to Ludlow Community Association

Few events demonstrate Shaker’s unique devotion to community better than its annual observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday. The January presentation of the annual award for Human Relations was therefore especially poignant when the Ludlow Community Association was honored.

The award was presented in recognition of the Association’s leading role in defining how a community responds to adversity. From its earliest days as Shaker’s first community association, Ludlow has taken the lead in endorsing non-violence to attain controversial goals – in the 1950s and ’60s, its goal was to create a diverse community. In 2008, the Association again took the lead in affirming the City’s sense of solidarity and pride following an attack on one of Ludlow’s residents.

Ludlow has used the arts to speak to the concepts of inclusion and equality. The Human Relations Award recognized Ludlow’s special role, along with Verleza Dance and the Shaker Arts Council, in leading the community to speak with one artistic voice. Their collaborative effort produced “In Concert with Ludlow” in the spring of 2008, a concert of music, dance, drama, and poetry presented by participants of all ages, races and abilities, and attended by more than 500 people.

Accepting the award for Ludlow were its Co-presidents, Dr. Tom Chelimsky and Luiz Coelho. Also participating in

the observance, held at the recently renovated and restored Shaker High School Large Auditorium, were the High School A Capella Choir and the Choir of St. Dominic Church.

## RTA Planning Rehabilitation of Lee/Van Aken Rapid Station

Construction of a completely updated rapid station at Lee Road and Van Aken Boulevard is planned for late 2009 or next year. Bialosky + Partners prepared architectural and engineering renderings based on significant input from residents at public meetings held in 2007. RTA will fund the entire \$3 million renovation, which will be ADA compliant and LEED-certified (energy efficient and environmentally friendly.) Once underway, the renovation will take approximately 12-14 months to complete.

The proposed redesign includes two glass-paneled elevators to convey passengers to the eastbound and westbound tracks, and a clear glass canopy to replace the current one covering the stairs, allowing for more daylight throughout the station. Decorative fencing would replace the section of brick wall that lines Van Aken near the station. Safety enhancements include increased lighting, call boxes, and security cameras. And a touch-button will activate radiant heating for waiting

passengers as needed.

The design will be reviewed by the Architectural Review Board and then by the City Planning Commission, which will forward its recommendation to City Council sometime in early 2009.

## Street Sign Sale Exceeds Expectations

When the City decided to sell the historic street signs that were replaced in order to accommodate new state signage regulations, there was no way to predict the turnout. Says Ann Klavara of the Planning Department, “I made up 300 numbers to hand out, figuring that would probably be enough.” Residents were told the sale would take place from 10 am to 4 pm. When Klavara learned that a line of 30 residents had already formed by 6 am, she decided to make more numbers. By the end of the day, all but 10 of the nearly 500 signs had sold. The remainder sold in the next two days.

Many residents hoped to purchase signs with particular meaning to them, such as a street from their childhood, or one named for a family member. Others were content merely to own a piece of Shaker history, regardless of the street name. There were even a few out of town buyers looking to reclaim a token from their past. Customers were limited to five signs each in order to



Rendering of an updated rapid station at Lee and Van Aken by Bialosky + Partners.

PHOTO BY CAYDIE HELLER



prevent large-scale reselling and to give as many residents as possible the chance to own a sign.

Klavora credits the 50-plus volunteers who showed up that day for helping keep things on track. “We had volunteers from the Citizen’s Police Academy, from CERT, and from nearly every department at the City. There was no way we could have done this without their help,” she says. The sale raised \$15,000, which was returned to the general fund to offset the cost of replacing the signs.

## New Electronics Recycling Options

The joy of a new electronics item is usually followed by a thorny problem: how to responsibly dispose of its predecessor. Fortunately, many retailers now offer recycling programs – some of which even offer a trade-in value. Listed below are a few options to consider. More information is available at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com).

**ecoNEW** ([www.econewonline.com](http://www.econewonline.com)) audits electronics items, generates a trade-in value, and provides a pre-paid shipping label to print and send the product to a recycling center.

**Sony Take-Back Program** allows Sony customers to recycle up to five Sony products per day by dropping them off at a designated Waste Management eCycling drop off center. The closest one is located in Solon. For details, check out [www.wm.com/WM/takeback/sony/index.asp](http://www.wm.com/WM/takeback/sony/index.asp).

**Radio Shack Corp. Take-back Program** allows consumers to exchange used, portable electronics for store credit, by filling out an online form describing the condition of the item. Prepaid shipping labels are available. Customers receive a gift card equal to the value of the item within two weeks. For more information check: <http://radioshack.cex-change.com/online/home/index.rails>

**Best Buy** offers free in-store recycling for small electronics, weekend recycling events, and free removal and recycling of old appliances, including televisions, with purchase.

**Panasonic** provides free recycling of Panasonic brand items at locations in 10 states. Ohio is not currently one of those states, however, the program will expand to include all 50 states within the next three years.

## A Night for the Red & White: “Shaker’s Largest Black Tie Block Party”

Save the date for Shaker’s 17th annual fundraiser for the Shaker schools, on Saturday, March 7 at 7 pm. Last year, the “white” at this event was more than two feet of snow. Luckily, the snow did not prevent most of the intrepid partygoers from attending. The event typically draws more than 800 people, and has raised over \$1.6 million over the past 16 years. Money from the event is earmarked for arts, technology, health, and fitness

enrichment in the Shaker schools.

The event will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel, 9801 Carnegie Avenue. Tickets are \$125-\$295 per person. For event information, contact Christine Auginas at 216-295-4325.

## Ogbujis Persevere and Rebuild

One year after the tragic home fire that took the lives of their three young daughters, Roschelle and Chimezie Ogbuji have taken extraordinary steps in rebuilding their lives and their Rawnsdale Road home. The fire, which occurred on December 1, 2007, left nothing of their lives intact. Unfortunately, a missed payment on their home insurance left them to shoulder the financial burden of replacing their home.

Throughout this year of upheaval, the couple has relied heavily on their faith, family, friends, and neighbors. “When I look back over this year, I see God’s presence in so many ways,” says Roschelle, who credits her faith-based upbringing for her survival. “We are the testimony that tragedy doesn’t have to end your life. With God, all things are possible,” she believes.

The week before Mother’s Day, Roschelle and Chimezie learned they were expecting a baby, born last December. Chimezie continues to work at the Cleveland Clinic’s cardiothoracic department, and is also pursuing a PhD in software engineering at Case Western Reserve University. Roschelle launched a marketing firm with a long-time friend and business partner, though she intended to take time off after the baby arrived.

The community has stepped up in a big way to help rebuild their home. A spaghetti dinner last spring raised over \$10,000 for the couple. The money was shared between their rebuilding fund and the non-profit organization they established, Kingdom Kids, which provides fire safety education for children. In August, neighborhood volunteers assisted with the complete interior demolition that was needed before any further work



could progress. A neighbor provided free architectural renderings for the rebuild, and local unions have all donated labor to the project.

The couple hopes to occupy their newly rebuilt home by late spring. Anyone wishing to provide assistance with materials, landscaping, decorating, or furnishings can send an email to [gillloolyfamily@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gillloolyfamily@sbcglobal.net).

## Nominate a Tree!

Residents have until March 16 to nominate trees for the Tree Advisory Board's 2008 Heritage Tree award. The award is part of the City's annual Arbor Day observance in April. Residents are invited to nominate trees with any of the following distinctions:

- Association with a famous person or significant event
- An historical landmark
- Unusual size, form, age, or other unusual quality

Forms are available for download from the City's website, [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com), from the Public Works Department, 15600 Chagrin, or by contacting the Superintendent of Forestry, Pat Neville, at 216-491-3285.

## Denver Boy Has K9 Carlos Covered

Sgt. Rick Mastnardo, Supervisor in Charge of the SHPD K9 Unit, received a surprising phone call last December informing him that a 13-year old boy in Denver wished to donate a bulletproof K9 vest to the unit. "I was just so amazed that a boy of that age, in another city, would think to do something like this," says Mastnardo. He did a little detective work to find out why.

It turns out that Josh Payne, the 13-year old in question, is a native of the area, with long-standing ties to Shaker. His grandmother, Beatrice Immerman lived in Shaker for 52 years, and other family members also live here. As part of Josh's preparation to become Bar Mitzvah, he decided to undertake a service project. "I had seen a show on Animal Planet about a dog killed in the

line of duty because he did not have a bulletproof vest, and that really had an impact on me," he says.

In order to raise money for the K9 Foundation, Josh sent out solicitation letters to friends and family. He also sold window clings designed to alert emergency response personnel that pets are in the home. He spied the window clings at a Chagrin Falls pet bakery, which supplied them at cost for his project. He sold them door-to-door in Orange and Shaker, and at a vet's office and several pet stores in Denver. "I was aiming to raise enough money to buy one vest, which costs \$650. When I counted everything up, I found out that I actually had enough to buy two," he says. He and his mother, Judy Immerman Payne, did a little research and found out that Denver's one SWAT dog had no vest. They also learned that Shaker's K9 unit had four dogs, but only three vests. The decision was easy – they donated one vest to each force.

As a thank you, the SHPD invited Josh and his family to meet Carlos and his handler, Cpl. John Paizon, and to receive a full demonstration of the K9 unit's capabilities. Mastnardo even donned the

"bite suit," a puffy protective suit used in training that allows the dog to bite and hold the training officer without injuring him. Josh was impressed with the hands-on demonstration. "It was really cool that I could interact with the dogs," says Josh. "In Denver, I got to meet the dog's handler, but I wasn't allowed to touch the dog because he was on duty. In Shaker, they train the dogs in a different way, so it's safe to pet them and play with them with the handler." Mastnardo came away impressed as well. "I am just so grateful that he donated the vest to us; it was amazingly thoughtful of him. Carlos is safer now because of his actions."

## Carlos, the Community K9

When K9 Laos retired unexpectedly last year, there was no money budgeted to replace him. So, Sgt. Rick Mastnardo went about things the old fashioned way. "I just started calling people in Shaker I thought might want to help," he says, "and I didn't hear many no's." In fact, word spread quickly that the SHPD was in need of a K9, and within a few months, residents and local businesses had con-



**Corporal John Pizon**, his police dog, Carlos, with Josh Payne, the Denver teen who raised money for Carlos' new bulletproof vest. PHOTO BY MARC GOLUB.



tributed nearly \$20,000 – enough to pay for the dog, plus training and equipment expenses. Mastnardo received contributions from Pearl of the Orient, Heinen's Fine Foods, the Western Reserve Kennel Club, and Atty. Margaret Wong, as well as 30 residents.

The SHPD tested out 10 dogs, all of which came from a breeder in Germany specializing in police dogs. The dog they ultimately selected was Carlos. Cpl. John Paizon was tapped as the dog's handler. He was required to attend a six-week training session with Carlos, who in addition to being a patrol dog, is also trained to sniff out explosives. Because he is the unit's dedicated bomb dog, Carlos and Cpl. Paizon are on call 24 hours a day in case of emergency.

Last fall, the SHPD treated Carlos's sponsors to a K9 demonstration at Horseshoe Lake Park. "People are always surprised to find out how gentle the dogs are," says Mastnardo. The dogs live with their handlers, many of whom have young children. "The dogs are really not trained to be mean," explains Mastnardo. "They are trained to respond to positive praise from their handler, and they really enjoy the work they do."

## Business News

### New Website Brings "Green" to the Nursery

Shaker resident Mary Farrell recently launched a new website for her burgeoning home business, Cherub's Blanket. The company sells "soft, earth-friendly blankets" made from 100 percent organic cotton, packaged with natural and recycled materials.

The company is committed to using the most locally sourced products available and employs artisans from the Cleveland area to hand sew the blankets. But there is only one color you'll find from this "green" company: natural white. When asked why the blankets are not offered in other colors, Farrell responds, "The beauty of organic cotton is that it is chemical free. Dyes add chemicals, so that's why we prefer to use unbleached and undyed fabric."

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Farrell feels that by using organic cotton, her company is not only providing a healthy environment for new babies, but is also doing its part to reduce pollution, toxins, and waste in the textile industry. The blankets are available online at [www.cherubsblanket.com](http://www.cherubsblanket.com), and at Planet Green in Rocky River.

## MotoPhoto On the Move

MotoPhoto owners Rick Santich and Paula Smith have made the leap from "rent" to "own." They purchased the building that formerly housed Elsner's Steak and Steam at 20116 Chagrin Boulevard, and will move from their current space at Van Aken Center in the spring when their lease expires.

When they first opened their doors in 1989, their core business was developing film. While the company still performs a significant amount of digital and film printing, the majority of their business now comes from portraiture and event photography.

"The opportunity to right-size the new space to our current needs was a great benefit," says Santich. He adds, "We also wanted to invest in our community and to be part of the exciting Warrensville/Van Aken Redevelopment Plan."

The acquisition included some interesting remnants of the past, such as the gigantic walk-in freezer, the grill, and of course, the sauna and steam room. Also of interest is the list of over 300 members from the restaurant's bottle club – and their leftover bottles. All must go, however, in order to make way for the new space, two-thirds of which will be devoted to MotoPhoto and one third allocated for a tenant. "We think the tenant space would be ideal for an insurance agent or similar type of business," says Santich. To get one last look at this nostalgic venue, and see what the renovation will entail, go to <http://www.motosh.com/content/msg-move.htm>.



## Trivisonno Group Opens New Office

A new face with a familiar sounding name has come to the Larchmere business district. Jim Trivisonno – no relation to the local radio host – opened a Nationwide Insurance office at 12736 Larchmere Boulevard in January. Trivisonno, a Shaker resident, owns six other offices, including two in the Phoenix area. He and another agent, Teal Brooks, staff the office. The Trivisonno Group offers a full line of insurance, including life, home, auto, and business. Call 216-502-4633 for more information.

## Vaya Los Habaneros

A new restaurant at Van Aken Center has this unique claim: “Nothing frozen but our margaritas!” Los Habaneros features authentic Mexican fare served in a fun, festive atmosphere. According to owner Alfonso Leon, popular specialties include their sizzling fajitas, chimichangas, and quesadillas grande. The restaurant includes a full bar and is open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. The family-owned business operates three other restaurants, called El Jalapeno. This is their first east side location.

Leon and his family also reside in Shaker. They relocated from the west side several months ago, the better to oversee their new venture. RMS Properties Manager Joe Carrino says, “These family-owned restaurants – Pearl of the Orient, Via Van Aken, and now Los Habaneros – really give Van Aken Center its special flavor.” Pun intended, of course.

For information, call 216-991-4522 – or better yet, stop in at 20255 Van Aken Boulevard (the former location of Sand’s Blue Line Cafe).

## Shaker News Briefs

### Citizens Police Academy Alumni Honored for Service

Each year, the Police Department recognizes alumni of the Citizens Police Academy for their continued service to the department. Last year, 30 residents received a certificate of appreciation and a token of thanks for their service, which totaled 1,736 hours. Alumni are honored in three categories. Nine residents achieved the Gold level of 100 or more hours; three residents achieved the Silver level of 50-100 hours; and 18 achieved the Bronze level of up to 50 hours of service.

Alumni of the CPA donate their time to assist with property auctions, patrolling the streets, parking and crowd control at special events, range maintenance, and dozens of other jobs that help officers to perform their duties more effectively. Last year, during the high winds of Hurricane Ike, many alumni guarded areas with downed live wires until they could be secured by the power company or SHPD.

“We are grateful to them for helping to provide an extra level of safety for all of our residents,” says Chief D. Scott Lee. A list of the honored alumni is at [shakeronline.com/dept/police/CitizensPoliceAcademy.asp](http://shakeronline.com/dept/police/CitizensPoliceAcademy.asp).

### Seasonal Reminders

**Nominations for Customer Service:** The City appreciates nominations from residents for outstanding customer service – above and beyond expectations – provided by City employees. Nominations are accepted all year long for recognition in the spring of 2009. Instructions and a nomination form can be found in the Human Resources section of the website, [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) as well as at the reception areas of City Hall, Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, Court, Police, Fire, Public Works and Thornton Park.

**Bicycle Licensing:** Licenses will be sold from 9 am to 3 pm February 7 and March 21 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. New licenses are \$5. Re-issued licenses are 50 cents.

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

**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 two inches 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.

**Wood-burning Stoves and Fireplaces:** These should be cleaned and inspected regularly. Burn wood only and do not use accelerants to light a fire. Free, uncut wood is available to Shaker residents at the City’s recycling outpost at 601 Columbus St. in Bedford Heights. To pick up wood, residents must first visit the Public Works Department at 15600 Chagrin Road to fill out a wood retrieval and usage waiver.

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

# COME SEE THE ALL NEW CALVETTA BROTHERS' FLOOR SHOW



## HARDWOOD FLOOR REFINISHING \*

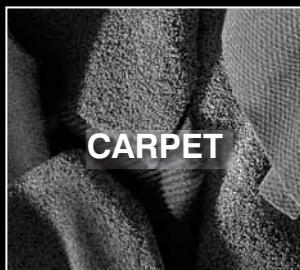
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## REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between September 1 and October 31, 2008 appear below. The list includes only those properties that have had a prior sale within the last 10 years. Excluded are “quit claim” transfers as well as those resulting from foreclosure, in which the sale price is not reflective of the property value.

ADDRESS	2008 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
21261 ALMAR DR	\$356,000	\$370,000 (2002)	\$41,000 (1953)
3300 ARDMORE ROAD	\$280,000	\$219,500 (2004)	\$10,000 (1927)
14118 ASHWOOD ROAD	\$100,000	\$125,000 (2001)	\$ 8,700 (1928)
2771 COVENTRY ROAD	\$168,000	\$216,667 (2007)	\$ 5,500 (1967)
3341 DORCHESTER ROAD	\$187,500	\$ 62,000 (2001)	\$11,000 (1924)
3320 GRENWAY ROAD	\$275,000	\$212,500 (1999)	\$12,000 (1924)
3003 LITCHFIELD ROAD	\$746,000	\$550,000 (1999)	\$33,000 (1925)
3662 ROLLISTON ROAD	\$134,000	\$155,000 (2001)	\$ 8,000 (1935)
2904 WARRINGTON ROAD	\$275,000	\$225,000 (1998)	\$ 6,000 (1915)
2544 WARWICK ROAD	\$265,000	\$440,000 (2007)	\$12,000 (1936)
22331 WESTCHESTER RD	\$188,500	\$185,000 (2006)	\$20,000 (1950)

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

3169 CHADBOURNE ROAD	\$166,000	\$140,000 (1994)	\$ 7,500 (1921)
3323 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$145,000	\$151,900 (1994)	\$13,000 (1925)
2867 MONTGOMERY ROAD	\$460,000	\$305,000 (1997)	\$23,000 (1927)
3520 NORMANDY ROAD	\$125,000	\$125,500 (1997)	\$12,500 (1927)
3244 SOMERSET DR	\$315,000	\$220,000 (1995)	\$35,000 (1960)

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

2755 ASHLEY ROAD	\$460,000	\$410,000 (1990)	\$23,000 (1929)
------------------	-----------	------------------	-----------------

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 Homes:

22377 South Woodland (Lois & Irving Glick) Certified in 2008-09

## Send in Nominations for Landmark Awards

The Landmark Commission is now seeking nominations for the 2009 Preservation Awards program. Exterior projects completed within the last two years are eligible. Those projects meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation will be recognized. The Standards for Rehabilitation are basic principles created to help preserve the distinctive character of a historic building and its site, while allowing for reasonable change to meet new needs.

The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission established its Preservation Awards program in 1998 to recognize and highlight efforts by property owners who have preserved and improved

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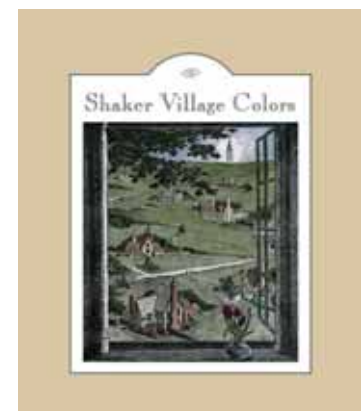
their properties. This awards program is mirrored after the program established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1971.

Nominations must be submitted by March 31, 2009 to the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission. Nomination forms are available at shakeronline.com. You may also write a letter explaining why the property is being nominated. Include your name and telephone number, as well as the nominee's name, address, and telephone number. A high quality, color photograph of the property is required. Please note that submission photos become the property of the City and will not be returned.

Contact Ann Klavora at 216-291-1436 or ann.klavora@shakeronline.com for additional information.

## Historic "Shaker Village" Colors Now Online

Residents looking for guidance when selecting exterior paint colors have a ready reference at their fingertips. A booklet entitled Shaker Village Colors, first printed in 1983, can now be found at shakeronline.com. The booklet showcases a color palette that was developed by the Landmark Commission, drawing upon information from the Cuyahoga County Archives and Sherwin-Williams Paint Company Archives. The booklet reproduces the original exterior color standards for Shaker Village set forth by the Van Sweringen Company in 1925. For more information, contact the Planning Department, 216-491-1430. ■



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- B) Hope things will get better?
- C) Accept Your Child's Excuses?
- D) Or?

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Whatever you want to do, the Weatherhead MBA is a dynamic and interdisciplinary program for anyone looking to go above and beyond the typical business education.

Learn more about how Weatherhead students are researching turning harmful byproducts – like the waste from processing cassava; the origin of tapioca and a major source of carbohydrates – into a sustainable source of energy by visiting [weatherhead.case.edu](http://weatherhead.case.edu)



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Author of *The Intuitionist*  
and *Apex Hides the Hurt:*  
*A Novel.*



**Myla Goldberg**

Author of *Bee Season*  
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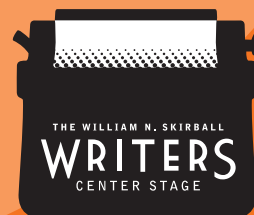
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## Bond Funds Make Updates and Renovations Possible

In December, Library staff met with library architect, Duane Van Dyke and interior design specialist Candace Van Dyke to discuss the renovation of the public restrooms and the replacement of lounge seating at the Main Library. The restrooms have not been upgraded since 1993 and the counters, mirrors, partitions and fixtures were worn. The Van Dykes provided design assistance in terms of ADA specifications, materials, layout, color, and supply sources.

In January, the Library's maintenance staff began to tile the previously painted walls, to sand and repaint partitions, to install self-flushing fixtures, stainless steel sinks with automated faucets, and to replace the old Formica countertops with stone. Automatic hand dryers and improved lighting are also scheduled for installation. All improvements for the restrooms will be completed by early spring and have been funded by the Bond Issue.

The Van Dykes also provided a variety of fabric choices and chair designs to enhance lounge seating at the Main Library. A variety of chair sizes were selected to fit different body sizes and to accommodate multiple uses, including wireless laptop computers. Colors and designs were chosen to match new paint colors at the Library and to liven up and to modernize the traditional old building. Look for the new lounge seating groups on your next visit to the Main Library! Thank you to the Shaker School District taxpayers for making these renovations possible.

## Meet Shaker Library's Deputy Director

Amy Switzer began her duties as the Library's deputy director in January. She reports to the Director and oversees Adult Services, Youth Services, and Circulation Services supervisors, and acts in place of the director in his absence.



Switzer

Switzer is a magna cum laude graduate of Miami University and received her Masters degree in Library Science summa cum laude from Kent State University. She has 18 years experience working in libraries, and most recently served as the Children's Services Coordinator for Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library where she supervised a staff of eleven employees, provided support and training for Children's Services in four buildings, and served as a key member of the administrative support team.

She says, "I am excited to work for Shaker Library's well-respected system and eager to help the Library exceed the expectations of our community in new ways by incorporating exciting changes and technologies into the core values of our Library."

An avid reader, Switzer particularly enjoys fantasy, mysteries, biography, history – especially social history – and children and teen books. Her favorite book is *King of Attolia* by Megan Whalen Turner. She is currently reading *American Jezebel: The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchinson, the Woman Who Defied the Puritans*, by Eve LaPlante. Switzer lives in Cleveland Heights.

## Cavani String Quartet to Perform at Main Library

Cleveland Institute of Music's award-winning resident chamber music ensemble, The Cavani String Quartet, will perform Beethoven's Opus 131 at 7 pm Thursday, March 26 at Main Library as part of their Beethoven & Brotherhood initiative. Members of the quartet include Annie Fullard, violin; Mari Sato, violin; Kirsten Docter, viola; and Merry Peckham, cello.

The concert is one of 16 the quartet will perform in celebration of their 25th anniversary. Their performance will offer a biographical view into the evolution of Beethoven's creative life and provide both performers and listeners a glimpse into the mind of a musical genius.

The Beethoven & Brotherhood project is designed to bring live classical music to new and diverse audiences in an informal manner, one that encourages interaction between the audience and the performers. Their format of concert-with-commentary creates a comfortable, audience-friendly atmosphere where the audience can see the inner workings of an ensemble and talk with the performers.

## Have A Heart This February

Bring back your overdue library materials plus a non-perishable food item for each overdue magazine, book, CD, DVD or video, during the week of February 8 and the Library will waive your fines and donate the food to Shaker Heights Community Hunger Center, 20120 Lomond Boulevard.

# Kids' Corner

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

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

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 Thursdays & Saturdays

1-3 pm Thursdays

6-8 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

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

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

10 am-noon

Thursdays & Saturdays

## **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; call Shaker Family Center: 216 921-2023.*

10 am-noon Wednesdays

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

## **CREEPERS**

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

Spring Session: April 7–May 20

9:30 am Wednesdays  
at Main Library

*Register in person or by phone beginning Monday, March 2.*

## **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 (with an adult).  
Spring Session: April 7–May 20

10:30 am Tuesdays at

Woods Branch

9:30 or 10:30 am Wednesdays at  
Main Library

*Register in person or by phone beginning Monday, March 2.*

## **TERRIFIC TWOS**

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

Spring Session: April 6–May 21

(Must be 2 years old by April 1.)

10 am Mondays or Wednesdays at  
Woods Branch

10 am Tuesdays or Thursdays at  
Main Library

*Register in person or by phone beginning Monday, March 2.*

## **PRESCHOOL STORIES**

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

10 am or 1:30 pm Mondays at  
Main Library

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

*No registration is required; however, groups are asked to make special arrangements. (No programs the week of March 30–April 3.)*

## **PAJAMA STORIES AT WOODS BRANCH**

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

7:15 pm Monday, February 16 & March 16

*Registration begins two weeks before each program.*

## **MAKE-IT-TAKE-IT WEEK**

### **AT WOODS BRANCH**

Week of Feb. 9: Make a Valentine puppet for someone special.

Week of Mar. 16: Make a lion mask to celebrate the end of winter.

## **THE WRITERS CLUB**

### **AT MAIN LIBRARY**

For students in grades 2-4

Poetry, creative fiction, letters, postcards and newsletters, menus and maps are just some of the literary forms that young writers explore during this enriching program that encourages them to use their imaginations and words.

Spring Session: March 17–May 5

4:15 pm Tuesdays

*Registration begins Tuesday, March 3.*

(No programs the week of March 30–April 3.)

## **AFTERSCHOOL AUTHORS**

### **AT WOODS BRANCH**

For students in grades 2-5

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

Spring Session: March 18–May 6

4:15 pm Wednesdays

*Registration begins March 4.*

(No programs the week of March 30–April 3.)



**MEET AMERICAN GIRL JOSEFINA**

For students 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 Josefina's era.

2-3:45 pm Saturday, February 7 at Woods Branch

*Registration began January 24.*

2-3:45 pm Saturday, March 7 at Main Library

*Registration begins February 21.*

**ABE LINCOLN'S 200TH BIRTHDAY**

For students in grades K-5

Celebrate Lincoln's 200th birthday with a story, game, craft and a birthday treat.

4:15-5 pm Tuesday, February 10 at Woods Branch

*Registration began Tuesday, January 27.*

4:15-5 pm Wednesday, February 11 at Main Library

*Registration began January 28.*

**THE HOMEWORK CENTER****AT MAIN LIBRARY**

For students in grades 2-6

4-6:30 pm Mondays and Wednesdays in Meeting Room F.

Friends of the Shaker Library funds the free homework help provided by teachers and education students under the supervision of Mrs. Cheryl Darden, Special Education Supervisor, Cleveland Public Schools. An adult must be present to register the student at the first visit. Students must be picked up by 6:30 pm. (The Homework Center is closed Monday, February 16 and March 30.)

Non-perishable foods in highest demand include tuna fish, beef stew, boxed pasta, canned or boxed baby food, canned vegetables and peanut butter. Food items will be accepted for overdue fines owed to the Shaker Heights Public Library only, not as payment for lost or damaged library material.

**Library Board News**

Library trustee Judith Allen has been re-appointed by the Board of Education to serve a seven-year term on the Library Board beginning April 1, 2009 until March 31, 2016.

The Library Board elected its officers for 2009; they are Donna Whyte, president; Jeanne Shatten, vice president; and Kurt Miller, secretary. Other board members include Judith Allen, Chad Anderson, David Hutt, and Ken McGovern.

**Is Your Job Waiting?**

Want to empower your job search? Plan to attend the Excuse Me, Your Job Is Waiting event at 7 pm Thursday, March 5 at the Main Library.

Laura George, author of *Excuse Me, Your Job is Waiting*, job search coach and former human resource manager, will present job search techniques based on material from her book. Learn how human resources departments weed out resumes, how they uncover incorrect data, and why it pays to be well connected. There is no fee for the program. Reservations are required by calling 216-991-2030.

**Library Celebrates a Year of Science 2009**

"In the long run, the greatest gift of science may be in teaching us, in ways no other human endeavor has been able, something about our cosmic context, about where, when and who we are." – Astronomer Carl Sagan

*The Demon-haunted World, Science as a Candle in the Dark*, 1996

The Library has joined with the Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS) in a celebratory year of science to share how science works, what it is like to be a scientist, and why science matters. COPUS participants will demonstrate how we know about our natural world and why science continues to be so vitally important to our communities, our country, and the world.

Science affects us every day of the year, from the moment we get out of bed until we turn out the lights. Your digital alarm clock, the weather report, the asphalt you drive on, the Rapid Transit you ride, your decision to eat a baked potato instead of fries, your cell phone, the antibiotics that treat your sore throat, the clean water that comes from your faucet, and the light that you turn off at the end of the day have all been brought to you through science. The modern world would not be modern without the understandings and technology enabled by science. The Library will explore the wonders of science throughout the year. Visit either Library to explore...empower...engage! The possibilities are endless.

## GARRETT MORGAN AND HIS AMAZING AUTOMATED TRAFFIC LIGHT

Stop! Learn about the scientific contributions of Garrett Morgan, who invented the first automated traffic light, a



Morgan

belt fastener for sewing machines, and a safety hood, now known as the gas mask, and more at 7 pm Tuesday, February 17 at Bertram Woods Branch when his granddaughter, Sandra Morgan, and Mary N. Oluonye, author of the biography, *Garrett Augustus Morgan: Businessman. Inventor. Good*



Oluonye

*Citizen*, discuss his many inventions.

Although her grandfather died when she was a small child, Garrett Morgan's legacy lived on in Sandra Morgan's childhood home

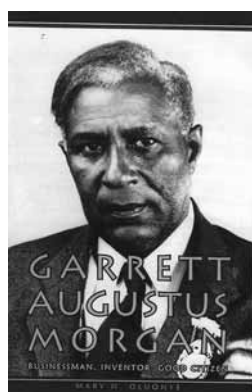
where his automated traffic light stood in the family's living room. The device is now on display at the Western Reserve Historical Society. Sandra Morgan shares memories of her grandfather.

Learn about his creative spirit and his many other inventions including a fastener for women's hats, an electric curling comb, the friction drive clutch, and a special pellet that when inserted into a cigarette would extinguish it if the smoker fell asleep.

Sandra Morgan is the director of constituent development for Kent State University College of Arts & Sciences. She has served as a private consultant with a focus on strategic planning and new business development in the non-profit sector, and also served as director of institutional relations at the National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron. As Regional Manager for Europe, the Middle East, and Africa at World

Trade Center Cleveland, Morgan helped minority-owned or controlled companies' participation in the global marketplace.

Morgan is a native Clevelander. She serves as honorary consul of the United Kingdom for Ohio. She is a member of the British American Chamber of Commerce, vice chairman of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bond Accountability Commission, and the British Marshalls' Selection Committee.



Mary N. Oluonye, author of the biography, *Garrett Augustus Morgan: Businessman, Inventor, Good Citizen*, is a children's services library associate and

a regular book reviewer for *The School Library Journal*. This is her seventh book.

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

## The Science of Gaming for Seniors

Studies have shown that video games make senior adults' brains sharper. Shaker Library will test that theory when it offers Wii games for seniors, specifically Wii Sports, a collection of video games, that blends attention, memory, and physical activity into a challenging game, at the Main Library during February and March.

Two evening sessions are offered from 7-8:45 pm Tuesdays, February 10 and March 10 and two afternoon sessions are offered from 2-4 pm Tuesdays, February 17 and March 17. Space is limited and reservations are required by calling 216-991-2030 ext. 3180.

## Underwater Exploration: Lake Erie Wrecks

Meet authors Georgann and Mike Wachter, at 7 pm Wednesday, March 18 at Bertram Woods Branch, when they present *Shipwrecked! Fire, Storm, Collision*, a dynamic slideshow about Lake Erie shipwrecks. Using slides and videos, the duo tell the stories of some infamous disasters, including the burning of the side-wheel steamer G. P. Griffith as well as some lesser-known shipwrecks. Hear the stories of thrilling rescue and heartbreaking tragedy.

The husband and wife's combined talents for research and storytelling and their shared interest in diving and Great Lakes shipwrecks have yielded five books and several magazine articles. The Wachters have been diving around the world since the early 1970s, but nowhere have they discovered the pristine and perfectly preserved shipwrecks that lie in the fresh waters of the Great Lakes.

Mike and Georgann began keeping a shipboard notebook with photos and information when guests who dived aboard their boat would ask about the details of a shipwreck while en route to the site. As their notebook grew, they realized that they had the makings of a book, and what was once a part-time hobby grew into a full time investigation of the myths and facts behind the thousands of shipwrecks in the Great Lakes.

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

## Shaker Library Is Going Green



The Library Board and staff have been concerned about the environment and the changes the Library could make to improve it. To that end, Library staff began efforts to recycle items both with-



in the library through the use of recycling bins for staff paper and computer toner cartridges, and by using green cleaners and recycled paper products in its buildings. The Library purchased “green” carpeting with no VOCs and does not use aerosol sprays or pesticides. Additionally, the Library installed recycling bins at Woods Branch for the public to use as well as to provide a small revenue stream for the Library.

In April, the Library takes another environmental step forward by helping to curtail what has been called “white pollution” – plastic bags. The Library will no longer provide plastic bags to the public; instead, customers can purchase or borrow a recyclable bag.

## The Bookshelf: Popular Science



*BONK: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex* by **Mary Roach**. W.W. Norton & Company, 2008. One of “the funniest science” writers in the country offers funny and fact-filled information on the weighty subject of sex.

*The End: Natural Disasters, Manmade Catastrophes, and the Future of Human Survival* by **Marq DeVilliers**. Thomas Dunne Books St. Martins Press, 2008. This book examines the difference between natural disasters and man-made calamities and suggests ways to mitigate the damages.

*Good Germs, Bad Germs: Health and Survival in a Bacterial World* by **Jessica Snyder Sachs**. Hill and Wang, 2007. This is a fascinating look at how antibiotics have enabled us to live longer, while simultaneously interfering with our bodies’ natural ability to fight illness, and unintentionally inducing the challenging dilemma of antibiotic resistance.

*In Defense of Food: An Eater’s Manifesto* by **Michael Pollan**. The Penguin Press, 2008.

The author of the acclaimed *Omnivores Dilemma*, challenges us to return to the consumption of ‘real food,’ versus products created to ‘seem’ like food, and offers helpful and specific guidelines.

*The Man Who Loved China: The Fantastic Story of the Eccentric Scientist Who Unlocked the Mysteries of the Middle Kingdom* by **Simon Winchester**. Harper, 2008. The bestselling author of *The Professor and the Madman*, tells the story of British biochemist Joseph Needham and his fascination with China and that country’s contributions to science and technology.

*The Ten Most Beautiful Experiments* by **George Johnson**. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. In this 158-page book, readers are treated to ten biographies and ten well-known scientific experiments set in a timely context and written in an easy and friendly style appropriate for adults and young adults.

*The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes- and Why?* by **Amanda Ripley**. Crown Publishers, 2008. This is a must-read for anyone who has ever wondered how he or she could survive a plane crash, fire, terrorist attack or any of several disasters. The author, an award-winning journalist for *Time* magazine, provides sound scientific advice on assessing risk and acting deliberately.

## FOR CHILDREN

*The Human Body* by **Seymour Simon**. HarperCollins, 2008. Striking full-page microscopic images accompany Simon’s brief, but informative tour of the human body that will fascinate even the squeamish reader.

*Sisters & Brothers: Sibling Relationships in the Animal World* by **Steve and Robin Page Jenkins**. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. Elephants, armadillos, termites, and grizzly bears are just a few of the animals

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## library news

whose fascinating sibling relationships are briefly defined. Jenkins' striking cut and torn paper collage illustrations add to the attraction of this unusual book.

*The Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body* by David Macaulay. Walter Lorraine, 2008. Detailed explanations and descriptions presenting the design and function of the human body are accompanied by an amazing array of colored pencil illustrations and small touches of humor in a format similar to the author's *The Way Things Work* (1988). This is a book for the whole family to browse.

### DVDS

*Monster Black Holes* produced by National Geographic, to be released March 2009. This production is a scientific examination of what black holes are, where they are found, what they do, and what their future use might be.

*Planet Earth: The Complete Series* produced and filmed by BBC Video, 2006. Narrated by Sir David Attenborough, this highly regarded nature documentary is breathtaking and majestic, and perfect for the whole family.

### Computer Classes at Main Library

The library offers free training for many of the popular computer software applications. Register for any of these computer classes in February and March by calling 216-991-2030 ex. 3185.

#### INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT®

10-11:30 am Wednesday, February 4  
(Registration began 1/26.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, February 5  
(Registration began 1/26.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, March 9  
(Registration begins 3/2.)

Learn to create a slide show with text

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

## INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

### GOOGLEMANIA™

3-4:30 pm Friday, February 6

(Registration began 1/26.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, February 26

(Registration begins 2/16.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, March 7

(Registration begins 2/23.)

Learn searching strategies, tips and tricks for finding better information using Google.

### MOUSE CLASS

10-11:30 am Saturday, February 7

(Registration began 1/26.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, March 7

(Registration begins 2/23.)

Learn to use the computer mouse in ninety minutes.

### INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL®

3-4:30 pm Saturday, February 7

(Registration began 1/26.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, February 12

(Registration begins 2/2.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, March 2

(Registration begins 2/23.)

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

### WORKING WITH WINDOWS®

6:30-8 pm Monday, February 9

(Registration begins 2/2.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, March 5

(Registration begins 2/23.)

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

### GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT®

10-11:30 am Wednesday, February 11

(Registration begins 2/2.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, March 12

(Registration begins 3/2.)

Learn to create effective PowerPoint presentations using clip art, Word Art,

and digital pictures.

## INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

### SCAMS AND SPAM

3-4:30 pm Friday February 13

(Registration begins 2/2.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, March 21

(Registration begins 3/9.)

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

## INTERNET CLASS

10-11:30 am Saturday, February 14

(Registration begins 2/2.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, March 4

(Registration begins 2/23.)

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

### CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL®

3-4:30 pm Saturday, February 14

(Registration begins 2/2.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, March 13

(Registration begins 3/2.)

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

### WINWAY RESUME WRITING

6:30-8 pm Monday, February 16

(Registration begins 2/9.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, March 6

(Registration begins 2/23.)

10-11:30 am Saturday, March 14

(Registration begins 3/2.)

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

### ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT®

10-11:30 am Wednesday, February 18

(Registration begins 2/9.)

10-11:30 am Thursday, March 19

(Registration begins 3/9.)

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

### INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS™

10-11:30 am Thursday, February 19



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(Registration begins 2/9.)

6:30-8 pm Monday, March 16

(Registration begins 3/9.)

Learn to work with the Microsoft database program to build databases.

#### INTERNET WITH EXPERTS:

##### ONLINE JOB HUNTING

3-4:30 pm Friday, February 20

(Registration begins 2/9.)

3-4:30 pm Saturday, March 14

(Registration begins 3/2.)

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

##### WEB EMAIL

10-11:30 am Saturday, February 21

(Registration begins 2/9.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, March 11

(Registration begins 3/2.)

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

##### MACROS IN WORD® AND EXCEL®

3-4:30 pm Saturday, February 21

(Registration begins 2/9.)

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

##### HOW TO BUILD A WEB PAGE

6:30-8 pm Monday, February 23

(Registration begins 2/16.)

3-4:30 pm Friday, March 20

(Registration begins 3/9.)

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

##### INTERACTIVE INTERNET

10-11:30 am Wednesday, February 25

(Registration begins 2/16.)

Many web sites let you do much more than read text and look at pictures. Come see and explore some of the more interesting interactive web sites of the day, with Training Specialist Walter Lesch as your guide.

##### MYSPACE™ IS FOR EVERYONE!

3-4:30 pm Friday, February 27

(Registration begins 2/16.)

See a demonstration of MySpace and find out why millions of people are participating in this important social tool on the Web.

##### BASIC WORD PROCESSING

10-11:30 am Saturday, February 28

(Registration begins 2/16.)

10-11:30 am Wednesday, March 18

(Registration begins 3/9.)

Learn to format documents using Microsoft Word software.

##### MAIL MERGE

3-4:30 pm Saturday, February 28

(Registration begins 2/16.)

MailMerge utilizes information from many sources, like Word tables, Excel sheets, and Access Data Tables.

##### GRAPHICS AND CLIP ART IN WORD®

10-11:30 am Saturday, March 21

(Registration begins 3/9.)

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

## **Library Seeks Entries for 10th Annual Barbara Luton Art Contest**

Artists interested in entering the library's tenth annual Barbara Luton Art Competition are encouraged to pick up an entry form at the circulation desks at either library. The contest is named in honor of Shaker resident Barbara Luton, a former library director who managed the renovation of Moreland School into the current Main Library.

Entries will be accepted from 12:30 pm to 5 pm Friday, March 6 and from 10 am to 2 pm Saturday, March 7. A non-refundable entry fee of \$25 for up to two pieces is required at the time of entry.

Past winners' works, including Gary Williams' pastel and fabric collage, *Tishauna 7.1*, Horace Reese's graphite drawing, *Ethiopian*, Terry Sciko's *The Fourth of October*, John Harmon's *Interspace*, Johnine Byrne's *Lanterns*,

Jerome White's *Quality Time*, David Brichford's *Man Eater*, Daniel George's *220 Stories*, and Mary Ryan's *Doan Brook* are part of the library's permanent art collection.

The Barbara Luton Art Show awards include a purchase award not to exceed \$1,000 for the Best of Show; \$200 for First Place; \$100 for Second Place; \$50 for Third Place and certificates for honorable mention. Awards are presented at the Friends-sponsored gallery opening reception from 2-4 pm Sunday, March 29 and the exhibit will continue through May 4.

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

## **Coming of Age in Nigeria: Celebration of Womanhood**

To celebrate Black History Month, Shaker Library and the Anioma Association of Greater Cleveland continue their partnership in exploring family traditions of the Anioma people of Nigeria. In previous years, Anioma members have reenacted a traditional wedding ceremony, a baby-naming ceremony, and a boy's coming-of-age ceremony. This year, society members will reenact portions of a Celebration of Womanhood at 2 pm Saturday, February 14 at the Main Library.

Watch the procession of young girls as they celebrate their womanhood and learn about the ceremonial symbols and their significance. Traditional Nigerian ceremonies are always accompanied by music, food, and dance. To keep it authentic, Nigerian food will be served. Reservations are requested by calling 216-991-2030.

## **Book Discussions**

Good books are meant to be shared and discussed. Check out the many opportunities the Library offers and plan to join one.

NOON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by **Kim Edwards**. Snowed in with a wife in labor, a doctor is forced to deliver his twin children. When he discovers that his daughter has Down syndrome, he tells his wife that the baby was stillborn and instructs his nurse to take the baby to a home for disabled children.

2 PM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

AT WOODS BRANCH

*The 19th Wife: A Novel* by **David Ebershoff**. Ann Eliza Young separates from her husband, Brigham Young, leader of the Mormon Church and embarks on a crusade to end polygamy in the United States in this saga that combines historical fiction with a modern-day murder mystery.

10 AM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*Them* by **Nathan McCall**. This debut novel explores the issue of gentrification when whites assert their desire to change their present-day Atlanta neighborhood and blacks in the community want things to remain as they are.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The Blood Spilt* by **Asa Larsson**. The brutal murder of a female priest at the height of the Swedish midsummer brings tax attorney, Rebecka Martinsson, face to face with a nightmare as she is drawn into the investigation of a lethal mystery.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The Glass Castle* by **Jeannette Walls**. This page-turner hooks you from the beginning when the author, dressed for a benefit, looks out her taxi window to watch her mother dumpster diving. MSNBC's Jeannette Walls' memoir goes on to

describe her dysfunctional family life with nary a hint of bitterness.

2 PM MONDAY, MARCH 9

AT WOODS BRANCH

*The Whistling Season* by **Ivan Doig**. Set in rural Montana, a widow from Minneapolis and her brother, soon to become the new teacher in a tiny Montana community, change lives in unexpected ways.

10 AM TUESDAY, MARCH 10

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The Good Earth* by **Pearl S. Buck**. This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of China is the moving story of the agrarian life of Wang Lung and his selfless wife, O-lan, during the reign of the last emperor.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 10

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The Collaborator of Bethlehem* by **Matt Beynon Rees**. Bethlehem history teacher Omar Yusef conducts an urgent personal investigation in order to clear a favorite former student who has been arrested by Palestinian guerillas for collaborating with the Israelis.

NOON SATURDAY, MARCH 14

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*One for the Money* by **Janet Evanovich**. In this delightful romp, Stephanie Plum, smart, uninhibited, out of work and desperate for respect and financial stability makes her debut as a bail-bondsman.

7 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*The First Billion Is The Hardest: Reflections on a Life of Comebacks and America's Energy Future* by **T. Boone Pickens**. Legendary oilman T. Boone Pickens provides a glimpse of the ups and downs of life in the energy business and imparts his knowledge to the next generation of energy developers.

7:30 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 24

AT MAIN LIBRARY

*East of Eden* by **John Steinbeck**. This modern-day Cain-and-Abel story is set in the Salinas Valley and spans the time between the American Civil War and the end of WW I.

## Free Family Flicks at Main

Thanks to the generosity of Friends of the Shaker Library, which underwrites the movie licensing rights, Shaker Library continues its Free Family Flicks series at the Main Library. All films are free and fun for the entire family. Give your pocketbook a break and bring the kids for fun family viewing.

2 PM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28 watch *Open Season 2*, the Disney animated feature about a deer that falls in love but takes a humorous detour to the altar.

2 PM SATURDAY MARCH 28 watch Walt Disney Pictures' *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* about a pampered Beverly Hills pup that finds herself lost in the mean streets of Mexico without a day spa in sight.

## Join Friends of the Shaker Library and Reap the Rewards

Friends of the Shaker Library is a volunteer organization that supports the Library's programs and services. Friends revenue comes from book sales, merchandise including Shaker bags and mugs, and memberships.

This year, Friends of the Shaker Library has pledged \$38,000 to the Library to support the programs, events, and services not covered in the tax-supported operating budget. From book carts to book sales to summer reading and free homework help, Friends continues to provide the "extras" that make the Library the special place it is.



Membership helps to make this year's goal possible!

In a show of support for the Friends, many local businesses have joined as "Business members" and offer special perks to Friends. To take advantage of the offers, all you need to do is show a valid Friends' membership card. Membership remittance envelopes are available at both libraries. Support the Friends and reap the rewards!

- **A.J. Heil Florist:** 10 percent off any in-store purchase
- **Al Nola Shoe Repair:** 10 percent off repairs and retail items (except Briggs & Riley luggage)
- **Center Heights Service:** Free safety inspection and gas club introduction (\$89 value)
- **Chagrin Chiropractic:** Free initial consultation and exam (\$120 value)

- **Good Nature:** Free consultation, including laboratory soil analysis (\$40 value)
- **J. Pistone Market:** \$50 gift cards for \$40
- **Loganberry Books:** 10 percent off total purchase
- **Pearl of the Orient:** Preferred discount card good for 15 percent off meals
- **Shaker Animal Clinic:** Free, first-time exam (\$37 value)
- **Shaker Heights Hardware:** \$5 off purchase of \$25 or more; not valid with other offers.

## Teen Scene

### GET YOUR GAME ON!

#### IN THE MAIN LIBRARY TEEN CENTER

Gaming for Teens ages 12-16  
3:30-5pm Wednesday, March 11

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

#### AT MAIN LIBRARY

Regular meeting for 2008-09 Board Members  
7:30-8:15 pm Tuesdays, February 17 & March 24

### FREE SAT TEST & SCORE-BOOSTER STRATEGY SESSIONS AT MAIN LIBRARY

Limited to 35 teens, the Princeton Review will administer a full-length SAT Test that will be professionally scored.

#### SAT TEST

9:15-2 pm Saturday, February 21


#### SAT SCORE-BOOSTER SESSION

9:15-11am Saturday, February 28

Bring two #2 pencils (mechanical pencils are not allowed) with a good eraser and a calculator with fresh batteries to the test. Late arrivals will not be admitted. Register for both sessions beginning Saturday, February 7 by calling 216 991-2030 ext. 3141.

## End Notes

- **Poetry Back in the Woods** is held at 7 pm Wednesday, February 11 and Tuesday, March 24 at Woods Branch.
- **Knit Nights** are held at 7 pm Thursdays, February 19 and March 19 at Woods Branch
- **The Library Board** meets at 6:30 pm Mondays, February 9 at Main Library and March 9 at Bertram Woods Branch.
- **Friends of the Shaker Library** meets at 7 pm Tuesdays, February 17 and March 17 at the Main Library.
- **Both libraries** are closed from 9 am to 1 pm Friday, March 13 for staff professional development.
- **The artwork of Shaker** resident Carol Stephenson is on display on the Main Library's Art Wall from February 16-March 16. ■



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the *Spirit*  
of *Shaker*

Shaker Heights Centennial  
1912–2012





## message from the mayor Earl M. Leiken



PHOTO BY MOTOPHOTO & PORTRAIT STUDIO

Our City's Centennial in 2012 is just a few short years away. Over these 100 years, Shaker Heights has become a household name among America's suburbs because of the high quality of our schools, our homes, and our natural beauty. Everything Shaker has been over this course of time and what it continues to be starts with the spirit of our residents.

Reflecting on 2008, we can see how the spirit of Shaker residents shaped the year, and will shape our future.

### *Redevelopment*

We began in January with planning meetings for our most ambitious and far-reaching project in many years – the Warrensville/Van Aken project. We've been working with property owners, RTA, and the State of Ohio for several years developing a comprehensive plan for the mixed-use redevelopment of the entire area, keyed around the concept of Transit Oriented Development. The Community Building was filled with residents eager to provide their input, even on the day of a bad winter storm and closed schools. Our consultants indicated that they had never seen meetings with such enthusiastic participants.

The Ohio Department of Transportation approved our application for a \$4-million grant to reconfigure the roads at the intersection, one of the busiest in the county. The reconfiguration of the streets from six roads to four is the cornerstone of the plan, whose goal is to improve traffic, enhance economic development and create a mixed use district with retail, housing, and office space.

The traffic reconfiguration project is estimated to cost approximately \$10 million; the City will contribute \$2.3 million and the county engineer \$500,000. We are applying for additional grant funding to complete the financing. Construction is slated to begin in 2012 – coincidentally, our Centennial year. Our consultants noted in their final report, issued in April, that "There is tremendous potential to improve transit and the arterial road system, and to reconnect both to land use – the legacy of the City's original historic development plan."

All documents pertaining to the plan can be viewed at our web site, [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com)

### *Financial Challenges*

2008 was also a year of significant financial challenges for many of our residents, as well as for local governments across the nation. At City Hall, we reacted quickly to the first indications of economic problems by leaving a number of vacant positions unfilled and by reducing a planned staff cost of living adjustment.



**Shaker High** marching band plays at the Great Wall of China, 2007. The trip was part of the School District's efforts to foster international exchange. PHOTO BY RICK HORVATH.

We worked with an employee committee to reduce health care costs and, reluctantly, undertook a lay-off of employees for the first time in decades. All of this has been done with a commitment to see that Shaker retains the special qualities that make it so attractive to our current and future residents.

While we have been affected by the national housing crisis, our Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization departments have done a remarkable job of controlling and limiting damage with strong programs to maintain Shaker's housing codes, provide counseling for people in need, assure property maintenance and, where necessary, demolish deteriorating properties and land bank them.

### *Academic Achievement*

Shaker public schools will turn 100 in 2012, along with the City. The Schools are perhaps the main attraction for new residents, and justly so. They continue to produce outstanding students and add forward-thinking programs. The spirit of Shaker is reflected in our schools.

In the spring, news came of the Schools' remarkable achievement of producing six National Merit Scholars and a National Achievement Scholar — the highest number in the state.

Strengthening their leadership position in educating students for the global and technological economy in the 21st century, the Schools are now providing instruction in the Chinese language to all students in grades 1, 2 and 3, and are offering three levels of Chinese as an elective at the High School.

The Shaker Schools have the strongest Advanced Placement program in the region, have introduced an engineering course, and plan to launch an international baccalaureate program.

## *Families and Neighborhoods*

Also in January, the leaders of a revitalized Lomond Association – one of our most active community associations – earned the 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations, in recognition of programs created to strengthen the quality of life in the community.

The award was well-deserved. It was indicative of the vital role our neighborhood associations play in supporting the human and family values that have kept our City strong for nearly 100 years. A new and very active Fairmount Neighborhood Association has also been formed. The Sussex and Lomond associations held fundraisers to help one Sussex family recover from a fire; the Ludlow Association and Shaker Arts Council held a wonderful, sold-out concert to show support for the victim of an assault. Both events were extremely successful and emotional, and helped the families resolve to continue living in our remarkable community.

Shaker spirit was again in evidence during the spring, summer, and fall when the City brimmed with over 100 community block parties. Shaker block parties are traditional family events with games for children, performances by street bands and singing groups, street t-shirts for residents and, in one case, a competitive volleyball game between two streets with a trophy to the winner that has been passed back and forth for decades.

In yet another illustration of residents' enthusiasm for tradition, our sale of old street signs, which were replaced during the year with modern, visible signage, was a great success. More than 300 residents and friends stood in line for hours in cold weather to purchase the old signs – in effect to obtain a part of Shaker's 100-year history. As The Plain Dealer reported, the enthusiasm over the signs demonstrated the continuing emotional commitment which Shaker residents have for, in the paper's words, "Cleveland's most distinguished suburb."

There also was good news concerning Shaker's success in developing programs for our young people and their families. The Cleveland Foundation Youth Development Initiative (now known as MyCom) granted \$100,000 to the Shaker Youth Center to help families and youth in the Sussex, Ludlow, Lomond, and Moreland neighborhoods. The Youth Center has partnered with the Shaker Prevention Coalition and community leaders to research, design, develop, and implement programs and strategies.

As these events clearly demonstrate, it is the deep commitment by Shaker residents to our past and to our future – and, most importantly, to each other – that will allow us to continue to meet the challenges ahead and to assure our community's continued success. ■

*Be part of the dialogue with Mayor Leiken by signing up to receive regular email updates. Visit the homepage at [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com) and enter your email address into the sign-up box, or print your email address on one of the postage pre-paid inserts in this issue and mail it to City Hall.*



**In Concert with Ludlow** was a fundraiser put on by the Ludlow Neighborhood Association in 2008. Dancers were choreographed by Shaker residents Sabatino Verlezza and Barbara Allegra Verlezza. PHOTO BY CAYDIE HELLER.



# A Golden Opportunity

## Q&A

A native son talks about Shaker teachers who made a difference, his poignant born-again experience, his megachurch in Philadelphia and its work in Africa, and his meeting with Barack Obama.

BY NANCY O'CONNOR  
PHOTOS BY CAYDIE HELLER

At three years old, Alyn Waller sat on the lap of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to drop a dollar in the collection basket during a service at Shiloh Baptist Church in Cleveland, where Alyn's father, Alfred M. Waller, was pastor, and where Dr. King had been a guest speaker.

A photograph capturing that special moment in September 1967 has accompanied Rev. Dr. Waller for four decades, hanging first on the bedroom wall of his Ludlow-area home, then his college dorm room, seminary bedroom, and now in his office at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where he is senior pastor.

The 1982 Shaker High graduate, who was headed toward a career in music before a divine calling intervened, lives in Philadelphia with his wife Ellyn Jo and teenage daughters Elynn and Eryka. In addition to his work leading a congregation that has grown to over 13,000, he released a CD of contemporary gospel music in 2004 and in 2006 published his first book, *Enjoy Your Journey: Our Quest for a Deeper Relationship with Christ*. On a recent visit home, he sat down to talk to Shaker Life about his own life's journey.





## Belva J. Waller: Faith and Frankness

As proud as she is of him becoming a Baptist minister, Belva Waller says she never pressured her son Alyn to join his father and grandfather in the profession.

"I just wanted him to grow up to be a nice young man." But when she and her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Alfred M. Waller, Sr., learned Alyn had enrolled in the seminary, "I was very happy and his father was thrilled," she admits.

So "Reverend Waller's mother" was added to the handful of monikers by which Belva has been known throughout her 71 years. "All my life I've been known as 'Barbara Williams' little sister,' or 'the Reverend Waller's little wife,' and now, 'Reverend Waller's mother.' But I know who I am – I am Belva Waller, a child of God, and a very happy person."

Her equal doses of faith and frankness help explain how Belva has maintained her strong sense of self while serving God, her family, the Shiloh Baptist Church congregation her husband led for nearly 30 years – and the residents of Shaker Heights through her work with its Housing and Community Life departments.

"I've always just been myself, and I let people take me as I am. My philosophy is to always be good to yourself and others, and realize that not everyone is going to like you. But if they're talking about me, I figure they're leaving someone else alone! 'God, did you and I do good today?' That's what I ask myself each night."

Belva first came to Shaker Heights 46 years ago as the young wife of a widowed minister from Pennsylvania with three children. Alyn was born shortly thereafter, and motherhood and duties as Shiloh's first lady and dedicated organist kept her busy. She wasn't seeking a job, but in 1974, the president of the Ludlow Community Association and others urged her to accept a part-time position with the City's Housing Department.

"They were looking for a black consultant to work with them in 're-integrating' the neighborhood, which involved showing rental properties in the Ludlow,

Lomond, and Moreland areas to white potential residents. As a person who believed in integrated living, I thought it was something worth working for."

Over the next 28 years, she wore many hats working in what eventually became the Department of Community Life. "One of my tasks was to staff a committee of residents to plan the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration sponsored by the City's Human Relations Commission. I found it very rewarding in that I worked with people of all ages, races, and lifestyles with community concerns that benefitted all of us."

Now retired, Belva continues to give through her music. A pianist since age four, she plays for the residents of Shaker's Sunrise assisted living facility every Tuesday afternoon and on Wednesdays at the Homewood Residence in Richmond Heights, where her mother, who has Alzheimer's, now resides. The music stops only when she's in Philadelphia, sitting proudly in the pews at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, listening to her son preach.

**Belva at the piano** at Sunrise assisted living in Shaker. From left, Perry Whaller, Noreen Dowd, Emily Meehir, George Lieina, and Marie Harris.



*Your father, stepbrother, maternal grandfather, and numerous uncles have all been in the ministry. Did you feel compelled to follow in their footsteps?*

No, I never felt pressured to go into the ministry, and if you had asked me 25 year ago what I was going to be, I would have said a musician. After graduating from Shaker, I went to Ohio University to study music and business. I wasn't a good student and got into "stuff" doing the college-guy, frat-guy thing, but I was a talented musician and played in a band called Bluesimus/Maximus. I saw myself as the next Luther Vandross or Peabo Bryson.

*What happened to change your plan?*

During my "second" senior year, things began to come to a head. My older brother Alfred, who was a minister at Trinity United Methodist Church in Newark, New Jersey, began to challenge me about what I was doing with my life, telling me, 'The Lord has more for you than this.' I also began to experience a challenge from God to change my life. I did a lot of negotiating, like, "Okay God, I'll stop doing the bar scene thing, but I'm not going to do ministry. I'll play music in church."

What happened next was very abrupt and very powerful. On April 4, 1987, a young man on campus handed me a catalog from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He told me the Lord had told him to give it to me. Normally, I might have given him some choice words, but on that particular day, I just thanked him and kept walking. That afternoon, I got the news that Alfred had died of complications from diabetes.

His death literally transitioned the God conversation in my own life because it was no longer just sort of symbolic. I was literally hearing the voice of the Lord calling me.

Back on campus a week after Alfred's funeral, I was talking about being called into ministry. A lot of people didn't believe it. They thought it was a reaction to my brother's death, but it was literally that radical. I graduated, filled out the application for seminary late, was accepted, and received scholarships and grants.

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**Shiloh Baptist Church**, Cleveland, 1967. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. Alfred M. Waller, and 3-year-old Alyn Waller. PHOTO COURTESY BELVA WALLER.

Everything fell into place, and I became a good student. If you compare my master's and doctoral work with my bachelor-level work, it looks like two different people. It's because I got into focus and into purpose.

#### *How did you land at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church?*

I spent several years at the First Baptist Church of Donora, a very small church in a small town near Pittsburgh. In 1994, I was called to Enon, one of the oldest African American churches in Philadelphia. When I was installed as a pastor, there were 364 names on the roll, and about 150 would come to church Sunday mornings. Today, we have 13,000 members, and seven to ten thousand attend our services.

#### *What do you credit for the astounding growth of your church?*

First, the Lord's favor. Second, our focus on the basics. My doctoral work was on ministry, marriage, and family. At Enon, we talk about faithfulness, fidelity, dating – dialogue that used to happen in the home but doesn't anymore. People are hurting in their relationships and I think our focus on how the love of God ought to play out in relationships has struck a chord with people.

#### *Leading a "megachurch" of 13,000 must pose unique challenges.*

It does. I can't personally know every member, for instance, or make visits to hospitalized parishioners. But I have a staff of 40 that helps me to see that every need is met, even if it's not met by me personally. The joy of having a church so large is having the resources to really make a difference in the lives of the people in need.

Enon is very mission-focused, and we've been able to start a church in South Africa, which celebrated its first service in January. We've also built a well in Kenya to help address the drought issue, and have been involved with an orphanage in Uganda.

#### *What do you enjoy most about your life in the ministry?*

I love preaching God's word and I love teaching it. I also love creating ministries that are impactful in the community. One of the things we're very excited about at Enon is our Community Reinvestment ministry. Ten percent of everything we receive in offerings is given back to the local community through a grant process. Through this ministry, we can financially bless smaller organizations and smaller churches that are doing good jobs but don't have the resources that we have. Over the last three years, we've given \$1.6 million back to the community.

*continued on page 61*



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# choosing a Summer Overnight Camp

How to get the most for your money.

BY JENNIFER PROE

Even in a down economy, overnight camp is one luxury families will probably keep in the budget. The reason?

“Summer camp is really not the luxury it was thought to be in earlier years,” says Jeff Solomon, executive director of the National Camp Association. “The truth is, with the increase in dual-income families, summer camp has become much more of a necessity.”

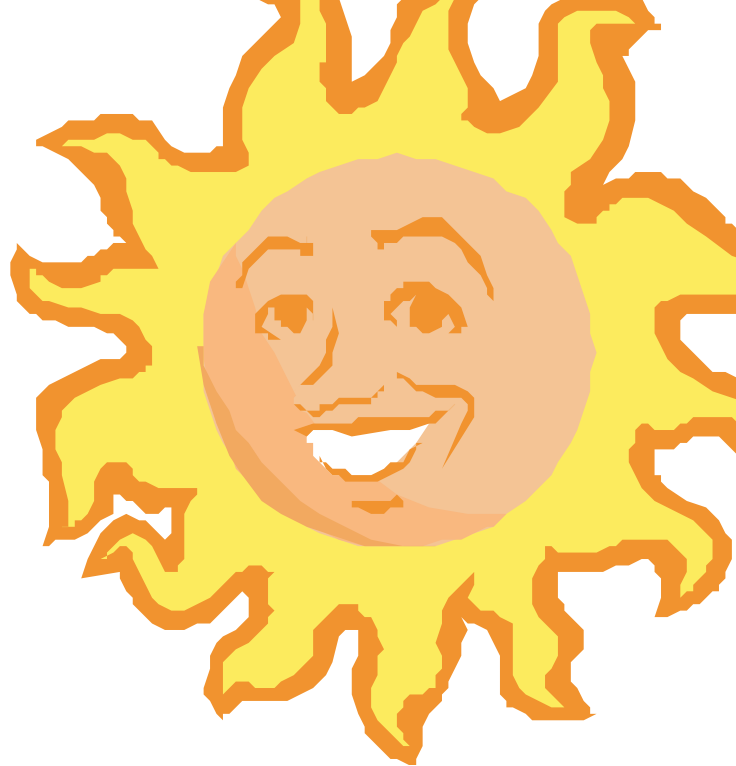
Solomon predicts that camps will probably fill to capacity, but perhaps not as quickly as usual as parents take more time to search for the best value.

The best way to find those values is to check the camp websites frequently. A camp with slow enrollment may extend its early-bird discount beyond the date printed in its brochure. Many camps offer sibling discounts. Last but not least, it doesn't hurt to ask the camp director for financial assistance, such as an installment plan. “The worst that can happen is he or she might say no,” says Solomon.

While slower enrollment may be good news for the procrastinators among us, Solomon urges parents not to be complacent. He recommends parents do the research now to select their top two or three choices, and check availability for your child's age group. If space is limited, it may be necessary to put down a deposit right away. Deposits can range from \$100 to more than \$1,000, so be sure to know the refund policy up front.

To make sure families get the best value out of their investment, Solomon suggests doing a little research to get the right fit. The NCA web site, [summercamp.org](http://summercamp.org), offers a resource to match campers with the right overnight camp. Parents fill out an online questionnaire and receive a follow-up call from a camp advisor to help them select the top two or three camps that fit the family's needs. The bottom line, according to Solomon: “Don't assume that camp costs will be prohibitive. There are camps in all different price ranges, and early planning is the key to budgeting.”





## Good Advice

For the Kagan family, a summer session at Camp Wise in Chardon is already on the books. Abby, nine, and older sister Emma, 12, are eager to repeat their experience from last summer, when they tried overnight camp for the first time.

Their mother, Ruth Mardell, was worried about taking the plunge at first. She thought the girls might be too homesick to have fun. Their father, Jerry Kagan, had a different perspective. “I had gone to camp when I was 12 or 13 and really enjoyed it. I thought it would be a good experience for them to learn to negotiate things successfully without us.”

After attending the camp’s information night, which included a presentation from the camp director and a slideshow, all four of them were on board with the idea. About a month before going, they had a chance to tour the camp. Supervisors also called to go over any questions or concerns they might have.

“By the time the girls went, we were all feeling pretty comfortable with the situation,” says Ruth. “But when we got their first letters home, we were positively ecstatic, because they were having such a fabulous time. We knew we had made the right decision.”

The girls had such a good time, in fact, that the Kagans immediately signed up again for this summer. Their advice to other families considering overnight camp for the first time: “Don’t choose too short a session,” says Ruth. “They really need some time to settle in.”

Abby says, “Even though I was a little scared at first, I made friends with people I wouldn’t have met, and got to do lots of fun things like horseback riding, water trampolines, and tubing.” Emma offers a few practical tips: “Bring tape. You need it for everything. And a clip-on fan is also a good idea.”

## Shaker Day Camp: “A Phenomenal Value”

If day camp is on your agenda, there are great values to be had in our own back yard. Shaker Community Life Director Pam Quinn says, “Shaker day camp is a phenomenal value. Kids in third through eighth grade can choose their own activities, which include every sport imaginable, arts and crafts, and all sorts of field trips – all for about \$4 per day. You can’t even find a babysitter for \$4 an hour.”

Shaker Rec specialty camps are also a big hit, particularly theater and band camps, the popular Teens Learning to Connect, and the “Script to Screen” workshop. These all fill quickly, so act now.

Siva Grossman, Director of Hathaway Brown Broad Horizons Camp, counsels, “The number-one priority is to pick a camp that fits your child’s interests and personality. For example, don’t send your child to an all-sports camp if that is not his or her first love.”

Equally important is finding a camp that fits the family’s budget and offers flexibility. “I try to be as accommodating as I can, because camp is such a necessary service for parents and for kids. I feel that children really need that time to learn how to play with their peers,” says Grossman.

“Remember, summer is supposed to be about fun.”


## “Preschool in the Park” Soars with Flying Colors

BY JENNIFER PROE

A colorful, hand-made parachute created by campers and caregivers is the perfect symbol of success from last year’s “Preschool in the Park” pilot program. The program is on again for this year.

Shaker Recreation teamed up with the Carol Nursery School to create this neighborhood-based, outdoor camp with a preschool curriculum at Chelton Park in the Moreland area.

Twelve children between the ages of three and five, accompanied by their parents or caregivers, attended the six-week camp for two hours each Friday. Carol Nursery School provided the teaching expertise and donated the art materials and books, while Shaker Rec funded the



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staff and provided a van to transport the materials for each session.

Project Coordinator Susan Pfaff and support teacher Pam Newton developed a new theme each week based on a selected book. Campers received their own books to keep.

"Every week we started with the book and went on to different activities," Pfaff explains. For example, in a session based on the book *Rainbow Fish*, they created colorful fish with cardboard, rocks, and sequins. Then they tested their predictions about whether particular items would sink or float. They snacked on rainbow goldfish crackers and played a circle game about being on a boat in the sea.

"It's really a mini-preschool session in a fun, outdoor format. Of course, the children don't know they're learning colors, numbers, science, or music — they just know they're having fun," says Pfaff.

Caregivers participate in all the activities such as the parachute made from a

king bed sheet, spray-painted in multiple colors. Due to the great success of last year's program, the sessions will be increased to two and a half hours. This will allow for a parent discussion component addressing topics like nutrition and behavioral issues.

Community Life Director Pam Quinn hopes to expand the program to more neighborhoods in the future.

"The idea is to keep it within walking distance to accommodate caregivers, whether they are parents, grandparents, or daycare providers," she says.

Another enhancement from last year is a partnership with Shaker Family Center, which will allow the camp access to the Play and Learn Station at Main Library.

"We got really lucky with

the weather last year," says Pfaff, "But we realized that we needed to have an indoor option, and the Play and Learn Station is the perfect fit."

**Preschool in the Park:** Ages 3-5; June 26–July 31, 9:30 am–12 noon, Fridays; Chelton Park. Residents: \$25 per child. Contact Rhonda Miller, 216-491-3204.



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## Shaker Heights Community Life Department Camps

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

Shaker also offers the following sports camps: baseball, basketball, cheer-leading, fencing, flag football, golf, lacrosse, field hockey, roller hockey, skateboarding, soccer, and tennis. Specialty camps include: art, dance, drawing, nature studies, science, and computer camps (Funutation Tekademy). Also offered: Safety Town, Safety Town Counselor-in-Training, Script-to-Screen Film Camp, Teens Learning to Connect (community-service oriented activities), Shaker Summer Theater, Shaker on Stage, Strike Up the Band, and Lifeguard Training Camp.

Preschool in the Park is a program focused on literacy and physical activity for preschoolers 3-5 years, accompanied by an adult caregiver. The program will be held at Chelton Park in the Moreland neighborhood. For information contact Rhonda Miller, 216-491-2583.

A camps brochure is mailed to all residents along with the Spring/Summer recreation brochure. Schedules are also available at Thornton Park, the Community Life Building, City Hall, and the Shaker Heights Public Libraries. For more information, contact the Community Life Department, 216-491-1295, or go to [shakeronline.com](http://shakeronline.com).

### Nature Center at Shaker Lakes Camps

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes offers outdoor adventure day camps for children 2-12 years old and weeklong overnight camps for children 11-15 years old. Camps run from June 23-August 19. Registration begins February 27 for non-members. For more information contact Beverly Barr, 216-321-5935 ext. 235, or go to [shakerlakes.org](http://shakerlakes.org).

### PRESCHOOL CAMPS

**Carol Nursery School**, located at Shaker Family Center, offers a five-week program for 3-year olds, as well as week-by-week programs for pre-K and K-bound children. Theme-based weekly programs include guest specialists, as well as nature-based and socializing activities. For information contact Sara Miller, 216-991-3449.

**Early Childhood Enrichment Center (ECEC)**, located at Shaker Family Center, offers full-time Summer School-age Camp, which spans the 10 weeks that Shaker Schools are not in session. The camp is open to children 6-8 years of age and includes swimming lessons at Thornton Park, visiting specialists, Spanish and American Sign Language instruction, cooking, and nature activities. For information contact Michele Block or Lynn Prange, 216-991-9761.

**Hanna Perkins Center's** Reinberger Parent/Child Resource Center offers five weeks of theme-based summer camps for children ages 4-12. Camp themes include woodworking, gardening, creative play, roller skating, cooking, and robotics. For information contact Karen Goulandris, 216-929-0201, or go to [hannaperkins.org](http://hannaperkins.org)

**Summer Adventure Camp**, located at Heights Christian Church preschool, offers two two-week sessions with different themes. The program is open to ages 3 to K-bound, and offers music, crafts, science, and outside play. For more information, contact Simone Nielsen, 216-751-2593 or 216-991-7552.

#### INDEPENDENT SCHOOL CAMPS

**Hathaway Brown's** Broad Horizons for Beginners is for boys and girls who have begun or are about to begin preschool. There is also a Broad Horizons camp for girls, where campers experience learning and socialization through a variety of classes and activities. For information contact Siva Grossman, 216-320-8085, or go to hb.edu

**Laurel School's** Magic Treehouse Camp provides weeklong "mind-expanding" programs for children entering K-4th grade, as well as standard summer recreational activities, at Laurel's Butler campus in Russell Township. For older girls, Laurel offers a weeklong outdoor leadership camp. For middle school-aged campers, the Quantum Leap program combines robotics, engineering, and creative writing. Theater programs also offered. For information contact Melissa Curtis, Director of Summer at Laurel, 216-464-1441, or go to laurel-school.org.

**University School** offers summer sports camps, day camps, and academic enrichment programs for boys and girls. Camps are held at the US campuses in Shaker Heights and Hunting Valley. For information contact Debbie Linich, 216-831-1984, ext. 7366, or go to us.edu. ■

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Melissa Freilich	Katherine Peter
Margaret Green	Gabriel Pincus
Brent Grossman-McKee	Elizabeth Seitz
Audrey Hall	Zachary Silberman
Jennifer Waletzky	

#### National Achievement Semifinalist

Stacy Feeling Adria Kinney Ayanna Smith

#### National Merit Commended Students

Daniel Bardenstein	Daniel Linehan
Sophia Bellin-Warren	Emily McCandless
Phebe Buster	Daniel Murphy
Catherine Cook	Jason Oscar
Simone Duval	Adam Ratner
Aaron Hirsh	Richard Schmittgen
Adria Kinney	Kristen Sinicariello
Allison Lanese	

#### National Achievement Commended Students

Christine Bell Amadou Gueye Allyson McClendon

#### National Hispanic Scholar

Daniel Bardenstein Kristen Sinicariello





# Taking on the World

Shaker High grad Audrey Gyurgyik's charity mission to Nepal was not just an act of compassion, but raw courage.

BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTON

Only a college freshman, Audrey Gyurgyik has already become the embodiment of Mahatma Gandhi's sage adage: "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

A lifelong Shaker Heights resident and '07 graduate of Shaker Heights High School, Gyurgyik (pronounced JUR-jik) chose to defer her freshman year of college to volunteer for nine months in Nepal, trekking through the Himalayas, where she started her own mission project for the remote mountain village of Kavre.

This past September, she enrolled on a full scholarship at Davidson College in North Carolina, and she is now taking courses in philosophy, sociology, theatre, Arabic, yoga, and belly dancing.

"That's Audrey for you," observes her mother, Suzanne Gyurgyik, a French teacher at Shaker High. "She's always been outside the box."

Before she grew independent enough to step out of the box, though, Audrey was born to be a citizen of the world. Thanks to her mom, a native of France, her first language was French, and she and her four younger siblings — Vincent, Julie, William, and Christophe — have spent nearly all of their summers in France, visiting Suzanne's family.



**Students** at the schools funded by the Kavre Project, above and on page 44.  
**Top:** A Hindu holy man in Katmandu.

Her father's parents were so-called '56ers, who had fled Hungary after the ill-fated revolution against the invading Soviet Army in 1956 and settled, as many Hungarians did, in Cleveland, where Joe was born. The Gyurgyiks have also visited relatives in Hungary, and according to her mother, Audrey had childhood friends who were German, Japanese, and Mexican.

"That all might have contributed to her being more of an international person," Suzanne says.

While a student at Gesu Catholic School in University Heights, Audrey enjoyed critical transformative experiences traveling with a mission team from the school on four 10-day trips to Honduras. These excursions awakened her interest in doing volunteer work, she says.

Then, her Shaker Heights High School years only heightened her desire to take on the world, so to speak. "In the Shaker schools, if you take the initiative to

PHOTO OF AUDREY GYURGYIK BY MARC GOLUB. PHOTOS TAKEN IN NEPAL COURTESY AUDREY GYURGYIK.





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“Our first reaction was,  
what are we doing,  
letting her go there,”  
Audrey’s mother recalls.

do something, you have the opportunity to become a lot more independent and do things beyond a normal high school level,” Audrey says. “I learned a lot through the theatre program about taking the initiative and being independent and trying things out that you wouldn’t necessarily do otherwise.”

Erik Johnson, program director for the high school’s Senior Acting Ensemble, says of his popular former student, “Audrey has a way of approaching obstacles very cheerfully. She has a giving spirit. She could imagine that the world could be different from what it is. That’s the kind of person who tries to change the world.”

After searching extensively online, Audrey found a volunteer organization that didn’t charge a lot of money to work in Nepal, where she arrived on October 1, 2007. Her travels were not without troubles. Her luggage was taken away from her, due to visa issues, and a man on the plane made a pass at her. Then, to get to the mountaintop village, she had to take a seven-hour bus ride, followed by a four-hour hike up a winding and precarious path.

“Our first reaction was, what are we doing, letting her go there?” her mother recalls. “But after she told us how she

*continued on page 54*

*Where will you be when the snow melts?*

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A photograph of a modern shower stall. The shower has glass doors with a silver handle. The walls are covered in light-colored, rectangular marble tiles. A white shelf is visible on the right wall. A decorative birdcage hangs on the wall to the left of the shower. The floor is also covered in marble tiles.

# *shower* **Power**

High quality and Zen tranquility are the hallmarks of contemporary Shaker bath redos. BY BETH FRIEDMAN-ROMELL

PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO





When I ask residents what they love about their historic Shaker homes, they never mention “spacious, functional bathrooms” in the first sentence. But creativity and a little patience can transform what is usually the most prosaic location in the house into a stylish 21st-century retreat. Shaker Life talked to leading design and renovation professionals, and also visited some fabulous Shaker bathrooms, to find out how.

### Practical Pampering

People’s busy lifestyles are driving current changes in bathroom design. The most popular improvement homeowners make to the master bath is removing the tub in favor of a larger shower with multiple water features. Leah Heinsius, senior designer with Faralli Custom Kitchens and Baths, estimates that up to 90 percent of her clients jettison the Jacuzzi, an ’80s master-bath staple, in favor of showers with extras like body sprays, a “rain head,” and a hand shower.

In addition to removing the tub, “we can steal space out of a closet or adjoining room,” says John Hall, CKD/ASID, who offers kitchen and bath design classes to the public. Moving the other fixtures, using a lot of open glass, and a creative approach to light-



**Previous pages:** A 1923 historic home on Parkland Boulevard is transformed by a contemporary master bath designed by Northeastern Residential. **Left and top right:** An Ashley Road master bath designed by Faralli Custom Kitchens & Baths. **Below:** A Sussex Road small master bath designed by Ace Builders.





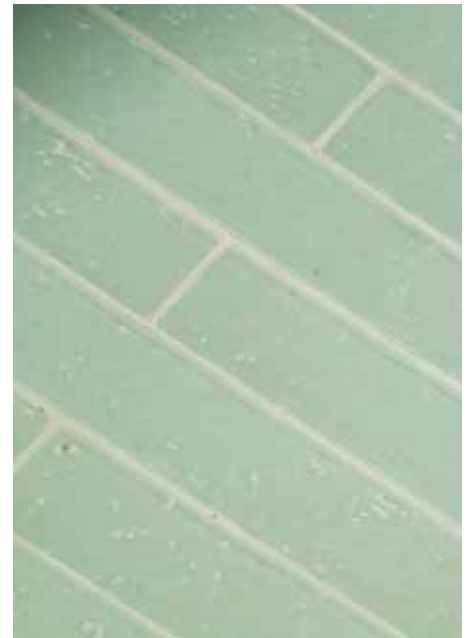
ing “all visually enlarge the space,” advises Hall, who is the owner of J. Hall Design, Inc.

Even in larger Shaker homes, “the shower is still king,” comments Robert Somrak Jr., CKD, of Somrak Kitchens, Inc. When space permits, Somrak’s clients opt for deluxe features like steam showers and soaking tubs. Some have requested a European-style “get-ready room,” which incorporates a large closet/dressing area with built-in cabinetry, adjacent to the master bath.

Heated floors are keeping feet toasty. “Once you’ve been on a heated floor, you’re going to want it,” says Tim Yoder of Tim Yoder Construction. Yoder explains that radiant flooring may be electric or tied into a home’s radiator system, which is more costly upfront, but can be less expensive to run.

Today’s bathroom aesthetics emphasize clean lines and natural elements, says Faralli’s Heinsius. “The minimalist look is very hot,” with lots of wood, stone, and tile in a monochromatic palette of “earthy” colors – soft greens, blues and beiges. The effect is definitely more “Zen” than “glamour,” she says.

This aesthetic is carried through in material choices. Top picks are granite, marble, and porcelain or glass tile for surfaces; furniture-style vanities and cabinetry; and rich, oil-rubbed bronze fixtures. Eco-friendly glass tiles as accents in showers and backsplashes are popular, according to Jack Gaskowski of Ace Builders. He also



**Above and right:** A “green” bath on South Park Boulevard designed by Jane Frankel Interiors. They used glass tile for the floor (shown here), walls, and shower.



**A master bath** on Attleboro Road designed by the owners. Consultants and contractors included Somrak Kitchens, Inc., the Saint Jon Company, and Crystal Illusions.





## Sherwin-Williams' Shaker Color Consultant Is About Much More Than Bathrooms

BY JENNIFER PROE

I breeze into the Sherwin-Williams Concept Store on Chagrin Boulevard at Shaker Town Center with magazine pages and color swatches in hand, feeling confident about selecting the new paint color that will soon transform our living room. The painters are scheduled, the room is de-cluttered. All systems go.

Within ten minutes of playing around with the paint deck and sample chips, however, I've gone from "reasonably confident" to "completely unsure." I consulted decorating magazines. I used the online Color Visualizer. I even applied some patches of "Color-to-Go" samples on every wall, the better to see them in every light. Really, this should be a no-brainer. Except that it isn't.

Out of the corner of my eye, I determine I am in good company; my color compatriots each have the same perplexed expression. One woman pores over paint choices for her kitchen cupboards and walls; another is decorating an addition to her home.

Just as the beads of sweat begin to form, help arrives in the form of Veronica Watson, assistant store manager and color consultant. She quickly assesses our different needs, then informs us that we are all candidates for the store's in-home color consultation program.

The program is simple. A customer purchases a \$75 merchandise card, which never expires, and receives up to 90 minutes of in-home consultation. She also reminds us that we can open up a Preferred Customer Account and save 15 percent off all non-sale merchandise, regardless of how much we spend. "How soon can you come?" I ask.

The following week, Veronica comes to my house armed with a full supply of paint chips, a few wallpaper books (for the dining room – the next project on my list), and a lot of great questions. First she requests a quick tour of the downstairs, to get a feel for my personal style, the fabrics and furnishings, and the flooring.

"I learn a lot from this part of the process," she tells me. "People's stuff tells a really great story. I even take into account what they're wearing, to some degree."

Surveying my paint samples, she gently takes me to task. It seems my first mistake was applying the samples in small swatches. "You really should do an entire wall to see how it's going to look," she advises. Nonetheless, she quickly helps me to eliminate some of the choices based on her experience and my input, and encourages me to try the one I was afraid would look too dark. "If anything, you can go darker," she tells me, giving me the confidence to move forward at last.

As we move to the dining room, she gives me several great options for updating that space, including some fabulous wallpaper samples I would never have found on my own. She even suggests some faux finishing techniques she swears I can do myself, with just a little guidance from her. When our time is up, I feel that I have a cohesive design plan, and a clear idea of the next steps I can take to get there. Sigh of relief – mission accomplished.



Veronica Watson

*For more information, stop in the Sherwin-Williams Concept Store at 16732 Chagrin Boulevard, or call 216-991-8181. Sherwin-Williams also lends a helping hand to community organizations with its "Neighbor-to-Neighbor" program. By enrolling in the program, organizations get 15 percent off retail prices. All sales are put toward a three-percent cash back bonus, delivered to the organization once a year. For example, if members spend \$1,000 on home improvement projects, they will save up to \$200, and the organization will earn \$30. To enroll in the program, have a representative of the organization stop in to fill out a simple application.*



points out the success of rimless shower doors, which are of high quality glass and easier to clean than the old ones.

Any bathroom redo will result in some environmental benefits when older toilets and fixtures are replaced with newer, water-efficient products. But many of Tim Yoder's clients opt for additional "green" products at little or no additional cost over conventional ones.

These features include low VOC, mildew-resistant paints (such as Sherwin-Williams' Duration Home and Harmony lines), natural and/or locally manufactured products, and sustainably harvested wood products.

One Boulevard neighborhood family worked with Yoder and designer Jane Frankel of Jane Frankel Interiors to update a bathroom for their teenage son in a way that was "as environmentally correct as possible," she says. Frankel explains that they chose Silestone quartz countertops and glass tile of different sizes for the floor, walls and shower. "The tiles are etched so they are not slippery," says Frankel.

### Marvelous Masters

Like many a project, Cindy Evans' bath renovation began with...a roof leak. The end result is a functional and attractive master suite, and an artfully updated powder room.

Cindy and her husband Todd are strongly committed to preserving the stylistic integrity of their historic 1923 Fernway home, designed by architects Howell & Thomas (who also designed Shaker Heights High School). The Evanses found the perfect partner in Zak Mowry of Northeastern Residential, who says he loves working with the charm and character of Shaker homes.

"The challenge of this project was to make the bath brand new, yet fit with the period of the home," Mowry says.

*continued on page 57*



A Rocklyn Road powder room designed by Reflections Interior Design.



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## Taking on the World

*continued from page 45*

dealt with all of those obstacles, we were definitely reassured about her ability to handle whatever she would encounter."

To better navigate her way around this truly foreign setting, Audrey befriended a woman whom she paid to teach her Nepali. Unlike most volunteers, she learned to speak the language fluently, which, after several months, helped her realize that the funds many of these organizations raised went into the pockets of the fundraiser, rather than the destitute people she was trying to help.

"She certainly learned quite a bit about how the real world works," says her father, Joe, who owns Shaker Landscaping and Plowing.

Also unlike most volunteers, Audrey chose to found her own organization to change one small slice of the world. She emailed her family and friends, pretty much everyone she knew, and raised nearly \$4,000 to launch the Kavre Project.

The project helps fund the existing Kaali Devi Primary School and Shree Seti Devi Secondary School "to give children a chance to learn and think independently... a lofty goal in a place where the



prevalent attitude was that education was unnecessary," according to her website, kavreproject.org.

The site contains information about how individuals can contribute to the effort, as well as ample examples of Audrey's exceptional abilities as a writer to convey with passion and poetry who these people are and how much they need better educational and living facilities.


"The people make their living off of farming just to sustain themselves," Audrey explains. "Or they carry things up the mountain to the village, where there are no roads. They make these trips with 100 pounds on their back, and they'll earn about 50 cents for walking six or seven hours a day."

For the schools, with students ranging in age from 6 or 7 years old to early 20s, Audrey taught basic math and English. Her first acquisitions for the schools were benches, books, and science materials to give students a firm foundation for learning.


**Hindu** prayer wheels at a crematorium in Katmandu.



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Her time in Nepal wasn't all hard work. She occasionally hiked and bussed 30 kilometers east to the capital, Katmandu, where she could connect to the Internet.

She found the villagers quite welcoming, and she lived with a family. Slender to begin with, Audrey lost weight dining on the local diet of a lot of rice and a few lentils.

One day one of her older students brought his first child to school, and asked her to name the boy. She gave him the Nepali name of Kiran.

"Although they have a very simple lifestyle, they are happy," Audrey observes. "They are at peace with that, and they are not constantly thinking about getting more."

Her time in Nepal wasn't all hard work. She occasionally hiked and bussed 30 kilometers east to the capital, Katmandu, where she could connect to the Internet to work on the website and communicate

with loved ones. She also put her theatrical talents to work, when she was invited to act in a "really cheesy" Nepali soap opera, in which she played a foreigner who lived with a group of people entangled in "all of the love stories" typical of that genre, she says. She also appeared in a couple of pop music videos.

"Audrey will get involved and enjoy every minute of her time in another country," Suzanne says, adding, as a language teacher might, that her daughter significantly enriched her experience by learning the language. "She's as much interested in the culture as she is in the sights."

Tapping into the connections she made with Nepali exporters, Audrey brought back a sizable collection of silver jewelry, paper and felt handcrafts, singing bowls,

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Nepali tea and spices, and other items native to the country to sell at Davidson and raise additional funds for the Kavre Project. She also plans to give a presentation about her trip and the project, which she will continue to manage. She will return to Nepal in the summer.

"I had to accept that I could only do so much in terms of helping," Audrey concludes. "But I did form bonds with some unbelievable children and adults to the point where even after nine months of eating only rice, dealing with constant sexual harassment in Katmandu, and almost being jailed for visa problems, it was very hard for me to leave."

## Shower Power *continued from page 53*



The brand-new part involved gutting the bathroom, moving back a load-bearing wall 27 inches, rebuilding an exterior wall, removing all fixtures, and updating all plumbing and electrical. With the addition of a radiant floor, Mowry was able to remove the radiator, further opening the space.

Then the fun really started.

Mowry and his crew hand-milled most of the wood to match the original, 1920s-style trim. For the shower, Cindy took inspiration from another bathroom to request a curved basket-weave tile pattern, with mini-brick mosaic trim. It took Mowry seven days just to painstakingly hand-cut and lay the tile.

The bath offers all the features mentioned above – large shower with seat and multiple sprays, furniture-style double

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vanity, pendant lighting, marble floor, and a tranquil, soft-grey palette. An inveterate antique hunter, Cindy accessorized the room with details like an 1870 bamboo magazine rack and refurbished antique doorknobs.

"I really believe in supporting local businesses," says the Shaker High alum. "I found a lot of the furnishings from local businesses on Larchmere, and I make it a point not to do any on-line ordering."

Another long-time Shaker resident, Betty Sue Feuer, remodeled a poorly configured Jack-and-Jill bathroom as part of a new master bedroom for her 1928 English cottage-style home in the Sussex neighborhood.

Contractor Jack Gaskowski rose to the challenge of the old bath with its awkward footprint, dark shower, and tiny sink. Gaskowski made the most of the square footage available, blocking off one door to the bath and expanding Betty Sue's small closet into a compact walk-in with built-in shelving. He added insulation to the walls, installed new, energy-efficient windows, and properly vented the space to the outdoors.

"I picked browns and beiges because I wanted a warm and cozy feel," says Betty Sue. For the bath, that meant a dark mahogany cabinet, golden granite vanity top, and walls painted beige with cream trim. The shower floor is composite marble, while the walls are porcelain tile with a glass tile trim. Fixtures are oil-rubbed bronze.

These updates ensure Betty Sue will enjoy the home for years to come. "I've lived in this home 31 years, and I love the neighborhood. I could move anywhere, but here is great."

### Perfect Powder Rooms

Mercer-area homeowners Kevin and Leslie O'Donnell knew they wanted to update their 1931 colonial in a way that stays true to the house's architecture yet meets contemporary needs. To avoid

becoming overwhelmed by all the choices involved, they enlisted the help of designer Angela Potts, of Reflections Interior Design. At the top of the priority list was the first floor powder room, which had sustained water damage and was just not working for the family.

"It was very old school," Leslie says. "It had two rooms, with a non-functioning vanity and ugly mirror. Then there was a full wall with a door, which led to a toilet and tiny, clamshell pedestal sink that was very '80s. The floor was six-by-six ceramic tile. There was just so much wasted space."

Leslie had a general idea of what she wanted – an elegant, formal powder room. Potts helped her refine the vision in a way that would work not only for the powder room, but also for the overall plan for the house.

"At Reflections, we emphasize that no matter what the space is, start with a plan. In Shaker, we want to respect the bones of the house and also tell the story of the people living here now."

Leslie's desire for a marble floor and crystal chandelier set the tone for the space. After removing the dividing wall and relocating the lighting, a soft blue wallpaper with a non-linear pattern was chosen. Diagonally set floor tiles further opened up the room. A burlwood vanity with honed limestone top blends well with the romantic chandelier and candlestick wall sconces. A few of Leslie's pretty accessories add elegance.

Since the casement window needed to be replaced anyway, Potts brought in local artist Mary Zodnik to create a stained-glass version for the room. It reflects the overall color scheme of blue with gold accents.

Another Shaker native, Leslie loves the "open-door" feel on her street full of young families.

While the layout of the Evans' original powder room in their Fernway home was similar to the O'Donnell's, Cindy came up with a different solution. Cindy

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kept the original vanity in the anteroom, but repainted it silver, replaced the '50s Formica countertop with one in chocolate granite with flecks of mica, and added a tile backsplash "just for fun." It now provides storage and workspace for the family's craft projects.

Cindy removed the accordion door separating the anteroom from the water closet. She kept the original terra cotta tile in the w.c. and had the original wrought iron and glass light fixture polished up. The wrought iron motif is echoed in a small stool original to the home, and a wall-mounted stand for fresh flowers that Cindy added to the anteroom. She also added crown molding, a popular choice in today's powder rooms.

The Evanses see themselves as stewards of their home, not mere residents. "I like the clean lines and the '20s feel of the house," Cindy concludes. "We're fortunate to be able to blend the contemporary with the traditional." ■

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## A Golden Opportunity *continued from page 34*



### *What Shaker Heights people or places do you remember most fondly?*

The annual Christmas caroling parties at the home of Bush and Levona Olmsted are among my favorite childhood memories. When I'm home visiting my mother, Belva, I also like to go up to the high school to see Mr. Hugh McIntyre. My sport in junior high and high school was wrestling, and Mr. McIntyre was the assistant wrestling coach and a really great guy.

My sixth-grade teacher at Lomond, Mrs. Joan Salkin, was also very significant for me. I didn't get the chance to tell her of the impact she had on me before she died, but I tell her story at my church every year. At the beginning of the school year, we invite teachers to the altar, give them gifts, and pray for them, and I always tell how the interest Mrs. Salkin took in me, a little boy who was a little rambunctious, made a difference. I remind teachers not to give up on kids and to remember that though they might not ever hear the 'thank you,' their work is important.

### *Are there other pivotal experiences you remember from your years in Shaker?*

Growing up in Shaker Heights really gives you a slice of life. My friends were all colors, shapes, and sizes. But the experience was not always without its challenges. I remember being 13 when Alex Haley's *Roots* aired on television for the first time. That was a real eye-opener, because African American history, even in Shaker, wasn't too much more than Booker T. Washington, the real basics.

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## OPEN HOUSE

Bring your family and friends

**Sunday, January 11** 12:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 11** 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, March 1** 12:00 p.m.



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For a lot of us, that was a pretty powerful time, and it produced some tension in the schools because we now had this discussion going on, and I'm not so sure everyone was really ready to have the discussion. I don't know that it was just Shaker – I think when *Roots* hit, it tugged at the strings of the racial dialogue across the country. For those of us growing up in Shaker Heights, who on some level had been anesthetized from some of the stuff, that was an interesting time.

*Speaking of interesting times, last fall you had the opportunity to meet Barack Obama. What is it about him that has won your support?*

I led the opening prayer at one of Obama's political rallies in the Philadelphia area in early October. I see him as a catalyst for change. I like the way he ran his campaign, I like his approach to being bipartisan, and I like his approach to getting at the core of an issue and bringing in new voices.

I have a healthy jaundiced eye toward the political process, so when his machinery came into Philly, what I was so excited about is that there were new faces at the table. He didn't do the old stuff, the street money thing. Meeting his people was like experiencing "Revenge of the Nerds" – this whole group of young, nerdy, smart guys. It was such a breath of fresh air; they made you feel that you were part of the dialogue and that you were going to be heard.

I see in Obama's presidency a golden opportunity for a new generation of leaders across the board. I don't think sweeping change is going to happen in the next two years, but I think if we can keep him in office for eight years, then eight years from now we will be a better country than we are right now. The possibilities are exciting.

*Rev. Waller can be reached at [pastor@enontab.org](mailto:pastor@enontab.org) or visit [www.enontab.org](http://www.enontab.org) ■*

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## Ongoing Activities for Families

**MONDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Drop in 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 eight and parent or caregiver. FEES & INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions, 9:30 AM-NOON,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER PATRICIA S. MEARN'S FAMILY PLAYROOM. Parents and caregivers with children from birth to age 5 can play, make friends, and network. Afternoon hours: 4-6 PM Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. Membership includes use of gym and muscle room during specific hours. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

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

**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. INFO: 216-921-2023.

**TUESDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 6-8 PM,** 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. INFO: 216-991-2030 OR 216-921-2023.

**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. Thursday afternoon hours: 1-3 PM. 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.

**SATURDAYS: Gym Program, 10 AM-NOON,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Children (birth-age 6) with a parent can enjoy exercise equipment and activities in a gym and large muscle room. Program runs through March 28. (No session on Feb. 14.) Discount passes are available at Shaker Family Center. FEES & INFO: 216-921-2023.

**SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Market, 8 AM-NOON,** SHAKER SQUARE. It's cold outside, so bundle up and go to the Square for seasonal selections from local farmers.

*Calendar listings were correct at press time, but please call ahead to confirm.*

## Destinations...

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

**MAIN LIBRARY**  
16500 Van Aken Boulevard  
216-991-2030

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

**STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING / COMMUNITY COLONNADE**  
3450 Lee Road  
216-491-1360

**SHAKER FAMILY CENTER**  
19824 Sussex Road  
216-921-2023

**SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL**  
15911 Aldersyde Drive  
216-295-4200

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





**SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
20600 Shaker Boulevard  
216-295-4100

**THORNTON PARK**  
3301 Warrensville Center Road  
216-491-1295



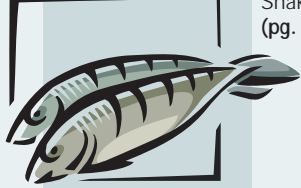


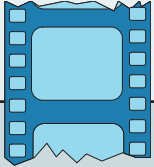
# february

## highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p><b>Community Forum</b> 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (pg. 66)</p> <p><b>Groundhog Sun-Day</b> 1 pm, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. (pg. 71)</p>		<p><b>Pianofest</b> 7:30 pm, CIM. (pg. 72)</p>	<p><b>Kids Cooking</b> 4:15 pm, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 66)</p> <p><b>South Shaker Town Hall Meeting</b> 7 pm, Shaker High Large Aud. (pg. 66)</p>	<p><b>Exhibit Thru 3/22</b> "Innovations, Shakers and Beyond," Shaker Historical Museum. (pg. 66)</p>	<p><b>School Days at Laurel</b> 8:45 am, Laurel School. (pg. 67)</p>	<p><b>Breakfast with the Birds and Birdseed Sale</b> 9 am, Nature Center. (pg. 67)</p> 
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p><b>18th Annual Black Heritage Concert</b> 4 pm, CIM. (pg. 72)</p>	<p><b>Drop in Sessions,</b> 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 63)</p>	<p><b>Gaming for Seniors</b> 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 67)</p>	<p><b>Parent &amp; Child Play Sessions</b> 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 63)</p>	<p><b>Play and Learn Station</b> 10 am, Main Library. (pg. 63)</p>	<p><b>Confronting the Climate Crisis: Not Just for Tree-huggers</b> 7:30 pm, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. (pg. 73)</p>	<p><b>Coming of Age in Nigeria: Celebration of Womanhood</b> 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 67)</p>
15	16	17	18		20	21
<p><b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> Shaker Schools closed.</p>		<p><b>Garrett Morgan ad His Amazing Automated Traffic Light</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 68)</p> <p><b>Lake Erie League Choral Festival</b> 7:30 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 68)</p>	<p><b>Knit Night</b> 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 68)</p> <p><b>CityMusic Cleveland</b> 7:30 pm, Fairmount Presbyterian Church. (pg. 73)</p>		<p><b>Mom &amp; Tot Spanish Class</b> 10 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 68)</p> <p><b>Musical Rainbow: The Tricky Trombone</b> 10 am, Severance Hall. (pg. 73)</p>	<p><b>9th Grade Theatre Experience</b> 2/20-21 Shaker High.</p> <p><b>SAT Prep Workshop</b> 9:15 am, Main Library. (pg. 68)</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p><b>Historic American Residential Landscape Design</b> 3 pm, Shaker Historical Museum. (pg. 68)</p>	<p><b>Drop in Sessions,</b> 9:30 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 63)</p>	<p><b>Band Contest Preview Concert</b> 7 pm, Shaker High.</p> 		<p><b>Roller Skating</b> 4 pm, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 68)</p>	<p><b>Fish Fry</b> 5 pm, St. Dominic School. (pg. 68)</p> <p><b>Grey Gardens</b> Beck Center for the Arts. (pg. 73)</p>	<p><b>SAT Prep Workshop</b> 9:15 am, Main Library. (pg. 68)</p> <p><b>Free Family Flick "Open Season 2,"</b> 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 68)</p>

# march

## highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Community Forum 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church. (pg. 69)	2 School Tour 9 am, St. Dominic School. (pg. 69)  Mom & Tot Dance Class 10 am, Hanna Perkins Center. (pg. 69)	3	4	5 Excuse Me Your Job is Waiting 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 69)	6 Professional Day. Shaker Schools closed.  Fish Fry 5 pm, St. Dominic School.	7 A Night for the Red & White. 7 pm, Intercontinental Hotel. (pg. 70)
8	9	10 Gaming for Seniors 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 70)	11 Pieter Wispelwey 7:30 pm, CIM. (pg. 74)	12 The Farnsworth Invention Beck Center for the Arts. (pg. 74)  	13 Fish Fry 5 pm, St. Dominic School.	14 North Union Farmers Market Ongoing. 8 am, Shaker Square. (pg. 63)
15	16 Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 63)	17 St. Patrick's Day Parade 1 pm, Downtown Cleveland. (pg. 75)  	18 Shipwrecked! Fire, Storm and Collision 7 pm, Bertram Woods (pg. 70)  New Stages 8 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)	19 New Stages 8 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)  Knit Night 7 pm, Bertram Woods. (pg. 71)	20 Fish Fry 5 pm, St. Dominic School.  New Stages 7 pm, 9:15 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)	21 New Stages 7 pm, 9:15 pm, Shaker High. (pg. 70)  Alarm Will Sound 7:30 pm, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. (pg. 75)
22 Community Forum 9:30 am, First Unitarian Church (pg. 71)	23 	24 Play and Learn Station 6 pm, Main Library. (pg. 63)	25 Parent & Child Play Sessions 9:30 am, Shaker Family Center. (pg. 63)	26 Cavani String Quartet 7 pm, Main Library. (pg. 71)  Original Sewing & Quilt Expo 3/26-28 10 am, I-X Center. (pg. 75)	27 Fish Fry 5 pm, St. Dominic School.  The Lady with All the Answers The Cleveland Play House. (pg. 75)	28 Free Family Flick "Beverly Hills Chihuahua," 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 71)  
29 Barbara Luton Art Competition Gallery Opening & Awards 2 pm, Main Library. (pg. 71)	30 Spring Bulb Show 10 am, Rockefeller park Greenhouse. (pg. 75)	31				



# Events for *February*

**Feb. 1: Community Forum, 9:30-10:45 AM**, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Dr. Ned Hill, professor of economic development, interim director at Cleveland State University's College of Urban Affairs and senior fellow at the Brookings Institution presents *Inside the NEO Economy: What's Happening—How Am I Affected?* INFO: 216-751-2320 OR HTTP://FIRSTUNITARIANCLEVELAND.ORG.

**Feb. 1: Open House, 10:45 AM-1 PM**, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD. Visit the school, meet the teachers, and tour the classrooms. INFO:

216-561-4400 OR [www.stdominicschool.net](http://www.stdominicschool.net).

**Feb. 3: Exhibit.** SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. View the exhibit, *Innovations: Shakers and Beyond* through March 22. The Shakers were technologically savvy and are credited with several inventions including the flat broom and a waterproof fabric. Explore their ingenuity through this exhibit that looks at innovations with local connections. FEES & INFO: 216-921-1201.

**Feb. 3: Music in the Afternoon, 4 PM**, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (birth to 3) and their parents can experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays, experimentation with instruments, and

dance. \$60/6-week session thru Mar 10. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 4: Kids Cooking, 4:15 PM**, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Young Children (ages 3-8) enjoy cooking real food with parent's help and will prepare simple, wholesome recipes. \$58/4-week session thru Feb. 25. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 4: South Shaker Town Hall Meeting, 7-9 PM**, SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL LARGE AUDITORIUM. Is Shaker Heights meeting the youth development needs of its young people? How can we better serve South Shaker youth specifically? Come to a meeting to learn about the grant-funded initiative, MYCOM (My Commitment.

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My Community), and how you can get involved. INFO: JOHN LISY, 216-752-9292.

**Feb. 6:** School Days at Laurel, 8:45 AM, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. Prospective students in grades 5-8 can visit the school. INFO: 216-464-1441.

**Feb. 7:** Breakfast with the Birds and Birdseed Sale, 9 AM-12:30 PM, NATURE CENTER. Flock together! Enjoy a free Birds of Prey program with nature hikes and activity stations plus an optional pancake breakfast (\$5/members; \$10/non-members). Then visit [www.birdsource.org/gbbc](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc) and join the national Great Backyard Bird Count from February 13-16. INFO: 216-321-5935.

**Feb. 8:** A Mid-Winter Musical Interlude, 4 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, 19910 MALVERN RD. M.U.S.I.C. (Musical Upcoming Stars in the Classics) presents Jason Vieaux on guitar, Sandra Bohl, dance, Julien Labro, bandoneon, accordion and the Linden Quartet. Program includes Boccherini's *Guitar Quintet No. 4 in D Major*, Dvorak's *Bagatelles*, Piazzolla's *Double Concerto* and *Historie du Tango*. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$40/patron; \$25 and \$15/students. INFO: JODI KANTER, 216-378-1887.

**Feb. 10:** Gaming for Seniors, 7-8:45 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Amaze your grandchildren! Learn how to play some video games so you can challenge them on your next visit. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**Feb. 11:** Pre-Primary Admission Morning for Prospective Parents, 8:45-10:30 AM, LAUREL SCHOOL, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. INFO: 216-464-1441.

**Feb. 14:** Coming of Age in Nigeria: Celebration of Womanhood, 2-4 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. The Anioma Association celebrates a woman's coming of age with ceremonial re-enactment, dance, music and food. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**Feb. 15:** Community Forum, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Dr. Peter Whitehouse, Case Western Reserve University professor, neurologist, and author of *The Myth of Alzheimer's Disease* presents *The Myth of Alzheimer's Disease: An Honest Conversation*. Whitehouse challenges the conventional diagnosis, questions the current treatment, and suggests a new approach to understanding natural aging. INFO: 216-751-2320 OR <http://Firstunitariancleveland.org>.

**Feb. 16:** Presidents' Day. Shaker Schools closed.

**Feb. 17:** Music in the Morning, 9:30 OR 10:30 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (birth to 3) and their parents can experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays and experimentation with instruments and dance. \$60/6week session thru Mar 24. INFO: Karen Goulondris, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 17:** Gaming For Seniors, 2-4 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Learn to play some video games so you can challenge your grandkids on your next visit. INFO: 216-991-2030.



**"I can't imagine a better way for my child to spend the summer."**

— M. Levy Shankman, Shaker Heights parent

**Mandel JCC Day Camps**

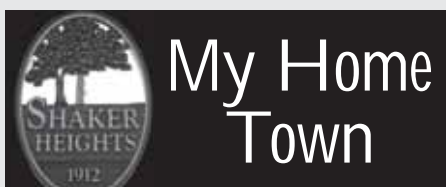
Team sports, arts & crafts, instructional swim, boating, performing arts, nature, Israeli culture, archery, low ropes course, music & tennis, are just some of the neat things your child will experience at The Mandel JCC's outstanding day camps. We have a wonderful selection of camp options for children from 4 years old through Grade 9.

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- Francine and Benson Pilloff Family Playmakers Performing Arts Camp
- Playland Day Camp

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## out & about



Georgia Murray knows the benefits of the Shaker Heights community because she grew up here and raised her family here. Growing up, she skated on the outdoor pond at Fernway and Warrington. As an adult, she took her children sledding at Thornton Park. Though the traditions may have changed over the years, the essence of Shaker has stayed the same and Georgia knows this. Traditional values. Simple pleasures. Fine homes. Ongoing commitment to excellence. All make Shaker an exceptional place to call home.

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**Feb. 17:** Garrett Morgan and His Amazing Automated Traffic Light, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Learn about the man who invented the traffic light from his granddaughter, Sandra Morgan, and his biographer, Mary Oluonye. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**Feb. 17:** Lake Erie League Choral Festival, 7:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**Feb. 18:** Art, 10 OR 11 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2-4) and a parent use different art media to explore and learn about colors, design and textures. Each week children create a new page to compile their own portfolio. \$45/5-week session thru March 18. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 18:** Knit Night, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Bring your project and get or give help. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**Feb. 20:** Mom & Tot Spanish Class, 10 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 3-4) and a parent learn Spanish together. This is a fun interactive class filled with Latin music and hands-on learning. \$60/5-week session thru March 20. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 20 & 21:** 9th Grade Theatre Experience, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**Feb. 21 & 28:** SAT Prep Workshops, 9:15 AM-2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. The Princeton Review administers a full-length SAT test. The following week come for a Score-Buster session from 9:15-11 am. Limited to 35 teens. Free. Registration begins Feb. 7; call 216-991-2030 ex. 3141.

**Feb. 22:** Historic American Residential Landscape Design Styles, 3 PM, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Landscape Historian Mary Paolano Hoerner speaks about the historic landscape designs. Free. INFO: 216-921-1201.

**Feb. 24:** Band Contest Preview Concert, 7 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL.

**Feb. 26:** Roller Skating, 4 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2½-8) learn to skate safely. Beginning skills include learning to get up from the floor, rolling forward and picking up one foot at a time. Music for simple rhythm and movement activities will be used to coincide with skating skills. \$69/6-week session thru Apr. 2. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

**Feb. 27:** Fish Fry, 5-8 PM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD. Stop by and pick up a fish fry this Friday. INFO: 216-561-4400.

**Feb. 28:** Free Family Flick, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Bring the family to watch *Open Season 2*. INFO: 216-991-2030.



# Events for *March*

*March 1:* **Community Forum,** 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. John Zitzner, founder of Entrepreneurship Prep School, will speak about giving kids the structure, discipline, and self confidence to succeed in middle school and high school in order to gain college admission. INFO: 216-751-2320 OR <http://Firstunitariancleveland.org>.

*March 2:* **School Tour,** 9 AM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD RD. School tour for prospective students. INFO: 216-561-4400.

*March 2:* **Mom & Tot Dance Class,** 10 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Dancing with a parent or caregiver, children (ages 2-4) learn basic dance skills and explore rhythm, balance, and coordination. \$60/5-week session thru March 30. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

*March 2:* **Children's Dance Class,** 11 AM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 3½-4) learn simple dances, explore movement creatively, and use props to explore rhythm, balance and coordination. \$60/5-week session thru March 30. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

*March 2:* **Spanish Class in the Afternoon,** 4 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-

PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 7-9) learn Spanish language and the Hispanic culture while enjoying Latin music and hands-on activities. \$60/5-week session thru March 30. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

*March 4:* **Kids Cooking,** 4:15 PM, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT-PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Young children (ages 3-8) cook real food with parent's help and prepare simple, wholesome recipes. \$58/4-week session thru March 25. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 216-929-0201.

*March 5:* **Excuse Me, Your Job Is Waiting,** 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Author, job search coach and former human resource manager, Laura George, speaks about job search techniques followed by Q & A. INFO: 216-991-2030.

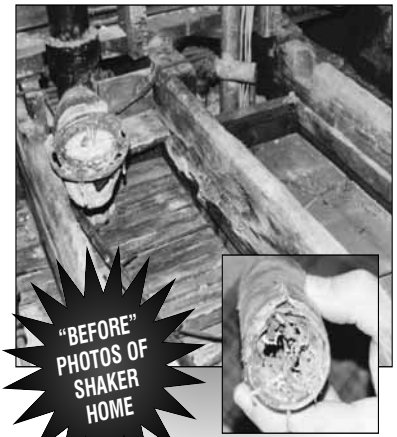
*March 6:* **Professional Day.** Shaker Schools K-6 closed.

*March 6, 13, 20, & 27:* **Fish Fry,** 5-8 PM, ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL, 3455 NORWOOD ROAD.

*March 6:* **Barbara Luton Art Competition Art Drop Off,** 12:30-5 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Enter up to two pieces in the library's 10th annual juried art competition. Nonrefundable entry fee is \$25. INFO: 216-991-2030.

*March 7:* **Barbara Luton Art Competition Art Drop Off,** 10:30 AM-2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Enter up to two pieces in the library's 10th annual juried art competition. Nonrefundable entry fee is \$25. INFO: 216-991-2030.

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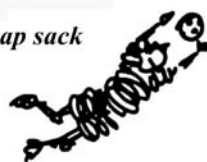
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☀ out & about

*March 7:* Night for the Red & White, 7 PM, INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, 9801 CARNEGIE AVE. Black-tie block party to benefit the Shaker Schools. Tickets: \$295/person; \$195/person; \$125/person NEW! Friends Package \$199 for 2 tickets, valet parking, dinner, dancing, soft drinks, cash bar. INFO: Christine Auginas, 216-295-4325.

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Choose a ticket price and go.  
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*March 8:* Daylight Savings Time. Spring ahead one hour.

*March 10:* Gaming For Seniors, 7-8:45 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. You're never too old to get your game on! Learn to play some video games at the library. INFO: 216-991-2030.

*March 16-27:* Laurel School Spring Break.

*March 17:* Gaming For Seniors, 2-4 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Sure 'tis a lucky day to learn how to play some video games. INFO: 216-991-2030.

*March 18:* Shipwrecked! Fire, Storm and Collision, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Georgann and Mike Wachter of Lake Erie Wrecks present a dynamic slideshow about shipwrecks on Lake Erie. INFO: 216-991-2421.

*March 18, 19, 20 & 21:* New Stages, 8 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Student written and performed works. Performances on March 20 & 21 at 7 pm & 9:15 pm.

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## out & about

**March 19:** Knit Night, 7 PM, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Bring your project and get or give help. INFO: 216-991-2421.

**March 22:** Community Forum, 9:30-10:45 AM, FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CLEVELAND, 21600 SHAKER BLVD. Panelists from several communities discuss Landbanks, Foreclosures and Housing Preservation: Community Solutions. Home values are an integral part of our economy. How do we prevent the cycle of decline in our neighborhoods? INFO: 216-751-2320 OR <http://Firstunitariancleveland.org>.

**March 23-27:** Spring Break Nature Camp, 9 AM-3 PM, NATURE CENTER. Spring Break Nature Camp: March 23-27 & March 30-April 3. Children in grades K-6 can enjoy a week of adventure and discovery through hikes, games, crafts, and fun. Members: \$45/day or \$200/week; Non-members: \$55/day or \$250/week. INFO: 216-321-5935.

**March 24:** Sports Awards, 6:30 PM, SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Sports awards for men's and women's winter dream teams.

**March 26:** Cavani String Quartet, 7 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Beethoven died on this date in 1827, but his music lives on in 2009! Enjoy the Cavani String Quartet's (Annie Fullard, Mari Sato, Kirsten Docter, and Merry Peckham) performance of Beethoven's Opus 131. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**March 28:** Free Family Flick, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Bring the kids to watch the Disney movie *Beverly Hills Chihuahua*. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**March 29:** Barbara Luton Art Competition Gallery Opening & Awards, 2 PM, MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the winners of the 10th annual juried art show and enjoy their creations. INFO: 216-991-2030.

**March 30–April. 3:** Spring Break. Shaker schools closed.

## In the Circle and Beyond

**THRU FEB. 22:** Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, THE BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 17801 DETROIT AVE. Ma Rainey sets out to record her latest album in August Wilson's play set in Chicago in the 1920s that deals with issues of race, art, religion, and the historic exploitation of black recording artists by white producers. TICKETS & INFO: 216-521-2540 OR <http://beckcenter.org/theater/main.htm>.

**FEB. 1:** Groundhog Sun-Day, 1-4 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL DR. Join the Museum's staff and volunteers for an afternoon celebration of everything woodchuck. This festival, on the eve of Groundhog Day, features live animals, crafts and demonstrations all relating to the natural and unnatural history of everyone's favorite rodent. Free with Museum admission. INFO: 216-231-1177.

**FEB. 1:** Pray the Devil Back to Hell, 7 PM, CINEMATHEQUE AT THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART, 11141 EAST BLVD. Winner of the documentary prize at last year's Tribeca Film Festival, this impassioned and inspiring new film tells the extraordinary story of how a small band of Liberian women—both Christian and Muslim—came together in 2003 in the midst of a bloody civil

  
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## out & about

war, took on the violent warlords and corrupt Charles Taylor regime, and won a long-awaited peace for their shattered country. Tickets: \$8/person. INFO: 216-421-7450.

**FEB. 3: Pianofest, 7:30 PM**, CIM, 11021 EAST BLVD. Performances by CIM students and faculty directed by Paul Schenly with lively commentary. Reception follows. Tickets: \$5/person; students free. INFO: 216-791-5000.

**FEB. 7: A Secret, 7:20 PM**, CINEMATHEQUE AT THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART, 11141 EAST BLVD. Set in post-WWII Paris, the film focuses on a Jewish teenager who stumbles upon some skeletons in his family's closet – transgressions that linked them to the Holocaust. French, Yiddish and German with subtitles. (Film also runs Feb. 8 at 6:45 pm.) Tickets: \$8/person. INFO: 216-421-7450.

**FEB. 7: The Natural History of Chocolate, 6:30 PM**, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL DR. The second program in the Natural History of Food dinner series features guest chef Doug Katz of Fire and lecturer Bev Shaffer, chef, author, and director of Mustard Seed Market Cooking School. Dinner reception begins at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at 8 pm. Seating is limited. Tickets: \$150/person. INFO: 216- 231-1177 OR 800-317-9155 EX. 3279, OR [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org).

**FEB. 8: 18th Annual Black Heritage Concert, 4 PM**, CIM, 11021 EAST BLVD. Enjoy the performances of the Cleveland School of the Arts, the R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir, directed by William B. Woods, and the Chamber Orchestra, directed by Dianna Richardson. Free. INFO: 216-791-5000.

**FEB. 13: Confronting the Climate Crisis: Not Just for Tree-huggers, 7:30 PM,** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. Larry Schweiger, president and CEO of National Wildlife Federation, reviews the urgency of the rapidly unfolding climate crisis. INFO: 216-231-1177.

**FEB. 18: CityMusic Cleveland, 7:30 PM,** FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Chamber Music Masterpieces with special guest artists: Edward Arron, Ivan Chan, Zsolt Eder, Charles Krenner, Kyung Sun Lee, Peter Salaff, Eric Wong, and Keiko Ying performing Franz Schubert: Cello Quintet in C Major, D.956 and Felix Mendelssohn: Octet in Eb Major, Op.20. INFO: 216-321-5800.

**FEB. 20 & 21: Musical Rainbow: The Tricky Trombone, 10 AM,** SEVERANCE HALL, 11001 EUCLID AVE. A 30-minute program to introduce young children to the instruments of the orchestra in a fun, interactive, and engaging presentation. (Second concert on Feb 21 at 11 am.) TICKETS & INFO: 216-231-1111 OR [WWW.CLEVELAND-ORCHESTRA.COM](http://www.cleveland-orchestra.com).

**FEB. 21: World's Toughest Rodeo, 8:30 PM,** QUICKEN LOANS ARENA, ONE CENTER COURT. Yippee Yi Yo what a rodeo! Watch riding, wrestling, roping and racing.


**FEB. 27: Grey Gardens,** THE BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 17801 DETROIT AVE. The Tony-Award winning play brings to life the hilarious and heartbreaking story of Edith Bouvier Beale and her adult daughter 'Little' Edie – the delightfully eccentric aunt and cousin of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, in Broadway's acclaimed

musical smash hit with music composed by Cleveland native Scott Frankel. Once among the brightest names in the pre-Camelot social register, these two women became East Hampton's most notorious recluses and Jackie O's most scandalous relatives. The play runs thru March 29. TICKETS & INFO: 216-521-2540 OR <http://beckcenter.org/theater/main.htm>.

**FEB 28: Making Faces: The Art and Science of Forensic Facial Reconstruction.** CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL. TV's crime dramas have made forensic facial reconstruction part of popular culture. This exhibition explores the art of facial reconstruction, its uses, methods, and the ways in which it is employed to solve the mysteries of the past and present. Real-life cases, 3-D and 2-D reconstructions by Museum experts, video and hands-on displays take a closer look at this scientific art. Free with Museum admission thru June 7. INFO: 216-231-1177.

**FEB. 28: Community Night with the Lake Erie Monsters, 7:30 PM,** QUICKEN LOANS ARENA, ONE CENTER COURT. It's a hat trick! Shaker residents get best available tickets, the family has fun, and proceeds benefit Shaker Heights Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund. \$20/person. INFO: TARYN SEITZ, 216-420-2509.


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## out & about

**MARCH 1: Creation by Franz Joseph Haydn, 3 PM, FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD.** To mark the 200th anniversary of the composer's death, the choirs of Fairmount Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, and Plymouth Church join, with orchestra and soloists, to present this work with Robert Page as guest conductor.  
**TICKETS & INFO: 216-921-3510 EX. 34.**

**MARCH 7: Rodgers & Hammerstein, 8 PM, SEVERANCE HALL, 11001 EUCLID AVE.** Cleveland POPS presents a blazing tribute to the greatest team in the history of American Musical Theater. The orchestra is joined by Broadway singers' local favorites: the North Coast Men's Chorus and The Chamber Choir of Beck Center.  
**TICKETS & INFO: 216-231-1111 OR WWW.clevelandorchestra.com.**

**MARCH 11: Pieter Wispelwey, 7:30 PM, CIM, 11021 EAST BLVD.** In his Cleveland debut, the brilliant Dutch cellist presents a bold program of Beethoven's complete sonatas and variations. Phenomenal technical mastery and regular appearances in the world's great concert halls have cemented his reputation as one of the most charismatic performers of our time. With Lois Shapiro, piano. Part of the Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! And Gala Around Town series. \$41/CMA members; \$39/nonmembers.

**MARCH 13: The Farnsworth Invention, THE BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 17801 DETROIT AVE.** Will a ruthless media mogul or a self-taught Idaho farm boy unlock the key to TV, the greatest invention of the 20th century? The answer comes to compelling life



in this new play from Aaron Sorkin, creator of *The West Wing*. The show runs thru April 11. TICKETS & INFO: 216-521-2540 OR <http://beckcenter.org/theater/main.htm>.

**MARCH 17: St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1 PM, DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND.** Cleveland's St. Paddy's Day parade begins in the afternoon, but the fun starts in the morn and continues into the wee hours of the night! Watch everything Irish from marching bands, floats, flag corps and more, and remember the words of Oscar Wilde, "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go."

**MARCH 21: Alarm Will Sound, 7:30 PM, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 1 WADE OVAL DR.** The Weathermen, Woodstock, Stonewall, Vietnam, Nixon: 1969 was a year infused with revolutionary spirit even in its music. The production offers an evening of entertainment from the group that the New Yorker has dubbed "a sensational force." Part of the Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! And Gala Around Town series \$34/CMA members; \$32/non-members.

**MARCH 26, 27 & 28: Original Sewing & Quilt Expo, 10 AM-6 PM, I-X CENTER, 6200 RIVERSIDE DR.** Shopping and classes for sewing, quilting, machine embroidery, embellishment, knitting and home décor enthusiasts. Admission: \$10/day; children 12 and

under free. Pre-register for five or more classes and admission is free! Classes cost \$19/session on-site. INFO: 216-676-6000 OR [www.sewingexpo.com/cities/cleveland.htm](http://www.sewingexpo.com/cities/cleveland.htm).

**MARCH 27: The Lady with All the Answers, THE CLEVELAND PLAY HOUSE, 8500 EUCLID AVE.** A one-woman comedy about Ann Landers, the "mistress of manners." The show runs thru April 19. TICKETS & INFO: 216-795-7000 OR [www.clevelandplayhouse.com](http://www.clevelandplayhouse.com)

**MARCH 30: Spring Bulb Show, 10 AM-4 PM, ROCKEFELLER PARK GREENHOUSE, 750 E 88TH ST.** Enjoy a spring bulb display as well as an extensive orchid and tropical plant exhibit thru April 27. Free. INFO: 216-664-3103. ■



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## A 'Pre-owned' Traffic Light, Anyone?

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

After the stunning success of Shaker Heights' recent street sign sale – more than 300 people stood outside City Hall for nearly four hours to spend more than \$15,000 on what was, essentially, a pile of scrap metal and plastic – the City and its institutions may want to capitalize on Shaker residents' passionate love of their hometown to generate revenues in new ways.

A few modest proposals:

**Sale Of Almost Everything Old And Dented (or, more delicately, *Pre-Owned*):** Who knew that a bunch of rusty poles with Anglo-Saxon street names would be hot decorating accessories? Now that citizens have proven they will risk boredom and frostbite (the temperature on the November day of the sign sale was -58°F, with a windchill of -134°F) just for keepsakes of their neighborhoods, the City could offer anything it replaces – traffic lights, police cruisers, playground swings, woodchips, bags of grass clippings, porta-johns – as official “Shaker Souvenirs,” complete with logos and Certificates of Authenticity (on recycled paper, of course). Just as important, future sales (held annually on the coldest day of the year) could include premium options (for additional fees) based on needs identified during the sign sale, including:

- A coffee cart to serve double-caramel-no-fat-extra-foam lattes to no-good-early-riser-cheating types who want to park folding chairs by the door at 4 am to get a jump on the crowd;
- A hot dog cart to serve a late lunch to dull, unimaginative sluggards like Shaker Man who show up at the sale's announced starting time of 10 am but end up 201st in line (or worse), feeling three hours later like they're on a lost expedition to the South Pole; and
- Personal Heat Licenses (PHLs). Modeled on the personal seat licenses offered by professional sports stadiums – fees which merely confer the *right* to buy

tickets, not the actual tickets themselves – Shaker could offer patrons the *right* to stand inside City Hall and not freeze their ears off while they wait to see if their favorite pieces of memorabilia are still available when Numbers 517 and 518 are called.

**Luxury Boxes at School Events:** Shaker Schools might offer premium seating for elementary concerts and plays, featuring not just reserved chairs but at-the-seat delivery of lemonade and mystery cookies (*Are those raisins? Cranberries? Chocolate chips?*). Well-heeled patrons could buy two seats (one for each cheek) or opt for the special “Sleepy Fathers’ Pavilion,” which would offer screened privacy, reclining chairs, and earplugs.

**Get Out of Jail Free Cards for Yellow Light Violations:** It's a well-known fact that all Northeast Ohio drivers view a yellow traffic light not as a cautionary signal (i.e., *Please slow down*), but as a desperate last chance to avoid stopping (i.e., *It's about to go red! Drive! DRIVE!*). Since other drivers already know this (nobody in their right mind starts through an intersection in Northeast Ohio without looking for crazy, mis-timed yellow-lighters coming crossways), why not take a page out of the Monopoly rulebook, and offer small yellow cards (for a fee, of course) that excuse no-harm, no-foul yellow-light accelerations?

**Naming Rights:** No institutional revenue generation plan is complete these days without sponsorships. Given Shaker's rich heritage, wealth of natural landscape features, and broad demographics, the possibilities for naming rights are almost limitless. Imagine FedEx Thornton Park, the Frito-Lay Nature Center, or Starbucks Horseshoe Lake. And who wouldn't be impressed with the tree-lined majesty of AT&T Shaker Boulevard, complete with new blue-and-white street signs?

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