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» **Comedy Virtuoso** Q & A WITH NATIVE SON ANDY BOROWITZ

Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer's Shaker Heights Office Raises \$16,500

On a cold and snowy night the good citizens of our community came out in support of the uninsured children of Cuyahoga County at our third annual Children's Free Care Fundraiser. 99% of the funds raised go directly to Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital and the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital.

Without your support, and without the support and generosity of the underwriters listed below, none of this would be possible.

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We also thank our food donors for making the event such a success.

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features + departments

on the cover:

Two young Shaker families have used creative, affordable solutions to update their homes. »

Cover photograph
Green Street Studio



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THE REPORT ON BOROWITZ 3

Humorist Andy Borowitz talks about growing up in Shaker, why he'll never be a Hollywood leading man, and the importance of fake news.



CHOOSING A SUMMER CAMP 8

Making the camp experience enjoyable for parent and child. ALSO: Preschool options and programs.



MUTUAL RESPECT 4

The secret of Michael Griffith's success as principal of Shaker High might be that he truly likes the students.



REAL ESTATE: SHAKER NEIGHBORHOODS 1

The Boulevard and Ludlow neighborhoods share proximity to Shaker Square and are full of local history.



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shaker homeowner?

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Life

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

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The views of the individuals and organizations interviewed in Shaker Life are not necessarily the official views of the City of Shaker Heights.
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Shaker Takes On the Emerald Ash Borer

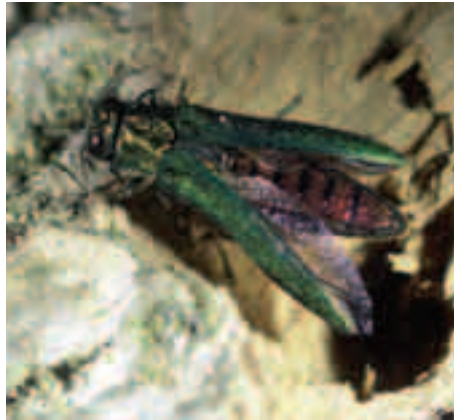
Mindful of the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which has already destroyed millions of ash trees in three states including Ohio, the City's Public Works Department has designed a thorough and meticulous plan to save Shaker's urban forest from certain devastation. The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) believes that eradication is the only way to combat the EAB and warns that "no insecticide (against the EAB) has been proven 100% effective in research trials."

The City's plan, spelled out in public meetings held in November and December, and available on the City's website, shakeronline.com, calls for systematic removal of ash trees located in the public right of way over a five-year period. The right of way includes tree lawns, medians, islands, and other publicly owned property. An inventory of these trees documents their location, size, and condition. In spring, trees located in parks and other municipal properties will be added to the inventory.

Removal of Shaker's ash trees, scheduled to begin in early February, will be followed by replacement planting with other species of trees. Removal and replacement are both phased over the same five year period. Phasing prevents any given area of the City from the devastating impact of a mass removal of trees, called clearcutting. Instead, where one tree comes out, a new tree goes in (during the next planting cycle). Wherever possible, mature trees of medium to large size will be replaced by trees with a minimum four inch diameter at breast height.

Tree replacement planning has the added benefit of replanting in locations which do not conflict with tree lawn width, overhead wires, adjacent utility poles or driveways, or in close proximity to another tree. The most recent tree assessment includes funds for the ash tree removal, so no new assessment will result from the additional work.

Residents with ash trees on their property will be able to find helpful resources on shakeronline.com. Specifically, there will be



An adult Emerald Ash Borer measures up to 1/2 inch in length. Borer larvae leave pathways under the bark that eventually choke the tree to death.



Don't Miss Rarely Seen Photographic Exhibit

A month-long exhibit of remarkable photographs, sponsored by Shaker's Fair Housing Review Board and the Human Relations Commission closes on February 18. That means you still have time to see color photographs by professional photographer and Executive Director of HOPE Fair Housing Center, Bernard J. Kleina, including images of Martin Luther King, Jr., Coretta Scott King, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Andrew Young and other civil rights activists marching in support of open housing in the 1960s. The photographs also capture many of those who tried to disrupt the peaceful demonstration. Weekend hours: Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sundays, 1-4 p.m. Check shakeronline.com for weekday hours. For group reservations, call 491-2595.

Tell Us Why You Love Shaker

Anecdotes about why so many of our residents moved to, and stayed in Shaker Heights are standard fare at block parties and out-of-town encounters. The City website, shakeronline.com, which is visited by prospective residents, who are eager to scope out its housing and hospitality, will feature some of the best stories on the new "Why I Love Shaker" page in the Relocation Assistance section. Help us collect them. Entries may be of any length but are subject to editing. Send an email to communications@shakeronline.com. Include your full name, neighborhood in which you live, and number of years as a resident in Shaker Heights.

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Emerald Ash Borer

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a list of qualified arborists for residents seeking help with identifying ash trees and to make decisions about their removal, disposal, and replacement. In addition, a list of commercial companies who provide tree pruning, removal, installation, and wood disposal services will also be posted. These companies will be required to register with the City.

The ODA recommends the eradication of the EAB which otherwise remains a threat to ash trees everywhere. Remove the food the EAB craves (ash trees) and you remove the problem. Where insecticide is used, the food source remains. In other words, use of insecticide must be repeated each year where ash trees grow. Conversely, in five years, residents of Shaker Heights can expect to continue to delight in and enjoy their beautiful, renewable Tree City.

Tip from the Ohio Department of Agriculture: Woodpeckers love Emerald Ash Borers! "When we do field work," says EAB Program Manager Lucy Hunt, "if we see a wooded area with a lot of woodpecker damage, you can be sure we'll stop to look for the Emerald Ash Borer."

Critical to the success of the City's EAB Management Plan will be cooperation from residents in the following ways:

- Moving potentially infested firewood from one location to another can spread the infestation. Because cut ash wood is not easily distinguishable from other hardwoods, there is a quarantine in Ohio. No non-coniferous firewood may be moved.
- Check the City website for references to help determine if any of your trees are ash trees. An ash tree on private property is best removed before the EAB can get a foothold. Once a tree is infected, the cost of removal and disposal climbs dramatically. Replacing it with another species will give you peace of mind.

Ahead of Their Time: the Van Sweringens and Transit-Oriented Development

The Van Sweringen brothers put Shaker Heights on the map. And they connected the dots on that map using a rapid transit system.

Using the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) to guide its economic development efforts, the City now moves forward with a new project that will reconnect public transit with land use, i.e., Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). The redevelopment of the Shaker Town Center area (STC) includes the Avalon Station Lofts, a full spectrum of improvements to the shopping center, a new fire house, new streetscaping, and plans for buildings on the south side of Chagrin. All of which has occurred steps away from an RTA station that is not easily visible or accessible from the street.

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority and the City of Shaker Heights believe the Lee/Van Aken rapid transit station and its surroundings can be so much more. Join the discussion about what the future could hold.

The first public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 8 in City Hall Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. Future meetings will be scheduled for May and September. Questions about this project should be directed to Ann Pylkas, Senior Planner, at 491-1436.

Guilty! We use a lot of Acronyms.

A sampling:

STC	Shaker Town Center
SIP	Strategic Investment Plan
TOD	Transit-Oriented Development
TIF	Tax Increment Financing
POD	Point of Distribution
EAB	Emerald Ash Borer
WNV	West Nile Virus
TP	Thornton Park
HLP	Horseshoe Lake Park
WvA	Warrensville-Van Aken

Fair Housing: Free Help for Many, Maybe Even You

Shaker's fair housing program has more clout than you might realize. It is one of only a handful of governmental entities in Ohio to be recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a qualified fair housing assistance program (FHAP). This recognition means it can enforce both local and federal fair housing law, provide education and outreach, and monitor the real estate market.

You may be a property owner facing a tough request from a tenant with a disability, or a homeowner wary of predatory loan offers. The Fair Housing Review Board (FHRB) may be able to offer technical assistance or investigate a claim of discrimination. Here are the resources available to you:

1. Education & Outreach – Trained and experienced staff offer training for management companies, real estate agents, and even mortgage brokers.

2. Speakers Bureau – Speakers on hot housing topics or a basic Fair Housing 101 will educate a church group or neighborhood association about fair housing.

3. Technical Assistance – What it means to provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. How rental property owners in Shaker can be proactive and well informed. Support for real estate agents who may face tough questions from a potentially discriminatory buyer. Talk to your broker, then call the FHRB.

4. Enforcement – Do you believe you lost a housing opportunity because the landlord didn't want children living in the unit? The FHRB can help sort it out and determine if you can file a complaint to protect your fair housing rights. Have you seen strange ads on the internet, discouraging certain ethnic groups from renting a particular unit? The FHRB will investigate to see if the ads run afoul of the law. Shaker's Fair Housing Review Board is chaired by Councilwoman Lynn Ruffner; current members are Shaker residents Jim Cullen, Leslie Grodin, Stephanie Turner,

and Reginald Williams. To learn more about how to protect fair housing in our community, visit the City website, shakeronline.com, and click on the "house" icon; or call 491-1440.

Results are in: Point of Distribution Drill a Success

When it comes to disaster preparedness, the best safety drill is practice, practice, practice.

That's exactly what the Point of Distribution, or POD, exercise at the Shaker Middle School on Saturday October 28 was about. Using the administration of flu shots as an opportunity to test both the location and the efficiency of its basic emergency plan, the City's Health and Fire departments flew into action.

In a two-hour period, 40 staff and volunteers participated in the delivery of 230 flu shots to residents. Only the shortage of flu vaccine prevented them from doubling this number in the time allotted. (Additional supplies of vaccine arrived soon afterward and no one needing a flu shot was turned away from the Health Department at City Hall.) In a real emergency, in which every conceivable threat has been considered – from anthrax to pandemic bird flu – the POD would administer between four and five hundred shots every hour, continuously, for a 72-hour period.

An additional lesson learned from the drill: The middle school is an ideal location as a POD. The layout, with its looping hallway around a large and spacious

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auditorium, provides good flow for registration, education, and nursing stations as well as more than adequate seating for any overflow. Seating along the outside, windowed wall is available for those who tire of waiting in line. The school has a drive-up capability for anyone needing a roadside injection. "It's perfect," said City Nurse Sandi Hurley. Just to be certain, she says that next year's POD will experiment with sending the flow of traffic in the opposite direction.

Hurley credits the drill's success to the collaboration and assistance from other departments and agencies. They are the Lakewood Department of Health Registered Nurses, the American Red Cross, three Shaker Schools Nurses and other volunteers from the community.

Exterior Inspections Begin Soon

The arrival of spring brings a new round of exterior systematic inspections by the Housing Inspection Department and sidewalk/driveway apron inspections by Public Works.

Homeowners will receive letters announcing the upcoming inspections. To get a jump start on repairs, residents can find a list of exterior inspection guidelines on the City website, shakeronline.com, under "Forms & Permits." Contractors who have

paid a registration fee and meet the City's qualifying standards are also listed on the site under City Departments/Building/Registered Contractors.

	EXTERIOR SYSTEMATIC	SIDEWALKS
2007	Fernway / Onaway	Moreland / Boulevard
2008	Moreland / Boulevard	Fernway / Sussex



Shaker News Briefs

- At Shaker Life's printing deadline, two individuals had been chosen to receive the Human Relations Commission's Martin Luther King, Jr. award for Human Relations. The recipients are **Myra White**, Manager of the Shaker Heights office of Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer, and posthumously, **Lawrence Svec**, principal of Lomond Elementary School. The City's observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January included recognition

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INVESTMENTS

for these two deserving Shaker Heights residents. For more information about the recipients and in depth coverage of the January 22 event, visit shakeronline.com.

- **David Hartt** has been reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the City Planning Commission. It is his third term.

- **Sandra Madison** has been appointed to the Architectural Board of Review (ABR) as a full member. She was formerly an alternate. **Amy Dibner** has been reappointed to the ABR. **Bill Oeflein** has been appointed as an alternate member to the ABR and **Mark Ciccarelli** has been reappointed as an alternate member.

- **Ron Reed** has been appointed to the Landmark Commission.

- **Patricia Burgess** and **James Karlovec** have been reappointed to the Board of Appeals.

- **Theodore W. Long, Jr., CPA**, of Shaker Heights, was re-elected as Great Lakes Regional Director of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). NASBA's mission is to enhance the effectiveness of state boards of accountancy in meeting their regulatory responsibilities. The Association promotes the exchange of information among the accountancy boards, serving the needs of the 55 US jurisdictions.

- Another Shaker resident, **James E. Stief**, a shareholder in the Business Department of the law firm of McDonald Hopkins, was recently appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of Deepwood Industries Inc. Deepwood Industries is an independent nonprofit organization that services and supports business and industry with the help of individuals with disabilities who are enrolled at the Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.



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❁ city news

• Shaker's City Nurse, **Sandi Hurley RN, BSN**, has been recognized by the Consortium for Healthy and Immunized Communities (CHIC) in "recognition of her outstanding service and support of CHIC." CHIC is a community based organization working to mobilize Northern Ohio to improve children's health and immunization status. Hurley has been a member of the organization for ten years.

Seasonal Reminders

Snow Removal: Residents are responsible for removal of snow on driveways and sidewalks. Please be considerate of pedestrians who use our many sidewalks for exercise and pet walks.

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

Bicycle Licensing: Licenses will be sold from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, January 17 and February 17 in the Police Department lobby, 3355 Lee Road. Cost is \$5 (re-issued licenses are 50 cents); please bring the owner's Social Security number, which will be recorded on the application. For children, a parent's number can be used.

Citizens Award: 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 2007. Instructions can be found in the Human Resources section of the City website, shakeronline.com.

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



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Tree Lawn Quiz See how well you know the City's guidelines:

I've just cleaned out my basement and have loads of big items and garbage bags to discard. I've called Public Works and arranged for a "special pick-up" for \$20 (the minimum fee). There are low hanging utility wires above my driveway, so I'm placing the stuff on my tree lawn tonight for pick up in the morning.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TREE LAWN?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Special pick-ups may be made from the Tree Lawn if there are obstacles in or above the driveway which limit access (such as a narrow driveway or low overhangs and or awning). Items may remain on the Tree Lawn for no more than 24 hours.

I have a brand new refrigerator. The cardboard box it came in is out on the tree lawn for collection. I've also put out a broken chair.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TREE LAWN?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Extra large cartons cannot be picked up either from the Tree Lawn or from the back or side yard because refuse scooters can't accommodate them. Either break them down into smaller, flattened pieces and place with garbage at rear or side of house, or bring to the Service Center for recycling at 15600 Chagrin Blvd. on Saturdays or Sundays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

No trash items may remain on the Tree Lawn for more than 24 hours. Furniture must be collected by arranging for a special pickup. Call 491-1490 in advance of your collection day to arrange for one.

It's an unusually warm and sunny day in March and I've raked the yard and piled the leaves and yard waste on the Tree Lawn.

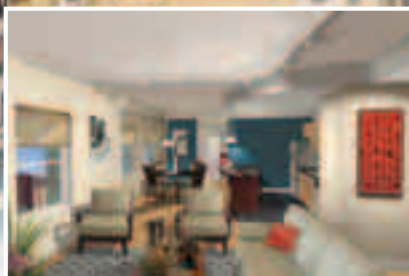
ACCEPTABLE USE OF TREE LAWN?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Put the leaves in Shaker logo bags and leave with rubbish. Since bag collection crews aren't operating yet, call Public Works (491-1490) to let them know you've got bags with your rubbish. Only brush is picked up from the Tree Lawn during snow removal season – between December 15 and March 31, and only when crews are not needed elsewhere for snow or rubbish removal. Check the City website, shakeronline.com under "Collection & Removal" for regulations regarding brush and tree trimmings. Never put anything in the street! ■

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REAL NUMBERS

Housing transfers between August 1 and October 15, 2006 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	2006 SALE PRICE	PRIOR SALE PRICE	ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST
16620 ALDESYDE DR	\$ 542,400	\$ 350,000 (2005)	\$ 30,000 (1949)
14316 ASHWOOD ROAD	\$ 202,000	\$ 182,000 (2001)	\$ 12,000 (1927)
3275 AVALON ROAD	\$ 196,000	\$ 184,500 (2001)	\$ 11,000 (1928)
3316 AVALON ROAD	\$ 200,000	\$ 210,000 (2000)	\$ 7,500 (1922)
3284 BRAEMAR ROAD	\$ 218,000	\$ 151,000 (1999)	\$ 12,000 (1926)
22500 BYRON ROAD	\$ 310,000	\$ 305,000 (2002)	\$ 30,000 (1953)
3386 CHALFANT ROAD	\$ 200,000	\$ 207,000 (2000)	\$ 22,000 (1951)
3554 CHELTON ROAD	\$ 182,000	\$ 152,000 (1996)	\$ 10,000 (1924)
2631 COVENTRY ROAD	\$ 516,000	\$ 380,000 (2005)	\$ 56,000 (1959)
3392 DORCHESTER ROAD	\$ 230,000	\$ 267,000 (2006)	\$ 12,000 (1927)
3286 ENDERBY ROAD	\$ 235,000	\$ 241,000 (1999)	\$ 15,000 (1927)
15911 FERNWAY ROAD	\$ 225,000	\$ 171,000 (2001)	\$ 10,000 (1923)
16728 HOLBROOK ROAD	\$ 230,000	\$ 197,000 (1996)	\$ 14,000 (1926)
3086 HUNTINGTON ROAD	\$ 227,500	\$ 209,000 (2004)	\$ 9,000 (1922)
3116 HUNTINGTON ROAD	\$ 193,000	\$ 120,000 (1997)	\$ 6,500 (1917)
3334 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$ 222,000	\$ 230,000 (2004)	\$ 6,500 (1921)
3626 INGLESIDE ROAD	\$ 169,900	\$ 145,000 (2002)	\$ 12,000 (1937)
32 LYMAN CIRCLE	\$ 650,400	\$ 575,000 (1999)	\$ 40,000 (1955)
2985 MANCHESTER ROAD	\$ 445,000	\$ 270,000 (1996)	\$ 20,000 (1925)
3674 NORMANDY ROAD	\$ 165,000	\$ 175,000 (2001)	\$ 7,500 (1938)
3690 NORMANDY ROAD	\$ 172,000	\$ 112,000 (1996)	\$ 9,000 (1939)
3702 NORMANDY ROAD	\$ 156,900	\$ 128,000 (1999)	\$ 8,500 (1928)
3336 NORWOOD ROAD	\$ 283,000	\$ 280,000 (2002)	\$ 15,000 (1925)
3576 PENNINGTON ROAD	\$ 116,500	\$ 107,000 (2005)	\$ 7,500 (1924)
19625 SCOTTSDALE BLVD	\$ 160,000	\$ 156,000 (2002)	\$ 8,500 (1942)
20136 SCOTTSDALE BLVD	\$ 234,000	\$ 172,000 (2002)	\$107,000 (1989)
14607 SHAKER BLVD	\$ 552,800	\$ 377,000 (1997)	\$ 25,000 (1937)
16860 SHAKER BLVD	\$ 816,000	\$ 770,000 (2004)	\$ 50,000 (1924)
18715 SHAKER BLVD	\$1,105,000	\$1,000,000 (2002)	\$485,000 (1998)
21449 SHAKER BLVD	\$ 560,000	\$ 440,000 (1999)	\$ 35,000 (1953)
23740 SHAKER BLVD	\$ 290,000	\$ 271,250 (2001)	\$ 18,000 (1947)
19600 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$1,060,000	\$1,050,000 (2004)	\$ 35,000 (1927)
22950 SHELBURNE ROAD	\$ 466,000	\$ 285,000 (1998)	\$ 40,000 (1960)
3514 STOER ROAD	\$ 162,000	\$ 148,000 (2001)	\$ 9,000 (1941)
3705 SUDBURY ROAD	\$ 221,000	\$ 165,000 (2005)	\$ 10,000 (1924)
3621 TOLLAND ROAD	\$ 190,000	\$ 193,500 (2004)	\$ 9,500 (1929)
2877 TORRINGTON ROAD	\$ 400,000	\$ 285,000 (1998)	\$ 17,000 (1922)
3607 TRAVER ROAD	\$ 214,000	\$ 190,000 (2004)	\$ 9,000 (1939)
3051 VAN AKEN BLVD	\$ 220,000	\$ 753,000 (2001)	\$ 30,000 (1969)
3109 WARRINGTON ROAD	\$ 215,000	\$ 187,000 (2003)	\$ 7,000 (1917)
22200 WESTCHESTER RD	\$ 285,000	\$ 276,000 (2004)	\$ 30,000 (1952)

Information Source: First American Real Estate Solutions

Certified Shaker Properties

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

Congratulations to the new Certified Shaker property owners, listed below. These listings represent some of the best rental properties the City has to offer. For a complete list of certified properties and to find out about vacancies, call 491-1332 or check the City's website, shakeronline.com. To learn more about becoming certified, call 491-1370.

12869 Larchmere Road (owners, Lisa Hughes, Marty Sterling)
2828-2840 South Moreland – Ashwood Courts (owner, Kenneth Gee)



Landlord Connection

The City offers a number of services to assist landlords in attracting and retaining good tenants. Information on these programs and other services to landlords is available online at shakeronline.com under the Landlord Connection. If you wish to receive email updates on landlord programs and services, contact jacqueline.patterson.mansion@shakeronline.com.

BOULEVARD

shaker neighborhoods

Fernway

Lomond

Ludlow

Malvern

Mercer

Moreland

Onaway

Sussex



Warrington

Year built: 1919

Square feet: 1742

Style: Dutch Colonial

Front-facing gambrel roof.

Woodbury

Year built: 1924

Square feet: 2874

Style: Tudor

Slate roof. Eave lines of varying heights. Grouped windows, arched entry. Prominent chimney placement with decorative stone detailing and chimney pots.

Sedgewick

Year built: 1915

Square feet: 4807

Style: Italian Renaissance

Hip roof, stucco walls, classical pillars at entry, arched window over main entry. Overhanging eaves.

Boulevard neighborhood home values range from: \$170,000 to \$789,000.

Looks like: A pleasing mix of styles and types – single and two-family, apartments and cool new condos (South Park Row).

Feels like: The United Nations. Proximity to University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic and Case attracts a large number of international families. Boulevard Elementary and Shaker Family Center work to make them feel at home and facilitate learning English.

Walk to: Shaker Square and the Farmer's Market on Saturdays; RTA Green Line; Lower Lake and its scenic bridge; The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes; and Southerly Park; the high school.

Close to: University Circle. Larchmere district with quaint antique shops and unique dining.

Named for: Boulevard Elementary, 14900 Drexmore
Built in 1914; addition in 1925.

Community Association: Yes (check shakeronline.com for contact information).

shaker neighborhoods



Keswick

Year built: 1936

Square feet: 1796

Style: Colonial

Brick, stone, and siding.
Slate roof. Covered front porch. Dormers.



Ludlow

Year built: 1921

Square feet: 1979

Style: Colonial Revival

Reverse gable. Paired windows. Lap siding, covered entry.



Keswick

Year built: 1927

Square feet: 2142

Style: Variation on Colonial home

Slate roof. Exterior walls made of combination fieldstone, brick and Tudor detailing.

Boulevard

Fernway

Lomond

LUDLOW

Malvern

Mercer

Moreland

Onaway

Sussex

Ludlow neighborhood home values range from: \$120,000 to \$230,000.

Looks like: A traditional neighborhood with single-family homes. Smaller in area as compared to other neighborhoods, but consequently very tightly knit.

Feels like: The historical heart of Shaker Heights. Where the first Community Association was born to preserve both the quality and diversity of its neighborhood – a legacy that lives to this day in the greater community and which put Shaker Heights on the national map.

Walk to: Shaker Square, its shops and the Farmer's Market, restaurants, and cinema; RTA Blue Line; the high school and Onaway School.

Close to: University Circle; Larchmere district with quaint antique shops and unique dining; Main Library; Shaker Community Building; shops at Shaker Town Center.

Named for: Ludlow Elementary, 14201 Southington
Built in 1926.

Community Association: Yes (check shakeronline.com for contact information).

Postcards from Linda



Storybook French Normandy mls# 2336902 \$224,500

◀ 4 bedrooms,
2 & 1/2 bathrooms,
den, family room,
& recreation room



Stately Brick Georgian mls# 2311139 \$299,900

◀ 5 bedrooms,
2 & 1/2 bathrooms,
den, recreation room,
& screened in porch

▶ 4 bedrooms,
3 & 1/2 bath,
bonus room,
sun room,
zoned forced air



Beautiful Frame Colonial, renovated top to bottom. \$374,500

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Landlord Training

Receive professional training to help you maintain a competitive edge in the marketplace. Starting in March 2007, the City will offer customized landlord training aimed specifically at Shaker Heights landlords. The entire nine-hour course costs \$50 or \$20 per three-hour session. Continuing education credits are available to realtors and brokers. Registration is open now. Contact Amy Roskilly at 361-9240 to reserve your seat or email her at aroskilly@thehousingcenter.org for more information.

Certified Shaker

Get professional training tips from a realtor and experienced two-family landlord on what today's discriminating tenant is looking for and how to make your rental unit stand out in this competitive market. Call Jacqueline Patterson Mansion at 491-1333 to schedule a preview of your property.



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library news

Library Board Approves Strategic Planning Process

The Library Board has selected Jeanne Goodrich of Portland, Oregon to help develop a comprehensive, community-based strategic plan for the library.

The purpose of the strategic plan is twofold: to prepare the Library for the future, and to determine the needs of the community that can best be served by the Library. An integral part of the process will be the formation of a Steering Committee, which will include Library Board members, Library staff, and members of the public.

The project will be funded through the Shaker Heights Public Library Fund of the Cleveland Foundation.

The Library Board Selection Committee – Jeanne Shatten, Donna Whyte, and Kurt Miller – spent several months reviewing the qualifications and availability of many before recommending Goodrich as a consultant.

Former deputy director of the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Goodrich has more than 30 years experience in managing public libraries, and has consulted for large libraries in Brooklyn, New York and Seattle, and for others closer in size to Shaker Library.

Goodrich is interested in how libraries as organizations can continue to grow and change in response to the needs of their communities. She is co-author of *Staffing for Results: A Guide to Working Smarter*. She has a master's degree in library science from the University of Oregon.

Work on the strategic plan is expected to be completed by the fall of 2007 and will include data collection, surveys and analyses, identification of key stakeholders, creation of a set of goals and objectives, and implementation of the plan.

Hats Off to Library Knitters!

Last fall, participants in the Library's Knit Nights crocheted or knit hats for infants as part of the *Caps to the Capitol* campaign to increase awareness and funding for mothers and children in developing countries.

When the 2006 Save the Children® *State of the World's Mothers* report highlighted some simple, inexpensive things that could save newborn lives, such as keeping their heads warm with a knit or crocheted cap, Library staff member and experienced knitter Fern Braverman and her volunteer knitters decided to knit for newborns in developing countries.

Braverman delivered the completed caps while attending the *Stitches* Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. In January, *Save the Children* delivered the caps to President Bush in Washington, D.C. The caps, including those knit at Shaker Library, will be delivered to newborns and families in countries where *Save the Children*® works.

The Library's popular Knit Nights are held monthly on Thursday nights, February 8, March 1 and March 22, and are led by Fern Braverman. All knitters are welcome to get or give help at these informal sessions. For more information, call 991-2421.

I Read...You Read... We All Read For Ice Cream!

Baskin-Robbins at Shaker Town Center and the Library invite children in grades K through 6 to earn a tasty ice cream treat by curling up in their favorite spot and reading (or listening to) some good books.



Reader of the Month

CHERYL DARDEN

AGE: 52

OCCUPATION: Educator/Supervisor in the Special Education Department of the Cleveland Municipal School District

LIVES IN: Lomond neighborhood

USES: Main Library and Bertram Woods Branch

ALL-TIME FAVORITE BOOK: *In Search of Our Mothers' Garden* by Alice Walker

OTHER FAVORITES: Titles by John Grisham (*The Firm*), Terry McMillan (*Waiting to Exhale*), Walter Mosley and Valerie Wesley mysteries

LIKES TO READ: Fiction, mystery, magazines, autobiographies

DOESN'T LIKE TO READ: Science fiction

WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LIBRARY: The many activities the library sponsors. There's something offered for every age group throughout the year.

INFLUENCES: Recommendations from friends, reviews in newspapers/magazines, Oprah's Book Club suggestions.

OTHER INTERESTS: Bowling, sewing, listening to music, billiards, shopping

FAMILY: Husband, Theodore, retired lab technician; son, Theodore, 19 (SHHS '05), a student at Youngstown State University and Cuyahoga Community College

VOLUNTEER WORK: Moreland on the Move Community Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. For the past nine years, Darden has organized the panel of judges for the Library's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Writing Contest and has read more than 3,000 essays.

BRIEF BIO: Darden grew up in Cleveland and graduated from Shaker Heights High School (Class of '72). She received a B.S. ED from Ohio University; M.ED from Cleveland State University and has been employed with the Cleveland Municipal School District for the past 31 years.



library news

Here's the scoop! Visit the Children's Department at either library beginning February 1 and pick up a reading record from the Library and a bookmark from Baskin-Robbins. Read or listen to five books between February 1 and March 15, record the titles of the books in the reading record and receive a stamp for each title.

When readers have completed five books and received five stamps, they can take their reading records to the Baskin-Robbins store at Shaker Town Center to receive a yummy ice cream cone reward, and the Baskin-Robbins bookmark can be used for an entire year for a free ice cream topping.

"We are delighted to provide children with incentives so that they can explore adventures in reading," says Baskin-Robbins Store Manager James Smith. "We encourage students in our community to read material other than school books, to broaden their imaginations, and we are happy to reward them for their accomplishments."

Library Seeks Entries for 8th Annual Barbara Luton Art Competition

The Library will accept entries for its 8th Annual juried Art Competition from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 2, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3 in the Main Library Boardroom.

The competition is open to all adult visual artists. Works must be original, two-dimensional, appropriately framed with a wire attached for hanging. Work not suitably framed will not be considered. The final decision rests with the jury. The non-refundable entry fee is \$20 for up to two entries. Checks should be made payable to Shaker Heights Public Library.

The winning entry will be purchased for the library's permanent art collection for an amount not to exceed \$1,000. Pieces exhibited must be for sale. Fifteen percent of sales made during and one month following the exhibit will be donated to the Barbara Luton Art Fund.

There is also a First Place cash prize



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CONTACT INFORMATION: James Kazel Phone/FAX: (440) 285-4LAX
Website www.thelaxacademy.com Online registration available

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library news

of \$200, a Second Place cash prize of \$100, and a Third Place cash prize of \$50. Applications are available at the Information Desks at both libraries or at the Library's web site at www.shakerlibrary.org

Past winners' works include Gary Williams' pastel and fabric collage, *Tishauna 7.1*; Horace Reese's graphite drawing, *Ethiopian*; Terry Sciko's colored pencil drawing, *The Fourth of October*; John Harmon's photograph, *Interspace*; Johnine Byrne's painting, *Lanterns*; Jerome White's mixed media, *Quality Time*, and David Brichford's pigment ink jet photo, *Man Eater*, which are now part of the library's permanent art collection.

The Gallery Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 25 in the Main Library Art Gallery.

What If...You Came to a Library Program this Year?

The Library continues its year of programming based on the theme, *What If... Imagine the possibilities at the Shaker Library*, and invites residents to explore some of its program offerings.

In January the Library held its 9th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Writing Contest Awards reception, where young winners read their affirming essays on the topic of *What If I Could Make Dr. King's Dream Come True?* More than 400 entries were printed on the backs of bookmarks that are now available at both libraries.

February's imaginative programs include *What if I Came of Age in Africa?* at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 10 at the Main Library. Residents can attend a rites-of-passage ceremony and learn what it means to come of age in Nigeria. This program is the third in a series of cultural awareness programs offered in partnership with the Anjoma Association of Greater Cleveland.

Interested in soul food but can't cope with the high cholesterol and calorie count? Come to Bertram Woods Branch at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 17 for the program, *What if I Could Cook for the Heart and Soul?* and learn how to adapt favorite soul food recipes with heart-healthy

library news

ingredients, and taste test some of the suggested adaptations.

The Library makes matchmaking easy. What if *I Could Book A Date at the Library?* is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, February 22 at the Main Library. Single professionals between the ages of 25 and 35 are invited for coffee and a variety of quick, comfortable conversations about books. Meet new people with similar interests. For more information about this program, call 991-2030.

How can you tell if an Irishman is having a good time? He'll be "Dublin over" with laughter and enjoying the library's program in anticipation of St. Patrick's Day. What if *I Were Irish for a Day?* will feature the light-hearted and lithe feet of the Murphy Irish Dancers at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 at the Main Library.

Reservations for each program is recommended; call the library where the program is scheduled.

What If...Everyone Joined The Big Read?

The Library joins with Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland State University, and Playhouse Square in *The Big Read*, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest.

The program is designed to revitalize the role of literary reading in American popular culture.

"With The Big Read we want to get everyone in a community, from high school kids and office workers to public officials and senior citizens, reading a great book together," said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.

The Big Read will celebrate the classic American novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston. The Library invites readers to read, listen to or watch the movie and join in a community dialogue on the themes of the book: family, race, injustice, faith, violence, pride and African-American Culture.

As part of The Big Read and in celebration of the artists of the Harlem Renaissance, the Library will feature a special exhibit of the Harlem Renaissance

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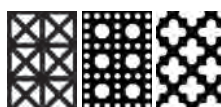


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painters. Artist Richard Howell has created copies of many of the famous painters of the era, and his dynamic work will be on display in the Main Library Art Gallery through March 12. Meet the artist at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 4 at the Main Library.

The Big Read will culminate in the Playhouse Square production of the play *Zora* by Laurence Holder in early March. For a complete schedule of events, visit the Library or visit www.nea.bigread.org.

The Bookshelf – New Book Sets for Book Discussions

Listed below are a few new titles in the library's book discussion sets. The library owns more than 180 sets of books for discussions. Both libraries have booklets with information and annotations for each title. Ask for more information at the Fiction Desks at either library.

The Children's Blizzard by David Laskin.

HarperCollins, 2004. Nonfiction, 307 pages.

The year was 1888, the month January, the day unusually warm and sunny, which provided an unusual break in the weather. Many, especially the children, decided not to wear coats or hats or boots or gloves. Suddenly the weather changed and a terrible storm hit.

Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama. Random House, 1995. Biography, 453 pages.

Written by the junior senator from Illinois, this memoir chronicles his life as the son of a black Kenyan father and a white American woman.

The Falls by Joyce Carol Oates. Harper Perennial, 2005. Fiction, 481 pages.

Ariah Erskine has been married for less than a day when her husband commits suicide at Niagara Falls. She quickly

remarries and starts a family, but when her new husband takes on Love Canal litigation, she begins to worry that she'll lose him, too.

Four Spirits by Sena Jeter Naslund. William Morrow, 2003. Fiction, 560 pages.

The lives of blacks and whites, both living and dead, are skillfully intertwined in rich historical detail in this ambitious novel about the Civil Rights struggle in Birmingham, Alabama in the 1960s.

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004. Fiction, 247 pages.

In poetic and lyrical language, Reverend John Ames writes a letter to his seven year-old son describing his life and the world around him.

The Love Wife by Gish Jen. Alfred A. Knopf, 2004. Fiction, 379 pages.

A Chinese-American couple has cob-

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**PLAY & LEARN STATION AT
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A free preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for parents or caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years old.

10 a.m.—noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6–8 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays

No registration is required.

**PLAY & 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.

10 a.m.—noon Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

6–8 p.m. Thursdays

No registration is required.

**PLAY & LEARN STATION AT
MAIN LIBRARY**

(For caregivers only)

A preschool literacy program that offers interactive opportunities for caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years old.

10 a.m.—noon Wednesdays

A one-time registration is required; please call Shaker Family Center at 921-2030.

Play and Learn programs are co-sponsored with Shaker Family Center.

BOOK BABIES

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

Spring Session: March 13–May 9

Babies 12–18 months old

(Must be 12 months by Mar. 1, 2007.)

9:30 a.m. Tuesdays at

Woods Branch

9:30 a.m. Wednesdays at
Main Library

Babies 18–24 months old

(Must be 18 months by Mar. 1, 2007.)

10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at

Woods Branch

10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at

Main Library

In-person registration begins 9 a.m. Saturday, February 17 for Shaker Heights City School District residents. Non-residents may register beginning February 20. Please register at the library where your child will attend.

TODDLERS

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

(Must be 2 years old by Mar. 1, 2007.)

Spring Session: March 12–May 10

10 a.m. Mondays or Wednesdays at

Woods Branch.

10 a.m. Tuesdays or Thursdays at
Main Library.

In-person registration begins 9 a.m. Saturday, February 17 for Shaker Heights City School District residents. Non-residents may register beginning February 20. Please register at the library where your child will attend.

PRESCHOOL STORIES

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

10 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Mondays at

Main Library.

1:30 p.m. Tuesdays or

10 a.m. Thursdays at **Woods Branch.**

No registration is required; however, large groups should call the library to make special arrangements.

PRESCHOOL STORIES

Evening Preschool Storytime at
Woods Branch

Stories, songs and crafts for 3-, 4-, and 5 year-olds.

7 p.m. Wednesdays, February 7 & March 7

Registration begins two weeks before each storytime.

PAJAMA STORIES AT WOODS BRANCH

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

7:15 p.m. Mondays, February 19 & March 19.

Registration begins two weeks before each program.

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

February 7–14: Decorate a heart for your Valentine.

March 12–17: Weave a shamrock to take home for good luck.

WRITERS' CLUB AT MAIN LIBRARY

An enriching program for children in grades 2–4 that encourages them to express themselves using their imagination and words.

4:15 p.m. Tuesdays

Spring Session: March 13–May 1.

Registration begins Tuesday, February 27.

**AFTERSCHOOL AUTHORS AT
WOODS BRANCH**

A series of fun creative workshops for children in grades 2–5.

4:15 p.m. Wednesday

Spring Session: March 14–May 2.

Registration begins February 28.

**TWO-PART PILLOW MAKING PARTY
AT MAIN LIBRARY**

For children in grades 4–6

At the first session, design your own pillow with seamstress Stephanie Harris. Bring your own accessories or trimmings (fabric and fiber fill will be provided) to add a special touch to your creation. At the second session, fill and sew your pillow to take home.

4:15–5 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 15 & 22.

Registration for both sessions begins Feb. 1.

**AMERICAN GIRL® DOLLS
THROUGH HISTORY**

Explore the world of the American Girl® dolls. Meet monthly to hear a passage from the first book in the doll's series, play a game, make a craft and enjoy a snack from each doll's time period.

Meet Kirsten at Woods Branch

2–4 p.m. Saturday, February 3 or

2–4 p.m. Friday, February 16

Meet Addy at Main Library

2–4 p.m. Saturday, March 3 or

2–4 p.m. Friday, March 16

Registration begins 2 weeks before each program. Call the library where you will attend.

continued

bled together a family with two adopted Chinese daughters and a biological son. When the wife's disapproving mother-in-law dies, she wills them a Chinese nanny, whose presence disrupts their lives in this story about cultural assimilation.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards. Viking, 2005. Fiction, 401 pages.

Snowed in with a wife in labor, a doctor is forced to deliver his twin children. When he recognizes that one has Down's Syndrome, he tells his wife that the baby was stillborn and instructs his nurse to take the baby to a home for disabled children. Instead, she moves away and raises the child as her own.

The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell. Dial Press, 2004. Fiction, 372 pages.

This debut novel involves four Princeton roommates and their quest to solve the puzzle in the 15th-century book, *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili*. The friends encounter drama and danger set against the backdrop of college life.

The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. Penguin Press, 2004. Fiction, 496 pages.

In 1950s Spain, a young man named Daniel discovers a rare novel by an obscure author named Carax. As Daniel becomes more interested in the author and his books, he learns that a mysterious man is destroying copies of Carax's titles and that there are strange similarities between his own life and that of the author.

Teacher Man by Frank McCourt. Schribner, 2005. Autobiography, 258 pages.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Angela's Ashes* recounts his years as a teacher in New York's Stuyvesant High School.

Teen Scene

T.A.B. (TEEN ADVISORY BOARD) MEETINGS

Main Library Teen Center

Regular meeting for 2006-07 members.

7:30-8:15 p.m. Tuesday, February 20

7:30-8:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 20

VALENTINE'S DAY MOVIE IN THE TEEN CENTER

4:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 14

Watch a fun romantic movie, snack on traditional Valentine's Day sweets and make an old-fashioned Valentine.

GAMING AT THE LIBRARY

Main Library Teen Center

4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 29

Whether you're a first-time gamer or a pro, bring your skills to the Teen Center and take your turn. Register by calling the Teen Center 991-2030 ext. 3186 beginning March 15.

February and March Book Discussions

Book discussion opportunities are scheduled for mornings, afternoons and evenings. Please note the location for each discussion. Books can be picked up at the library where the discussion will be held.

2 P.M. FEBRUARY 10 AT MAIN LIBRARY

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck

This 1932 Pulitzer Prize winner is a saga about Wang Lung's family, his love for the land, his increasing riches and power and ultimately his lust, greed and betrayal.

2 P.M. FEBRUARY 12 AT WOODS BRANCH

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

This twofold tale is the true story of the architect Daniel H. Burnham and the challenges he faced in building the Chicago's World's Fair and of the psychopathic killer, Henry H. Holmes, who used the fair to lure and kill young women.

10 A.M. FEBRUARY 13 AT MAIN LIBRARY

A Stronger Kinship by Anna-Lisa Cox

This is the true story of one Midwestern town's efforts to love one's neighbor as oneself at a time when America was awash in racism; however, to accomplish this they had to keep secrets and break laws.

7:30 P.M. FEBRUARY 13 AT

MAIN LIBRARY

Impulse by Frederick Ramsay

A prep school reunion near Baltimore draws famed Phoenix mystery author Frank Smith temporarily away from seri-

ous matters at home, but also into past events more troubling than any he could invent.

7:30 P.M. FEBRUARY 27 AT MAIN

The Dive from Clausen's Pier by Ann Packer

After a tragic accident leaves her fiancé paralyzed, 23-year-old Carrie Bell leaves her hometown of Madison, Wisconsin for an extended stay in New York.

2 P.M. MARCH 10 AT MAIN LIBRARY

Gods in Alabama by Joshilyn Jackson

Arlene Fleet is the girl least likely to be voted a southern belle. She is a wild, scrawny teenager with a reputation for being "easy." After she survives a traumatic rape, she promises God that she will be chaste and proper if he will keep quiet about her past misdeeds.

2 P.M. MARCH 12 AT WOODS BRANCH

Women of the Silk by Gail Tsukiyama

Set in 1926 China, a group of young women working in a silk factory forge a strong sisterhood. When a strike begins, the women use their collective strength to achieve freedom from their enslavement.

10 A.M. MARCH 13 AT MAIN LIBRARY

The Sweet Hereafter by Russell Banks

When a school bus goes off the road in a fatal accident, the story of its impact on a small, northern town is told through the voices of several characters, including the bus driver, the father of two of the passengers, an attorney and a cheerleader who was maimed in the crash.

7:30 P.M. MARCH 13 AT MAIN LIBRARY

Our Lady of Pain by Marion Chesney

Lady Rose Summers and her beau, private investigator Captain Harry Cathcart, paragons of Edwardian society, are placed in a difficult situation when Rose is accused of murdering one of Harry's clients.

7:30 P.M. MARCH 27 AT MAIN LIBRARY

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See

This novel chronicles the friendship of two 19th-century Chinese women and their correspondence using a secret language, passed down by women over 1,000 years.

Free Computer Classes at Main Library

Please register by calling Walter Lesch at 991-2030 ext. 3156

INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS

3-4:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

6:30-8 P.M. MONDAY, MARCH 5

10-11:30 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Learn how to work with Microsoft's database program to build databases, enter information into a data table and generate simple queries and reports from the database. (Access is for those who have tried to use a spreadsheet to store data and found it to be somewhat inadequate.) Participants must be able to use the mouse.

CREATING AND USING REPORTS IN ACCESS

4-5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

4-5:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

10-11:30 THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Discover the different styles of reports available in Access and learn to manipulate the design of the report, show summaries of data, and more.

MOUSE CLASS

10-11 A.M. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

10-11 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 3

10-11 A.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Limited to four people, this one-hour session is designed to help beginning computer users become comfortable using the mouse.

INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT

6:30 - 8 P.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

10 - 11:30 A.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 1

4 - 5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Put some power in your presentations. Learn how to create a slide show with text and graphics, how to edit slides and how to add sound and animation. Participants must be able to use the mouse. Registration begins January 29.

INTERNET CLASS

10 - 11:30 A.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

10 - 11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

10 - 11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Discover how to find and use a wide variety of online resources using Internet Explorer. Participants will learn how to

"surf" the web to find sites of interest. Participants must be able to use the mouse to click, drag and highlight. Registration begins January 29.

CREATING AND USING TABLES IN ACCESS

4-5:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:30-8 P.M. MONDAY, MARCH 12

Tables are where data live in a database. A well-designed table stores the data and helps to prevent users from making mistakes while entering data. This class explores designing and using tables in an Access database.

INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL

4-5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

3-4:30 P.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Learn the basics of spreadsheet construction, including formatting and design, printing options and using basic formulas. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse to drag and highlight. Registration begins January 29.

GRAPHICS IN POWERPOINT

6:30-8 P.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

4-5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Learn how to create effective PowerPoint presentations using clip art, Word Art, and digital pictures. Registration begins February 5.

WEB EMAIL

10-11:30 A.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10-11:30 A.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 13

10-11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Learn how to set up free e-mail accounts and how to send and receive messages. Participants must be able to use the mouse to click, drag and highlight and be able to navigate websites and type URLs. Registration begins February 5.

CHARTS AND GRAPHS IN EXCEL

4-5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

3-4:30 P.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Explore the ways Excel can display data as charts and graphs, and learn the basic ways data can be charted. Registration begins February 5.

ANIMATION IN POWERPOINT

6:30-8 P.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

4-5:30 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 9

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Everything in a slide, including text boxes, can be animated to some extent. Learn the important objects that can be put into a slide and the menus that control them. Registration begins February 12.

BASIC WORD PROCESSING

10–11:30 A.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10–11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

10–11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Learn how to format documents using Microsoft Word software. Participants must be comfortable using the mouse. Registration begins February 12.

CREATING AND USING QUERIES IN ACCESS

4–5:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

4–5:30 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Queries are questions asked of databases, the results of which can be exciting or trivial. Learn how to ask the questions correctly in this class. Registration begins February 12.

HOW TO BUILD A WEB PAGE

6:30–8 P.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

This 90-minute class will explore HTML, the language used to construct many of the web pages found on the Internet. Participants must be familiar with using a mouse and have basic keyboarding skills. Registration begins February 19.

INTERNET WITH EXPERTS: GOOGLEMANIA™

4–5:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Learn advanced Internet searching strategies using the Google™ search engine, including tips and tricks for finding better information more quickly and efficiently. Registration begins March 5.

CREATING AND USING FORMS IN ACCESS

10–11:30 A.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 20

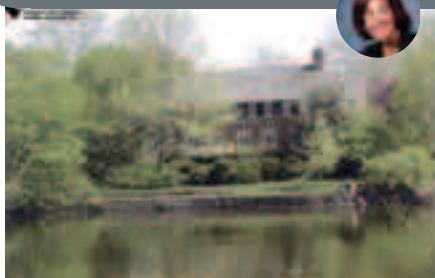
Forms do two things in database programs. They make data entry less risky to the database and allow users to see data from the database. This 90-minute class explores designing and using forms in an Access database. Registration begins March 12. ■

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These two young Shaker families have used creative, affordable solutions to update their homes.





making 'This Old House' like new

BY BETH FRIEDMAN-ROMELL
PHOTOS BY GREEN STREET STUDIO

Home Renovations

Understanding Buyer Preferences

If you are thinking of renovating an older Shaker home for resale, Liz Nuechterlein of Realty One Real Living's Shaker Heights Office cautions you to keep renovations basic.

"A buyer will not pay extra for improvements if the improvements are not to their taste," she says. "Newer heating-and-cooling systems and new windows are always appealing," she says. And cleaning, decluttering, and neutralizing decor are a must.

After taking care of the basics, a seller then might want to look at trends. Several organizations, including the U.S. Census Bureau, Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies, and the Home Improvement Research Institute, track remodeling data. Home remodeling has become a quarter trillion dollar business since baby boomers began acquiring homes in the 1970s.

Realty One broker Winnie Dietsch says that non-basic renovations such as those made by Greg and Julia Meyers (see accompanying story) might appeal to younger buyers in Shaker because the renovations greatly increased the home's practical living space.

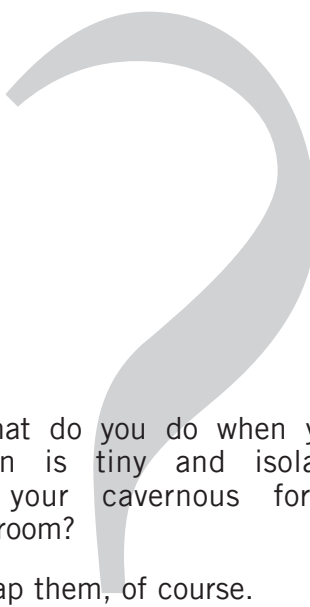
She says, "When these houses were built, the lady of the house often had a cook or maid. The kitchens were for food preparation, not family meals. Also, living rooms were used differently. Now families are more casual."

While buyers' three most important concerns – kitchens, bathrooms, and master bedrooms – haven't changed in recent years, the trick is deciding which renovations to make and how far to go when making them. Renovations must reflect the value of a home in its neighborhood; as Liz Nuechterlein at Realty One says, buyers will not overpay for a home just because an owner went overboard when renovating.

You can add modern features at various price points. Rebuilding a kitchen can cost \$75,000 for the complete upscale version, or \$15,000 for a so-called "touch-up." Bankrate.com recommends budgeting about \$21,000 for a brand-new bathroom, and about \$10,000 for a "mid-range" remodeling. Re-doing master bedrooms for modern buyers can get expensive. For \$135,000 you can re-do a master bedroom with walk-in closets with built-in book shelves, a dressing room, fireplace, and kitchenette. Larger master baths have fancy showers instead of large tubs.

Whatever the price points, additions and renovations should be consistent with the rest of the home. Luckily for Shaker sellers, many buyers are still looking for formal dining rooms, beautiful yards and landscaping, and quality materials and craftsmanship. Even the most modest project will be appreciated by a potential buyer if it is done well.

Outside work is important, too. Curb appeal is extremely important to the value of a home. Frequent HGTV guest garden expert Scott Cohen likes to make the observation, "Money grows on trees." That is, a tree worth \$100 today might be worth \$700 in two years. Landscaping, lighting improvements, porches, and patios also add value. (But decks are "out" these days.)



Q: What do you do when your kitchen is tiny and isolated from your cavernous formal living room?

A: Swap them, of course.

Greg and Julia Meyer's gracious Boulevard center-hall colonial had space and charm to spare, but the first floor layout just wasn't working for the couple and their twins, kindergarteners Trent and Grace. From her cramped and dated 12 x 13 kitchen, Julia couldn't keep an eye on the kids or interact with guests who "huddled" in one corner of the oversized living room. The dishwasher could only be loaded by moving a kitchen chair; doors didn't have enough clearance; there was little work or storage space for supplies and outdoor gear.

So Julia decided to make the kitchen the living room and the living room the kitchen. Her inspiration was Suzanne Suzanka's book *The Not So Big House*.

"I didn't need a bigger house, I needed a better flow to this house," Julia explains. By opening a few walls and "repurposing" several rooms, the Meyers brought their 1914 house into the 21st century, while retaining the classic elements which had initially attracted them. Both Greg (Cincinnati native) and Julia (Jersey girl) grew up in older homes, and were attracted to that style of architecture and quality of construction. In 1994, when they began thinking about raising a family, the couple moved to Shaker from Chicago.

"The cost of living was just too high in Chicago," says Greg, a sales and marketing director who travels frequently. "I could be located anywhere, but we wanted to be closer to family, and Shaker Schools have a great reputation."

Greg and Julia Meyers (right); the **Pope family** in their nearly-finished living room (below).



When they first moved in, they were content to do some decorating and landscape work. Ten years later they were ready to tackle the redo.

By starting on the living room side, they continued to use their original kitchen, which made the renovation much easier to live through. To the rear of the space, the warm and inviting new kitchen features medium brown granite counters, white custom cabinets, and a center island with double sink and a breakfast bar. There's a place for everything, from wine and cookbooks to pull-out recycling bins. Across from the cozy fireplace, bench seating conceals more storage. The Meyers currently use the front of the room as the kids' play area, and plan to add comfortable seating and a big TV to this informal "hangout space."

continued on page 56

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We are so happy with our new kitchen! We have been through so many remodeling projects, but this one, by far, was the best experience. No one likes to go without a kitchen, but all the little things that Dureiko did for us – from helping to pack up our cupboards and arrange our temporary kitchen to providing drinking water for the duration of the project – made it easier. Plus, finishing on schedule was the best part of all! We also were comfortable with all the trade contractors who came in throughout the project; they were courteous, professional and skilled. We would definitely use Dureiko Construction for any future projects and would strongly recommend them to our friends.

~ Jim and Chris Cook

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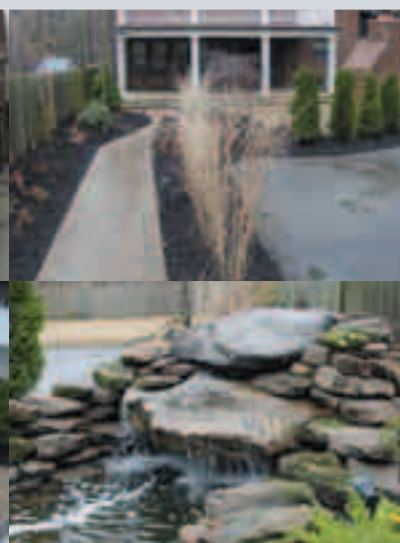
Everyone who's seen our kitchen has absolutely loved it, we couldn't be happier. It's truly as functional as it is beautiful. We've had several big dinner parties, and cooking and entertaining has been a blast! The biggest surprise was how relatively easy it was to keep our house running during the renovation. The crew was very considerate of our home and privacy, and having them here throughout the summer wasn't anywhere near the imposition that people warned us about. Dureiko Construction's commitment to quality and customer satisfaction is first rate. They are truly a customer-conscious company. ~Shawn Easley

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The Report on Borowitz

Humor writer and stand-up comic Andy Borowitz talks about growing up in Shaker Heights, why he'll never be a Hollywood leading man, and the importance of fake news.

BY MARY ELIZABETH HURN

As a humor writer, comedian, actor, and producer, Shaker Heights native Andy Borowitz has come a long way since teaching filmmaking at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Now living in New York City, Andy writes for his satirical news website, Borowitzreport.com, read by over 500,000 people daily, and performs a stand-up routine at clubs across the city.

He hits the stage about once a month at Mo Pitkin's House of Satisfaction in the East Village. He serves as emcee for the numerous comics who come on during the evening and definitely is the highlight of the bunch. Between the others' sets Andy dishes about pop culture, the media, and politics, describing how the White House should be turned into a sitcom and taking note of Bush officially "canceling the agreement between nouns and verbs."

In the late '80s and early '90s, Andy was in Los Angeles under contract to develop sitcoms for NBC when music producer and composer Quincy Jones brought him rap star Will Smith. The product was the hit show *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*.

Andy also produced the 1998 film, *Pleasantville*, which was nominated for three Academy Awards. He can be seen in front of the camera in Woody Allen's 2004 movie *Melinda and Melinda*.

He has written humor pieces for such publications as *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek.com*, *Vanity Fair*, *TV Guide*, and the *Jewish World Report*. His third book is *The Republican Playbook*, which mockingly looks into the White House of George W. Bush.

The 49-year-old Shaker Heights High School and Harvard University graduate has received numerous awards, including the first ever National Press Club Award given for humor, and an NAACP image award for his work on *Fresh Prince*.

Andy Borowitz at the Cleveland Improv, November 2006. PHOTO BY MARC GOLUB



SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

What was the best thing about growing up in Shaker Heights? Do you miss it?

Shaker Heights in the '70s was very suburban, and extremely beautiful and safe. My fondest memory is going to parties in high school and riding home on my bike at one, two in the morning through the deserted streets and feeling really safe. It's hard to imagine a place like that existing now. I go home all of the time and it is easy for me to get nostalgic because my parents still live in the house I grew up in.

Your father, Al, is a lawyer and writer. Were you always encouraged to write humor?

Well, my father was always interested in comedy. He used to take me to this movie theatre, the Old Mayfield, this old revival house where they showed the Marx Brothers and Chaplin. We used to go on Sunday nights together. So we really had a shared enthusiasm for comedy. I never thought I'd make a career out of it. My father wanted me to do something more stable, which is understandable as a parent. But he was thrilled it worked out and that I like what I do.

When and why did you decide to move to New York City?

I graduated college in 1980. By June I was in L.A. so I really didn't have much of a pause. I got right out there. I was doing stand-up and then *Fresh Prince*, which became a huge hit. Then I thought: I could have more of the same or I can move to New York. I moved here in 1995. I prefer the East Coast. I didn't really have a plan. I never thought I'd be writing for *The New Yorker*. I was starting over in a way.



After working with Woody Allen, do you have further acting ambitions?

It's funny you ask. I just got a call to audition for *The Sopranos*. They want me to play a doctor who gives Johnny Sack some bad news. But I'm not a trained actor. I'm very dead-pan and I don't overdo anything. I'm never going to play a serial killer. Because it's not my expertise, it takes the burden off being on a set. Because I'm an amateur there's not much on the line. I just say my lines and eat the free food. Really, I think stand-up is the hardest type of entertaining you can do. Acting, in contrast, doesn't seem so hard. I consider myself a writer, then a comedian, and an actor third.

SHHS Class of '76. PHOTO COURTESY SHAKER HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Opposite: Borowitz signing copies of his new book at the Cleveland Improv.

What is a typical day in the life of Andy Borowitz?

Well, right now I'm at Starbucks working on my column that will be posted on Newsweek.com today and The Borowitz Report tomorrow. The BR really only takes me about half an hour. So I wake up and write and try to get that out of the way. Last night I did stand-up at the Pier on the West Side of Manhattan. But I'll go to the gym, see some friends. It's what I call "gathering material." I'm living life. I perform once or twice a week, and basically live life in between.

What's your favorite medium?

Writing The Borowitz Report really gives me the biggest kick. I write it five times a week, I don't have an editor, and it's read all over the world. It began as something really just to entertain me and a few friends, but now it's become this viral phenomenon that's read by half a million people. And it's great to have a job you can do on your laptop at Starbucks. But I love stand-up. There's no better feeling than standing on stage and making people laugh.

You touch a lot on pop culture and politics. Do you think politics today makes your job as a humor writer easier?

It definitely does. Not only this administration. I mean it's easy to make fun of Bush because he's so flawed. But even if John Kerry had won — I mean, he's so wooden and charisma-free and he's got this wife who swears a lot. Politics today has been attracting the most ludicrous characters. It's a rare day that I'm stuck for an idea.

There's a lot of discussion about how different media sources influence peoples' perception of "news." What do you think about the development of the "fake news" genre? The Daily Show, The Onion?

I think it's great. I was recently on a panel in Dallas with one of the editors of The Onion. It was mostly college students from the University of Texas. A lady stood up and made a really good point. She said that she started watching The Daily Show but she didn't get the jokes. So she started reading the papers and watching the news so she could get the jokes. And there was some academic on the panel who was saying some pompous things about blurring the line between news and entertainment. And I said well, point to the harm being done in that. Even if the news is presented in a funny way, people are still informed. ■

Mary Elizabeth Hurn is the features editor of The Monitor, the student newspaper of Marymount Manhattan College in New York City.



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These tips from professionals can help make the camp experience enjoyable for parent and child. BY KATE MOORE

how to choose a Summer Camp

When it comes to kids and summer camp, the three R's of Reading, Writing, and 'Rithmetic take on their alter egos of Rappelling, Horseback Riding, and Rafting. Parents and children all around the world are enjoying the benefits of summer camp, with global attendance reaching 11,000,000 last year.

"Selecting the right camp is the first step in ensuring a positive camp experience," says Allison MacMunn of the American Camping Association. For children under age seven, who might not adjust well to being away from home, a day camp may be the right fit, while older children may prefer a camp that stretches all summer long, or a specialty day camp. Of the 12,000 camps in the United States, approximately 7,000 are resident camps and 5,000 are day camps.

There are many great general and specialty camps in Greater Cleveland. There are camp programs for children with interests ranging from animals to computers, space exploration to soccer. The American Camping Association also notes an increasing number of camps designed for children who are dealing with issues such as autism, cancer, diabetes, AIDS, and weight problems.

Every child has different needs and attributes. However, MacMunn says that if the parents and campers do their research and find a safe camp that is the right fit for the child, the benefits such as developing strong self-esteem, independence, leadership, and other social skills will likely be the outcome.

"My six-year-old daughter Mya attended the traditional camp offered by Shaker Heights for the entire summer and loved it," says Shaker resident Marlene Sparks. "She was able to learn some new things and really improve her swimming. She will definitely be back this summer." Mya herself says she can't wait for camp this summer. "I haven't planned out exactly what I will do at camp this summer — but I do plan on having a lot of fun."

It's important that a camp accommodate all or some of the needs, interests, goals, and expectations of both parent and child. The parent must make an effort to understand what the child wants and why. The National Camp Association recommends sitting down as a family and answering the following questions:

- What do you and your child want to gain from the camp experience? Learn new skills? Develop more self confidence? Improve proficiency in a certain area? Become more independent?

- What are other expectations of the camp experience?

- What are the special interests that your child wants to explore?

- Are there any physical, intellectual, or social limitations that should be considered?

- What kind of emphasis will your child profit from the most? For example: Is a lot of structure desirable, is social interaction with members of the opposite sex important, or does your child need a place where he or she is encouraged to develop at their own pace?

"Parents that ask these questions will be happy they did," says Jeffrey Solomon of the National Camp Association. "If they don't, many times that means coming to pick their child up only a few weeks or sometimes even days into their camping experience. On the other hand, parents and children that make the decision together will see the child returning to camp for many years."

Day Camps

Day camps may emphasize a particular sport or activity while incorporating other experiences, such as arts and crafts. Many day camps also have specialty camp offerings.

"Day camps allow children to make new friends, learn a new skill, learn from positive role models, and help others," says Siva Grossman, director of Hathaway Brown's camp programs. "When checking out day camps look for all the safety and ratio concerns but also check to see if the staff looks like they are genuinely having fun. A fun and happy staff will provide a fun summer for the kids."

Shaker Camps Galore

The Shaker Heights Community Life Department offers a wide variety of camps for the summer.

For children grades K-2, the traditional camp includes creative arts, field trips, sports, swimming, and outdoor play. Children Grades 3 through 8 are able to design their own camp day, choosing from a multitude of fun activities.

Shaker also offers specialty sports camps and other specialty camps including writing, art, dance, and nature studies, as well as Shaker Heights Safety Town, Safety Town Counselor Training Camp, Teens Learning to Connect, Shaker Summer Theater, Shaker on Stage, and Strike Up the Band. For information contact:

Shaker Heights Community Life Department
www.shakeronline.com
491-3204

Some of the private schools in Shaker also offer a number of day camp programs.

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. University School offers academic, athletic, and recreational programs for boys and girls. Camps are held at the US campuses in Shaker Heights and Hunting Valley.

Laurel School's camp for young girls focuses on outdoor opportunities available at Laurel's 140-acre Fairmount campus in Russell Township, as well as at the Shaker Heights campus. For older girls, Laurel offers an entrepreneur camp with a focus on starting one's own business. Laurel also offers sports camps for girls.

Contact the schools to find out more about the various offerings.

Hathaway Brown Broad Horizons Camp


www.hb.edu
320-8085

Laurel School


www.laurelschool.org
216-464-1441

University School


www.us.edu
831-220



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The American Camping Association recommends asking these questions when considering a day camp:

- Is the staff qualified?
- What is the staff to child ratio?
- Is transportation available?
- Will extended care be offered before and after camp?
- Will the camp provide lunch?
- Are campers grouped by age, activity, or both?
- What off-site activities are offered?
- Is the cost all-inclusive?
- Are parent visits encouraged?

Sleepaway Camps

Doing the proper research before sending your child off to a residential camp is an even more tedious and important process, says Allison MacMunn.

"Many parents remember their own childhood camp experiences, but few are aware of how much camps have changed over the years," she says. "Camps still help children develop social skills, build communities, share traditions, appreciate nature, and stay physically active. However, today's camps are finding more engaging programs for an increasing number of campers."

With the wide variety of sleepaway camps for kids available, there are numerous factors to consider when making this choice, including your child's personality.

"I sent all four of my girls to residential camps when they were growing up," says Jeanie Carroll of Shaker. "The first summer they all went to the same camp, and the oldest and the youngest absolutely adored it. My middle two never quite adjusted. The camp was too big for them and we realized they would probably have a better experience at a smaller camp, which they did."

In considering sleepaway camp, parents should keep in mind these questions, provided by the National Camp Association:

- Is your child ready for a sleepaway experience?
- What is expected from the camp experience?
- What type of camp fits best with parent work schedules and family vacation times?
- What are the total costs of sleepaway camp?
- How large is the camp?
- How far away from home is the camp?
- Is it coed, all boys, all girls, or brother/sister?
- Is it general, specialty, academic, travel, or special needs?



the excellence of shaker's Preschool Programs

BY GAY EYERMAN AND KATE MOORE

In their journey to educate, stimulate, and discipline preschoolers, parents and caregivers need help, and children need other children. The Play and Learn Station at the Shaker Heights Main Library is a home away from home, offering new experiences and materials to get parents playing with, and learning with, their children.

Mary Bourdrez, for example, is a young mother new to Shaker Heights. On a Tuesday morning she sat playing with two-year-old Grace and 15-month-old Luke in the large sunlit room on the second floor of the library.

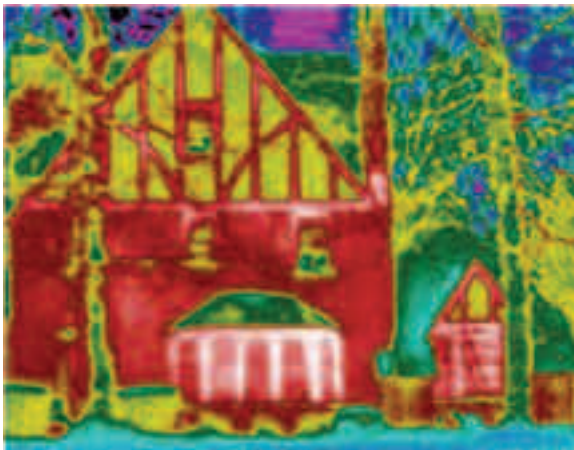
"I can't believe this is free. And I can walk here from my house," she says. The room has different areas for water play, art, reading, building, writing, and imaginary play. It's a place purposefully designed for parents to interact with their children. You won't see moms and dads on cell phones here.

The Play and Learn Station's genesis was in 1994, when Shaker Family Center organized a committee of city school district administrators, teachers, and preschool educators to talk about readiness among incoming kindergartners. Shaker Library was invited to participate.



John Du shows a book on tape to his son Aaron at the **Play & Learn Station**.
PHOTO BY MARC GOLUB

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Shaker Youth Soccer Association



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Celebrating 62 Years in Business!

The next year, Martha Bays, the Outreach children's librarian, and Joanne Federman, director of Shaker Family Center, participated in a program at Kent State University whose focus was on emergent literacy.

The Family Center and the Library together developed Play and Learn to help close the school-readiness gap for everyone in the community, regardless of education or income.

Sitting at a small round table with other children, three-year-old Ava is absorbed in painting while dad, Joe Miller, plays with 18-month-old Isaac and admires Ava's artwork.

"Her creativity comes out more here. These are things we could do at home, but it's easier to experiment here," says Miller, a stay-at-home dad. "When you're home full-time, this is a good escape – for all of us. And I see Ava learning to share and play with other kids."

Next to the Play and Learn Station is a quieter area for infants and toddlers. This Play and Learn Babies room has wide open space to crawl, roll, and run among the mats, foam blocks, and baby toys. On the floor with 18-month-old Kara is her mother, Rebecca Raymer.

"I play more one-on-one with Kara when we're here because there are no other demands on me. And I learn from other parents just by observing how they interact with their babies," says Raymer.

Play and Learn Station

For children birth to age five
Shaker Heights Main Library
2nd floor
16500 Van Aken Boulevard
991-2030

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

10 am–noon, and 6 pm–8 pm
Saturdays 10 am–noon

WEDNESDAYS

(for home day care providers only)
10 am–noon

As your child makes the transition from home to preschool, it is crucial to find a school that will make the change – likely the biggest in their lives thus far – feel natural and positive. You want your child to be comfortable in the new surroundings so that he or she can make friends and become excited about learning.

“Research has shown that the time when a brain grows the fastest is from ages one to five,” says Michell Block, assistant director of the Early Childhood Enrichment Center, a preschool in Shaker Heights. “This is when the way a child learns to relate and socialize with peers also develops. So if the right preschool is chosen, the tools a child learns there can be used throughout his or her life. The transition to school will also be worlds easier.”

There are public, private, religious, and non-affiliated schools available for preschool age children in Shaker Heights and the surrounding area. Shaker Heights is also the only community in Ohio to boast two preschools that have earned three-star ratings from the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS). With the Early Childhood Enrichment Center, Carol Nursery School also has earned that distinction. Both are part of Shaker Family Center, home of quality family-friendly services and early childhood programs.

The ODJFS created the program in order to improve the quality of care and preschool education in the state, and to provide parents with a means of evaluating providers.

“Because the preschool program experience will help shape your child’s feelings toward school, you should make the right choice according to their personality and learning needs,” says Barb Palumbo, director of Carol Nursery School. ■

shaker preschools

	Ages	Fee	Length of Day/Other Information
Allema Childcare and Enrichment Center 1 Star Rating* 16500 Chagrin Boulevard 44120 216-352-2223 allemaech@dcglobal.net	2-5 yrs.	Y	All Day Non-denominational
Carol Nursery School (N) 19824 Sussex Rd. 44122 216-991-3449 3 Star Rating*	2-5 yrs. (2 1/2 with parent)	Y	Half Non-denominational Financial aid available
Cuyahoga County Board of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities 19824 Sussex Rd. 44122 216-761-7624 Web: http://www.ccbrmda.org/	0-3 yrs.	N	Half or full Non-denominational Special needs only
Early Childhood Enrichment Center 19824 Sussex Rd. 44122 216-991-9700 3 Star Rating* Email: jprangier@ccc3dmi.net	18 mos.-5 yrs.	Y	Half or full Non-denominational Scholarship available
Pre-K Early Intervention Class Shaker Heights City School District 13600 Parkland Dr. 44120 216-295-4211 Email: un_jp@shaker.org	2-5 yrs.	N	Half Non-denominational Special needs only
CEOGC Plymouth Head Start 2860 Coventry Rd. 44120 216-991-6734 CEOGC Web: http://www.ceogc.org/	2-5 yrs.	N	Half or full Non-denominational Income eligibility guidelines
Cooperative Nursery School at Heights Christian Church (N) 17700 Van Aken Blvd. 44120 216-751-2893	2 1/2-5 yrs.	Y	Half Non-denominational
Children's Center at First Baptist Church 3630 Fairmount Blvd. 44118 216-271-9394 Web: http://www.firstbaptistcleveland.org/	6 weeks-5 yrs.	Y	Half, extended day option Drop-in care available Christian-based
Hanna Perkins School 19910 Malvern Rd. 44122 216-991-6432 Web: http://www.hannaperkins.org/ Email: info@hannaperkins.org	15 mos.-5 yrs.	Y	4 hours Non-denominational Stalling toilet potty
Hathaway Brown Early Childhood Program (E) 19600 North Park Blvd. 44122 216-320-8099 Web: http://www.hbs.edu	12 1/2-5 yrs.	Y	Half, extended day option Non-denominational
Nana Ella's Day Care 3685 Lee Rd. 44120 216-991-6130	18 mos.-5 yrs.	Y	Full Non-denominational Financial aid available
JDN Early Childhood Center (N) 22281 Fairmount Blvd. 44118 216-320-8409 Email: weavers@belinfairregis.org	18 mos.-5 yrs.	Y	Half or full Jewish Limited scholarships
Laurel School Early Childhood Center (E) 4 Lyman Circle 44122 216-464-0946 Email: jpr@lscs.laurelschool.org Web: http://www.laurelschool.org	0-5 yrs.	Y	Half, extended day option Non-denominational
Parent's Day Out at Plymouth Church 2860 Coventry Rd. 44120 216-991-1961 Email: dw@tdo@plymouthchurchcc.org	2 1/2-5 yrs.	Y	Non-denominational
St. Dominic Early Childhood Program 3455 Norwood Rd. 44122 216-561-4400 Email: sdemc@stdominic.org	4-5 yrs.	Y	Half Roman Catholic
Tree of Life Learning Center 3635 Lee Rd. 44120 216-752-6972	6 weeks-5 yrs.	Y	Full Non-denominational

N= Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children
E= Accredited by the Independent School Association of the Central States
All are state licensed
*Rating awarded through the voluntary Step Up to Quality Program of the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services



mutual

Shaker High has a California earthquake to thank for tossing Michael Griffith its way.

The Los Angeles-area native was happily ensconced as Principal of Lennox Middle School when the Northridge earthquake struck at 4:31 a.m. January 17, 1994.

Fumbling in the dark to find your two-year-old daughter and infant son while furniture flies and cinderblock walls buckle around you can be a life-altering experience, he and his wife Carol discovered. They were fortunate to suffer only bruises, but the damage to their home – and their nerves – was extensive.

Then, Mike felt a definite aftershock when Carol's sister and her husband, who lived across the street, packed up and headed back to Carol's hometown of Barberton, Ohio.

"I will never forget standing there with my arm around Carol as she cried watching her sister's van pull away. I knew then it was only a question of when, not if. We were going to Ohio."

respect

The secret of Mike Griffith's success as the principal of Shaker High might be that he truly likes and enjoys the students, and wants them to succeed.

BY NANCY O'CONNOR
PHOTOS BY KEVIN G. REEVES



Great Expectations

Michael Griffith grew up in a “very urban, challenging area” in South Central Los Angeles, one of six children. His father, Everton, who passed away last year, was a computer programming analyst; his mother, Alva, held clerical positions in a number of professional offices and school systems.

“I had a very different childhood from most of the students here at Shaker High,” he says. “We lived on a very busy, six-lane road. We had to have permission to cross the street.” With a vacant lot and apartment complex on one side, a gas station on the corner, and little sense of neighborhood, he and his siblings, he remembers, “mostly played with each other.”

Because the public schools were riddled with violence and gangs, the Griffith children attended Catholic elementary and high schools. “My parents gave up everything to assure a good education for us, and I’ve always loved and respected them for that. It may also be why I became an educator.”

“My mother was one of the most well-read, brightest people I’ve ever known,” he says. “She was very good with us kids, helping with homework and research papers.”

On the other hand, the lessons learned from his father were sometimes tough.

“When I was 18, he made it clear that either I was going to college, at my own expense, or I was going to work. There was,

as my dad put it, no loitering. Not that you weren’t welcomed home, but the expectation was that you were going to go out and make something significant of your life. I did better, I feel, because I paid for it.”

He had worked since he was 14, mainly with an uncle, installing fireproof doors after school and weekends. As he prepared to graduate from Loyola High School in Los Angeles, Mike was interested in becoming a priest. He postponed the decision, and while later studying at Boston University, he says, “I worked at a child care center. I enjoyed the kids so much and realized I wanted to one day have kids of my own. I just couldn’t imagine not being a dad.”

He eventually earned a degree in psychology, a minor in math, and K-12 teaching certification from Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles. Several teaching positions later, he ended up back there, teaching aspiring teachers how to teach.

In 1986, to refresh his math skills before teaching a pre-calculus class, he audited an evening course at U.C.L.A. Among his classmates was Carol Link. “One night, she needed help on problem #10, and I knew the answer,” he says. Carol remembers being impressed with the “math geek” and admiring his intelligence, street smarts, and “sense of service.” They were married five years later.

Though the move to Ohio may have been Carol's idea, it seems to have planted Griffith, 46, exactly where he was meant to be. Now in his seventh year as principal of Shaker Heights High School, he seems custom-designed for the job. He brings to the position unique perspectives based on personal experiences, professional capabilities, and educational philosophies: He grew up with very little, but today lives comfortably in the Mercer area; he was educated in Catholic schools but has worked extensively in public school systems; he's an African-American in an interracial marriage; he has taught in elementary classrooms as well as graduate school lecture halls.

And now, he's not only a Shaker High administrator, but a Shaker High parent as well; his daughter Anna is a member of the freshman class.

"I can cross," he acknowledges. "I feel at ease with and able to relate to the needs and concerns of those with a variety of

different backgrounds. It doesn't make me perfect, but my background is certainly helpful."

Those closest to him use words like "genuine," "approachable," and "caring" to describe the man who was once torn between priesthood and fatherhood. He opted against the collar, but finds himself now shepherding a flock of 1,800 students and 200-plus faculty and staff members.

"I was attracted to Shaker High because of the diversity of the school community and the challenge of providing for such a wide variety of needs. I never have been interested in a setting where all that was needed was a caretaker."

He also saw what he knew he needed to create and sustain a rich educational environment: a commitment to the schools at the administrative level and throughout the City. He also sensed a "missionary" mentality among the Shaker schools community.

"When those things are there, then there's problem-solving going on at every level. When you have the commitment and dedication, you're going to be able to address issues. It doesn't mean you're going to solve all of them, but no one is going to stop trying. There's persistence, and that is not something you find everywhere."

Griffith believes his key responsibility as principal is to provide "consistent support for the creation of good education. Sometimes it means taking on the role of innovator. Other times I'm the facilitator, and other times, the supporter."

He credits the school's five assistant principals, eight guidance counselors, one dozen department chairs – "and the tremendous number of teacher-leaders who are involved well beyond the classroom by their own choice" – with helping to get Shaker High to where it is today, which, he says, is at a very good place.

continued on page 59



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let's ride **the rapid**

*by Amanda Richards
& Michelle McCafferty*



my funky valentine

Recently we stepped out of the blistering cold onto the Shaker Heights Rapid and headed for the trendy West Sixth Street neighborhood – the Warehouse District – in downtown Cleveland. Our mission was to check out a spot we had heard about – a wine bar that certainly lives up to its name: D’Vine – that would make a perfect Valentine’s Day evening.

Word was that D’Vine, located on St. Clair between West Sixth and West Ninth streets, not only offered a selection of wine to please any connoisseur, but also a tempting menu covering everything from appetizers to delectable entrees.

Upon arrival in the neighborhood, we congratulated ourselves for our fuel-efficient and convenient choice in using the Rapid. We felt a bit smug as we observed countless drivers circling repeatedly around the block in a desperate search for that last available \$6 parking spot.

We dipped into a bar called Liquid, a popular place at the corner of West Sixth and Lakeside Avenue, for a pre-D’Vine aperitif. We serendipitously arrived during happy hour, thankful that we would not have to drive back to Shaker. The crowd was a casual mix of young hipsters and dignified businesspeople, peacefully cohabitating in the dim, atmospheric watering hole.

After running into a few friends and sharing brief quips about our workdays, we realized that we were hungry. Time for D’Vine.

The ambiance of the place immediately gave us the feeling that we were in for an unfamiliar experience, vastly different from our usual ventures to dank West Side bars where people shout at you over the music while sucking on their Winston and swilling their 12th Bud Light. But as we always say, when in Rome, do as the Romans do. So, on this particular night, it was all about class and composure.

We were initially intimidated by the menu. We needed a little help. Not to worry, an attractive waitress, Deborah, was there in no time. She kindly explained the different characteristics of each wine. After resisting the urge to spend 300 expense-account dollars on a bottle of Martha’s Vineyard Cabernet, we decided on the Lapis Luna Petite Syrah and the Liberty School Central Coast Cabernet.

The Lapis Luna was a bit too dry for our tastes, so Deborah suggested a Pinot Noir, and even offered to take the Lapis Luna off the bill. We politely refused, however. We’re not the kind of women to turn away a toddy, regardless of how revolting we might find it. In laymen’s terms, we drank it anyway.

Then it was time to do what we do best: Eat like it’s going out of style. We decided to share the cheese plate, which was made up of five select cheeses, served with roasted garlic, nuts, toasted bread, and crackers. Excellent. We also ordered the oven-roasted mushrooms, which consisted of crimini, shitake, portabella, and oyster mushrooms roasted in chili oil and garlic and served with goat cheese and toast.

And for good measure, we ordered the three-cheese pizza with chicken, marinara, mozzarella, asiago, and Brie.

Never have we felt so regal. As we giddily finished off the rest of our food and wine, we gave a toast to the Shaker Heights Rapid for making all of this possible. As we sped from downtown in the silver bullet through the cold night, we realized just how much fun two friends can have – even if they don’t exchange Valentines – when the RTA and downtown Cleveland team up to make nights out safe and sassy. ■

Amanda Richards and Michelle McCafferty are the editor and news editor, respectively, of The Cauldron, Cleveland State University’s student newspaper. If they survive, this column will run through the June/July issue of Shaker Life.



Thornton Park

The newly renovated Thornton Park facilities feature:

- **Swimming Pool** – new tot pool and splash zone featuring an exciting spray ground, a current channel for exercise or a lazy float, 50 meter by 25 yard L-shaped heated main pool with a diving board and water slides. Other new features include new shade structures and entry.
- **Indoor Ice Arena** – open year round, programming includes, learn to skate, public skating, figure skating and ice hockey (youth and adult).
- **Skate Park** – for inline skaters and skate boarders only.
- **Outdoor Basketball** – programmed instructional and open play.
- **Walking Path** – a short path that provides a wooded stroll around the outside perimeter of the pool.
- **Additional park activities** include: outdoor tennis courts, a batting cage and snack bar.
- **Parking** – two new parking lots, the main lot provides easy access to the swimming pool and ice arena from Warrensville Center Road.

Thornton Park Swimming Pool

(Shaker ID required)

Public Swimming Schedule
 Early Season: May 26-June 13
 Regular Season: June 14-Aug. 12
 Late Season: Aug. 13-Labor Day
 (Pool closes at 6 p.m. on July 4)

Swimming Pool Season Passes

Season passholders receive admission to general swimming, lap swims, and discounts on Learn-to-Swim classes. A family pass includes children under age 21. Proof of residency is required when purchasing season passes. Individual passes are available for nannies; please provide proof of employment. Season pass refunds are not available. Passes are on sale now.

	Early Bird (Jan. thru Apr. 16)	Reg. Season April 17-Sept. 3
Individual	\$65	\$110
Each Additional	\$25	\$300
Family Max.	\$190	\$260
Ind. (50+)	\$40	\$65
Husband/Wife (50+)	\$55	\$90
Corporate – Ind. only (Proof of employment required)	\$120	\$120
Partial Swim Pass 15 swims (TRANSFERABLE/NON-REFUNDABLE)	\$60	\$60

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Preschool (ages 2-4)	\$1	\$1.50
Youth (ages 5-18)	\$4.50	\$7.00
Adult (ages 19-49)	\$5.50	\$7.00
Adult 50+	\$4.50	\$7.00
Spectator*	\$4.50	\$7.00
ID Card	\$5.00	N/A
Replacement Pass	\$10.00	N/A

NOTE: A spectator fee is charged even if the guest is not swimming.



New Aquatic Activities

Registration opens Monday, March 5 for the following new activities.

Lifeguard Nannies

Parents, enjoy a few hours while our certified lifeguards keep a watchful eye on your child. Participants must have beginner swimming skills. Activities will include games and swimming in the Splash Zone, Current Channel and 3-foot section of the main pool. Dress accordingly, bring towel, sweat shirt, etc. A light snack will be provided. Lifeguard to student ratio: 1 to 5. **Passholders only.*

AGES	DATE	DAY	TIME	LIMIT	COST*
5-7 yrs.	June 9-August 14	TU	1-4 p.m.	10 participants	\$15/child

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April 11 -May 16	W	7:30-8:15 p.m.	Woodbury Pool	res\$50/nres\$60
June 19-July 26*	TU/TH	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Thornton Park Pool	Passholders\$30
			Current Channel	Non-passholders\$45
June 23-Aug. 4*	SA	10:30-11 a.m.	Thornton Park Pool	Passholders\$30
			5 feet area	Non-passholders\$45

Water Jogging

Deep water swimming skills needed such as treading and being comfortable in the water. Flotation belts will be provided. Exercise program while your child(ren) is in the Learn to Swim program.

DATES	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION	COST
June 19-July 26	TU/TH	6:30-7:30 a.m.	Thornton Park Pool	Passholders \$30
			12 feet area	Non-passholders \$45

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Making 'This Old House' Like New

continued from page 31

Behind the new kitchen/former living room lurked an underused addition. "It looked tacked on, and didn't coordinate with the rest of the house," Julia says. "There was no insulation, it was on a slab, and had an acoustical tile ceiling." This room now is a utility area with a very practical mudroom with still more storage (a must for super-organized Julia), a sharp new blue-and-white powder room, and a desk area. Milled wood bi-fold doors help open up the tight footprint, but they blend beautifully with the other woodwork in the house. "No Brady Bunch doors," Julia jokes. The children's artwork is proudly displayed on walls that were primed with magnetic paint – no need for tape or tacks. "It's way cool," Julia agrees.

This utility area now connects to the former kitchen, which has been completely transformed into an intimate sitting room with a hardwood floor and elegant navy walls, which Julia painted. The Meyers are pleased at how well their living room furniture works in the smaller setting. Julia says that she feels much cozier in this room at night than she did in the larger space.

By retaining the original footprint, doing some work themselves and reusing their furniture, the Meyers kept pretty close to their original budget. The bonus is they got a whole-floor redo for what many kitchen makeovers cost.

Shaker realtors agree that buyers like enhanced kitchens, baths, and usable family space. (See sidebar.) The Meyers' goal, however, was not increasing the home's resale value. It was long-term enjoyment.

"I like the diversity of Shaker," Julia says. "People have so many different life experiences here. Unlike in our Chicago area neighborhood, everybody's not the same."



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A: In Shaker Heights.

Clark and Sarah Planchon Pope, formerly of Ohio City, are applying these attributes to a comfortable Sussex-area wood and stone colonial in need of some TLC. Together with three-year-old daughter Meredith, these first-time homebuyers are excited about the neighborhood, the schools, and especially their house.

Like the Meyers, the Popes say they picked Shaker for the school system, and Sussex because they believe the presence of University Hospitals in the former Office Max headquarters will be a real boost for the area.

But most of all, Clark and Sarah recognized a gem in the rough when they purchased this foreclosure property. With four bedrooms, two and a half baths, a slate roof, library addition, large yard, finished basement, and many built-ins, the house had good bones and great potential.

Sarah explains that it was love at first sight. "We knew it needed work, but we could move in if we had to, and handle the repairs."

Although Sarah, a cancer researcher at the Cleveland Clinic, is more comfortable with petri dishes than plumbing repairs, Clark (SHHS '92), who is a full-time high school teacher and part-time caterer, was up for the challenge. He spent more than 20 years working on houses for Habitat for Humanity.

After the Popes purchased the house, "The city was very polite. They provided us with a nice five-page list of things to do," Clark drolly remarks.

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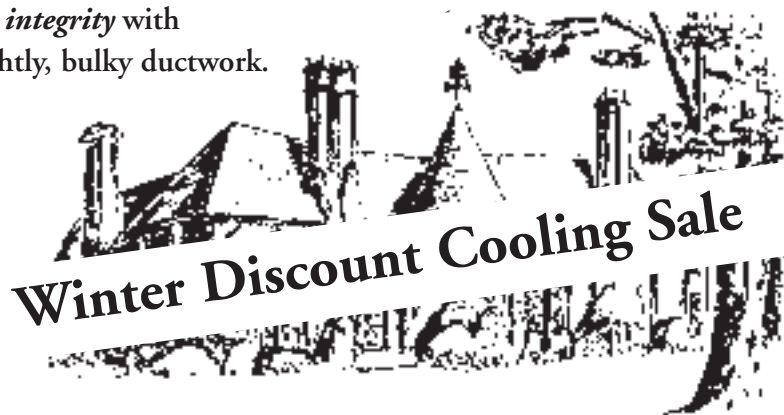


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That to-do list of violations, plus the decision to install energy-efficient windows, prompted the Popes to roll a \$30,000 FHA 203 K rehab loan into their mortgage.

As soon as the ink dried on the papers, the Popes got busy with their friends, their contractors, and their sledgehammers. All the contractors were on Shaker's registered contractors list. The Popes also made a point of saying that the City's building department was very helpful, informative, and friendly during the whole process.

They gutted the kitchen in a day. They tore down drywall in the library addition in order to repair minor water damage and re-insulate. They stripped wallpaper, ripped up ugly carpet to reveal hardwood floors. And Sarah, who "never had a yard or a garage" growing up in Reston, Virginia, raked leaves for the first time. So far, "nothing has been even a remote surprise in the project," Clark states with confidence. "All the plumbing and electric were sound; what we're doing ourselves is cosmetic."

After the windows, the biggest project is the new kitchen, which is very important to gourmet Clark. The frugal couple is creating a caviar kitchen on a catfish budget. By taking advantage of the great savings at the Kraftmaid outlet in Lordstown, Clark says they'll get solid maple cabinets for half what they would cost retail.

"But you have to be calm and patient," he cautions. "It might take a year to get all of them to match." Similarly, the couple says shopping around for tile and carpet and purchasing discontinued or floor models of desired appliances yields big savings.

The Popes' new home is close to Meredith's daycare center, an easy drive to work for Sarah, and near to East Side friends and family members. While they'll miss their former proximity to the West Side Market, Clark says they "will absolutely take the Rapid over and shop there with friends."

Meanwhile, they look forward to meeting more of their friendly new neighbors. ■

Mike Griffith

continued from page 47

"We're at a point where our dialogues are mostly about what's good instruction, how can we enhance the curriculum, and how can we better engage all students," he says, "and less about whether someone is wearing a hat or using a cell phone at school."

He sees exciting initiatives on the part of teachers who have more time to focus on their teaching. "The fruit is seeing the kids engaged, finding success, and being productive."

Diana Jones is among the veteran educators who appreciates having Griffith at the helm. "I am especially pleased that Mike takes the time to share his vision of the school with us," she says. "Our conversations have served as a daily reminder to constantly evaluate our programs and curricula to be sure that they are best serving our student body. Mike has been personally instrumental in finding solutions to a variety of student concerns I have brought to him. He mobilizes staff and resources to address these issues – and our students are the winners."

**"I was attracted to Shaker High because of the diversity of the school community and the challenge of providing for such a wide variety of needs. I never have been interested in a setting where all that was needed was a caretaker."
– Mike Griffith**

Griffith's administrative secretary, Janell Chelune, says the positive school climate is directly linked to the mutual respect that exists between the students and their principal.

"Mr. Griffith truly respects and cares for the students, and they in turn respect and like him," says Chelune, the mother of two Shaker graduates. "I think people would be surprised about the many things he does to help students and staff that are unknown to others. I'm not sure he would like me to elaborate, because most of the time his kindness is

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anonymous. But he truly goes above and beyond almost daily."

In Mike's opinion, teenagers are too often misunderstood and unfairly criticized. "We have absolutely wonderful students. I wish people could come in and see for themselves before they begin to judge adolescents simply by their outerwear or the music they listen to. Young people today are highly creative, excited, and motivated."

Social language and behavior issues at the high school, while not completely eliminated, are not the distraction they were in the past.

"We continue to work on helping students to understand context and respect. That's another teaching piece," he says. "You don't get civility through rule and decree. Yes, there are consequences to not obeying the rules, but the real win is getting the student to understand and make the right choices. When students choose to be quiet in the hallways because they understand that what's going on in the nearby classroom matters, that's when we've won."

Senior class president Laurice Shelven recalls how comfortable Mike made her feel the first time she brought student matters to his attention. "Not once did I feel like 'less' because I was a student or that my opinions could be put on hold or dismissed because I was just a student. People tend to think of principals as hard and always saying 'no'; Mr. Griffith is not like that at all. He's always flexible and interested in hearing what students have to say."

He's proud that Shaker High offers kids something many other schools can't: "Our biggest selling point is our diversity, not just in terms of race, religion, and economic class, but in thought and the tremendous choices we offer in educational programming and extracurriculars. There is something here for everyone."



He himself has benefited from the opportunities Shaker High offers to explore diverse interests and cultivate untapped talents. "I've always enjoyed singing, but never thought of myself as a singer or had the chance to become one," he explains. "Then, a few years ago, the Men's Ensemble invited me to come to a practice. I went, and I remember them asking me, 'What are you?' They wanted to know whether I was a bass or a tenor. I told them I didn't know, so they had me sing. 'You're a tenor,' they told me. Since then, I've had so much fun rehearsing with them. I've even performed with them several times and might again."

Now, Mike has the satisfaction of seeing his daughter Anna reap the riches offered by the school. The busy freshman is a member of the women's crew team, the Student Group on Race Relations (SGORR), and the Marching Band, and she takes an early-morning Mandarin Chinese class. Her father, she says, "is very fun and loves a good laugh." She not only tolerates having him in the same school building, she enjoys it, and often spends her lunch period visiting with him in his office. Next year, her younger brother Michael will join her at the high school, followed two years later by another brother, Daniel.

The most important thing Shaker High can do for his kids and every other student, Mike believes, "is to prepare them for tomorrow and success down the road. That's why we are continually evaluating whether or not our programs, the coursework, the activities, the rigor that's here, and the things that we emphasize are the right ones to get someone ready for the next stage."

Shaker graduates, he notes proudly, continue to do quite well. "We're getting a number of students into prestigious universities across the country." While this is a valuable measuring stick, he concedes, "Ultimately for me the question is not, 'Did you get there?' but, 'How were you able to compete? Were you able to take on the challenges you faced in higher education? Were you prepared for the rigor?' That's what is most important to me – that we had the student prepared." ■

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MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: Parent and Child Play Sessions, 9:30 A.M.–NOON, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER, MEARN'S FAMILY PLAYROOM. Parents and caregivers with children from birth to three years can play, make friends, and network. Additional hours for parents and caregivers with children from birth to age five are 4–6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays and 3:30–5:30 p.m. Fridays. FEES & INFO: 921-2023.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: Drop In Sessions, 9–11:30 A.M., 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. Fee. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS: Play and Learn Station, 10 A.M. – NOON, MAIN LIBRARY. Free, drop-in, literacy-based play for parents and caregivers with children from birth to age five co-

sponsored by Shaker Family Center and Shaker Heights Public Library. Evening hours: 6–8 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays. INFO: 921-2023 OR 991-2030.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS: Drop-In Sessions, 2–3:30 P.M., 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. Fee. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

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

SATURDAYS: Saturday Gym Time, 10 A.M.–NOON, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Children from birth to age five, accompanied by an adult can run and play during the winter months on Saturday mornings until April 14. Drop in rates are \$7/family with one child and \$10/family maximum. Discount family passes are \$55/10 visits, \$30/5 visits. INFO: 921-2023.

Ongoing Activities for Adults

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

SATURDAYS: North Union Farmers Indoor Market, 9 A.M.–NOON, 13209 SHAKER SQUARE. Buy fresh and local produce and help the local economy as well. Indoor Market is open through March 24. INFO: 751-7656.

SATURDAYS: Stewardship Saturdays, 10 A.M.–NOON, NATURE CENTER. *Here's the dirt!* Cultivated singles can make a date to make a difference, seniors can dig into history, students can learn for a lifetime, and scouts can plant with pride! Enjoy an exciting and rewarding opportunity to help with outdoor projects and to make new friends! INFO: 321-5935.

SATURDAYS: Nature Walks, 3:30–4:30 P.M., NATURE CENTER. Meet at the front door of the exhibit area for a trek around the trails led by the weekend naturalist. Walks are topical and last approximately an hour. Free. INFO: 321-5935.

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february

highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Movie@Main 6:30 pm, watch "Open Season" Free! (pg. 66) ◀	2 "Last Holiday" 1:30 pm Shaker Community Building Free! (pg. 66)	3 Hands-on Science Grades 2-6, 9-11 am, Shaker Middle School (pg. 66)
4 Threads of Remembrance: Artistic Visions of the Holocaust Thru 2/18 Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage (pg. 74)	5 Civil Rights Photography Exhibit 2/1, 2/4-5, 2/8, 2/11-12, 2/18 Shaker Community Building (pg. 3)	6 Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch Series Migratory Bird Research Unveiled Nature Center (pg. 66)	7 Parent University Shaker Family Center (pg. 66) Kids Cooking Ages 3-8, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 66) ▼	8 Photography Club 6-8 pm, Nature Center (pg. 66) Learn to Sell on eBay 1-3 pm, Fairhill Center (pg. 66)	9 Artemis String Quartet 7:30 pm, Plymouth Church (pg. 67) An Affair to Remember 8 pm, Severance Hall (pg. 74)	10 "What if I Came of Age in Africa?" 2 pm, Main Library (pg. 67) 
11 Louis Rorimer: A Man of Style Dr. Leslie Piña will speak about his design & furniture contributions. Shaker Historical Museum. (pg. 67)	12	13		15 Movie@Main "Marie Antoinette" 6:30 pm, Main Library. Free! (pg. 67)	16 Shaker schools closed thru 2/19 Eroica Trio Grammy-nominated chamber ensemble, 7:30 pm, Plymouth Church (pg. 68)	17 North Union Farmers' Market Shaker Square. Ongoing. (pg. 63) "What if I Could Cook for the Heart and Soul?" 2 pm, Bertram Woods Branch (pg. 68)
18 Monet in Normandy Thru 5/20 Cleveland Museum of Art (pg. 74)	19 PRESIDENTS' DAY		21 CityMusic 7:30 pm, Fairmount Presbyterian Church (pg. 68)	22 Annual Meeting Shaker Family Center celebrates 15th anniversary (pg. 68) Orchestra Concert 7:30 pm, Shaker Middle School (pg. 68) ▼	23 "The Heidi Chronicles" 2/22-2/25 Pulitzer Prize and Tony award-winning play. Hathaway Brown School (pg. 68)	24 Gator Bash: Viva Las Vegas 7 pm, Laurel School (pg. 68) Musical Rainbow: The Velvet Violin Severance Hall (pg. 74)
25	26 Woodworking for Kids Ages 4-8. 4 pm, Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 69) ▲	27 Babes in Nature 10 am, Nature Center (pg. 69)	28			



march highlights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Mercury Women: Forgotten Link to the Future Thru 3/30 Women pilots underwent secret astronaut testing in '61 in hopes of becoming America's first female astronauts. Burke Lakefront Airport (pg. 75) ◀◀	1	2 "Failure to Launch" 1:30 pm, Shaker Community Building Free! (pg. 69)	3 Art Drop Off For Barbara Luton Art Competition. 10 am–2 pm, Main Library Boardroom (pg. 70)
	5 Wind Ensembles Featuring students from CWRU, CIM and 75 local high schools. Severance Hall (pg. 74) ◀◀	6 Homeowner's Tree Survival School 6-8:30 pm, Nature Center. (pg. 70)	7 Music in the Mornings Infants to age 3. Hanna Perkins Center (pg. 70)	8 3rd Annual Writer's Festival High school coeds can apply. Hathaway Brown School (pg. 70)	9 "Thoroughly Modern Millie" 3/8-10 7:30 pm, Laurel School (pg. 71)	10 A Night for the Red & White 7 pm, Intercontinental Hotel (pg. 71)
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: SPRING AHEAD 11 Haunting Images: Photography, Dissection & Medical Students 3 pm, Shaker Historical Museum (pg. 72)	12	13 Choosing a Digital Camera 10 am, Fairhill Center (pg. 72)	14 "What if I Were Irish for a Day?" 7:30 pm, Main Library (pg. 72)	15 	16	17 140th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade 1 pm, Cleveland (pg. 74) 
	19 Toy Sale 3/19-20 9 am, Shaker Family Center (pg. 72) ◀◀ Summer Teen Opportunities 3/19-20 7:30 pm, Shaker High (pg. 72)		21 ▲	22 New Stages XXV 3/21-24 25th anniversary! 7 & 9:15 pm, Shaker High (pg. 72)	23 Verlezza Dance in Concert 7:30 pm, Tri-C East (pg. 75) ▶▶	
25 Barbara Luton Art Awards and Gallery-opening Reception 2 pm, Main Library Art Gallery (pg. 72)	26 ▲ Band Trip Preview Concert Get the score before they tour. 7:30 pm, Shaker High	27 Choir & Orchestra Trip Preview Concert 7:30 pm, Shaker High	28 Faculty vs. Students Basketball Game 3:30 pm, Shaker High (pg. 73) ▶▶ 	30	31	

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Events for February

Feb. 1: Movie@Main, 6:30 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY. Watch the PG-rated film, *Open Season*, about a domesticated bear who becomes stranded in the woods. Movie licensing rights to show this film are generously underwritten by Friends of the Shaker Library. Free. INFO: 991-2030.

Feb. 1: Eighth Grade Orientation to Shaker High School, 7 P.M., SHAKER HIGH.

Feb. 2: Last Holiday, 1:30 P.M., SHAKER COMMUNITY BUILDING. Starring Queen Latifah and LL Cool J. Free flick but popcorn costs a quarter. INFO: 491-1360.

Feb. 3: Hands-on Science, 9–11 A.M., SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. PTO-sponsored program for students in grades 2–6 to heighten appreciation for science.

Feb. 6: Environmental Brown Bag Lunch Series: Migratory Bird Research Unveiled, NOON–1 P.M., NATURE CENTER. Julie West, an active citizen scientist and Nature Center board member will share results of her research on banding migratory and resident birds, and speak about the migration of birds that visit the Shaker Lakes. INFO: 321-5935.

Feb. 7: Parent University, 7–8:30 P.M., SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Susan B. Glaser, MA, discusses *Sibling Relationships*. Suggested donation of \$5. Reservations requested. INFO: 921-2023.

Feb. 7: Kids Cooking, 4:15 P.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Have fun cooking with your child! Parents and children ages three to eight will prepare simple, wholesome recipes. \$40/4-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

Feb. 8: Nature Center Photography Club: Still Life and Lighting Photo Shoot, 6–8 P.M., NATURE CENTER. The Nature Center's Nature Photography Club meets on the second Thursday of every month. For the latest information on the Nature Photography Club, visit www.shakerlakes.org. INFO: SARA THORNE-BRIECHLE, VOLUNTEER MANAGER, AT THORNE@SHAKERLAKES.ORG, OR 321-5935 X 237.

Feb. 8: An Evening with Karen Stabiner, 7 P.M., LAUREL SCHOOL, ONE LYMAN CIRCLE. Laurel's Parent Lecture Series features Karen Stabiner, author of *My Girl: Adventures with a Teen in Training*, who will speak about the myth of the miserable teen. Free. INFO: 464-1441.

Feb. 8: Learn to Sell on eBay, 1–3 P.M., FAIRHILL CENTER: COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. Wondering about the World's Online Marketplace®? Learn how to bid, buy, and sell online. \$5/person. INFO: 421-1350 EXT. 146.

Feb. 8: Digital Photography Workshop, 7 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY. Rick Santich of MotoPhoto and Portrait Studio offers his popular, free how-to workshop for digital camera newbies. INFO: 991-2030.

Feb 9: School Days at Laurel, 8:45 A.M., LAUREL SCHOOL. Tour Laurel, meet teachers, students, and award-winning journalist and author, Karen Stabiner. INFO & RESERVATIONS: 464-0946.

Feb 9: **Artemis String Quartet**, 7:30 P.M., PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. One of the top ensembles of its time performs as part of the Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town. Tickets: \$29/person, CMA members \$27. INFO: 421-7350.

Feb. 10: **"We Love Our Volunteers" Pancake Breakfast**, 8-10 A.M., NATURE CENTER. *Nobody does it better!* Staff members flip hotcakes for volunteers and the Nature Center announces its 2007 inductees into the Volunteer Hall of Fame. Enjoy hotcakes in the Center's Meeting Room. Nature Center volunteers and one guest admitted free. Additional guests are only \$5. Reservations required. REGISTRATION & INFO: 321-5935.

Feb 10: **What if I Came of Age in Africa?**, 2 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY. The Anioma Association of Greater Cleveland continues their partnership with Shaker Heights Public Library exploring family traditions of the Anioma people of Nigeria. In previous years, Anioma members have reenacted a traditional wedding ceremony and a baby-naming ceremony. This year, baby Alika comes of age, and society members re-enact portions of a rites-of-passage ceremony. Free. INFO: 991-2030.

Feb. 10: **Winter Ball**, 8-11 P.M., SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL. Winter dance for Shaker High students.

Feb. 11: **Louis Rorimer: A Man of Style**, 3 P.M., SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Ursuline College's Historic Preservation Graduate Director, author and professor Leslie Piña will speak about the design and furniture contributions made by Louis Rorimer. FEES & INFO: 921-1201.

Feb. 15: **Movie@Main**, 6:30 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY. Watch the PG-13-rated film *Marie Antoinette*. Teen queen of France becomes a symbol of the extravagance of the monarchy. Free. Movie licensing rights to show the film are generously funded by Friends of the Shaker Library. INFO: 991-2030.

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Feb. 16: **Eroica Trio, 7:30 P.M.**, PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 2860 COVENTRY RD. One of the first all-female chamber ensembles to reach the top echelons of its field, the Grammy-nominated trio thrills audiences with its depth and precision. Part of the Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA! & Gala Around Town. Tickets: \$29/person, CMA members \$27. INFO: 216-421-7350.

Feb 16-19: **Presidents' Weekend.** No school for Shaker Schools grades K-12.

Feb. 17: **What if I Could Cook for the Heart and Soul?, 2 P.M.**, BERTRAM WOODS BRANCH. Learn how to adapt some favorite soul-food recipes by using heart-healthy ingredients while maintaining flavor. INFO: 991-2421.

Feb 21: **CityMusic, 7:30 P.M.**, FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2757 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. Danail Rachev conducts Mendelssohn's The Fair Melusine and Beethoven's Symphony #2 and soloist Matt Haimovitz conducts the Haydn Cello Concerto in C.

Feb. 22: **Annual Meeting, 6 P.M.**, SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Shaker Family Center celebrates its 15th Anniversary and honors Patricia S. Mearns, namesake of the Mearns Family Playroom, as Volunteer of the Decade. A wine and hors d'oeuvres reception begins at 6 p.m. with program to follow at 7 p.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED; TICKET PRICES & INFO: 921-2023.

Feb. 22: **Orchestra Concert, 7:30 P.M.**, SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. Middle and high school students perform.

Feb. 22: **What if I Could Book a Date @ the Library?, 7 P.M.**, MAIN LIBRARY. Curious about the new trend in speed dating? Shaker Library puts a literary spin on the phenomenon by inviting single professionals between 25 and 35 to register for this unique event. Learn more about how speed dating works, and spend five minutes talking with several "dates" about your favorite books. Pre-registration is required. INFO: 991-2030.

Feb. 22, 23, 24 & 25: **The Heidi Chronicles, 7 P.M.**, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 N. PARK BLVD. HB students perform the late Wendy Wasserstein's Pulitzer Prize and Tony award-winning play about the highs and lows of modern women. Feb 23 & 24 performances at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$8/adults; \$6/students & seniors. INFO: 320-8796 EXT.7186.

Feb. 23: **Annual Fireside Dinner, 6 P.M.**, NATURE CENTER. Bring a dish to share and gather 'round the fireplace with good food and friends. (Drinks provided.) \$10/members; \$12/non-members. RSVP: 321-5935.

Feb. 24: **Gator Bash: Viva Las Vegas, 7 P.M.**, LAUREL SCHOOL. Enjoy dinner, a piano lounge and casino, and bid on auction items to benefit Laurel School. TICKETS & INFO: 464-1441 EXT. 219.

Feb. 26: **ART, 10:30 A.M.**, HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2-4) and a parent will use different art media to explore and learn about colors, design and textures in this 5-week class that ends with the completion of a portfolio. \$35/5-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

Feb. 26: Woodworking for Kids, 4 P.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 4-8) and a parent can learn how to safely use woodworking tools while assembling pre-cut wood kits and constructing projects from scrap wood. \$40/4-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

Feb. 27: Babes in Nature, 10-10:45 A.M., NATURE CENTER. You're never too young to start learning about nature. Explore a variety of sensory experiences to introduce babies age two months through two years to the natural world. \$5/member strollers; \$7/non-member strollers. INFO: 321-5935.

Events for *March*

March 2: Professional Day. No school for Shaker Schools Grades K-6.

March 2: Failure to Launch, 1:30 P.M., Shaker Community Building. Starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. Free flick with popcorn kernels for a quarter. INFO: 491-1360.

March 2: ART II, 4 P.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 4-6) and a parent work with a variety of media including paint, clay, pastels, and watercolors and learn how to paint like Picasso, build like Rodin, or print like Warhol. \$30/4-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.



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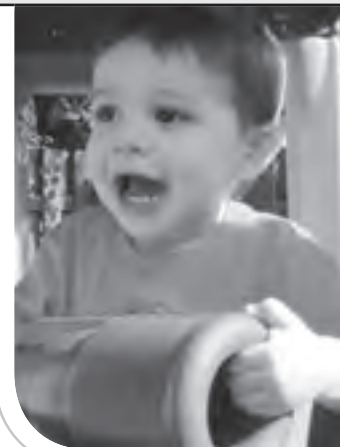


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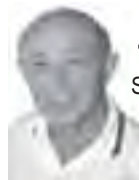
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March 2: Art Drop Off, 1-5 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY BOARDROOM. Artists interested in entering the library's annual juried Barbara Luton Art Competition can enter up to two pieces of art. Entrance Fee: \$20 for up to two entries. Art will also be accepted from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, March 3. Applications are available at the library and online at www.shakerlibrary.org. INFO: 991-2030.

March 3: Skating, 4 P.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 2½-8) and a parent can learn beginning roller skating skills including how to get up from the floor, roll forward, and pick up one foot at a time. Music will enhance simple rhythm and movement activities. \$60/7-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

March 6: Environmental Brown Bag Lunch Series, NOON-1 P.M., NATURE CENTER. Bring a brown bag lunch and digest it along with an environmental topic. INFO: 321-5935.

March 6: Homeowner's Tree Survival School: A Four-Week Workshop for Growing Valuable Landscape Trees, 6-8:30 P.M., NATURE CENTER. Series presented by Alan Siewart from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Jen Braman, owner of Peace of Nature Landscape and Garden Design. An accomplished speaker for the green industry professionals on an international level, Siewart currently helps 11 Ohio counties manage their urban forestry resources. Braman designs sustainable landscapes with special care given to new and existing trees. Weekly workshop topics include: How a Tree Works; Where the Tree Grows: Soils and the Environment; Selecting and Planting the Perfect Tree, and What the Tree Needs to Outlive YOU. FEES & INFO: 321-5935.

March 7: Music in the Mornings, 9:30 OR 10:30 A.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (infants to age 3) and parents experience the joy of music through group singing, finger plays and experimentation with instruments and dance. \$60/7-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

March 7: Kids Cooking, 4:15 P.M., HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Have fun cooking with your child! Children (ages 3-8) prepare simple, wholesome recipes with a parent's help. \$40/4-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

March 8-10: 3rd Annual Writer's Festival, HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL, 19600 N. PARK BLVD. *Got the write stuff?* Applications are due February 15 and must include a writing sample (3 to 5 poems or 3-5 pages of creative fiction or nonfiction). High school coeds can apply. INFO: TERRY DUBOW, DIRECTOR OF THE WRITING CENTER, 320-8796 EXT. 7132.

I think that I shall never see

So creative a writing festival as held at HB

In fact if I don't soon apply

I can kiss this one goodbye.

March 8: Nature Center Photography Club: Presentation and Critique of February Photo Shoot, 6-8 P.M., NATURE CENTER. The Nature Center's Nature Photography Club meets on the second Thursday of every month, unless otherwise noted. For the latest information on the Nature Photography Club, visit www.shakerlakes.org. INFO: SARA THORNE-BRIECHLE, VOLUNTEER MANAGER, AT THORNE@SHAKERLAKES.ORG, OR 321-5935 EXT 237.

March 8: Parent University,
7-8:30 P.M. SHAKER FAMILY CENTER.
Parenting workshop and discussion on the
topic of "Kindergarten Readiness" with
speaker Joan Spoerl, M.Ed. Suggested
donation of \$5. Reservations requested.
INFO: 921-2023.

*Mary had a little Mom
Who drove her to and fro,
And everywhere that Mary went
Her mom was in the know.
She followed her to school one day
To learn if it were cruel
To hold her back or send her on
To elementary school.*

March 8, 9 & 10: Thoroughly
Modern Millie, 7:30 P.M., LAUREL
SCHOOL. Millie leaves Kansas for the Big
Apple and some zany antics in this musi-
cal set in the jazzy 1920s and performed
with flair by Laurel students. TICKETS &
INFO: 464-1441.

March 10: A Day with Puppets,
SHAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL. The Puppetry
Guild of Northeastern Ohio presents
a day dedicated to the art of puppet-
ry. Activities will include workshops on
puppet construction, performance tech-
niques, and professionally staged produc-
tions. FEES & INFO: 491-1360.

March 10: A Night for the Red
& White, 7 P.M., INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL, 9801 CARNEGIE AVE. Celebrate
the 3 Rs — reading, 'riting and...rev-
elry at the black-tie block party and
Shaker Schools love fest that includes a
silent auction, treasure chest, dinner and
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(Here's a school factoid: This year marks
the 15th anniversary of A Night for the
Red & White and the 25th anniversary
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March 11: **Daylight Savings Time: SPRING AHEAD.**

March 11: **Haunting Images: Photography, Dissection and Medical Students, 3 P.M.,** SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. Jim Edmonson, Chief Curator of The Dittrick Museum of Medical History presents an intriguing lecture. FEES & INFO: 921-1201.

March 13: **Babes in Nature, 10-10:45 A.M.,** NATURE CENTER. You're never too young to start learning about nature. Explore a variety of sensory experiences to introduce babies age two months through two years to the natural world. \$5/member strollers; \$7/non-member strollers. INFO: 321-5935.

March 13: **Choosing a Digital Camera, 10 A.M.-NOON,** FAIRHILL CENTER COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER, 12200 FAIRHILL RD. \$5/person. INFO: 421-1350 EXT. 146.

March 14: **What If I Were Irish for a Day?, 7:30-8:30 P.M.,** MAIN LIBRARY. Fancy footwork. Enjoy the jigs of the famous Murphy Irish dancers as they perform some Celtic dances. INFO: 991-2030.

March 16: **Conference Day.** No school for Shaker schools grades K-8.

March 19 & 20: **Toy Sale, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Kids getting older? Time to clean out the toy bin and bring your tax-deductible donations of gently used or like new children's toys, books, games, puzzles, riding toys to the Shaker Family Center gym. Donated items must be clean and complete (containing all pieces and parts), age appropriate (for children birth to six years), and in working order. Please include batteries for battery-operated and electronic toys. No plush animals please. INFO: 921-2023.

March 19: **Summer Teen Opportunities, 7:30 P.M.,** SHAKER HIGH. PTO-sponsored program helps parents explore summer job opportunities, internships, and academic opportunities available to high school students.

March 22 & 23: **Toy Sale, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.,** SHAKER FAMILY CENTER. Second chance toys for children ages birth to six years. March 23: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. INFO: 921-2023.

March 21, 22, 23 & 24: **New Stages XXV, 7 P.M. & 9:15 P.M.,** Shaker High. The 25th anniversary of New Stages features theatrical works written, directed and performed by students. (March 21 & 22 performances at 8 p.m.) INFO: 295-4200.

March 25: **Barbara Luton Art Gallery-opening Reception, 2 P.M.,** MAIN LIBRARY ART GALLERY. Meet the winners in this year's competition and enjoy their work. Free. INFO: 991-2030.

March 26: **Woodworking for Kids, 4 P.M.,** HANNA PERKINS CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT PARENT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER, 19910 MALVERN RD. Children (ages 4-8) and a parent can learn how to use woodworking tools safely while assembling pre-cut wood kits and constructing projects from scrap wood. \$40/4-week session. INFO: KAREN GOULANDRIS, 929-0201.

March 26: **Band Trip Preview Concert, 7:30 P.M., SHAKER HIGH.** Get the score before they tour.

March 27: **Choir & Orchestra Tour Preview Concert, 7:30 P.M., SHAKER HIGH.**

March 28: **Faculty versus Students Basketball Game, 3:30-5:30 P.M., SHAKER HIGH.** *Swoosh!* This is the real March Madness with bragging rights to the winners.

March 31: **Shaker Schools Spring Recess** through April 9.

Art About Town

THRU FEB. 18: Civil Rights Photography Exhibit, SHAKER COMMUNITY BUILDING.

FEB. 2-MARCH 12: Harlem Renaissance Painters, MAIN LIBRARY.

FEB. 4: Meet the Artist: Richard Howell, 2:30-4:30 PM, MAIN LIBRARY.

MARCH 25: Barbara Luton Art Competition Awards Reception, 2 P.M., MAIN LIBRARY. Meet the winners of the annual competition and view their work. The exhibit will be on display through May. INFO: 991-2030.

THROUGH APRIL 3: Greatest Hits: Highlights of the Collection, SHAKER HISTORICAL MUSEUM. View items from the Society's vaults from a Shaker tool box to a 1937 embroidered sampler from Malvern School. FEES & INFO: 921-1201.

In the Circle and Beyond

Feb. 8: **Luncheon & Lecture, NOON, EXECUTIVE CATERERS AT LANDERHAVEN.** The Daughters' Club of the Alzheimer's Association Greater Cleveland Chapter presents an inaugural event featuring Matthew S. Wayne, MD, speaking on "Alzheimer's Disease: Creating a Better Plan for Tomorrow." TICKETS & INFO: 231-1466.

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Michael Stavis Bohl	Anthony Lanese
David Coon	Hyunho Lee
Aaron Fallon	Luke Shahinian
Katy Fishman	Carolyn Stange
Stephanie Goldfarb	Hannah T'Kindt
Audrey Gyurgyik	Lauren Weinberger

National Achievement Semifinalists

Christopher Butler	Shardey Martin
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National Hispanic Scholar

Sonia Misra

National Merit Commended Students

Mark Antal	Christin Martahus
Steven Aviram	Sonia Misra
Mark Axel	Connor Nobert
Christopher Butler	Elizabeth Quigley
Thomas Chokel	Kathryn Rohacz
Caroline Coverdale	Gregory Seidner
Megen Cowett	Adam Shands
Allen Eckhouse	Katherine Stamm
Anastasia Frank	Meghan Thompson
Michael Hornick	Carter Wang
Nijanjan Kumar	Mary Winkelman
Jenny Kutik	

National Achievement Commended Students

Nteni Nlandu	Blair Wise
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Feb. 9: An Affair to Remember, 8 P.M., SEVERANCE HALL. Cleveland Pops Valentine Concert with gifts for sweethearts. TICKETS & INFO: 231-1111.

Feb. 10: Beauty and Sustainability Symposium, 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M., CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN. Got a taste for change? Learn how what you grow matters and discover how to make food choices that improve the way you live. Co-sponsored by the Nature Center. Lunch included! \$85/members; \$95/non-members. INFO: 216-721-1600 EXT. 143.

Feb 16 & 17: Monster Jam, 8 P.M., QUICKEN LOANS ARENA. Mucho macho! Monster truck tour and tricks. TICKETS & INFO: 420-2200.

Feb 17: Family Concert: Beethoven Lives Upstairs, 11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M., SEVERANCE HALL. Based on the award-winning Classical Kids® recordings, this concert experience introduces families to the life and music of the great composer. TICKETS & INFO: 231-1111.

Thru Feb. 18: Threads of Remembrance: Artistic Visions of the Holocaust, MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE, 2929 RICHMOND RD. Holocaust Wall Hangings by Judith Weinshall Liberman with Portraits by Herbert Ascherman, Jr. FEES & INFO: 593-0575.

Feb. 18: Monet in Normandy, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART. Exhibit continues through May 20. INFO: 888-262-0033.

Feb. 23 & 24: Musical Rainbow: The Velvet Violin, 10 A.M., SEVERANCE HALL. Brief 30-minute concerts for children (ages 3-6) designed to teach about the instruments of the orchestra through musical demos. Hosted by local actress and singer Maryann Nagel with accompaniment by pianist Laura Silverman. (An additional concert is held at 11 a.m. Feb 23.) FEES & INFO: 231-1111.

Feb 23: Diana, A Celebration, WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Exhibit continues through June 10. INFO: 216-721-5722.

March 5: Wind Ensembles, 4 P.M., SEVERANCE HALL. Symphonic band and wind ensemble performance featuring students from Case, Cleveland Institute of Music and 75 local high schools under the direction of Gary Ciepluch. FEES & INFO: 231-1111.

March 17: 140th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1 P.M. Everyone's Irish on St. Paddy's Day! Parade begins at East 18th and Superior and ends at Cleveland Public Library. Wear your green for a wee bit of fun.



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March 21: Happy Birthday, Johann!, 7:30 P.M., TRINITY CATHEDRAL, 2230 EUCLID AVE. Part of Cleveland Museum of Art's VIVA & Gala Around Town series features Todd Wilson on organ in celebration of Johann Sebastian Bach's 322nd birthday. Admission is free; however, advance ticket reservations are requested by calling CMA Ticket Center at 888-CMA-0033 or online at www.clevelandart.org/viva.



March 23: Verlezza Dance in Concert, 7:30 P.M., CUYAHOGA

COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 4250 RICHMOND RD. HIGHLAND HILLS. Concert features Sabatino Verlezza's Dead Can Dance and May O'Donnell's signature classic, Suspension, staged by Barbara Allegra Verlezza for the Kent State Dance Ensemble. Advance tickets: \$18/adults; \$13/students & seniors; at the door \$20/adults; \$15/students & seniors. INFO: 752-5147.

Thru March 30: Mercury Women: Forgotten Link to the Future, BURKE LAKEFRONT AIRPORT, 1501 N. MARGINAL RD. The Mercury 13 women pilots underwent secret astronaut testing in 1961 in hopes of becoming America's first female astronauts. Learn about this little-known piece of space history through artifacts, documents, and photographs. INFO: 623-1111.

What We're Reading Around Town

Feb. 8: LAUREL SCHOOL, 7 P.M. Karen Stabiner author of *My Girl: Adventures with a Teen in Training* and *All Girls: Single-Sex Education and Why It Matters*.

Feb. 26: SHAKER HIGH, 7:30 P.M. Discuss *Fires in the Bathroom: Advice for Teachers from High School Students* by Kathleen Cushman.

February/March: The Big Read will celebrate the classic American novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, by Zora Neale Hurston. INFO: WWW.NEA.BIGREAD.ORG ■

In summer,
the song
sings itself.

—William C. Williams

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Burgers and Wings of Love

BY JOHN R. BRANDT

Oh, the travails of Shaker Man in early February: Christmas is long gone (the tree discarded at least a week ago), the Super Bowl is over, spring training won't open for another couple of weeks ... must be something he's forgetting... The Pro Bowl? Taxes?...

Oh, *that's* right: Valentine's Day. Again. Time to be, whaddyacallit, *romantic*. Now, where's that florist's number? Must be in this drawer somewhere....

Men of Shaker, beware: As easy as it is for you to overlook this little holiday, its importance to others in your household cannot be overstated. As a public service, then, Shaker Observer offers this guide to preventing Valentine's Disaster:

Business Travel on the Day or Night of: A wise man once said: "You can fake everything except being there." This is undoubtedly true for men on any of the Great Holidays – Your Anniversary, Her Birthday (but, curiously, not yours) – but infinitely more complicated on Valentine's Day, depending on the stage of your relationship or marriage:

Young Relationship (aka the Dating/Honeymoon years, aka the No-Kids-Yet years): You must be present the entire day, including breakfast in bed and dinner someplace you can't afford. Note: Make your reservations early, as all the overpriced places fill up fast. And while I shouldn't have to tell you this, it doesn't matter how good you think the burgers and wings are or how big the beer selection is, Valentine's in a bar is an evening she won't forget. Not in a good way.

Mid-Marriage (aka the Young-Kids-With-Volcanic-Stomach-Flu years): Suggest a romantic weekend away, knowing that you can't afford it and hoping that she'll know it, too, and refuse. Once again, blow big money on dinner and make sure that you arrange the sitter, too. For extra points, offer to feed the urchins before you go out, so that if somebody gets yorped upon, it's one of your boring suits, not *The-Only-Good-Dress-She-Has*.

Experienced Marriage (aka the Oh-My-God-The-Kids-Are-About-To-Go-To-College years): If there's a chance to make

an extra \$25 in bonus money by taking that trip to Fargo on the 14th, go for it. Don't come home without the check, though, and make sure you don't mention the big steak dinner at Chez Expense Account.

School Daze: Unless you are very lucky indeed, you will be dragooned into helping with the school Valentine party. This will involve thinking up a dorky craft that uses popsicle sticks and recycled plastic bottles, sorting approximately 10,000 illegibly scrawled Spider Man and Barbie valentines into brown lunch bags, and baking "safety" cupcakes that contain no wheat, eggs, milk, nuts or any other natural substance. Although you will be curious what these odd-looking concoctions do contain, do not ask. Or eat them.

Gifts: Easily the most dangerous part of Valentine's Day, rife with opportunities for misunderstandings and miscues. For example, although she might be saying, *Are we exchanging gifts this year?* what she really means is, *Are you Merely Stupid, or are you truly such an Inconsiderate Oaf that you can't even bother to remember ONE romantic holiday a year, which, by the way, is LESS THAN ONE WEEK AWAY and you haven't even MENTIONED it yet?*

I thought you might have missed the subtext.

Unfortunately, unspoken words are not the only pitfalls. More than one Shaker husband has rued (and rued) the Valentine's Day he gave his wife an electric juicer or turbocharged toaster (*Look, Hon, it can do four bagels at a time!*). I even knew one poor schmoe who bought his wife, no kidding, a breast pump. (Note: Not even if she says you should. Period. End of story). Err on the side of safety: Candy is nice, clothing is better (Tip: buy one size smaller than you think she is. She can always exchange it, and buying one size too large....*Brrr*), and jewelry (especially if you can't afford it) is best of all.

Oh, and that florist's number must be around here somewhere.... ■



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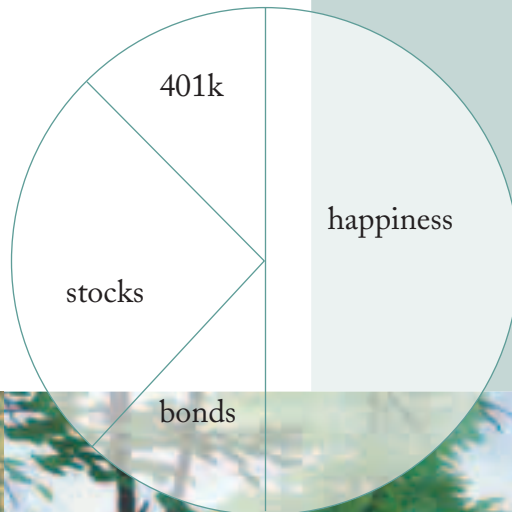
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