

# Shaker

The Community Newsmagazine

May/June 2003







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## Proposed Zoning Code Changes Would Allow Mixed-Use in Shaker Towne Centre

A public hearing on changes to the zoning code that would allow mixed-use development in Shaker Towne Centre and the Warrensville/Van Aken area will be held at 7 p.m. May 27 in City Hall Council Chambers, 3400 Lee Rd. The changes will be presented to City Council on June 23.

Mixed-use means that housing and commercial/retail could exist in the same building, either side by side or up and down. The concept was an integral part of the City's Strategic Investment Plan, adopted in 2000.

The Shaker Towne Centre development area includes the land on Van Aken Boulevard formerly occupied by Shaker Estates, where new housing will be constructed after a road has been cut through the shopping center. If the zoning changes are approved, restaurants, offices and/or retailers could occupy the first floors.

Other changes to the code would include the following:

- A new section would encourage telecommunication facilities to locate on existing structures rather than as free-standing monopoles, in order to protect the aesthetics and historic character of neighborhoods;
- Foundation plantings would be required on new construction and additions;
- A tree preservation plan would be required for construction and landscaping projects;
- Planned Unit Development (PUD) would be deleted from the list of possible conditional uses if an institutional building is torn down. This would protect existing buildings, such as the former Malvern School, by reducing development options if the buildings aren't saved;
- The number of days allowed for garage sales would be increased from two to three;
- Automotive repair and sale would be prohibited as a home occupation.

## Ready, Set, Go for Family Center Dad's Day Run!

Get out your jogging or walking shoes and position your strollers for the Shaker Family Center's inaugural Father's Day Run Sunday, June 15. Residents Cynthia Taylor, Peter Nagusky (left) and Ian Herron are organizing the benefit event.



Participants of all ages may choose to run, walk or wheel either a one-mile or five-mile route; both begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Shaker Family Center, 19824 Sussex Rd. The courses will wind through residential streets and neighborhoods and finish back at the Center. Teams of up to five members are encouraged to compete in a five-mile race; there will be an awards ceremony, beverages and a raffle after the event. The Shaker Family Center is an independent, non-profit organization that provides educational, social and recreational programs for young children of all abilities, as well as their parents. To participate, volunteer, or to donate goods, call Nagusky, 556-0856, or email [pnagusky@hotmail.com](mailto:pnagusky@hotmail.com).

## Frank Miozzi Named Director of Information Technology



Frank Miozzi

Police Department information systems officer Frank Miozzi, 42, has been named director of the newly created Department of Information Technology.

A graduate of the University of Dayton, Miozzi has a degree in computer science and has worked for the City for 18 years. As IT director, he will be responsible for developing the department's strategic plan; evaluating outsourced services, including network monitoring and security; and working with City staff on software and other issues. He will also review traffic reports for the City's website, [www.shakeronline.com](http://www.shakeronline.com), and help implement its next phase of development.

## Pam Quinn Named Acting Director of Community Life Department

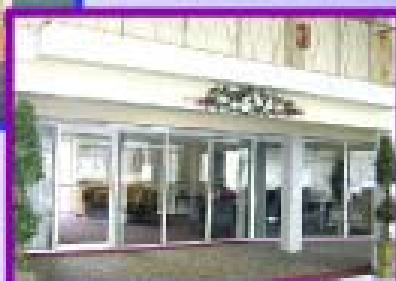


Pam Quinn

Youth Services Manager Pam Quinn, 55, has been named Acting Director of the Community Life Department, which includes recreation.

A 10-year employee of the City, Quinn has been in charge of summer camps, Thornton Park lifeguard training, school-age care and sports programs, among other duties. Before joining the City, she worked for 17 years with the YMCA.

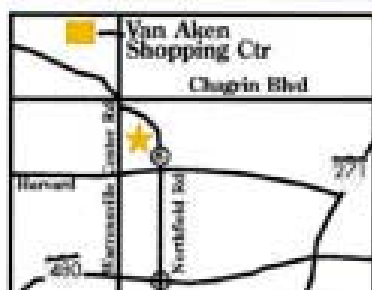
Quinn will continue to serve as youth services manager.



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## Residents Reminded of Changes to Escrow Law

Residents on the move are reminded of amendments to the City's point-of-sale escrow ordinance that were enacted last year. Originally passed in 2000, the law is meant to encourage sellers to correct violations prior to sale, encourage buyers who assume violations to correct them quickly and ensure that buyers have adequate funds to cover repair expenses.

Following are last year's changes:

- The number of **partial releases** from the escrow account has been increased from one to a maximum of four, depending on the size of the account.

- **Repair estimates** are required from only one registered contractor instead of two.

- To facilitate releases, repair estimates must be **itemized** according to the point-of-sale violation list.

- HUD 203(k) purchase-rehab loans are **exempt** from escrow requirements.

The City has the right to reject estimates that do not reasonably reflect the fair market cost of repairs.

Housing Inspection Director Bill Hanson says since the ordinance was enacted, the percentage of sellers correcting all violations has increased from 55% to 72%. "We're also seeing that in those cases where buyers have assumed violations, the repairs are being completed in a more timely manner," he adds.

For more information, call the Housing Inspection Department, 491-1473.

## Onaway-Van Aken Left Turn Will be Eliminated

The left turn at Van Aken Boulevard eastbound and Onaway Road will soon be eliminated for safety reasons. Van Aken westbound has a designated left-turn lane.

The decision was made by the Police and Public Works Departments in conjunction with RTA and consulting engineers after reviewing accident reports and the number of left turns at the intersection.

The change will be made as part of the City's Traffic Signalization Project. For more information, call the Public Works Department, 491-1490.

## REAL NUMBERS

Presented below are housing transfers recorded between July 1 and August 31, 2002. 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 foreclosures, in which the sale price is not reflective of the value of the property.

Address	2003 sale price	Prior sale price	Estimated construction cost
3342 Ardmore Rd.	\$ 205,000	\$160,500 (1994)	Not available
2910 Broxton Rd.	\$ 525,000	\$400,000 (1998)	Not available
2985 Carlton Rd.	\$ 249,900	\$280,250 (2000)	\$ 20,000 (1923)
3715 Daleford Rd.	\$ 156,000	\$100,000 (1993)	\$ 10,000 (1930)
22599 Douglas Rd.	\$ 390,900	\$287,000 (1998)	\$ 15,000 (1938)
16101 Fernway Rd.	\$ 222,000	\$218,000 (2001)	\$ 10,000 (1924)
2908 Huntington Rd.	\$ 287,000	\$225,000 (1997)	\$ 6,500 (1917)
2733 Leighton Rd.	\$ 449,000	\$281,500 (1999)	\$ 9,000 (1915)
2750 Leighton Rd.	\$ 475,000	\$375,000 (2000)	\$ 10,000 (1916)
3336 Norwood Rd.	\$ 280,000	\$206,000 (1995)	\$ 15,000 (1925)
3539 Norwood Rd.	\$ 167,000	\$153,500 (2000)	\$ 8,000 (1941)
16800 Parkland Dr.	\$ 800,000	\$552,500 (1998)	\$ 50,000 (1926)
2674 Rochester Rd.	\$ 232,000	\$252,000 (1996)	\$ 36,000 (1956)
15516 Scottsdale Blvd.	\$ 82,000	\$ 21,000 (2000)	\$ 5,000 (1945)
18417 Scottsdale Blvd.	\$ 167,900	\$115,595 (2000)	\$ 8,000 (1940)
20136 Scottsdale Blvd.	\$ 172,000	\$163,200 (1995)	\$107,000 (1989)
21849 Shaker Blvd.	\$ 482,000	\$479,500 (2001)	\$ 64,000 (1956)
24100 Shaker Blvd.	\$ 215,000	\$148,000 (1993)	\$ 20,000 (1956)
3329 Stockholm Rd.	\$ 334,900	\$310,000 (2000)	\$ 10,000 (1942)
3644 Traver Rd.	\$ 192,000	\$162,000 (1998)	\$ 12,000 (1928)
3715 Traynham Rd.	\$ 215,000	\$110,000 (2000)	\$ 10,000 (1939)
3453 Westbury Rd.	\$ 99,000	\$ 43,900 (1993)	\$ 9,100 (1924)
23489 Wimbledon Rd.	\$ 245,000	\$212,000 (1996)	Not available
19400 S. Woodland Rd.	\$ 556,200	\$480,000 (1999)	\$ 75,000 (1955)
3365 Avalon Rd.	\$ 221,500	\$175,000 (1995)	\$ 15,000 (1926)
22088 Byron Rd.	\$ 287,000	\$243,500 (1999)	\$ 20,000 (1955)
22176 Byron Rd.	\$ 225,000	\$205,000 (1998)	\$ 25,000 (1955)
3102 Chadbourne Rd.	\$ 260,000	\$205,000 (2000)	\$ 16,000 (1928)
3319 Daleford Rd.	\$ 275,000	\$187,000 (1995)	\$ 13,000 (1927)
3673 Glencairn Rd.	\$ 146,900	\$110,000 (1998)	\$ 18,000 (1952)
3279 Grenway Rd.	\$ 230,000	\$205,000 (1999)	\$ 12,000 (1925)
3394 Ingleside Rd.	\$ 181,300	\$173,000 (2000)	Not available
14303 Larchmere Blvd.	\$ 255,000	\$227,500 (1999)	\$ 15,000 (1941)
22300 McCauley Rd.	\$1,000,000	\$625,000 (1996)	\$ 16,000 (1936)
3445 Menlo Rd.	\$ 96,000	\$ 67,500 (1995)	Not available
2939 Montgomery Rd.	\$ 468,000	\$447,500 (2000)	\$ 25,000 (1924)
3380 Norwood Rd.	\$ 270,000	\$249,900 (1999)	\$ 18,000 (1927)
18715 Shaker Blvd.	\$1,000,000	\$799,000 (2000)	\$485,000 (2000)
3690 Winchell Rd.	\$ 165,000	\$ 62,000 (1998)	\$ 18,500 (1952)
22055 S. Woodland Rd.	\$ 285,000	\$179,000 (1994)	\$ 35,000 (1956)
22455 S. Woodland Rd.	\$ 235,000	\$181,000 (1994)	\$ 35,000 (1959)

Information source: First American Real Estate Solutions



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## 9.6-Mill Levy on May Ballot

The Board of Education has placed a 9.6 mill levy on the May 6 ballot. If approved, the levy will generate approximately \$7.5 million each year, beginning in 2004.

For the owner of a home valued for tax purposes at \$100,000, the new levy would add \$294 per year.

The last school levy, for 9.4 mills, was approved in 2000, and the funds, approximately \$6.5 million a year, were made available to the school district in 2001.

## City to Host 'Art Wall' Design Competition

The City will host a design competition this spring and summer for an "art wall" in Shaker Towne Centre.

The project will be developed in conjunction with Cleveland Public Art (formerly the Committee for Public Art, formed in 1984), a non-profit organization that fosters collaboration between artists, design professionals and the public on civic projects. Cleveland Public Art collaborated with the Cleveland Institute of Art on unusual, artist-designed bike racks that will be displayed at Shaker Towne Centre this summer.

The 180-ft. wall, which will be erected on the north side of Chagrin Boulevard in front of the shopping center parking lot, is meant to be part of the planned streetscape.

Additional functional public art, e.g., metal banners, patterned paving and seating, will also be integrated into the streetscape.

## Winslow Road Could Become A Historic District

Winslow Road residents were invited to meet with the Landmark Commission earlier this spring to talk about ways to enhance the area and attract owner-occupants to the unique two-family homes that line the street.

Among the topics discussed were the feasibility of creating a special historic district as well as various incentive programs. Religious leaders from the area's churches—St. Peter's Lutheran, Heights

## Nature Center Opens Doors to New Expansion

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes celebrated the opening of its \$2.2 million expansion in April. The event coincided with the Center's annual Celebrate the Earth event.

The new building, which boasts expanded classroom and office space, an elevator and a new exhibit area, was constructed by architects Schmidt Copeland Parker Stevens with a state-of-the-art, environmentally-friendly design that includes geothermal heating and cooling, high-performance windows and water-conserving, low-flow plumbing.

Many items from the original building were reused for the expansion; wood from a red oak tree felled to make room for the expansion was also incorporated into art-work and furnishings.

Nature education classes, which had been held off-site during the year-long construction, have now resumed at the Center. For more information, call 321-5935.



Christian and St. Dominic—also participated.

As noted in Cleveland Restoration Society Director Kathleen Crowther's Guest Commentary on page 17, historic districting is an increasingly popular tool for maintaining housing stock and creating strong market value. Most of Winslow Road's homes, all architect-designed, were built before 1929 and reflect what were known as "Shaker Village Standards."

A subcommittee of the Landmark Commission has been formed to "conduct public outreach;" interested residents may call the Planning Department, 491-1430, for information.

## Memorial Day Parade & Pancake Breakfast

The City will kick off its annual Memorial Day commemoration on May 26 with a pancake breakfast from 8 - 11 a.m. at the Shaker Community Building and Colonnade followed by a parade. Proceeds will benefit the Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund.

The Memorial Day parade will begin after a 10 a.m. ceremony at the flagpole outside City Hall and end at Thornton Park, where there will be free swimming and skating.

For more information, call Sandra Blue, 491-1354.

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## CERTIFIED SHAKER

The following rental properties have been "certified" as meeting the standards set by the City's Department of Neighborhood Revitalization. Owners are listed in parentheses. (Please note that apartments have been certified based on common areas, not on individual units.) Availability changes daily; to find out if there are vacancies, call the contact numbers listed on the City's web site, [www.shakeronline.com](http://www.shakeronline.com).

### RENTAL HOMES (TWO-FAMILY)

- 3324 Aberdeen Rd. (*Karen Miner*)  
3138 Albion Rd. (*Laura Rose*)  
3471 Avalon Rd. (*Fred Lipp*)  
3597 Avalon Rd. (*Robert Stovall*)  
17630 Chagrin Blvd. (*Stephanie Pazol*)  
17910 Chagrin Blvd. (*Michelle Adler*)  
17912 Chagrin Blvd. (*Michelle Adler*)  
18330 Chagrin Blvd. (*Robert Jacops*)  
19208 Chagrin Blvd.  
(*Herbert Ascherman*)  
3333 Daleford Rd. (*Katie Riggs*)  
3529 Daleford Rd. (*John Schloss*)  
3544 Daleford Rd. (*Ferole Parmelee*)  
3300 Elsmere Rd. (*Mike Reilly*)  
22975 Fairmount Blvd.  
(*George Hollender*)  
3665 Glencairn Rd. (*Eric Ozan*)  
2664 Green Rd. (*George Hollender*)  
3545 Gridley Rd. (*Deborah Goshien*)  
3561 Gridley Rd. (*Terri Stone*)  
3614 Gridley Rd. (*Steve Newman*)  
2565 Kendall Rd. (*Janet Alter*)  
3664 Latimore Rd. (*Josh Lovinger*)  
3658 Lynnfield Rd. (*Liz Sargent*)  
3673 Lynnfield Rd. (*Pam Cleverly*)  
3686 Lynnfield Rd. (*Robert McMahon*)  
3725 Lytle Rd. (*Jamie Craig*)  
18406 Newell Rd. (*Deborah Goshien*)  
3613 Normandy Rd. (*Arlene Mendel*)  
3598 Palmerston Rd. (*Ellen Roberts*)  
3705 Palmerston Rd. (*Faye Santoro*)  
3643 Riedham Rd. (*Robert McMahon*)  
17918 Scottsdale Blvd. (*John Franks*)

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## TOWN TOPICS

14600 S. Woodland Rd.  
(*Thomas Chelimsky*)  
22455 South Woodland Rd.  
(*Leo Krulitz*)  
3560 Tolland Rd. (*Terri Stone*)  
3701 Winchell Rd. (*Sue Stanton*)  
3566 Winchell Rd. (*Henry Hwang*)  
17601 Winslow Rd.  
(*Robert A. Cugini II*)  
18428 Winslow Rd. (*Joe Beatrice*)  
18708 Winslow Rd. (*Susan J. Severy*)  
18920 Winslow Rd. (*Julie Snipes*)  
19024 Winslow Rd. (*Bonnie Banks*)  
19221 Winslow Rd. (*Kathy Price*)  
19406 Winslow Rd. (*Mike McDowell*)  
19420 Winslow Rd. (*Brian Heyman*)

## APARTMENTS

The Ambassador, 13700 Fairhill Rd.  
(*Michael Montlack*)  
The Blair House, 19601 Van Aken Blvd.  
(*Zehman-Wolf Management*)  
The Continental, 3341-3351 Warrensville Center Rd. (*Alan Pearlman*)  
Cormere Place, 2661 N. Moreland Blvd.  
(*Michael Montlack*)  
Embassy House, 2560 N. Moreland Blvd. (*Lewis Jacobs*)  
Fairhill Apartments, 12700 Fairhill Rd.  
(*A to Z Management*)  
Fairhill Place, 13660 Fairhill Rd.  
(*Ken Montlack*)  
The Greenbriar, 17100 Van Aken Blvd.  
(*Michael Montlack*)  
Kemper Manor, 2501 Kemper Rd.  
(*Michael Montlack*)  
The Morlee Apartments, 15810 Van Aken Blvd. (*Michael Montlack*)  
The Oxford House, 15515 Van Aken Blvd. (*Edward Mehler*)  
Shaker Lakes Apartments, 2590 N. Moreland Blvd. (*Michael Montlack*)  
Shaker Park East, 2540 N. Moreland Blvd. (*David Goodman*)  
Shaker Park Manor, 19220 Van Aken Blvd. (*Michael Montlack*)  
Shaker Terrace, 19806 Van Aken Blvd.  
(*Thomas Gerson*)  
The South Shaker, 15700 Van Aken Blvd. (*Robert Hart*)  
The Monty, 2641 N. Moreland Blvd.  
(*Michael Montlack*)

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## Doan Brook Storm Drain Stenciling Program



In a new program to help reduce pollutants into the Doan Brook watershed, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes is recruiting volunteers for a storm drain stenciling program.

Participants will spray-paint the message "Dump no waste, drains to brook" in front of City storm drains and distribute educational materials to local residents.

The program was initiated because of the high amount of contaminants that flow into Doan Brook from storm run-off. These include antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline, paint, detergents containing phosphorus (used when washing the car), pet waste, yard waste, litter, road salt and fertilizers and pesticides

from lawns (see story below on the "Laudable Lawn" program).

Doan Brook runs for eight miles, from Shaker Heights through Cleveland Heights and University Circle to Lake Erie. Most polluted run-off is not transported away to water treatment plants, but is instead carried into local streams and lakes, causing algae blooms and other ecosystem damage.

The stenciling program is one of several initiatives offered by the Center to help improve the health of Doan Brook and is part of the City's storm water plan.

For further information, or to volunteer, call Victoria Mills, 321-5935, ext. 34, or visit [www.shakerlakes.org](http://www.shakerlakes.org).

## Nature Center Launches 'Laudable Lawn' Program

In an effort to persuade homeowners to eschew pesticides and fertilizers and replace them with a system of lawn care that is both less time-consuming and better for the environment, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes has initiated a program based on five key ideas for improving green space:

*No low mow.* As summer approaches, the lawn should be mowed with a sharpened mower to a height of approximately 3". This helps keep the soil surface cool and the grass green and prevents crab-grass and other weeds from germinating.

*Water sparingly.* Grass naturally slows its growth during summer's heat. Check to see if your lawn needs water by walking across it; if your footprints linger for several hours, the grass is severely dehydrated and needs water. Grass doesn't need more than 1" of water per week, whether from rain or sprinklers. One way to measure how long it takes to apply 1" of water is by setting out tuna cans and seeing how long they take to fill up. Some soils are less absorbent than others and the watering will need to be divided into two or three sessions a day. However, light, frequent watering can hurt the turf rather than help it.

*Forsake the rake.* Fertilize by leaving grass clippings on the lawn after mowing. The grass clippings that remain contain the three main fertilizer ingredients: nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Clippings decompose in one to two days.

*Test your soil.* Grass grows best in 4 - 6" of well-drained topsoil with plenty of organic matter. Most soils will benefit from a good organic fertilizer program, but it's a good idea to get the soil tested to see what it needs. The three important components for successful grass growth are good soil, plenty of sun and adequate moisture.

*Go native.* Plant grass, trees, shrubs and flowers that are native or well adapted to northeast Ohio. Well-adapted species require less fertilizer, water and maintenance. Planting a variety of species and sowing your lawn with different types of grasses will make your yard or garden healthier and easier to maintain.

For more information on the Laudable Lawn program or to become involved in the Center's citizen committee on lawn care, call the Nature Center, 321-5935.



## Storm Water Plan On-Line

The City's 30-page storm water draft plan may be reviewed on the City's website, [www.shakeronline.com](http://www.shakeronline.com). The Environmental Protection Agency requires all urban communities to develop a program reducing the amount of pollutants discharged into ground water, streams and run-off.

The plan will be implemented in cooperation with the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. It includes the monitoring and elimination of contaminants and a widespread education campaign targeting residents and businesses.

For further information, call 491-1490.

## Old Computer Round-Up Set for May 3 & 4

The Public Works Department will hold an old computer round-up from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. May 3 and 4 at the Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Blvd.

Computers and related equipment, including monitors, CPU's, printers, keyboards, mice and other peripherals, as well as cell phones, will be accepted. Computer equipment contains many toxic components that make it unsuitable for disposal in a landfill. Unwanted equipment is either upgraded and donated to schools or it is recycled.

For more information, call 491-1490.

## Phone Book Collection Set for June 6 - July 24

The City will conduct its annual telephone book recycling campaign June 6 through July 24.

Old phone books may be taken to specially marked "Phone Book Recycling" dumpsters at the City Hall, Main Library, Bertram Woods Library, Thornton Park and Nature Center parking lots.

The round-up coincides with the delivery of new telephone books. Last year, nearly 9 tons of telephone books were collected.

For more information, call 491-1490.



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## TOWN TOPICS

### Timely Reminders

- **Jogging:** Street joggers may not obstruct traffic and are required to wear reflective clothing at night.
- **Bicycle licensing:** Licenses will be sold from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. May 10 & 24 and June 7 & 21 in the Police Dept. lobby, 3355 Lee Rd. Cost is \$1.50; please bring the owner's Social Security number, which will be recorded on the application. For children, a parent's number can be used.
- **Rubbish pickup:** Collections scheduled on or after the following holidays, unless they fall on a Saturday or Sunday, will be one day late: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Day. Call the Public Works Department, 491-1490, to report a missed pickup. Calls must be received the next business day.
- **Dogs:** Dogs are not permitted to run at large, and owners are required to remove immediately all feces deposited by their dogs on public or private property that is not their own. Dog waste must not be deposited in City waterways, sewers or on the curbside, as it poses a health hazard. Dogs that are a nuisance should be reported to the Animal Warden, 491-1490.
- **Playground hours:** Supervised hours at the Around the World Playground, which are listed in the spring/summer Community Life booklet, begin May 19.
- **Bicycle riding:** Helmets are required for everyone 5 and older when operating a bicycle and for all passengers regardless of age.
- **Playing in the street:** Roller skating, roller blading, skateboarding or riding in any type of coaster or toy vehicle in the street is prohibited unless permission has been given to close streets for block parties.
- **Noise:** The playing of radios, television sets, musical instruments and similar devices is prohibited between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. weekdays and 11 p.m. and 9 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays if they create a noise distur-

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## TOWN TOPICS

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- **West Nile virus:** For up-to-date information on tips for protecting yourself, call the Shaker Health Department's Infoline, 491-3170.

## NCCJ Walk-a-Thon Set for May 3

A walk-a-thon sponsored by The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) and supported by the City of Shaker Heights will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 3, beginning and ending at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

The event, entitled "Walk as One—Rock as One," will feature musical performances along the route and will end with a free concert in the Rock Hall for all registered walkers. There is no fee to participate.

Lomond resident Ruben Holloway, KeyCorp regional vice chairman, is chair of the event, which will include teams of walkers to help raise money for NCCJ's educational programming. NCCJ is dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry and racism and promoting respect and understanding of all people.

Walkers raising \$75 or more will receive a "Walk as One—Rock as One" T-shirt, and the person who raises the most money will attend next year's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony in New York City.

For information, call 216-752-3000.

## Public Hearing Set for May 14 on Horseshoe Lake Master Plan

The first of two public hearings on a master plan for Horseshoe Lake Park will be held from 7 - 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 14 in the Shaker Community Building, 3450 Lee Rd.

Residents are invited to hear a presentation by the City's consultant, Marshall Tyler Rausch, about possible future uses and landscaping in the park. There will then be an opportunity to offer suggestions.

The second meeting will be held in July or August; date and time will be posted on the City's website, [www.shakeronline.com](http://www.shakeronline.com).

For further information, call Marilyn Roberson, 491-1436.

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# Exterior Inspection ✓list

## ☐ ROOF

Check for loose, damaged, deteriorated, and/or missing roof covering. Holes or other structural damage shall be repaired.

Flashing shall be properly installed, secure, and free from deterioration.

## ☐ CHIMNEY

Should be plumb, and free of loose, damaged, or missing bricks. Check for loose or missing mortar between bricks.

## ☐ GUTTERS/DOWNSPOUTS

Damaged, deteriorated, and/or missing gutters and downspouts shall be replaced. Gutters and downspouts shall be properly connected, secure, and free from leaks. Deteriorated gutter boards should be replaced. Downspouts shall be properly sealed into the storm drain.

## ☐ WALLS

Check for loose, damaged or missing siding and trim. The siding material shall be the same type on all sides of the structure. Damaged or missing corner caps or corner trim boards should be replaced. Brick walls should be free of damaged or missing bricks, and loose or deteriorated mortar joints.

## ☐ WINDOWS

Check windows for cracked, broken, or missing windowpanes, loose or missing window glazing, damaged or deteriorated sills, frames, and casing. Torn or damaged screens must be replaced.

## ☐ DOORS

Exterior doors should fit into their frames and have a lock. Check for loose, damaged, or missing door stops, threshold, frame, and casing. Also check doorknobs, hinges, closers, etc. for proper installation and operation.

## ☐ STEPS

If masonry, check foundation, risers, and wingwalls for loose, damaged, or missing bricks or deteriorated mortar joints. Check treads and stoop for severe spalling, breaks or missing pieces, and/or separation from house. Wood steps must be on an adequate foundation and properly attached to porch or house. Stringers, risers, treads, and lattice shall be free of damage or deterioration. Handrails on all step units shall be free of deterioration, and properly secured.

## ☐ PORCH

Replace any damaged, deteriorated, or missing members of ceiling, floor, railing, support columns, and/or trim. Check for sagging or spongy floor, and loose ceiling or floor boards. Check sill box boards for deterioration and separation at the corners.

## ☐ FOUNDATION

Check for loose, damaged, or missing bricks, deteriorated mortar joints, and bowing of foundation walls. Openings in foundation walls for coal chutes, windows, electrical service, etc., shall be properly sealed.

## ☐ WINDOW WELLS

Check for loose, deteriorated, or missing bricks, bowing walls, and deteriorated mortar joints. Window wells are to be kept free of debris and litter. Drains are to be maintained in proper working condition.

## ☐ PAINTED SURFACES

All painted surfaces which are peeling, flaking, or blistering shall be scraped, primed, and painted.

## ☐ ELECTRICAL

House to garage service conductors must be properly installed and not sag. Check condition of insulation for deterioration.

All exterior fixtures, switches, and receptacles shall be approved for exterior use, properly installed, and fully operational.

## ☐ ADDRESS

The property identification number must be prominently displayed in numerals.

## ☐ GARAGE

All garage walls shall be plumb, and free of damaged, deteriorated, or missing siding or trim. The siding material shall be the same type on all sides. All doors shall be fully operational and properly installed. Windows shall be free of broken or severely cracked panes. Boarded up windows are not acceptable. Gutters and downspouts shall be properly installed, and free of damage, deterioration, or leaks. The roof covering shall be the proper type for the pitch of the

*continued*





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## TOWN TOPICS

roof and be maintained in good condition. Rolled roofing is not acceptable for repairs on shingled roofs.

### ☐ YARD AREA

Landscaped areas shall be kept free of tall grass/weeds, dead trees or tree branches, litter, debris, and nonusables. Firewood must be stored 1 foot above the ground. Shrubbery must be maintained and kept from encroaching onto the public sidewalk. Junk cars must be removed, restored to operable condition, or kept completely in the garage.

### ☐ SERVICE WALKS

Check for broken, loose, or missing pieces of the walk blocks. Vertical separation between blocks of 1 inch or more is not acceptable.

### ☐ PUBLIC SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAY APRONS

Check for broken, loose or missing pieces and cracks with a vertical or horizontal separation of 1 inch or more. Blocks with spalling to a depth of 1 inch over 50% of the block shall be replaced.

**NOTE: THE CITY CAN CORRECT PUBLIC SIDEWALK AND/OR DRIVEWAY APRON VIOLATIONS AT THE PROPERTY OWNER'S EXPENSE.**

### ☐ DRIVEWAY

Asphalt driveways shall be free of cracks 1 inch wide or larger, deteriorated areas, or depressions. Proper grade must be maintained.

Concrete driveways shall be free of broken or deteriorated areas, large cracks, holes, and blocks with a vertical separation of 1 inch or more.

### ☐ FENCES

Fences shall be structurally sound and free of loose, damaged, or deteriorated members. Any areas with peeling or flaking paint shall be scraped, primed, and painted.

# The Importance of Historic Preservation

By Kathleen H. Crowther

*In recognition of National Historic Preservation Month, Shaker Magazine invited Cleveland Restoration Society Director Kathleen Crowther to share her thoughts on preservation in Shaker Heights.*

Shaker Heights is truly an amazing city. It has to be one of the most beautiful suburbs in all of America. Where else are there so many distinguished homes and mature trees, all arranged along grand boulevards and curvilinear streets, or within an orderly grid pattern emanating from a key community landmark such as a school? Smaller houses, medium-sized ones, in-town estates, stately apartment houses, schools and libraries that look like temples of learning. Even the gas stations are well designed. And garbage is still picked up in the back yard. Ah, Shaker Heights, you are eighty-one years old, and you have withstood the test of time.

Last fall, thousands of people from across the United States came to Cleveland to attend the National Preservation Conference sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Cleveland Restoration Society. The Mayor of Shaker Heights, Judith Rawson, was a co-chair of this large national conference. Yes, the conferees came to see the renaissance in downtown Cleveland, Severance Hall and the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, to name a few. But you should know that Shaker's reputation as one of the most beautiful garden suburbs in America was a major draw for conferees. The tours of Shaker Heights were completely sold out, as expected. And the "tourists" were simply green with envy at the beauty they saw, street after street after street.

Those of us who grew up in Shaker



Kathleen Crowther

sometimes forget how special this place is. Okay, maybe everything is not perfect, and you might have a few things to say about certain matters not entirely to your liking. Nonetheless, you are here, as am I, because there are very few others cities that offer so much.

From what I have seen, Shaker Heights has never had a self-esteem problem. Its citizens have faced challenges over time with purpose and a vision of success, be it racial integration, renewal of commercial centers or creation of new housing alternatives. The same can be said for the City's focus on maintaining one of its key assets, its now older housing stock.

Older suburbs built around the same period as Shaker Heights are now being recognized as worthy of historic preservation. The housing stock is solid, has architectural distinction and cannot be affordably duplicated in new construction. In addition, leading architectural theorists recognize that places like Shaker Heights are living testimony to the value of a quality of life where kids can walk or bike to school and parents can get to work without wasting hours of time in

the car commuting. These so-called "new urbanists" and "neo-traditional town planners" are taking their cues from what we have and have had for decades in Shaker Heights.

May is National Historic Preservation Month and will be celebrated through a variety of public programs across America. Historic preservation as a national movement has progressed way beyond the lavish restoration of a singular community landmark, the "George Washington slept here" approach. Today, the modern historic preservation movement is rich in complexity and has a sizable impact on economic development through the use of historic investment tax credits for income-producing properties.

During the 1990s, a major shift occurred in people's attitude toward land as a finite resource. Americans have begun to recognize the negative effects of unfettered urban sprawl. The proper maintenance and continued use of quality older communities is a main tenet of the "Smart Growth" advocates here in northeastern Ohio and across the country. Historic preservation is one of the land-use tools promoted by the "Smart Growth" practitioners.

Shaker Heights officials were wise to the benefits of historic preservation almost twenty years ago when they nominated the City to the National Register of Historic Places. Even City building inspectors are versed in building preservation techniques, and all the City's housing assistance programs require a quality architectural approach.

It is only now that other American suburban cities built in the nineteen-teens and twenties are beginning to recognize that large sections of their towns have grown into being "historic," not merely old and in need of maintenance. For example, a couple of years ago, officials from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office visited Lakewood for

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the first time and deemed that almost the entire city was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If so designated (which did not have much political support at the time), it would have been one of the largest historic districts in the country. Almost the entire city of Shaker Heights is listed on the National Register, with an astounding number of historically significant structures—7,240—the largest of any historic district in Ohio.

By utilizing the tool of historic districting and maintaining architectural standards which protect the integrity of those districts, smart suburbs will reap the benefits proven in more centrally-located historic districts designated amid controversy in the past. Think of places like Beacon Hill, Georgetown and Charleston, S.C.; think niche housing markets and dramatically strong market values. The thing to fear is allowable incremental changes that add up to the degradation of the whole. This does not mean that Shaker Heights should require the in-kind replacement of slate roofs, for example, when it is not practical to repair this original roof type. But, in my opinion, Shaker should not allow the replacement of architecturally significant windows, such as leaded glass, when energy efficiency methods to retrofit these existing windows are available. Currently, replacement of these gorgeous windows is allowable.

The alternative to communities like Shaker Heights, ones further out, for example, may offer the allure of new homes—i.e., lower maintenance—but why? At what cost? The vinyl siding of these communities will need to be replaced eventually; the curtain-wall of decorative brick will eventually need repair; you will be spending half your life driving in a car for anything and everything. I prefer Shaker Heights with its sidewalks, its lakes, its trees, and its amazing houses. There is no place like it.

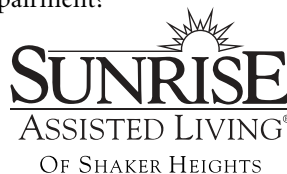


*Editor's note: The Cleveland Restoration Society's Heritage Home Loan Program is available to owners of Shaker Heights homes built in 1950 or earlier. This low-interest restoration and maintenance loan (3.5% fixed interest rate for a 10-year term) can be used for interior and exterior projects. There are no income restrictions. For more information, call Sara Wolfe at the Cleveland Restoration Society, 216-426-3116.*



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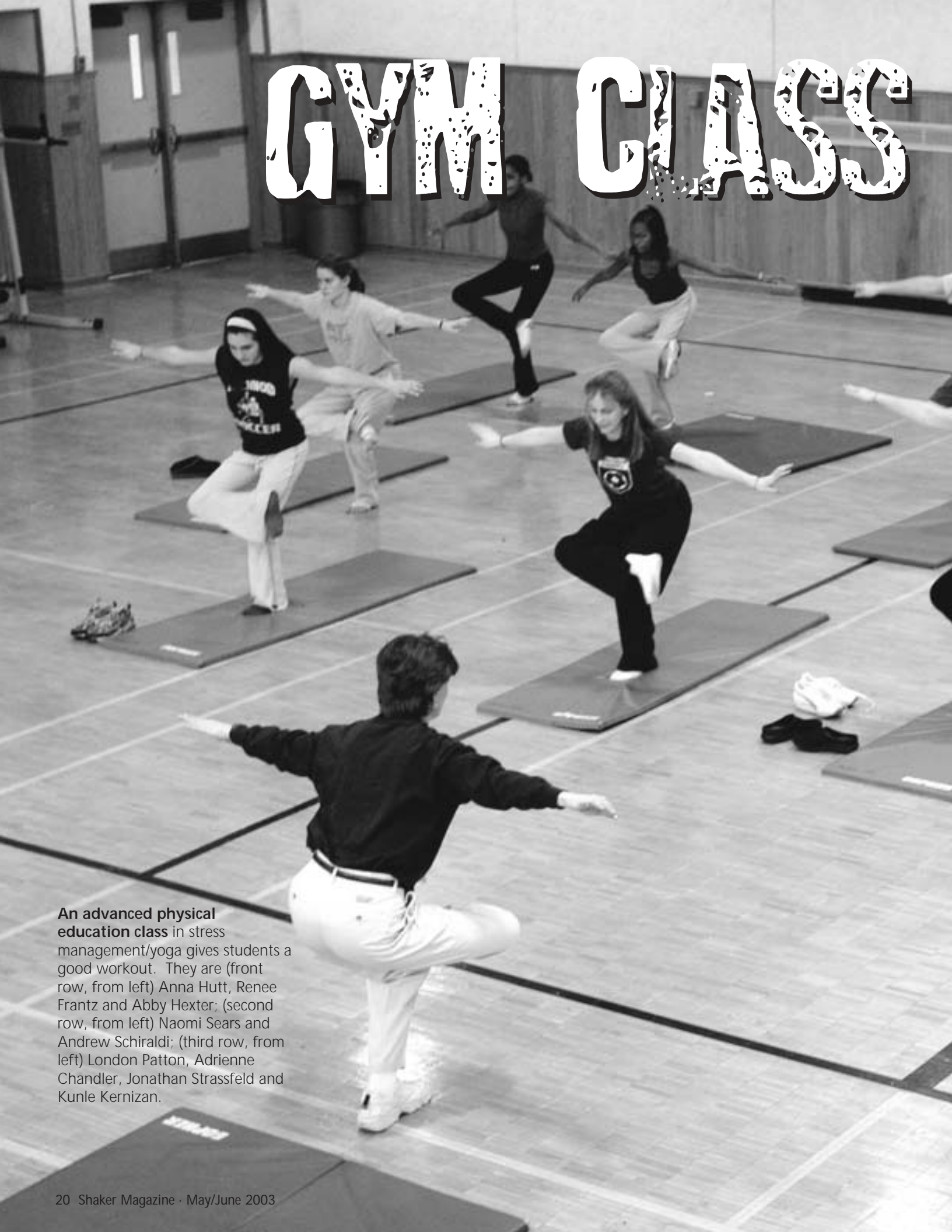
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# GYM CLASS



An advanced physical education class in stress management/yoga gives students a good workout. They are (front row, from left) Anna Hutt, Renee Frantz and Abby Hexter; (second row, from left) Naomi Sears and Andrew Schiraldi; (third row, from left) London Patton, Adrienne Chandler, Jonathan Strassfeld and Kunle Kernizan.



# REVISITED

PE just isn't what  
it used to be



Photos by Kevin G. Reeves

*By Eleanor Mallet*

**A**s the warmup begins, the girls tie up their ponytails, high and tight. They know they're going to sweat. The pulsing techno music starts up and the class in step-aerobics at Shaker Heights High School is underway.

"March in place," calls out physical education teacher Candace Pilny. "Step on the stool. Basic right, basic left."

The class of girls *and* boys falls into unison, their movements crisp. "Turn it," she says. "Over the top. Free leg out. Turn it."

Shaker's school gymnasiums may look like the ones you spent time in growing up: high walls bricked part way up, circles and squares painted on solid wooden floors that have taken years of pounding, long windows covered in steel mesh that thousands of balls have barreled into, and, of course, basketball hoops.

But what goes on in these cavernous rooms is different. Physical education is going through something of a revolution, and the Shaker schools have been embracing it for quite some time.

*continued*



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"I am not here to produce varsity athletes," says Stuart Gilbert, smiling. A shocking statement, to be sure, from the head of physical education at the high school.

At the same time, of course, the athletic program rolls on, with twenty-three varsity teams competitive at the local and state levels. Trophies and plaques line the hallways.

But PE teachers have shifted their emphasis to "every child." Just as English teachers encourage every child, not just future literature majors, to read and enjoy books during the decades they are out of

**"We are not here for athletic performance," says Shaker High's Stuart Gilbert.**

**"We are here to teach a lifetime of habits."**

school, so PE teachers have as their goal individual fitness. They foster it by offering activities kids will enjoy doing—and therefore do—throughout their lives. "We are not here for athletic performance," says Gilbert. "We are here to teach a lifetime of habits."

Basketball, swimming, touch football and volleyball are still staples, but yoga and stress management, step-aerobics and weight training are also offered. Such activities build cardio-respiratory endurance, muscular strength and flexibility.

This philosophy runs through classes at all age levels. "The traditional PE model is more about competition, discipline and following directions—calisthenics, lines and drills," says Darlene Lipovic, a PE teacher at Woodbury, which houses 5th and 6th grades. "I am doing the new PE, where the emphasis is on helping kids find activities they will enjoy for a lifetime—dance, martial arts, skating or roller-blading."

For many, traditional PE's emphasis on winning meant getting picked last, being humiliated by a poor performance or sitting on the bench. The new PE is not so much about children competing against each other, but each child working



Adrienne Chandler (front) and Jonathan Strassfeld work out in a stress management class.

to improve his or her own performance. Even in team sports, the new PE emphasizes the cooperative side—that is, within the team—more than the competitive aspect. Dodgeball, sometimes called murderball or bombardment, is passé.

One could argue that the case for fitness is every bit as urgent as reading. Nationally, nearly fifteen percent of kids twelve to nineteen are overweight—up from five percent in the 1970s. And fewer than twenty-five percent of school-age children get even twenty minutes of vigorous physical activity a day, according to *Newsweek*. Physical educators call for children to have sixty minutes a day of aerobic exercise.

“Statistics show that more teens are overweight,” says pediatrician and Malvern-area resident Jeffrey Lazarus. “It is known that in the U. S. children are leading a more sedentary lifestyle and eating more snack and junk food. When combined with too much television and computer time, it can become a vicious circle.”

Only the thumb gets exercise flipping TV channels or playing Gameboy. With direct marketing to youth, kids eat more junk food, and with busier parents, the nutritionally balanced family dinner is less frequent. Inactivity and obesity can result.

Many children are in more structured activities and not as free to roam the neigh-



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borhood. That mothers' dictum—"Go play!"—is heard far less often. Teachers observe that some kids are not as strong in the social skills gained from long hours of playground pickup-games. Gilbert points to other culprits, such as the super-sizing of food and soft drinks. And he adds that many kids work while they are in high school. "They are leading more adult lives," making it harder to

**The change in PE reflects a culture change that emphasizes maintaining a healthy heart through fitness.**

get exercise. At the same time, as school budgets have tightened across the country, physical education has been cut. Ohio requires only one year of PE in high school. Shaker requires two.

The new philosophy begins in kindergarten. "What we want children to do is to be comfortable moving their bodies and doing so in front of each other," says Darcel Arrington (SHHS '72), a twenty-seven-year Shaker physical education teacher, now at Lomond. "We want them not to be afraid to try something new and be willing to put an effort into it."

In February, the gym at Lomond boasted a balance beam, mesh climber, monkey bars and Lindclimber, a set of elevated aluminum beams in a large circle that children can walk on. A first-grade class is free to try each activity, but it's the high-angled ladder that has a line waiting. It is one of two new activities introduced that day. The challenge is to climb up to near the top, put your legs through and sit on the rung, then hang from your arms and fall to the mats below.

For some, there's nothing to it. Up they go, and they thrill in the fall to the mat. Others get near the top and freeze. Then, when they finally do it, their faces break into broad smiles.

Arrington's first rule is, "Challenge yourself, not others."

"It means when something is a little hard for you, you try anyway," she explains. "And it means encourage others. Don't take their courage away."

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Children go from the ladder to the balance beam to the Lindclimber. They know what each task involves, and each grade has different levels of difficulty to accomplish. When they're successful, they go to the large poster board on the wall to sign their names.

The energy of middle-schoolers is palpable. So, too, is their self-consciousness. Keeping them moving through the hormonal thicket that is puberty is a challenge. The maxim—just try—gets more difficult. For these reasons, middle school is the only age level in Shaker where boys and girls take gym separately.

"Our goal is to get each student to participate fully in each activity," says Larry Fry, chair of physical education at Shaker Middle School. "Some are good at everything. Others are out of breath jogging down the hall."

In the new PE, there is a place for everyone, no matter what his or her skill level. Fry says students are graded on whether they work hard and participate every day, not on their prowess.

The change in PE reflects a new emphasis on maintaining a healthy heart through fitness. At Woodbury, Lipovic

Said Dillard likes his 9th-grade weight training class.



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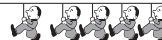
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**High School PE teacher**  
Susan Brown meditates.

leads the children in vigorous jogging, skipping and hopping in a big circle. When they stop, she shows them how to count the beats in their carotid arteries with two fingers; then they walk a bit and count again.

"Why is it slower now?" she asks.

"The muscles don't need as much blood," they answer.

"How does the heart have to beat during exercise?"

"Hard and fast to keep blood flowing to the muscles."

A poster at the school asks, "How hard do you make your heart work?"

"Mowing my grandparents lawn,"

"Skateboarding with my friends,"

"Dancing at my brother's wedding,"

"Going on a canoe trip with my church," are some of the kids' answers. Lipovic has two stick heart monitors for the children to try. She hopes to get pedometers and heart monitors that can be worn on the wrist or waist that give you a read-out if you are in the healthy-fit zone.

In a high-school weight-training class, a girl on the mat is doing push-ups; another sweats as she pulls down a

bar with both arms. Boys are bench-pressing, riding stationary bikes or jumping rope. "Often we are the only constant for expending calories," Gilbert says of the fifty-minute PE class. "After we teach the basics, the goal is to keep them moving the whole time."

Shaker High teacher Susan Brown walks around a weight-training class, observing, correcting and encouraging. "To do it you have to get out of your comfort zone," she says. Each fills out his or her progress on an individual chart. While obesity and inactivity are problems for some, other children are getting involved in team sports at young ages. Arrington says she sees kids participating in competitive team sports earlier. "Some are throwing a ball into the ground, others are able to throw it thirty yards."

There is innovation at this end of the continuum as well. An advanced weight-training program for athletes, called Bigger Faster Stronger, was introduced and is now run by science teacher Mark Hoskins. Used by college and pro teams, it is a strenuous program designed to condition, build muscle and

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explosive power in the legs, develop speed and agility and foster team spirit. These athletes practice jumping over stools, doing sprints and dot drills, picking up speed as they go. They cheer and clap for each other with the completion of different phases of the drills. Close to two hundred students, male and female, take it each day, either as a PE class, after school or in the evening.

Another change in PE from the old days is that for the most part it has been de-gendered. "The only time you hear 'boys' gym' and 'girls' gym' is when

alumni from many years ago return," says Gilbert, himself a 1977 Shaker graduate. "That designation has not been in our vocabulary since the 1970s." Now it is north, south and new gym.

Gilbert, who has been with the district for nineteen years, has observed a huge change in attitude among girls. "Twenty years ago, girls feared building muscles like boys. Now you can't keep them away from all the fitness activities. Sports are now the cool thing to do. Now female teachers teach guys

basketball, and male teachers teach step-aerobics and no one thinks it's weird."

Watching two vigorous games of volleyball underway in one of the gyms, Gilbert says, "My goal is that ten or twenty years from now, when these kids go to a family picnic and someone puts up the volleyball net, they will get up there and play. They will be willing to try, and they will have fun."

As the sign on the wall at Lomond Elementary School says, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste; so is the other 90% of the child. Exercise!" 🌟



## Shaker Youngsters Take to the Water

Shaker Heights Middle School has a beautiful swimming pool, but getting into it is an obstacle for some students.

First there's hair and the loss of "cool" that can result when it gets wet.

Then there's the rest of the body, and the heightened self-consciousness about what it is becoming, what it still isn't and how it might appear to others.

Then for some, especially new students who did not take swimming in 5th and 6th grades at Woodbury, there can be fear.

These matters are not to be taken lightly. In a recent class, one girl came to the pool with a towel wrapped over her bathing suit, another with a towel wrapped around her legs. Another wore shorts over her bathing suit, yet another a shirt.

There is no getting around it. PE is public, and nothing is more public than swimming. At this age, the range in body types is vast. Some are small and proportioned; others have newly long legs difficult to bring under control. Some have developing breasts and some are overweight.

Their swimming abilities are also varied. Elite swimmers are in the deep end; a few in the shallow end are far more tentative. "Some swim with the Shaker Sharks [a competitive swim program], while others are hanging onto the ladder," says teacher Larry Fry.

In a previous class, they had learned how to put flippers on and walk in them, sideways or backwards. That day, they were learning how to get into the pool with the flippers on. "Take a big step in and do the flutter kick to the other side," Fry tells them.

"I am not going to step into the water like that! I can't do it," calls out a girl from the shallow end.

"I am scared!" says another.

Five or six girls hold back, but then take the plunge.

Then Fry teaches them the back entry, standing on the side and dropping down.

"I can't do it. I can't!" several call out.

But soon they have all plunged backwards into the pool, a few squatting as Fry suggested for a first try.

Then he explains the forward roll into pool.

"No, no, I am not doing that!"

Then one of the fearful ones takes a second plunge backwards. This time she is as confident and smooth as if she had done it a hundred times.

For some kids, "I can't" seems part of the ritual of trying. Then they try, and suddenly it is, "I did it! I did it!"

—Eleanor Mallet



D Y N A M I C   D U O S :

# A Musical Life

*Bill and Cynthia O'Connell  
bring their talents to  
Cleveland*



**Bill and Cynthia O'Connell** relax in their Sussex home with their son, Brendan, a Lomond third-grader.

*By Katherine Carter*

**T**hank goodness not all first impressions are the final ones. After nine years in San Francisco, Bill O'Connell arrived in Cleveland to interview for the job he always wanted, in a place closer to his Pennsylvania roots. The only problem was that he came here in March.

"It was 58 degrees when I took off, and I landed in 18 degrees and snow," he says. "When I was standing outside waiting at the airport, I had on the only wool overcoat I owned, and the wind was going right through me. I started wondering what I was doing."

His wife, Cynthia, wondered too. She visited Cleveland a short time later, spending her first night in the city flattened with a case of food poisoning. She became so desperate she contacted a friend's mother, who picked her up at the hotel and took her to the hospital. "I had sent Bill out to look for houses, so when he came back he had no idea where I was. He was calling around to all the hospitals looking for me," she says.

Fortunately for the O'Connells, they were undaunted by their initial bad luck in Cleveland. In the five years since, they have found the perfect career opportunities and an ideal place to raise their eight-year-old son, Brendan. Bill, fifty-one, came to Cleveland to become vice president and program manager for WCLV-FM and WRMR-AM, while Cynthia, forty-six, has established a career teaching voice both at Baldwin-Wallace College and out of their Lomond-area home. She also sings at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Cain Park. They say Shaker Heights played a role in making them want to move here. "We were struck by how beautiful the houses were," Cynthia says. "By the time we got on the plane, we had put a bid in on a house." Someone else wound up in that house, so the O'Connells chose a home to rent on Gridley Road. When a house came up for sale on the same street a few years later, they purchased it immediately. "We like the neighborhood, we love the school district and we have wonderful relationships with people on our street," Cynthia says. "I always wanted my child to grow up in a neighborhood like the one I grew up in, where he could go out and play with his friends and ride his bike around. In San Francisco, he never would have left my sight."

The couple, who moved from the east coast to the west coast during their careers, say they are now happy to stay here in Cleveland. Bill says in the fickle world of radio, WCLV and WRMR and the devotion of its founder, former Lomond resident Bob Conrad, are a breath of fresh air. A few years ago, Conrad allowed WCLV to switch places from 95.5 to 104.9 on the FM dial and then turned it over to Cleveland Classical Radio, a non-profit group. "He wanted the station to outlast him," Bill says. The stations are among the only ones in the area that are not owned by large corporations, such as Clear Channel. Bill was trying to avoid the situation he ran into at KDFC-FM in San Francisco, where "ownership changed several times. In 1997, the station was sold two times in one year. The new ownership wanted to put their own people in, and that was the beginning of the end for me." It was a drastic change from Bill's first job at classical station WFLN-FM in Philadelphia, where he began as a college intern and worked for seventeen years. Stability and radio careers do not go hand in hand, especially in the current environment, he says. "People used to ask me all the time, 'How do I get into radio?'" he says. "In the past seven years, no one has asked me."

The career was a natural choice for the music lover, who grew up in the small town of Oreland, Pennsylvania, listening to his mother's classical records. He did not discover singing until high school, where he began to participate in choir, mixed chorus and musicals. "I always planned to be a history teacher," he says. "I had a very charismatic music director who said, 'You're going to do something in music.'" He joined the campus radio station at Millersville State University in Pennsylvania and became so interested in the field that he transferred to Temple University to pursue a degree in radio. After landing a job at WFLN-FM after graduation, he decided to pursue his hobby, singing. He joined the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia to sing in his spare time, and that is where he met his soon-to-be-wife, Cynthia Ringler. Cynthia, whose mother, Lucille, was a Juilliard-educated singer, learned voice from her mother at an early age. She played piano and clarinet, and sang in her church choir and school musicals. "Singing always came naturally to me,"

---

*Katherine Carter is a regular contributor to Shaker Magazine.*

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— Dr. Susan Stephens, Hawken School Class of 1978

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**Coeducation is the real world.**

she says. "Everyone says I sound exactly like my mother. Sometimes my dad gets emotional when I sing, because he says I sound just like a younger version of her."

Like Bill, Cynthia has her roots in Pennsylvania. She was born and grew up in Johnstown and still has family in the state. "It's great that I can drive to my family instead of having to catch a plane," she says. (Her grandmother turned 105 on Valentine's Day.)

Cynthia pursued an undergraduate degree in music education at West Chester University, near Philadelphia, and was given a full scholarship for a master's degree in vocal performance. After a brief apprenticeship in Mississippi, she moved to New York. She struggled as a waitress and an office manager for a few years, finding little opportunity to use her musical skills. "The sacrifices were more than I was willing to do," she says. "In opera, your voice is a very specialized instrument. You are always traveling, and it is very demanding on your voice. A lot of the people I knew were divorced, and it was a very unstable life. I wanted a family life. You are the loneliest person when you are not doing what you should be doing."

After a short return to her hometown, Cynthia moved back to Philadelphia "to be where the action was." She joined the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia and sang with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Bill was immediately taken with Cynthia. The two began to spend more time together, even though Cynthia had originally dismissed Bill as not her type. "It ended up that we had so much in common, and that he knew things I didn't know about music," she says. The pair often attended musical performances on their dates, both enjoying the other's unique perspective. Bill focused on the appreciation aspect, while Cynthia listened with a performer's ear. After a year's courtship, the two were married in 1989.

It was just after their wedding that the job opportunity came up in San Francisco for Bill. Although Cynthia thought she would be unhappy on the west coast, she now says, "We had the best time there. It was almost better, because we had no friends or family around, and we were forced to rely on each other." Cynthia quickly found a job as secretary to Mickey Drexler, then president of the Gap and Banana



Republic. The glamour aspect of the job quickly wore off “as I was always on the clock,” she says. She switched to Bain and Company, global management consultants, where she settled into an executive assistant position while also singing professionally for the San Francisco Symphony Chorus. Between rehearsals and performances, “it was a lot of hours,” she says, especially since she had given birth to son Brendan in 1994. She scaled back her hours at Bain and taught private lessons from home, working with about twenty-eight students. When Bill left KDFC-FM in 1997 after several ownership changes, he became Mr. Mom while Cynthia worked her jobs. “It gave me a really great perspective,” he says. “I always respected what stay-at-home moms did before, but it skyrocketed after that.”

The job offer at WCLV-FM in Cleveland left Bill excited, but Cynthia was again hesitant to pick up and move. Both were pleasantly surprised to find this relatively small city has afforded them the most opportunities in music. “Cleveland has more good music per capita than either Philadelphia or San Francisco,” Bill says, noting that it also has a top-flight orchestra. He says he has enjoyed the innovative programming Conrad established at WCLV-FM and has been working to find what Cleveland listeners enjoy. He adds that it is difficult to know who his target audience is, since the current Arbitron system of gauging listeners involves calling people at random and having them keep a week-long diary of what stations they listen to. “The methodology produces unreliable results,” he says. While Bill believes Mozart is the benchmark for classical radio, his own personal favorites are Brahms, Haydn and Handel.

Cynthia has also thrown herself into the Cleveland music scene, landing a job as a voice instructor at Baldwin-Wallace within a month of moving here. She also has several private students, including actors sent by the Cleveland Play House. She says she is always there when Brendan comes home from Lomond Elementary School, where he is in the third grade. He often comes to her basement to watch the singing lessons, just as she used to watch her mother teach. He currently takes piano and likes to sing, “but we are not pushing him,” Bill says. Cynthia, on the other hand, believes music will be “inevitable” in Brendan’s life. For now, he is proud of the Grammy Award the San Francisco Symphony Chorus won while his parents were in it and enjoys listening to classical music with them. He performed onstage twice during his mother’s cabarets at Cain Park and may make an appearance at this year’s performance, *Amor*, to be performed at the Alma Theater June 24.

The family has found the Cleveland arts scene to be rich and the neighborhood better than they ever imagined. “I thought I was the happiest in San Francisco, but I have been the most fulfilled here,” Cynthia says. “I would like to retire here,” Bill adds. So much for those first impressions. 🌞



**Cynthia O'Connell** helps Shaker Middle School voice student Betsy Hogg rehearse for an audition.



**For WCLV program director Bill O'Connell,** talking about music is all in a day's work.

Shaker Journal:

# The Great Back Yard

By John R. Brandt

Illustrations by BettyAnne Green

A Shaker father shows no greater love for his children than when, as they ask him to leave his comfy couch in his comfy den to sleep on the cold, wet, hard ground, he says, "Uh . . . well . . . uh . . . Okay. Someday." (Note: "Someday," in the father's vernacular, means "a point in the future so distant that it can be forgotten almost as soon as it is promised.")

Yet Shaker Man's *Someday* actually arrives when his ten-year-old daughter approaches and says, in the half-asking, half-accusing tone that only a ten-year-old can muster, "Daddy, why don't we ever go camping?"

"Because we don't want to?"

"Daddy."

"Do you want to go camping?"

"Yes!"

"Me, too!" says Shaker Man's six-year-old son. "Can I use the axe?"

"There's not going to be an axe."

"But what about the fire?"

"We *don't* need a fire or an axe."

"But what about the bears? We could use the axe to fight them."

"There aren't any bears where we're going."

"Where *are* you going?" asks Ms. Shaker Man.

"I thought we'd buy a tent, take a few supplies, head to one of the state parks—"

"We?"

"Mommy," says Ten, "aren't *you* going to camp with us?"

"Just as soon as the Ritz-Carlton offers Tent Service."

"Mommy."

"Sweetheart, I think you and the two Davy Crocketts over there ought to start a little smaller. Like in the back yard."

"But—" says Shaker Man.

"Can we?" says Ten.

"Tonight?" says Six.

"I don't know if we'll be ready—" says Shaker Man.

"CanwecanwecanwecanwecanweCANWECANWE—"

"ALL RIGHT!"

**The Equipment:** Shaker Man's first order of business is equipment, starting with the tent. Alas for him, outdoor technology has surged ahead of the canvas pup tent he used for his own back yard adventures. What was once a matter of six tent stakes now involves a plethora of choices about shape (dome, cabin), fabric (nylon, goretex, hypoperplexiniumtex) and weight (light, microlite, superduperincredulite). A visit to The Expensive World of the Outdoors Shoppe with Six and Ten doesn't help, as an athletic young man with a ring in his nose explains these choices—and thousands more—in a vocabulary that seems to combine medical jargon, extreme sports and ancient Greek.

"Uh-huh," says Shaker Man. "Listen. Do you have any, you know, pup tents?"

This, apparently, is the funniest thing the clerk has ever heard in his 21 years. In fact, so hilarious is this comment—*A Pup Tent! In 2003!*—that he turns to tell not only the young woman behind the counter with six earrings, but also the young woman in the back with a ring through her navel.

"Dad," says Six, in a too-loud stage whisper that only a six-year-old can muster, "Do you have to get one of those nose rings to go camping?"



**The Set-Up:** After a hasty retreat from The Expensive World of the Outdoors, Shaker Man decides to dispense with professional advice and buy everything in a harried run to Bob's Really Big Store of Almost Useful Sporting Goods. Unfortunately for our hero, the best that can be said of the equipment he buys—tent, sleeping bags, cooking equipment—is that it is *inexpensive*. Even worse, the money saved by the equipment's manufacturers appears to be concentrated in two areas: instruction manuals and vital components. Two hours spent deciphering the *Cabin Deluxe 5000 Assembleperson Instructor Guidebook*, for example, go for naught when Piece 231-K (*Roof Support*) is nowhere to be found. Shaker Man's attempt to jerry-rig an alternate support with an old fishing

rod ends disastrously when the pole snaps in two, leaving a Zorro-like scar across his cheek and trapping our hero inside the collapsed *Cabin Deluxe 5000*. The ensuing five-minute wrestling match between Shaker Man and the *Cabin*—which resembles nothing so much as a three-way badger fight inside a straitjacket—ends only after Ms. Shaker Man intervenes with a pocket knife, freeing her husband, but ruining the tent's rear wall.

"Think of it as a fresh air vent," she says. "Or an escape hatch for lunatics." "Funny girl."

Installation of *Cabin Deluxe CookMaster 5002* goes no better; the push-button ignition isn't (lacks Piece

73-R: *Igniter*) and the plastic valve on the disposable propane canister breaks off when turned to the "ON" position. Much to Six's delight, however, Shaker Man learns that when a

propane canister with a faulty valve is lit by a match, the entire two-burner cooktop will launch itself like an Atlas V, rising 50 feet or so before doing a flaming somersault into the neighbors' hedge.

"That was cool, Dad," says Six as Shaker Man runs for the garden hose. "Can we do it again?"

**The Night:** Setting up the tent and re-assembling the cookstove are nothing, however, compared to the preparation Six and Ten put into planning for their night in the back yard wilderness. Snacks are packed, juice boxes are iced, stuffed animals are lined up on top of



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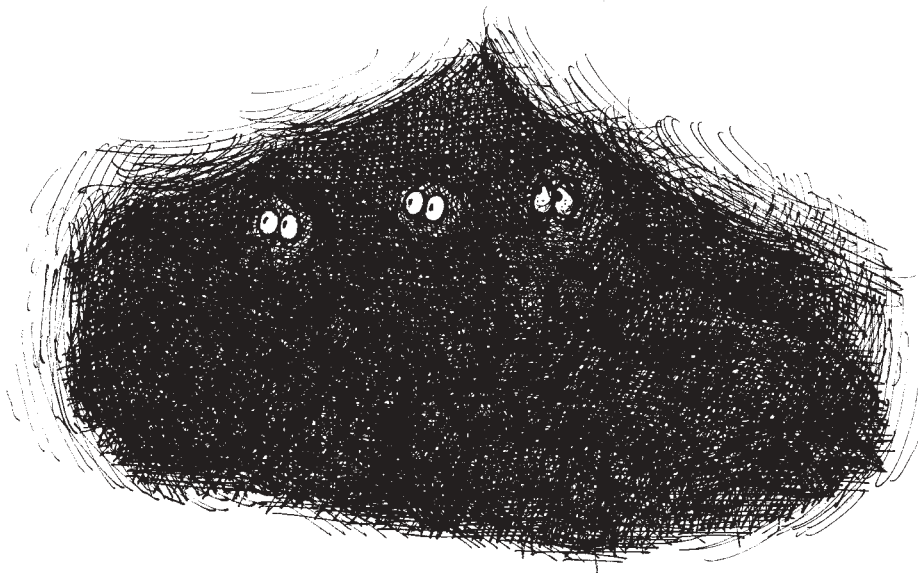


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sleeping bags; books and flashlights and Chapsticks and fuzzy slippers are carried from house to tent. Finally, after 7 stories and 14 trips to the bathroom—I *just want to be sure, Dad*—the lantern is turned out and the leaf-rustling, wind-moving night closes in. There are precisely 3.26 seconds of silence before—

“Dad, I hear a bear,” says Six.

“There are no bears.”

“Is it a coyote?”

“A what?”

“A coyote. We learned about it in school. Sometimes they eat people.”

“There aren’t any coyotes here.”

“Well, there could be.”

“Dad, I can’t go to sleep when he’s talking,” says Ten.

“She’s right. Go to sleep.”

“There aren’t any coyotes,” says Six.

“No.”

“Somewhere there are coyotes.”

“THERE ARE NO COYOTES HERE.”

“Dad,” says Ten. “I can’t sleep if—

“I KNOW YOU CAN’T SLEEP. NOBODY CAN SLEEP. NOBODY WILL EVER GO TO SLEEP—”

“Is everything all right out there?” calls Ms. Shaker Man from the house.

“It’s *fine*. We’re just going to sleep, aren’t we kids?”

“Have fun,” she says, laughing. The door closes. Leaves rustle again during 8.34 seconds of silence.

“Dad?”

“What?”

“I can’t see.”

“That’s because it’s dark.”

“What if I have to go to the bathroom?”

“I’ll take you.”

2.73 seconds of silence.

“Dad?”

“WHAT?”

“I have to go.”

“You just went. Five times. In a half hour.”

“Dad—”

And so on until, finally, around 3 a.m., the last eye closes and all sleep blissfully until 6 a.m., when Six announces the need for another escorted trip to the house. Shaker Man—unaccustomed to resting his 43-year-old body against cold, damp, lumpy ground for hours—walks back into his house like an arthritic crab, pausing only long enough to grab a blanket as he settles once again onto the couch he left yesterday afternoon. Ten follows him, a look of concern in her eyes.

“Daddy,” she says, “I’m not sure you enjoyed camping.”

“It was fine.”

“When you say *fine* to Mom, it usually means you’re mad. Are you mad?”

“I’m sleepy. It was really fine.

Okay?”

“Does that mean we can go camping again?”

“Someday,” he says, pulling the blanket over his head. “And this time I mean it!”

*John R. Brandt camps out in the Boulevard area with wife Lana, daughter Emma and son Aidan. This story was Emma’s idea.*

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# Caring for Their Community

## *How two Shaker teens worked to become Eagle Scouts*

*By Katherine Carter*



**C**onsider the term “Eagle Scout” and several words come to mind: honorable, dedicated, hard-working, wholesome. All are positive, and all apply to two Shaker Heights teens who beautified the community while earning scouting’s highest honor.

Aaron Wasserman and Matthew Knittel, both students at Shaker Heights High School, will become Eagle Scouts this spring, the culmination of experiences they say have changed them for the better. They have completed several steps required to become an Eagle Scout, including acquiring twenty-one merit badges and completing a major project to serve the community. Wasserman chose to clean up the Warrensville West Cemetery on Lee Road, a final resting place for residents dating back to the Revolutionary War. Knittel also chose to restore a local landmark, clearing the site of the Shaker sawmill, located near Coventry Road and North Park Boulevard.

Wasserman, a senior, says an initial project idea had fallen through when he heard about the cemetery from American Legion member Bob Taylor. The project was quickly given the green light, and Wasserman began the clean-up in September. “I found graves that were obstructed or missing,” he says. “I went through and trimmed a two hundred ten-foot hedge and uncovered a grave that was underneath.” Pat Neville, parks and lands superintendent for the City, helped Wasserman plan the project. “It was definitely a benefit for the City to have him come in here and do this work,” he says. “The cemetery needed a little attention, especially around the headstones. He did a real nice job.”

The one hundred fifteen-hour project, along with a one-and-a-half-hour interview session with a board of review, was one of the last requirements Wasserman needed to reach Eagle Scout status. It seemed an unlikely goal only six years ago, when he dropped out of his Onaway Elementary School Webelos Troop in the sixth grade. He was lured back to the Boy Scouts by a close friend who was a member of Troop 662 at Christ Episcopal Church. The emphasis on the outdoors, including







**Aaron Wasserman** worked weekends renovating the historic Warrensville West Cemetery on Lee Road, where early Shaker settlers are buried.

monthly camp-outs, enticed Wasserman. Along with required merit badges that include community, family life and fitness, Wasserman pursued badges in rifle, shotgun and wilderness survival. "You're supposed to walk out knowing more than you did when you came in," he says. "You're supposed to have expertise in the field."

Wasserman enjoys sharing that expertise as a patrol leader, guiding younger members of his troop as they work to earn their merit badges. He says his role has changed his views on being a good leader. "I came in loving General Patton and his theory, 'Drive 'em, and drive 'em hard,'" he says. "In working with the younger guys, I want to make it fun. The job of a leader is not to say 'do this,' but instead to get up and do what you want done—to work side by side and do more than they do."

The high-school senior's achievement in becoming an Eagle Scout is nothing short of amazing in light of his over-



**Eagle Scout Matthew Knittel** helped his troop restore the Shaker sawmill site, near Coventry Road and North Park Boulevard.

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whelming schedule. He is a part-time intern for U. S. Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones, with duties that include writing proclamations and letters, representing her at events and attending Shaker City Council meetings. He is a student athletic trainer at Shaker High, treating injuries and helping to rehabilitate student athletes. He also serves as manager for the varsity football, basketball and softball teams, referring to himself as the "head stooge" for the school's athletic department. Besides working for the school, he also serves as an employee for the Youth Basketball League, working the scoreboard for basketball games, and as a senior caddy at Canterbury Country Club. "People ask me how I do it," he says. "I am very focused. Being in the Boy Scouts has made me more organized."

Although they are in different troops, Wasserman and Knittel both cite leadership and organization as skills honed by the Scouts. Knittel, a high-school junior, put these traits into practical use for his project, enlisting the help of about twenty-five members of Troop 15. He estimates the group put about four hundred hours into the sawmill site.

The project has a sentimental value for Knittel, who first saw the sawmill with his father, Peter, a former parks superintendent for the City. "When I saw the site, I couldn't believe what we found there," he says. "It was overgrown with weeds; there was soil eroded down the hill. There was three feet of soil covering the ground."

The sawmill had also been a passion for Cleveland Heights resident Al Oberst, who consulted with Knittel on the project. He grew up on Colchester Road, which borders the site. He says he had tried to stir interest in rehabilitating the area for several years and was thrilled when Knittel decided to do his project there. "It was a great effort by Troop 15," he says. "I was really impressed with what they did. It took the zeal and dedication of someone who wanted to be an Eagle Scout to get this done. I am so impressed by them—you know, there are very few people who want to do their fair share. It is a real historic site," he says. "It is the last big structure like it anywhere in the area. There is still a lot above ground, still a lot of foundation showing. It is a real feather in our cap to be able to show people what it looked

like in the 1800s. That's where the Shakers got started. We can't forget them, and we won't forget them."

Since the sawmill, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is located in Cleveland Heights, Knittel coordinated the project with Carl Czaga, assistant to the Cleveland Heights City Manager. After several hours of removing dirt, weeds and litter, the troop was rewarded with a site befitting its landmark status. "I felt good about myself and the work we had done," he says. "When we finished it, we could see the stone floor." Knittel says the group talked about the site as they worked, how it was built in 1822 and used for fifty years before being abandoned. It was restored to a garden in 1925, with two benches added to the area. Now, after

*Although they are in different troops, Wasserman and Knittel both cite leadership and organization as skills honed by the Scouts.*

the massive clean-up, the area is once again a source of pride.

The sawmill was one of many community service projects for Troop 15, which operates out of St. Peter's Lutheran Church at Winslow Road and Van Aken Boulevard. Along with the traditional camp-outs, rock-climbing and rafting activities, the group participates in one community service project a month. Knittel has been active in scouting since joining the Cub Scouts at Lomond Elementary School in the first grade. "My parents started me with it, and it's a great group of guys," he says. "I enjoyed being with them, so I just kept going." Knittel's younger brother, Stephen, a freshman at Shaker High, is also a member of the troop. The camp-outs are family events, with both brothers and their father participating. Knittel says having his brother in his troop means he has to "order him around a little," since he is a higher rank. Like Wasserman, Knittel is a patrol leader, a guide for younger members. "Leadership comes naturally to me," he says. "Sometimes it can be a little difficult, and I get stressed."

*continued*

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He says he especially enjoyed earning his badges in astronomy, animal science and wilderness survival. He saw the Eagle Scout status as "the next step. I wanted to finish what I started. I think it is a great achievement to reach Eagle Scout. I think about one in a hundred Scouts reaches Eagle Scout—it opens up a lot of opportunities." His mother, Karen, is not surprised that Knittel has taken scouting to the highest level. "Matthew has always been very directed once he sets a goal for himself. He has always enjoyed group activities and the opportunity to learn, and has always looked for new things to challenge himself."

*"The whole scouting experience is a great opportunity for guys," says Matt Knittel. "You get to do things you normally wouldn't get to do with people who have the same interests as you."*

She adds that the families they have met through the Boy Scouts "have been fantastic." Knittel agrees, citing both the people and the opportunities provided to him. "The whole scouting experience is a great opportunity for guys," he says. "You get to do things you normally wouldn't get to do with people who have the same interests as you." Besides scouting, Knittel's interests include serving as president of the Shaker High Environmental Club and playing Ultimate Frisbee. He plans to pursue a career in veterinary medicine or environmental science, both areas he has explored through his troop.

With high school soon drawing to a close for both young men, decisions about colleges and careers lie in the not too distant future. Both Knittel and Wasserman say that becoming an Eagle Scout will open doors for them; there's no doubt that "Eagle Scout" looks impressive on an application. But they also had experiences they will relish long into adulthood, while leaving their community the better for it.

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# How I Watched My Body Fat Dissolve

*The true story of a  
working mom who ate  
too many cookies*

*By Nancy O'Connor*

## **December 30**

It's five days after Christmas, and I'm dressed for the grocery store (yes, again!), not for leg lifts or bicep curls. But here I am nonetheless, sampling several of the Curves® exercise stations and learning from Curves owner Brad Steinberg how resistance builds strength.

I'm not emotionally prepared for the yellow measuring tape and the cold, steel scale lurking in the corner. Yet that's where Brad is leading me. Now it is my turn to teach him a thing or two about resistance.

"The holidays aren't even over yet," I protest. "I've consumed more cookies in the last four weeks than Heinen's has on all its shelves in all its stores. Worse yet, it's 11 a.m.—I've already had breakfast! No sane woman weighs herself except first thing in the morning while stark, not-even-a-showercap-on-the-head naked, long before food or drink has been consumed. Do you have any idea how heavy blue jeans are?"

"Besides, I'm just here to check out the place . . . I just wanted to see what this Curves training was all about . . ."

Maybe I never spoke the words aloud. Or maybe I did.







**Nancy O'Connor** takes her turn on a bicep machine.

But here I am, sock-footed on the scale while Brad scribbles first my height and weight onto my newly created chart, then my arm, bust, waist, hip and thigh measurements.

Then, while I stand with arms outstretched and squeeze an odd, Nintendo control-like gizmo, for the first time in my life I see my body fat percentage flash before my eyes. It isn't pretty.

Now I'm sitting at Brad's miniature conference table, where I discover my wallet is just as unprepared for all of this as I am. But I write out a check for a one-month trial membership and make local history as the 108th woman to join Shaker's first Curves club.

In less than 30 minutes, I have achieved the Curves goal: "The power to amaze yourself." I am amazed, all right, at my ability to move from casual observer to committed Curves member (at roughly \$35 a month) in the blink of an eye.

It helps to know I'm not alone. Since it opened last October in a sliver of a store between Matsu and Bicycle Boulevard on Chagrin Boulevard, Curves has signed on more than 380 women with the promise of muscle gain and weight loss.

The Shaker club is one of more than 5,000 worldwide. Curves founder and CEO Gary Heavin, a health and nutrition specialist, opened the first Curves in Harlingen, Texas, in 1992; the first Curves franchise opened three years later. Heavin also designed the weight-loss program in which Curves members can participate at no cost, called "Permanent Results without Permanent Dieting."

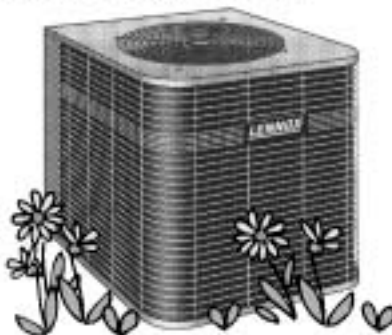
The Curves approach to fitness holds many appeals: The entire workout takes just 30 minutes to complete, it blends aerobics with upper- and lower-body strengthening and it all takes place in

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When you hear the "Change Stations Now" command, you move to the exercise station to your left, where you'll spend 30 seconds on either lower- or upper-body strengthening. And so it continues for 30 minutes: 30 seconds of aerobics followed by 30 seconds of strength-training, until you've rounded the 18-station circle three times and you take to the floor for stretching.



### January 30

One month has passed and Brad is back, armed with his measuring tape and clipboard. He inputs my current measurements into the computer, hits a few keys, and out prints a very cool report detailing all gains and losses over the thirty-day period. Three pounds off the scale, body fat down 1%, and a total of 3.25 inches gone—so far so good. I celebrate by signing up for the entire year.

Amazingly, I've managed to fit in the recommended three workouts a week throughout my first month, in large part

*continued on page 46*





**For owners Brad Steinberg and Doreen Abdullovski**, the success of their women-only fitness club is a dream come true.

business.” The couple has taken advantage of numerous training programs offered to Curves franchise owners that focus on physiology, nutrition, fitness and all facets of running a successful business.

They officially opened the Shaker Curves club on October 28, 2002; within a week, they had 25 members. By March 2003, membership was near 400. “We’ve totally blown away our first-year goal of 200 members,” Brad says. “We signed up 161 in the month of January alone, and another 109 in February.” He continues to expand the club’s hours and the number of exercise stations as the membership increases.

Concerns about whether Brad’s presence at the all-female club would be an issue have long been put to rest. Not only do members seem comfortable having him around, his easy rapport with them and his good-natured teasing contribute to the upbeat atmosphere.

While Doreen continues to work full-time as a planned giving specialist in the development office of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Brad is putting in as many as 75 hours a week at the Shaker club. Between running the new business and caring for two-year-old daughter Malka and three-month-old son Elijah, the two manage to squeeze in the time to serve as co-presidents of “New Generation,” a program for young families at Park Synagogue in Cleveland Heights, where Brad is also active with the youth group.

Seven years ago, it was the City’s schools and cultural diversity that attracted Brad and Doreen to Shaker; now, the couple is helping to boost the City’s attractiveness by giving the women of Shaker and beyond a convenient and supportive place to flex their muscles.

—Nancy O’Connor

### **Welcome to the Curves® Club**

One year ago, thirty-five-year-old Brad Steinberg found himself at a crossroads. After eighteen years in the printing business, downsizing had left him jobless. His wife Doreen Abdullovski, he’d soon learn, was pregnant with their second child. The time had come to pursue the dream of owning a business.

The Lomond-area couple, both non-practicing attorneys, began investigating franchise opportunities. Initially, a donut shop seemed appealing and a one-hour photo studio presented possibilities. But ultimately, they decided on Curves.

“We’d heard about Curves from my mother-in-law in New York and from my sister in Connecticut, where there’s a Curves on nearly every corner,” explains Doreen. Within three months, they had signed on the dotted line and begun making plans to open two Curves clubs—the first in Shaker Heights and another at Cedar Center, scheduled to open this spring.

“Curves offered us the opportunity for gainful employment with a positive impact on the community,” says Brad. “Forget the weight loss—Curves is about better health. And it was important to both of us that we could feel good about our



**Members switch fitness stations,** arranged in a circle, every thirty seconds to get a whole body workout.







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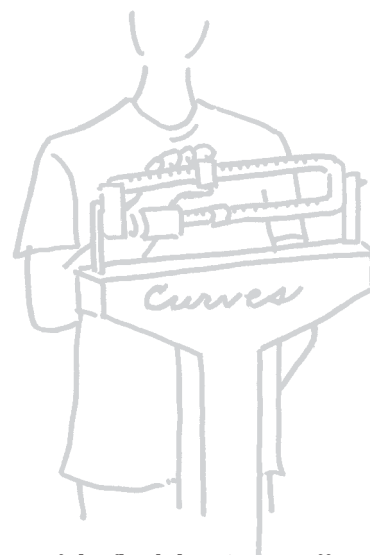
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because of the flexibility Curves offers—it's open mornings, late afternoons, and early evenings every day but Sunday, allowing members to drop in as their schedules permit or fate allows.

Plumber running two hours behind? Great, I'll run down to Curves. Casserole needs an hour to cook? That's all the time I need for Curves.

For the many Curves members who teach or work in Shaker schools – like Ellen Battle, Dollye Finney and Julie Sofonia—workouts fit in well late in the afternoon, before heading home. Moms like Terri Johnson and Laura Shick head to Curves after the school bus pulls away. Jane Safford, Donna Rutherford and others with flexible schedules have their pick of morning or evening hours. Thanks to Shaker mom and Curves staffer Jennifer Jarrett, who opens Curves at 6 a.m. twice a week, working women and early-risers like Colette Hart and Toyia Benford can knock “exercise” off the day's task list before the sun rises.

The flexibility to work out whenever the hectic day allows was what attracted Onaway mom Jennifer Wright to Curves. “I've participated in other exercise and weight-training programs, but found I often missed classes because of meetings and other conflicts,” she explains. “The beauty of Curves is that if I miss my usual morning exercise time, I can go in the afternoon instead. No more excuses!”

## February 28

I'm not expecting great results from month two. Valentine's Day, after all, sits right smack in the middle of the month, which means the “Conversation Hearts” I devoured the first two weeks

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were then available at half the price for the second two. For a thousand lousy reasons, I also averaged just two workouts every seven days.

Brad takes the measurements and tries to convince me that "maintaining" can be as important as losing. But it's clear I won't be contributing much to the overall total pounds and inches lost by my Curves sisters this month, tallies which are posted on the club's bulletin board.

Fortunately, others have more to celebrate. "One of our younger members told me when she joined that she was 'tired of being fat,'" says Brad. "She's lost 15 pounds and just as many inches in a matter of a few months. Another member holds the record for the most body fat dropped in one month: 3.9%." Even those women with more modest results, he says, "are finding they're not so winded



anymore as they chase the kids or grandkids, their arms are no longer flabby, and their clothes feel looser."

Recent underwhelming results aside, I'm committed to Curves—for the exercise, for the potential to shed a few stubborn pounds, and for the female camaraderie. Curves continues to attract a highly diverse group of women with highly diverse personal goals. But from the teenagers to the seventy-year-olds, we all share a desire to improve our health and tone our bodies. With any luck, we'll discover there is indeed strength in numbers.

*By the time you see this, dear reader, Ms. O'Connor will be ready to model her new bathing suit on the deck at Thornton Pool.*



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# A Shady Story

## “Tree City” needs residents’ care

*By Felicity Hill*



No matter what the season, trees add statuesque grace and beauty to Shaker’s cityscape, complementing the warm bricks and classic architecture of its homes. In winter, we are reminded of their age and majesty when we see bare arboreal branches stark against blue December skies; in spring, their boughs are filled with bird-song; in summer, their green foliage protects us from the noonday sun and acts as a buffer from the noise and pollution of modern urban life; in the fall, memories are made of the rich golds, yellows and reds of the changing leaves that we scrunch underfoot and stuff into scarecrows for Halloween.

While some of Shaker’s great oaks are two or three centuries old, the City’s trees, despite their seeming invulnerability, need care, especially during their critical first few years of life. According to tree experts, the two most important factors affecting a tree’s longevity are water and harm by humans. Healthy, vigorous trees are highly resistant to disease and insects, with the greatest threats coming from drought and mechanical damage.

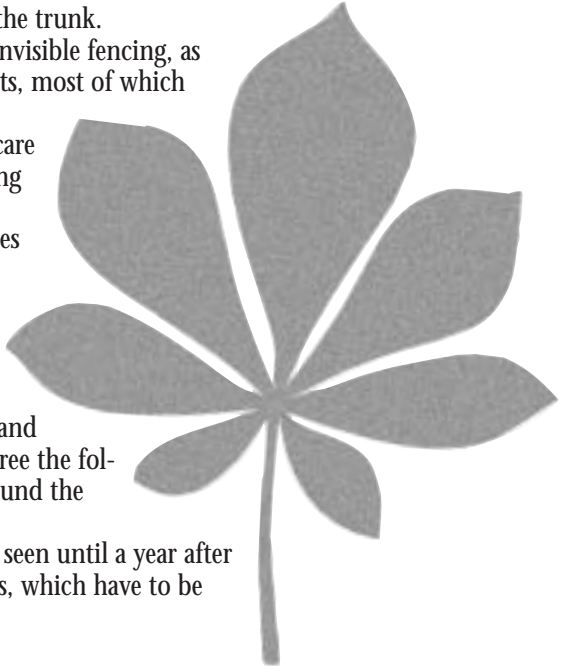
Because the Public Works Department is concerned about damage by front-loaders, residents are asked to place garden waste and other items to be collected from the tree lawn at least three feet away from a tree and not stacked against the trunk.

Another concern is the installation of watering systems and invisible fencing, as well as work on utility lines, which can damage precious tree roots, most of which are in the top eight to ten inches of soil.

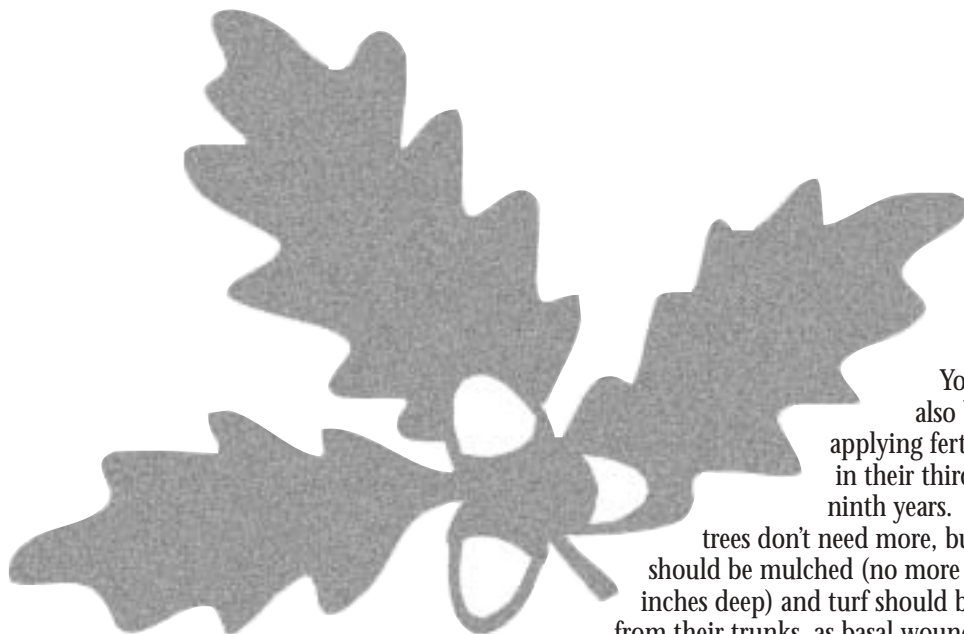
While trees can live for at least seventy-five years with good care (the lifespan of flowering trees is usually half that of non-flowering species), the national average for street trees is only seven years because of the high mortality rate among new trees. Younger trees simply do not have the established root systems of older trees for acquiring enough water, especially when there is a shortage, and this is where residents can help.

While the Public Works Department waters new trees every other week, residents are asked to help with the watering. Look for the green “gator” bag (which is designed to hold water and release it slowly) around the base of the tree and then water the tree the following week, slowly applying water by trickling the hosepipe around the trunk. New trees need around twenty gallons each week.

Drought is very hard on trees, and the effects are usually not seen until a year after they occur, except with very weak trees. Drought-weakened trees, which have to be removed, can be identified by their small crowns.







***While the  
Public  
Works  
Department  
waters new  
trees every  
other week,  
residents are  
asked to help  
with the  
watering.***

Young trees can also be helped by applying fertilizer, typically in their third, fifth and ninth years. Mature street

trees don't need more, but they should be mulched (no more than two inches deep) and turf should be kept away from their trunks, as basal wounds shorten

life expectancy. Planting ground cover or perennials around the trees is another way to keep mechanical equipment away. Residents are asked not to attach anything to a tree that may constrict its growth.

Another way of ensuring tree health is to make sure a diversity of species is planted. Approximately 500 new trees are planted every year, mostly as replacements. The new additions are part of the Public Works Department's \$750,000 annual forestry budget, although the City also wins grants and awards from the state, such as the Legacy Tree Grant received as part of Ohio's Bicentennial.

Shaker's streets and parklands boast a wealth of varieties: maples, oaks, ashes, honeylocusts, cork, maakia and even elms (the City has lost eighty percent of its elms since the 1960s). As well as these staple species, look for Turkish filbert (an unusual type of hazelnut tree), tree lilacs (these highly salt-resistant trees will soon be planted along Chagrin Boulevard) and redbuds. The City plans to plant smaller flowering trees rather than big shade trees, which can be overwhelming, on narrow street lawns. Where there is more space, however, galaxy magnolia hybrids will soon be sprouting up. This tree is very tall (it grows to thirty or forty feet) and has rosy pink flowers.

New trees are put on a pruning schedule; their limbs are trimmed at three-, five- and nine-year intervals. Older trees are trimmed when dead limbs prove hazardous. Foliage is also cut back to allow heavy truck clearance and prevent obstruction of signage, poles and utility lines.

Can residents trim the street trees fronting their property?

Yes, the tree on your tree lawn can be trimmed as long as approval is obtained beforehand and a reputable contractor is used.

Although healthy trees resist insect invasions, when insects do strike, there are usually four likely suspects. While elm bark beetles have decimated Shaker's elms, last year saw only a mild attack of Dutch Elm Disease, which is cyclical. Since sick and ailing trees tend to attract the beetles, the City tries to get to them as soon as possible.

Other culprits are gypsy moths, which attack oaks, and the ash bore and Asian Longhorn beetles, which have local foresters very concerned, as they attack mostly maples. Residents should call the City when they see the telltale signs of insect activity in a tree.

Healthy trees, as well as being beautiful, are both the cause and effect of a healthy overall environment, protecting against noise and air pollution and the worst of the elements and providing a haven for people and wildlife. By taking a little time to water and care for them when needed, their leafy abundance will be appreciated for generations.

For more information, call the Public Works Department, 491-1490.



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*Felicity Hill is the assistant editor of Shaker Magazine.*

# Shirley Cox: Playground Pal

**T**he regulars know the rules at Shirley Cox's playground. Woe to the newcomer who wants to climb the slide backwards or ride a bike through the play area. Miss Shirley, as the kids call her, will set that child straight, and fast. She's on duty to protect the safety of the youngsters at the Around the World Playground next to the Main Library.

Cox has been involved with the playground from its inception and has been on duty there since 1996. As a longtime member of the Moreland on the Move Community Association, she watched as the plans were laid out. The group requested that the area be made wheelchair accessible, she says, because they wanted everyone to be able to use it. Cox serves on the executive board of the Association. "I figure if you live in a neighborhood, you must get involved in it. You should go to City Hall and to the meetings and see what your government is doing. A lot of people will ask me what's going on, and I tell them they ought to go, too!"

She's particularly proud of the Association's education committee, which mentors high-school students. This winter, the Association also gave out gift certificates for the best holiday lighting in the neighborhood. "The people were so elated when we gave them the certificates. I told them, 'See? All your hard work paid off.'" Shirley also helps arrange the Association's picnic each August, gathering donations from local merchants that are used as door prizes for those who attend.

"There's a lot of work to be done," she says. "And while I like doing it, I'd like to see more of the younger people get involved. We older people can't just go on and on forever!" Two years ago, Shirley and her husband, Michael, renewed their wedding vows to celebrate thirty-one years of marriage. They raised two sons in their Moreland neighborhood home, and are now happy in their grandparenting role.

But Cox shows no sign of stopping. Not long after she retired from her home day-care business, she was asked if she would consider the playground job.

Now she looks forward to "opening day" (May 19), when she'll be working the afternoon shift. When school lets out, she'll be on the day shift from nine a.m. to four p.m. That's a long day in the Ohio heat and humidity, but Miss Shirley has a solution: She keeps a spray bottle with a fan that she uses to spritz the kids and herself. "They all line up to be sprayed," she says with a smile.

"Every time I think I'm going to quit, I don't. I know I'd miss it. Everybody seems to be happy with me. And I have the best boss in the world, [Shaker Recreation's] Kevin Crowe. The kids know they're safe when Miss Shirley is on duty. I love the kids, and I love meeting the people. You wouldn't believe the people who come there! I've seen people from all walks of life, local TV news stars

*continued on page 52*



## Dennis Weyn: Soccer Coach

**L**ife's a ball for Dennis Weyn. This Mercer-area Dad has the best of both worlds when it comes to family and career. The former professional soccer player from The Netherlands gets to stay at home all day with his daughter, Sophie Eveline (who will be two in May). His coaching career kicks in after school as head coach of the soccer team at Hathaway Brown.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for me," he says. "Not many men have the chance to spend that much time with their children. I really love it."

Weyn met Shaker High alumna ('92) Christin White when both were soaking up culture in the south of France. She was a college sophomore and he was working on a private beach. Weyn had imagined his life would include his favorite game and taking over his parents' retail music store in Holland. Instead, international romance brought him to the United States in 1986. He and Christin wed that year, and his first coaching position was at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. In 1987, he was offered a job as camp director for the Cleveland Force, and the couple jumped at the chance to move to Christin's hometown. Today she is a school psychologist with the Beachwood Schools and their daughter Emma, seven, attends Hathaway Brown.

"We moved outside of Shaker Heights for a while," Weyn admits. "But everything we did was here, so we moved back and we're very glad. Besides the convenience, we live in a wonderful neighborhood of families. There are tons of kids on our street. We're very happy to be back in Shaker."

Anyone who is in love with a game looks for more ways to be involved with it. Weyn soon became Director of Coaching for the selective boys' and girls' soccer clubs known as Ohio Premier Football Club. Many of his players made it to regional and national team levels and most go on to play for Division I schools. He's been with Hathaway Brown for three years now and also runs summer soccer programs that serve children from as young as four years old to those who are at advanced levels.

"It's wonderful watching the little ones. There they are, just up from their naps, and they are so anxious to get out there and kick the ball," he says. "Hopefully, the Pee Wee Leagues will develop their interest in the game." The player pictured on the cover of his Blazer Soccer Camp brochure is a Hathaway Brown student who made the national team. "She's a magnificent player," Weyn says. "I don't think I can teach her anything more."

Weyn notes that the United States is behind the times when it comes to soccer. Despite its recent growth in popularity here, soccer has been tops with the rest of the world for a long time.

"I am pleased to see how soccer is taking off in the United States. It's only the beginning here, but it is the number one game in the world. I think because it is relatively inexpensive and anyone can play at any level, it will continue to grow in popularity. It's safe—oh, once in awhile someone gets hurt, but it's a fantastic game. With the U. S. teams having performed so well, it's good for the kids to have someone to look up to as role models. And the game is on television more now so they can watch games from all over the world and see the techniques."

*continued on page 52*





## Cox continued

and former Governor [Richard] Celeste. There's a woman who comes all the way from Solon so her daughter can play here. That's how nice the playground is."

Having become friendly with the Shaker Heights police on her job, Cox enrolled in the Citizen's Police Academy and recently joined its alumni organization. She believes the training helped her with her playground policing, plus it had the added benefit of supplying her with a police cap. With her walkie-talkie on her hip and her police cap on her head, Cox keeps the kids guessing about whether or not she's an actual police officer. And that's just fine with Miss Shirley.

## Weyn continued

Weyn just made another goal in life when he became part owner of the indoor soccer facility soon to be re-named The Valley View Soccer Dome. The facility just off Valley View Road will allow him to consolidate many of his team and coaching activities. "I have been hoping to do this for a long time, and it just came through," he says. "I am very excited about where this will take the game."

Dividing his time between family and "football" will keep Weyn busy for a long time to come, but he wouldn't have it any other way. He has the best of both worlds and he knows it. Life's a real kick for Dennis Weyn.

*Editor's note: To learn more about Blazer Soccer Camps, call Dennis Weyn at 216-561-0236 or 440-567-9893.*

## Noted

### Cellist Ida

**Mercer**, who lives in the Onaway area, was named Studio/Private Teacher of the Year for 2002 by the Ohio Orchestra and String Teacher's Association. Among the accomplishments that led to the award were her founding of the Sunrise Symphony at Onaway School and the Cleveland Cello Society as well as helping with the founding of RED (an orchestra).

Mercer, who was featured in the March 1997 issue of *Shaker Magazine* ("Every Good Boy Does Fine"), has a joint degree from CWRU and CIM and has played with a number of chamber groups as well as the now-defunct Ohio Chamber Orchestra. She currently teaches at the Cleveland Music School Settlement, where she is also the director of an amateur adult cello ensemble. She and her husband Glenn have four children.



## Learning to Change the World



**Elisabeth Collura  
HB '96**  
Ohio University, B.A. '00,  
First Lieutenant, U.S. Army  
Helicopter Pilot Afghanistan  
Campaign 2002



**Eliesha Nelson HB '91**  
Cleveland Institute of Music, B.M. '95,  
Royal Academy of Music, Artist  
Diploma '96, Cleveland Institute of  
Music, M.M. '99, Violist, The  
Cleveland Orchestra



**Catherine Herrick  
HB '93**  
Middlebury College, B.A. '97,  
Associate Producer,  
60 Minutes II, CBS News,  
New York



**Ann Lai HB '01**  
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National Young Inventors Hall  
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## Main Library Offers Book Discussions; Woods Branch Seeks Mystery Readers

Following are book discussion dates for May and June at the Main Library:

- May 13: *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, 10 a.m.
- May 27: *Some Things That Stay* by Sarah Willis, 7:30 p.m.
- June 10: *Recipes From the Dump* by Abigail Stone, 10 a.m.
- June 24 *Ragtime* by E. L. Doctorow, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery lovers can join in two whodunit discussions led by staff librarians at the Main Library. Mella Davies leads a discussion of Jane Langton's *Murder at Monticello* at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, and Kathy Driscoll leads the discussion of Alexander McCall Smith's *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 10.

Readers can register and pick up books at the fiction desk (morning group) or information desk (evening group).

Readers interested in joining a mystery book discussion that will meet mornings at Woods Branch beginning in September should contact librarians Janis Williams or Lynda Thomas at 991-2030 by June 30.

## Databases of the Month Aimed at Avid Readers

Avid readers or book club members seeking their next book can find helpful suggestions online through *Novelist* and *What Do I Read Next?* The databases are available free on the library's web site.

Both databases can recommend books based on types of books, favorite authors, preferred characters, settings, plots or themes. The databases can also generate reading lists in a particular genre, including romance, mystery and fantasy, and can also provide lists of best-sellers and winners from more than 500 different literary awards. Searches can also be limited by reading levels, from preschool to adult, or even by the number of pages.

The databases include a brief summary of the book and offer reviews from such publications as *The New York Times*, *Publisher's Weekly* and *Library Journal*.

## Reader of the Month

### Florence Worth

**Age:** 53

**Lives in:** Mercer area

**Uses:** Bertram Woods Branch

**All-time favorite book:** *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

**Likes to read:** Book Club ("Book Chicks") book selections, American short stories, Russian literature classics, poetry

**Doesn't like to read:** "My stock portfolio"

**Library services:** Its many resources

**Influences:** Adult children and their friends

**Other interests:** The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus; foreign travel; exploring natural habitats

**Family:** Daughter, Jennifer SHHS '96, a grad student at JFK school of government at Harvard; son, Andrew, SHHS '00, a junior at the College of Wooster

**Brief Bio:** The owner of Later Life Care, a geriatric care management company, Worth graduated from Mount Union College and has a B.S.N. from Case Western Reserve University. She has worked at University Hospitals of Cleveland, Inc., Judson Retirement Community and MetroHealth Medical Center, and is currently working in geriatric care management and adult post-surgical care.



To access *Novelist* and *What Do I Read Next?*, go to the library's web site at [www.shpl.lib.oh.us](http://www.shpl.lib.oh.us) and click on "Electronic Resources." Next, click on "CLEVNET and CPL Electronic Resources." Under the heading "Databases by Category," click on "Literature and Reader's Advisory," and scroll down to find the links to *Novelist* and *What Do I Read Next?* For more information or for help, ask at the fiction or information desks.

## Recent Gifts to the Library

The following donations have been made to the library:

- A photograph, "Family Love—Emperor Penguins, Antarctica," from Onaway-area resident **Frances B. Bayless** to the library's public art collection. The color photograph hangs in the children's area of the Main Library.
- A contribution from the **Inter-Colony Book Club** in appreciation of librarian **Lynda Thomas'** book discussions;

- A \$10 donation from **Malley's Chocolates** for the library's Ohio Bicentennial Celebration;
- Contributions from **David Bergholz, Elizabeth and Tom Schorgl, Sharon Koppleman** and **Hudesa Gora**.
- A contribution from **Julie Baumoe** to the **Sheldon "Skip" Baumoe Fund** in memory of **Ellen Brophy**;
- The cost of underwriting the awards and reception for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Student Writing Contest from **Margaret** and **Bill Simon**;
- A contribution from **Randy Meg Kammer** to the **Kammer Memorial Fund** in honor of **George Cassady's** retirement and in memory of **Emily Fink, Rose Massari, Louis Paisley** and **Audrey Scroggins**.
- A \$6,500 grant from The George Gund Foundation to be used to write and implement a development plan.

Residents who would like information about how to commemorate a friend or relative through a donation to the library may contact Director Edrice Ivory, 991-2030.

## The Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights

### *A loan program to encourage neighborhood diversity*

Limited secondary mortgage  
financing available for:

- down payments
- interest rate reduction
- monthly mortgage supplement

**Borrow up to 10% of purchase price at  
low interest rate with deferred payment**

**For information call 216 491-1370**



## LIBRARY

### Library To Sell Used Equipment

The library will hold a sale of used equipment and furniture from 1 - 5 p.m. Friday, May 30 and from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, May 31. Shaker residents will have first dibs on sale items from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m., after which the sale opens to the general public.

A list of items available for sale will be posted at the Main Library on Tuesday, May 27. For more information, call Kathy Everson, 991-2030.

### Library Hosts Archival Workshop

The Cleveland Archival Roundtable will sponsor *Archives 101*, a workshop taught by experts from the Society of Ohio Archivists, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. May 10 at the Main Library.

Designed for people responsible for maintaining the archives of churches, temples, organizations, clubs or businesses, the workshop will provide basic information and outline the skills needed to collect, appraise, process, describe and service such collections.

Cost for the daylong workshop is \$30; checks should be made payable to Society of Ohio Archivists and sent to the attention of library archivist Kristen Pool by April 30.

For more information or to register, call Pool at 216-991-2030, ext. 3016, or email her at [kpools@shpl.lib.oh.us](mailto:kpools@shpl.lib.oh.us).

## THE BOOKSHELF

### *Do It Yourself Around the House*

#### *Porch & Deck: Decorating Ideas & Projects* edited by Linda Hallam

With a style for every reader, this *Better Homes & Gardens* book offers appealing pictures, clear text and fresh ideas for creating inviting porches, decks and balconies.

#### *Baby's Room: Ideas and Projects for Nurseries* by Jessica Strand

This book delivers original ideas and different styles for rooms that will grow



## JDN KIDS LOVE TO TRY NEW THINGS

JDN year-round preschool and kindergarten create a foundation for lifetime happiness and accomplishment by fostering confidence, excitement for learning and respect for others. We create a comfortable, stable, small class environment filled with art, music and activity. All this and kosher food too.

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with baby. It also includes a list of the materials and tools needed for each project, with easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions.

***Reinvent Your Kitchen*** by Christine E. Barnes

Fresh and adaptable ideas make this a good book for folks who are not planning a major remodeling project, but want a kitchen update. Six different styles and sizes of kitchens get top-to-bottom facelifts with easy-to-follow instructions.

***Ideas for Great Floors*** by the editors of Sunset Books

Readers can explore a variety of flooring options with this book that includes a useful comparison chart of costs, advantages and disadvantages and a section on floor pattern planning. Pictures help readers visualize each type of floor in different settings.

***Style on a Budget*** edited by Vicki L. Ingham

This *Better Homes and Gardens* decorating book includes ideas for nearly every room in the house, with how-to-do-it instructions and pennywise suggestions for affordable home decorating.

## Let's Go to the Movies!

Thanks to a donation from the Friends of the Shaker Library, which underwrote costs for movie licensing rights, the library is now showing movies free to the public on its new entertainment system at the Main Library.

Library staff members serve as hosts and provide some little-known information about the films before each screening. At 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, residents can enjoy *Rabbit-Proof Fence*, based on the true story of three Australian aboriginal girls who were taken from their homes and escaped by walking across the Outback, using the rabbit-proof fence as their guide. Residents can register at the information desk at Main Library. Bookmarks listing dates, times and movies are available at the library information desks.

This summer, the library will expand its movie programs to include Woods Branch screenings.

# Kids' Corner

**Main Library • 16500 Van Aken Boulevard • 991-2030**  
**Bertram Woods Branch • 20600 Fayette Road • 991-2421**

Spring Storytimes end Thursday, May 8; summer Storytimes begin the week of June 16.

### Storytimes for Preschoolers

*Stories, songs and fun for 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds.*  
9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 5, or 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8 at **Main Library**.  
*No registration required; groups are asked to make special arrangements.*

### Afterschool Special

Children in grades K - 4 can register to make a Mother's Day gift.  
4:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 7 at **Main Library**.  
*Registration is limited and began April 23.*

### Float-Building Workshops

4:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 at **Woods Branch**;  
4:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 21 at **Main Library**.  
Help create decorations for the library's Memorial Day Float, then join the parade on May 26.

### Summer Reading Program: *Bee A Reader* ... *on the African Plains*

*A summer reading program for families and children ages 2 and up.*

### Ice Cream Social & Summer Reading Program Kick-off

6:30 - 8 p.m. Friday, June 13 at **Woods Branch**.  
*Free ice cream, popcorn, games and fun ... plus the popular Friends mini book sale returns.*

### Preschool Storytimes

*Stories, songs, and rhymes for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds.*  
10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Mondays at **Main Library**; 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays at **Woods Branch**. Programs run from June 16 - July 29.  
*No registration required; groups are asked to make special arrangements.*

### Stories and More

*Stories, crafts and activities for 2- to 5-year-olds.*  
10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Tuesdays at **Woods Branch**; 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Thursdays at **Main Library**. Programs run from June 17 - July 31.  
*In-person or telephone registration is required for each week's program. Registration is limited and begins 2 weeks before each program; an adult must accompany 2- and 3-year-olds.*

### Summer Specials

*Stories, crafts and activities for children entering grades K - 4 in the fall.*  
4:15 p.m. Tuesdays at **Woods Branch**; 4:15 p.m. Wednesdays at **Main Library**. Programs run from June 17 - July 30.  
*Registration is limited and begins 2 weeks before each program.*



## Library Solicits Entries for Student Art Show

The library invites students in grades 7 - 12 to enter the 4th Annual Student Art Competition. Entry fee is \$5 per student and each student is limited to two entries.

Judges will select one Best of Show award. In addition, one first-place and one second-place award will be selected in grades 7 and 8 and grades 9 - 12. Prizes include a purchase award of up to \$300 and a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond for Best of Show; a \$75 U. S. Savings Bond for first-place awards; and a \$50 U. S. Savings Bond for second-place awards.

Students should bring artwork to the Main Library, 16500 Van Aken Blvd., between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 2, or between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, May 3. Volunteer judges will select the winners and art to be exhibited.

The awards ceremony and gallery opening reception will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 14, when the community can meet the young artists and see their work. The exhibit will continue through June 16.

Entry forms are available at both libraries. For more information, call 991-2030.

# LARCHMERE LOFTS



## EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING ON LARCHMERE BOULEVARD !

Larchmere Lofts is an exclusive new 16 unit condominium development located in the heart of the Larchmere Art & Antiques District in Cleveland, just north of Shaker Square.

What is Larchmere Loft living all about? How about high ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, and a spacious walk out balcony with skyline views. It's about open floor plans with gracious great rooms, luxury kitchens and baths, hardwood floors, and luxury appointments throughout. It's about the latest in home technology. It's about maintenance free living, and having the time to enjoy an exciting, urban lifestyle.

4 different 2-3 bedroom, 2 bath one story floor plans are available to suit your unique lifestyle. Some plans feature offices as well. Indoor parking is included.

Prices start at \$249,900, and with low maintenance fees and 15 year, 100% property tax abatement, the Larchmere Lofts are an amazing value!

Planned completion is Fall / Winter 2003. Take advantage of this opportunity to be a part of this unique development. Brokers are Welcome!

Contact Larchmere Lofts LLC for more information  
(216) 371-2938

[www.larchmerelofts.com](http://www.larchmerelofts.com)

## LIBRARY

### Endnotes

- **Poetry Not in the Woods**, featuring the works of local poets, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29 at the Main Library.
- The Red Cross will hold a **blood drive** from 2 - 7 p.m. May 19 in Community Rooms E & F at the Main Library. Residents who wish to give blood should call the Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit their web site at [www.redcross.org/northernohio](http://www.redcross.org/northernohio). Donors are required to bring a list of their medications.
- Both libraries will be **closed Monday, May 26** in observance of Memorial Day. The Main Library will be **closed on Sundays** during the summer. June 8 is the last day for Sunday library service until September 7.

### Summer Reading Program

The library invites the community to join its intergenerational summer reading program, *Bee A Reader . . . on the African Plains*, from June 9 through July 31.

Children can build their own strings of wooden beads, adding a bead each time they visit the library. A question of the day will help readers discover interesting facts about the animals and people of the plains, and weekly prize drawings, as well as an end-of-summer grand prize drawing are designed to appeal to all ages. Children not yet reading independently can also join the program and participate on a read-to-me basis.

Teens can participate at a more casual pace, with prizes and gift certificates offered through weekly drawings. Adults and seniors are also invited to read or listen to books on tape or CD and share their comments with others.

Weather permitting, the library will kick off the summer reading program, which is funded by the Friends of the Shaker Library, with its annual Ice Cream Social from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Friday, June 13 on the Woods Branch lawn. Families can bring a blanket and a picnic dinner, register for the reading program and enjoy ice cream, lemonade, popcorn, face painting, magic, music and a bargain book sale.

## LIBRARY

### Internet for Seniors Added to List of Computer Classes

In conjunction with the City's Community Life Department, the library will present a series of Internet classes geared especially for seniors. Classes will be held in the Main Library Computer Center from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Thursdays, May 1, 8, 15 and 22. Seniors should have some familiarity with the Internet and be comfortable using a mouse. Participants must register through the Community Life Department by calling 491-1350.

Other classes are as follows:

- *Internet*, 10 a.m. Tuesdays, May 6 and May 20, and Saturday, May 10.
- *PowerPoint*, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 7.
- *Mouse*, 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 13.
- *Basic Word Processing*, 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 13 and Saturday, May 17.
- *Introduction to Excel*, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 14.
- *Introduction to Access Databases*, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 21.
- *E-mail*, 10 a.m. May 27 and 31.

All classes are free. For more information or to register, call the Main Library.

### Local History Collection News

The library's Local History Collection has had part of its photograph collection accepted into Phase II of the Ohio Memory Project, an online scrapbook of historic documents about Ohio that can be viewed at [www.ohiomemory.org](http://www.ohiomemory.org).

Photographs included are mainly *Cleveland Press* photographs from the 1940s - 1970s, which highlight the City's architecture, schools, churches and municipal services. These original photos and many others may be seen in the Local History Collection.

Recent donations to the Local History Collection include *The Effects of Mass Communication on Political Behavior* by Sidney Kraus, given by the author, and a collection of *Shaker Magazine* archives and miscellaneous historical documents from editor emeritus Jane Wood.

For more information about the Local History Collection and how and what to donate, call archivist Kristen Pool, 216-991-2030, ext. 3016.

## Suburban Pediatrics Welcomes Robyn Joseph Gutman, MD



Janet Benish, MD • Peter Catanzaro, MD • Richard Wamsley, MD  
Andrew Hertz, MD • Simin Ghahremani, MD • Robyn Joseph Gutman, MD

Suburban Pediatrics continues its 40 years of caring by welcoming Dr. Robyn Joseph Gutman to its practice. A native of Cleveland and a graduate of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Dr. Gutman completed her pediatric residency at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. Her special interests include adolescent medicine and parent education.

Through their affiliation with the University Hospitals Health System, the Suburban Pediatrics' physicians are your community link to the specialists of University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Gutman or any other Suburban Pediatrics staff member, please call the office closest to you:

**Shaker Heights**  
**216-991-4180**

**Solon**  
**440-349-4714**

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"Bronze Level" (\$500 to \$999)

McDonald Hopkins

Earl and Ellen Leiken  
Deborah Paris & Dr. Cynthia A. Taylor

## LIBRARY

### Friends of the Library Host Reception

Friends of the Library invite residents to the gallery opening reception for Frances B. Bayless at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 28. The exhibit will feature her photography of African wildlife.

One of 50 women profiled in Sylvia Rimm's book, *How Jane Won*, Bayless has traveled the globe to photograph wildlife in its natural habitat. The former Laurel School kindergarten teacher is currently president of the Shaker Heights Rotary Club. Her exhibit will run through July.

### Programs for Young Adults

The library has planned a series of ongoing programs for young adults ages 12-16. Registration is required for all programs and can be made in person in the Teen Center or in the teen area of the Main Library or by calling 991-2030, ext. 3139.

#### Teen Council

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6  
Meet with other teens to help plan new teen programs and services.

#### Mother's Day Craft Program

7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8  
Time is running out! Show mom how you feel about her with a hand-made gift guaranteed to be better than the bottle cap necklace your little brother gave her!

#### Free Five O'Clock Films

5 p.m. Thursday, May 15  
5 p.m. Thursday, June 5  
5 p.m. Thursday, June 19  
Need a study break? Bring a friend and your own snacks!

#### Anime Screening

2 p.m. Wednesday, June 25  
Enjoy a free movie screening and draw with others who share your interest.

#### Creative Writing

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 17  
Want to express yourself? Let your creative juices flow at the library!

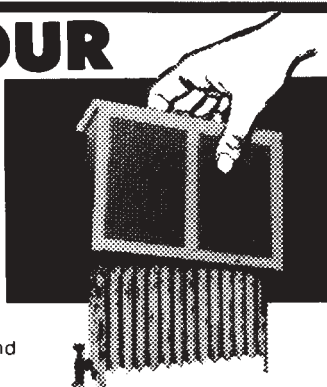
## DON'T PAINT YOUR RADIATORS

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## M A Y

www.shakeronline.com

**1 - 3: Spring Ensemble Show, 8 p.m., Shaker High School.** High school students perform.

**1 - 3: Shaker Spring Ice Spectacular, 7 p.m., Thornton Park.** Annual ice show features the glitz, glamour and grit of talented skaters. **May 2 & 3** shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets & info: 491-1295.

**2 Senior Social Day, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Shaker Community Building.** Join **Ali & Friends** for entertainment, games and lunch. Transportation available; call 491-1351.

**2 You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, 7:30 p.m., Hathaway Brown School, 19600 N. Park Blvd.** 8th-graders perform. Matinee: 2 p.m. **May 4.** Free. Info: 932-4214.

**3 Breakfast with the Birds, 7:30 - 11:30 a.m., Nature Center.** *Shredded tweet?* Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with activities including bird walks for adults and children, presentations on birds of prey and back yard birding. Morning activities are free, but a pancake breakfast costs \$5 and requires reservations. Back yard birding begins rain or shine. Info: 321-5935, ext. 21.

**6 Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch, noon, Nature Center.** **Diane Bickett**, recycling coordinator from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, will present *What's Up (or Down) with Recycling?* Free. Info: 321-5935.

**7 Spring Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m., Shaker High.**

**8 Podiatry Services, 8:30 a.m. Shaker Community Building.** Beat your feet to the Community Building for this *sole-full* activity. \$10/person; no appointment necessary. Info: 491-1351.

**10 Annual Letter Carriers' Food Drive.** *Please Mr. Postmen, look and see . . . do you have food for the hungry?* Leave canned goods and nonperishable items in a bag by your mailbox and postal workers will collect and donate it to local food banks in Shaker Heights. This project has the City's stamp of approval. Info: 991-2030.

**13 Taste Shaker, 1 p.m.** Leave the Shaker Community Building for a palate-pleasing luncheon. Reservations & bistro info: 491-1351.

**13 Band Concert & Ice Cream Social, 6:30 p.m., Shaker High.** Enjoy hot music and cool ice cream on the lawn . . . while the band plays on!

**14 Student Art Show Gallery Opening Reception, 7 p.m., Main Library.** Meet the young artists in grades 7 - 12 and enjoy their prize-winning art. Exhibit continues through **June 16.** Info: 991-2030.

**15 Senior Health Roundtable, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Shaker Community Building.** City Nurse **Sandi Hurley** leads a discussion on senior health issues. Info: 491-1351.

**15 Monologues & One-Act Plays, 1 p.m., Shaker Community Building.** Cleveland Sight Center Players perform. For transportation, call 491-1351 by **May 8.**

**15 Teen Film, 5 p.m., Main Library Teen Center.** Bring snacks and enjoy a free movie with other teens. Info: **Christine Borne**, 991-2030.

**16 Shaker AARP Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Shaker Community Building.** The 50-something set

## DESTINATIONS

Bertram Woods Branch Library  
20600 Fayette Road

Main Library  
16500 Van Aken Boulevard

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes  
2600 South Park Boulevard

Shaker Community Building  
Community Colonnade  
3450 Lee Road

Shaker Family Center  
19824 Sussex Road

Shaker Heights High School  
15911 Aldersyde Drive

Shaker Historical Museum  
16740 South Park Boulevard

Shaker Middle School  
20600 Shaker Boulevard

Thornton Park  
20701 Farnsleigh Road

welcomes boomers. It pays to age! Find out about discounts and other services and activities. Info: 491-1351.

**16 & 17: Geranium Sale Pick-up, 6 - 9 p.m., Shaker High gym and social room.** *This bud's for you!* Pick up pre-ordered geraniums and impatiens and benefit the *blooming* high school PTO. Pick-up continues Saturday, **May 17** from 8 a.m. - noon. Info: **Debbie White**, 752-9130.

**16 & 17: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, 8 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 21600 Shaker Blvd.** Youth presentation of the campy Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber musical about Joseph's coat of many colors. Free performance at 10 a.m. Sunday, **May 18.** Tickets & info: 751-2320.

**Saturdays: North Union Farmer's Market, 8 a.m. - noon, westbound Shaker Square.** *Get fresh with your farmers . . . fresh and local produce, that is.* Info: **Donita Anderson**, 751-3712.

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# DATEBOOK

**17** **Preschool Social**, 10 a.m. - noon, *Lomond School, 17917 Lomond Blvd.* Lomond School welcomes tykes with school tours, bus rides, games, face-painting and a parade with **Principal Svec**. School doesn't get much better than this! Info: 295-4050.

**17** **Friends Plant Sale**, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., *Nature Center*. Sale features annuals, perennials and herbs. *Thyme to benefit the Nature Center!* Info & order forms: 321-5935, ext. 21.

**19** **Red Cross Bloodmobile**, 2 - 7 p.m., *Main Library*. Residents who wish to give blood should call the Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit [www.redcross.org/northernohio](http://www.redcross.org/northernohio). Donors are required to bring a list of medications.

**22** **Friends Program**, 7:30 - 9 p.m., *Nature Center*. Ohio Canal Corridor Director **Tim Donovan** will present a slide show on the corridor—a new kind of park designed to attract families and outdoor enthusiasts. Free, but pre-registration required; call **Leslie Krebs**, 321-5935, ext. 26.

**26** **Memorial Day**. City offices, schools & libraries closed. Join other residents in remembrance. Pancakes precede the parade with proceeds benefiting the Recreation for Youth Scholarship Fund. Parade up Van Aken and end at Thornton Park, where you can swim and skate for free. To join the parade, call **Sandra Blue**, 491-1360.

**27** **Nature Reads Special Edition—Rachel Carson Potluck Birthday Celebration**, 6 p.m., *Nature Center*. Celebrate the birthday of **Rachel Carson**, the mother of the modern environmental movement, and watch a living history presentation. Bring your favorite Rachel Carson readings, your tableware and a dish to share. Sponsored by the Nature Center, Mac'sBacks and the Holden Arboretum. Free; however,

pre-registration is required: call 321-5935, ext. 21.

**29** **Poetry Not in the Woods**, 7:30 p.m., *Main Library*. Enjoy poetry read by the poets. Free. Info: 991-2030.

**30** **Used Furniture & Equipment Sale**, 1 - 5 p.m. *Main Library*. Sale of remaindered furniture and equipment from the Woods renovation. Shaker residents

get first dibs on the sale from 1 - 2 p.m., after which it opens to the public. Sale continues Saturday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. A list of items will be posted at the circulation desk on **May 27**. Info: **Kathy Everson**, 991-2030.

**31** **Senior Trip: A Day with the Amish**. Tour Behalt, a cyclo-rama mural of the history of the Amish, browse a flea market and enjoy an Amish-style lunch. Fees & info: 491-1360.

**31** **Doan Brook Community Clean-Up**. Families welcome! To register for a streamside section of Doan Brook, call **Keith Jones** at Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, 291-3304, or **Victoria Mills** at the Nature Center, 321-5935, ext. 34.

## JUNE

**2** **Senior Book Discussion**, 11 a.m., *Shaker Community Building*. Fees & info: 491-1360.

**3** **Environmental Town Hall Brown Bag Lunch**, noon, *Nature Center*. Free presentation and discussion of environmental issues. Info: 321-5935.

**5** **Film**, 5 p.m., *Main Library Teen Center*. Bring snacks and enjoy a free movie with other teens. Info: **Christine Borne**, 991-2030.

**5 - 8: Julius Caesar**, 7 p.m., *Community Colonnade*. Great Lakes Theater Festival offers outdoor performances. Shows continue **June 12 - 15**. Info: 491-1360.

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## DATEBOOK

**6 Bicentennial Benefit, 6:30 p.m.,** Shaker Historical Museum. Shaker Historical Society celebrates Ohio's 200th birthday with a bash that includes hors d'oeuvres, music and silent auction. Tickets & info: 921-1201.

**10 Taste of Shaker: Yours Truly at Shaker Square, 1 p.m.** Leave from the Shaker Community Building and sample the culinary tastes of Shaker. Info: call 491-1351.

**12 Podiatry Services, 8:30 a.m.,** Shaker Community Building. \$10/person; no appointment necessary. *Heel your digits!* Info: 491-1351.

**12 Field Trip, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.,** Nature Center. Visit the West Woods Nature Center in Geauga County. Tour and walk with **Dan Best.** Info: **Leslie Krebs**, 321-5935, ext. 21.

**12 Gold Coast Follies Senior Entertainment, 1 - 2:30 p.m.,** Shaker Community Building. Local seniors put on a song and dance. Fees & info: 4591-1360.

**13 - 15: Craftfair at Hathaway Brown, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., 19600 N. Park Blvd.** Ohio Designer Craftsmen and ODC Enterprises present a garden party-style craft fair with more than 200 hundred artists. Admission: \$6 with return; children 12 and under free. Sunday hours: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**13 Ice Cream Social, 6:30 - 8 p.m.,** Bertram Woods Branch Library. See story in *Library Happenings*.

**16 - 27: Senior Arthritis Water Exercise, 11:30 a.m. - noon,** Thornton Park pool. \$25 plus pool pass.

**18 & 25: AARP 55-Alive Mature Driving Course, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.,** Shaker Community Building. Two-session, safe-driving course can steer you in the right direction and possibly drive down your insurance premium. Fees & info: 491-1360.

**19 Teen Film, 5 p.m., Main Library Teen Center.** Bring snacks and

# DATEBOOK

enjoy a free movie with other teens.  
Info: **Christine Borne**, 991-2030.

**20 Shaker AARP Meeting**, 1:30 p.m., *Shaker Community Building*. Info: 491-1351.

**20 Release Party**, 10 p.m. - midnight, *Joseph-Beth Booksellers*, 13217 *Shaker Square*. Enjoy games, trivia contests, costumes, refreshments, and . . . when the clock strikes midnight, you can buy the newly released 5th book in the Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter*

and *the Order of the Phoenix*. Info: 751-3300.

**24 Nature Reads**, 6 p.m., *Nature Center*. Read and discuss *The Practice of the Wild*, essays by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet **Gary Snyder**. Info: **Leslie Krebs**, 321-5935, ext. 21.

**28 Gallery Opening Reception**, 2 p.m., *Main Library*. Meet photographer **Frances Bayless** and view her African wildlife photography. Exhibit continues through **July**. Info: 991-2030.

## City Establishes Journalism Award for SHHS Students

As this issue of *Shaker Magazine* went to press, Mayor Judy Rawson and Shaker Heights City Council announced the establishment of a journalism award in recognition of founding editor Jane Wood's 25 years of "extraordinary dedication and accomplishment." The Jane Wood Award for Excellence in Journalism will be given to Shaker Heights High School students who demonstrate outstanding work in the field of journalism. Recipients will be selected in their junior year; in their senior year, they will receive a cash award and a senior project internship with *Shaker Magazine*.

The award is funded by contributions from friends and colleagues. Tax-deductible contributions may be made by check, payable to Shaker Schools Foundation—Jane Wood Award, 15600 Parkland Dr., Shaker Heights 44120.

## Shaker

MAY/JUNE 2003

The Community Newsmagazine  
Jane Wood, Editor • 1983 – 2003

VOLUME 21,  
NUMBER 3

Felicity Hill, Assistant Editor • Margaret Simon, Datebook Editor

Contributing writers: John R. Brandt, Katherine Carter, Amy Garvey, Nancy O'Connor, Linda Tuthill

Artist: BettyAnne Green

Past contributing writers: Anne Adamson, Nancy Agneberg, George Becker, JoAnn Blake, Claudia Boatright, Marie Boehringer, Eric Broder, John Broder, Jean Calhoun, Debbie Daberko, Mary Daley, Jean Davis, Darlene Dawkins, Barbara Dean, Suzi Dickson, Adele Erdman, Janie Forgac, Edward Franke, Rita Fuerst, Catherine Giffether, Susan Glaser, Jerie Ireland Green, Megan Harding, Martha Hartland, Cynthia Hendrick, John Herr, Benjamin Hitchings, Lee Johnson, Christopher Johnston, Bill Kiraly, Philippa Kiraly, Kathleen Kisner, Rita Price Kueber, Karen Kurdziel, Judy Lilly, Laurie Loveman, Stephanie Lowe, Barbara Luton, Eleanor Mallet, Judy Malone, Jean Martin, Meghan McGill, Ann McGuire, Eleanor McIlhenny, Dottie McNulty, Nancy Moore, Vivian Pospisil, Carolyn Priemer, Louis Pumphrey, Andrew Resnik, Rosemary Rood-Tutt, Lori Ruhlman, Michael Samsot, June Scharf, Jill Sell, Dorothy Valerian, Joyce Whitley, Bob Wischmeyer, James M. Wood, Anton Zuiker.

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(216) 491-1459; FAX (216) 491-1465

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# S H A K E R

## Scrapbook

### Cover to Cover

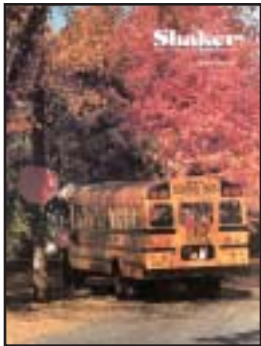
By Jane Wood



It seems only yesterday that I walked up the driveway of my neighbor, the late Charles Landefeld, to ask what he thought of the idea of starting a joint publication that would take the place of the City, School and Library newsletters. Landefeld, then a member of the Board of Education, reacted cautiously, but seemed interested, which was enough for me—I considered it an endorsement! The concept already had the approval of Mayor Walter C. Kelley, and Library Director Barbara Luton would also soon come on board.

Two years of study followed, as potential costs and revenues were analyzed. The result was a 16-page prototype issue of *Shaker Magazine* in September 1983; regular bi-monthly publication began the following May.

Believe it or not, one of the biggest issues the three bodies wrestled with was whether or not the cover should be in color. Needless to say, they made the right decision, as many readers will attest.



#### SEPTEMBER 1984

This cover was shot in the fall of 1983. I wanted to take advantage of Shaker's lovely fall color while at the same time picturing something suitably "Shaker." So I called the Board of Education and persuaded them to give me a bus and a driver. Then I called an elementary school principal and persuaded her to put a bunch of kids in it. Then I asked the driver to

pick up the kids and park the bus at the junction of Warrington, Enderby and Clayton in front of a gorgeous maple tree. We were all set to shoot, photographer John Godt standing at his tripod in the middle of the street, when a car came along. I ran out in front of it, held up my hands to make it stop and realized the driver was the Mayor. Oops! Although he was a little surprised that I had taken it upon myself to stop traffic, when I explained what we were doing, he laughed and said go ahead—which I did for the next 20 years!



#### MAY 1986

Four Shaker artists—Arlene Mayhugh (ceramic bowls and pitcher), Marion Jordan (jewelry), Renee Fuller (glass vase) and Betty Stevens (blanket, scarf and shawls) brought their work to John's studio. I ran out and got some strawberries and flowers, and voilà!—an elegant still life!



#### NOVEMBER 1987

This cover is truly historic, as the window pictured no longer exists. It was facing the driveway in the former Main Library (now the Shaker Community Building) and was later replaced by a door, which is now the main entrance to the building. We created a fall "scene" with the help of the librarians and the library's gardener, who planted mums for the occasion.

*Shaker Magazine* has, I believe, captured the essence of Shaker Heights and communicated it very well. I am pleased to leave such a legacy, and even more pleased to have learned just days before my retirement that the Mayor and City Council have established an award for excellence in journalism at Shaker High School in my name.

*Shaker Magazine* has always been a class act. I'm counting on the next generation to keep it that way.

March 31, 2003



#### NOVEMBER 1984

We were fortunate to find this lovely fireplace in a home owned by then City Council Member Gay Ban, who allowed us to decorate the mantel and make a nice fire, even though she wasn't home! We kept the blaze going by throwing wads of newspaper at it just before John pushed the button.

*This is founding editor Jane Wood's last issue of Shaker Magazine.*

*Shaker Magazine archives through March 2003 are in the Main Library's Local History Collection.*

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