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Police
Chief
Wayne Hudson
Talks
About
Community
Partnerships
– and Plato’s
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Inside Shaker Life

4

@ShakerOnline

13

Shaker Grams

14

@ShakerSchools

16

Tweets and Posts

18

@ShakerLibrary

60

Work. Live.

62

Scene in Shaker

64

Advertiser Index



32

Q + A with Wayne Hudson

Shaker's new police chief is a man on a mission.

40

Building the Dream

An extraordinary collaboration – and donations of time and talent – brought the 2022 St. Jude Dream Home to Shaker Heights.



46

“We’re Saving the World”

Shaker's Elementary school students are all in on food waste composting: It stinks and it's gross, but it's fun.

54

A Guide to Sustainability Management

Shaker's sustainability coordinator explains the various programs and services that impact our quality of life.



On the cover: Shaker Heights
Chief of Police Wayne Hudson.
Photography by Robert Muller.

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Demystifying Solar

It was a common misconception that Shaker doesn't allow solar. The mayor, City Council, the City's Sustainability Committee, and a growing number of homeowners would beg to differ.



Upstairs at Van Aken

Upstairs Van Aken has replaced the strip mall and expanse of asphalt at the intersections of Van Aken Boulevard, and Farnsleigh and Warrensville Center roads.



Driving Change Along the Lee Road Corridor

The former Pontiac dealership at Hampstead and Lee can easily be mistaken for another obsolete relic of Shaker. But new owners Matt Wright and Crystal Jones are bringing the 61-year-old building into the 21st century.



Shaker
Online



Transforming Public Spaces

Van Aken District Public Realm Project will have Visitors Talking

With plans in the works that include a new plaza, public art, and a comfort station for transit passengers, the Van Aken District continues to evolve, welcome visitors, and embrace its transit-oriented design.

The City is partnering with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and Van Aken District owners RMS to enhance the Warrensville-Van Aken transit station area, creating a high-quality waiting environment with shelter and facilities, attractive and functional pedestrian and bicycle amenities, a plaza, public art, landscaping, and a strong connection to the adjacent commercial district and neighborhoods.

The groundwork for the Van Aken District Public Realm was set in motion in 2020 with the Public Realm Plan. Design and engineering are now underway, with construction scheduled for 2024-2025. This \$1.8 million project is funded in part by \$1.5 million in Transportation Alternative Program funds from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency. Streetscape improvements are planned along the southern end of Tuttle Road, and the new plaza will replace several parking spaces near the southwest corner of the busway and Tuttle Road. The plaza will include seating, shade trees, understory planting, lighting, bike racks, pavers, and new public art.

Kara Hamley O'Donnell, principal planner for the City, says, "The new plaza, with colorful public art, will get the attention of people who are coming from outside the Van Aken District as well as transit riders who are getting off the buses or Rapid. It will be a place for people to wait comfortably for their connecting bus or train and provide yet another district gathering place where community members can catch up, engage with public art, and appreciate this vibrant neighborhood center. The plaza and artwork will be visible from Chagrin and from the greater Van Aken District, tying areas north and south of the busway together."

The public art structure includes benches and a roof, and is designed to spark face-to-face communication. The structure will be inscribed with words that represent conversation.

Pavers that feature words reflecting how we communicate at a distance, such as by writing or texting, will be integrated into the plaza. O'Donnell says, "The City's Public Art Task Force has been integral in this process, helping to choose the artists, selecting the preliminary art concept, and working with the artists to refine the final design."

For O'Donnell, "It's been rewarding to participate in a collaborative process where City staff, RTA, RMS, landscape architects, engineers, and artists have worked to create a design that seamlessly integrates this new space and our collective improvements into the greater Van Aken District."

For additional Public Realm details, go to www.shakeronline.com/VADPublicRealm.



Van Aken Bikeway: Expanding the City's Bikeability

Buffered bike lanes on each side of Van Aken Boulevard will connect the Van Aken District to Lee Road where another bike path is also planned (see story on page 10). To make room for the Van Aken bike paths, the boulevard will feature one lane of traffic in each direction.

This \$1.8 million project has been supported by a \$1.5 million Transportation Alternative Program grant from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency with implementation planned for 2024.

A key component of development



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has been significant community engagement, with residents and other stakeholders sharing ideas and preferences for the Bikeway's creation. In April, residents gathered at St. Dominic School on Van Aken for a public open house and a walk/bike audit.

"Residents viewed the preferred concept, which includes a six-foot-wide bike path on each side of the street, buffered with a six-foot striped area, and is separated near the intersections with vertical delineators. This concept offers good protection for cyclists," says City Planning Director Joyce Braverman.



"Most people attending the open house indicated that they would feel somewhat comfortable or very comfortable using the bike lane. In addition, area residents commented that they supported the plan and felt the bike path would also slow down traffic on Van Aken."

The Van Aken Bikeway will also improve neighborhood connections to primary transportation arteries for both pedestrians and cyclists of all levels.

Councilmember Carmella Williams, an avid cyclist and chair of the Neighborhood and Economic Development Committee, says, "The Van Aken Public Realm and Van Aken Bikeway are two projects that are part of the transformation of public spaces in Shaker Heights. The success of both projects will be in part because of valuable feedback we have received from bikers, public transit commuters, merchants, drivers, and walkers, all of whom will benefit from and, hopefully, will frequently enjoy these new and reimagined spaces and access points."

For Bikeway information, go to www.shakeronline.com/829/Van-AkenBikeway.





National Recognition

Shaker Heights named best place to live, enjoy trees, and raise a family

A national ranking company has named Shaker Heights the “#1 Best Place to Live in Ohio.” The company, Pittsburgh-based Niche, “creates the annual Best Places to Live rankings by using data from sources such as the U.S. Census, FBI, Bureau of Labor Statistics and CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), combined with millions of resident reviews,” according to a news release.

For the 38th straight year the City has been designated a “Tree City” by the Arbor Day Foundation, which also recognized Shaker with its Growth Award. Tree City USA recognizes communities that meet high criteria for tree care. The Growth Award is bestowed on communities that have gone above and beyond these criteria.

More: Shaker was named one of Cleveland Magazine’s 2023 “Best Places to Live,” based on safety, schools, housing, and other criteria.”

And in April, the Government Finance Officers Association awarded the City its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

“We are delighted to receive these recognitions as they confirm what brought so many of us to Shaker – that Shaker is a great place to live, work, and raise a family, with distinctive homes; beautiful, tree-lined parks and neighborhoods; excellent educational opportunities; and a diverse and welcoming sense of community,” says Mayor David E. Weiss.

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Rethinking Lawn Maintenance

City's Sustainability Committee asks residents to consider alternatives

Shaker Heights was developed as a Garden City suburb with expansive green lots and low-cut lawns as the ideal. However, attitudes toward that once-dominant aesthetic are beginning to change. According to some estimates, lawns have become the most expensive “crop” in America and gasoline-powered lawn care equipment produces staggering amounts of air pollutants.

Councilmember Nancy Moore, chair of the Sustainability Committee, recently commented, “What’s important to our environment is that we all adopt more sustainable landscaping practices, from decreasing the size of our lawns to growing more native species of trees and plants.”

Here are a few suggestions to help:

- **Consider alternatives to a lawn or reduce lawn space.** By planting native groundcovers, plants or trees, you will conserve water resources, absorb stormwater runoff, and help create a pollinator pathway for insects and birds.
- **Consider skipping the pesticides and herbicides.** These products may harm your health, your children’s health, and

your pets’ health (wildlife, too). Plus, the runoff into our local waterways also causes problems. Choose organic services and products.

- **If clover is growing in your lawn, be glad.** Clover fixes nitrogen in the soil and can keep a lawn green throughout summer drought conditions.
- **If using a lawn mower, consider a push mower as a first choice (great exercise) or a battery-powered electric mower.** Gas-powered lawn mowers emit many times more pollutants per hour of operation than cars. Electric alternatives to gas-powered lawn care equipment can eliminate many emissions and pollutants, thereby improving air quality and also eliminating the need to store flammable fuel and oil.
- **Count on the City’s new 100 percent renewably sourced electric aggregation program to power your electric lawn care equipment.** You will be doing your part to share more sustainable land management practices in our community.

For more information, go to shakeronline.com/848/Sustainable-Lawn-Care.

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Voters must present photo ID to cast a ballot

In April, a new state law went into effect requiring voters to present a current state or federally issued photo ID when they cast a ballot. Below are the new requirements. For additional information, visit the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at boe.cuyahogacounty.gov.

Voting in Person - Acceptable forms of identification:

- Unexpired Ohio driver's license (A suspended license that is not expired may still be used for voting.)
- Unexpired Ohio state ID card (Free state IDs may be obtained at any Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles for those 17 years of age or older.)
- An interim ID form issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- U.S. passport or passport card
- U.S. military ID card, Ohio National Guard ID card, or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID card (must include the voter's name and photo)

No longer accepted:

- Digital or copied version of identification, with the exception of the Veteran ID Card issued digitally by the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, other government documents or concealed carry permit

Voting by Mail – Acceptable forms of identification:

- Ohio driver's license number or Ohio State ID card number
- The last four digits of the voter's social security number
- A copy of a photo ID (front and back for driver's license or state ID)
- A copy of the ID page with photo for passport

No longer accepted:

- Utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, other government documents or concealed carry permits

The deadline to apply for a vote-by-mail ballot has changed to the close of business on the seventh day before Election Day (one week prior to Election Day). Further details are at boe.cuyahogacounty.gov.

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City Council Gives Green Light to Lee Road Action Plan

In March, City Council officially adopted the Lee Road Action Plan, capping a two-year process to create a visionary reinvestment strategy for transforming the three-quarter mile stretch of Lee south of Van Aken Boulevard into a thriving commercial area that is walkable, bikable, and transit friendly.

To date, the City has been awarded more than \$16.3 million in grant funding for Lee Road, including \$12.4 million from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency.

The planning process was designed to incorporate community perspectives and ideas, beginning with defining the vision and goals and continuing through concept development, refinement, and drafting of the final plan.

“Robust community engagement was built into the process from the start,” says Kara Hamley O’Donnell, a principal planner for the City.

City staff held numerous in-person and virtual events with residents, businesses, and other stakeholders, including the City of Cleveland, which is working to adopt similar goals for its section of Lee Road, just south of Shaker Heights.

“The engagement with Cleveland, our next-door neighbor, is exciting and a real opportunity to show that this whole area is really an important part of Shaker,” notes City Councilmember Anne Williams, who is also a member of the Neighborhood and Economic Development Committee.

Altogether, the public engagement efforts reached more than 680 residents at in-person and virtual events; almost 2,400 residents completed an interactive survey.

So, What’s in the Plan?

Think of the Lee Road Action Plan as having what the Planning Department calls “buckets”: transportation, urban design and land use, and economic development. “The foundation of the Lee Road Action Plan really is the transportation piece,” explains O’Donnell. “This is the part that the City has control over and can implement quickly.”

This includes reconfiguring the entire length of Lee Road within City limits to include one travel lane in each direction, a center-turning lane, and a bikeway. South of Van Aken, this will be a two-way, off-road bikeway on the west side of Lee; north of Van Aken, there will be a bike shoulder on each side of the road. The City will also improve pedestrian crossings in the commercial corridor. The City will start these improvements in 2027.

“Lee Road is wider south of Van Aken, so we have the opportunity to create a wider, off-road bikeway,” explains Joyce Braverman, the City’s planning director.

The urban design and land use bucket will also include improvements by the City to the public infrastructure south of Van Aken Boulevard, such as new sidewalks, seating, lighting, trees, bus stops, and more. A major goal is to create

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a new Neighborhood Center, an area roughly in the middle of the three-quarter mile stretch that would function as an active community hub built around an expanded Chelton Park. The Neighborhood Center would feature a new public plaza connecting to Lee Road and opportunities for new development.

“This is a major focus for redevelopment because it’s in the heart of the district and will really help connect the Moreland neighborhood to Lee Road,” says Braverman. “Better connections into the neighborhoods was a big theme during our community engagement.”

But the urban design and land use bucket also focuses on ways the City can help to improve the privately owned areas of the commercial district, such as parking lots.

“For example, we can take one site that has four buildings and four parking lots and make it one parking lot,” explains O’Donnell.


Finally, the economic development bucket includes creating policies and improving programs to attract new businesses, while also helping existing businesses thrive.

“The physical improvements really help set the stage for economic development, including bringing in new businesses, helping current businesses succeed, and promoting other development opportunities in the future,” says Laura Englehart, the City’s economic development director.

Englehart says that the Lee Road Action Plan is grounded in a Citywide market study and an economic analysis. This allowed the planning team to understand the current and future residential, retail, and office market, while also identifying trends for growth and how such trends translate into opportunities for Lee Road.

“Understanding the community’s vision for Lee Road was really important, but so was making sure that what we proposed to do in the final plan was built on a market study and economic analysis that says, ‘Yes, this can work here,’” she says.

Adds Councilmember Williams: “This is such an impressive plan. As it’s implemented, it really promises to draw in residents from not just the surrounding neighborhoods, but all over the City. I think residents will be amazed at what this area offers.”



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And we sent demand letters to Shaker Hts. and Cleveland Hts. requiring them to fulfill their obligations to maintain and preserve the Lake.

Learn more at
SaveHorseshoeLake.com

Free, Drop-Off Composting Comes to Lomond

Residents in the City's Lomond neighborhood are now eligible for free, drop-off composting services from Rust Belt Riders. This year-long pilot program is thanks to a Special Projects Grant the City's Sustainability Committee received from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District.

Starting this fall, Lomond Elementary School will also be composting via the pilot program, joining Onaway and Fernway schools, which already use Rust Belt's service. The City anticipates Boulevard and Mercer schools will also be composting with Rust Belt this fall. (See page 46.)

"We're excited to offer this innovative program to our Lomond community and grateful to the Solid Waste District for helping to fund this effort," says Michael Peters, the City's sustainability coordinator.

"In addition to expanding composting in Lomond, we look forward to gaining valuable insights on how we might roll out composting services Citywide in the future."

Lomond residents who sign up for the program through the City's website can drop off their food waste at collection bins at Lomond Elementary School. Rust Belt Riders picks up the food waste (including meat, bones and dairy) on a weekly basis for composting. All other residents can compost through the existing drop-off and pickup services offered by Rust Belt Riders (rustbeltriders.com), for which there is a fee. Drop-off locations for the fee-based service are The Dealership, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland, and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes.

Lomond residents can use the QR code to the right to get started.

Rust Belt Riders has been operating in Shaker Heights for several years. The City was the first suburb in Cuyahoga County to allow Rust Belt Riders to offer its residential composting services within city limits.



The more residents – and schools – that compost, the better, says Councilmember Nancy Moore, who chairs the Sustainability Committee.

"When we divert food waste from landfills, it is a win-win for the community and our planet, because when food waste decomposes through a process like the one used by Rust Belt Riders, less methane gas is produced," Moore explains. "Methane is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change."

By contrast, composting creates far fewer gas emissions than landfilling. Rather it creates humus, which is a soil amendment that helps plants thrive. In 2022, Rust Belt Riders collected approximately 600,000 pounds of food waste in Shaker Heights, resulting in about 300 tons of compost. **SL**



Community Attitude Survey Findings Now Online

Findings of the 2023 Community Attitude Survey are posted on the City's website, along with an FAQ and links to the 2018 and 2011 survey findings. Learn about why residents choose Shaker Heights, which recreational amenities they value, how they feel about housing options, and much more at shakeronline.com/836/Community-Attitude-Survey.

Shaker Grams

We **see** you **seeing** Shaker.

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Save the Date: District's Annual Back-to-School BBQ is on August 2

All Shaker residents are invited to attend the District's 2023 Back-to-School Barbecue

Pack your chairs and blankets and head over to the Onaway field on Wednesday, August 2, from 6-8 pm for the return of the District's community-wide Back-to-School Barbecue. All residents within the Shaker Heights Schools attendance area are invited. (Rain date: Thursday, August 3.)

This casual evening includes a free dinner, an opportunity to mingle with friends and your favorite principals, and entertainment. District representatives will also be on hand to share information about back-to-school, registration, family and community engagement, the Shaker Schools Foundation, and more.

Please RSVP at shaker.org with a number attending by Wednesday, July 26.



Shaker Heights High School marching band members performed outside Paris's Sacré-Cœur Basilica during their concert tour in France.

SHHS Marching Band Tours France

Members of the Shaker Heights High School Marching Band enjoyed a successful concert tour of France March 22-30. A total of 226 students and adults participated in the trip, including 191 student performers.

The stay in France included visits to Normandy, Caen, Rouen, Mont-Saint-Michel, Versailles, and Paris, including a performance at the Eiffel Tower. The musicians visited museums, galleries, and other points of interest with historical and cultural significance. The entourage also connected with residents of the City of Rouen, Cleveland's sister city, and the Lycee Flaubert School, the District's sister school.

Rouen and Cleveland have had strong connections throughout history. A handful of Cleveland companies, including Lubrizol, Lincoln Electric, and MTD Products, are major employers in Rouen. Likewise, the relationship between the District and the Lycee Flaubert School is strong, including a 15-year-old exchange program in which more than 300 students and teachers have participated.

Enroll Now for the 2023-24 School Year

Enrolling your student in the Shaker Heights City School District has never been easier. Parents and guardians can visit shaker.org/enroll and complete all the necessary documents online, then schedule a by-phone appointment to review the completed forms and to complete registration for your student.

For more information, please contact the registration office, 216-295-4321. The office is located in the Shaker Heights Schools Welcome Center inside the Shaker Heights Public Library main branch. Telephone support is available from 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. In-person office hours are 9 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Stay Informed:

For the latest news and information about Shaker Heights Schools, visit Shaker.org. Follow us on [Facebook.com/ForShakerSchools](https://www.facebook.com/ForShakerSchools), or Tweet us @ShakerSchools.



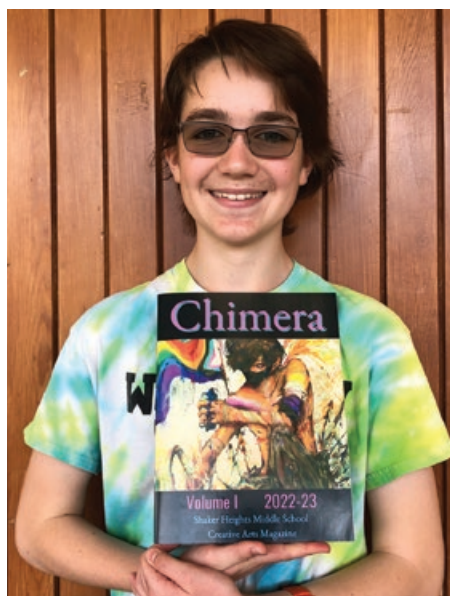
Shaker Heights Schools Music Programs Receive National Honors

The Shaker Heights City School District has again been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education.

Now in its 24th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its 15,000-member companies and individual professionals.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, the District answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.



Anders Beckman

Middle Schooler Sparks Creation of Creative Arts Magazine

Shaker Heights Middle School student Anders Beckman, an eighth grader, spearheaded the creation of Chimera, a creative arts magazine featuring student poetry, short stories, art, and photography.

The magazine was modeled after Shaker Heights High School's Semanteme, and submissions were chosen for publication by a jury of eighth-grade students. The magazine, supported by a grant from the Shaker Schools Foundation, is available for purchase at the Middle School, with proceeds going to future editions.



Shaker Schools Foundation: Spotlight on SGORR

This past spring, Shaker Heights High School senior Brendan Zbanek returned to his 4th grade Mercer classroom as a Student Group on Race Relations leader. "The SGORR visits we had in fourth grade had a big influence," says Zbanek. "What we teach through SGORR is always relevant, and it was great to be back to Mercer to share fun and thought-provoking activities."

Visiting elementary school classrooms is a vital component of SGORR's programming. SGORR was started in 1983 by a group of students and founding teachers, Marcia Jaffe and Zachary Green, to celebrate and teach about diversity and connections across all boundaries of difference. Over the years, SGORR has had nearly 1,000 members and is the largest student club at the High School.

SGORR members lead activities that investigate stereotyping, discrimination, social polarization, and bullying, and encourage building good self-image, making healthy choices, and becoming an "upstander."

SGORR is celebrating its 40th anniversary this fall with these events:

- **Friday, October 13 – SGORR Social Hour.**
- **Saturday, October 14 – SGORR Conference & Reunion Celebration.**

Learn more at shakerschoolsfoundation.org/alumni.

The Shaker Schools Foundation is a key partner in supporting SGORR and other programs that provide excellence in education for Shaker Heights Schools students. To learn more about the Foundation and to support Shaker students and the Foundation's mission, visit shakerschoolsfoundation.org. **SL**

Tweets & Posts



t @ComposedClaytor: One of the best things about growing up in @ShakerOnline/attending @ShakerSchools, is the fact that so many people return to raise their children here.



Living in Shaker

f Neighbor #1: Just strutting down the street tonight in Fernway.
Neighbor #2: I saw around 1pm on Van Aken and Glencairn
Neighbor #3: Why did the turkey cross the road?
Neighbor #4: Pretty bold when it's not thanksgiving season!
Neighbor #5: Turkey vulture. Very common.



Living in Shaker

f Neighbor #1: Mother Nature, you're full of surprises. Thanks for the reminder this morning that some of them are good.
Neighbor #2: Hmmm. Red sky in morning. Sailors take...
Neighbor #3: Warning.
Neighbor #4: Funny, that's exactly what I was thinking.
Neighbor #5: Beautiful!
Neighbor #6: Awesome!
Neighbor #7: Chagrin Boulevard is looking good!

t @MikeW_Wells: I recently visited the @vanakendistrict, an awesome TOD project in Shaker Heights, Ohio. Great gathering spaces and residential served by transit. I'm thrilled to see it continue to evolve!
 @ShakerOnline
 @TransitOrientd
 @WellsAssoc
 @UrbanLandInst
 @ClevelandULI



Living in Shaker

f Neighbor #1: Congrats to Shaker's own Molly Shannon!
Neighbor #2: Molly Shannon is from Shaker?!!! So proud.
Neighbor #3: I didn't know either.
Neighbor #4: I have to read her book!
Neighbor #5: Love her!
Neighbor #6: She was terrific! **SL**

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Penn State University (2)
Princeton University
The Ohio State University (4)
Tufts University
Union College
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Connecticut

University of Dayton (2)
University of Illinois
University of Miami
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University of Southern California
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College choices as of May 8, 2023.

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Early Literacy Means Helping to Raise Readers

The benefits of reading throughout a child's development are well documented, and the Shaker Heights Public Library is committed to bringing those benefits to its youngest customers.

Early literacy doesn't mean instruction or teaching; it means encouraging the development of skills through the enjoyment of books, positive interaction between babies and their parents or caregivers, and literacy-rich experiences. To the library, early literacy means helping to raise readers.

In addition to its many story times and programs for babies and toddlers, another way the library serves emergent readers is through visits to daycare centers and preschools by Early Literacy Specialist Maura Dunn.

Dunn divides her time between this Early Literacy Outreach Program and the library's Children's Room, where she collaborates with other Youth Services staff on programs and events for young children and families.

“Our early literacy work has the greatest impact when we focus on supporting those who spend time with young children every day – educators, childcare workers, and families of young children,” says Dunn. “As the early literacy specialist, I aim to be a resource for those doing the hard work of instilling young children with the skills and confidence to become readers.”

A typical month of outreach finds Dunn visiting each of the library’s participating community partners serving approximately 200 children from two to five years old. Dunn visits childcare centers and preschools within the Shaker Heights City School District and delivers a library story time experience to children along with a rotating collection of books designed to appeal to young pre-readers.

A typical story time involves sharing two or three children’s books, songs, and rhymes. Movement and number activities are regularly included, and each session is intentionally planned around the Six Literacy Skills: print motivation, print awareness, letter knowledge, narrative

skills, phonological awareness, and vocabulary.

“Story time visits are intended to be interactive literacy experiences that also help to bring awareness to the library’s role in our community,” Dunn says.

In 2019, the Library received a \$15,000 Library Services and Technology Act grant to establish an Early Literacy Outreach Collection featuring diverse children’s books selected for the childcare centers and preschools.

“All children should encounter books that present the variety of cultural traditions and family structures that make up our community,” says Dunn. “We continue to expand this collection to meet the diverse needs of the students and families we serve, as well as to meet requests of the teachers and childcare providers.”

In the summer months, the Early Literacy Outreach Program expands to local camps, including the Shaker Recreation Department summer program. Dunn visits the camps to promote books, reading, and joining the library’s Summer Reading Program, which offers reading incentives and prizes to appeal to all age groups.

Meet Maura Dunn...

Maura Dunn began work as the library’s Early Literacy Specialist in September 2021. She grew up with parents who were both passionate educators. After graduating from Skidmore College with a degree in English, Dunn began teaching with Teach for America in Baltimore.



After three years of teaching, Dunn completed her master’s degree in education from Harvard University. She continued working in schools in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York before moving to Ohio.

Dunn believes that a great library is a place where everyone feels valued and enjoys a sense of belonging; she wants parents and children to always feel welcome at the library.

“The best thing about my job is the people, especially the kids. I love that in my outreach work I get to visit schools and childcare centers. I think if I weren’t able to do that, I would really miss being in the classroom myself,” says Dunn.

“I also enjoy working in the children’s room at the library and providing reference help to children and their families. It is a great feeling when you can help someone find just the right book.”

Dunn is currently recommending the new titles recently added to the library’s outreach collection, including *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho, *Best Day Ever* by Marilyn Singer, and *Grandad’s Camper* by Harry Woodgate. A few of Dunn’s favorite picture books include *Corduroy* by Don Freeman, *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip Stead, and *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant. **SL**



@ Shaker Library

Rajani Tendulkar Appointed to Library Board

Rajani Tendulkar has been appointed to a seven-year term on the Library Board. She replaces Michael Bertsch, whose term ended in March.

Tendulkar is the administrative director of Translational Research at the Cleveland Clinic. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a Master of Healthcare Administration degree from The Ohio State University, and has spent the past 20 years working in hospital systems in Northeast Ohio. She has been active in the Shaker Heights community, through the schools and other community initiatives. She also serves on the South Asian Youth Leadership Board.



Stay Informed:

For the latest news and information about Shaker Heights Public Library, visit our website at shakerlibrary.org. Follow us on Facebook at [ShakerHeightsPublicLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/ShakerHeightsPublicLibrary) and on Twitter @ShakerLibrary.

"I have long been a patron of libraries and believe strongly that these community spaces provide a foundation that fosters education and community values," says Tendulkar. "Having been a resident of Shaker Heights for 15 years, I have had high regard for our Shaker Heights Public Library. I am honored to work with the team that continues to foster the success and drive innovation for this important institution."

Tendulkar is an avid reader whose personal rule is to finish any book she begins. She particularly enjoys books about libraries. A few of her favorites include *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict, *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis, *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean, and *The Public Library: A Photographic Essay* by Robert Dawson. She enjoys traveling, exploring Cleveland, and hiking and walking in the Metroparks with the family's puppy, Simba.

She lives in the Malvern area with her husband, Rahul, a physician, and their two daughters, Parisa, a sophomore at Shaker Heights High School, and Samira, a seventh grader at Laurel School.

Bertram Woods Renovation Continues on Schedule



Excitement is building as the Bertram Woods Branch renovation progresses. Staff are eagerly planning for the branch reopening in fall 2023. Watch the library's website for more details as plans develop.



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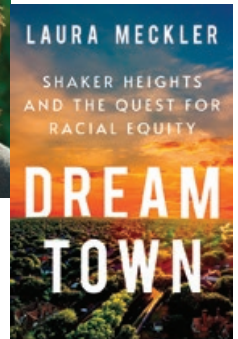
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Each year, the Jarvis Scholar Program awards ten fully-funded, four-year merit scholarships to students entering the ninth grade. The application process for fall 2024 is now open.

Meet the Author:
Laura Meckler

Laura Meckler is the author of *DREAM TOWN: Shaker Heights and the Quest for Racial Equity*. She will speak at the library at 2 pm Saturday, August 26.

Meckler is the national education writer for the Washington Post, where she



covers the news, politics, policies, and people shaping American schools. She

previously reported on the White House, presidential politics, immigration, and health care for the Wall Street Journal, as well as health and social policy for the Associated Press.

She got her start at the Canton Repository, covering politics, police, schools, and the annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival. Her honors include a Nieman Fellowship and a Livingston Award for National Reporting, and she was part of a team that won the George Polk Award for Justice Reporting for a series on the life of George Floyd.

“Growing up in Shaker Heights, I felt enormous pride in attending excellent schools and in living in a diverse community that had embraced racial integration while others were fighting it,” says Meckler. Yet for her, as for many others, there was a nagging question: Why were her upper-level classes not diverse? Years later, as a reporter in Washington, she decided to dig into those questions. That became a well-read article in the Post in 2019, examining the community’s rich history and its modern challenges. Yet when she was done, Meckler felt there was more to say.

“That article led me to do something I had never before wanted to do: write a book,” says Meckler. “I wanted my book to tell the story of Shaker Heights and race through the eyes and stories of people who created the community and who have constantly challenged it to do better.” There aren’t heroes or villains, but real



Restoring Doan Brook

UPDATES, RESOURCES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District will hold its next public engagement meetings this fall. We hope you will continue to be a part of the conversation and the future of this important community space.

As we near the completion of the Doan Brook Restoration Near Horseshoe Lake Park pre-design phase, we recently presented residents our latest project updates, renderings, and next steps. Details, videos, and join our mail list: neorsd.org/doanbrook

Doan Brook Restoration
NEAR HORSESHOE LAKE PARK





College Destinations:

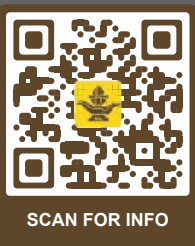
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 Boston College
 Boston University (3)
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 Case Western Reserve University (3)
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 College of the Holy Cross
 Colorado College (2)
 Columbia College Chicago
 Columbia University (2)
 Cornell University (3)
 Denison University
 Drexel University
 Emory University (3)
 Fairfield University (2)
 Fordham University (2)

The George Washington University (2)
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 Johns Hopkins University
 Loyola University Chicago (2)
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 New York University
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 The Ohio State University (3)
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 The University of Chicago
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 University of Kentucky
 University of Michigan (2)
 University of Mississippi
 University of Pennsylvania (2)

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people grappling with difficult problems. The story begins with the Van Sweringen brothers, who created Shaker Heights as an elite, exclusive enclave for wealthy Clevelanders. It then tells the story of Shaker's pioneering integration work, first in housing and then in education. And finally, the narrative takes us into the present, with difficult debates over equity, academic tracking, and facilities.

"I hope my book will introduce people who know little about Shaker Heights to its remarkable story, and it will help those who call Shaker home to understand their community in a whole new way," says Meckler.

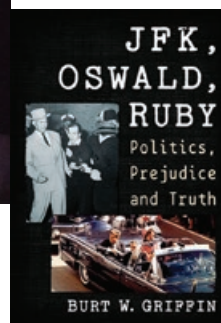
Meckler's book will be available for sale and signing at her presentation on August 26.

**Meet the Author:
Judge Burt Griffin**

Burt W. Griffin is the author of *JFK, Oswald, and Ruby: Politics, Prejudice, and Truth* featured in the spring catalog of McFarland, one of the leading publishers



of academic nonfiction in the United States.



His book debunks the conspiracy theories surrounding the assassination of JFK. Judge Griffin will discuss his new book and show clips of the documentary, *Truth is the Only Client*, at 7 pm Wednesday, September 6.

A graduate of Amherst College and Yale Law School, Griffin served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio and was a judge on the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for 30 years. In addition, as the assistant counsel to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (popularly known as the Warren Commission), he had the primary responsibility for investigating and writing the section of the Commission's 1964 report on whether Jack Ruby was engaged in a conspiracy to assassinate



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Judge Griffin is a life-long resident of Greater Cleveland, graduated from Shaker Heights High School in 1950, and has resided in Shaker Heights since 1960. Books will be available for sale and signing following his talk.

Library Celebrates Seventh National History Day Participation



This year's Shaker Library Research Prize winner Luke D'Cruz.

National History Day is a project-based learning experience for students in grades 6-12 that builds college and career skills by making the historical past relevant to the present and the future. Founded in Cleveland in 1974, the program enables students to choose topics on the yearly theme, conduct research, and present their findings as a paper, exhibit, documentary, website, or performance. The 2023 NHD theme was Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas.

In support of this learning experience and for the past seven years, the Library has held a Research Day for Shaker Middle School students to introduce them to the library's many helpful resources for their Ohio History Day entries.

Shaker librarians Matt Grabski and Meghan Hays serve as volunteer judges for Ohio Region 3 History Day. In addition, the library, with support from Friends of the Shaker Library, created the Shaker Library Research Prize awarded to the student(s) who make the best use of library resources. The prize consists of a certificate, medal, and cash.

This year, Luke D'Cruz from Shaker

The Shaker Heights Youth Center honors retiring staff

Harriet Lyons

with 26 years of service as Agency Administrator



Sharon Bell

with 15 years of service as MyCom Coordinator

You have made Shaker a better community for our youth.

Thank you for your many years of dedicated service.

As Harriet and Sharon retire from their full-time positions, they will remain with the Youth Center part time to train their successors.

If you are interested in applying for either of their positions, please contact the Youth Center at 216-752-9292.

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Heights Middle School received the prize for his documentary, *Apollo 11: A New Frontier in Space Exploration and Scientific Discovery*. He not only used the library's print and online resources, but he also recorded his voiceover in the library's Tech Hub recording studio. At the end of his documentary, D'Cruz thanked Shaker Middle School teacher David Saluda "for guiding me though this project and to Shaker Library for providing resources and providing the recording studio software CapCut."

To watch his documentary, go to youtube.com/watch?v=2RxOyJbYWng.

Jessica Smith is Appointed Youth Services Manager

Meet Jessica Zimmerman Smith, Youth Services Manager, who began work at the library in January.

Previously, she worked as a Children's Librarian with the Cleveland Public Library, Euclid Public Library, and Morley Library systems, and for two years she worked as a Literacy Specialist at Head Start Centers in Cleveland.



Her professional affiliations include the American Library Association, Public Library Association, Young Adult Library Services Association, Ohio Library Council, and Women's Fiction Writers Association. Currently, she co-chairs the Association of Library Service to Children's Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee and serves on the Ohio Ready to Read Task Force.

Smith grew up in rural Ohio where many of her teachers, especially in high school, arranged trips to cities like Baltimore, Toronto, and Washington D.C. "They also introduced us to the literature of writers who did not look like us, including Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Zora Neale Hurston," says Smith.

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association



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After graduating from Ohio Northern University with a bachelor's in political science, Smith worked for the Ohio House of Representatives and discovered that what she loved about the job was answering constituent phone calls and emails.

"I enjoyed talking about policy, but it was more satisfying to connect people with the resources and information they needed," says Smith. When she and her husband relocated to Rhode Island for his work, Smith found a job as a library assistant. She later earned her master of library and information science degree from Kent State University and never looked back.

"The best part of my job is working with teens," she says. "I love how passionate they are about everything, how I think I have them figured out and then they are completely different. They teach me to check my biases, and, in their kindness, they do not tell me how old and nerdy I am. It is a privilege to be a small part of each of their lives."

In 2021, Smith became an Ohio Ready to Read Early Literacy Trainer. "As librarians, we are uniquely positioned to help caregivers and teachers make the most out of the first five years in a child's life, and I am proud to be a part of a network of trainers to pass on this knowledge to a wider network of library workers."

Her reading depends upon the weather and how full her schedule is. "In the summer I can usually be found on the front porch reading something fast-paced and fun. In the fall I prefer atmospheric reads, and in the winter, I like to curl up with fat hardcovers full of world-building, and for some reason, I read more nonfiction in the spring," says Smith.

The three books Smith always recommends are *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia, a perfect mixture of West African mythology and American tall tales best enjoyed as an audiobook, *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson, and S.A. Chakraborty's *Daevabad Trilogy*, which is full of middle eastern mythology, djinns, magic, perilous quests, and a hero who does the saving. She is currently reading *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone* by Benjamin Stevenson, and *The Neuroscience of You: How Every Brain Is Different and How to Understand Yours* by Chantel Prat. She gravitates toward



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print but when she travels, she loads up her Kindle.

When she is not working or reading, she enjoys paddle boarding, quilting, crocheting, Cricuting, and tabletop board games. She and her husband, Michael, who works in IT, have lived in Shaker for 10 years and have three teenagers and two dogs. Smith is a welcome addition to the library with her wealth of information on reading and literacy, and she is ready to recommend good books for young readers and their families.

Summer Reading Continues

The benefits of summer reading are clear. National research finds that students who participate in library summer reading programs score higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year than those who do not participate.

There's still time to sign up for summer reading and to take home some great prizes thanks to the Friends of the Shaker Library, which underwrites the program. And library staff is ready to recommend books for even the most reluctant readers.

National Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is National Library Card Sign-up month. A Shaker



Library card provides

access to material from any CLEVNET library along with eMedia from Libby, Overdrive, Hoopla, and Kanopy. From borrowing audiobooks to streaming movies to taking virtual Do-It-Yourself classes, there is so

much that can be accessed with a library card. Visit the Circulation Desk for more details on how to sign up and get connected to a world of entertainment and educational support.

Quarterly Library Closings

The library will be closed:

- **Tuesday, July 4** for Independence Day
- **Friday, July 21** opening at 10:30 am so staff can attend training
- **Monday, September 4** for Labor Day **SL**



Margaret Simon, center, celebrated her retirement with a big roomful of well-wishers including Library Director Amy Switzer and Shaker Heights Mayor David E. Weiss.

Margaret Simon Completes Final Chapter at Library

Margaret Simon – who many in town know as Shaker’s most vocal and most likeable ice hockey mom – also has been one of Shaker Life’s most valuable assets. As the public relations manager for the Shaker Heights Public Library, she has provided our residents with in-depth information on library activities for more than 30 years.

Margaret retired this spring, and received a gala send-off from her colleagues and friends, including Library Director Amy Switzer and Mayor David E. Weiss. We at the magazine wish her all the best in her future endeavors, whether sipping her favorite beverage in Barbados or just hanging out at the Van Aken District. Cheers, Margaret! And thank you. **SL**

Find your voice at Shaker Library!



Summer Reading:

Now thru August 1

Log each day that you read.

Read or listen to anything you like.

Complete activities for a chance to win more prizes.

shakerlibrary.beanstack.org

Join us and meet your neighbors at National Night Out

Sponsored by Shaker Heights Police Department

National Night Out is an annual event celebrated across the country that brings neighbors together to build community with each other and with local law enforcement.

Fun for All Ages!

- Music
 - Inflatables
 - Games
 - Giveaways
 - Ice Cream
 - Free Food
 - Local Vendors
 - Meet the K9s
- And, more...



Serving in Partnership with the Community



Tue. | Aug. 1 | 6-8 pm

The Colonnade (next to the STJ Community Building at 3450 Lee Rd.)
No registration necessary.



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In Partnership

Wayne Hudson,
Shaker's New Police Chief,
is a Man on
a Mission

with
Our
community

Interview by Rory O'Connor | Photography by Robert Muller



Above: (middle row left) Hudson with Municipal Court Judge Anne Walton Keller; (middle row right) City Councilmember Ifeolu A. C. Claytor and Hudson share a laugh; (bottom) Hudson and his mentor, John Ewing, Jr., retired deputy chief of the Omaha Police Department. Opposite page: (left) Mayor David Weiss administers the oath of office; (right) Hudson with his wife, Jennifer.



When Wayne D. Hudson was sworn in as the new chief of police for Shaker Heights in January, City Council chambers were packed with family; friends; elected officials; representatives of Shaker Schools, Shaker Police, Shaker Fire, Citizens Police Academy; and even law enforcement from surrounding cities.

During his introduction, Mayor David Weiss said, “We don’t change chiefs of police very often, and when we do, it’s a very important day for us. We had a national search. This was not an easy process to get through, but a very robust process. At the end of the day, Wayne Hudson really stood out for us. We are very lucky to have him join us in Shaker Heights.”

Hudson most recently served as chief deputy sheriff of Douglas County, Nebraska – the most populous county in the state. A native of Omaha, Hudson joined the Air Force after high school, serving from 1986-1992.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska, and a master’s degree in public administration from University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy’s 234th session and a past president of the Metropolitan Chiefs Association in Nebraska.

Hudson comes to Shaker as a man on a mission: to make the men and women responsible for law enforcement in town Shaker-centric, as much as possible, starting with a focus on the City’s youth.

The interview has been edited for length and clarity.



Hudson talks to students in Brian Berger's criminology class at Shaker Heights High School.

Q How do Shaker's size and wide-ranging demographics impact your law enforcement strategies? What can residents expect?

A Residents can expect a neighborhood-specific style of community policing called Community Directed Policing, which is a way for a law enforcement agency to design a crime-prevention/intervention strategy based on the specific needs of each neighborhood. The Shaker Heights Police Department will meet with each established neighborhood association to learn what we can do to assist with any crime or safety concerns. This model will concentrate on how the SHPD can be a partner to assist in making the community safer. The first phrase of our mission statement is "In partnership with our community."

Q You've spoken to a criminology class at Shaker Heights High School. What should people know and teach their kids about interacting with law enforcement?

A We are not the enemy. We are not to be feared. And we're not the disciplinary police. I know

this sounds clichéd, but we're here to serve and protect all residents of our city, and this includes our youth. The youth in our community have rights. Parents and guardians should tell kids we're here to help them if there's an issue. Parents and guardians should be involved in any and all questioning of their minor child.

Q What can adults learn about interacting with law enforcement?

A To try to prevent some of the negative interactions with law enforcement that you see sometimes happening across the country, I put together a program called "What to Do When Stopped by Law Enforcement." It's a 45-minute presentation. Myself and another gentleman from Omaha taught this class from a standpoint of a law enforcement officer and also a community member. I've taught it once so far here at a youth gathering and once at the High School. You'd be amazed at how many people, even adults, don't understand what to do in a traffic stop.

Don't ever fight your ticket on the street, you will never win. The other thing is, don't argue on the street. If you feel the officer was wrong, file a formal complaint. Most agencies have what's called an early warning system. A certain number of complaints against an officer during a certain time period triggers the CEO to look at that officer harder. We investigate every complaint that comes through this office.

Q Any other ideas about how to engage with the community?

A In connecting with our youth, I'd love to see programs that bring law enforcement and the youth in our community together for positive interactions and communication. In Nebraska, I did an annual, free program called Teen Summit to provide high school students with networking opportunities, life skills training, college prep training, and a career and health fair. Non-profit organizations attended to connect the kids with resources to help them reach their future goals.

I also want to implement a Youth Citizens Academy. What I'm hoping to do is spark some interest in law enforcement. After school is out, we would have a program where kids come in for a week or two and see what it's like to be a law enforcement officer. Just a small piece.





Onaway first-graders walk with the chief to City Hall for a presentation by the police and fire departments.





Q Recruiting officers from the community as much as possible?

A Exactly. They already have a buy-in. They know the community, they know the culture of the community, they know the Shaker way. That's what I want. When you bring in somebody from the outside, they're bringing their biases in, they're bringing their culture in, and sometimes that won't fit with this community. But if I've got somebody who grew up here and has lived here, and they have the training and education, it's a win-win.

Q Have you met with the Citizens Police Academy?

A I have. The Citizens Police Academy is a testament to this community because you have a group of individuals who are willing to give up their time, go to the academy, form an association, and turn around and give back to the department and the citizens of Shaker Heights.

Q Why is communication important in your job?

A Effective communication is critical in law enforcement. Too many times we see law enforcement agencies and community members talking at each other instead of talking to each other. As a law enforcement leader I feel it is vitally important that I make the space necessary for my agency and the community to have active dialogue. This may mean having open, honest, and sometimes uncomfortable conversations. I do this because it's hard to de-humanize someone when you are having a face-to-face conversation.

Q You've said that Shaker has more DEI training than other agencies you know of.

A One of the many things that attracted me to Shaker Heights was the intentional effort the City has made to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion. The City has a full-time chief DEI officer who is very active within City departments and the community. When I was doing my research on Shaker Heights, I was able to see how DEI is woven into the very fabric of the City administration.

Q You've said that citizen complaints about the police are very low in town. That can be taken as a compliment to your predecessor.

A In the past three years there have been close to 100,000 calls for service in Shaker Heights. Out of the 100,000 calls for service there have been just 45 citizen complaints with only five of those being complaints of biased policing. That's remarkable. Former Chief Jeff DeMuth set a standard of law enforcement that I can follow and that I can build upon. He understood that to keep public trust and legitimacy, we as law enforcement leaders must set high standards for integrity, ethics, and performance. We must hold our people accountable for their actions and inactions.

Q Finally: At your swearing-in ceremony you talked about the warrior vs the guardian sides of law enforcement and, interestingly, Plato's vision of a perfect society. Can you elaborate?

A There are two sides to law enforcement. There's a warrior side, and there's a guardian side. I love the guardian side when it comes to Plato's vision of a perfect society. It says, in a republic that honors the core of democracy, the greatest amount of power is given to those called guardians. Only those with the most impeccable character are chosen to bear the responsibility of protecting the democracy. We as law enforcement leaders know that 99 percent of what we do is protecting and serving the community. We recruit, hire, and retain those individuals that want to be guardians to our community. **SL**



Great Shaker Homes

Building the Dream in Shaker



An extraordinary collaboration - and donations of time and talent - brought the 2022 St. Jude Dream Home to Shaker Heights

By Sharon Holbrook

Photography by Kevin G. Reeves

Like many homes in Shaker Heights, the thoughtfully crafted house at 22469 Fairmount Boulevard has built-in bookshelves, beautiful moldings, window seats, and hardwood floors. It also has typical 1920s features like a third floor living space, a laundry chute, and even a “milk door” for deliveries. But this house is not part of Shaker’s historic housing stock: it’s a brand-new modern-farmhouse style home.

The “milk door” in the garage wall isn’t for the milk delivery – it’s a keypad-locked compartment for Amazon and other delivery people to safely leave packages. The laundry chute doesn’t lead to a typical basement washer and dryer – it leads to a first-floor laundry room just off a mudroom. And while the third floor can be reached by stairs, you can also reach it by an elevator that serves the basement and the first, second, and third floors.

The combination of new construction with classic Shaker touches isn’t the only noteworthy feature of the house: It’s also Shaker Heights’ first St. Jude Dream Home. St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis provides free care to children with cancer and other serious illnesses, and it raises funds in part by raffling off Dream Homes around the country. In November, after sales of raffle tickets for the Shaker home raised over \$2 million, Akron resident Kevin Hopson won the Fairmount Boulevard house.

Why Shaker?

The Fairmount Boulevard house was a collaboration of many professionals. There were more than 50 sponsors and donors. But the driving force behind the St. Jude Dream Home was the building team at Keystate Homes. Keystate is a family-owned custom home and construction business founded in 1979 by Avner and Mina Gotlieb, and their son Andrew leads much of the day-to-day work these days.

Andrew Gotlieb says he approached the City of Shaker Heights five or six years ago about Keystate becoming an approved builder for infill lots in Shaker. Infill lots are vacant parcels within established neighborhoods, affording buyers a unique opportunity to purchase a newly constructed home. More recently, the St. Jude's team approached Keystate about heading up the Dream Home project, and Gotlieb saw the chance to bring this opportunity to an infill lot in Shaker Heights. (To find out more about purchasing and building on an infill lot in Shaker, visit shakeronline.com/843/Infill-Housing.)

Typically, builders undertake the St. Jude's Dream Home as a sort of model home in a new development, hoping that the publicity will help the builder sell additional houses that are similar to it. The Fairmount house, by contrast, is a custom home built specifically for the unique requirements of the existing lot and to fit with the surrounding homes and Shaker's standards of design. This additional complexity of the build may be the reason that the Fairmount house is St. Jude's first-ever infill house in Cleveland, but those details didn't scare off Keystate. Custom homes, says Gotlieb, are what Keystate has done for years.

Gotlieb knew this lot would be perfect for the Dream Home, and Shaker Heights, which owned the parcel, agreed and donated it. Neither the Gotliebs, their company, the City of Shaker Heights, nor most of the professionals who made the Dream Home happen were compensated for their work on the project.



Avner and Andrew Gotlieb

Homegrown Collaborators

Once Keystate and Shaker Heights agreed to move forward, Keystate worked with architect Gary Neola of Cornerstone Architecture and began the approvals process with Shaker Heights. As building began, Keystate did run into some of the common issues of the pandemic economy: labor shortages and supply chain delays. Nevertheless, the home was ultimately completed in about 12 months.

Early in the process, Gotlieb reached out for help from his friend, Shaker Heights resident Kate Stuart of Catherine Stuart Design. Stuart, an interior designer, agreed to work on a design for a family fun area in the home. She, in turn, reached out to fellow designer and Shaker resident Jacqueline Prude of Jacqueline Interiors, and invited her to collaborate on the project. Stuart and Prude each have two children in Shaker Schools, and the two met years ago when they were room parents at Fernway Elementary School.

While other designers donated their services for other parts of the home (see QR code for a list of contributors), Stuart and Prude were tasked with transforming the large, sunny third floor into a family-friendly hangout. Together, they planned the space which, if a future owner desires, can be converted to add one or two more bedrooms to the three-bedroom house. For now, it's a flexible space built for fun.

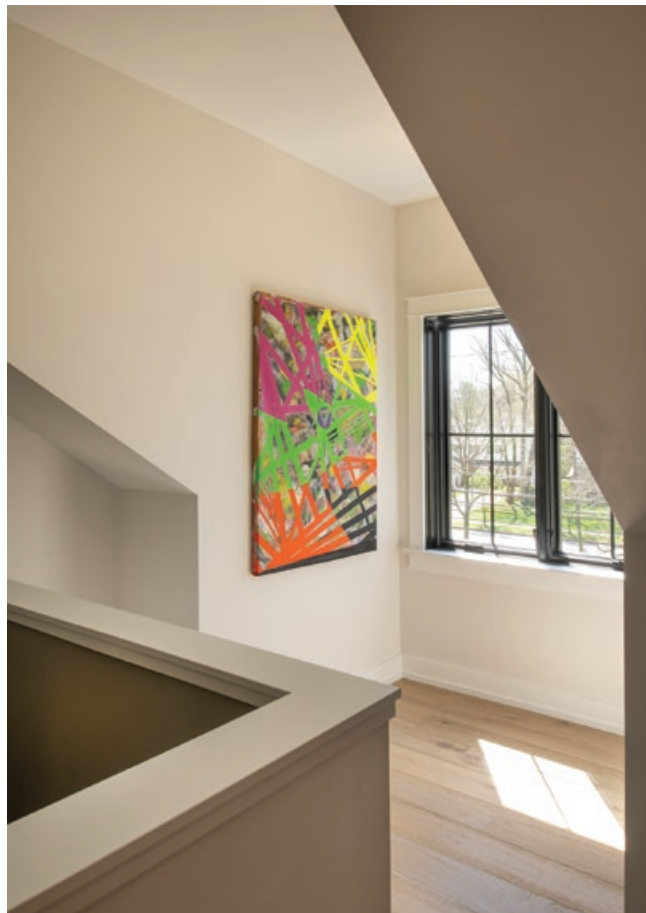
On one side of the third floor, there's a colorful rock-climbing wall that Prude hand-stamped with a geometric design in navy blue paint. (Shaker Heights business Shaker Rocks donated some of the materials for the rock-climbing setup.) There's also a built-in playhouse with a slide and real siding that echoes the siding on the outside of the house. Its doorway is wide enough to admit a child in a wheelchair. In this play area, Stuart and Prude wanted to honor a local patient of St. Jude's, so the hospital put them in touch with a Northeast Ohio family who had traveled to St. Jude's for brain cancer treatment. That's why the wall mural by local artist Kelle Schwab includes a friendly little snake – it's 10-year-old Jaiden's favorite animal. (Jaiden, who is back home again, also loves doing magic tricks and jumping on his trampoline.)





On the other side of the third floor, the centerpiece is a TV-ready custom bookcase. Add a comfy couch, and maybe a beverage fridge and snacks – there’s an area for that – and the homeowner will be ready for casual entertaining. Shaker artist Julius Hannah (Shaker Life, Winter 2021) lent some of his colorful paintings to add to the décor.

Around the third floor are cozy nooks created by dormer windows, and Stuart and Prude fitted one of these out with a spacious, cushioned window seat. Anticipating that this will be a popular hangout space, there are even handy USB ports for charging phones and other devices. Just as they did for the play side, Stuart and Prude recruited and worked with additional collaborators who also donated their time and materials – from the shelving to the fabric and sewing for the window seats.





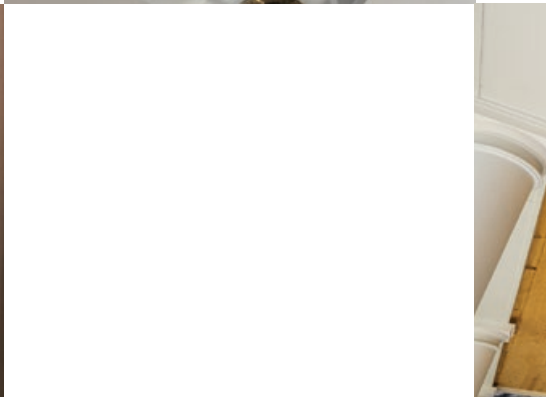
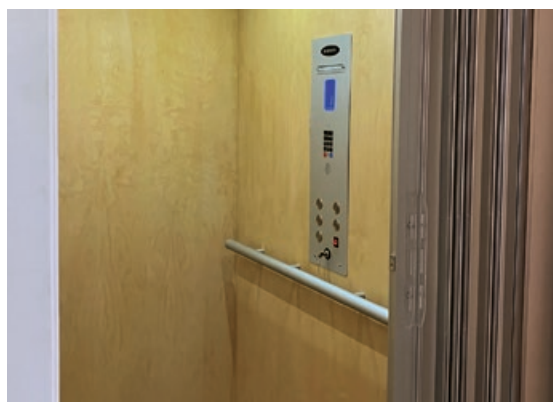
A homeowner-friendly (and earth-friendly) design

The second floor has three bedrooms and two full baths, including the primary suite with its walk-in closet and a bathroom featuring a show-stopping tile wall. A flexible, light-filled lofted space overlooks the first-floor great room. An open floor plan on the first floor means that the great room flows seamlessly into a dining space and a large, modern kitchen with additional counter-height seating at the island. Again, there's a nod to historic Shaker homes here: a handsome bank of cabinets with its own extra sink says "butler's pantry" while also saying "here's where you'd set up the bar when you have folks over" and "here's where you'd make the kids wash their hands before dinner so they won't be underfoot in your cooking area."

The attached two-car garage has a door that opens right into the kitchen, so grocery bags can easily be transported inside on shopping days. For everyday purposes, the garage also has a separate door into the home's mudroom so outdoor mess and backpacks don't wind up on the kitchen floor. It's the kind of thoughtful design that considers not only what looks good, but also what day-to-day living will be like in the house.

Green building is always an aim of Keystate, so that thoughtful planning also extended to making the house earth-friendly. Keystate works to avoid waste and send less to the landfill, so it used an aggregate of limestone and crushed excess brick, porcelain, granite, and quartz to build the base under the driveway. The siding on the home (and the third-floor playhouse) is Hardie siding made from recycled wood mixed with cement.

Gotlieb said Keystate also works to stay as local as possible with vendors, like Sherwin Williams for paint, Kichler for lighting, and Lubrizol and Eaton for plumbing and electrical components. That helps support local jobs, but it also reduces carbon emissions from transportation. Even the trim in the house, which is all wood, was harvested within 200 miles of the site.





It doesn't end there: All the lightbulbs in the house are LED, and in the basement, there's a tankless water heater, which means hot water on demand instead of a bulky water heater working 24/7 to keep water hot. And the home – not just its appliances and windows – will be energy-star certified, which will mean fewer drafts and lower ongoing energy costs for the homeowner.

After pandemic delays and supply-chain shortages, the transformation of 22469 Fairmount is complete, and it's ready for its next phase. If a vacant lot could have a dream for itself, it might have dreamed of this: a new home, meticulously constructed, and furnished with good deeds. **SL**







"We're Saving the World"

Shaker's elementary school students are all in on food waste composting: **It stinks** and **it's gross**, but **it's fun**.

By Joe Miller
Photography by Gus Chan





In two years, Fernway has diverted about 6,300 pounds of food waste from garbage dumps.





“It just feels good to help the world”

“It just feels good to help the world,” says nine-year-old Anjali Lathia during Fernway’s third-grade lunch period. Other nine-year-olds at her table excitedly agree. “It doesn’t go into landfills and that’s awesome,” says Aurelia Pohl. “We’re saving the world and we won’t have to move to Mars or something,” adds Greta Susick with a laugh.

When leftovers end up in landfills, the rotting food produces methane, a harmful greenhouse gas. When that same waste is properly composted, it “vastly reduces” methane emissions and can lower a school’s carbon footprint, says Zoe Apisdorf, Rust Belt Riders’ director of residential experience.

The Shaker Heights City School District sees the potential. By next school year the District’s remaining three elementary schools – Lomond, Boulevard, and Mercer – will be added to the Rust Belt Riders pickup route. Additionally, AVI Food Service, the District’s meal provider, is looking to use Rust Belt Riders to recycle its kitchen waste.

The District is considering funding options for a broader program, says Chief Operating Officer Jeffrey Grosse. “We really want to move forward with sustainability and we’re looking at all ways to be proactive,” he says.

Fernway’s third graders got the ball rolling two years ago when they studied sustainability as part of the International Baccalaureate unit called Sharing the Planet. After learning about the benefits of composting, the kids began pushing for a building-wide plan and asked Fernway’s Parent Teacher Organization to help fund services from Rust Belt Riders. The company charges \$30 a week per bin for commercial pickup services.

In the beginning, the third graders promoted composting around the school with posters that detailed what could and couldn’t go into the buckets. They also took charge of collecting and emptying the buckets during the first full year. Although the school custodian has since taken over bucket duty, the kids – kindergarten through fourth grade – are still active participants during cleanup time.

"This really was born of the students," says third-grade teacher Megan Konopinski as her students clear off their lunch tables. "The kids are used to it now. They've been doing it for two years and it's just very natural for them."

Over the two years, Fernway has diverted about 6,300 pounds of food waste from garbage dumps, according to Rust Belt Riders.

"It's allowing the kids to see that their actions can make a difference in their school, their community, and their environment. That's pretty powerful," says Fernway Principal Chris Hayward.

Onaway School took a slightly different path to composting. Prompted by a parent's interest, art teacher Tim Kalan approached Rust Belt Riders and found funding through a Shaker Schools Foundation grant. For labor, he discovered that the fourth graders and the lunch aides were ready and eager to pitch in.

"The stars all aligned," says Kalan. "It's a model that can work."

When lunch is over, a team of fourth graders takes the green buckets outside and picks out anything that can't be composted. They then empty the buckets, rinse them out with water and bring them back inside. The year-long effort so far has resulted in almost 3,200 pounds of scraps diverted to the Rust Belt Rider composting facility.

"It stinks and it's gross, but it's fun," says fourth-grader Iris Linder after the daily collection.

"It really does stink," co-worker Alex Potts agrees. "But we're helping the planet and we're helping our school," she adds.

With Mercer and Boulevard schools planning to add Rust Belt Riders next school year, the District is considering paying for composting at those buildings as well as Fernway and Onaway, according to Grosse. "We're definitely open to that conversation," he says.





AVI Food Service is also considering reviving a partnership with Rust Belt Riders to recycle “pre-consumer waste” from the main kitchen at Shaker Heights High School. Mark Jacobs, AVI’s onsite food service director, says the brief program started in 2019 and “worked really well” until it was disrupted by the pandemic.

“Hopefully by next year we’ll be able to reintroduce it back at the High School,” Jacobs says.

Separate from the other elementaries, Lomond School will benefit from a new pilot partnership between Rust Belt Riders and the City of Shaker Heights (see @shakeronline for more details).

Funded by a \$16,000 grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, the pilot creates a Rust Belt Rider community drop-off site at Lomond School. Although similar to other local Rust Belt Rider sites at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes and The Dealership, the new site will be available free only to the Lomond neighborhood, potentially reaching 1,700 households.

The company plans to have the site open this summer and hopes to learn how removing cost as a barrier impacts accessibility and the amount of waste collected. Rust Belt Riders charges customers \$10 a month to use its other drop-off sites and \$30 a month for home pickup.

Neighborhood customers will be able to sign up for the service through the City’s website. For hosting the site, Lomond will be able to recycle lunch scraps for free.

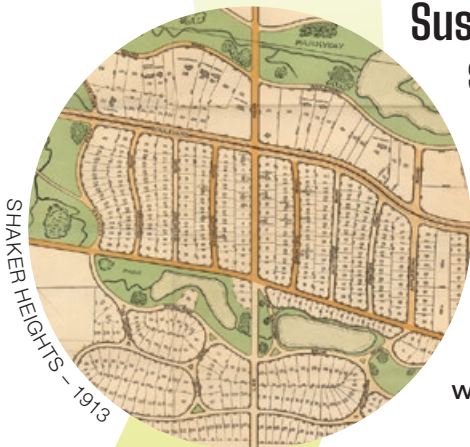
“The kids will do it during the school year and ideally will continue this practice at home during the summer,” Apisdorf says. “Families will be able to keep up the practice of food scrap diversion at home and the kids will be that much better prepared to come back and make sure the school is lowering its carbon footprint and waste output.”

“The best practice is to have the students as involved as possible,” she says. **SL**

A GUIDE TO SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT

The City's approach to sustainability is multi-faceted. Shaker Life looks at the various programs and services that impact our quality of life.

By Michael Peters



Sustainability seems like a modern concept.

But many of its ideas have been with us for as long as the City itself. Less than a decade after the 1902 book ***Garden Cities of To-morrow*** was published in England, the engineering firm hired by the developers of Shaker Heights Village went there to study the concept. The resulting master plan – with green spaces, the Doan Brook, and “rapid transit” within walking distance – largely survives today.

This integrated approach to sustainability, originally designed to attract homebuyers, remains the basis and inspiration for Shaker Heights' programs.

Skipping ahead just over 100 years from the City's founding takes us to the rainstorms of July 2014. This severe weather event led a group of concerned citizens to work with the City to form the Climate Change Task Force. Over the next several years a growing number of residents lent their time and expertise to help the City think about how to best prepare for the impacts of climate change.

Building on the momentum of – and enthusiasm for – this work, Mayor David E. Weiss elevated the task force into the City's Sustainability Committee in 2019. This standing committee consists of three City Council members and three citizen members appointed by the Mayor. It leads the sustainability efforts for programs that impact residents as well as the City's own operations. Shaker Heights was the first Cleveland suburb to have a sustainability program with dedicated staff support.

The Sustainability Committee has three subcommittees. Each has a specific focus area and is open to any interested member of the community.

» The Energy Subcommittee promotes energy efficiency, rooftop solar, and incentive programs for residents to reduce their energy use and source their electricity renewably.

» The Stormwater & Green Space Subcommittee created the City's Grow Not Mow areas that return selected sites to native meadow (while also saving the City time and expense), has worked to expand composting programs in the City and schools, and most recently orchestrated an electric lawn mower rebate program to improve air quality and reduce noise pollution.

» The third subcommittee is named Shaker Youth LEEDs and consists solely of high school students in Shaker

Heights. Originally created to solicit input on the City's LEED for Cities certification (through the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program), and to make sure the City benefited from the insight of students, it has created the popular EcoChallenge contest each April and chooses a sustainability project each academic year. It is open to any high school student in the City and recruits new members each fall.

In order to focus its sustainability efforts, the City in 2021 was certified under the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Cities program. The program is a collection of best practices from around the world, covering areas from greenhouse gas emissions to water use. Rather than start from scratch, participating in this program allowed the City to hone in on some of the highest impact areas in an organized fashion.

Thanks to the assistance of numerous City partners, including the Cleveland Department of Water, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, the City achieved the Gold level of certification. There are four levels (Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum) and only two other cities in Ohio have certified: Cleveland and Cincinnati.

The City scored very well in numerous categories, particularly quality of life, while several areas were noted as areas of improvement. This served as the benchmark for prioritizing efforts by the sustainability committee and City administration. These efforts, managed by the City's sustainability coordinator, are reviewed each year and currently include a broad mix of programs and services. Many are collaborations with City departments from Public Works and Recreation to the Fire Department and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.





Renewable Electricity

One of the most impactful areas has been transitioning the electricity supply to renewable sources. This is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions for the City, since there is no heavy industry, and is the electricity used by the City itself and all of the households and small businesses. So in 2020, the City entered into a new electricity supply contract so that all City operations (including streetlights) were offset with Renewable Energy Credits, making it one of the first in the state to source renewable electricity.

The Sustainability Committee wanted to see how this could be expanded to residential electricity use – by far the largest contributor in the City to greenhouse gas emissions – and if the electricity could be sourced as close to Shaker Heights as possible. Fortunately there was a way to quickly and easily address the residential use, and it went back to a state law passed over 20 years ago.

In the fall of 2000, residents overwhelmingly voted to create a Community Choice Aggregation program under the new state law that allowed the City to purchase energy in bulk for its residents and small businesses. The City has long operated a natural gas aggregation program, locking in fixed long-term rates to help residents budget for their utility bills. Starting in June this year, this same benefit was provided for renewable electricity with a two-year fixed price; residents do not have to take any action to be included (but can opt out if they want to shop for an electricity supplier themselves). All electricity delivered through the program will be offset with Renewable Energy Credits.

The direct benefit from the second part of the equation – sourcing the electricity as close to the City as possible – is cleaner air, as renewables replace the burning of fossil fuels. There were no new Ohio-based solar or wind projects available for the start of the program but the goal is to source at least a portion of the next contract from Ohio renewable sources.

In the meantime there is a way for homeowners to generate renewable electricity as close to home as one could possibly get. Over the past several years residents and small businesses have been eligible to join the Cuyahoga County Solar Co-op. This no-cost and no-obligation program run by the non-profit Solar United Neighbors is essentially a buying club for rooftop solar. At last count, over 65 homes – at least one in every neighborhood – have solar. This includes all types of homes, even those with slate roofs, and the City has streamlined the approval process.

Incentives included in the Inflation Reduction Act can result in a federal tax credit to the homeowner of 30 percent or more.

Whether you are able to generate your own electricity or not, more and more residents are also driving electric vehicles. Currently, nearly 300 electric vehicles are registered in the City, reducing tailpipe emissions while benefitting their owners with lower operating and maintenance costs.

In 2021, through a grant from the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council, the City installed seven charging ports at four locations: Thornton Park, City Hall, The Dealership on Lee Road, and the public parking lot on Larchmere Boulevard. The electricity delivered through the chargers is also offset with Renewable Energy Credits, further reducing the environmental impact of driving electric.

The availability of public charging allows everyone in the City to drive electric if they choose. It can be difficult for residents living in multi-family housing to get permission to install a charger, so access to public charging is important. Fortunately several additional sites are in process, including a Tesla Supercharger site at Shaker Plaza in The Van Aken District.



It's easy to see how using renewable energy in these ways reduces greenhouse gas emissions, but one other area of the Sustainability Committee's focus – solid waste – has a surprisingly large impact on emissions too, particularly methane emissions.

Solid Waste and Recycling

Public Works crews collect the majority of solid waste in the City. This allows the City to accurately measure the waste so programs and alternatives can be created for diverting as much as possible from methane-generating landfills.

Shaker's driveway program allows for the collection of landfill and recyclable material. The City's new recycling contract allows for a wider range of recycled material, but we continue to experience the "wish-cycling" that leads residents to hope that more of what they throw out can be recycled. The unintended consequence is that if the recycling bucket contains too much contamination from non-recyclable materials, it has to be sent to a landfill to not compromise the whole program.

There is an alternative to landfill and recycling and it has a tremendous impact. Typically more than 30 percent of municipal household waste is food waste, which generates methane in landfills. This is why the City also offers several opportunities to compost food waste.

Residents can divert their food waste from the landfill through three different options: backyard composting, drop-off sites, and a pick-up program.

For those with a backyard and the proper enclosure, a composting permit is available from the Public Works Department. (There is no cost but you must complete and return the form to the Service Center at 15600 Chagrin Boulevard.) Mixing a combination of leaves and food scraps (but not bones or meat – those require commercial composting) along with a little muscle to turn your pile results in rich soil for your garden or flower beds.

If this is too labor intensive, then for a small monthly fee you can sign up for Rust Belt Riders, the City's composting partner. There are drop-off sites at The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, The Dealership on Lee Road, and the Unitarian Universalist campus on Shaker Boulevard. Just take your food scraps, which in this case can include meat and bones, to the nearest bin as often as you like, emptying your reusable container or using compostable bags – no plastic please!

For even more convenience, sign up for the pick-up program where Rust Belt Riders will drop off a clean five-gallon bucket on your doorstep each week and take away the full one. You also receive discounts on the soil that is created from the composted material for your garden, potted plants, or flower beds.

The City and several schools also provide composting for staff, visitors, and students. The Fire Department operated an early pilot program that was so successful more City buildings were added to the program. Fernway School was the first public school to start a composting program, with Onaway School joining last year and additional schools in the works. (See story on page 46.) St. Dominic School's composting program helped earn it Green Ribbon status from the Ohio Department of Education. Last year, nearly 600,000 pounds of food



waste was diverted from the landfill in Shaker Heights through these programs, which also saved the City thousands of dollars in landfill costs.

To expand upon this success, earlier this year the City received a Special Projects Grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District to pilot a neighborhood-based composting program. This will combine a drop-off site and a school program, and is taking place in the Lomond neighborhood. See the story on page 12 for details on how you can participate if you live in Lomond.

These are just some of the ways the City, schools, residents, and businesses are taking actions to combat climate change while also reducing energy costs, improving air quality, and turning food waste into garden soil. Visit the Sustainability pages on the City's website to learn more, submit a comment or idea, or volunteer for an upcoming event. **SL**



Photo courtesy Rust Belt Riders

Incentives Available to Residents

Several federal programs provide tax credits to help offset the costs of upgrading your home to make it more energy efficient. Many are included in the federal Inflation Reduction Act. Signed into law last summer, it encourages investing in domestic energy production, among other things.

Additional programs are expected soon through the State of Ohio. These include:

\$150 towards a home energy audit.

This is a great place to start as an energy professional will identify specific actions you can take to make your home more energy efficient and thus save money on utility bills.

30% of the cost – up to \$2,000 – for installation of the insulation your home energy audit will probably recommend, energy efficient windows and doors, an electric heat pump to provide more efficient heating and cooling, a heat pump water heater, and electrical panel upgrades if needed for the heat pump.

30% of the cost of rooftop solar, including options such as battery backup.

Up to \$7,500 for new or \$4,000 for used electric vehicles. These credits are income-qualified so some drivers will not qualify for the full credit.

Additional discounts on many of these upgrades will be available through rebate programs administered by state agencies. These are still being created and will provide low- and moderate-income households with additional incentives, including discounts of up to \$8,000 toward electric heat pumps and up to \$4,000 toward the upgrade of your electrical panel, if needed for the heat pump.

Resources:



The White House: Clean Energy for All

Learn more on how you or your family can save on utility bills, get support to purchase electric vehicles and energy-saving appliances, and access the economic opportunities of the clean energy future.



Federal Tax Incentives

Find out more about which tax rebates and incentives you are eligible for.





Work.
Live.



A Call to Serve

By Sue Starrett
Photography by Jason Miller

The New Century Hymnal

The New Century Hymnal

Who: Matthew Wooster

Where: Onaway

Business: Senior Minister of Plymouth Church since August 2021. Founded in 1916, Plymouth Church is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. The first service in the Shaker location on Coventry Road was held 100 years ago, in February 1923.

What I Love About My Work: The Christian faith is a deep well of beauty, intellectual rigor, and the practices of justice and peace – in both relationships and society. It is a joy, and a high calling, to share these gifts. Let's be honest: The church too often fails in this work and is used as an instrument of abuse instead of love.

Week to week, I love celebrating baptisms and weddings, supporting people in vulnerable times of illness and grief, partnering with amazing local nonprofits and faith communities, and experiencing the authentic joy of joining a diverse people in singing and prayer. I am thankful to be in a church with both a sense of tradition and an openness in theological inquiry.

I also get to work with some absolutely amazing people at Plymouth Church. In particular, this year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Jim Riggs as Minister of Music and the Arts. Jim is taking a well-deserved sabbatical this summer, and I look forward to welcoming him back this fall.

It has been wonderful to meet the other members of the Heights-area clergy. We get together regularly and are building bonds of support and respect with each other.

Personal Background: I was blessed to grow up in a nurturing UCC church community in Upper Arlington, Ohio. The members showed me that being a traditional church actually means to learn and to change. A year after graduating with a degree in psychology from Miami University, I entered seminary – a change in direction from my plan to become a counselor. Since earning my master of divinity degree, I've been serving as an ordained minister for 22 years. In 2010, I had the joy of enrolling in



the Chicago Theological Seminary to earn a Doctor of Ministry degree focused on preaching.

My wife Betsy is also a minister. She serves the Federated Church in Chagrin Falls, and I'm inspired by her spirit. I have two adult stepsons who are both married, and we just became grandparents this year. I've spent most of my life in Ohio, residing in Hudson for 15 years while I served in the UCC churches of Hudson and Tallmadge. Betsy was on the ministerial staff at Fairmount Presbyterian Church during that time. Before moving to Shaker Heights in July 2021, we lived in Wellesley, Massachusetts, where I was minister of the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church for seven years. We loved being in New England, but this move was a welcome sense of coming home.

In Shaker Heights, I feel a deep sense of affinity and of being rooted. I have an understanding and love for the kind of community Shaker is, and appreciate its gifts while recognizing its challenges.

On Working and Living in Shaker Heights: I love that we can sit around the fire in our back yard and hear the bells of Plymouth Church. We are grateful for a community that seeks to make connections with neighbors to be helpful, and to honor and support the dignity of diverse people. Loving your neighbors is a central religious value, and I see it embodied here.

Betsy and I often walk at nearby Southerly Park, Lower Lake, and the Nature Center. On a beautiful day last fall, we celebrated the wedding of our older son at the Nature Center gazebo. I'm a regular at the local libraries and farmers' markets, where it's fun to bump into neighbors and congregants. Northstar Café and Brassica connect me to my Columbus roots. And we are enthusiastic fans of the Cleveland Orchestra, Playhouse Square, and the Cleveland Cavs.

Contact: Plymouth Church, 2860 Coventry Road, 216-921-3510 ext. 102, mwooster@plymouthchurchucc.org **SL**

Scene in Shaker

By Zachary Lewis

There are 20 words on the memorial to baseball fanatic Tom Fuerst, but only two words are needed to describe the marker itself: home run.

For the late founding father of youth baseball in Shaker and backer of generations of young players in the City, there may be no tribute more fitting or meaningful than the plaque the Shaker Youth Baseball League installed at Lomond Field before its first game in late May.

Simple but moving, the plaque shows a color photo of Fuerst in full catcher's gear, ready as ever to play,

and uses his widely-known nickname, "The Commish," in thanking "A True Friend to Shaker Heights."

"Having something permanent there is a really nice gesture," says fitness trainer Ben Fuerst, Tom's son. "My dad loved baseball, and he loved Shaker, and he would have been absolutely blown away by this."

It wasn't just baseball or Shaker that Fuerst loved, of course. Yes, Fuerst was passionate about the sport. Yes, he spent his retirement from real estate and an earlier jewelry business working as a ticket taker for the Lake County Captains, just to keep hearing the crack of the bat and thump of a good fastball. What he really cared about, though, was children. After helping get SYBL off the ground in the early 1990s, Fuerst spent most of the next 30 years working tirelessly to keep the organization running smoothly and ensuring that the children of Shaker had fun and grew as players.

"For as long as I knew Tom, he loved doing whatever made the game of baseball better for kids," says Steve Baker, the current president of SYBL. "He totally immersed himself in youth baseball. He was old school, always so much fun to have around."

The same was true at the Baseball Heritage Museum and League Park in Cleveland, where Fuerst also volunteered in retirement.

Bob Zimmer, the museum's president, said Fuerst gave generously of his time and energy. Fuerst went so far as to organize a clinic with Justine Siegal, the first female coach in men's professional baseball and founder of a group called Baseball for All. For that reason, the museum created its own tribute to Fuerst after his death in 2021:

a memorial fund supporting youth baseball programs all over Northeast





Ohio (baseballheritagemuseum.org/tribute-and-memorial-gifts).

"He'd give you the shirt off his back if he thought that would be helpful," Zimmer said. "I miss him."

Fuerst gave of himself outside the world of baseball, too. Even after he took ill and needed assistance following surgery, Fuerst kept on giving, helping his fellow veterans as a volunteer at the Louis Stokes Cleveland

VA Medical Center.

"He just liked helping people," Ben says. "He always put himself pretty low on the pecking order. He was always finding things he could do to help others."

Choosing to commission an original plaque was just the first thing SYBL got right as it weighed how to honor Fuerst. The other was choosing to install it at Lomond Field. Of all the diamonds in Shaker, Lomond is the one most heavily steeped in Fuerst family lore. It was there that Fuerst organized, coached, and supervised many games, and where he and other coaches encountered generations of budding players trying out for the league.

Most special of all: It was at Lomond that Ben got his first big hit and where he lost his father's beloved childhood mitt amidst the hubbub following an injury. No wonder Fuerst asked, only half in jest, to have his ashes spread at the park. (They were not.) However, the memorial plaque is a different story. "They could not have picked a better location," Ben says. **SL**



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Pauline has always been passionate about educating and giving people the tools needed to succeed.

As a professor, analyst, Certified Financial Planner and recent *Crain's* Eight Over 80 honoree, she has impacted many and continues to inspire and inform as a volunteer and philanthropist.

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