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WINTER 2023

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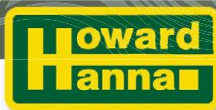
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Let There Be Light

For the Shaker Schools, athletics can bridge racial and cultural divides and serve as a tool in the quest for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

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Great Shaker Homes

The George G.G. Peckham house on South Park Boulevard is undergoing a massive renovation to continue its tradition of delighting guests into its second century.



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While there are any number of places around town to grab a cuppa joe, here's a look at four venues in Shaker's commercial districts.

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A More Perfect Justice

Shaker Heights Municipal Court Judge Anne Walton Keller works tirelessly to create the most fair and efficient court possible.



ON THE COVER:

Student athletes Javiera Baeza and Kellon Smith.
Photography by Gus Chan.

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SHAKER LIFE

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

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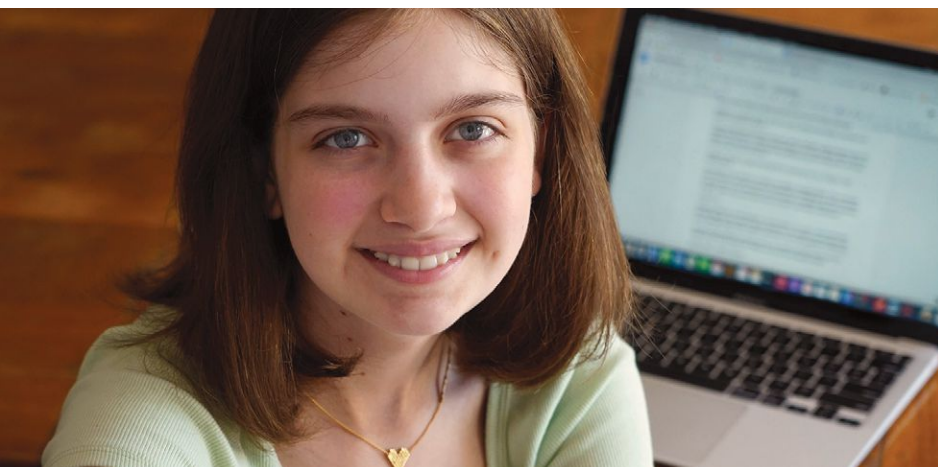


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Shaker is the place where creative sparks are cultivated.



The Power of the Written Word

It didn't take Annie Siegel long to discover that there was something special about her daughter, Isabel. From the moment she learned to read at 6, the little girl was obsessively writing, developing her vivid imagination, and then capturing those flights of fantasy in words.



What Did You Do Last Summer?

Sophomore Alexa Clawson started her summer on a high note and held on to it for the next 10 weeks. In early June (2018), the 15-year-old sophomore learned that she'd successfully become a member of the percussion section of the prestigious Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra.



A Brighter Future

Rakhsha Khatri's parents moved to Shaker Heights from Pakistan so their daughters could have an education and a better life.



Shaker
Online

Ludlow Takes Its (Rightful) Place on the Cleveland Civil Rights Trail

Last fall, the Ludlow neighborhood became an official stop on the Cleveland African American Civil Rights Trail with the unveiling of an historical marker honoring the Ludlow Community Association. The Ludlow neighborhood straddles Shaker Heights and Cleveland. The marker is on Hampton Road near the intersection with Corby Road.

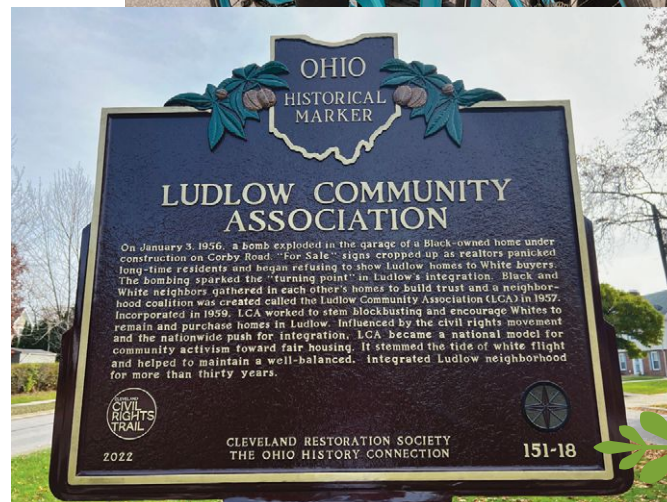
The Ludlow Community Association was established in 1959 and in the ensuing decades became a national model for community activism toward racial integration. The association was created in the aftermath of a bombing at the home of a Black couple, John and Dorothy Pegg, on Corby Road in 1956. Thankfully, the Peggs were not living in the house at the time of the bombing.

The bombing sparked a turning point for the Ludlow neighborhood, which had been experiencing white flight and redlining by realtors as Black families moved into the neighborhood in the 1950s. Black and white neighbors gathered in each other's homes to build trust, which led to the creation of the Ludlow Community Association. The group helped stem the tide of white flight and promote integration in the Ludlow neighborhood.

The Cleveland African American Civil Rights Trail, the first of its kind in a northern city, is a project of the Cleveland Restoration Society and the Ohio History Connection. It will include at least 10 sites. For more information, visit clevelandcivilrightstrail.org.



Mayor David Weiss, third from left, a featured speaker at the dedication of the Ludlow Historic Marker, with, from left, Cleveland City Council member Deborah Gray, Cuyahoga County Councilwoman Meredith Turner, Past Co-President of the Ludlow Community Association Gwendolyn Chapman, and former Cleveland City Council member Jay Westbrook.



Shaker City Council members, from left, Carmella Williams and Earl Williams, with Shaker resident Vicki Elder.





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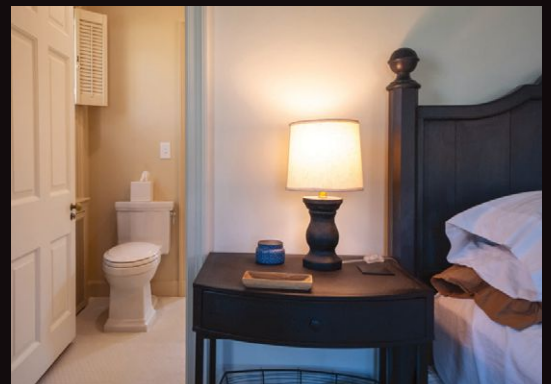
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Service Above Self: Rotary Honors Police, Fire

Congratulations to Shaker Heights Police Department Detective Brian Walsh and Shaker Heights Firefighter Joseph Leibin, recipients of the 2021 Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards presented by the Rotary Club of the Heights of Greater Cleveland.

In October, Rotary President Adam Davis and member John Sobotinc led the awards program at Firehouse #1. These awards have been presented for nearly 30 years with the goal of spotlighting a Shaker police officer and a firefighter who exemplify the Club's motto, "Service Above Self." Pictured, from left, are outgoing Police Chief Jeffrey DeMuth, Walsh, Leibin, and Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney.

Celebrating the Life and Contributions of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

All are welcome to these community events.

Dr. King's Vision of the Beloved Community

The Shaker Heights Schools, the City of Shaker Heights, and the Shaker Heights Public Library are collaborating to host the following:

Thursday, January 12, 6:30 pm Shaker Heights High School Auditorium:
Reflect with the Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr.

Sunday, January 15, 3-5 pm Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building: Facilitated Dialogue on the theme "Dr. King's Beloved Community: Opportunities and Challenges for Shaker Heights Moving Forward Together."

Monday, January 16, 12-2 pm. Drive-through donation drive at Shaker Heights Middle School.

Scan this QR code or visit shaker.org/MLK.aspx for details.



East View United Church of Christ Essay Awards

Monday, January 16, 10-11 am East View United Church of Christ (17300 Van Aken Blvd.): 33rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Awards Program followed by a continental breakfast (free-will offering) from 11 am to noon.

Questions? Call the church at (216) 921-7673.



A Note from Colleen

By Colleen Jackson
Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer

Setting the Foundation

The last quarter of 2022 brimmed with activity as the City continues to work towards its DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) goals.

Since I last wrote, a Citywide DEI Community Conversation at The Dealership drew more than 40 residents, representing all nine Shaker neighborhoods. Residents shared their thoughts about DEI in Shaker Heights to help inform our 2023 goals and priorities. Special thanks to all who were in attendance.

The steering committee of the DEI assessment continues to hold bi-monthly meetings to receive progress reports and provide necessary documents and information. MGT Consulting's Lamont Browne came to City Hall to conduct two focus groups with City employees to collect information to be included in the assessment.

The Welcoming and Inclusion Subcommittee staffed a welcome desk at Shaker Heights Public Library, where they greeted residents, answered questions, and provided information to passersby. We hope to continue to grow this effort and welcome our new neighbors on a more regular basis.

And members of the DEI Committee participated in the Youth Garden Party in the Park event at the Colonnade. The event featured free produce from the Cleveland Food Bank, games, music, giveaways, and more opportunities for communication and connection.

In January, I'll be participating in events commemorating the life and contributions of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please see page 6 for details and plan to join us.

I'm eager to hear from you. Email me at colleen.jackson@shakeronline.com.

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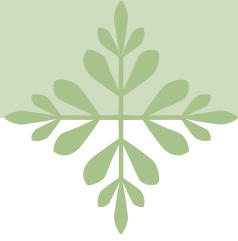
City Service Center

Self-service disposal and recycling
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Recycling

Bring recycling on Saturdays and Sundays, 8 am-4 pm. Items must be on the City's list of accepted recyclables at shakeronline.com/199



Large Items for Disposal

Dispose of large items (i.e. furniture, appliances, or other large household items) four times a year (once per quarter). Residents only; current ID and utility bill required. Details at shakeronline.com/212



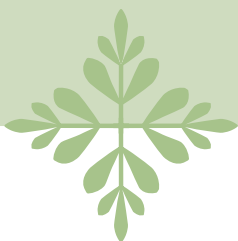
Special Recycling Events

The City holds a variety of special recycling events each year. These are the Computer, Electronics & Small Appliances Roundup; the Household Hazardous Waste Roundup; Community Shredding; and Habitat for Humanity Collection. Details at shakeronline.com/201



Yard Signs

On the two weekends following any election, residents may drop off campaign yard signs (or other yard signs) for recycling.



Remember:

Recycling hours are Saturdays and Sundays, 8 am – 4 pm only. **SL**



St. Dominic School Named one of 27 Green Ribbon Schools in U.S.A.

St. Dominic School was recognized by the Ohio Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education as a Green Ribbon school for its efforts to promote health and environmental sustainability. St. Dominic was one of only 27 schools nationwide and the only school in Ohio so designated in 2022.

"We are honored that St. Dominic School has received national recognition for our sustainability and environmental education efforts," says Principal Maureen Covington. "We are grateful to local partners like Rust Belt Riders for helping make our goal of caring for creation a reality."

The U.S. Department of Education initiated the program but invites state departments of education to name honorees. Schools are judged on their efforts to reduce environmental impacts, improve health and wellness, and offer effective environmental education.

St. Dominic has upgraded all lights to LED bulbs, added light and faucet motion sensors, and installed low-flow fixtures and water bottle filling stations. Moreover, the school has reusable trays, cups, and flatware in the cafeteria, eliminated plastic straws, incorporates at least 25 percent locally grown and produced foods in its lunches, and composts food waste.

In science classes, students learn how to interact with living things and the environment in ways that promote respect for the earth and all its inhabitants. In addition, the health curriculum offers yoga and includes social-emotional learning classes presented by the school counselor.

Read more at ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/highlights-2022.pdf



Renewable Electric Aggregation Program to Start in June

As part of its ongoing drive to promote sustainability, the City is moving forward with creating its own 100 percent renewable electric aggregation program to be effective starting June 1.

For the period January through May 2023, the City's electric consumers will remain on the CEI Standard Service Offer rate, unless they make other provisions.

City Council approved the proposed City-operated Electric Aggregation Program Plan of Operation and Governance last summer. In September, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio certified the City as an electric aggregation provider.

In late August, the City issued a request for proposals to prospective electric suppliers for the new program. In October, Council authorized the administration to contract with one of the two suppliers that submitted proposals to supply the aggregation. Then the City will purchase electric energy supply and renewable energy credits to meet the electricity needs of its 100 percent renewable electric aggregation customers.

Opt-out notices will be sent to all eligible Shaker residents for the new aggregation program in mid-April. Meanwhile, more detailed information is available on the City's website at shakeronline.com/827/Electric-Aggregation-Program

Upgrades for Warrington Triangle Park

Thanks to a collaboration between the City and residents in the Onaway neighborhood, the park at Warrington Triangle has two new benches, a picnic table, and a trash can. The City also planted 12 new native shade trees there last fall.

"The collaboration started when residents approached the City wanting some improvements to the park," explains Joyce Braverman, the City's planning director.

Initially, the goal was to plant more trees, but after gathering feedback from neighbors – via a survey and at resident-organized events, like Triangle Tuesdays – the scope grew to include the additional amenities.

The City used approximately \$15,000 in funds earmarked for neighborhood improvements. Resident Nate Smith, a member of City Council's Tree Advisory Board, also helped secure a \$1,000 grant from the Cuyahoga County Soil & Water Conservation District to help offset the cost of the new trees. The trees are Ohio natives and include Serviceberry, Black Tupelo, Swamp White Oak, Overcup Oak, and Bald Cypress.

The new benches and picnic table and many of the trees surround the rink area of Warrington Triangle, which is a popular spot for ice skating each winter.

"An important goal of the residents was to protect the rink area," says Braverman. The City floods three public greenspaces for ice skating each winter: Warrington Triangle, Southington and Woodbury, and Ashwood and Onaway. Bring your own skates.



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Shaker Life Takes the Prize (Again)



The City has won a Silver Circle Award in the Photography - Multi-Image Use category from 3CMA, the City-County Communications & Marketing Association, for the photography by Kevin G. Reeves featured in the winter 2022 cover story in Shaker Life magazine.

The story, “The Home for All America,” was written by Michael Peters about the Jaffe-Flament house on South Park Boulevard. In announcing the award, 3CMA wrote, “The photography of the home is excellent. The composition, color, use of light bring it to life and really showcase the home... What a fun and informative way to present a unique home.”

Reeves, a 1974 SHHS grad, has been photographing for the City and school district for some 30 years. Kudos also to the Shaker Life design team, Deborah Edwards and David Meeker.

The City has won several awards from 3CMA in recent years, including two in 2022. View the feature here: shaker.life/issues/winter-2022/page_55.html



City Works to Calm Traffic in the Moreland Neighborhood Project Includes Green Infrastructure

The Moreland neighborhood has always had more than its fair share of traffic, thanks to its location near two major commercial corridors, Lee Road and Chagrin Boulevard.

But relief is on the way. This spring, the City will wrap up the Southern Moreland Traffic Calming Project, which includes installing bump-outs that will narrow sections of Scottsdale Boulevard and Chelton Road and help “calm” (or slow) traffic on those streets.

“Bump-outs on both sides of the roadway require drivers to divert their straight pathway, thus slowing traffic,” explains Kara Hamley O’Donnell, principal planner for the City. “In addition, with 14 feet between the bump-outs, two cars can’t go through the traffic calming area at once.”

Cuyahoga County awarded the project \$50,000 through its Community Development Supplemental Grant program. A \$221,000 grant from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District enabled the City to integrate green infrastructure into the project.

Specifically, the City was able to create bioretention areas in a number of the bump-outs. Bioretention areas are shallow, depressed areas that include landscaping and filtration to remove pollution. Rainfall is diverted to these areas and slowly percolates through the ground instead of ending up in the storm sewers. All the bump-outs will be landscaped, including some with trees.

Additionally, a \$30,000 grant from Boise Paper/Arbor Day Foundation allowed the City to plant an additional 60 trees throughout the Moreland neighborhood. Trees also help slow traffic, notes O’Donnell.

“Tree-lawn trees provide a sense of enclosure,” O’Donnell says. “Studies have shown that this effect also slows drivers down.”

The decision to use bump-outs versus other kinds of traffic calming techniques – like speed bumps, decorative crosswalks, or traffic circles – was made in collaboration with Moreland residents.

“A lot of the planning took place during the pandemic,” says O’Donnell. “So we went out and walked around the neighborhood with residents, met on front porches, and residents shared their observations with us. We attended multiple Moreland Network community meetings.”

The City held two Zoom meetings with a broader group of Moreland residents; City planners also used cones in live demonstrations of how various traffic calming techniques could work (see photo).

Residents favored landscaped bump-outs, and the City agreed.

“Bump-outs will not only slow traffic on those streets, but also beautify the neighborhood,” notes O’Donnell.

Learn more at shakeronline.com/806 or by holding your mobile device’s camera over the QR code.



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Good News for Recycling

Shaker residents may once again recycle plastic tubs via the City's backyard recycling program. This includes plastic butter/margarine, yogurt, sour cream, and cottage cheese tubs, and other similar plastic tubs.

What's more, aluminum cups and some plastic and paper cups are now also accepted.

As with other recyclables (see graphic above), residents should rinse tubs and cups before placing them in recycling buckets. If the tub has a lid, residents can replace the lid before recycling. No cup lids or straws, please.

Party cups, like Solo cups and other similar plastic cups from other brands, are not recyclable. Wax and plastic lined paper cups – most hot beverage cups – are also not recyclable.

In October, the City signed on with a new recycling vendor, Waste Management of Ohio, after a competitive bidding

process led by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. The City was able to take advantage of improvements in recycling markets, notes Patricia Speese, director of Public Works.

"Recycling markets have been in flux for some time," she says. "But that is now changing."

For the past several years, the City paid approximately \$70 a ton for recycling services. Under the terms of the new contract, it will only pay to recycle glass (about \$22 a ton).

"And if we can keep our contamination rates extremely low, we may even start to again make a profit from recycling," says Speese.

Learn more about the City's recycling guidelines at shakeronline.com/recycling or by holding your mobile device's camera over the QR code. **SL**



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Shaker alumni Amy Gardner-Williams, Eugene Williams, and Kiki Stout are pictured with Miss Billie Morgan in front of the fun and fabulous Card My Yard sign.

Red & White

A NIGHT FOR THE

A Night for the Red & White

Tickets are on sale for A Night for the Red & White, the Shaker Schools Foundation's 31st annual gala. This year's theme is "Excellence is Inclusive: Providing Opportunities for all Shaker Students." The event will take place on Saturday, March 18, 2023 at Cleveland Hilton Downtown, 100 Lakeside Avenue East, at 7 pm.

Last year's event drew more than 400 attendees, including parents, teachers, staff, and community members. Guests enjoy dinner, dancing, student performances, a raffle, and silent auction. Proceeds

support initiatives that foster inclusion and provide opportunities for all Shaker students.

The emcee will be David Pogue, Shaker class of 1981. Pogue is a CBS Sunday Morning correspondent, a New York Times best-selling author, a host of NOVA specials on PBS, and a Broadway musical director. He'll lead a special toast to the Shaker Heights Schools and to the evening's special student performances.

For tickets and information, visit shakerschoolsfoundation.org/events. For questions, call 216-295-4325 or email redandwhite@shaker.org.

2022 National Teacher of the Year Kurt Russell Speaks to Shaker Faculty, Staff

The Shaker Heights City School District welcomed 2022 National Teacher of the Year Kurt Russell to Shaker on November 21. Mr. Russell kicked off the staff's professional learning time with a keynote address, followed by a panel of Shaker Heights Schools faculty. A 25-year veteran of the classroom, Mr. Russell teaches history at Oberlin High School in Oberlin, Ohio – a K-12 International Baccalaureate district – where he was born and raised. He was first inspired to become a teacher in middle school, when he encountered his first Black male teacher. Now as 2022 National Teacher of the Year, Mr. Russell advocates for classrooms to better reflect the students within them — from a curriculum that reflects their backgrounds and identities to a more diverse teaching profession.



Shaker Schools Alumni Hall of Fame Welcomes Seven New Members



The HOF Class of 2022 was warmly greeted by a banner made by the SHHS Raider Nation Club.

In October, the Shaker Schools Alumni Hall of Fame inducted seven new members. These Shaker graduates represent excellence and achievement in all walks of life, including television, film, journalism, social justice, advocacy, commercial real estate, higher education, and diversity, equity and inclusion.

Clothilde Ewing, Class of 1996
J. David Heller, Class of 1983
Adam Lehman, Class of 1985
Ted Mason, Ph.D., Class of 1968
Dale Pollock, Class of 1968
Bruce C. Ratner, Class of 1963
Beth E. Richie, Ph.D., Class of 1975

To read about the inductees, visit shakerschoolsfoundation.org/alumni.

Do you know an outstanding Shaker graduate? Complete a Hall of Fame nomination online at shakerschoolsfoundation.org/alumni. To be considered, alumni must be distinguished in their fields of endeavor, make significant contributions to the community, and serve as positive role models to current students. **SL**

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Shaker Grams

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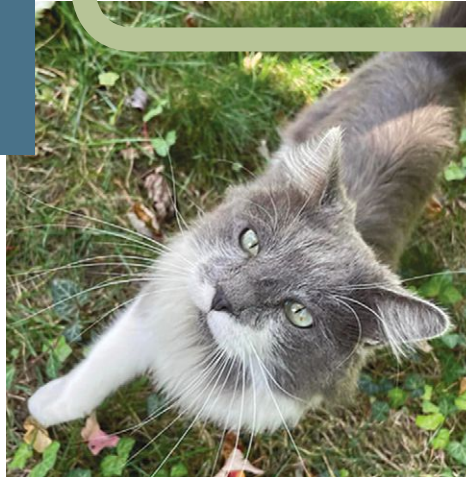
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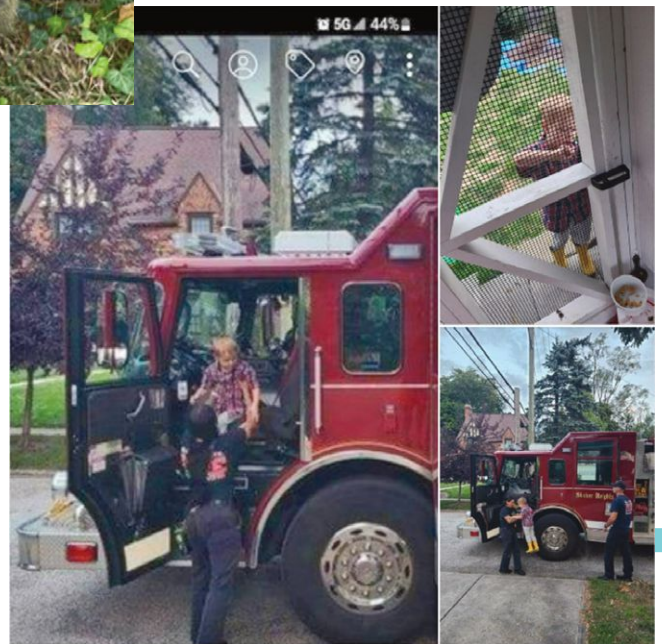
Tweets & Posts

 @vanakendistrict This excited that it's Friday!




Fernway

 **Neighbor #1:** Hi all, Norman is our cat – he's used to a fairly large territory, and with everybody being so stinking friendly, he's loving it. No need to feed him if he comes on as if he's hungry. He comes home once a day to eat and crash before he goes out again. **Neighbor #2:** Norman visited our house on Fernway yesterday and I was so excited! **Neighbor #3:** This baby is a celebrity! **Neighbor #4:** Oh, Norman! **Neighbor #5:** He is gorgeous. **Neighbor #6:** Met Norman on a walk down Grenway! He also visited our house on Glencairn! We LOVE Norman! **Neighbor #7:** Wouldn't it be great if we could put up yard signs reading "Norman Stopped Here" at every house he's visited! Folks driving through Fernway would be sooo curious!




Living in Shaker

 **Neighbor #1:** OK, this is definitely a long shot but I think we dropped my son's homemade Halloween costume on Saturday somewhere between the Van Aken District and our home in Fernway. Would likely have been on Farnsleigh or the southern side of Van Aken. It looks like this, if anyone happened to see it please let me know! We have a backup but he was pretty excited about this one. **Neighbor #2:** I saw a bright pink piece of fabric similar to this sitting on a bush along the rapid tracks on the south side of Van Aken across from St. Doms this morning. **Neighbor #1:** Oh, my gosh! I'm going to go check



now. Thank you so much!!! **Neighbor #1:** That was it, I just found it!! I cannot thank you enough!!! **Neighbor #2:** Yay! So glad I could help. **Neighbor #3:** I'm so glad you found it! It looks like an awesome costume. **Neighbor #4:** Is this Numberblocks? Love it! **Neighbor #1:** Yes it is!! My son loves OctoBlock. **Neighbor #5:** What a great FB page that caused this happy conclusion to the lost costume!

Living in Shaker

 **Neighbor #1:** Not every act of heroism ends up in an action movie sequence. Sometimes it's just restoring normalcy for a little kid. While I was away on business, our 3-year-old locked my husband in our chicken coop. None of our neighbors were around. Members of our fire department quickly and calmly responded, and kept our kid from thinking it was the end of the world. Grateful Momma, right here! Couldn't be more thankful! **Neighbor #2:** Is the chicken coop the new dog house? So glad the FD and PD helped out with such compassion for your 3-year-old!! **Neighbor #3:** Bet that was most fun the Fire Dept. had all day. **Neighbor #4:** I want to laugh but then... thankful for our FD and PD. **Neighbor #5:** Oh man. I will give you my cell phone number. Not sure how I missed this! **Neighbor #6:** If it had been my three-year-old I would have suspected she did it on purpose just to see the fire truck...7 years later it's still her favorite thing...these guys are her rock stars!!



Living in Shaker

f Neighbor #1: It is such an honor to get to represent this community in the fall edition of Shaker Life. I've never been so nervous about a media story - nowhere to hide in your own neighborhood - but in Shaker, that's a good thing! Everyone I run into has been so kind and curious to learn more about Red Wine and Blue!

Neighbor #2: LOVE that you are getting such well-deserved recognition, Katie!!

Neighbor #3: Had no idea you lived here. Very cool and congrats on the feature!

Neighbor #4: We're proud to be able to say you're from Shaker. Thanks for all you do!

Neighbor #5: You make our community proud of your accomplishments.

Neighbor #6: Such a beautiful picture. Congratulations.



Lomond

f Neighbor #1: Thank you to the nice person who left 2 big bins of books by the Gridley Little Free Library. If you want your bins back, let me know where to drop them off.

Neighbor #2: Thank you so much Lynn for looking after a little free library and all of us.

Neighbor #3: I have a ton of children's books. Are you able to take them?

Neighbor #1: Thanks for asking! Unfortunately, there's not a system for storage. If you want to put a few books out at a time, that's great! (There are libraries at Sussex and Lomond schools, too.) **SL**

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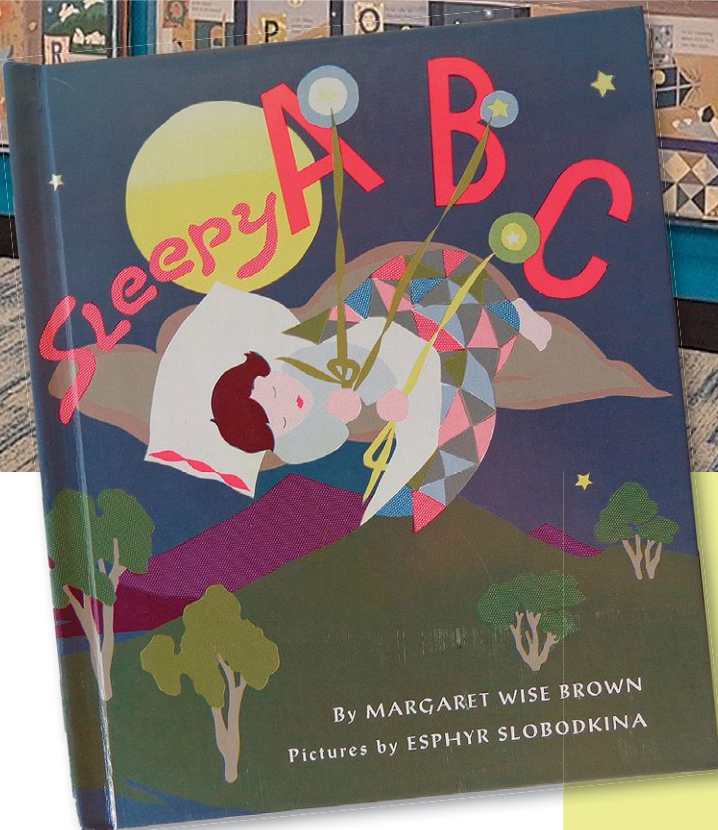
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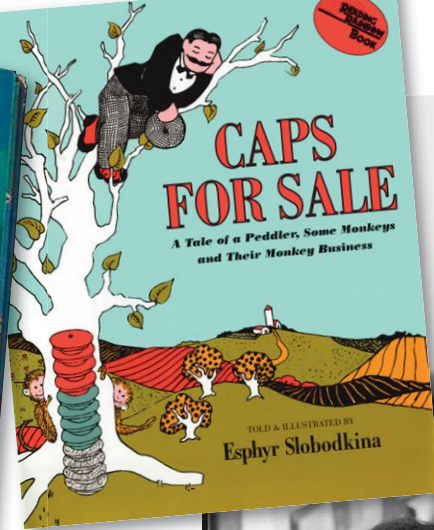
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Classic Art Complements Contemporary Walls



Renowned abstract and collage artist Esphyr Slobodkina, whose works hang in museums around the world, including the National Gallery of Art, is once again featured on the walls of the Main Library.



The work is *Sleepy ABC*, a charming reimagining of Esphyr Slobodkina’s cover for Margaret Wise Brown’s picture book of the same name. The book offers 26 ways – from A to Z – for children to say goodnight. (As parents everywhere know, Brown was also the author of the children’s classic, *Goodnight Moon*.) The three-panel mural has been installed on the east wall of the Main Library, near the Children’s Room.

Esphyr Slobodkina, who died in 2002, emigrated from Russia in 1928 and immersed herself in the New York art world, where she co-founded American Abstract Artists in 1936. But her painting did not provide a steady paycheck, so she started illustrating children’s books, including some of Brown’s, to supplement her income. She and Brown became friends; both women were independent, free-thinking feminists who redefined what children’s books could be – colorful, humorous, and instructive without being moralistic. Brown encouraged Slobodkina to write her own books, telling her that “artists make very good writers because they don’t get tangled up with words.”

In 1940, Slobodkina published *Caps for Sale*, now considered a children’s classic. Since its publication, the book has sold millions of copies and has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

After Brown’s death in 1952, her publishers, Lothrop, Lee, and Shepard, selected Slobodkina to illustrate *Sleepy ABC*, one of the manuscripts Brown left after her death. This project not only helped ease Slobodkina’s grief over her friend’s death but also established her own relationship with the publisher.

In 1988, with encouragement from the late Charlotte Van Stolk, a relative and Shaker resident, Slobodkina designed the 8-by-14 foot three-panel mural using collage.

The piece was unveiled at a Meet-the-Artist program at the Library on October 2, 1990. In accepting the art for the Library, the board of trustees wrote, “The mural



is a major artistic work and will be a significant addition to the Library and to the Shaker Heights Community. We are privileged to exhibit the mural for the delight and enjoyment of our children.”

The triptych was originally installed on the second-floor wall leading up to the Children’s Room in the old Main Library, now the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building. Following the renovation of



From upper left: A look inside *Sleepy ABC*; *Caps for Sale*, a story told and illustrated by Slobodkina; author Margaret Wise Brown; artist/illustrator Esphyr Slobodkina; Slobodkina at a Library book signing in 1990. Lower left: Reinstallation of the mural.

the former Moreland school building in 1993, the panels were next installed on the Children’s Room wall in the “new” Main Library.

However, the years had taken a toll on the artwork’s acrylic casing. The Library consulted Shaker resident and fine art specialist Jennifer Souers Chevraux. The decision was made to not touch the original art, but to commission the Cleveland company Team Plastics to make three new acrylic casings, which were installed by Wood Trader Framing in November 2022. Bright teal walls, painted during the Library’s renovation, provide the perfect backdrop for this delightful work of art. **SL**



Shaker Library

Meet Shaker Library's Community Engagement Specialist: Morgan Bulger

Community Engagement Specialist Morgan Bulger has been working to increase the visibility of the Library through community outreach and participation in community events throughout the City.

The passionate advocate for community engagement earned her bachelor's degree in business management and doctorate in organizational behavior from Case Western Reserve University. Her doctoral thesis offered actionable, best-practice suggestions for promoting social inclusion. In her abstract, Bulger wrote,

"It is my hope that this study will help to communicate more clearly the process of social inclusion, define what it means to be included holistically in society, and to invite more people onto the journey towards this endeavor."

Since April 2022 when Bulger began work at the Library, she has been putting her scholarship into action, making a variety of community connections and partnering with helpful resource agencies, including Ohio Means Jobs, Bellefaire JCB, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, PCs for People, Lake Erie Ink, and the Benjamin Rose Institute. These agencies staff tables and are available in person every month at the Main Library to help solve problems.

"I love thinking about the many different roles the Library plays, and could play, in people's lives," she says, "I enjoy increasing community access to resources and opportunities here."

She relishes participating in community events and finding creative ways to support and advocate for residents. Some of her favorite activities include the Shaker Youth Garden Party, presented in partnership with Shaker Schools Family and Community Engagement Center; Fairy Tales in the Forest, with the Shaker Lakes Nature Center; and monthly Moreland Neighbor Nights.

"The best part of my job is meeting new people," says Bulger. "You never know who you are going to meet and how your lives will intersect and connect over time."

When she is not working for the Library, Bulger is helping establish a cooperatively-owned laundromat, café, and community space in Cleveland's Woodhill/Buckeye neighborhood. "We are still in process on our business plan and bylaws," she says, "but I am proud of our progress, growth, depth of learning, and our dedication. You can follow the group's work on Instagram: @WoodhillCoop."



"I enjoy increasing community access to resources and opportunities here."

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.

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Asked what she thinks makes a strong community, she says, “respect for nature; a culture of humility and accountability; a vested interest in providing mutual aid and helping each other to meet our needs; a desire for collective reliance that is inclusive and equitable in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, neurodiversity, religion, and language; and an interest and dedication to shared decision making.”

In her leisure time, Bulger enjoys reading about people who have come together to create realities beyond the limitations of capitalism. Her favorite books are *Collective Courage* by Jessica Gordon Nembhard; *The Worm at the Core* by Jeff Greenberg, Sheldon Solomon, and Tom Pyszczynski; *Jackson Rising*, edited by Kali Akuno and Ajamu Nangwaya; *Racing to Justice* by John A. Powell; *All About Love* by bell hooks; and *Oneness with All Life* by Eckhart Tolle. She is currently reading Maya Angelou’s memoir, *Gather Together in My Name*, the second book in Angelou’s series of seven autobiographies.

She cites members of the Woodhill Community Co-Op, the Mexican political group Zapatistas, civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer, labor organizer Chris Smalls, musician Princess Nokia, and Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson as influences. She likes to dance, and in good weather, spends time relaxing by Lake Erie and enjoying the outdoors.

Bertram Woods Branch Readies for Renovation

The Bertram Woods Branch closed on January 1 for renovation and will remain closed throughout the duration of construction, which is set to begin in late January. The branch will reopen in mid-October, barring long lead times for material or other issues that could delay the project’s completion.

Staff will pack the building’s contents, including the entire collection and the shelving, for storage, and will hold a public sale of items no longer needed, such as old furniture.



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devices. It requires users to sign in with their library card number and four-digit PIN. Once logged in, users have access to a digital barcode that can be used to checkout by tapping the 'My Barcode' icon at the bottom of the app.

Customers can browse and search the CLEVNET collection for their favorite material, reserve CLEVNET material, or modify a pickup location.

The CLEVNET App also features the ability to add linked accounts to manage a busy family's library requests. To link an

account, press 'my account' and then 'linked accounts' on the sidebar. From there, add a library card number and PIN.

Staying informed about library news and events is easy using the CLEVNET App.

Simply tap the 'Library Social Media' section to find the latest updates on Facebook and Twitter.

Digital titles from Overdrive may require the use of the Libby App to download that material.



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The Memory Studio at Main Library is available to convert your keepsakes to digital. There is no charge. Digitize photos, documents, film, slides, negatives, videotapes, cassettes, and vinyl. Reserve the space in advance or stop by and use it any time during Library hours. Guides and videos are available to help you learn how to use the equipment. For hands-on learning help, book an appointment with a Technology Experience Specialist.

Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom are available to restore and enhance images. To transform your memories into a movie, try using Adobe Premiere Pro, iMovie, or Audacity.

To learn more about the Memory Studio and find out how you can begin, visit shakerlibrary.org/services/create or call the library at 216-991-2030.



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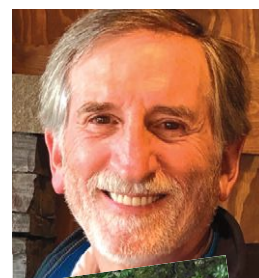
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New Books in the Shaker Author Collection

The Library's Shaker Author Collection has received a donation of three books of poetry by 2019 Pushcart Poetry Prize nominee Bill Newby: *Passing Through*, *Sea Chests or a Carry On*, and *Hilton Head Island: Time and Tide*.

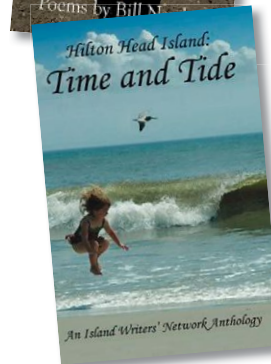
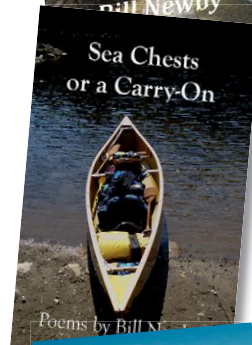
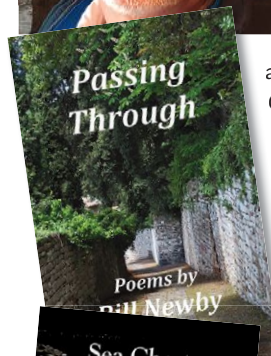


Island: Time and Tide.

Newby was born and raised in Cleveland. He worked at Shaker Heights High School as an English teacher

and Chair of Curriculum & Instruction, and later at Cleveland State University as a College of Education academic advisor and lecturer.

He and his wife, Barbara Hill-Newby, returned to live in Shaker in 2020 after spending six years on South Carolina's Hilton Head Island. He considers himself an "everyday writer" who uses poetry and fiction to record and explore moments of celebration, complaint, concern, and comedy. His poems about



friendship, nature, family, and everyday life are written with a rhythmic cadence that makes you consider life through a new lens.

While living in Hilton Head, Newby offered a Great Poems course through Hilton Head Island Lifelong Learning, and produced six annual Kick-Start Poetry Readings at the Hilton Head Branch Library to celebrate National Poetry Month. In addition, he was the 2018-2019

Twenty-two members of the Shaker Heights High School Class of 2023 have been recognized for scholastic honors.

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Class of 2022 graduate Sophia Rose was also named a Commended Student.

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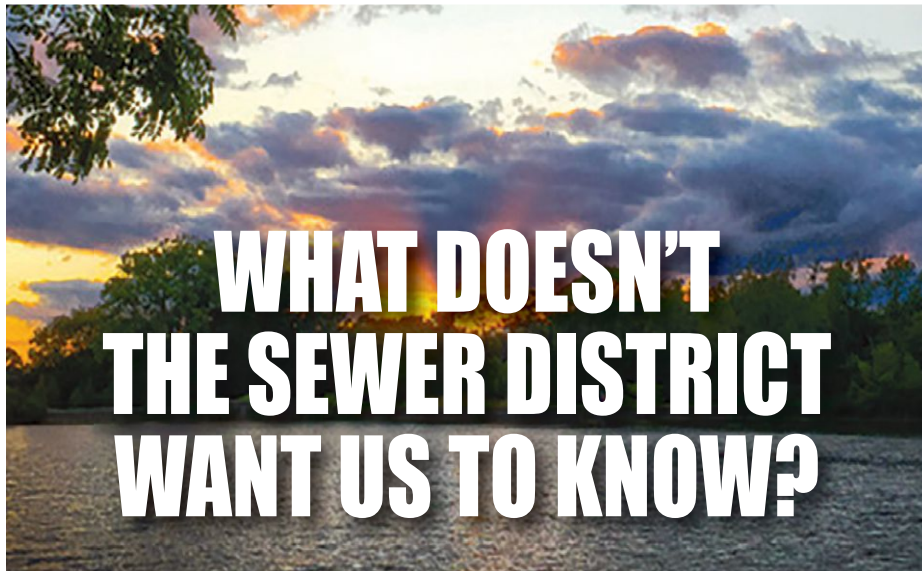
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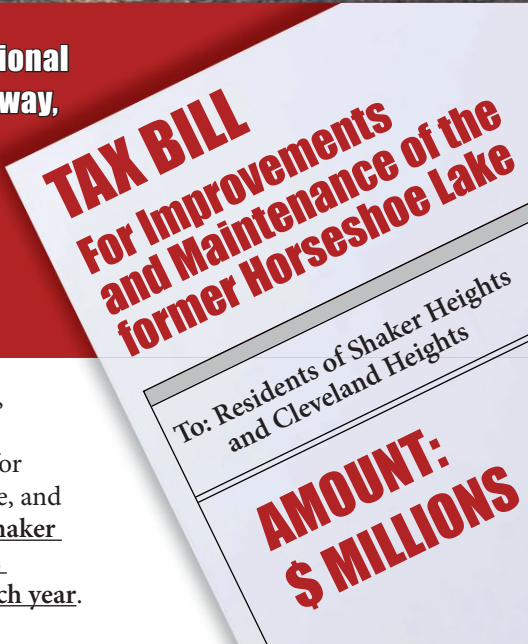
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What do we know about the Sewer District's Plans for Doan Brook?

The Sewer District has NOT committed to paying the full cost of Doan Brook park. Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights Residents could be left to foot the bill. If the cities couldn't pay to maintain Horseshoe Lake, where will the funds come from to maintain this proposed park?

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moderator of the Island Writers' Network and a co-editor of three Island Writers' Network anthologies.

His work has appeared in Blue Mountain Review, Bluffton Breeze, Gordon Square Review, Ohio Teachers Write, Palm Beach Poetry Festival's Fish Tales Contest, Panoplyzine, Sixfold, Spine Line, and Whiskey Island, as well as the Island Writers' Network's Time & Tide, Ebb & Flow, and Reflections anthologies.

Library Seeks Candidates for Library Board

The Library is looking for candidates for its Board of Trustees for a seven-year term that begins April 1.

The seven-member board, appointed by the Board of Education, is the Library's governing body. It establishes policies and approves the expenditure of funds. The board usually meets at 6:30 pm on the third Monday of the month at the Main Library.

Applicants are asked to complete the application online at <https://tinyurl.com/shpl-botapp> and submit it along with a copy of their resumes by Monday, January 30.

Support the Library by Joining the Friends

Join other book and library lovers by becoming a member of the Friends of the Shaker Library. Members receive perks and discounts from local merchants and reduced ticket prices on shows at Playhouse Square. Donations also support the Friends' programs and resources.

Friends of the Shaker Library has been building community and supporting the Library since 1980. Every great library needs great friends. Pick up a membership envelope from the Friends' Never-Ending Book Sale shelves at Main Library.

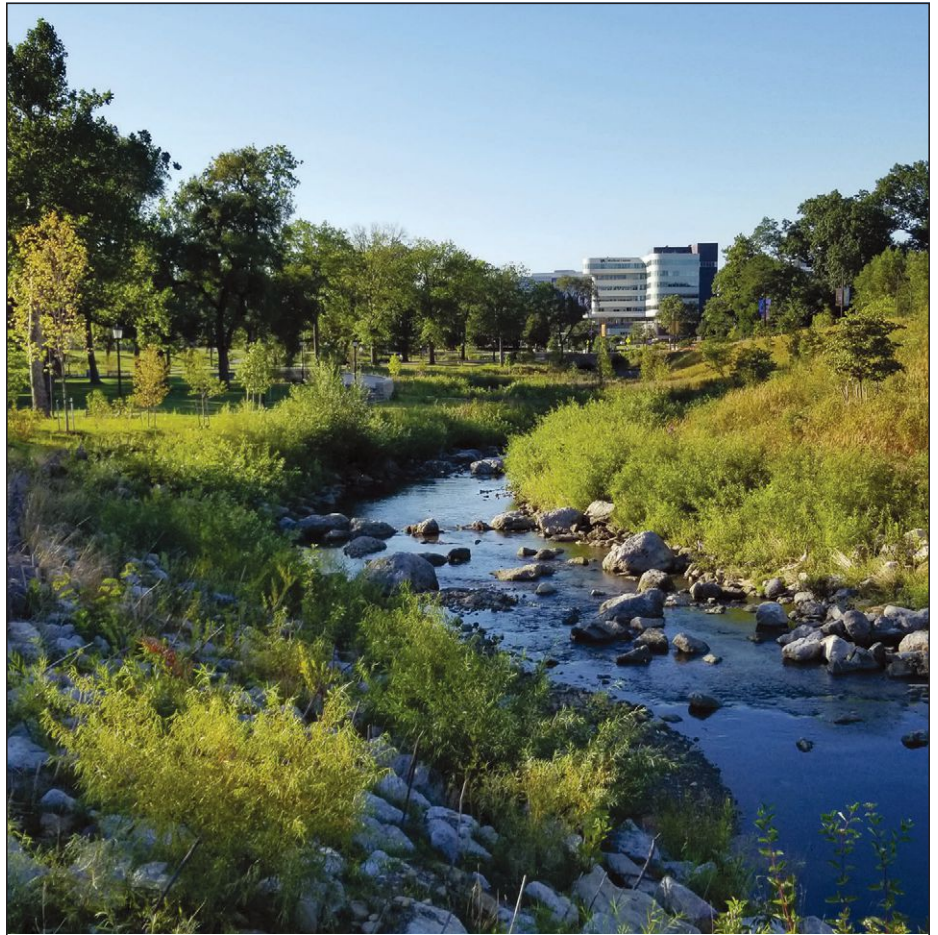


Quarterly Closings

The Library will be closed Sunday, January 1, and Monday, January 2, for the New Year's holiday; on Monday, January 16, for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; and Sunday, April 9, for Easter. **SL**

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Grades: Pre-K and up.

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Learn more: hb.edu/summer
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Learn more: clevelandcitydance.com/classes-programs/#schedule
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Grades: Pre-K to 9.

Description: Nature camps, adventure camps.

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Grades: Pre-K and up.

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Learn more: shakeronline.com/recreation
216-491-1295

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Grades: Pre-K and up.

Description: Traditional day, sports, and specialty camps.

Learn more: us.edu/summer
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Learn more:

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Description: Traditional day camp.

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Let There Be Light



The District spotlights athletics for its power to bridge racial and cultural divides and serve as a tool in the quest for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

By Joe Miller
Photography by Gus Chan



Shaker Heights High School seniors
Chloe Brown, Kellon Smith,
Meilani Walker and Javiera Baeza

It's a cold Friday night in early October, and the rain is falling steadily at Shaker Heights High School's Russell Rupp Stadium.

The Homecoming game is underway, and Raider fans, many wearing winter jackets and huddled under umbrellas, have packed the stands.

Football players slip and slide on the artificial turf as the stadium lights transform the raindrops into a spotlight waterfall. Suddenly the crowd – a mosaic of Black, brown, and white parents, students and alumni – is on its feet screaming. The Raiders score on a 31-yard touchdown run.

When the game finally ends in a 34-16 Raider victory, senior Meilani Walker is among the brave fans still cheering. "It was freezing and everyone was soaked," she recalls. "But it was a great game."

High school football, a longtime Saturday afternoon tradition in Shaker Heights, turned into a Friday night festival this year thanks to temporary sets of LED lights towering 52 feet above the field.

"It makes the games more fun for students and players," says Nolan James, a senior baseball player and frequent attendee of the night games. "Shaker may win or it may lose. Either way, the energy of those nights and those games, it's ecstatic."

Superintendent David Glasner wants to tap into that energy.

In his fourth year leading Shaker Schools, Glasner sees athletics – and its ability to bridge racial and cultural divides – as a key tool in his quest to make diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) a guidepost for every aspect of the District. Furthermore, he believes sports can help provide opportunities for every student to meet their full potential and heal damage done during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

"It has really struck me, talking to students about the way that athletics has continued to reemerge from the pandemic. What a powerful, community-building opportunity this has become," Glasner says.

He sees promise in the broad reach of sports. At the High School, nearly half of the student body plays on at least one of its 31 varsity teams or its junior varsity or club teams, from cross country and tennis, to basketball and lacrosse. More often than not, those teams are bringing together kids who might not interact otherwise.

"Excellence in athletics goes beyond the final score," says Glasner. "It also means developing a team that works together, that communicates. Students of different backgrounds and performance ability are working together to get better, to make the team better, and to make their surroundings better. Athletics is one of the ways that we can help facilitate and build an inclusive community that strives toward excellence."

Rented stadium lights may look like just an attempt to raise Raider spirits. But coaches, players, and parents say the lights – as well as other key moves, from the addition of a new training center to increased DEI training for the staff – are making Raider sports teams more competitive and helping to tear down inequities for athletes and fans alike.



The marching band delighted fans, and the Shaker Raiders won the 2022 Homecoming game 34-16.
Photo courtesy of Shaker Heights Schools

“There’s really an opportunity through sports to unify people.”

Mity Fowler, Shaker Parent



Shaker Heights High School Athletic Director Michael Babinec

The Value of Athletics

The five light towers didn't just give Raider football, soccer, and field hockey teams the ability to play night games in front of bigger crowds. They also provided more evening practice opportunities on the District's only artificial turf field. That was particularly important in late fall, as days grew shorter and teams needed to rev up for playoffs.

On top of that, the night games were more convenient for working parents – and potentially college scouts – and allowed for events that targeted elementary school kids, attracting the next generation of athletes, Black and white, to sports they may never have considered otherwise.

"We're trying to get people excited about being a Shaker Raider," says Michael Babinec, the High School's athletic director. "We want little kids in our District to be looking forward to playing in our gym and our stadium."

Babinec, a former baseball coach and English teacher at the High School, is leading the charge with an athletic department team that includes three other former coaches: Marc Enie, Vikki Long, and Michael Summers. The department has already made a name for itself with a new website and the weekly Raider Roundtable, a newsletter that highlights Raider athletes both past (such as champion rower Sophie Calabrese; see Scene in Shaker) and present.

But Babinec's job goes beyond communication or keeping team schedules straight. His efforts to give all students the same Raider experience involve working closely with stakeholders such as the relaunched Shaker Heights Sports Boosters parents club, local youth sports organizations, the City's Recreation Department, and the Shaker Schools Foundation.

He has also teamed up with the District's new Chief DEI Officer Lawrence Burnley, as they chart next year's return of the High School teams to the more competitive Greater Cleveland Conference (GCC). The District pulled out of the GCC two years ago in part because of racist taunts that Black athletes faced at away games.



Dr. Lawrence Burnley, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer

“There’s a lot of work to be done internally, in terms of preparing our own athletes, coaches, staff,” says Babinec. “Not just for the move to the GCC. That’s just a piece of the puzzle. But preparing them more holistically and focusing on what we can do better here in Shaker.”

Aside from the lights, the biggest hits with most students have been the opening of the High School’s new training room – dubbed the Raider Athletic Center or RAC – and last year’s hiring of Joe Schlesinger, the school’s first head of sports performance.

The District replaced the old basement workout room with the RAC in 2020 by renovating a larger multipurpose room. The RAC features \$250,000 in donor-funded equipment and is run by Schlesinger, a former strength and conditioning coach for the Pittsburgh Pirates. That combination has made fitness classes at the High School among the most popular for athletes and non-athletes alike.

“It’s a really cool dynamic to be able to work out with athletes who are out of season or even in season, or who aren’t athletes,” says Chloe Brown, a senior volleyball player who has committed to playing for the University at Buffalo next year. “And it gives the varsity athletes a chance to teach others.”

“It shows our commitment to the kids,” adds Danny Young, the High School’s long-time boys basketball coach. As with academics, the District wants to create “that same sense of pride in athletics with the resources and tools to help students reach their maximum potential.”

Shaker Sports Leaders On and Off the Field



Ceci Favret

Year: Junior

Elementary School: St. Dominic

Varsity Sports: soccer (co-captain), basketball.

College Plans: Too early, but her goal is to play soccer in college.

Activities: Champions for Charity (Shaker-based group), Student Council representative.

Quotes: "The energy of playing under the lights is so much more enjoyable. Even practice under the lights is such a cool experience."

"With the lights and getting in for free, it makes being there and supporting our friends so fun."

"The Raider Athletic Center has added a new level to all of the sports. It's another chance to be together and work hard together."

On racism: "We have a level of respect on our team that even if comments are being made, we can stand together – and that's really important in a diverse community such as Shaker."



Meilani Walker

Year: Senior

Elementary School: Mercer

Varsity Sports: soccer, basketball, track.

College Plans: North Carolina A&T, Southern University, Texas A&M, or Ohio State. Plans to choose a liberal arts major.

Activities: SGORR, MAC Scholars, Sankofa, Raider Athlete Advisory Committee. Attended 2022 Black Student Athlete Summit in Houston.

Quote: "Sports is my life, but it's not me. Shaker is opening my brain to finding my path beyond sports."



Nolan James

Year: Senior

Elementary School: Onaway

Varsity Sports: baseball (co-captain), indoor track, basketball (pending tryouts).

College Plans: University of Michigan, University of Cincinnati, or University of Mount Union. Plans to study psychology.

Activities: SGORR, Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, NAACP club, Student Council representative, fundraisers for baseball equipment.

Quote: "Shaker is now truly starting to recognize its athletic side."

On leadership: "My brother told me, if you have a voice, you definitely should use it."

On racism in sports: "No matter what people say to me or my teammates, I know who I am. I know that I'm good at baseball. I know that my team is good. If we as a school stay strong mentally and keep working like we have the past few years, and being the underdog, honestly, nothing they send our way, racism or hatred, will get in our way."



Chloe Brown

Year: Senior

Elementary School: Lomond/Ferway

Varsity Sports: volleyball, track (freshman & junior years), trying out for lacrosse.

College Plans: Committed to play volleyball at University at Buffalo. Considering psychology major.

Activities: SGORR, Student Council representative.

On being a Raider: "I'm not going to remember who we lost to or who we beat. I'm going to remember growing up with my best friend and making all of these memories playing volleyball. For me it's been about the bonds that I've made."



Kellon Smith

Year: Senior

Elementary School: Boulevard

Varsity Sports: basketball (co-captain, point guard).

College Plans: Denison, Mount Union, Capital, Marietta, or Wooster. Plans to study criminal psychology. Goal is to play basketball professionally.

Activities: MAC Scholars, Shakerite reporter, Raider Athlete Advisory Committee, Champions for Charity, Attended 2022 Black Student Athlete Summit in Houston.

On DEI: "I think we're slowly starting to make strides in the classroom, but I think it's still something we're not addressing enough."

On being a Raider athlete: "Just going out there and competing every night is something I really enjoy. Getting the support of my community and playing in front of my peers is very exciting."



Javiera Baeza

Year: Senior

Elementary School: The Grange School, Santiago, Chile

Varsity Sports: field hockey (co-captain).

College Plans: Committed to playing field hockey at Indiana University. Plans to study marketing.

Activities: Raider Athletic Advisory Committee.

Quote: "I feel that Shaker has done a great job of giving athletes all of the resources they need. I've been here for four years and all I've seen is growth."

Shaker Heights High School junior Ceci Favret and senior Nolan James.



But upgrading facilities and equipment is a relatively easy fix compared to changing the culture of a community.

When Timeka Rashid's family moved to Shaker Heights, she wanted to raise her Black sons in a community dedicated to diversity. But when she attended their football games, Rashid noticed that Shaker Heights' diversity didn't always carry over into the team rosters or the fan base.

"In Shaker sports there was such a disconnect," she says.

Rashid wasn't the only one who felt that way. In 2018 she and other parents from a wide variety of backgrounds began to brainstorm ways to improve the experience for all Raider athletes and fans no matter what the sport or the color of their skin. The result was the "reboot" of Shaker Heights Sports Boosters, which had disbanded a few years prior.

"When we talk about diversity in Shaker, there's really an opportunity through sports for kids to play together, for parents to sit together in the stands and cheer for their kids," says Mity Fowler, another leader of those early meetings. "There's really an opportunity through sports to unify people," she says.

Some of the ideas from those early meetings have already been realized. Sports Boosters early on lobbied for stadium lights as well as free admission for High School students, new this year, as a way to eliminate attendance barriers and to fill seats. Sports Boosters also expanded concession offerings at the stadium and has made them available at all home games for all sports.

Babinec has entrusted the parent group with senior posters – four-foot-tall banners, each featuring a closeup of a senior athlete. Sports Boosters has transformed the posters into season-long celebrations of the High School's many sports. This fall, 65 of them covered nearly half of the High School stadium's fence.

Behind the scenes, Sports Boosters is coordinating fundraising among the sports, providing grants to coaches to cover team needs. Its leaders have also worked with the Shaker Schools Foundation to fund bigger projects, such as the RAC, and to create programs such as Level the Playing Field, an effort to diversify youth sports with scholarships for kids.

"If you're going to solve the problem of diversity, you can't do that in high school. That's too late," says Scott Shelfer, who approached the Foundation with the idea for Level the Playing Field. Shelfer, who was co-president of Sports Boosters last year, believes scholarships for more expensive sports such as ice hockey can make a difference. "But economics is just one barrier," he says.

“Athletics is one of the ways that we can help facilitate and build an inclusive community that strives toward excellence.”

Superintendent David Glasner

“Shaker is now truly starting to recognize its athletic side.”

Senior Nolan James

Babinec and Burnley are hearing that first-hand from the community. With the upcoming return to the GCC looming, the two men have made a point of giving players, parents, and coaches opportunities to detail their own personal experiences and concerns behind closed doors and in public. That included three “listening and learning tour” meetings in October with more to come.

“We need to be prepared to hear things that may be uncomfortable,” Babinec says. “And be prepared to hear things that may present additional work for us.”

“This is going to take time, and we’re going to have to do things differently,” says Burnley. “We have to develop the capacity to talk about these things honestly with transparency, candor, and respect. And we have to keep people at the table.”

During those meetings, Black athletes have described not only hearing racial slurs at the stadiums, but also feeling a lack of belonging at home in sports where most of their teammates are white. Some worry about going back to the GCC, but others point out that athletes of color – as well as other marginalized groups – can face discrimination wherever they play.

Meilani Walker is a standout athlete in three sports – soccer, basketball, and track. But it’s only on the soccer pitch, where she is one of the few Black players, that she sees a difference in the way game officials treat her. And this season, Walker and her teammates faced a referee who suggested the officiating might not be impartial if the girls knelt during the National Anthem. They knelt anyway.


Babinec says the District continues to support students’ right to kneel – in this case to protest racism – and he has made sure that official will not ref other Raider games.

“We have a lot of work to do,” says Walker. “But I appreciate our school being open to people voicing their concerns and then backing them.”

A lot of that work will fall on Babinec and Burnley. Both men and their departments have been meeting with other GCC districts to educate them on what Shaker Heights expects from their opponents. They are also working with their own coaches to create District-wide policies and protocols for dealing with racism on and off the field and even in their own locker rooms.

“Honestly, it’s work we have to do independent of the decision to go back to the GCC,” says Glasner. “We know that our students are going to experience the dynamics and the challenges and the tensions that exist in our society at large.”

“Getting this right,” says Glasner, “is critical.” **SL**

A photograph of a hallway with dark wood paneling and a staircase in the background. The hallway features a dark wood door on the left and a staircase with a wooden railing on the right. The walls are covered in dark wood paneling, and the floor is a light-colored wood. The lighting is warm and comes from a recessed light fixture on the ceiling.

The George G.G.
Peckham House on
South Park Boulevard
is undergoing a
massive renovation
to continue its tradition
of delighting guests
into its second century.



Great
Shaker
Homes



Built to Entertain – and Amaze

By Michael Peters

Photography by Kevin G. Reeves
Additional photography courtesy
of Donald Bingham Schmitt



Almost forgotten today, many Clevelanders – including several Shaker Heights residents – played a significant role in the creation of the American automotive industry. One prominent Shaker Heights home, at the corner where the two branches of South Park Boulevard meet, has numerous connections to this car-related gold rush through several owners who shaped the industry for generations.

In the 1910s, Cleveland was second only to Detroit in its focus on this new industry. The introduction of lower-priced cars, especially the Model T, and innovations like installment payments and used car trade-in programs, fueled ever increasing demand for cars. While the developers of Shaker Heights, Oris and Mantis Van Sweringen, went to enormous lengths to create the Rapid train line (including buying an entire railroad for the last piece of track they needed), when it was completed in the early 1920s, cars already dominated the roads.

One of the early automobile entrepreneurs was George G.G. Peckham, known as “3G,” who started the Peckham Motor Car Company in 1899 in Dayton. By 1903, when his only

child Phyllis was born, he was selling Pope-Toledo, Packard, White Steamer, Cadillac, and Waverly electrics – cars manufactured in Toledo, Warren, Cleveland, Detroit, and Indianapolis. Business was booming a decade later, only to be destroyed when the Great Dayton Flood swept 20 feet of water through the city’s downtown.

Rather than rebuild he moved the family to Cleveland in 1914, initially renting a house on East Overlook Road in Cleveland Heights. Detroit had not yet cemented its place as the Motor City, and Cleveland was buzzing with automotive activity – from White, Winton, Baker, and others. With a loan from Central National Bank, 3G bought the Cleveland Buick dealership, which he would rename Ohio Buick and eventually grow into the largest Buick dealership in the state.

With this success also came the opportunity to join in with the cultural activities of Cleveland’s prominent families. This was the decade when the Cleveland Museum of Art opened, the Music House Settlement and the Musical Arts Association (and its Cleveland Orchestra) were founded, and the Playhouse Settlement (later Karamu House) and Cleveland Play House were established.

Families like the Peckhams supported these efforts and attended their events together, and the impression that left on young Phyllis eventually led to a life supporting the arts in Cleveland.



Opposite: A new mural on the music room's second-floor staircase walls is by local artist Patrick Funke. It portrays scenes from some of the new owners' favorite locales.
Left: During restoration of 3G's office, a motto left for posterity by the original artisans.
Above: A whimsical service buzzer in 3G's office.





Views of the living room and a detail of the adjacent sun room (lower right).

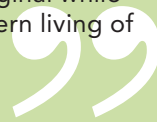


Donald Bingham Schmitt: In His Own Words

This is the third historic home restoration in the Cleveland area that I've had the great fortune of working on with these clients. The potential for challenges moving forward was a given. But after visiting the home on multiple occasions, its potential for grandeur was undeniable. I knew that my team could make the spaces both beautiful and functional for my clients' lifestyle.

Years ago I had the pleasure of meeting Phyllis Peckham and would frequently see her out and about socially, dressed to the nines in Parisian couture. She was charming and dynamic and I enjoyed our conversations. I think that if she could see what we are doing, not only to the interior but the exterior and the landscaping, she would be delighted that her home is in good hands that respect the history of a great Shaker home.

It's wonderful that over 100 years after its construction we have the opportunity to bring this landmark home up to a standard of fine design that pays homage to the original while being updated in ways that allow for the more modern living of the new '20s.



Ownership Changes

The Peckhams moved to Shaker Heights in 1916. They bought a large parcel on South Park Boulevard and hired Harry Shupe to design a house. Shupe had been working with Carl White at their firm White & Shupe since 1907. White's grandfather was the founder of the White Sewing Machine Company, and his uncle Rollin founded the White Motor Company in 1906. Carl White's wife, Cornelia Packard White, was the sister of the founders of Packard Motor Car Company in Warren in 1902. The Peckhams, Whites, and Packards were certainly likely to have mingled in the same social circles.

Harry Shupe's work for the Peckhams may have grown out of commissions to design homes on South Woodland Road. A syndicate of Cleveland business leaders,



led by Frederick Green and T.T. Long, had purchased 213 acres along South Woodland in 1911 for residential development. The acreage ran along the Doan Brook ravine from the Shaker Heights Country Club to Shaker Heights High School. The syndicate dammed the brook at Lee Road, creating Green and Marshall lakes. Shupe would design houses for each member of the syndicate, along with several others in the area.

In addition to the prestige of living in Shaker Heights, the South Park location was also convenient for Phyllis to attend Laurel School. By the time she graduated in 1920 her parents had already started work on a new house, again working with Shupe. It was directly next to the first one, which they sold to Carl Hanna, who owned the Hanna Building on Playhouse Square.

While they share a similar style, the second house sits prominently on the corner and is nearly one-third larger at nearly 16,000 square feet. The construction took two years and was completed in 1921. The Peckhams hired the local design firm Rorimer-Brooks, whose clients also included the Van Sweringens and the venerable Greenbrier Hotel in West Virginia, to outfit the home with custom-made furniture. Each summer, when the Peckhams were away on holiday, the firm would return to the house to refresh the interiors, including ensuring all of the lampshades were straight by using a level.

Peckham died of a heart attack in 1945; his widow Elizabeth sold the house to her daughter Phyllis in 1948, and Phyllis lived there until 1984.

Opposite: Lead designer and project manager, Donald Bingham Schmitt (seated), confers with general contractor Curtis Manns.

Above: Located across from the ballroom, was a smoking porch where guests of yesteryear could gather. It now serves as an office for the present owners.



Phyllis Primrose Peckham was not only a much-loved Cleveland arts patron, but like many of her peers, a fashionista. She had a fondness for French couture. Several of her Lanvin dresses are in the Western Reserve Historical Society's Chisholm Halle Costume Wing.

And she was an eye-catcher. In the summer of 1917, Peckham, his wife Elizabeth, and 14-year-old Phyllis were in the fashionable summer resort of Eagles Mere, in Northeast Pennsylvania. Its grand hotels hosted prominent families and attracted actors and artists. Among these was the Austrian-born artist Emil Fuchs, then living in New York.

Emil Fuchs was well known in society circles, painting the portraits of many prominent socialites. That he had also painted portraits of Queen Victoria and her son, King Edward VII, only added to his cache. So it was probably an easy answer when Fuchs approached 3G

in Eagles Mere offering to paint Phyllis's portrait. The artist had a show in Cleveland a year earlier, at the Korner and Wood gallery on Euclid Avenue. In October 1917, a subsequent show at the same gallery would feature Phyllis's portrait – along with that of Mrs. Frank Seiberling, wife of the founder of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company.

Phyllis was the last member of the family to own the house. She sold the pool house and gardener's cottage at the rear of the property, but otherwise the main house and its greenhouse and six-car garage – with two apartments above – remain intact.

In 1984, Phyllis sold this property to a buyer who was, like 3G, connected to the automotive industry. Joseph Gorman was then assistant president of TRW, the industrial powerhouse born out of Cleveland's Thompson Products. Thompson first found success with a new process for manufacturing engine valves. The company's expertise expanded to include satellites, rocket engines, and advanced weapons systems. The next year, 1985, Gorman became president and eventually CEO before retiring in 2001. An avid rider and hunter, he sold the house in 2004 and bought the Moxahela estate in Hunting Valley.



The new buyers were Mark and Susan Hollingsworth, who saw the house turn 100 years old before selling in early 2022. They were good stewards who made some updates such as geothermal heating and cooling, while opening up the house to many social events and fundraisers.

Now taking the house into its second century, current owners James Graham (who works for a major supplier to – yes – the automotive industry) and David Dusek are re-interpreting and honoring the legacy of the house with guidance from interior designer and project manager Donald Bingham Schmitt, who says the full renovation will take most of this year.

Opposite:
The primary bedroom suite awaits its transformation.
This page:
The process of transforming one of the vintage 1920s bathrooms into a modern, functional asset.







A Brief Tour

Many home designs from this period, especially the Tudor Revivals, have ostentatious appearances, while the design of the Peckham house is more subtle – with the significant exception of its sheer size. The social complexities of the early 20th century are foreign to us today, but the design of the house may have sought to balance social prestige (size, location, landscape design), architectural fashion (influences of the developing Prairie style), and the insularity of the social circles in which the Peckhams moved.

The design influences of the period are particularly notable in areas like the central music room, the large entertaining spaces, and the third-floor ballroom, complete with stage and dressing rooms.

The flow of visitors is carefully managed through these public areas, starting at the main entrance – an understated side door. Unlike Georgian and Tudor Revival houses with framed or stone-arched entryways on the front of the house, this choice may have been a Prairie style influence, because it preserves the horizontal lines of the façade. It’s an uncommon feature in Shaker Heights, but it was a feature Frank Lloyd Wright used extensively, notably with his Frederick C. Robie House in Chicago, where the entrance is nearly hidden at the rear of the house.

Once inside, guests are escorted through a hall with a barrel vault ceiling shining with new silver leaf. On the right is 3G’s original office, where the wood paneling has been painstakingly restored, using reclaimed and new wood so the updates are unnoticeable – including the hidden door to the bar (Prohibition having started in 1920).

On the left is the dining room, with new plaster relief ceiling decoration from Cleveland’s Fischer & Jirouch, who likely produced many of the original plaster decorative elements in this and many other Shaker Heights homes.

A breakfast room off the dining room retains the original windows – as is the case throughout the house – while the kitchen wing has been updated. As with many houses designed in this period, the original kitchen was the domain of the cook and other household staff. (The Peckhams had a butler, cook, three maids, a laundress, a driver, two groundskeepers, and a gardener.) The update takes advantage of the large windows on either side of the wing and includes a wheelchair accessible powder room.



Opposite top left: One of the new owners, David Dusek, with his dog, Oscar. Other photos: Crafts- and tradespeople attend to every aspect of the house’s restoration.





The third-floor ballroom, complete with stage and dressing rooms.

T

he entry hall dramatically ends at the center of the house, where guests are led into the music room. A grand staircase to the second level results in a room that is partially double-height and where the Peckhams, who were supporters of the Musical Arts Association, had their grand piano. The room also had a built-in player-pipe organ. A marble-floored loggia looks over the rear manicured garden, while the front has quarter-sawn oak paneling – and was where the Emil Fuchs portrait of Phyllis hung for decades.

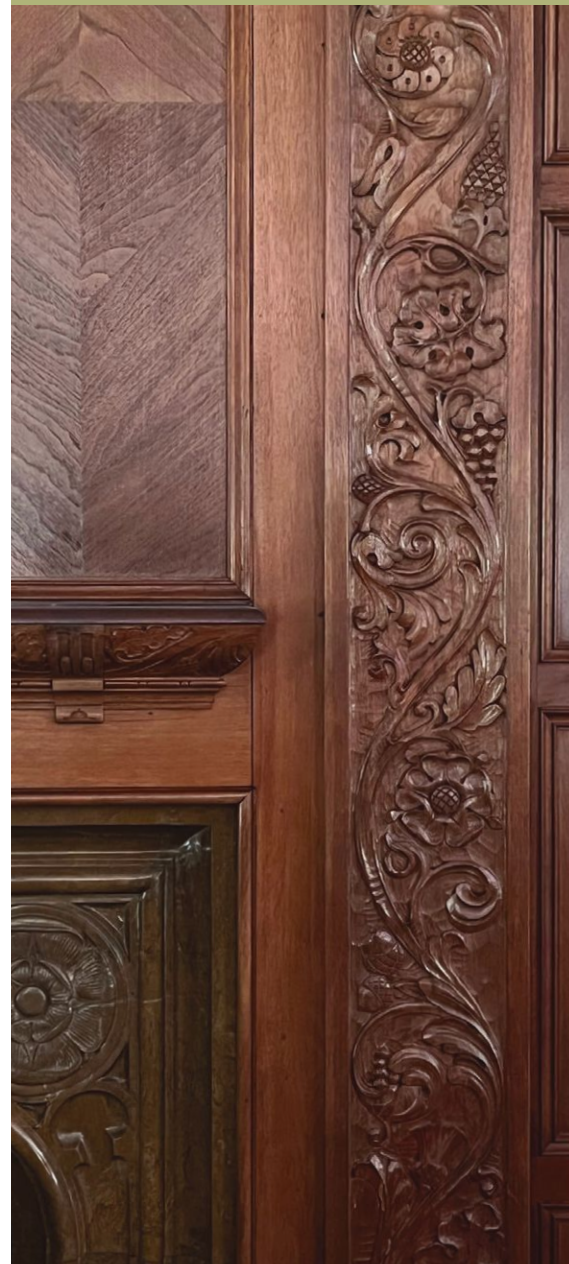
A large living room, with fireplace and built-in bookcases, is off the music room along with a glassed-in sunroom that also overlooks the rear garden. But the public areas extend up the main staircase to a mezzanine and then through another staircase to the third-floor ballroom.

The paneled ceiling of the main stair has been restored and repainted with accent colors that complement the new mural on the second-floor staircase walls by artist Patrick Funke. Portraying scenes from some of the new owners' favorite locales, the mural enlivens the space and weaves together the elements of Schmitt's design.

The renovation work stays true to the original plan for the public spaces while updating and personalizing the décor.

The private spaces consist of several groupings throughout the house. The main owners' suite is off the mezzanine and reconfigures the original dressing rooms and sleeping porch into a cohesive suite with two baths, dressing rooms, and a washer and dryer. On the opposite side of the mezzanine are three guest rooms, all with new en suite bathrooms. Here the design elements use classic materials but in modern and striking proportions to create warm and inviting spaces.

A third grouping of guest rooms is on the third floor, adjacent to the ballroom and former billiard room, and originally referred to as a "bachelor suite" for guests who may not make it home after the festivities. Finally, what would have been staff quarters above the garages is now a self-contained apartment.



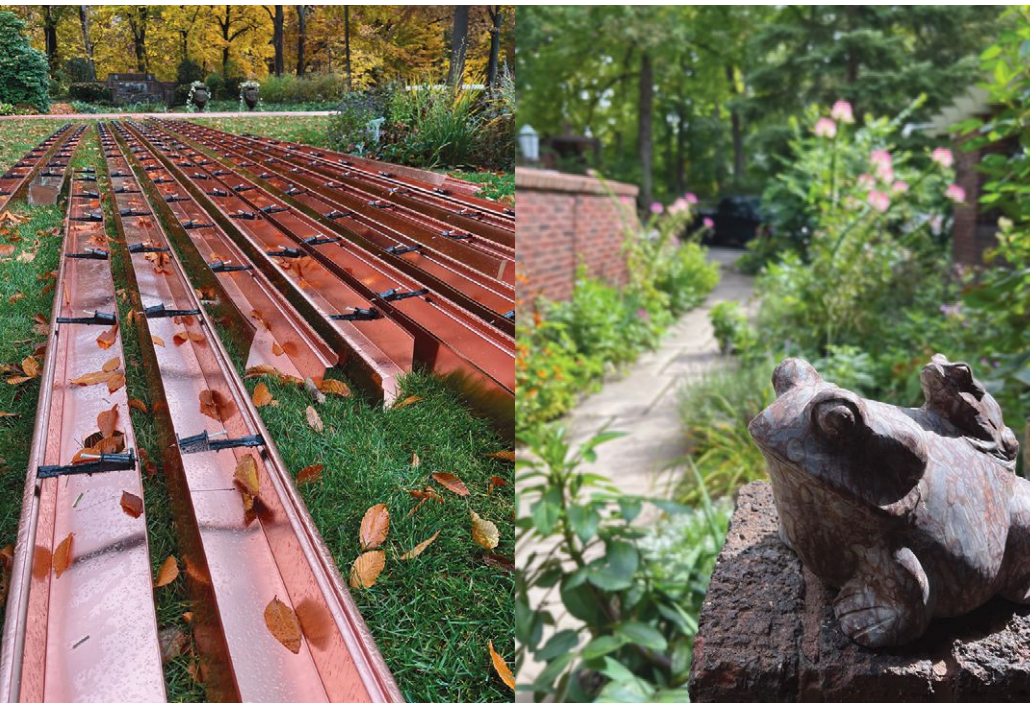


details

A plethora of original and new architectural details, materials, finishes, and design devices highlight the house's interior spaces and personalize the public and private areas throughout.



The grounds and gardens await refurbishment and enhancements in the coming spring.



The garage serves as one side of a frame to the rear garden, making the garden a private space within the larger grounds. These grounds, which blend into the surrounding woods of Southerly Park and The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, cover nearly two and a half acres, much of which is the expansive front lawn of the corner lot. The main house and garage share the same style and materials, and along with the pergola that joins them, have been restored and repainted. The trim and detail are painted in green, blue, and pink – organic colors to lighten the overall effect and highlight the gardens.

As it welcomes its second century, the home on South Park is well positioned to continue the legacy started by George Peckham, maintained by his daughter Phyllis for decades, and now in the accomplished hands of Graham and Dusek. Designed by Harry Shupe as a showpiece as well as a home, it is ready to welcome new generations of visitors and guests – some of whom may just need that bachelor’s suite.... **SL**



Special thanks to Shaker residents Dozie Herbruck and Pat Agatisa for their research into Harry Shupe and his work. (See Shaker Life, Winter 2015). For further reading on Phyllis Peckham and her collection of dresses, see “Phyllis Primrose Peckham: Dressed for Posterity” in the journal Dress (Volume 29).

Michael Peters is sustainability coordinator for the City of Shaker Heights.



Winter

By Nate Paige
Photography by Jason Miller



Nothing takes the bite out of a chilly winter day like a warm beverage. For many, the day can't begin without that morning cup of coffee to get in gear, or maybe during the mid-afternoon to fight that dreaded 2:30 feeling.

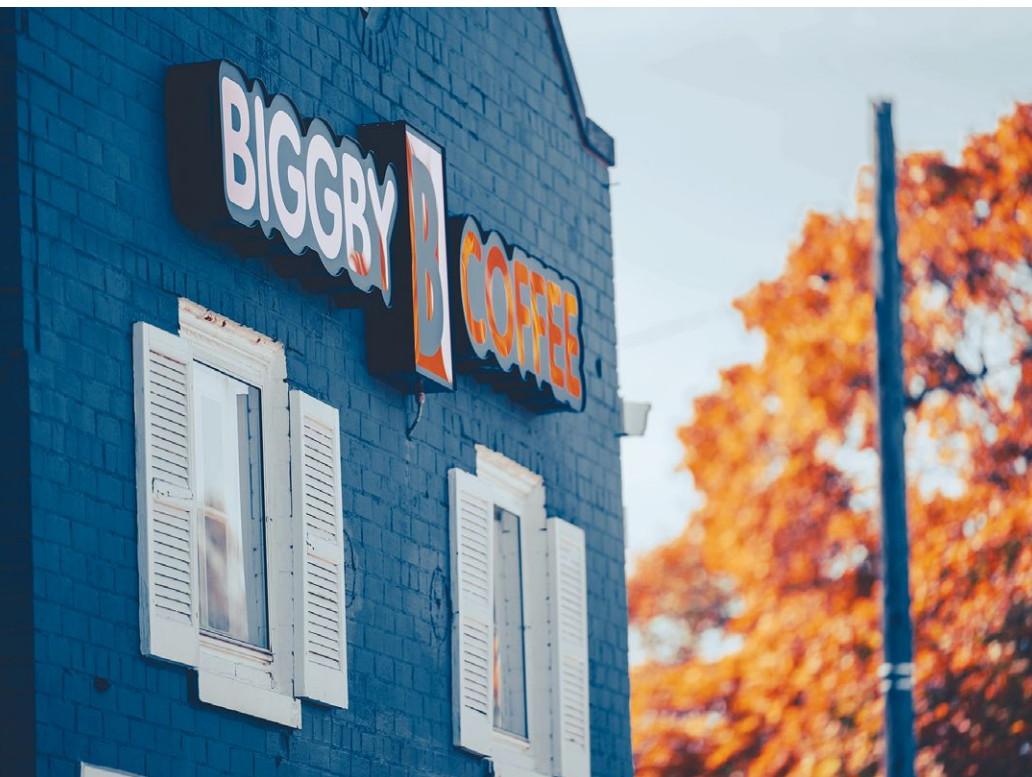
Or maybe cocoa, chai, or tea is your heated beverage of choice. While there are any number of places around town to grab a cuppa joe, here's a look at four venues in Shaker's commercial districts.



Warmers



COFFEE



BIGGBY COFFEE

20609 Fairmount Boulevard
Michael Ren, Franchisee

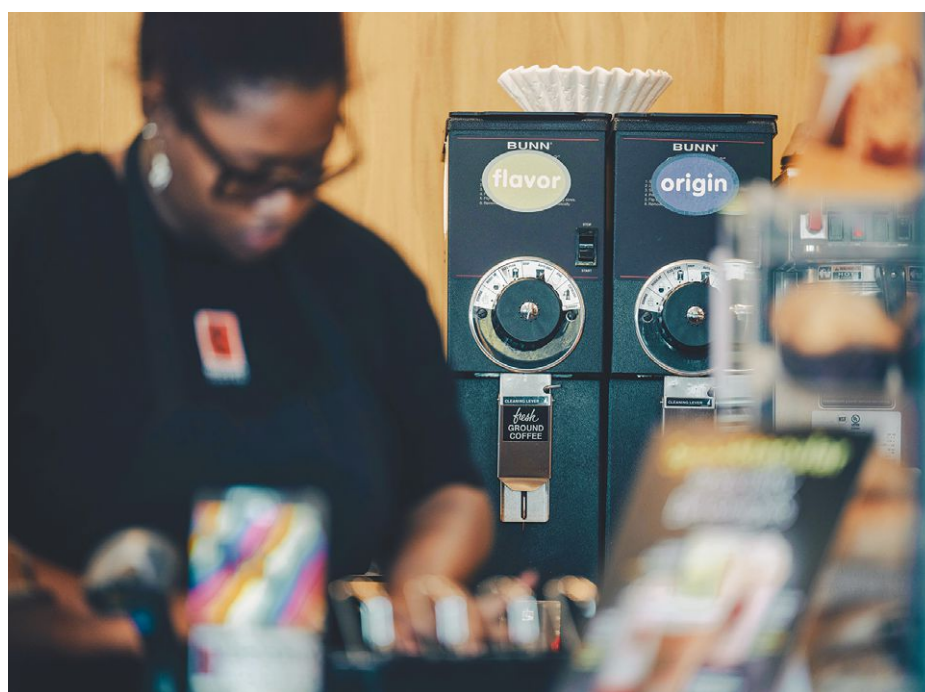
Boosting the Spirits

Biggby Coffee on Fairmount Boulevard, across from John Carroll University, is one of the company's newest franchises, opening in February 2020.

Located in a building formerly occupied by longtime tenant, the Peter Danford, Inc. jewelry company, Biggby undertook a major renovation that included installing additional bay windows on the north side. The décor alone – vivid orange, white, and turquoise walls – is enough to boost one's spirits.

Opening a coffee shop a stone's throw from a college campus should have been an instant win-win, but no one could have predicted the financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"John Carroll was closed for three semesters, so most of the last two years have been a huge challenge," says franchisee Michael Ren.



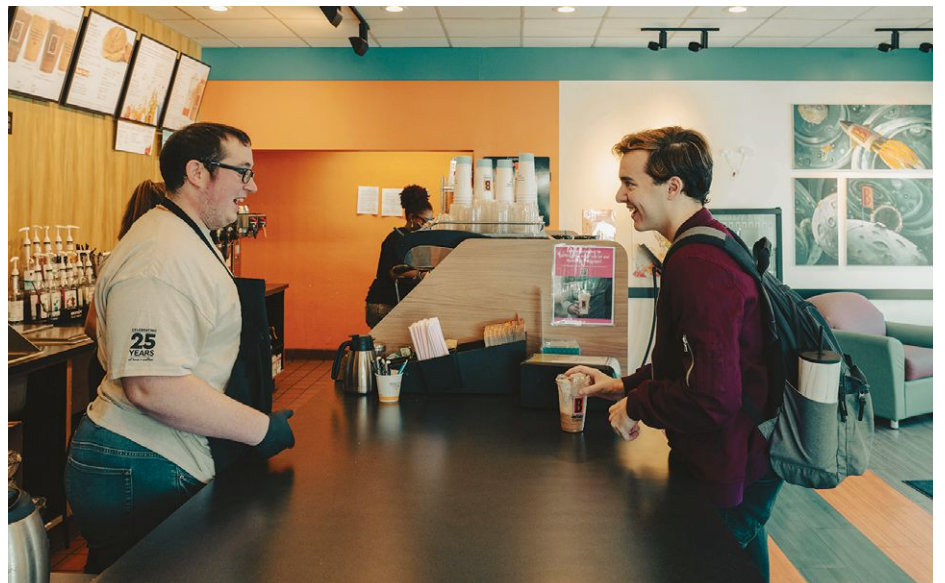
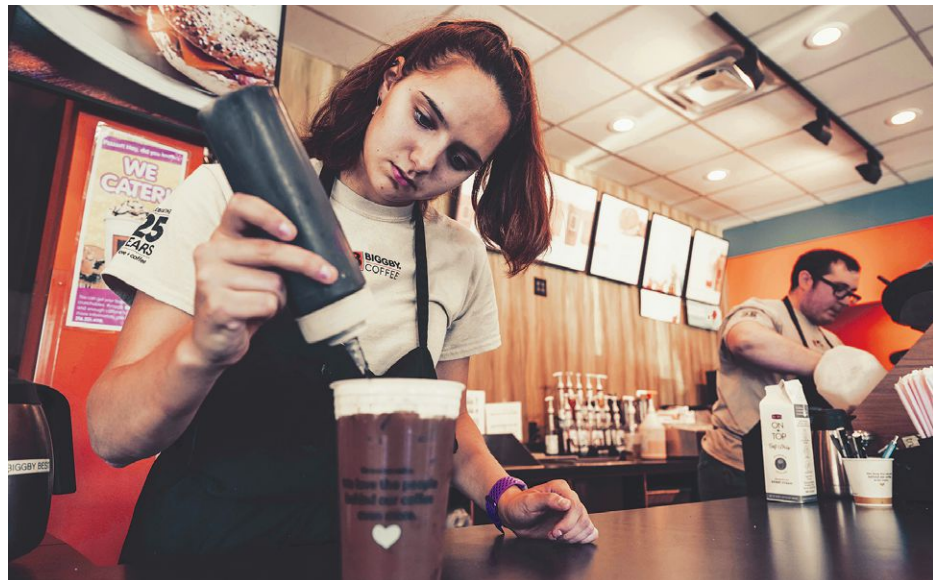


Having lived in the Shaker Square area for many years, Ren was interested in opening a location in Shaker Heights. "I always loved the sense of community in Shaker. The neighborhood is great, there's lots of traffic, and it's very kid-friendly."

He currently owns three Biggby franchises – one of which is located on Shaker Square.

College students and commuters make up a large part of Ren's Shaker clientele. The Sweet Foam Cold brews and the Avalanche (white mocha and mint), from the specialty beverage menu, are among the most popular. The Biggby breakfast bagels, better known as Bragels and served all day, are also a favorite.

Biggby Coffee Shaker is open Mondays from 6 am – 7 pm and Tuesdays through Sundays from 7 am – 7 pm. Catch the daily happy hour from 4 – 7 pm for 2-for-1 specialty beverages.







RISING STAR COFFEE ROASTERS

Van Aken District Market Hall
3441 Tuttle Road

Community and Conversation

Rising Star Coffee Roasters, which opened in the Van Aken District Market Hall early in 2019, is a key player in the ongoing bustle of the hall. It's a local chain, founded in 2012 in Ohio City. Bruno Green, who grew up in Shaker Heights, is one of four co-owners who bought the chain in 2020. These also include Dawn Fox, Cristo Kallas, and Brandon Riggs.

"Along with Dawn, I focus on managing our retail operations across our six cafes. That includes everything from staffing and procedures, to drink specials and ingredients," he says.

Green views coffee as a key to building community and conversation.

"At the end of the day, it's the aspect of hospitality and community. For every coffee shop, the favorite part is viewing coffee as a gathering tool; we can figure out how to share an interaction over a cup of coffee. Coffee shops are a place where everyone can go."

The decision to open a location in Shaker was made by the previous owner. But Green offered advice, based on his years growing up here.

"I told the previous owner that the location of the Van Aken District is at a huge crossroads of travelers – there are so many different types of people passing through the Warrensville/Chagrin intersection. We'd have the opportunity to reach a lot of people and be at the center of a huge community."

While Rising Star's menu includes a number of options – coffee, lattes, chai, tea, espresso, Americano, and hot chocolate – its most popular item is the Promised Land Latte, consisting of espresso, steamed milk, honey, and cinnamon. Green says the Vanilla Bean Latte is a close second.

Rising Star's hours are 7 am – 7 pm daily.



...AND MORE

MOTIV

3427 Lee Road
Brittany & Dre Wiley, Owners

A Fusion Concept

It's been all systems go for Brittany Wiley, President of Magna Family of Brands Hospitality Group, and husband, Dre, who hit the ground running in 2020 with their business plan and haven't looked back.

The most recent addition to their umbrella company – which includes Magna Wine Boutique and Mocha Coffee Company – is Motiv, which opened in May 2022 and is located at the corner of Lee Road and Van Aken Boulevard.

"Motiv is a fusion concept offering craft coffee, wine, cocktails, and small plates," says Brittany Wiley.

On the coffee front, the Signature Honey Bee Latte, a brown sugar and cinnamon latte with honey and a cinnamon stick garnish, is the most popular item among patrons. A close second is the Signature Mocha. Both beverages contain a secret ingredient.

"Of our small plates, the most popular item during the day is the Breakfast Sammy: turkey sausage and egg, with a choice of cheddar, mozzarella, or provolone cheese. We serve it on bagels, croissants, toast, or pita. During the evening, it's the chicken quesadilla and the crab cakes."



Although Motiv is the only business Wiley and her husband operate in Shaker, there is an emotional attachment to the City.

"My husband grew up in Shaker, and he knows it's such an amazing and supportive community. Most of our business comes from foot traffic."

Motiv's hours are Mondays and Tuesdays from 7 am – 3 pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7 am – 9 pm, Fridays from 7 am – 10 pm, Saturdays from 8 am-10 pm, Sundays from 8 am – 3 pm. Social Hour is Wednesdays – Saturdays 3 – 6 pm. Friday is Ladies Night, with extended happy hour drink specials until 9 pm.



BARNONE WINE CAFÉ

20106 Chagrin Boulevard

Michael Resnick, Owner

Forever Changing

Necessity is the mother of invention and in Michael Resnick's case, reinvention.

Part of that reinvention includes coffee.

Resnick has been in the wine business for 30 years. He moved BarNone from University Heights to Shaker Heights in 2020, to the space previously occupied by Juma.

"Our lease wasn't renewed in the old spot, and we came across this location. We thought it would be a fabulous place to move to, so we did."

Resnick enhanced the kitchen to accommodate his menu, which includes breakfast sandwiches, pizza, paninis, quesadillas, salads, sandwiches, and barbecue.

"Our big thing is barbecue. The young lady who runs the kitchen, Wendy, along with her husband, has been in the barbecue business for a long time. They're some of the best ribs you'll ever have."

Resnick attributes his longevity in the business to being able to reinvent when necessary.

"I needed to work," he says, laughing. "You really have to change your business. All the time. We changed from a full-service cheese and wine store, to doing away with the cheese. We changed our philosophy and focused solely on wine, and eventually closeout wines. My motto is 'Why buy cheap wine when you can buy good wine cheap?'"

He says that over the last 30 years, "we've probably changed our establishment four or five times. In moving to Shaker, we added coffee to our lineup. Otherwise, if we had stuck with selling wine and cheese, and not being creative, we would be long gone."

His most popular coffee item is lattes. The coffee is provided by Six Shooter Coffee, located in Cleveland's Collinwood neighborhood.

"We do very European style coffee, so we only offer a traditional cup size for lattes; there's no large or small."

BarNone Wine Café is open Mondays from 9 am – 2 pm; Tuesdays – Fridays from 9 am – 8 pm and Saturdays from 11 am – 8 pm. Closed Sunday. Happy Hour is Tuesday – Saturday in the Café from 4 – 6:30 pm, offering a variety of wines for \$5 a glass, select craft beers, and food options including pizza, a rib sampler, totchos (Tater Tot nachos), spinach and artichoke dip, and a cheese board. SL





Q+A

A More Perfect Justice

Shaker Heights Municipal Court Judge Anne Walton Keller works tirelessly to create the most fair and efficient court possible.

Interview by Sharon Holbrook
Photography by Rob Muller



SH: Tell us a little bit about the court and the types of cases it handles.

AK: The Shaker Heights jurisdiction is actually five municipalities, so the court handles cases from Shaker, Beachwood, University Heights, Hunting Valley, and Pepper Pike. And we're a pretty busy court. I am the only judge, but I have magistrates who assist me with some of the cases.

We hear criminal cases, misdemeanors, traffic cases, eviction cases, housing cases, small claims, and civil cases with a jurisdictional limit of up to \$15,000. So quite a few types of cases are addressed in municipal court.

SH: Why does Shaker Heights Municipal Court include these other municipalities?

AK: Municipal courts are creatures of statute; the state legislature set up this court for this specific jurisdiction. In this court jurisdiction, there are over 60,000 people.

SH: Explain the difference between a judge and a magistrate.

AK: A judge is elected to the position, and a magistrate is a lawyer appointed by the judge to hear cases. Prior to being elected, I was a magistrate and then an acting judge in this court for five years. An acting judge is a judge who fills in when the elected judge is otherwise unavailable.

I have one full-time magistrate, and there are two other magistrates who come in one afternoon per week for a couple hours to assist with traffic dockets. I hear 100 percent of the criminal cases that come through the court as part of my regular docket, in addition to the other cases that I hear.

SH: You were elected in 2021. Tell us about your path to becoming a magistrate and then to getting elected judge.

AK: I started working in private practice at a criminal defense firm. I represented people who were charged with crimes in state and federal court. I was very interested in litigation, criminal law in particular. When the opportunity to become a magistrate opened up in this court in 2016, I applied for the position. I met with Judge K.J. Montgomery, whom I had known from practicing in front of her as a lawyer, and was hired for that position.

Over time, she began to rely on me when she was unavailable, so I was appointed an acting judge, which gave me a lot of good experience. I then ran for judge last year when Judge Montgomery retired and have really been enjoying the work that I've been doing ever since.

SH: When you ran for judge, you talked about some initiatives you'd like to put into place.

AK: One of my initiatives was to make sure that we have more people represented by lawyers. So, I have a court-appointed public defender in court during criminal proceedings. That means that a lawyer is available the first time someone comes to court. People generally don't understand what's going on in court. In many cases, they've never been in court before. They're scared.

People just want to get their case over with. It's very difficult for people to address court proceedings while also having employment and childcare issues. I'm trying to make everything more convenient in a way that also protects people's rights. When I have a lawyer here the first day of court, the defendant can meet him or her in person. A lot of the proceedings after the first day might be virtual, but the defendants have had that in-person meeting. Instead of coming in and just entering a plea to the charge, they've had representation.

If the person qualifies for court-appointed counsel, then there is no cost to them. Many people who appear in my court qualify for a court-appointed lawyer.



SH: Another thing you wanted was to create a dedicated domestic violence docket. What was the reason behind that, and how has it been working?

AK: Domestic violence is one of the most serious issues that I handle as a municipal court judge.

I started that special docket in February 2022. I had been on the bench for years, but I began to see a huge increase in domestic violence, part of a national trend. And the pandemic just made things worse. Not just intimate partner violence, but violence in families. I am a member of the Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence Task Force, so I'd been receiving education and training related to domestic violence, and I wanted to bring any resources I could to these cases.

Separating these cases on a special docket allows for a lot more resources to be brought. There's a probation officer present as well as a victim's advocate, and the accused and their lawyer. A prosecutor can be there if needed. And I've continued to reach out to additional resources through the contacts that I've made to make sure that we have as many resources available as possible to assist people.

SH: Another initiative you talked about was having a fully functioning online docket. Were you finding that there were issues with that the way it was set up?

AK: Yes. So our website is undergoing a renovation. It was very difficult to read the docket. This summer I received a grant from the

Ohio Supreme Court for a technology update, so that grant is paying for the renovation. It's user friendly and also mobile phone accessible. It's an easy way to view what's going on in your case. We have never had images before, but it has every publicly available document so that someone meeting with their lawyer can review the case file. It's all about providing more information to the public about their cases.

SH: Have you seen any change in your cases since the Shaker police added their Mental Health Response Team program for calls that require help other than from police officers?

AK: It is groundbreaking. One of the issues that we have in municipal court is when people who are dealing with mental illness get caught up in the criminal justice system. That is not where they need to be. And if this program is able to help the police with addressing those issues before the case is ever in the court, that'll be really helpful.

One of the areas I'm very interested in is assisting with cases involving mental health when they do come to the court. I've been working with the county's Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services board and other agencies to make sure that I have the resources available to help those people.

Shaker is absolutely doing important work by starting this program. I think that I'm going to see the impact of it more and more each year.



SH: Let's talk about your initiatives with respect to evictions. You had mentioned establishing a mediation docket.

AK: We came up with new forms, which are intended to help resolve more cases by way of settlement instead of trial. In most of the cases that come before the court, it's an issue of whether rent has been paid. So there is the option to mediate, and there's also the option for the parties to use the forms to work out a resolution. It's been very successful for the cases where we've set up payment plans. I think only one has defaulted, and we've done many of them.

SH: You've said that the court was making some efforts towards bail reform that you wanted to continue.

AK: This court is in line with bail reform. In a domestic violence case, there's an actual bond hearing. But in a nonviolent misdemeanor case, a person will be cited, receive a copy of their charge, and then be released with the date that they're told to come to court. That's what's known as a personal bond. Bond is not supposed to be a mechanism for people who don't have money to be kept in jail. It is meant to ensure someone's appearance in court.

SH: The court has 12,000 to 14,000 cases a year. Doing some quick math, that's about 50 cases a weekday. Does that sound right to you?

AK: A lot of those cases are traffic cases where you might get a ticket and pay it before you come to court. So those don't take up the court's time. The magistrates assist with traffic dockets. I also have a special docket for driving under suspension cases, and the magistrate who hears those cases will spend time with people to help them come back to court with a valid driver's license.

SH: You still have thousands of cases even after accounting for traffic tickets and traffic appearances. What's a typical day or week at work like for you?

AK: The first three days of the week are the regular criminal dockets, and I'm in court from before nine until the docket is done for the day. Thursdays and Fridays are reserved for jury trials, hearings, and bench trials. I also address anybody who's been arrested and is in jail on a felony or a violent misdemeanor where a bond is needed. So I'm definitely in court a large part of every day.

SH: What would you like people to know about the court that they might not know?

AK: One of the things I'm trying to focus on is procedural fairness. I can have an impact in terms of how people feel the system treated them. How I engage with the public, how long people wait in court – those things are important in terms of how they interpret their interaction with

the justice system.

I've been partnering with a group called Court Community Service to allow people to sign up for community service as an alternative punishment in some cases. It's been a successful partnership.

I'm trying to increase our connection with the Cleveland Municipal Court dockets. There's a specialized military veterans docket there. There's also a mental health court and drug court. The drug court has a whole team of people to address substance use issues.

We've applied for a grant to pay for a pretrial services officer – that would help expand our probation department. Probation is generally after the case is over, but while the case is pending some people could immediately benefit from some help from a probation department representative.

I have a lot of cases where people are struggling with housing issues, and a lot of times I make those phone calls to try and locate shelters or housing options. I would like the court to be able to provide more assistance with that.

SH: Anything else on your wish list?

AK: Oh, my wish list would be long. But my real wish is to make sure that the court is as fair and efficient as possible, and I think that I will forever be trying to implement new changes in order to make sure that happens.

This interview has been edited for clarity and length. SL



Keeping Shaker in Good Repair

By Sharon Holbrook | Photography by Rob Muller

Work. Live.

Who: Jane Arnoff Logsdon and Ernie Logsdon

Where: Lomond

Business: Shaker Home Maintenance, a family-owned home repair business specializing in Shaker homes and retaining their style. We are a hyper-local company that embraces the idea of a highly specialized, neighborhood-based business.

Mission: To help customers with both typical and specialized projects, such as older doors or windows, and to do it all to impeccable standards.

What We Love About Our Work: We are passionate about the work and love the satisfaction of complex projects, such as restoring older doors or making windows from scratch. We also like to teach our staff the craft and how to honor our standards.

Ernie, who's always been handy, never thought he could do this as a full-time gig, but I (Jane) always encouraged him and knew he had the skills to make it work. We really work together with complementary skills – Ernie is in the field working his magic while I'm behind the scenes managing scheduling, customer service, and most of the billing. We are proud of what we have accomplished.

Personal Background: I grew up in Novelty, Ohio, before moving to Shaker for high school and graduating from Shaker Heights

High School. I attended college in Beloit, Wisconsin, and lived in Minneapolis before moving back to Cleveland in 1997 to attend the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

In addition to being the co-owner of Shaker Home Maintenance, I'm a licensed social worker and a building substitute at Onaway Elementary School. I'm also the founder of Buy Nothing Shaker and co-founder of the Shaker Heights Anti-Racism Coalition.

Ernie grew up in El Paso, Texas, and we met when he lived in Minneapolis. He moved to Cleveland with me and worked as a chef for many years at Nighttown, Mustard Seed Market and Cafe, and The Cleveland Food Co-op. His dad taught him how to fix things and build houses. He began doing home repair jobs part-time after we moved to Shaker in 2016, and it grew fast. We founded Shaker Home Maintenance in 2018.

We have two children – Aaron, 17, a student at Connections Academy, and Aviv, 16, a junior at Shaker High. Both boys have worked with Shaker Home Maintenance and seem to have picked up dad's skills. We also have four cats, a snake, a bearded dragon, and fish both inside and outside the house. Our son built a koi pond in our yard.

We garden and grow as much food as possible, including making and canning homemade sauces. I also make my own beauty and household products.

On Working and Living in Shaker Heights: We love living and working in our own community for the convenience and for the personal ties we develop while we work. It makes us feel connected to the neighborhoods and community at large. Plus, Ernie loves working with the incredible variety in Shaker's housing stock.

Our family's favorite places in and around Shaker are Motiv, Gentleman's Cave, Shaker Library, Cleveland Metroparks – and our own backyard.

Contact:

Shaker Home Maintenance
shakerhomemaintenance@gmail.com
(216) 505-0682 **SL**



Scene in Shaker

Going Fast and Hard

By Grant Segall

Photography by Becky Bynum
except where noted

Every day after school, hundreds of Shaker Heights High School students put away their books and take to the field, court, pool, track, fitness room, or – as is the case at only one other Ohio public high school – the river.

And while this daily routine can benefit students across a wide range of abilities (see cover story), recent Shaker grad Sophie Calabrese has progressed to an elite level.

She has won national rowing championships while representing Shaker and now the University of Texas. This summer, she helped a U.S. women's quadruple sculls team finish sixth and the overall American team second in the World Rowing Under 23 Championships in Varese, Italy.

The multitalented student says the Shaker schools helped her learn to do far more than row. They taught her the French horn well enough for her to earn first chair in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and tour Europe with the ensemble. They also helped prepare her to make the Big 12 Conference's rookie academic team and, twice, its top academic team.

Looking back, Calabrese says of the school district, "It's rare to have a place where you have so many different things to do at a high level."

From an early age, Calabrese wanted to excel at sports. After trying a few, she was intrigued at age 11 by broadcasts of Olympic rowing. So she went to a day camp on the Cuyahoga River. "In a day or two, I fell in love with rowing, and we hadn't even been on the water yet," she says.

She loves rowing because "It's really fun to go hard. It's really fun to go fast. You get new scenery. You have all this technique to think about. It kind of takes your mind off the grind."

She faced plenty of grind while rowing for Shaker. In the spring and the fall, the rowers bussed to the Cuyahoga after school and practiced for up to two hours, dodging motorboats, freighters, and storms.



Photo courtesy of US Rowing

They returned to Shaker well into the evening, with homework yet to finish. Also in the spring, they competed in Cleveland, Boston, Grand Rapids, Chattanooga, and elsewhere. In the winter, they trained indoors.

Her mother, Becky Bynum, says of Shaker crew, "I always scoffed when people talked about the benefits of athletics in teaching grit, persistence, leadership, and time management. I'm a believer now. It was a great launching pad for her."

Calabrese crewed for coach Robert Valerian, the team's founder, and his successor, Michael Jaffe. Jaffe says, "She's a wonderful kid, a terrific student, and a really special rower. It's a joy to watch somebody who is passionate and pushes her limits to succeed at a truly high level."

In 2018, among other feats, Calabrese won the girls' Midwest single sculls title from the Scholastic Rowing Association of America. She was part of a Shaker 4+ crew (four rowers with one oar each, plus a coxswain) that won the girls' Midwest Scholastic Championship and reached the national semifinals. She qualified for a Team USA crew and helped it win the women's varsity quadruple sculls and the overall championship at the CanAmMex Regatta in Mexico City.

The next year, she won the national scholastic girls' single sculls championship. For two years, she captained the team.

While doing all that, she earned a 4.3 grade point average, which won her a partial scholarship to Texas, a top college for rowing. She helped the Longhorns win the varsity eight and overall crown this year at the NCAA Women's Rowing Championships.

Her first major was music performance. Now it's exercise science. She's in the fourth of five years of earning



a bachelor's degree and fulfilling prerequisites for grad school in physical therapy. Because COVID-19 extended eligibility for sports, she can keep rowing throughout.

Calabrese says that after college, "I want to keep competing." She's aiming for the 2028 Olympics. **SL**

Opposite: Competing at the World Championships in Varese, Italy (Sophie is 3rd from left), July 2022. **Above:** A little downtime with her family dog, Sunny.

"I always scoffed when people talked about the benefits of athletics in teaching grit, persistence, leadership, and time management. I'm a believer now."

Becky Bynum, mother of elite rower Sophia Calabrese



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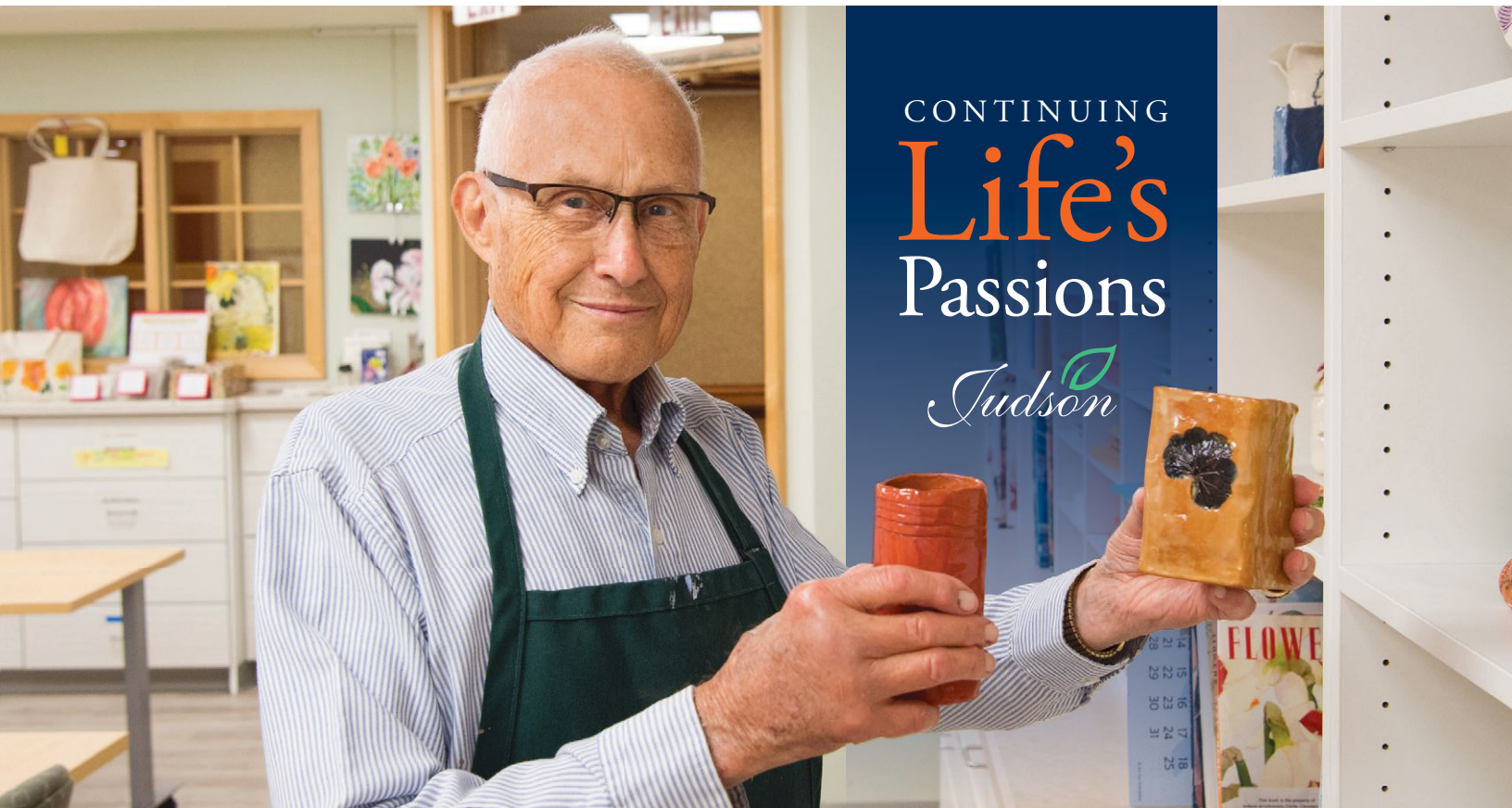
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 City of Shaker Heights

 SHAKER HEIGHTS



Peter has always been passionate about living, working, and volunteering in University Circle. From his lifelong work as an astronomer to his recent work in pottery and everything in between, Peter is always searching for new things to explore.

Bringing Independent Living to *Life*.

At Judson, independent living is all about enjoying the comforts of home in a vibrant, maintenance-free retirement community. Residents take advantage of diverse, enriching programs that cultivate new friendships, maintain wellness, fuel creativity and ignite new interests. Seniors define their own way of living and find the inspiration that makes them come alive with the peace of mind that our staff is available 24 hours a day should help be needed.