SHAKER LIFE

ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

Alumnus Football Coach Andre Griffin ’97 brings mentorship and community to SHHS football program





These are just some of the top colleges and universities (as ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*) Gilmour graduates have been accepted into since 2020. These outcomes reflect the strength of our academic program, the individualized guidance students receive and the confidence colleges have in Gilmour graduates. **That's the advantage of educating the mind and empowering the heart.**

A+ NICHE 2026 K-12 SCHOOL

◀ INQUIRE TODAY

◀ VIEW THE FULL LIST OF ACCEPTANCES

GILMOUR ACADEMY

EDUCATING THE MIND
EMPOWERING THE HEART

Gilmour Academy is an independent, Catholic, coed school in the Holy Cross tradition. Grades K-12 and Montessori (18 Months - PreK)

Inside Shaker Life

4
Shaker City News

14
Shaker Social

16
Shaker Schools News

18
ShakerGrams

20
Shaker Library News

24
Shaker Library
Feature Story

60
Shaker Connections



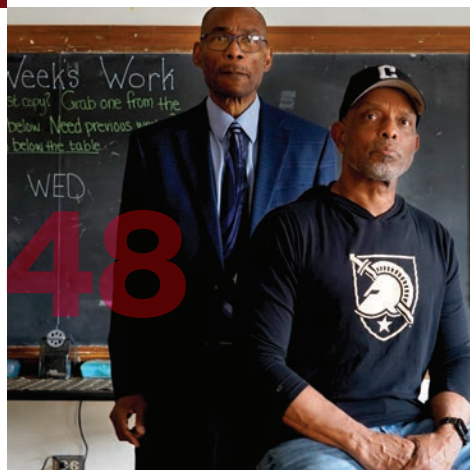
Attitude is Everything

Alumnus Football Coach Andre Griffin brings mentorship, community to SHHS football program.



Improving the Odds

For the Shaker Heights Fire Department, the latest life-saving technology and training are transforming emergency response and care for the community.



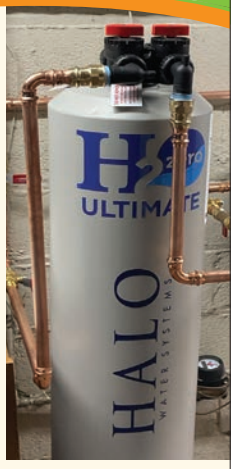
A Social Network

The act of building your community inevitably takes multiple paths – from cultivating work and school friends, to maintaining close family ties.

ON THE COVER
Shaker Heights High School's new Head Football Coach, Andre Griffin
Photo by Gus Chan

Modern Comfort for Shaker Homes





Your Shaker Heights home deserves modern comfort.

From uneven heating and aging boilers to older pipes and original electrical systems, Gorjanc delivers modern solutions that respect historic craftsmanship. Your family will be comfortable and safe without compromising the charm you love. We've been keeping Shaker homes comfortable since 1963.





GORJANC HOME SERVICES

HEATING · COOLING · PLUMBING · ELECTRICAL

Savings for Shaker Homeowners

$50 OFF

Any Repair or Service of $200 or More

Heating · Plumbing · Cooling · Electrical

*Cannot combine with any other offers or specials. One time use only. Must present coupon to redeem. Expires December 31, 2026. SLFALL-2026

"I highly recommend Gorjanc for boiler maintenance on our older Shaker home. Just had Jonathon here doing my annual service and now I'm ready for the upcoming season. Quality work done professionally and on time." – Gillian G.

Instant Estimates at gorjanc.com. **Call 216-278-7889.**

PAYNE & TOMPKINS HOME • FURNISHINGS

WHERE THOUGHTFUL DESIGN MEETS CURATED FUNISHINGS

GET STARTED & SCHEDULE A 15 MINUTE PHONE CALL

SCAN ME!



PAYNE & TOMPKINS HOME FURNISHINGS
(440) 226-5040

Savvy Award & APEX Award* Winner

SHAKER LIFE

FALL 2026 | VOLUME 45 | ISSUE 4
3400 Lee Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44120
WEBSITES: shaker.life | shakerheightsoh.gov
EMAIL: shaker.mag@shakerheightsoh.gov
VOICE MAIL: 216.491.1459
TTY: 216.491.3161

PUBLISHER
Paula Morrison

EDITOR
Susan Iler

ART DIRECTOR
Karen Myers

SHAKER LIBRARY COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
Lyndsey Brennan

SHAKER SCHOOLS EDITORIAL ADVISOR
Kristen Miller

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Lonnie Gronek: 216.721.0200
lgronek@livepub.com

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Rebecca Wong: 216.375.9130

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Sharon Holbrook, Zachary Lewis, Nate Paige

SUBMISSIONS AND COMMENTS
SHAKER LIFE does not accept unsolicited editorial material, but story suggestions, comments, and observations from residents are welcome. Contact the editor at shaker.mag@shakerheightsoh.gov, or **SHAKER LIFE**, 3400 Lee Rd., Shaker Heights, OH 44120. We cannot respond to every suggestion but each will be given consideration.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Christine Vegh: 216.491.1419
christine.vegh@shakerheightsoh.gov
SHAKER LIFE is published four times per year by the City of Shaker Heights Department of Communications & Marketing, Ann McGuire, Director. It is distributed free to residents of the Shaker Heights City School District. Additional copies available for $5.25.

For general City information, call 216.491.1400, or email: city.hall@shakerheightsoh.gov

ADA NOTICE: Upon request, the City can provide published materials in alternative formats to accommodate a person with a visual impairment.

The views of the individuals and organizations interviewed in **SHAKER LIFE** are not necessarily the official views of the City of Shaker Heights. © City of Shaker Heights. All rights reserved.

***Savvy Awards** recognize the country's best in local government communications and marketing. **APEX Awards** recognize the country's best in graphic design, editorial content and the ability to achieve overall communications excellence published by professional communicators.

Printed on 10% PCW recycled paper. This magazine is 100% recyclable. Please recycle this magazine.

facebook.com/shakerheights
Instagram @ShakerHeights

www.shaker.life

PEOPLE COMMUNITY ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT GREAT SHAKER HOMES

Browse the Archives



Businesses That Made the Leap

Fall 2024

There's always a level of risk associated with the launch of a business. And making the leap from operating a home-based business to a brick-and-mortar location creates an entirely different set of challenges. But it can be done – and done well. Just ask Caroline Weingart and Jakecia Durham, the respective owners of Lizzie's Bakery and Desired Designs.



Building the Dream in Shaker

Summer 2023

Like many homes in Shaker Heights, the thoughtfully crafted 2022 St. Jude Dream Home has built-in bookshelves, window seats, hardwood floors, a laundry chute, and even a "milk door" for deliveries. But this house is not part of Shaker's historic housing stock: it's a brand-new modern-farmhouse style home.



3 Under 30

Spring 2025

Shaker alumni-Influencer Lauryn Alexandria (2016), mountaineer Max Bond (2016), and author Abby White (2015) thrive in unique careers and trace their paths back to inspirational classroom experiences at Shaker Heights Schools.

Shaker City News

City Launches the Lee Road Complete Street Project

The City's plan to revitalize Lee Road takes a major step forward this fall, as construction gets underway on the Lee Road Complete Street project. The $28 million project will:

- Reconfigure most of Lee Road from four lanes to three: a northbound lane, a southbound lane, and a center turning lane. Between Van Aken and Chagrin Boulevards, the current number of lanes will remain.
- Repave the entire length of Lee Rd. in Shaker Heights.
- Add bicycle infrastructure, including on-road bike lanes north of Van Aken Boulevard and a two-way, off-road bike path south of Van Aken Blvd.
- Update traffic and pedestrian signals the entire length of Lee Rd. in Shaker Heights.
- Install new water and sanitary sewer lines south of Chagrin Blvd.
- Improve streetscaping south of Van Aken, including landscaping, trees, benches, bike racks, decorative lighting, expanded gathering areas, and a new mid-block crosswalk at Hampstead Rd.

The project is the most significant to date in the City's efforts to implement the goals outlined in the Lee Road Action Plan, a community-driven plan adopted by the City in 2023 that creates a vision to comprehensively transform Lee Rd. south of Van Aken into a thriving corridor and commercial district that is attractive, walkable, bikeable, and transit-friendly. Other recent projects have included new public art murals, updates to the zoning code, improved parking for local businesses, and an expanded Chagrin Lee Fest. The upgrades to Lee Road's public infrastructure will help pave the way for future development activities called for in the plan.



The City has received more than $22 million in grant funding for the project and has partnered with Cuyahoga County which will oversee construction. The project is anticipated to take three years, with construction broken into two sections with planned detours, which will be reopened in the winter months.

Detour signs will be posted. Access to local businesses, City Hall, and the Shaker Heights Public Library will be maintained throughout construction.

Scan the QR code or visit shakerheightsoh.gov/lee-updates to learn more and sign up to receive notifications by email.

A Shaker Heights Business







PEOPLE, PROCESS AND PLACE:
Crafting Spaces That Make a House a Home.

For over 30 years, we've been solving problems and crafting exceptional living spaces for those who call Shaker home.

From concept to completion, our unique Design/Remodel approach provides a seamless and satisfying experience that gets rave reviews.

Space Planning | Additions | Kitchens | Bathrooms | Basements | Whole House Renovations | Historic Restoration

KARLOVEC
& COMPANY
DESIGN/BUILD ▪ REMODEL

Call us today or visit our website to learn more. **KARLOVEC.COM 216.767.1887 INFO@KARLOVEC.COM**

City Welcomes New Director of Communications and Marketing

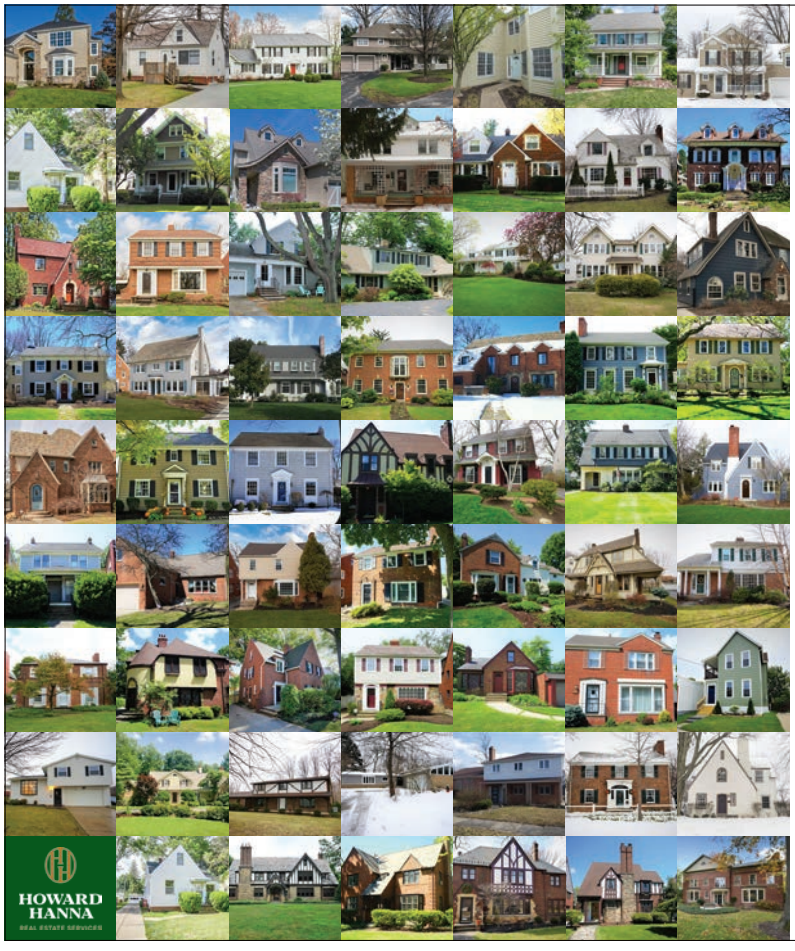


Paula Morrison has joined the City of Shaker Heights as its new director of communications and marketing. Morrison's term started on August 3.

Morrison brings more than 30 years of communications experience to the City, including in leadership roles at the City of Cleveland and, most recently, Amazon. "We are delighted to welcome Paula to the City to oversee our Communications and Marketing Department," says Mayor David E. Weiss. "Her wealth of experience and passion for public sector communications will be a tremendous asset for City leadership and our community."

Morrison has extensive experience in public and media relations, marketing and communications. She served with the City of Cleveland's Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for almost 20 years. During her tenure, she established and led DPU's Office of Communications, overseeing media relations, marketing, government affairs, and community outreach. Her responsibilities at DPU included the divisions of Cleveland Water, Cleveland Public Power, and Cleveland Water Pollution Control.

In 2021, Morrison joined Amazon where she managed strategic external communications for Ohio, collaborating closely with communities with Amazon facilities. Morrison has also worked locally as a news producer for WEWS/ABC – Channel 5, where she won three Emmy Awards for programs including "Five on Your Side" and "Face to Face." Morrison holds a Bachelor of Arts & Science in Communications Studies from Baldwin Wallace University.



Despite All The Features That Make These Homes Unique, There's One In Particular They All Have In Common.

LeSOLD

Cathy LeSueur & The LeSueur Team have consistently listed and sold more homes in Shaker Heights than anyone. They know the community. Their service wins awards. They get the job done. Plus, Apple News has just named Cathy one of the 10 most trusted real estate agents in Ohio. Put the *LeSold* team to work for you.



CATHY LESUEUR
& THE LESUEUR TEAM

tel: 216.355.7005 email: cathylesueur@howardhanna.com

LEARN FOR LIFE

The world needs trailblazers. We've been preparing them since 1876.








Meet the community shaping tomorrow's leaders.
Register for an admission event at hb.edu/admission/visit

2026 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS

HATHAWAY BROWN SCHOOL

Co-ed Early Childhood • Girls K-12



Somrak KITCHENS
Cabinetry & Counters for Every Room

Somrak, a trusted name in kitchens for over 70 years, providing quality cabinets, appliances and premium countertops designed with you in mind.

Visit Our Showroom or Schedule an Appointment Today!

216-464-6500
26201 Richmond Road,
Bedford Hts. OH 44146
somrakkitchens.com

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm | Sunday Closed
Evenings & Saturdays By Appointment

HOWARD HANNA
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Shaker's #1 Top-Selling Team for 2025

The McKeon Group • Established 2001



Eileen McKeon
216-233-6726
www.themckeongroup.com



Bulk Pick Up Available through Oct. 31

Back by popular demand, Shaker Heights Public Works Department has launched a pilot backyard pick up of large items that residents want to discard.

During the pilot period, which started August 3, and runs through October 31, residents may request one free pick up. To schedule a pick up, residents may use a form on the City's website at shakerheightsoh.gov/pickup or call 216-491-1490. Pick ups are scheduled Monday-Thursday. Residents may upload an image of their gas or electric bill on the website or present it to Public Works staff.

Items should be placed in front of the garage one day prior to pick up. Unacceptable items include paint, oil, propane tanks, and tires.

After the pilot and a winter hiatus, the program will resume on April 15, 2027, and be available annually from April 15 through October 31. At that time, residents may request bulk pick up twice without charge in any one calendar year, after which a charge of $150 will apply for any additional pick up.

Residents will continue to have the option of dropping off bulk items quarterly at the Service Center, 15600 Chagrin Boulevard. Proof of residency is required.

To minimize landfill deposits, the City recommends that residents consider donating gently used objects to a charitable organization.

Scan this QR code for more details.



Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Jacob Russell Memorial Marker

This past June marked the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the Jacob Russell marker, the large boulder with an affixed bronze plaque, located approximately 100 feet east of the South Park Boulevard and Lee Road intersection.

To mark the centennial, the Shaker Historical Society will host a rededication on Saturday November 7 at 1pm. The Historical Society Executive Director Brianna Treleven says the ceremony will feature a newly cleaned and reinstalled plaque on the boulder. The rededication date aligns with Veterans Day and the America250-Ohio theme of Ohio Serves: Remembering Veterans, First Responders & Front-Line Heroes.

Russell and his family were among the earliest European American settlers, by way of Connecticut, to plant roots and begin farming very near the memorial site.

In 1926, the marker was donated by the Western Reserve Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). At that ceremony, an invocation speech was given by a Civil War Veteran and those in attendance included a great-great granddaughter and great-great-great grandson of Russell.

"We're excited to be joined by Mayor Weiss and members of the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapters at the ceremony," says Treleven. "There's additional restoration work planned for the site, which we look forward to sharing more about at the rededication."

The rededication is the result of a year-long partnership with Shaker resident and DAR member Annette Tucker Sutherland, who spearheaded this project and has been instrumental in keeping the site maintained.

For more information, go to www.shakerhistory.org.





Leaf Season Begins October 15

It's always difficult saying goodbye to summer, but with the arrival of fall comes the beginning of leaf collection season, from October 15 through December 15. Here are a few helpful tips:

> The goal of leaf collection season is to collect as many leaves as possible before the first snowfall.

> Please rake leaves to the tree lawn and away from trees, hydrants, and street signs. Do not rake leaves into the street.

> Leaf collection takes priority at this time of year. Please do not include brush (tree limbs, branches and woody cuttings from mature shrubs). Brush collection takes place after leaf collection season ends in mid-December.

For further information about yard waste, please use the QR Code to the left, or go to shakerheightsoh.gov/198

Our Schedule is almost booked!
Call now, act fast! **216-291-2422**



We are working in your area!

- Family Owned - Local Business
- Interior Painting & Staining
- Wallpaper Removal & Preparation
- Cabinet Refinishing
- Drywall, Plaster & Texture
- Professional Carpentry

216-291-2422

Curb Appeal Roofing
Siding | Gutters | Carpentry

For more of this, you'll need us









Request a free estimate today!

- Lawn Care, Landscaping & Design
- Hardscapes (natural stone and pavers), Mini Ponds & Water Features
- Drainage Solutions, Lawn Renovations
- Snow Plowing

30+ years of experience in the Heights

(440) 442-9725 | landscapingbymark.com
landscapingbymarkandsons@gmail.com

SKETTLE ELECTRIC INC
40th ANNIVERSARY
Ohio Licence 30281
LIGHT ⋄ COMFORT ⋄ SAFETY ⋄ EFFICIENCY
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
Since 1985 ⋄ www.skettleelectric.com
216.932.2598

Shop Local, Shop Shaker

Shop Shaker, the City's campaign showcasing local businesses, has a fresh new look. The updated logo reflects the City's connection to, and enthusiasm for, local businesses, ranging from one-of-a-kind shops and restaurants, to studios, practitioners, and consultants.

Look for the new Shop Shaker seal on display in local businesses and pick up a Shop Shaker car magnet at the next Chat with the Mayor drop in.

The Shop Shaker social media pages will continue to highlight local businesses, events, openings, and ways to support our local business community. Follow us on Instagram @shopshakerhts or on Facebook at Facebook.com/ShopShakerHts.

Two New Murals Dedicated

This summer marked the official dedication of two new murals in Shaker Heights, located at 3649 Lee Road (FASS building) and 3705 Lee Road (Elite Home Health Services building). Preceding the dedication was an artists' discussion and Q&A at Shaker Main Library featuring artist Darius Steward, and artist/designer duo Roni Callahan and Kim Lavery, owners of Snack Break Studio. Also in attendance were Mayor David Weiss with a special welcome, State Representative Juanita Brent, and Amy Gardner Williams, owner of Elite Home Health Services.

Callahan, Lavery, and Steward were selected from a pool of 28 submissions. The design process included the artists meeting with neighborhood residents and business owners to ensure the art reflects the neighborhood's rich history, unique culture, diverse people, and values. Funding came from the City of Shaker Heights and the Ohio Arts Council.

Learn more about the artists and murals here: www.shakerheightsoh.gov/LeeMurals



Work in the watershed

DOAN BROOK RESTORATION AT HORSESHOE PARK

Learn more about this 60-acre stream restoration effort and stay connected with the latest news and updates: Join our email list, news and resources, related events, and more: **neorsd.org/DoanBrook**

LOWER SHAKER LAKE

In 2025, we revised our recommendation from dam reconstruction to dam removal and stream restoration. The Cities have started their own review of the Lower Lake Dam and approaches moving forward. We look forward to continued collaboration. Learn more about our work: **neorsd.org/LowerLake**

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District



Note from Colleen:

Shaker Youth Collaborative Off to Strong Start

By Colleen Jackson, Chief Culture and Engagement Officer

It's always a challenge to quell boredom among youth, especially teens, and youth engagement has been a primary focus of City Council's Culture & Engagement committee since its inception.

In late July, the Culture & Engagement team wrapped up a series of fun, engaging events, as part of the Shaker Youth Collaborative (SYC).

This year's events, made possible by a $50,000 allotment granted by City Council, included a Movie Night at Shaker Library; Glow-in-the-Dark Pool Party at Thornton Park; 3-on-3 basketball tournament at the High School's North Gym; and a Guardians watch party at the Van Aken District. One day a week was set aside for a series of planned events, known as Transformation Tuesdays, where kids come together to do something for others: Field Day at Onaway School; and an arts and crafts workshop at the Van Aken District.

The Shaker Youth Collaborative brought together community stakeholders including the Shaker Heights Office of Culture and Engagement, Police Department, Recreation Department, Shaker Heights Library, Shaker Heights School District and F.A.C.E Liaisons, Shaker Schools Foundation, Shaker Heights Youth Center, Christ







Recreation Plan Marks Key Sites for Future Development

Nearly a year after launching Phase 1 of the Recreation Strategic Plan, the City launched Phase 2 in June 2026. The overall plan is based on multiple inputs, including public comment, Phase 1 findings, and City administration priorities.

> **Phase 2 focuses on strategic implementation planning for the following priority sites:**

- ***Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building Quadrant*** potential site of a new community center, multipurpose field improvements, and playground relocation.
- ***Thornton Ice Rink*** potential for building rehabilitation and/or a new ice rink facility.

Episcopal Church, parents, residents, and alumni, to discuss the various ways we individually support youth in our community. This discussion included plans to collaboratively work together to make sure every young person has access to enriching opportunities, supportive connections, and community resources that nurture their development and empower them to thrive.

In September, we compiled data from the summer events to measure their effectiveness and impact on, and enjoyment by, the targeted community. We presented our findings to City leadership. Moving ahead, we're considering 2026 as a pilot year – we're learning as we go, and even though this first collaboration was exclusively focused on teens, the Shaker Youth Collaborative is a program for kids of all ages. We are currently exploring ideas and making plans for 2027.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at colleen.jackson@shakerheightsoh.gov

This implementation plan will include: strategies for funding and financing, potential partnerships, possible programming, fit plans, recommended phasing, and community center planning. In 2024-2025, the City undertook Phase 1 of the Plan, which set the stage for future recreation investments on five key sites in the City.

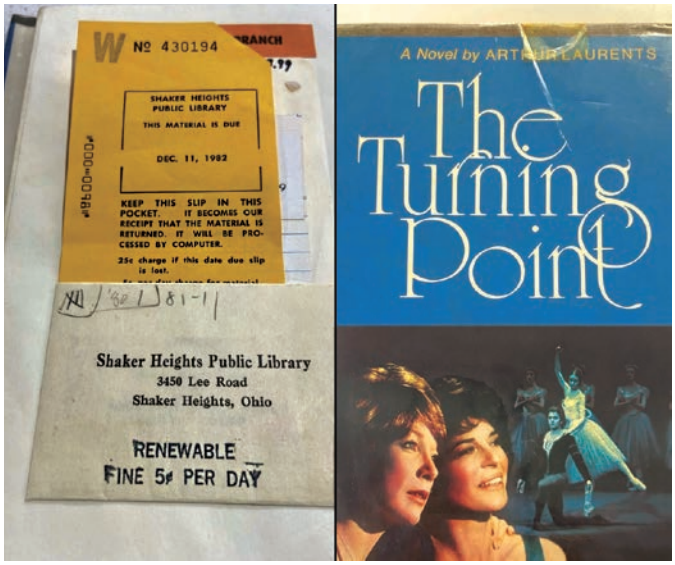
Read more at shakerheightsoh.gov/RecreationPlan.

For future updates, subscribe to the Recreation Plan engagement email list at shakerheightsoh.gov/RecreationPlan2.





Shaker Social



Shaker Heights Public Library

Neighbor #1 The year is 1982. "Physical" by Olivia Newton-John is on the radio. People are having babies and naming them Jennifer and Michael. And this book is on the shelf at Shaker Library (then housed at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building). You check it out to write a paper about it. Fast forward 15,916 days. The year is now 2026. Taylor Swift is on the radio. People are having babies and naming them Olivia and Theo. You're deep cleaning your house, and you realize you still – somehow! – have this book. Talk about a blast from the past! What do you do? Well, take it back to the library, of course, and share it with the librarians, who in turn share it with the social media person, who in turn shares it with the city. The spirit of Arthur Laurents – God rest his Tony Award-winning soul – smiles down upon you, thankful to be remembered. **Neighbor #2** lol! That was me! I used this book during my senior year at SHHS when I was on the Speech and Debate Team. I did an excerpt from it for Dramatic Interpretation. I have no idea why I never returned it, but as a former page at the original main branch, it only felt right to take it back... finally. **Neighbor #1** Thank you for bringing it back! It made our day! Didn't realize you were a former employee. We love our staff, past and present, and are grateful for all the hands that helped make the library what it is now. **Neighbor #3** So that's about $795 in fines? Thank goodness you're now fine free!



Sussex

Neighbor #1 Hey everybody! The Sussex Community Association Facebook account hit 1k followers last night! Thanks for supporting this community and participating in this year's programs! **Neighbor #2** The Sussex Neighborhood includes families of all ages and diverse backgrounds... there is always a wonderful conversation pending with any new acquaintance. **Neighbor #3** I love living in Sussex. Great community and a beautiful place to live. **Neighbor #4** Love going for walks and checking out all the beautiful gardens! It has helped this mama who is 5 weeks postpartum. **Neighbor #5** I love the neighborhood kiddos! **Neighbor #6** I've been going to the Sussex playground with my children and now my grandchildren, since 1984! Happy place!



2026 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS

#1 All-Girls School in Ohio!

Laurel girls today. Leaders tomorrow.

Explore a Laurel education for your daughter. Learn about how Laurel's Center for Research for Girls puts cutting-edge research into action to create an environment in which girls thrive.

Join us at an admissions event to see how we develop tomorrow's leaders today.

RSVP today!
LaurelSchool.org/Visit
216.464.0946
admissions@LaurelSchool.org

Shaker Schools News



Building a Sustainable Future for Shaker Heights Schools

The Shaker Heights Schools Board of Education and its Finance and Audit Committee are committed to remaining responsible stewards of community resources. In 2025, the Finance & Audit Committee recommended that the Board of Education place an operating levy on the ballot in November 2025 and an additional levy in 2028. The committee also asked the District to identify $1 million per year over five years in spending reductions (totaling $15 million over a five-year period).

The District identified $2.5 million of cost savings in Fiscal Year 2025 through strategic attrition and other measures. The District also offered a severance package to members of the Shaker Heights Teachers' Association (SHTA). The severance plan was both strategic and proactive, enabling the District to be financially prudent while continuing to meet the needs of our students. This initiative was voluntary and was initiated with the approval of the SHTA.

Strategic attrition and the severance incentive will save the District $22 million over the next five years. This, combined with the operating levy, which the community approved in 2025, leaves the District with a healthy reserve fund. With these fiscally responsible changes, the operating levy that was tentatively slated for 2028 can be pushed back to 2029.

The Board of Education and Finance and Audit Committee continue to look for cost-saving opportunities across the District while maintaining a high-quality education for all students.

Thank you to the Shaker Heights Schools community for it's ongoing support of the District. Our students' outstanding success, achievements, and growth are supported by community resources. Thank you for supporting our children.

Scan the QR code to read more in the latest five-year forecast.

SHAKER SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Save the Date for *A Night for the Red & White*

Join us for the 35th annual *A Night for the Red & White* at 7pm on Saturday, March 13, 2027, at the InterContinental Cleveland Hotel, a wonderful venue to celebrate this milestone year! Tickets will be on sale soon. Learn more by visiting shakerschoolsfoundation.org.



Shaker Heights High School Principal Isaiah Wyatt and Senior Administrative Assistant Laurie Brem enjoy the 2026 *A Night for the Red & White* at The Agora.

Your Place Among the Stars

The Shaker Schools Foundation invites our community to become part of the next chapter of the Shaker Heights High School Planetarium.

With a gift of $100 or more, you'll receive a personalized ray on the new Planetarium Donor Wall, creating a tribute to your commitment to Shaker students. Whether you choose to recognize a current student, celebrate an alum, honor a favorite teacher, or commemorate your family, your contribution will become a permanent part of this remarkable learning space.

Now is the perfect time to participate! A generous donor has pledged to match every gift, dollar for dollar, up to $20,000, doubling the impact of every contribution. Your $100 gift immediately becomes $200 in support of the planetarium's technology transformation.

For generations, the SHHS planetarium has inspired curiosity, imagination and discovery. Serving students from PreK through Grade 12, it provides immersive STEM learning experiences that spark a lifelong interest in science and exploration. As one of the few high schools in the nation with its own planetarium, it is an unique educational resource that helps make Shaker unique.

Every gift opens another opportunity for future generations. To learn more or reserve your place on the Planetarium Donor Wall, visit shakerschoolsfoundation.org.

To support the Shaker Schools Foundation and our students, scan the QR code to make a donation.

Shaker Grams

We See You Seeing Shaker.

> H/T to those capturing the community.
> Tag your photos to #shaker365.
> You might just see them on these pages!



@blu_basil_indiancuisine | Savory succulence



@marrtkd | Mid-air mechanics



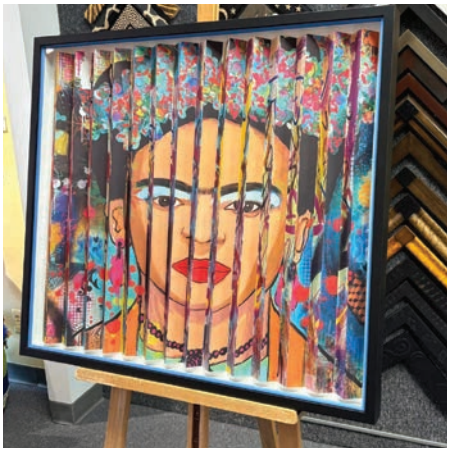
@ontheriseartisanbread | Breakfast temptations



@shakerlibrary | Thirst-quenching priorities



@principlebarbershop | Moving On



@frames.unlimited | Folded Frida



@kilncle | Subdued elegance



@storypointseniorliving | Staying power



@artaffectcle | Gallery hop

Rustic
SLATE ROOFING

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

OLD WORLD CRAFTSMANSHIP YOU CAN TRUST

Let us restore the Rustic Character of your roof.



OUR SERVICES:

- Slate Roofs - New Roofs and Repair
- Tile Roofs - New Roofs and Repair
- Wood Shake Roofs - New Roofs and Repair
- Custom Copper
- Gutters - Copper or Premium Steel
- Chimney Work - Tuckpointing and Repairs
- Flat Roofing
- Roof Heating Coils

Rustic Slate Roofing is the proud recipient of:

- The City of Shaker Heights 2012 Preservation Award
- The Cleveland Historical Society Honor Award

Winner of Multiple Angie's List Super Service Awards. See our reviews on Angie's List.

Call Now for a Free Consultation!

(216) 215-1339

Mention our New customer Discount - 10% OFF!

www.rusticslateroofing.com

MasterCard VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS

Buying or Selling a Home?

Jackie Collesi

CRS, Realtor®

Quality Service Award

Top 3% Company Wide



216-780-8607

"Knowledgeable, responsive, patient, and kind. Just what we needed in a realtor!"

- Douglas M., Shaker Heights

Call me today to discuss first steps in selling or buying your home.

HOWARD HANNA
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

jackiecollesi@howardhanna.com

Serving the Greater Cleveland Area for Over 25 Years

STONE BRICK BLOCK

YATES & SON MASONRY

440 • 223 • 5335

All Types of Masonry & Concrete

Block • Brick • Stone

Steps • Chimney • Patios • Tuckpoint

Don Yates | Owner

440-223-5335

YatesDonald53@gmail.com

Volpe Millwork, Inc.

Quality Design & Craftsmanship

Interior & Exterior

Design Remodel Restoration Repair

Kitchens Baths Additions

Cabinets Furnishings

Architectural Millwork

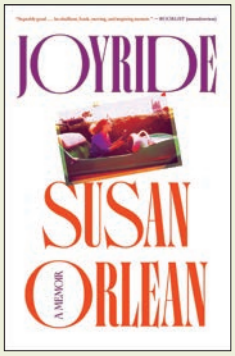
4500 Lee Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44128

216-581-0200

www.volpemillworkinc.com

Member of AWI Architectural Woodwork Institute

Shaker Library News





Shaker Grad and Bestselling Author Susan Orlean to Speak November 2

Join Shaker Library, in partnership with the Shaker Historical Society and the Shaker Schools Foundation, on Monday, Nov. 2 at 6:30pm for an evening with Susan Orlean, in conversation with Shaker resident, author, and podcast host Annmarie Kelly-Harbaugh.

Orlean, a bestselling author and 1973 Shaker Heights High School graduate, will celebrate the one-year anniversary and paperback launch of her latest book, *Joyride: A Memoir*, with a discussion and signing at Shaker Main Library.

Joyride and Orlean's previous books, including *On Animals*, *The Library Book*, and *The Orchid Thief*, will be available for purchase from Loganberry Books.

Named a Best Book of the Year by NPR, Kirkus Reviews, and more, *Joyride* tells the story of her career spent chasing stories as a journalist. While Orlean's story begins in Shaker Heights, it doesn't remain here, following her to Mount Fuji, the Florida Everglades, and little towns dotted across the United States.

As she reports her stories, she reflects on her own: a first failed marriage and a second chance at love. Becoming a mother while mourning the decline of her own. And how creativity helped her survive a fractured world.

Throughout the memoir, she talks shop (of the writer's variety): how she pursued leads, connected with sources, wrote those memorable opening lines, confronted writers' block, and even sojourned to Hollywood for films based on her work.

Reserve your seat at events.shakerlibrary.org.



Iser, Jackson, Marshall Step into Leadership Roles

Following a retirement and promotion, Shaker Library promoted two librarians to lead the Adult Services and Youth Services Department.

Shatira Jackson began as the new Adult Services Manager in May, following the retirement of Cindy Maxey. Jackson worked at Shaker Library in high school as a page. After several years in retail management, she rejoined the library staff while earning her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Denver, eventually being promoted to librarian and now manager. Her focus for the rest of the year is supporting excellent customer service.

Anna Marshall began as the interim Children's Services Manager in March, following the promotion of Jessica Smith to Deputy Director. She accepted the permanent managerial position this May. Marshall worked with children and teens at area nonprofits before transitioning into libraries. She came on board at Shaker Library in 2019, earned her Master of Library Science at Kent State in 2021, and spent four years as a librarian before her hiring as manager. Marshall's goal is deepening connections with community partners.

Decorated Army veteran and former area police officer Martin Iser began as Shaker's Security Manager in June. A recipient of the Purple Heart Medal, Iser most recently worked at the University Heights Police Department, where he served as a community policing officer and firearms instructor, among other specialized roles. At the library, Iser is responsible for security operations, incident reporting, and coordination with local public safety partners.



Shaker Library Poised to Support Childcare Providers this School Year

It takes a village to raise a child, and Shaker Library wants to be part of that village.

As this school year begins, we invite area preschools, childcare centers, and in-home daycares to take advantage of our offerings, including traveling storytimes and a curated collection of books designed to create language-rich and learning-rich experiences.

Shaker Library Early Literacy Specialist, Maura Dunn, is a veteran teacher with a master's degree in education. She can take storytime on the road to your location, bringing along books and songs thoughtfully selected to support whatever pre-literacy skills you're teaching from day-to-day.

Dunn can also provide a rotating selection of themed books for your institution to borrow, to supplement the books teachers already have in their classrooms. Shaker Library's Outreach

ADELIO'S
SEWERS • WATERPROOFING • FOUNDATIONS
Honest & Reliable Since 1976
THE MOST TRUSTED WATERPROOFER IN SHAKER
Our Services
Sewers • Waterproofing • Drains • Foundations • & more!
Call Today!
(216)-250-3551 www.adelioscontracting.com

FAMILY-OWNED FOR 45+ YEARS AND PROUD TO STILL BE.
While the industry is changing, our priorities haven't. We're a multi-generational local business focused on doing what's right for our customers and their homes.
OUR FALL SERVICES INCLUDE:
BOILERS & FURNACES. WATER HEATERS. DRAIN CLEANING. CAMERA INSPECTIONS. ICE MELT DRIVEWAYS. PLUMBING. SEWER LINES. EXCAVATION. HYDRO-JETTING. SUMP PUMPS. BACKFLOW SERVICES. EMERGENCY REPAIRS. AND MORE.
CONTACT US TODAY
ACPLUMBINGCLEVELAND.COM
(216) 616-4999
5-STAR RATED ON GOOGLE
AC Plumbing Heating & Mechanical
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED. CUSTOMER DRIVEN.

Collection contains dozens of reliable, librarian-approved titles that cater to a variety of needs, interests, and learning styles.

Brittney Letman, the director of Nevaeh's Nest Enrichment Center on Lee Rd., has been partnering with Dunn to bring storytimes and books to her center's classrooms once a month. She has observed firsthand the benefits Dunn's visits bring students and their teachers.

"The kids love Maura. She's energetic, and she's a change of pace from our daily routine. You can tell she has experience teaching, because during storytime, she works through distractions and pulls the kids back in. And the teachers love that she saves us a trip to the library," Letman says.

"Childcare is a partnership," says Letman. "Not just between teacher and family, but all the resources the community has to offer. We're grateful to have the library as one of ours."

To find out more about Shaker Library's resources for childcare providers or get in touch with Dunn, visit shakerlibrary.org/daycare-outreach.



L&C
LOWDEN & CO
CONSTRUCTION GROUP
RENOVATIONS | CUSTOM HOMES | ADDITIONS
216-704-2274
LOWDENCO.COM
NEW NAME, SAME TEAM. PRESTON CONSTRUCTION IS NOW LOWDEN & CO
LOWDEN & CO IS A SELF-PERFORMING CARPENTRY AND GENERAL CONTRACTOR SERVICE, PROVIDING OUR CLIENTS WITH A HANDS-ON PRODUCT FROM PLANNING TO PUNCH LIST.
PROUDLY SERVING ALL OF NORTHEAST OHIO
KITCHENS - BATHROOMS
BASEMENTS
FINISH CARPENTRY - WINDOWS
DOORS - SIDING - ROOFS - DECKS
FIX-IT-PRO
THE HOME MAINTENANCE DIVISION OF LOWDEN & CO
SIDING AND TRIM REPAIR
FURNITURE ASSEMBLY
PAINTING AND PLASTER
WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR
FIXTURE REPLACEMENT
POWER WASHING
L&C

Fair Housing is for Everyone

Shaker Heights Fair Housing Review Board

Our commitment:

- To protect your fair housing rights.
- To provide quality training to property owners & real estate professionals.
- To engage in outreach to the public.



Know Your Fair Housing Rights

Did I get rejected for the apartment because I have kids? ▮ Do I have a pet or therapy animal? ▮ Why did my landlord impose extra terms on me? ▮ Can I request a parking space if I have a disability? ▮ I was told a unit is not available, but it's still being advertised. Is this okay?

Everyone has the right to choose where they want to live, without unlawful discrimination.

Fair Housing Office, 3400 Lee Rd.
216-491-1440 | Ohio Relay Service 711
law@shakerheightsoh.gov
shakerheightsoh.gov/fair-housing

City of Shaker Heights
FAIR HOUSING OFFICE

The work that provided the basis for this announcement or advertisement was supported by funding under a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

FALL EVENT!

Scan the QR code for details on our fall event or go to shakerheightsoh.gov/fair-housing



A Space to Tell Your Story

In Shaker Library's newly renovated Creative Spaces, artists of all stripes come together to learn, play, find community, and pass knowledge from one generation to the next.

Written by **Lyndsey Brennan** | Photography by **Robert Muller**

When Shaker's Main Library renovation was completed in 2021, two spaces adjacent to the computer area were designated to become a makerspace – that is, a collaborative workshop area that provides access to shared tools and equipment for crafting and digital art.

The library started off with some equipment, a photo scanner, laminator, and Cricut Maker, with the intention that library staff would continue to invest in the space over time – evolving the tools there to meet community needs.

When Technology Experience Specialist Emily Lohr began in her position in 2024, she brought the background, vision, and know-how to begin renovating the space in earnest. Lohr's undergraduate degree in multimedia production (photo, audio, and film), paired with her master's level training as a librarian and background teaching art in libraries, made her the perfect fit for the job.

That, and she had a hand in opening two other library makerspaces prior to Shaker's – most recently, the makerspace at Cuyahoga Falls Library.

The project started off (as many library projects do) with listening. Staff surveyed residents to learn what they wanted for the space. Then staff toured makerspaces at other libraries, gleaning wisdom about what worked, what didn't, and what they wished they'd done differently.

Using that information, Lohr, her supervisor (Digital Services Manager Susie Brown), and a team of librarians came up with a project proposal and budget, outlining the art forms to support. Once approved, they got to work on ordering supplies and renovating the space: and repurposing some older tools and furniture while ordering necessities (like a shop vac and air filtration system) and new items that were a better fit for the space.

After two years of work, Shaker Library's renovated Creative Spaces opened in April 2026. The customer response to the renovation has been instant and gratifying, Brown says.

Since reopening, every class Lohr has taught has been full, with a waiting list. Library customers are becoming frequenters of the Creative Spaces, bringing along friends and family to craft together. And with the diversity of tools at customers' disposal, the possibilities are endless.

"What we want people to know is this is free for the community to use," Lohr says. "If you're a library cardholder, this is your space. These are your tools. Let us store them for you, and you can come in and use them when you're ready."

Following the Creative Spaces reopening, Brown and Lohr shared about their strategy behind the renovation, the surge in demand for analog crafting, and the benefit this space provides for the Shaker community.





How did you decide what forms of art our Creative Spaces would support?

SUSIE BROWN Makerspaces are incredible, and we have a number of them surrounding us, in different schools and libraries. For instance, the Sears [think]box is down the hill at Case Western Reserve University. So we didn't want to duplicate tools that everyone else has. We wanted to make ours uniquely Shaker.

EMILY LOHR What helped was our new library branding. We came up with an overarching purpose statement for the space, "A space to craft your story." From that, we decided on three areas of focus. Hobbies and crafting is one — expressing yourself through fiber arts, sewing, jewelry making, and more. Another area of focus is memory preservation, so we have tools for scrapbooking and book binding, and tools to convert analog media (photographs, video tapes, and records) to digital formats. Finally, we decided to support digital storytelling like animation, photography, and music production. We have a whole suite of digital tools and software that can help with those endeavors, including Wacom tablets, which are great for digital illustration.

What made you think these areas of focus would resonate with Shaker residents?

SB The world is sort of stressful right now, and what we're hearing from customers is they want an outlet to be creative and do something to get their minds off the issues. And, as the economy changes, people are going back to, "You know, I might have to mend my own clothes, and that's OK. That's something I can learn."

EL There's also been a response, especially from younger people, that as the world becomes more digital, more online, more mass-produced, there is this desire to return to handcrafted quality and get back in touch with creation – not just as a necessity of life, but as a fulfilling artistic process that can be meaningful. I think a lot of young people are trying to unplug by getting back to working with their hands and de-stressing by creating things.

SB Not just young people. We're seeing a lot of older people using the spaces because they want to refresh their skills. The grandkids are saying, "Hey grandma, you know how to sew, right?" And she did, back in the '70s, but now she's getting back into it so she can pass that skill onto the next generation.





How can you access the Creative Spaces at Shaker Main Library?

You can use the Creative Spaces anytime Main Library is open. You must be a CLEVNET cardholder and sign a user agreement. To use the sewing, rotary, and heat tools, you must first complete training. To ensure the tools you need will be available when you arrive, you can reserve equipment ahead of time.

Learn more about our offerings and make a reservation at shakerlibrary.org/create.

What benefits do you think the Creative Spaces will bring to the community?

EL We talk a lot in our field about how the library is a gathering space that pushes back on our tendency to become isolated in a digital age.

SB The community building aspect is important. Residents have the opportunity to come in, be social, and craft together, whether it's during our classes or using the space on their own time.

EL There's a perception that crafting is for women and retirees, but part of the fun is seeing the generations mixing in this space. People from all walks of life, different ages, genders, and languages can connect over art. We've also made it a priority to have equipment that makes the space accessible. We purchased an adjustable table for people using wheelchairs, a magnifier for people who have trouble seeing, and PPE for people of all shapes and sizes.

One of the library's values is supporting lifelong learners. How does this space do that?

SB We're a library, so obviously we have books as a teaching tool. But a lot of people learn better hands-on, whether it's through self-instruction, sitting in a class, or following a YouTube video.

EL It builds confidence. I think for adult learners, that's so important. When you leave the structure of school behind, you have to create opportunities for yourself – especially outside of your job – to learn new things. And when you can pick up something new, it really helps you see yourself in a new light.

SB People also want to try things without making big financial investments. So instead of paying for a class and materials to do, for instance, linocut printmaking, they can come to a class here, learn the basics, and then figure out if they want to delve deeper at home. Or they can purchase their own linoleum and paper and use our carving tools, inking plate, and block press to get started.

EL I often have participants in a class say, "Oh my gosh, this is my craft," and go out and buy the materials the next day. But we also have people who say, "I was going to sign up for an 8-week course on this, and now I know it's not for me." In both scenarios, this space was helpful to them. **SL**

Lyndsey Brennan is the communications and marketing manager at Shaker Library

Hobbies and Crafting

Sewing and embroidery, crochet and knitting, leather working, jewelry fabrication, stained glass, and linocut printmaking

Memory Preservation

Bookbinding, scrapbooking, papermaking, laminating, and digitizing and archiving (photo, video, and audio)

Digital Storytelling

Graphic and web design, digital art, computer animation, video production, novel writing (Scrivener), audio production, music mixing and DJing, and product photography






WELCOME HOME

SHAKER HEIGHTS
Fall looks good on you.

VanCuren Services
a DAVEY company
Your Complete Tree Care Specialists

Fully Insured • Free Estimates

- Complete Tree Maintenance Program
- Certified Arborists on Staff
- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming
- 178' 50-Ton Crane
- 75' Bucket Trucks
- Deep Root Fertilization
- 24-Hour Emergency
- Stump Grinding

www.vancurentreecare.com
440.338.5005

CONDOMINIUM UNITS FOR RENT

Refined Living • Exceptional Location • Spacious Floor Plans



Shaker Heights Luxury, Steps from Van Aken

Distinguished 2 Bedroom /2 Full Bathroom Residences Featuring:

- Private Enclosed Heated Garage Parking
- On-Premises Fitness Center
- Elegant Community Room for Resident and Private Gatherings
- Expansive Private Balconies
- Daytime Receptionist and Nighttime Garage Attendant for Added Convenience and Security
- In-Residence Full-Size Washer & Dryer
- Generous Walk-In Closets with Abundant Storage

We Invite You to Schedule Your Exclusive Private Showing Today!

Mike Fiala
Mike@transconbuilders.com
440-735-6125
THE CHELSEA CONDOMINIUMS
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122

Rental Details Available Upon Request

ASK | ADAM S. KAUFMAN
JUSTASKADAM.COM

YOUR #1 TRUSTED SHAKER HEIGHTS REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

With a deep-rooted connection to Shaker Heights, nobody understands this neighborhood better than Adam. Born, raised, and still calling Shaker home, he is the go-to expert for all your real estate needs.

THE ASK DIFFERENCE

When it comes to navigating the real estate market, Adam stands out as a skilled negotiator. His dedication to delivering white-glove service means that every step of the process will be handled with precision and care. With Adam by your side, you can be confident that he will tirelessly work to make the journey as stress-free as possible.

2025 TOP SALES



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $1,650,000



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $1,295,000



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $1,295,000



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $1,195,000



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $1,095,000



SHAKER HEIGHTS
SOLD: $895,000



REALTOR OF THE YEAR*

#1 TRANSACTION SIDES & VOLUME IN OHIO**

$217.5 MILLION IN SALES IN 2025

OVER 3,000 LIFETIME SALES



Price on sold listings represents the original list price.

**Akron Cleveland Association of REALTORS® (ACAR) 2025*

***Data based on 2025 RealTrends. RealTrends Verified lists are based on 2024 data for closed residential transactions. Land, lots, Commercial property, rentals and referral production has been removed from published totals.*

CONTACT ADAM TODAY

216.831.7370
AdamKaufman@HowardHanna.com
JustASKAdam.com

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ADAM

HOWARD HANNA
REAL ESTATE SERVICES



ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

Andre Griffin ’97 brings mentorship and community to SHHS football program.

Written by **Julie Hullett**

Photography by **Gus Chan**

"I'm very grateful for the opportunity to coach here in Shaker Heights. It's not just about football; it's about helping the community here and giving back to the place that gave me everything."
Coach Andre Griffin

If you take a look inside the Raider Athletic Center at Shaker Heights High School, you'll see student athletes who are challenging themselves, physically, and mentally. This summer, a consistent theme stood out as the football team prepared for their upcoming season. "Attitude is Everything" is painted on the wall in the Raider Athletic Center, and the football players wear T-shirts with the same slogan. This mindset, for football and for life, comes from the new Head Football Coach Andre Griffin, Shaker Heights High School Class of 1997.

Griffin, who was hired this past January, describes his new role as coming home.

"I'm very grateful for the opportunity to coach here in Shaker Heights," Griffin says of returning to his alma mater. "It's not just about football; it's about helping the community here and giving back to the place that gave me everything."

A HOMEGROWN RUNNING BACK

Griffin grew up playing football with his family and friends and has a genuine love of the game. He was a three-season student athlete at Shaker Heights High School as a member of the football, basketball, and track and field teams. Griffin played running back and linebacker and was recognized as the MVP of the Lake Erie League in 1996. He also received the Cleveland Browns Touchdown Club Award the same year.

Anthony "Beano" Watkins, SHHS Class of 1982, coached Griffin as a student athlete on the football team in the late '90s. Watkins describes Griffin as tough, noting that he had a great knowledge of the sport, had football in his blood, and was easy to coach.

Griffin was a solid teammate and leader, Watkins says, and was able to play the game fast because he knew it well. The football team struggled in the late '80s, but with Head Coach Dave Sedmak and several star players, including Griffin, Shaker turned its record around.

Watkins also noted the role of mentoring and leadership. As an underclassman, Griffin played with several older students on the team who were excellent leaders. Griffin also took his role of a mentor and an upperclassman seriously and served as a positive role model for other players on the team.

"Andre had great leadership that he was able to look up to. He was also a great leader to the next group," Watkins says. "That's what made the program solid back then. Andre understood his role as a current and future leader very well."

He went on to play football for The Ohio State University and graduated with his Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology in 2002. Griffin is proud to share the love of football with his father, Ohio State Buckeye Archie Griffin, the only collegiate football player to win the Heisman Trophy twice. Andre Griffin played for Ohio State against University of Iowa the same day that his father's jersey, No. 45, was retired in 1999.

Andre Griffin began his coaching career at St. Charles Preparatory School, then served in various coaching roles at Capital University, Saginaw Valley State University, Lima Senior High School, Ohio Northern University, and Wittenberg University. Most recently, Griffin served as head coach at Notre Dame Cathedral Latin School in Chardon, where he had a 12-8 record over the last two seasons. Notre Dame made it to the post season both years under Griffin's leadership.

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Griffin's goals for the football program go far beyond the playing field. He wants the student athletes to be better on and off the field, all while learning discipline and coming together as a community. Griffin wants to help students be where they want to be, whether that's furthering their education, playing collegiate football, or joining the workforce.

previous page: Shaker Heights High School Head Football Coach Andre Griffin '97 challenges student athletes to be the best versions of themselves.







"I've seen a lot more unity. Now we have a better overall sense of togetherness and how we represent the program has improved." SHHS Senior Shaun Walls

He has a distinct coaching philosophy, in which he has "agreements" with his players. These guide the direction of the football program and build trust and community between student athletes and coaches.

"One of my agreements is to Keep it 100. I am always honest with them," Griffin says. "I live in Shaker Heights too. I see them out and about, they see me with my family and friends, and we have those conversations about football and life. That's how our student athletes can grow – having your door open and talking to these young men."

Griffin notes that he is not perfect, adding that he wasn't a 4.0 student and faced his own challenges as a young man. He shares his stories in an effort to show them that they can do well for themselves, too.

There are many other agreements, including being respectful, responsible, listening, and "no putdowns." Perhaps one of the biggest agreements is to have fun playing the game. Griffin says the agreements are not just guidelines for the students to follow, they are intended to hold the coaches accountable as well.

"For the agreements, you have to speak upon it and live it yourself," Griffin says. "You have to treat people with respect. Don't use certain words that you don't want the students to use. Stand up and do everything with a smile."

POSITIVE TEAM CULTURE

Griffin is working to build the team culture and developing student athletes into leaders. During football camp in the summer, each coach provides a word or phrase of the day. Each word or phrase teaches the players lessons about adulthood. Over the summer, one word of the day was responsibility. Griffin also brings alumni players to speak to the team, inspiring them to work hard and stay focused.

Max Resnick, Shaker Heights High School senior, has played offensive and defensive line since middle school. He appreciates hearing from alumni of the program. Resnick has committed to play Division I Ivy League football for Yale University in fall 2027.

"Coach Griffin is doing a great job bringing in alumni coaches and bringing the community together. We need guys who have been through it and succeeded. We have all the opportunities in the world here," Resnick says. "The coaches are pushing us, and the work is hard. It will take a lot to get on top again, but Coach Griffin knows what he's doing."

SHHS Senior Shaun Walls has played wide receiver and defensive back since his freshman year. He says more people want to play football now, and they represent the team with pride.

"I've seen a lot more unity," Walls says. "Now we have a better overall sense of togetherness and how we represent the program has improved."

This season, Walls is looking forward to playing new teams in the league, including Mayfield, Geneva, and Riverside.

Griffin says he has great players but is working on developing them into a team. From a team, they can grow into a program. It takes three to five years to develop a program from a team, but Griffin is up for the challenge. He sees a team as a group of players who work together as one cohesive unit, and a program is a winning team in which the student athletes are dedicated to the sport.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY

Griffin brings a strong sense of community to the football program. He is proud to be a Shaker Heights graduate and resident and brings that passion to every practice and every game, says SHHS Athletic Director Mike Babinec.

"I'm excited for the impact I know Coach Griffin is going to have on our student athletes. We never had to sell him on the value of a Shaker Heights education. Coach Griffin lived it, breathed it, and still bleeds Shaker today," Babinec


Riddell
Riddell


SHAKER HEIGHTS
RAIDERS



"I learn from them as much as they learn from me. They are young adults and they want to be listened to. They want to have a voice and they want to be cared for. I'm hard on them, but I care for them too." Coach Andre Griffin

says. "Our student athletes are just scratching the surface in what they can learn from someone who has walked the same hallways."

Griffin also wants to build relationships with the teachers at Shaker Heights High School. He checks the students' grades weekly and collaborates with teachers to support each other's goals. SHHS students have a conference period after school, in which they are encouraged to catch up with teachers and do homework before athletic practices begin at 4pm. At the end of the school year, Griffin plans to recognize the player with the highest GPA and the player with the most improved GPA.

Outside of football, Griffin wants to teach student athletes lessons that they can carry with them for the rest of their lives, to be a better person and a better leader. Over the summer, he intentionally held practice at 8am to teach the students about showing up on time for all endeavors – including school and work. Griffin pushes the students because he wants them to be the best version of themselves. He enjoys building bonds with each individual student.

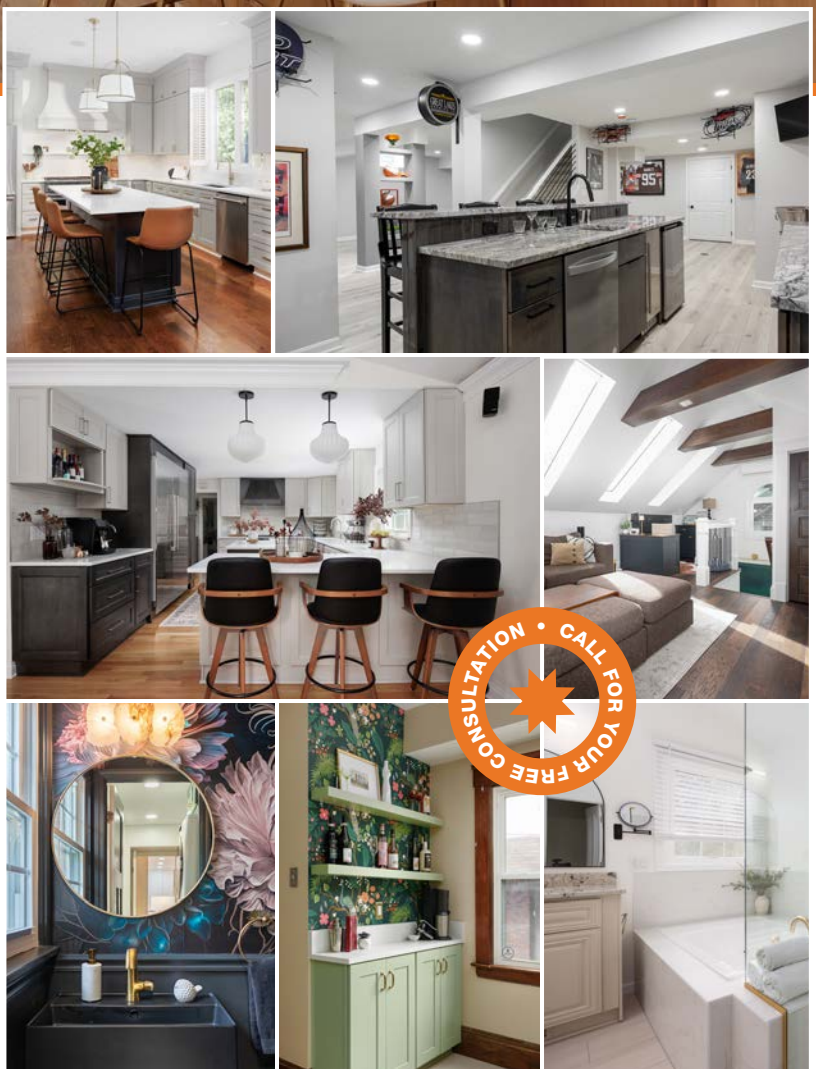
"I learn from them as much as they learn from me," Griffin says. "They are young adults and they want to be listened to. They want to have a voice and they want to be cared for. I'm hard on them, but I care for them too."

When Watkins looks back on his time coaching Griffin and his road to becoming an Ohio State Buckeye and winning football coach, it is not the record that stands out to Watkins.

"What I'm most proud of is Andre's growth and maturity as a leader of young men," Watkins says. "The football part will come, but if the students don't have that strong structure as young people, then it will be tough for them to be good athletes, and that's what Coach Griffin is all about." **SL**

Julie Hullett is the assistant director of communications for the Shaker Heights City School District.

New Shaker classics... masterfully brought to life



We listen. We advise. We design.

SemBro takes pride in successfully adapting the next, newest and brightest ideas and products to your distinctively Shaker home. Our portfolio of fresh concepts, masterfully brought to life, demonstrates how we may work with you to create your own new Shaker classics. SemBro is your single source for custom home improvements – from kitchen, bathroom and basement remodeling to specialty room applications, interior design and renovation services.

SemBro
Design & Supply
kitchens • bathrooms & more

216 677 3700
cleveland.sembrodesigns.com
16035 Industrial Pkwy Cleveland, OH, 44135

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ Rating

A portion of your purchase goes toward orphans and children with

HAWKEN: SCHOOL REDEFINED

Get ready to do school differently!

We look forward to meeting you! For more information about applying or visiting Hawken, go to hawken.edu/admissions.

2026 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS






HAWKEN SCHOOL

COEDUCATIONAL, TODDLER – GRADE 12

Lyndhurst | Cleveland–West | Gates Mills | University Circle

Waterproofing
Sewers • Drains
Basement
Wall Repairs • Rebuilds
Foundations • Excavations
Concrete Work

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED • EXPERIENCED

www.DrainsAndSewers.com

Call/Text 216.246.2310

FREE ESTIMATES

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

6593 Wilson Mills Road
Mayfield Village, OH 44143
440-461-5482
info@mayfieldsmiles.com

Mayfield SMILES



Classes begin
August 31-
Enroll Today!

Nutcracker
Auditions
September 13.

CLEVELAND CITY DANCE

Home to City Ballet of Cleveland

13108 Shaker Square,
Cleveland, Ohio 44120

(216) 295-2222 | www.clevelandcitydance.com



IMPROVING THE ODDS

Written by **Sharon Holbrook**

Photography by **Robert Muller**

**except where otherwise noted*

For the Shaker Heights Fire Department, the latest life-saving technology and training are transforming emergency response for the community.

**photo this page: iStock*



Left to right: Firefighter-Paramedic Peter Brown, Battalion Chief Tom Narowitz, Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney, and Firefighter-Paramedic Libby Galicki.

HISTORICALLY, the central goal in a medical emergency was speed: Get to the hospital as fast as possible. Surprisingly, that's not necessarily the case anymore. Mobile medical technology, and the expertise of the Shaker Heights Fire Department, have advanced so rapidly that the goal is still to provide emergency care quickly, but more often right in the patient's home.

"If we can do everything on scene," says Shaker Heights Firefighter-Paramedic Libby Galicki, "doctors want us to stay on scene in the home or wherever they went down, just so we have the best chance of their survival." Time is still absolutely critical, but sometimes that means bringing the ER to patients rather than bringing them to the ER.

"If we can do everything on scene, doctors want us to stay on scene in the home or wherever they went down, just so we have the best chance of their survival."

All Shaker Heights firefighters are full-time professionals trained as both paramedics and firefighters. And although it's called "the fire department," about two-thirds of calls are for medical rather than fire emergencies. Fire and medical emergency call volume



Firefighter-Paramedic Libby Galicki with a Stryker Lifepak 35.



Firefighter-Paramedic Sebastian Zlotkowski reviews a cardiac reading on the Stryker Lifepak 35.

is rising across Cleveland and beyond, and Shaker Heights is no exception. The busy department now averages 16-17 calls a day, and computer-aided dispatch uses the dispatcher's typed notes to automatically relay calls to firefighters even before the dispatcher gets off the phone, saving critical moments. And that's before firefighters are on scene with the latest techniques and tools. Now, with the latest technology in medical and fire response, the Shaker Heights Fire Department can provide more professional service than ever before.

A MOBILE ER

This summer, for three days in a row, Shaker Heights firefighters were trained on the department's brand-new Stryker Lifepak 35 cardiac monitors. (Shaker's 54 firefighters work in teams of 18 in 24-hour shifts, rotating one day on and two days off among the three teams.) While Shaker previously had older generation Lifepak devices, these latest units have upgraded capabilities. Now, for example, the device's cellular connectivity allows cardiac monitoring data and images to be livestreamed to the hospital,



Left to right: Firefighter-Paramedic Sebastian Zlotkowski, Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Zenz, Firefighter-Paramedic Olivia Ventura working with the LUCAS device which assists in CPR with automated compressions.



LUCAS device.

enabling teams there to prep for exactly what diagnostics, treatment, and personnel the patient will need – all before they even arrive at the hospital, says Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney.

Decisions about medical technology and training, says Sweeney, are made in consultation with the department's medical director, a board-certified emergency physician at University Hospitals who oversees and advises the paramedic work of the fire department. Keeping up with the latest medical knowledge and devices goes beyond the slick new cardiac monitors.

Lieutenant Dillon Crouse names the LUCAS device as the department's biggest technology advantage on the medical side. LUCAS devices assist in CPR by applying automated, perfectly timed chest compressions. Doing chest compressions manually is physically demanding, and the department used to have to rotate people in and out. But the LUCAS is like having an extra person, says Crouse, and one who can do compressions better than any human. "Our survivability rates have gone up because of it," Crouse says of the 15 years or so



Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Zenz using the GlideScope video screen to help place an airway tube in a manikin.

that the department has used LUCAS. Every Shaker fire vehicle, including fire trucks, is equipped with a LUCAS device, says Battalion Chief Tom Narowitz, so CPR can get started immediately if the fire truck arrives on scene before the ambulance.

"Our survivability rates have gone up because of it," Crouse says of the 15 years or so that the department has used LUCAS.

Another critically important piece of mobile medical technology is the video laryngoscope, say Crouse and Narowitz. When firefighters need to intubate, meaning they must place an airway tube in a patient's trachea, they no longer need to go by feel and limited visuals. Instead, Shaker uses the same technology that every ER in the country uses: A video screen shows exactly where the GlideScope is inside the patient, enabling more successful intubations on the first pass and helping professionals to locate the best path through the airway and to navigate around swelling or other obstructions. "You have a TV screen in front of you, and you can watch it go right in," says Narowitz.

When Firefighter-Paramedic Sebastian Zlotkowski and his coworkers are dispatched, they receive alerts directly to their phones through an app.



iPads route the company to the call and provide building information including stairways and hydrant locations.

BETTER INFO, BETTER FIREFIGHTING

Technology also increases efficiency and effectiveness on the fire service side. Every department vehicle is equipped with an iPad loaded with specialized software. It used to be that the firefighters had to travel with giant binders with pages of information about properties – things like building layouts, potential hazards, and the location of hookups for the fire department.

Now, the iPad streamlines the process of responding to a fire call. When the company is dispatched, each firefighter gets an alert directly to their phone through the app. At the same time, the iPad automatically routes the company to the call by GPS and provides top-level information to the company officer such as where the hydrants and stairwells are. The fire battalion chief follows in another vehicle and directs the company response with the help of additional details in the app and communication by radio with the team. For example, he can let the company know where room 304 is or where the sprinkler shutoff is.



Firefighter-Paramedic Olivia Ventura suits up for a call.



Fire Chief Patrick Sweeney.

All this information in the iPad comes from preventative work done before an emergency, when the fire department gathers data on, for example, the layout of commercial and apartment buildings and the flow rate of hydrants. Then, it's instantly at their fingertips when they need it most.

PROTECTING FIREFIGHTERS

It used to be that a dirty helmet was a badge of firefighting honor, a macho signifier that a man had braved danger. But firefighting culture has changed. Now, with the knowledge that firefighters' cancer rates are significantly higher than that of the general population, says Crouse, there's a focus on reducing exposure to carcinogens, including those accumulated on fire gear. Everyone deep cleans their gear at the station after each fire using special cleaners and a decontaminating washing machine called an extractor. It's more important than ever, says Galicki, because building fire fumes are much more toxic today because of the shift from natural materials to more synthetic fibers and plastics.



Firefighter-Paramedics Brittany Hageman and Peter Brown combine training, strength, skills, and technology with every call they make.

Technology keeps firefighters safer in other ways, too. If the police department has had a run-in with someone at a certain address before, police will automatically be dispatched to any fire or medical call there. Also, the detailed building information in the iPad keeps firefighters safe in burning buildings. If they know the building layout, they aren't going in blind and getting lost in smoke or falling through an elevator shaft, says Galicki.

WHAT TECHNOLOGY CAN'T DO

"We're never going to get replaced by AI like these other jobs," says Galicki. Instead, she says, technology just makes Shaker firefighters even better at their job. Where they used to have to set up a generator and hydraulic hoses to use the Jaws of Life to extract someone entrapped in a vehicle, now they can press a button on a battery-operated tool and get right to work getting that patient out much faster. Where they used to race a cardiac patient to the hospital, now they can shock the patient's heart right in the field.



Above: Axe and the Halligan



Left to right: Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Zenz, Firefighter-Paramedic Olivia Ventura, and Firefighter-Paramedic Sebastian Zlotkowski.

That said, every firefighter is trained in medic school how to do everything manually without a LUCAS or a Lifepak or a GlideScope to help them along. And, says Crouse, they "train for failure" on the fire side, too. Electronic devices can always fail, and they have a manual backup for pretty much everything they do. "It has to be a healthy balance of technology and tradition," he says.

"Probably our most useful tool that we have on any fire apparatus out there is called the Halligan," says Crouse. "And that was created in the 1920s and has not changed since the 1920s." The first job on any call is gaining entry to the property, and this "key to the city" is a manual tool that has a claw on one end and a pick on the other. The "irons" – the Halligan tool and an ax – are still the department's most frequently used fire tools, says Crouse.

Fundamentally, a firefighter's job is still extremely physical, and that's not going to change. Shaker's fire department, says Crouse, is one of the healthiest in the area, and the focus on health and wellness has increased dramatically in the last 20 years or so. Everyone receives detailed annual physicals in partnership with John Carroll University, and each firefighter gets printouts of where they are now versus previous years and what they can do

HOW TO APPLY Shaker Heights is looking for qualified candidates for its fire department. Candidates must have begun (or completed) paramedic school before sitting for the required Shaker Heights Fire Department civil service exam. The exam will be offered this fall. (Students at Shaker Heights High School, through the Career Technical Education program, can work towards future eligibility for the exam by meeting State of Ohio Firefighter and EMT certifications before high school graduation.)

to improve. The fire department, like other city departments, has a no-nicotine policy. And as long as there's no call, 3-4pm is daily gym time at the station, and the workouts can get pretty intense, says Galicki.

And there's no technology that can build the camaraderie and teamwork that Shaker's fire department has become known for. The department has a reputation as a great place to work, says Sweeney, and in an environment where most fire departments are scrambling to find enough new hires, Shaker still has robust turnout for its required civil service exam. (See How to Apply for more information.) Shaker Heights has stepped up to be a site where medics-in-training can do some of their required clinical hours, and seeing the department in action and feeling welcomed helps attract candidates, says Sweeney.



"It really is a family. As long as the calls allow, we eat dinner together. We work out together. We do everything together."

Galicki, who's been in Shaker just about two years and is one of five women in the department, agrees. "It's like no other department," she says. "It really is like a family. As long as the calls allow, we eat dinner together. We work out together. We do everything together." **SL**

A SOCIAL NETWORK

The act of building your community inevitably takes multiple paths – from cultivating work and school friends, to maintaining close family ties. But there's another dimension that requires a little more time and reaps rewards beyond measure.



Written by **Zachary Lewis**

Photography by **Gus Chan**

Volunteering isn't just a good thing to do

It's an entry point to a community, a way to gain friends, skills, and purpose. Nowhere is that truer than in Shaker Heights, a city teeming with nonprofits and volunteers, with organizations and individuals dedicated to making this corner of the world, and the whole world, a better place. To volunteer here is to put down roots, to invest in the community and seek a sense of belonging. Here are the stories of four locals whose journeys are living proof that in Shaker, it really is better to give than to receive.





"Volunteering is the fabric of who I am and how I operate."



BRYSON HAYNES

For Shaker resident Bryson Haynes, there was no journey to volunteering. It's been part of his life from the start. Now, it's also his career. Volunteering is "the fabric of who I am and how I operate," says Haynes, senior director of education and youth development at the Urban League of Greater Cleveland. "I'm always searching for opportunities, big or small. It's a service mindset." Growing up in Pasadena, California, Haynes was at first the beneficiary of volunteers. His local Boys & Girls Club was a home away from home. But it was more than that, too. Beyond keeping him safe and developing his self-confidence, the facility and its mentors also introduced Haynes to basketball, which he eventually parlayed into a spot on the team at South Dakota State University. Giving back to nonprofit youth sports and education programs after college then set Haynes on his career path, providing him experience that led to jobs with the Atlanta Hawks and, in 2020, the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Overall, basketball opened many doors, Haynes says. One of those doors, in 2023, was to his current post at the Urban League. There he oversees, among others, a program he once served as a volunteer: My Brother's Keeper Greater Cleveland. For a service-minded person like Haynes, Shaker is the perfect place to call home. Not only does the City boast real diversity and top-notch schools, it's also full of other volunteers like him and replete with ways for him to keep giving back. At the moment, he's serving on the board of the Shaker Schools Foundation, mentoring for Shaker Youth Collaborative, and coaching a flag football team. Shaker "falls right in with who I am," Haynes says. "It reminds me a lot of home and gives me a lot of comfort. If Shaker is my landing spot, I'm in a good place."



MELANIE CORNELIUS

The story of how technical writer Melanie Cornelius found her people has all the makings of a lovely short story. Which is perfect, because one of her enduring loves is books. Cornelius and her husband, both of whom work remotely for the same software company, moved to Shaker Heights from the West Coast with no experience or any roots here. All they wanted was to be on this side of the country, closer to their parents. Cleveland was their top choice because it ticked all the boxes: Besides a great lake, it boasted a great library, a great airport, and great culture. It's the library where Cornelius, an avid reader who used to beg her local library to check out more books, found her home. Volunteering for a Friends of Shaker Library event, the Alabama native discovered a facility both avidly used and vigorously cared for. Her niche, in other words. "It's important to me that people have access to what they need from their library, and this is a group that literally supports that," she says.

But Cornelius isn't only a friend of books, magazines, and recordings. She also believes in access to unbiased political material. Hence the community she found as a volunteer with the Shaker chapter of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland. "It's a passion of mine that people have the proper information," Cornelius says. "People need the actual facts, not a TV ad or mailer." For Cornelius, who works entirely from home, volunteering is more than just a way to support causes near and dear to her. It's also her social network. It's her bridge to a community she entered with no prior connections. "I wanted to help out, in whatever ways I could," she says. "But then you just start to get to know people, and they get to know you."



"It's a passion of mine that people have the proper information".







"It's been really great giving back to the community that raised me and has been so formative for me."



ELLIOT GLORIOSO RENDALL

Two formerly mandatory pursuits have become two wholly voluntary guiding lights for Lomond neighborhood resident Elliot Glorioso Rendall. Between an elementary-school extracurricular and their high-school senior project, the 2023 Shaker Heights graduate has found both a rewarding career path and a uniquely enjoyable way to spend their free time. The former emerged from Rendall's high-school senior project co-curating and promoting an exhibit called "Shaker Sells" at the Shaker Historical Society. So thankful was Rendall for the opportunity, they entered and have remained in the society's circle of friends, stepping up whenever the facility needs helpers. "I continue to be so grateful to do anything with them," says Rendall, now a senior graphic design student at Cleveland State University. "I've grown to love volunteering in Shaker." But the Historical Society has given Rendall more than just a platform for their senior project. It's also given them a sense of direction. Curating and volunteering have "helped inform a lot of my career choices," Rendall says, noting their wish to work at a museum of some kind. "They made me realize that I want a job focused on community involvement."

Meanwhile, Rendall remains involved around Shaker in other ways. When they aren't studying or working, Rendall's a volunteer coach with Girls on the Run, a Northeast Ohio-based program that uses running to teach life skills and promote empowerment. Rendall participated in the program as a child, and now enjoys paying it forward by prepping elementary school-age girls to run 5K races. The training sessions are "some of the brightest spots in my week," Rendall says, further proof that they're a volunteer at heart. "It's been really great giving back to the community that raised me and has been so formative for me," Rendall says. "It has shaped who I am and what I want to do with my life."



WILLIAM MCRAE

Working with children wasn't part of the retirement plan for Shaker native William McRae. All he wanted, after 30 years in the U.S. Army, was to continue giving back in some way. Then, a way found him. By chance, he connected with Hubert McIntyre, his favorite former teacher and leader of Shaker's MAC (Minority Achievement Committee) Scholars program. Before long, McRae was hooked; mentoring current students the way McIntyre had mentored him and helping run a climbing program at Shaker Rocks. His goal in both is to be like McIntyre, "He presented himself in a way that was something to emulate," says McRae, "For me, it's about interacting with the kids. With them, I feel hopeful."

McRae's journey to a fulfilling retirement has also led him to give back in other ways, deploying other skills and talents. After contemplating a run for political office, he opted instead for a post in the City's Civil Service Commission. He's now completing a term for a member who stepped down early. He's also volunteered, with other Shaker alums, at Rid-All Green Partnership, an agriculture nonprofit in Cleveland's Kinsman neighborhood. For sheer fun, though, nothing in McRae's "giving back" portfolio beats the Bill McRae Group, a musical combo he formed as a way to keep playing his beloved saxophone after taking it with him all over the world for the duration of his career in the Army. Lining up and playing gigs, such as a recent show at the Bop Stop, not only keeps him busy and entertained. It also plays to his natural leadership skills and scratches his lifelong itch to make a difference in the lives of others. "I hope people who come to our shows are happy at the end, because of the music we play," McRae says. "Community, teamwork, and camaraderie are the hallmarks of my existence." **SL**

"Community, teamwork, and camaraderie are the hallmarks of my existence."



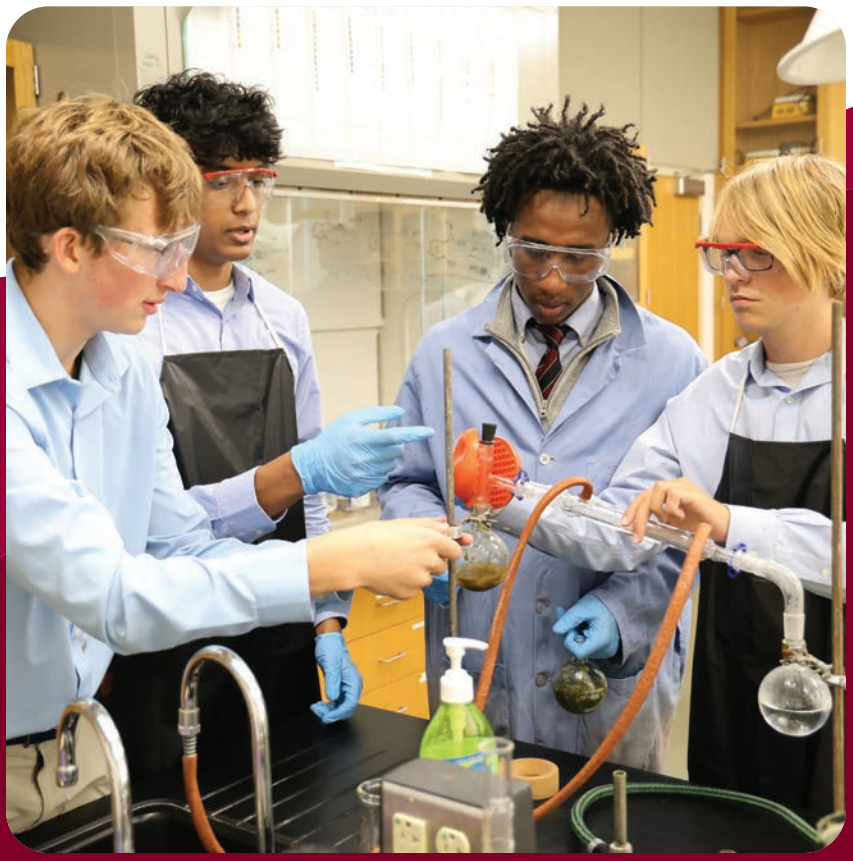
Freedom to forge his own path.

2026 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS #1 Private K-12 School in Northeast Ohio

At University School, boys thrive in an environment with the freedom to explore, create, and innovate. They think deeper, embrace challenge, and discover new passions. **Register today for our All-School Family Open House on Sunday, October 4!**

www.us.edu/visit







UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

For Boys, Junior K - Grade 12

Merit Scholarship Opportunity

Each year, the Jarvis Scholar Program awards up to ten fully-funded, four-year merit scholarships to students entering the ninth grade. The application for fall 2027 admission is now open.

19106 MILES RD.
WARRENSVILLE HTS.
OH, 44128

CROOKED RIVER

BUILDING SUPPLY

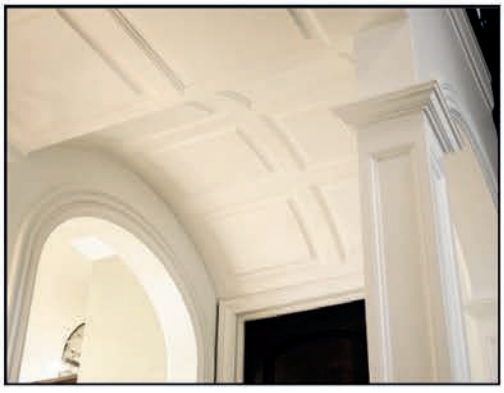
YOUR LOCAL SUPPLIER FOR:

WINDOWS • DOORS • MILLWORK • HARDWARE • SIDING



At Crooked River Building Supply, we're more than just a window supplier. With decades of experience serving Northeast Ohio, we proudly supply a wide range of building materials. Whether you are renovating, replacing, or upgrading, we provide personalized service every step of the way to bring your vision to life. From custom wood-clad windows to built in-house stock interior doors, we have a product solution for you. We pair premium product with exceptional customer service to ensure our customers are getting the best experience possible for every project.

CERTIFIED MARVIN INSTALLING RETAILER





Our showroom is designed to inspire and help you make informed choices. Get hands-on with Marvin windows, TruStile and ProVia doors, see our impressive millwork stock inventory, or our extensive hardware displays. Visit our newly renovated showroom, our website, ***www.crookedriversupply.com***, or call us at **216-478-9700 t**o learn about the difference Crooked River Building Supply can make for you and your home.



Esterlee Shy (above) and Dorothy E. Banks (right).



PLAYING THEIR CARDS RIGHT

Centenarian residents are among a group of bridge players who meet weekly to keep their wits, and bridge skills, sharp.

Written by **Nate Paige** Photography by **Gus Chan**

Of the many activities for seniors offered by the Shaker Recreation Department, there's one that may have more staying power than most: weekly bridge games.

And speaking of staying power, two longtime attendees have managed their own longevity – in life. Dorothy E. Banks and Esterlee Shy are centenarian Shaker residents who attend weekly bridge games at the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building. Banks turned 101 in July, and Shy will turn 104 in November.

Shy, a Shaker resident of more than 20 years, developed a love for the game during her years as a young mother. "When my kids were small, I was among a group of moms in the projects where we lived. Our husbands



were in school, my husband was attending law school at the time. There was a woman who lived in our neighborhood named Bea Fox, she taught us bridge," says Shy. Fox was an active member of Mt. Zion Congregational Church and the first black principal for Andrew J. Rickoff Elementary School in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood.

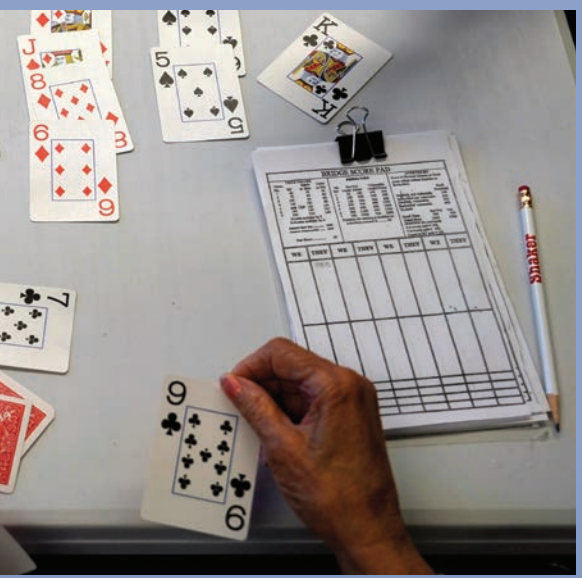
Bridge, a classic card game derived from the 17th century English card game Whist, is often described as a cerebral sport, and for many, it's an acquired taste. For Shy, she attributes her mental acuity to years of playing the game. "It definitely keeps your mind sharp. And several of my friends, who don't play here, have been advised by their doctors to continue playing because it keeps them alert."

In addition to bridge, Shy is an active member of the Christian Missionary Alliance. She enjoys residing in Shaker, largely because of its ever-evolving dynamic. "What I love most about Shaker is the phenomenal upkeep; there's always something being done to better the city," says Shy.

Living to be 100 is no small feat, and Shy attributes her longevity to clean living. "When I was young, I never smoked or drank, but nowadays, I may have an occasional margarita when I go out to dinner. I always tell everyone I'm selling the recipe to a long life, but you have to meet my price."

Banks has lived in Shaker since 1959. She was born in City Hospital on the near West Side and grew up in the Miles Heights neighborhood. Friendly persuasion would best describe how Banks began playing bridge. "My girlfriend Theresa, who lived on Albion, had someone who was pushing her to learn and she asked me to learn as well, so I did," says Banks. "This was years ago. We came here to this very building to learn. Back then, we played on the first floor, and there were enough players every week to fill up 8-10 tables."





In years past, Banks also hosted bridge games at her home, which would often go into the wee hours.

Banks has always been a doer and she credits her long life to emulating her mother, who was very industrious. "I've always tried to be like my mother and never stop working," says Banks. "She taught us to work and always told us we should 'never be found idle.' I've always been one to jump up and help. Some people like to sit around and do nothing; I don't think that's healthy." At 101 years old, Banks still tends to the flower garden in front of her home. She is also an avid knitter and seamstress.

While Banks and Shy are the ultimate regulars at the weekly games, other players include a retired professor of medicine and current facilitator at CWRU and MetroHealth; a retired assembler; a registered nurse; and a former flight attendant.

Of course, no card game is complete without playful banter between players – and snacks. Family-size bags of Hershey's Kisses and Fuego Skittles gummies are often present at the weekly gatherings. Although the offer of candy pales in comparison to the thrill of a winning hand and great fun with friends. **SL**

JOIN THE WEEKLY GAME

The bridge group meets every Thursday at 1pm in the Fireplace Room on the second floor of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Building, and they are looking to recruit new players. If interested, please contact Rhonda Miller at 216-491-2583.



WE ARE WORKING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

PINPOINT PAINTING AND RENOVATION

- PAINTING & RENOVATION
- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

216-524-3365
FREE ESTIMATES



WWW.PINPOINTPAINTING.COM

Whatever the Reason, Whatever the Season...
Shaker Heights Can Count on Smylie One!



bryant
Heating & Cooling Systems
WHATEVER IT TAKES.

CREATE A COMFORTABLE HOME
WITH A SPECIAL FINANCING RATE
and keep your family comfortable all year long.

0% APR
FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS
With $0 Down Payment
*Subject to credit approval

OH LIC #18265

SMYLIE ONE UNIVERSITY
At Smylie One we believe that there are 6 major benefits of regular HVAC Maintenance:

1. Fewer Breakdowns
2. Greater Efficiency
3. Longer Lifespan
4. Healthier Air
5. Peace of Mind
6. Improved Comfort

Pro-Max Tune-Up
Heating or Cooling Inspection
$20 OFF
Now Only $109
Over 30 Points on Inspection



Jordan & Steven Smylie | "Three Generations Strong" | Joey & Gary Rosen

Your HVAC System will always break down when you need it most. Repairs and overtime service calls can be costly. Avoid that mistake. Call Smylie One!

Smylie One
Heating Cooling Plumbing Air Quality

440-449-HEAT(4328)
www.smylieone.com
8323 Mayfield Rd. Chesterland, OH 44026
*5108 Richmond Rd. Bedford Heights, OH 44146

Valid thru 3/31/27. Limit one per household. During business hours. Not valid on prior sales. Can not be used in conjunction with any other discounts. Gas forced air and electric AC systems only. *Main Office





ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL

PURPOSELY SMALL – FAITH-FILLED
BEAUTIFULLY DIVERSE – ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS

K - 8th Grade Coeducational Catholic School
216.561.4400 www.stdominicschool.net

Shaker Quality Auto Body — over 25 years of providing the best auto repair and maintenance for generations of residents!

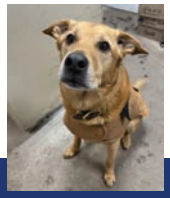
Shaker Quality AUTO BODY REPAIR

BUY FOUR (4) NEW TIRES AND RECEIVE
50% OFF A WHEEL ALIGNMENT!

Don't forget to ask about available manufacturer rebates on select brands.

- ✓ All mechanical, auto body and collision repair
- ✓ Thorough diagnostics
- ✓ Tire service – wheel balance and alignment
- ✓ I-Car Gold Certified in collision repair
- ✓ ASE certified technicians
- ✓ We work with ALL insurance companies

Whether you're a first time or long-time customer, our priority is you and your car. Stop by, or contact us by phone or email.



Our Customer Service Specialist, Chief

12916 LARCHMERE BLVD. CLEVELAND OH 44120
216-229-7846 | shakerqualityab@gmail.com

Shop Shaker

Where work and life meet. Where you can support local business. Where you can find what you need without traveling.

shopshakerhts ShopShakerHts









SHAKER HEIGHTS

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 1298



JudsonLink
MEMBERSHIP

Innovative senior support in the comforts of your home.

For over a decade, JudsonLink has provided the practical resources and personal support seniors need to live life on their own terms at home and connected to a vibrant community.

Membership includes full access to Judson's campuses, cultural events, dining, and wellness amenities — along with a personalized care plan that evolves with your needs, offering a worry-free way to stay in the home you love.

Become a Member Today!

(440) 247-1354
judsonsmartliving.org