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the SHAD Connection FOR THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK AND SHOP IN THE SHAKER SQUARE AREA

Thanksgiving Weekend Events

LARCHMERE HOLIDAY STROLL

Friday and Saturday November 27 & 28 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vol. 43 No. 2

Start your holiday shopping early and enjoy family-friendly, COVID-safe activities up and down Larchmere. Some stores will be open on Sunday, November 29 from noon to 5 p.m. For details see page 10 and visit larchmere.com.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Saturday, November 28

Now more than ever it is important to support local businesses. So many independently owned businesses, especially black-owned, have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. Please support this national buying initiative, which was started by American Express, and shop our community's favorite stores on Shaker Square, Larchmere and Buckeye. More info at americanexpress.com/us/s.

NORTH UNION FARMERS MARKET - WINTER HOURS

The market will continue to be outside on Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon at Shaker Square until December 19. From January 2 through March 27, 2021, the indoor winter market will move inside at Van Aken Market Hall in Shaker Heights on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon.

BBC Revives Hopes for a New Shaker Square

by Kristen Romito

Last year's Shaker Square redesign initiative led by LAND Studio, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP) and Hargreaves Jones came to a halt when the pandemic hit. Plans for improved public space on Shaker Square are still on the table but the planning process is being reimagined. Burten, Bell, Carr Development Inc. (BBC) is now leading the charge and aims to restart the community

restart the community engagement process to help shape the future of the square.

BBC, who was not involved in the first process, is now the community development corporation serving Shaker Square and the surrounding neighborhoods. BBC is developing a new strategy while considering sensitivity around immediate community needs related to the

pandemic and changes in leadership at CNP and the city.

"It's been critical that we take a pause in the process," said Bianca Butts, neighborhood services coordinator for BBC. She added, "During the last planning process there weren't other community planning processes happening that now exist, and they may affect the engagement around Shaker Square," noting the Woodhill Estates redevelopment project and other community initiatives.

To help facilitate the new design process, CNP is hosting landscape architect Andrew Sargeant, a fellow with the Enterprise Rose

See BBC Revives Hopes, page 3





by Thomas Jewell

Neighborhood stakeholders – more than 500 of them – have secured a major win in their ongoing fight against blight at the southeastern corner of Buckeye Road and East 130th Street.

On October 22, they found Cleveland Housing Court Judge W. Mona Scott in their corner as she placed the current owners of the condemned storefront and apartment building at 13000 Buckeye under community control sanctions for the next three years.

"We won a big victory," surmised Charles "Chip" Bromley, founder and director of the Shaker Square Alliance, noting that the building owners will have to report to the court monthly on the work being done or face fines.

The property has switched ownership four times since a 2013 fire led to the building's

condemnation by the city, along with a gaping hole in the roof.

With Scott's ruling, "the court has oversight in terms of what the owner is going to do with the building," Bromley added. "Specifically, he's not allowed to sell it without court authorization."

In a pleading filed with the housing court that attached a petition signed by 563 people – including SHAD Board Chair Mary Ann Kovach – the request from the community stakeholders was simple: either fix it or demolish it.

Next door to the eyesore, EDWIN'S Culinary and Leadership Academy founder Brandon Chrostowski had already invested substantially in the neighborhood, including a butcher shop, bakery and lodgings for his staff of aspiring chefs, only to be forced to barricade his front sidewalk.

That came in response to masonry portions of the building's crumbling

See Community Activists Score a Win for Buckeye, page 3



SHAD Made Voter Registration Easy

Over the summer and throughout the fall, SHAD board members organized a voter registration drive every Saturday at the North Union Farmers Market. Members handed out more than 350 mail-in ballot applications and helped recruit some poll workers.



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steady progress of 121 Larchmere, the 88-unit apartment building on Larchmere Boulevard and East 121st Street. The \$20 million project is the neighborhood's first new construction of market rate apartments in more t han a decade. The project is scheduled for completion in spring 2021.



SHAD MISSION STATEMENT

To provide the Shaker Square area with the leadership needed to re-imagine and foster well-maintained, diverse and vibrant neighborhoods.

COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

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BBC Revives Hopes

Continued from page 1

Architectural Fellowship program. Over the next two years, Sargeant will work alongside Butts to reengage the community, leveraging their knowledge in community development to reimagine the Square.

"Shaker Square is a special place for people, and this is a pretty passionate topic for them," said Sargeant. The pandemic has made the need for public space in the Square apparent but also hard on the businesses that surround it. As the team works to ensure a future for the Square, they want to encourage the community to safely support the present occupants of the Square.

Since his start in October, Sargeant has spoken one-on-one with the project designers to better understand how designers fell short of materializing the lengthy engagement process into renovation of a beloved public space.

a Win for Buckeye

facade starting to break off and fall

to the street below around February

2019, creating a significant hazard for

"The city in fact required their

portion of the sidewalk to be fenced

off for the safety of pedestrians,"

Jay Westbrook, the former

in the case, pointed out that an

Ian Cox, pastor of Holy Grove

convener of the East 130th Street

Working Group, another petitioner

emergency order to repair the falling

debris was not complied with until

August 2020: some 18 months later.

In a letter to the court, the Rev.

Missionary Baptist Church, argued

that up to that point, "every court

hearing presents a different excuse

as to why this property cannot be

This for our Buckeye community is

Back in September, the building's

held to the standard of the city.

current owners had sought to

unacceptable."

Community Activists Score

"We don't want to repeat any mishaps from before," said

Continued from page 1

both crew and customers.

Chrostowski added.

Sargeant, and added "there are new opportunities and a new energy" with re-starting the process.

"We have a little head start but a new race," stated Sargeant.

Sargeant emphasized the importance of engagement, positioning community as codesigners as the catalyst for a successful second campaign. He hopes to work with BBC and others to design intentional and substantive participation experiences while remaining flexible and appreciative considering COVID-19 and other considerations.

Dates and locations for community meetings as well as whether they'll be in person or virtual are to be determined, but however the meetings are conducted by Sargeant and Butts both want to "create space for a true narrative."

To provide input or receive updates visit thisisshakersquare.com

dismiss the case, a motion that city

prosecutors appeared willing to go

having it, with Scott scheduling the

case for sentencing on an anticipated

Scott also invited citizens to give

their statements at the October 22

the ongoing coronavirus pandemic

"community toast" to the verdict,

and state health emergency.

On the heels of hosting a

Chrostowski offered his legal

along with. But it quickly became

evident that the judge was not

change of plea.

Cleveland city councilman and current hearing, conducted online due to

shaker SOUARE night and day

The Connection – Important Assistance Telephone Numbers

Most everyone is in need of some assistance at some point or perhaps never required before. Below are two telephone numbers and websites to assist in finding resources to help in these trying times.

United Way 2-1-1 is a free community service anyone can use to get information about social, health and government resources 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. Simply dial 2-1-1 or visit online at 211oh.org. 2-1-1 services can provide assistance information on a variety of concerns ranging from employment to housing to health insurance, food assistance, transportation needs, veterans' concerns, and fatherhood initiatives. A Spanish interpreter can be provided. This service is available only throughout Cuyahoga County.

The City of Cleveland 3-1-1 Help Department handles assistance/ complaint calls for Cleveland. The 3-1-1 Help service is a collaboration of a number of City of Cleveland departments to assist callers (Cleveland residents and nonresidents) with one contact number to handle various issues or concerns, including neighborhood complaints about property maintenance, housing issues, illegal dumping, street conditions, waste collection, and maintenance issues at Cleveland parks and recreation centers. Call 3-1-1 or 216.664.3111, Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or report online at city.cleveland.oh.us. Callers can remain anonymous.

opinion of what had transpired. "It's taken community activists,

a newly elected official and media to put us in a place for this restoration," Chrostowski said. "The process has been a huge lift and it's taken a lot of time and resources to get this ruling.'

"Our thanks go out to Judge Mona Scott. She made a pledge to the east side and lived up to her promise."



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2 *The SHAD Connection* Winter 2020

Heard Around the Square

by Margaret Simon

Cooking for social change. Toni **Tipton Martin**, former *Plain Dealer* food editor and award-winning food and nutrition journalist (and mother of former SHHS Lacrosse player Brandon Tipton), was awarded The International Association of Culinary Professionals American Cookbook Award and its prestigious Book of the Year Award for "Jubilee: **Recipes from Two Centuries** of African American Cooking: A Cookbook." The cookbook champions the professional skills and kitchen wisdom of generations of black cooks and would be a tasteful and welcomed gift for cooks of all colors.

"Engineering as a career path is not for the weak at heart," says Ramona Lowery in a five-page article about her in the September/ October Phenomenal Woman magazine. The first female and first Black engineer at the City of Cleveland's Sewer Division, Water Pollution Control

by Mary Ann Kovach

A new health and wellness

restaurant, SomethinGood to

Eat, opens at 12210 Larchmere in

November. Shaker Heights native,

Andrew Taylor-Shaut, brings his

plant-based and stress-reduction

concept to the neighborhood in the

midst of pandemic, when everyone

High School grad, returned to

his hometown to set down roots

after earning a bachelor's degree

at the University of Colorado in

traveling around the country and

observing a lack of healthy plant-

distinguishes between plant-based

and vegan: "Plant-based describes

based options on the road. He

Boulder. He's enjoyed a plant-

based lifestyle for four years,

is focused on good health practices.

Taylor-Shaut, a Shaker Heights

graces the cover of the magazine. In addition to her professional commitments, she also manages to find time to serve as the SHHS Co-President along with **Kate Wilton Bennett**. Read more about this phenomenal woman at https://issuu com/phenomenalwomanmagazine/ docs/sep-oct_2020

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Fadi Karim has written a children's book, "The Robin's Story," and each page is in two languages: English and Spanish. Born in Beirut, Lebanon, the Case Professor Emeritus in Pathology, took all the pictures around Shaker Heights.

Teachers take note! The Cleveland City Club and nine libraries including your Shaker Library - created 5 Days for Democracy with stories, resources, questions and actions deigned to ignite conversations of consequence to help democracy thrive. If you

missed the five days, the resource is still relevant and available at citvclub.org/about/five-days-fordemocracy.

I Identify As . . . The Cleveland Photo Fest invites photographers to join in a groundbreaking show highlighting Northeast Ohio's diversity. The show will introduce 30 White and those who identify as Other local photographers to 30 Black and Other photographers. Participants will be randomly paired to photograph each other for the exhibit of PHOTOTHON 2021, to be held in May and June of 2021. To participate, send your name, contact information, racial preference and a selfie by December 15 to cpfidentifyas@gmail.com.

Are you a 60-plus writer with something to say? Creative Nonfiction seeks submissions of new work by older (60-plus) writers. They are looking for personal essays/memoir, experimental work, science writing, profiles, historical nonfiction, lyric essays or any kind of lively fact-based writing. Submissions might address issues related to age and aging, but there is absolutely no requirement that it do so. Entries should be a maximum of 4,000 words. The "convenience fee" is \$3 and the deadline is February 22. Read more at creativenonfiction. submittable.com/submit

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What Does it Mean to Be an Inclusive Democracy? Hear from **Dr. Ibram X. Kendi**, one of America's leading antiracist voices and awardwinning author of "How to Be An Antiracist," when he Zooms with Cleveland Public Library on December 4 and then hear Bryan **Stevenson**, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative and award-winning author of "Just Mercy" on December 5. The programs are free, but register at cpl.org.

Writer-director-comedian David Wain and musician-composer Craig Wedren returned to their Shaker Heights roots when they moderated a book talk with Michael Ian Black, author of "A Better Man: A (Mostly Serious) Letter to My **Son**," at the Cleveland Jewish Book Festival on November 12. Wain's early interest in filmmaking is evident in his 1978 YouTube Tour of Shaker Heights at youtube.com/ watch?v=7gZzCjKe9pg. Find it and more on Shaker Library's Local History website. And what did Wain think of his Shaker Library? "It has one of the most books in the world."

create on your favorite social media site so everyone can see what you've created (#ShakerLibrarycreations). And if you still want to create, Shaker Library is again holding its Caps for Kids initiative. Knit or crochet a cap – or a scarf or mittens – for kids and drop them off at Bertram Woods Branch by December 11. Project Act will pick them up and distribute them to the

And the \$20,000 winner is!

Imperfect Produce was awarded

Competition. Perfectly Imperfect

with slight cosmetic imperfections.

suppliers, repacks it in subscription

boxes and delivers it to homes and

offices throughout Ohio, saving

food from landfills. Ashley plans

to utilize the pitch funds to launch

Female Entrepreneur Summit will

celebrate its 10th anniversary next

fall and the FES Pitch Competition

will return. Do you know a female-

owned company? Tell them about

it, and maybe they'll be next year's

0 0 0

If you thought Take-and-Make

crafts were just for kids, think

again. Shaker Library has take-and-

Children's desk and for adults at the

crafts are for you to take home and

make at your leisure. Share what you

make kits available for kids at the

Reference desk. These easy DIY

winner.

a new meal kit product line. The

thousands of pounds of edible

The company acquires fruits and

vegetables from local farms and

Produce is a direct-to-consumer

sales channel for fresh produce

the top \$20,000 prize in the Female

Ashley Weingart of Perfectly

Entrepreneur Summit Pitch

homeless. The North Union Farmers Market wants to make it easier for you to get through the market by ordering ahead! Visit the website at northunionfarmersmarket.org. The market will be outdoors at the Square Saturdays through December 19 and indoors Saturdays from January 2 through March 27 at the Van Aken Market Hall.

Clare Malone, Senior Political Writer for FiveThirtyEight presented a virtual forum, Election 2020 and the Road Ahead at The Cleveland City Club November 6.

Every season 'tis the season to eat and shop local. Tie one on – your mask that is – and take a sociallydistanced stroll around the Square and, keep your ears open for me.

heardaroundthesquare@gmail.com

SomethinGood Lands on Larchmere

COMING SOON!!!



a healthier diet; 'vegan' carries stereotypes that might be offputting for some people and isn't necessarily healthy. For instance, chips and Oreos are vegan!" Taylor-Shaut extends his plant-based philosophy to apparel and accessories (no leather or other animal products for him), and products that do not conduct testing on animals.

Healthy versions of popular fast-food go-to items like Good Nuggets (homemade chickpea nuggets), Royal Burgers (black bean patties), and Good Burgers (lentil patties)

easily substitute for their more processed counterparts such as Beyond Meat and Impossible Meat. Smoothshakes, made with housemade oat milk, will be created in a variety of tasty flavors. Breakfast offerings include Good Oats with fruit, BLT (coconut bacon, lettuce and tomato), and Mumble Wrap (homemade chick pea scramble with avocado, kale, tomato, pepper and onion).

SomethinGood moves into the space formerly occupied by Baba Yaga's Greenhouse Café, with a soft opening and limited menu, beginning November 11, noon – 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday – Sunday. The grand opening, with full menu, is planned for the new year, January 1, 2021.

Learn more and see the menus at SomethinGood.co.

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Chanelle's Treatz Defies Odds, Opens Bakery During Pandemic

By Jason Novak

The COVID-19 pandemic has obviously hit many businesses hard. This has been especially obvious on Shaker Square with the recent closures of anchor restaurants Yours Truly and Fire. However, it's not all doom and gloom on the square: Chanelle's Treatz, a bakery specializing in custom cakes, is set to open in the former Alexander's Floral Designs storefront.

Chanelle's Treatz began as a hobby for proprietor Chanelle Harris. A few years ago she brought cupcakes for a pot-luck event, and they were so popular that people asked if Harris could make more. Not one to pass up an opportunity, she started a web-based business, selling desserts and cakes made to order on Facebook.

As the business took off, Harris, a self-taught baker, began experimenting with different baking and cake-decorating techniques. "I never tell a customer 'no," she says. Harris loves to learn new techniques, and if she doesn't

immediately know how to fulfill a client's request, she's eager to jump

While she was awaiting that email, she ran an errand that would change the fate of her bakery. "I drove my mother to T-Mobile and, while I was waiting in the car, I saw that the flower shop was available. I called [...] and Peter called me back within two hours." She toured the location on a Wednesday, signed the lease by Saturday, and had the keys by the following Monday.

The location turned out to be perfect for her needs, with a huge, walk-in refrigeration unit, an area that was perfect for setting up her

in and figure it out.

For Harris, whose other job as a Department Assistant at Case Western moved to work-fromhome during the pandemic, this is the perfect time to open a bakery. However, it almost didn't happen at Shaker Square. "I was settled on another location," Harris says. "I sent an email to the landlord at a location on Buckeye to tell her I was ready to sign the lease, but she didn't get back to me."

kitchen, and plenty of storage space in the basement. "And it's a family business," she says, "so I even set up a study room downstairs for my kids."

Harris plans to open Chanelle's Treatz in November. In the meantime, she still operates her business via Facebook, Instagram, and at ChanellesTreatz.com

Chanelle Harris, owner of Chanelle's Treatz, took her baking hobby and turned it into a business, which will open in the former Alexander's Floral Designs storefront sometime in November 2020.

Edwin's 5K Grind

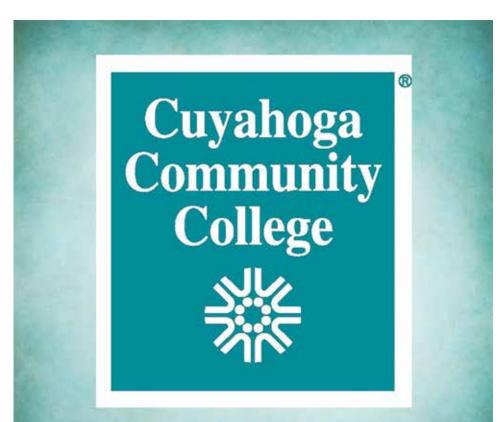
The 2020 EDWINS 5K GRIND welcomed about 180 participants (130 runners and 50 one mile walkers) on Sunday, October 25. Funds raised at the event, which started and ended at Shaker Square, directly benefits the mission of EDWINS. More than \$18,000 was raised



Edwins President and CEO Brandon Chrostowski with Brooks Jones, winner of the mens division



Chrostowski with female division race winner Cheryl Bayart.



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The SHAD Connection Winter 2020 5 4 The SHAD Connection Winter 2020

Edwins Too Takes Over Former Fire Space

by Grant Segall

It must be too easy to supervise former Fire's patio and turning its bar into a felons at an haute restaurant, butcher shop, patisserie, housing complex, and culinary training programs during a pandemic while awaiting a third child. Now Brandon Chrostowski is opening a grand cru bordeaux. As at all his Edwins Too and making it even hauter than Edwins.

"This is an elite restaurant you'd find on the coast," says the tall, slender, intense, nationally honored visionary behind the nonprofit Edwins Restaurant and Leadership Institute.

Edwins Too (officially "edwins too" in lower case) is opening sometime in November in the 4,400 square feet of the former Fire at 13220 Shaker Square, across the square from Edwins' flagship restaurant. Chrostowski is repainting Fire's interior "coral reef" and turquoise for a "divine, feminine feel," unlike the stately, "masculine" Edwins, which occupies a former bank. Too will offer a choice of prix-fixe dinners of three, five and seven courses on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with Sunday brunches coming soon. Guest chefs from around the country will help create menus that change weekly.

Edwins Too has a six-month lease with Coral Realty and an option for five more years. The fare will be French, as at Edwins, but with infusions of Asian and Mediterranean.

65 tables, beefing up its ventilation

and taking other precautions there against COVID-19. He's reopening salon with couches. He's thinking of charging \$55 for three courses, \$75 for five, and \$95 for seven, with a few extras available, such as caviar and outlets, tips are tax-deductible.

Edwins' operations have boomed during the pandemic. Chrostowski says diners are hungrier than ever for fine food and great escapes close to

The flagship restaurant's average tab has grown from about \$60 to \$80. Its receipts grew about 24 percent for the first eight months of this year versus last. Chrostowski expanded the patio, covered it, and introduced his full menu there. He started a rotation of "4 for \$40" takeout meals for four diners apiece, with comfort food from many cuisines.

Chrostowski also has reopened his culinary training program and started a virtual management program at the University of Michigan, near his hometown of Detroit. He has boosted his staff from about 100 people to 116.

What's more, Chrostowski has begun feeding 12,000 people on Mondays and Tuesdays at shelters and senior centers. He has added two alumni family apartments and a public park to a campus at Buckeye Road and South Moreland Boulevard that already hosted his shops, 22 Chrostowski is spreading out Too's student beds, a garden and a coop for goat and chickens called Eggwins.





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Altogether, he oversees nearly 50,000 square feet.

He also continues to train inmates and run a farm at Grafton Correctional Institution. And he staged his yearly "Run for Re-Entry" fund-raiser last month, a tough five kilometers crossing the Doan Brook.

Chrostowski says he's still paying off a debt. After high school, he was arrested in a drug case in his hometown of Detroit. A judge gave him probation, and a chef gave him a job. He went on to the prestigious Culinary Institute of America and top restaurants in France and the U.S., including Cleveland's L'Albatros. He opened Edwins' doors in 2013.

His middle name is Edwin, and Edwins also stands for Education Wins. Hundreds of his graduates have moved on to more than 100

restaurants. Some have bought homes, opened businesses and regained custody of children. Fewer than one percent have returned to prison.

While applying coral reef to Edwins Too's walls, graduate Harrison Buckley says a felony has barred him from many fields, including his intended one of nursing assistant. "This program provided me with a sense of hope."

For such success stories, Chrostowski won a 2020 Silver Spoon Award, and Edwins was chronicled in the 2017 Oscarnominated documentary "Knife Skills." He and his growing family live in the CHALK neighborhood.

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For more information, call 216.921.3333 or see edwinsrestaurant.org.

New Gym Offers Quick Workouts in Former Wolfs Gallery

by Kristen Romito

Like many of us, Haja Tunkara wants the benefits of exercising but without spending hours at the gym.

That's why Tunkara is opening The HIIT Factor Larchmere, a gym that offers short but intense workouts in the former Wolf Gallery at 13010 Larchmere Blvd. The new gym will also house Fawaky Burst Juice and Smoothie Café.

What started off as a mobile body composition measuring business called the BOD POD in a 16-foot trailer that traveled throughout Northeast Ohio, the training, massotherapy, nutrition counseling and health coaching.

To help members and guests properly refuel after their workout, Tunkara partnered with Muhammad Edwards, owner of Fawaky, which has locations in Beachwood, Cleveland Heights and South Euclid. Edwards had been considering opening a fitness center when a mutual friend of his and Tunkara's introduced them, and they decided to align themselves by opening The HIIT Factor on Larchmere.

On why they decided to open their business on Larchmere, Edwards said, "This was a gift for a location.

throughout the facility; making sure there's strategic seating at the juicebar; and keeping our environment safe with proper ventilation," stated Tunkara.

Tunkara stresses that The HIIT Factor on Larchmere is more than just a gym but rather "a place of the community." To make the fitness center communityfocused as possible, Tunkara wants to garner community feedback and encourages people to complete a survey on Instagram (@thehiitfactorlarchmere).

For up-to-date information on the opening, hours and pricing follow The HIIT Factor Larchmere on its Instagram page. More information on Fawaky at fawakyburst.com.



Above: Haja Tunkara, owner of The HIIT Factor on Larchmere. Left: Fawaky Burst owner Muhammad Edwards.

Below: Inside the new fitness center, Fawaky Burst will offer a selection of cold press juices, immunity shots, smoothies and healthy food options.



business will now occupy the two-level 2700-plus square foot former art gallery as a full-service fitness studio that will include body composition measurements and much more.

HIIT, which stands for high intensity interval training, is "the idea that you get your body in an anerobic state so you burn calories long after your workout," explained Tunkara. "We'll offer two classes per hour, and you'll get a 15-minute workout." Members and guests can take both classes or only take one if they choose and still reap the benefits of a HIIT workout.

In addition to HIIT-focused group classes, members and guests will have access to other group fitness such as Zumba, yoga, spinning as well as personal Our broker showed us this spot, and we immediately fell in love."

Fawaky will offer cold press juices, immunity shots (ginger, tumeric, wheatgrass), smoothies (fruit, green and protein), wraps, quesadillas, paninis, melts, salads, vegan options and a 21-day raw food challenge.

With the end of COVID nowhere in sight, Tunkara and Edwards are taking all the necessary precautions to safely open The HIIT Factor on Larchmere in early January 2021.

"We're consulting with the CDC website and taking local health department recommendations; installing signage for promoting 6 feet distance; working with our architectural firm to put up signage to [communicate] wipe down equipment before and after use; setting up hand sanitizing



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Political Action Through

Art: New Art Gallery Opens on Buckeye

There's been awakening. Political activism has been on the rise, but not everyone is always inclined to get involved. The I See Voices Gallery hopes to engage Ward 4 and 6 residents on community and political issues through art. Now through the primary election in May 2021, the gallery will feature 10 local artists and their work in hopes of connecting residents to today's issues in a creative way. The gallery is open, though with limited capacity, and will also showcase live stream, panel discussions and pop up events.

The gallery, which is presented by the Informative Action Committee, is located within the Community House Arts Building at 11917 Buckeye Road. More information at informative action.com

HOT TREND:

COVID-Safe Dining



Like many restaurants around the country, Academy Tavern on Larchmere erected 'igloos' to accommodate a COVID-friendly, outdoor dining experience. Down the street, Felice Urban Cafe also has them as well.

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"Since 1972"

Goldenrod Montessori Takes Up Residence at Shaker Square

by Pamela Zoslov

Jill Evans' first encounter with the Montessori education system was a revelation. The veteran teacher recalls the day she was called to work as a substitute at Tremont Montessori School. "At first I felt out of place when the teacher's assistant told the students to begin their 'work cycle.' I thought, 'work cycle'?"

"The students started moving the chairs around and doing their work. I thought, this is so awesome. This is it! I was hooked."

Work cycle, a process in which students choose their own materials and independently apply the lessons they've learned, is part of the progressive educational system developed by Italian physician and educator Maria Montessori in the early 20th century. After employing Montessori methods while teaching at another school, Evans asked her students if they enjoyed work cycle. "They said, 'We love it!"

After teaching for many years at Tremont, Evans had the opportunity to open her own Montessori school and "really make a difference." Goldenrod Montessori, which Evans has founded with fellow Teacher-Leader Kaitlin Tonelli, has made its home in the southwest quadrant Shaker Square space vacated by Flawless Barber Academy. Goldenrod is enrolling children ages 3 to 6, and is slated to open in November. Sliding-scale tuition, vouchers and scholarships are available.

In the Montessori system, children follow their own developmental paths. "They're able to be self-directed," Evans explains. "They get to choose what they learn, and learn to love learning."

The classrooms are mixed-age, and the older students help guide the

13015 Larchmere Boulevard

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www.LoganberryBooks.com

younger ones. Goldenrod will have two classrooms of ten students each, in accordance with CDC COVID-19 safety protocols. The interior is being designed to embody the Montessori principle of "a deep beauty in all things," with artwork, plants and natural wood furniture.

The choice of Shaker Square harmonizes with Montessori's holistic concept of integrating schools into their neighborhoods. "We try to blur the boundaries between school, neighborhood and family," says Evans. "We'll be part of the whole district we can have pizza at Captain Tony's,

maybe a movie day at the Atlas Cinema. Shaker Square is such a perfect place for making connections with people."

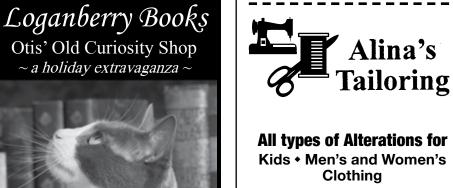
For information about Goldenrod Montessori, part of the Wildflower Network, call 216.200.6931 or visit goldenrodmontessori.org.



Participants in a recent Community Day at Goldenrod Montessori assemble chairs for the new



Goldenrod founder Jill Evans (right) and Dyanne Stutson (left) build cots for the children at a recent Community Day.



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Up and Down the Boulevard

While festive Larchmere holiday traditions will carry on, many neighbors are eager to turn the calendar to a new year..

by Barbara Mooney

The 2020 Larchmere Holiday **Stroll** is on with creative ways to socially distance and observe other health precautions. Lisa McGuthry representing the sponsor, the Larchmere Merchants Association, says the event will take place Nov. 27–29. Families are invited to participate in scavenger hunts, enjoy free hot chocolate and cookies at various locations, and hear strolling carolers. Although there won't be horse-and-carriage rides this year, other attractions will include "Polar Express," a children's program at McGuthry's Our Favorite Things **Boutique and Event Center** (12730 Larchmere, 216.536.7928). The popular holiday movie will be

give out golden tickets. Meanwhile, Shaker Quality Auto Body (12916 Larchmere, 216.229.7846) is holding its annual fundraiser to benefit Our Lady of **Peace** church's meal program. With any mechanical service or body repair, the automotive shop will donate a complete ham dinner.

screened while a train conductor

(portrayed by Ms. McGuthry) will

The usual flurry of holiday activities and events will be muted this year at Loganberry Books (13015 Larchmere, 216.795.9800). Instead, the store is beefing up its online gift offerings and arranging virtual author talks and other programs. "We're keeping an eye on the way the COVID-19 numbers are going and asking our customers to refer to social media for updates," says Loganberry's communications manager, Elisabeth Plumlee-Watson.

A New LOOK

LOOK Studio, the hair salon that for a decade operated out of the striking green building at 12708 Larchmere, has relocated to a storefront at 12808 Larchmere, where Rebecca's barber shop had been. "We did a lot to refurbish the space," says owner Stevie Chesnik. The salon has taken extensive measures to keep customers and its four other stylists as safe as possible. The salon is open by appointment only (call 216.231.5665).

3 Aprons Closing and Busy Boss Intro

3 Aprons Bakery announced in October on its Facebook page that it was closing its shop. "We have decided to make it a certified home bakery instead," while still offering its fares at local farmers markets and pop-ups around Cleveland. "When we feel it's safe, we will open back up in a new location... This isn't goodbye but see you later."

Around the same time **Busy Boss** Bakery (12732 Larchmere) held a "business shower" introducing itself at a pop-up event. The bakery specializes in cakes, cupcakes and candies. Watch for more news about its progress.

Other Larchmere openings to look forward to include SomethinGood To Eat in the former Baba Yaga's Greenhouse Café space, and Fawaky Burst Juice Co. and The HIIT Factor Fitness in the 13818 Larchmere building formerly occupied by Wolf Gallery. (See the articles in this issue for more information.)

Willow Cove's Charged Up Holidays

While the Covid Grinch has hampered many personal care businesses this season, Willow Cove Art and Wellness Boutique (12404 *Larchmere*, 216.230.7636) is sledding into it with vigor. "Our fall and winter theme is "Recharge Yourself," savs Willow Cove's proprietor, Lawna Gamble. "The question we want folks to ponder is, what if we recharged ourselves as often as we did our phones?"

With its new promotion, any service at Willow Cove costs \$1 per minute. Along with massage therapy, its new services include: "Meditationn-Paint", whereby individuals or small groups can participate in painting sessions with guided meditation; health, personal care and emotional support coaching or young adults with disabilities; and Reiki sessions.

Also, for the first time, Willow Cove is issuing gift certificates good for both its services and its various wellness gifts, such as memory foam bamboo pillows, neck massagers, scented candles and essential oils.

For more information, visit willowcove.org.

Boutique & Shop News

Eclectic Eccentric, the modern and vintage home accessories, apparel and unique gifts shop (13005 *Larchmere*, 216.798.3002) is entering the holiday season with comfort and humor in mind.

"I'm going snarky this year," says owner Tracey Hilbert. "We have a bigger selection of fun and functional gifts." Among them are kitchen towels bearing fun and naughty sayings. Falling squarely in the comfort category are a line

of Kamthe throws from Bangladesh, handcrafted lotions, teas and socks – "items that make people relaxed, calm and happy."

Our Favorite Things Boutique continues to garner recognition for community outreach. It was recently featured in a segment on WEWS-TV News5 for opening its events space as a virtual learning center where school children can study online, receive snacks and do arts and crafts. "We're stepping up. People in our community need a hand up," says owner Lisa McGuthry. Her efforts were also recently highlighted on "We the People," a WKYC-TV program hosted by Leon Bibb.

The Dancing Sheep boutique (12712 Larchmere, 216.229.5770) is continuing to offer appointmentshopping but has also returned to opening its doors from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturdays. Owner Lynne Alfred says she's "excited with newly arrived, Miro-like necklaces from Italy and woolen separates from

David DiVita is looking forward to celebrating his store's 25th anniversary in March. Larchmere **Deli & Beverage** is a boulevard fixture at 12727 Larchmere (216.721.0220).

England."

Fairhill Partners, the social services center (12200 Fairbill Road, 216.421.1350) is approaching 2021 and adjusting to the pandemic in creative ways. Stephanie FallCreek, president and CEO of Fairhill, says January will bring a new program for "seasoned citizens" (60 years and older) titled "Take Charge of Your Health."

"From the comfort of your living room or even at your breakfast table, if you have a computer or tablet with a camera and microphone, or just a telephone, we have some great choices," says Dr. FallCreek.

"This past year has put us all to the test. Many of us have been shut in, locked down or just plain worried about going out. Whether you'd like to join an online "Bingocize" class (10 weeks, twice a week, of bingo and exercise, with tips for fall prevention or nutrition) or prefer to receive a toolkit with readings and worksheets to read, then join with four or five other people like you in a weekly phone call (for six weeks) to talk about proven ways to manage your pain or a chronic condition. We have trained, enthusiastic leaders who will nelp each small telephone group to accomplish their health goals and share experiences and ideas."

If you're interested in signing up, call 216.421.1350 and ask for Leah or Wendy.

for Sneakers for Students by Kristen Romito

Cleveland is known for many things such as its sports teams and restaurants, but did you know that it has a really popular sneaker scene?

Cleveland native Justin Boyd has brought the under-the-radar sneaker culture to Larchmere by opening Concession Stand at 13006 Larchmere Boulevard. The store carries a variety of brands, but most are Cleveland-based or the designers are Cleveland natives such as @bound.by.soul, @allways.global, @millionairethoughtsinabucket.

Concession Stand also offers inhouse cleaning and repair services by Concession's Sneaktician(s). There are three levels of service packages: Classic (\$17), Deluxe (\$28) and Supreme (\$40) or customers can choose from à la carte services ranging from paint restoration, deodorization, re-lacing, deep cleaning, wrinkle removal and more.

"Concession Stand derived from an early obsession of sneakers starting at a young age, and

Cleveland is a sneaker market city, which most people don't realize,' Boyd said. "The collectors here love Jordans, Yeezys and Lebrons as much as they do anywhere, so I knew that I could provide a unique service to those looking to restore sneakers and immerse themselves deeper in the culture. Simply, the cleaning experience is just as important as the pre-drop stakeouts."

New Concession Stand Makes Larchmere Destination

In addition to sneaker repair, the customers don't just have to be dropping a pair of sneakers for repair or checking out the store's other items such as unisex t-shirts, hoodies, hats, pants, jackets and more. Concession Stand also offers its unique cereal bar.

"Our cereal bar is available daily and consists of a variety of cereal combinations that I've come up with that speaks to the culture of our consumers," Boyd said.

Concession Stand most recently announced that it entered a partnership with Dayandnight.LA, an exotic cereal company based

> which Boyd said has helped elevate the cereal bar experience. The co-founder of Dayandnight.LA is originally from Cleveland as well. Boyd has extensive retail experience with

in Los Angeles,

global luxury retailers from when he held management positions at Tiffany & Co. and Balenciaga in New York City. With those experiences he knew he wanted to some day open his own store. "I am a serial



Boyd, owner of Concession Stand brings his high-end retail experience to Larchmere, meeting demands of the popular sneaker Cleveland scene. Left: Boyd mans

Below: Justin

the store's cereal

entrepreneur by heart and I've been a part of other start-ups that further helped mold the concept of Concession Stand," stated Boyd.

Boyd said that he chose Larchmere for his first store because of its rich history of culture and worldliness in such a tight-knit Cleveland district. "It has been and continues to be a community for small business owners, and we felt welcomed from the start. We are excited to bring a service such as sneaker restoration plus a cereal bar adding to the Larchmere shopping experience."

For special store promotions and daily cereal bar specials follow Concession Stand on Instagram at concession stand or visit concessionstandglobal.com.



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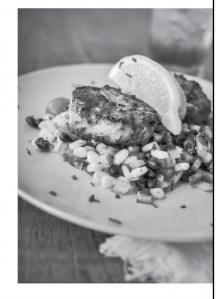


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The survey can be completed online at https://forms.gle/6mvud3BoqKVLJNvg6

If you need assistance to complete the survey via phone, please call Bianca at 216-659-2028