



A joint publication provided by the City of Oakwood, Oakwood School District and Wright Memorial Public Library

DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020

# OAKWOOD SCENE

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## CITY NEWS | “Lighting Up” Oakwood – Sunday, December 8

The City, under leadership of the citizen Beautification Committee, is “Lighting Up” Oakwood on December 8, beginning at 6 p.m. This event brightens the entire community at the onset of the winter holiday season. Luminarias will line the boulevards on Far Hills and on Shafor, as well as the city building, Oakwood Community Center, Smith Gardens, Huffman Park and some other public areas. **(Continued on page 2)**

## SCHOOL NEWS | Hall of Honor Seeks Nominations

Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor nominations are being solicited for fall of 2020. It is a wonderful way to recognize and celebrate past teachers, staff and/or administrators who have made significant accomplishments in their careers, making a difference in Oakwood Schools students’ lives, community and education and maintaining high standards in personal integrity and character. **(Continued on page 9)**

## LIBRARY NEWS | A Plan for the Future

Wright Memorial Public Library, now celebrating its 80th anniversary, is one of the most-used libraries in America – attracting 150,000 visitors per year. While there is ever-higher demand for local library resources and materials that are accessible to all, technology to meet the needs of today’s workplace, educational programming, and highly trained staff – Wright Library operates today with less annual revenue than it received in 2009.

To ensure that Wright Library can continue providing the services, facilities, and materials that the Oakwood community needs, values, and expects, Oakwood voters will be asked to vote on a 1.5-mill levy this March. Read on to learn more about Wright Library’s stewardship, needs, and plans that will ensure continuity of library services for the next decade.

**(Continued on page 10)**

**CITY** | P4: SNOW PLOWING AND SALTING POLICY

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## “Lighting Up” Oakwood – Sunday, December 8

(Continued from page 1)



The committee encourages neighborhood participation and hopes to see many citizens joining in the beautification effort. Residents interested in helping with this project should call Carol Collins at 298-0775.

### Luminaria Kits

Luminaria kits are available at the OCC during regular business hours. They are sold at a cost of \$5.00 per dozen. The price includes white bags, sand and 10-hour candles.

### Community Tree Lighting Ceremony at Shafor Park

The annual Holiday of Lights Ceremony will be held at Shafor Park again this year. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 8.

- Hear the high school band and choir perform holiday tunes.
- Enjoy hot chocolate and popcorn with friends and neighbors.
- Take a carriage or wagon ride, free of charge, to view the beautiful luminarias.
- Watch for a special red-suited visitor and his helpers from the North Pole.

The event is held concurrent with “Lighting Up” of Oakwood.

### Community Center News



**Candy Cane Hunt:** Held at Shafor Park on Saturday, December 7 beginning at 1:30 p.m. This event is for children ages 3-12 and is free of charge. Rudolph will be there to meet the children and join in the fun.



**Breakfast with Santa:** This event is scheduled for Saturday, December 7 from 9 – 11:30 a.m. and is open to children ages 10 and under. Everyone attending must have a ticket to be admitted. Tickets are available at the OCC and must be purchased in advance.

### December/January Council Meetings

City Council will meet in regular sessions at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 9 and Monday, January 6. Both meetings will take place at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. The regular sessions are preceded by an open work session beginning at 6:30 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend any of these meetings. The regular sessions are televised live on cable TV (Spectrum Ch. 6, TV Tuner Ch. 5.03 and AT&T U-verse Ch. 99). Meeting videos will be rebroadcast for a week or so afterwards. Please check your cable guide or [www.mvcc.net](http://www.mvcc.net) for broadcast times. Within a day or two after the regular sessions, meeting videos can also be viewed online at the city’s website: [www.oakwoodohio.gov](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov).

### Holiday Closings

City offices, the Community Center and Public Works Center will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 for Christmas and Wednesday, January 1 for New Year’s.

The City offices, the Community Center and Public Works Center will also be closed on Monday, January 20 in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Please refer to the holiday refuse pickup article below for the holiday refuse collection schedule.

### Holiday Refuse Pickups

The refuse collection schedule during holiday weeks is shown below.

WEEKS OF DECEMBER 23 AND DECEMBER 30 (Christmas and New Year’s)

<u>Regular Schedule</u>	<u>Holiday Schedule</u>
Monday	Monday
Tuesday	Tuesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday

WEEK OF JANUARY 20 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

<u>Regular Schedule</u>	<u>Holiday Schedule</u>
Monday	Tuesday
Tuesday	Wednesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday

### Holiday Tree Disposal



The City will pick up holiday trees according to the normal yard debris collection schedule (see maps on page 3).

Trees should be placed at the property frontage as close to the curb (on the property side) as possible. The trees should not be placed in the street or in center boulevard areas. Please remove plastic covers from trees. Evergreen wreaths and boughs, wires, ribbons and ornamental items should be placed with your regular refuse items.

## Yard Debris Collection

Yard debris (no grass, sod, soil or bags) may be placed between the sidewalk and curb for automatic collection by the city. Pieces should be no longer than 6 feet in length and in a manageable pile that is away from trees, poles, fire hydrants and other obstructions. City laws prohibit the placement of any debris in the streets or boulevards, except leaves during the fall leaf collection season. The December yard debris collection is bi-weekly. The monthly collection schedule begins again in January.

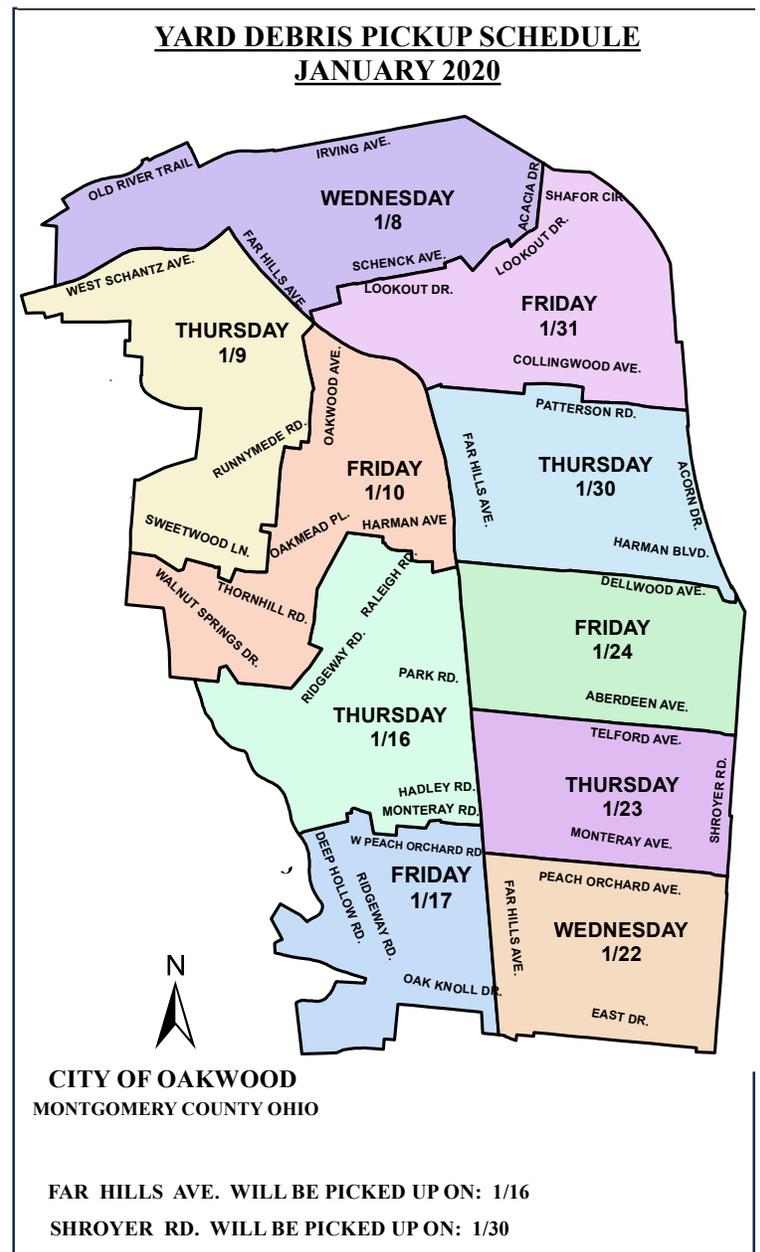
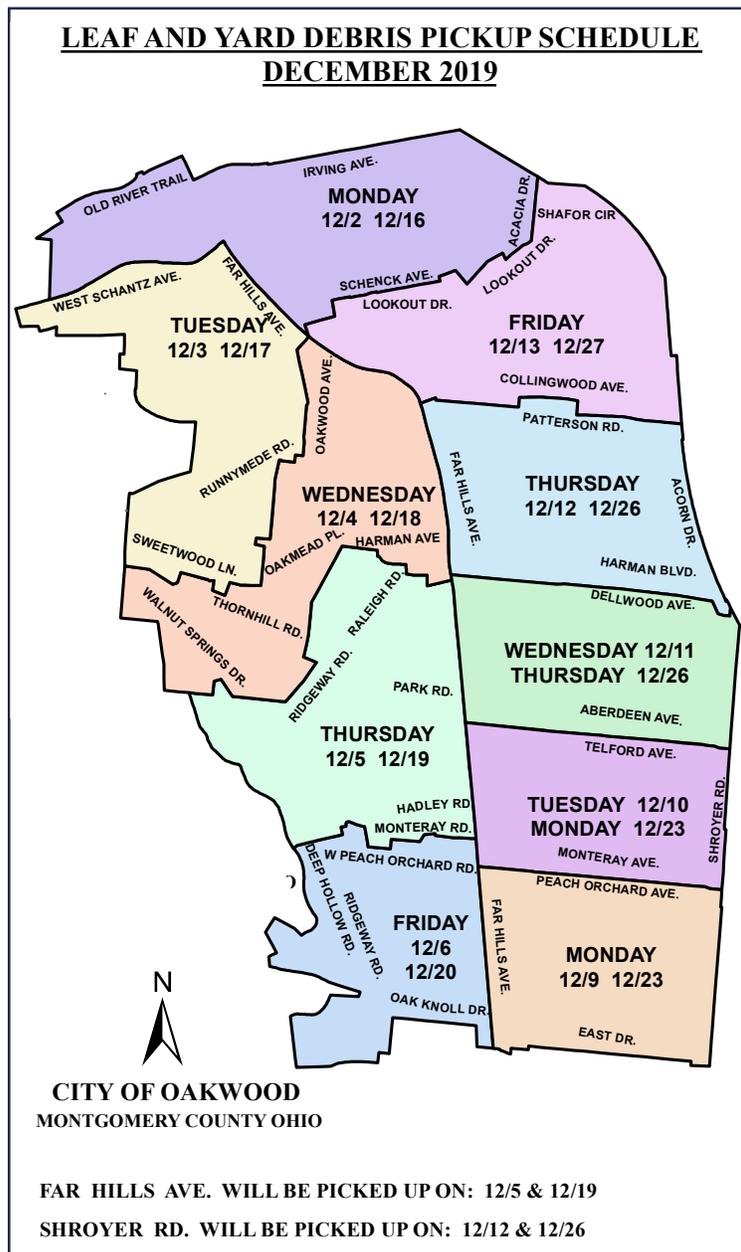
## Special Pickups

The city's special pickup program suspended during leaf season will begin again on Thursday, January 2. You may schedule this service on or after January 2 by phoning the Public Works Center at 298-0777.

## Leaf Pickup



Autumn leaf pickup service is scheduled to conclude on Friday, December 20. The leaf pickup schedule is the same as the yard debris schedule. Please rake leaves directly to the curb or gutter unbagged. Please spread out large piles to avoid blocking roadways. Also, no brush, branches or other yard debris should be included with the leaves. This other yard debris should be placed off the street behind the curb or dropped off in the dumpsters at Creager Field. Small amounts can be placed in regular household trash cans.



## Snow Plowing and Salting Policy



The safety of our public roadways and sidewalks is a high priority in Oakwood. In the event of a major snowfall, the city takes the following actions to keep streets, alleys and sidewalks clear.

**Street Plowing:** During heavy snowfall, we plow every street at least once. Please help us during snowfall events by not parking your vehicle on the streets, unless absolutely necessary.

**Street Salting:** Major streets and intersections take priority, along with steep hills. Flat residential streets may also be salted, but generally to a lesser degree due to environmental and cost considerations.

**Sidewalk Plowing:** When there is an accumulation of approximately 1" or more of snow, we dispatch our sidewalk plows. Plows will typically make one pass through the city. Please remember that while our city offers this unique sidewalk plowing service, under city ordinance *it is the property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks at their frontage clear of snow and ice.*

**Alley Plowing:** Alleys are plowed after an accumulation of approximately 4" or more of snow.

**Driveway Plowing:** If you are plowing your driveway, please make arrangements so that the snow is not pushed into or across the street. Also, please remember that it is the property owner's responsibility to make certain their own driveway is clear of snow and ice to allow the city refuse vehicles to collect the weekly trash in a safe and efficient manner.

## Cardboard Recycling at Creager Field

Please recycle large amounts of cardboard by dropping it off in the containers located at the Creager Field parking lot at Shafor and Irving. These containers are accessible 24-7. We recently upgraded the facility with placement of two new cardboard recycling containers, and construction of a new access platform. This recycling facility has been in place for over 25 years to provide Oakwood residents with a convenient way to maximize recycling. The recent improvements represent a \$24,000 investment to continue encouraging recycling. About 70% of the project cost was covered through a grant from the Montgomery County Solid Waste District Recycling Incentive Program. Since 2013, the volume of recycled cardboard in Oakwood increased by 60%. In 2018, Oakwood residents recycled 123 tons of cardboard, compared to 77 tons in 2013. Oakwood was the first community in Montgomery County to establish a city-wide recycling program. The program began in the late 1980s and continues to be a priority service provided by the Oakwood Public Works Department. For more information about the comprehensive Oakwood refuse and recycling program, please see the city website at [www.oakwoodohio.gov](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov).



# Coming Soon

## Community Center Programs & Events Online Registration – Coming Soon!

Oakwood city staff is working on an online registration system to provide a more convenient way for our residents to register for OCC classes, events, athletic programs, memberships and more. We plan to launch this new online registration system in the spring of next year. Stay tuned for more information!

## 2020 Dog License Information

2020 licenses will be sold at the Oakwood city building from Monday, December 2 to Friday, January 31, 2020. The base fee for an annual license is \$20, the same as last year, but is for spayed/neutered dogs only. The fee for unaltered dogs is \$24.

There are several exclusions to the \$4 non-spayed/neutered fee:

- If the dog is 9 months old or less.
- If the dog is too old or has a medical condition preventing the dog from being spayed/neutered (the owner must provide a veterinarian's certification).
- If the dog is used or intended to be used for breeding or show (a Breed Registry number is required).
- If the dog is used or intended to be used for hunting, the owner's hunting license number is required.

If veterinarian certification, breed registry number or hunting license number are provided to avoid the \$4 fee, the license must be purchased by mail or in person at the Montgomery County Auditor's office or the Animal Resource Center. Multi-year and permanent dog licenses are also available for purchase, but only by mail or in person at the Montgomery County Auditor's office at 451 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio 45422.

## Vacant House Checks

Are you planning a winter getaway for an extended weekend, for a whole week, or for a month? Please remember that the Oakwood Public Safety Department offers a free Vacant House Check (VHC) program to all Oakwood residents. The VHC program is a crime prevention tool that can be beneficial in protecting your residence. Once enrolled in the program, Public Safety Officers will make periodic checks of your residence while you are away from home and make notification to your emergency contact number should a problem be discovered.

To take advantage of this program, visit our website at [www.oakwoodohio.gov](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov) to submit a house check request, or contact the Oakwood Public Safety Department Dispatch Center at 298-2122. You will need to provide the following information: duration of your trip, vehicles parked in the driveway, a local emergency contact person, notification number that you can be reached at while you are away, and the names of anyone who will be at your residence while you are away.

## New Residents – Welcome to Oakwood!



We are so glad you have chosen Oakwood as your new home and we are excited that you and your family are part of our community. From our historic places to our natural resources, parks and gardens, there is a lot our small town has to offer.

As a new resident, we understand that this can be a stressful time. Our website provides detailed information about city services as well as other local services to help get you settled into our wonderful community. Visit our website at [www.oakwoodohio.gov/new-residents](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov/new-residents).

On behalf of Oakwood City Council, and staff of the city of Oakwood, we welcome you to Oakwood!

## Holiday Safety Tips

The holiday season is upon us and many will be traveling, shopping, or attending special holiday events. This often leads to our homes being unoccupied for extended periods of time during the day and evening hours. Unfortunately, this is also the time of the year when others are looking for the opportunity to take advantage of unoccupied homes or distracted shoppers. The Oakwood Public Safety Department offers the following holiday safety tips.

If you are planning a quick getaway, have a neighbor watch your home and retrieve any packages, newspapers, or mail daily. If planning to be away for an extended period of time, consider having someone shovel any snow from your walks and driveway. Additionally, leave lights on or set timers. Make your home appear occupied. Accumulating packages, newspapers, mail, a dark house, and snow covered driveways all make your home an easy target for would-be burglars casing a neighborhood. Lastly, whether going on a quick getaway or extended vacation contact the Oakwood Public Safety Department (298-2122) and request officers conduct a vacant house check on your residence.

Shop during daylight hours when possible. If you must shop at night, consider going with a friend or family member. Dress casually, avoid wearing expensive jewelry, do not carry large amounts of cash, and avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to maintain clear visibility and freedom of motion.

Additionally, don't allow yourself to get easily sidetracked and lose awareness of what is happening around you. Be cautious of strangers approaching you for any reason, such as handing out fliers, asking for directions or where a store is located. Many criminals use this simply as a method to distract you. Keep your purse or wallet in your immediate sight at all times and secure your credit cards after every transaction.

If shopping during the late afternoon or evening hours, park in a well-lit space, or an area that will be well illuminated once it is dark. Also, if possible, park near the store or mall's main entrance. After shopping, end your cell phone conversation before walking to your vehicle. Walk with a purpose to and from your destination. Have your keys ready and lock your doors immediately upon entering your vehicle. Remember, when making multiple stops, hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk or out of plain view. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time.

Please heed these safety tips and have a safe and happy holiday season.

## Fourth Quarter Estimated Tax Payment Due 1-15-2020

If you estimate that you will owe \$200 or more when you file your 2019 city of Oakwood income tax return next year, you should be making quarterly estimated tax payments. The fourth quarter estimated tax payment is due January 15, 2020. Penalty and interest may be imposed for late or non-payment of your estimated taxes. Payment vouchers are available in the tax office and on the City's website. Contact the tax office at 298-0531 with any questions.

## Message from the Oakwood Historical Society President



For the past two years I have enjoyed serving as President of the Oakwood Historical Society. My goals were to keep the Society relevant, integral, and solvent. I want to share what I think is worthy of celebration and to express my gratitude to our board members, sponsors, volunteers, and community participants.

### Reasons to Celebrate

**Oakwood's Holiday Home Tour** – Our home tour exposes more than 500 people to Oakwood's rich history and it involves more than 40 homeowners and docent volunteers. The tour epitomizes the Society's goals of educating and strengthening our identity and sense of community. Revenue gained from the tour helps ensure our ability to maintain the Homestead buildings and pursue our goals to preserve and promote Oakwood's history. I also relish the spirit of hospitality the tour reflects.

**Our Partnerships with the City, Schools, and Library** - Our work is inextricably linked to city events and the missions of our schools and library. City officials share expertise and resources with us. Our schools use us for off-site school programming and for archiving its collection of school photos, books, and memorabilia. The library shares our passion for cultivating an interest in Oakwood's history and culture which is why the Far Hills Speaker Series is so well received. I am so grateful to have been associated with this community of leaders.

**Our Collaborations with Dayton History** – Our annual Wright at Home Tour is the most visible event we sponsor with Dayton History. The event draws over 500 visitors each year. Dayton History staffs the tours of Hawthorn Hill, and the Society gives the neighborhood tours. Our collaboration, however, extends far beyond this single event. Dayton History generously lends its expertise and shares its resources. I am particularly grateful to Alex Heckman, Dayton History Vice President for Museum Operations and an active Oakwood resident, for the counsel he has shown me during my time as president.

**The Grand Old Dame is Looking Fabulous** – The Long-Romspert Homestead and House Museum has had its foundation repaired, the basement waterproofed, and its stucco reapplied and painted. Two basements were cleaned and now house some of our larger archive collections and materials needed for our education classes. A cleaned garage made room to store tools and equipment. It's humdrum work and most of it is done by volunteers. Extensive renovation of the carriage house is almost complete. It will be dedicated to one of the Society's founders, Harry Ebeling, and will be used for future events such as weddings, baby showers, family reunions, classes and rentals, providing an additional source of revenue. Future generations will continue to enjoy this piece of Oakwood's history.

**Preserving History** – High interest in our Speaker Series WWII presentations prompted us to work with the Miami Valley Communications Center (MVCC) to film the presenters and preserve their stories. Packaged now as a set of DVDs, the stories of the Dayton Code Breakers, Polonium in the Playhouse,

Russian Spy George Koval, and Project Engineer for the Dayton Project Betty Halley Jones, will be available for sale in time for the holidays.

**Financial Strength** – Because of our generous supporters and sponsors, our timely and relevant execution of fundraisers and events, and our ability to better manage our money, we are more financially sound than we have been in seven years. As a former banker, this was particularly important to me.

**New Edition of An Old Treasure** – Harry Ebeling, a dedicated historian, documented Oakwood's history in his publication, The Oakwood Scrapbook. It's long been out of print; only the original typewritten manuscript remains. With new technology, a talented board member, and two interns, we were able to digitize the book and it will become available soon.

**Order in the Archive** – This summer, four Oakwood college students created an index to identify every address, name, and date of materials stored in our City Building basement archive, making it much easier to access historical records. Another volunteer created a digital archive that includes platting information and homeowners' names for each property in Oakwood. This ongoing project will also include pictures and information relating to individual properties.

**Social Media** – Almost 2,000 followers regularly check our "Then and Now" and "Did you know?" posts. I wish I could personally welcome each new person that friends us or follows us.

**A New Series of Classes** – Our "Homemade at the Historical Society" classes offer students of all ages the opportunity to learn bygone skills such as churning butter, making soaps, baking bread, and hand sewing. Multigenerational participation is just one reason these classes are proving so popular.

What has made my time as President most rewarding is the friendships I formed with amazing Board members, super volunteers, and community leaders. My reasons to celebrate reflect your talents, work, and generosity. I look forward to serving the new slate of officers for 2020 and will contribute my aged wisdom as a past director. I intend to continue "making history" with you.

Respectfully yours,

Leigh



## OSF's "Philanthropy 101" Returns to Oakwood High School

Philanthropy 101, funded through The Oakwood Schools Foundation (OSF), is back by popular demand at Oakwood High School.

OSF board member Joel Frydman conceived this program and brought it to life with the help of his family foundation in 2014. The goal is to teach Oakwood about philanthropy and to illuminate why it is important to give of one's time, talent and/or treasure to serve others.

In Philanthropy 101, upperclass students enrolled in the Wall Street 101 high school course form teams, selecting five local charities, which they research. This year, students chose from the following local charities: Aullwood, Dayton History, Foodbank, Hannah's Treasure Chest and the Victory Project.

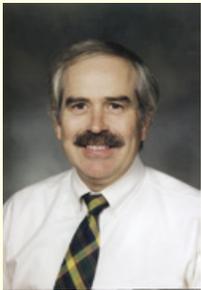
During the course, each Dayton charity makes a presentation to the two sections of Wall Street 101, explaining who they serve, and how much each depends on donations. As part of the unit, students also make on-site visits, observing first-hand how each organization operates. To drive the idea of volunteerism home, Oakwood seniors can work at the selected charities during senior community service days in May.

After completing research and observations, student teams present their Philanthropy 101 case to a panel of judges comprised of OSF board and community members. Upon deciding who made the strongest case for the need for funding, OSF awards \$2,000 to the winning charities.

OSF is grateful to OHS Principal Paul Waller and business teacher Natalie Johnston for their support in this venture. The Foundation deeply appreciates ongoing financial support from The Angela and Joel Frydman Philanthropic Fund, Vince Russell and Johnson Investment Counsel as well as Robert Wagner and family.



## Much-loved Teacher Honored at Oakwood Alumni Plaza



Bill Koch taught Industrial Arts at Oakwood High School from 1974 until his retirement in 1998. Admired and respected for his encouragement and good humor, he inspired many students to pursue careers in art-related fields.

"My favorite teacher. I give him credit for why I am in the Graphic Arts field today. And he had the BEST classroom at OHS!" OHS 1980 graduate Ann Weymouth said.

Now family, friends and students are remembering the former educator with a bench in the Alumni Plaza. The idea came from Marsha Flannery, a good friend of Bill's wife, Mary Koch and the Oakwood Ladies Book Club. Flannery initiated the process of raising funds through the Oakwood Schools Foundation.

"Several of our members either had worked with Bill or had children who had him as a teacher and therefore, knew what an inspiration he was. Besides that, we loved him as one of the 'good guys' who used his many talents to help not only his students, but also others in the community. Bill Koch had integrity, a delightful sense of humor and balance," Flannery said.

A dedication of the bench will be even more special by the presence of the Koch's son, Adam, a 2003 OHS graduate. Adam lives in New York, but is back in Dayton to unveil the Rike's Wonderland Windows at the Schuster Center Wintergarden for the second year in a row. A set designer, Adam designed two window boxes to recreate the department store's classic displays and worked with local scene builders and the Dayton Sewing Cooperative to complete the winter scenes.

If you would like to purchase a teak wooden bench to provide additional seating on the Oakwood Alumni Plaza, go to the Oakwood Schools Foundation website at <https://www.oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf>.



The Oakwood Schools  
**FOUNDATION**

*Enhancing Excellence in Education*

## Support Oakwood Schools Foundation Annual Fund for Students

The Oakwood Schools Foundation Annual Giving program provides unique, dynamic and innovative opportunities in the classroom – keeping curriculum current with the latest educational trends. Here's your chance to partner with Oakwood Schools educators and students on their educational journey.

Help OSF reach this year's Annual Fund goal by making your tax-deductible gift today. To support the Oakwood Schools Foundation, visit [www.oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf/donate-now](http://www.oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf/donate-now)



If you are interested in supporting the Oakwood Alumni Association or would like any other information on the Alumni Association efforts, please contact Oakwood Alumni Association Director Amy Martin at (937) 371-1479 or [alumni@oakwoodschoools.org](mailto:alumni@oakwoodschoools.org).

## Hall of Honor Seeks Nominations

*(Continued from page 1)*

Recipients of this prestigious award are honored at a reception, have a plaque hanging at Oakwood High School and will also be recognized at the Homecoming football game.

Please consider nominating one of our past outstanding teachers, staff and/or administrators! If you would like to submit a nomination for the 2020 award visit [www.oakwoodschoools.org/Community/SamAndrewsEducationalHallofHonor](http://www.oakwoodschoools.org/Community/SamAndrewsEducationalHallofHonor) or if you have questions, please contact Sandi Branham at [branham.sandi@oakwoodschoools.org](mailto:branham.sandi@oakwoodschoools.org) or 937-297-5332.

## Run Brings Schools Together



More than six bins of new socks are on their way to children in need in the Miami Valley thanks to Oakwood elementary students and Shoes 4 the Shoeless. Students donated the socks as part of their annual Fun Run on Oct. 18.

The Fun Run is part of the character education collaboration between students and staff at Harman School and Smith Elementary. This year, the program, called Timber, focuses on service and caring. The morning of Oct. 18, elementary students ran from their schools to Mack Hummon Stadium where they donated socks and then heard more about the mission of Shoes 4 the Shoeless from the group's founder and executive director Kris Horlacher.

"We really tried to relay the message about why we were asking for the donation of socks and I believe the kids understood. Socks are such a basic necessity so when Kris [Horlacher] talked about how many kids don't even have one pair of their own, it was impactful. The kids received the message beautifully, their attention was awesome," Smith teacher and run organizer Lisa Henry said.

Horlacher says her organization will distribute more than 100,000 pairs of socks to local children this year.

Timber activities will continue monthly throughout the rest of the school year, focusing on service and caring. Some students will also have the opportunity to participate in additional Shoes 4 the Shoeless events.

## December 2019/ January 2020 Calendar

### DECEMBER

- 4** 7:15 a.m. **OJHS 1st Semester Breakfast**
- 5** 8 a.m. **OHS Annual Blood Drive**
- 6** 4 p.m. **OHS Talent Show**
- 12** 7 p.m. **OHS Holiday Choir Concert**
- 23-30** **Holiday Break**

### JANUARY

- 1-3** **Holiday Break**
- 6** **Classes Resume**
- 10** 6 p.m. **Junior High Dance**
- 15** **Freshman Challenge**
- 16** 11:45 a.m. **OHS PTO Meeting**
- 17** 11:43 a.m. **Early Dismissal**
- 17** 9 p.m. **OHS Techno Dance**
- 20** **No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**
- 24** 4 & 6 p.m. **Junior High Play**
- 25** 4 & 6 p.m. **Junior High Play**
- 29** 7 p.m. **OHS Winter Band Concert**
- 30** 7 p.m. **6th Grade Parent Meeting**

For the latest list of happenings in the Oakwood Schools go to [www.oakwoodschoools.org](http://www.oakwoodschoools.org) and check out our calendars.

### Get connected with Oakwood Schools!

Facebook: @OakwoodSchools  
Instagram: @Oakwood\_Schools

Twitter: @Oakwood\_Schools  
YouTube: @Oakwood City School District

## A Plan for the Future *(Continued from page 1)*

### A Long History of Careful Stewardship

Prior to 2008, Wright Library received 80% of its annual revenue from Ohio's Public Library Fund, with additional local tax support from a 0.94-mill Oakwood property tax levy. Unfortunately, in 2008, Ohio libraries were hit with large decreases in state funding caused by the recession, and Wright Library suffered a significant decline in state revenue that has never been restored. In 2009, Oakwood voters passed a small 0.5-mill levy that helped but did not fully offset the state funding loss. In 2012, voters combined these two small levies, and the combined 1.5 mill levy was renewed in 2017.

To mitigate the impact of funding loss, the library has implemented cost-saving measures, deferred facility maintenance, reduced staffing, and sought private donations. Even so, expenditures are expected to exceed revenues in 2020.

### Planning for Continued Excellence in Library Services

In March 2020, Oakwood residents will vote on a 1.5 mill levy, which will provide Wright Library with needed funds to continue offering quality materials, services, staff, and programs. In addition, the funds will be used for essential infrastructure repairs and replacements and some modest updates, phased over time without increasing the building's footprint, that would improve comfort and usability for Oakwood's library users. These operating and facility priorities include:

- Ample materials in multiple formats to meet the needs of different types of learners and users
- Quality, well-trained staff
- Early literacy programs and outreach with local preschools, Oakwood City Schools, and private schools
- Book deliveries and other services for homebound, elderly, and disabled residents
- Technology tools for today and tomorrow's workforce and personal needs
- Repairs and upgrades to the library's infrastructure
- Improvements in accessibility, with ADA and family-friendly restrooms, updated walkways, and parking
- Modest improvements to usability and comfort of the building, including updated spaces for children, teens, and technology
- Efficiency upgrades that will reduce operating costs

### A Community Conversation

The Library Board, administration, and staff are committed to providing high quality, affordable library services and safeguarding this Oakwood legacy for generations to come. The levy will ensure continuity of exceptional services, take care of essential facility repairs, and allow for modest updates that will better serve today and tomorrow's users. To learn more, please visit [wrightlibrary.org/2020vision](http://wrightlibrary.org/2020vision) or contact Kristi Hale, Director, at [hale@wrightlibrary.org](mailto:hale@wrightlibrary.org) or 937-250-6824.

## Levy FAQs

#### How much will this levy cost Oakwood taxpayers?

A 1.5 mill levy will cost Oakwood property owners about \$52 annually per \$100,000 in home value.

**When was the last local tax increase for Wright Library?** A 0.5 mill operating levy increase was passed by Oakwood voters in 2009 – 10 years ago. Based on current rates of inflation and state revenue estimates, the 2020 levy is expected to meet the library's needs for the next decade.

#### Where does my tax money go?

Oakwood property taxes support the City of Oakwood, Oakwood City Schools, the Library, and other Montgomery County services. Property taxes to support Wright Library constitute 1.4% of Oakwood property owners' total tax bill.

**How much of my tax dollars support Dayton Metro Library?** None. Oakwood taxpayers do not support other library districts – all of their library property taxes go directly to Wright Library. By comparison, Dayton property owners pay 3.3 mills to support Dayton Metro Library services.

#### Will the Library have to close for repairs?

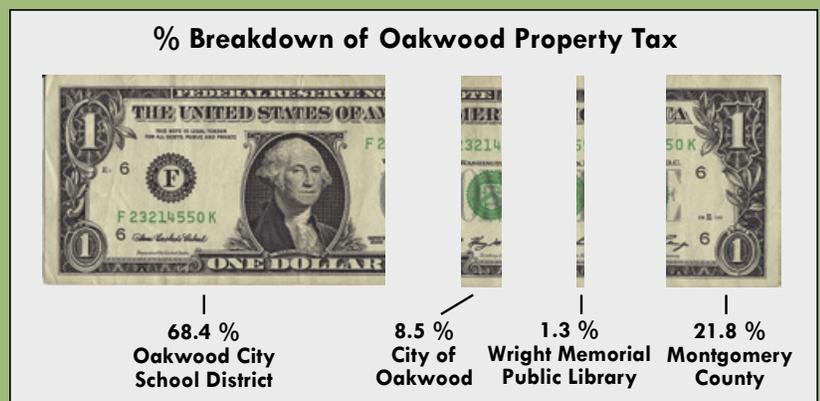
Repairs and updates will be phased over time so that the Library may continue providing services to the community.

#### Will the updates include an addition to the building?

No. The Library is committed to making repairs and modest updates within the existing footprint of the building.

#### What will happen if the levy does not pass?

Library expenditures are expected to exceed revenues in 2020, and with essential repairs of approximately \$1.5 million, the Library's reserves are expected to be depleted by 2024.





These members of Girl Scout Troop 598 gave the Wright Library in Oakwood a tree in commemoration of National Library Week. Left to right are Sue Haines, Karen Werner, Anne Tuverson and Holly Nipson. The library is in the background.

## Library Caps Anniversary Year with 80th Jubilee Celebration

The community is invited for a special 80th Anniversary Jubilee celebration on Sunday Dec. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Enjoy refreshments and cast your vote for the people's choice award for the 2019 Gingerbread House Competition. The final contents for Oakwood Time Capsule will be on display. The contents will be buried for the next 80 years once all the Jubilee guests have added their signature to the official time capsule roster.

At 2:30 we'll mark the day with a dedication of a new tree, planted at the library in honor of Wright Library's 80th Anniversary. The tree planting was inspired by a clipping from 1961 that staff found while researching the library's history. The photo here is from an article in April of 1961. The Kettering-Oakwood Times reported that members of Girl Scout Troup 598 gave the tree to the library in honor of National Library Week. From left to right are Sue Haines, Karen Werner, Anne Tuverson, and Holly Nipson.

## Smith, Harman Musicians to Perform at Library in December

Student musicians from E.D. Smith Elementary and Harman Elementary will perform at Wright Library in December.

Smith's fourth grade choir will sing a variety of holiday songs on Dec. 16 at 2:30 p.m.

Harman's Sixth Grade Bell Choir will perform Dec. 6 at noon.

Both performances are open to the public.

## Wright Library debuts Notary and Passport Services

Wright Memorial Public Library is pleased to announce it now offers notary and passport services. Full details for both services can be found at [wrightlibrary.org/services](http://wrightlibrary.org/services).

### Passports



The library became a U.S. Passport acceptance facility this fall, which means new passport applicants can now apply for their passports in person at Wright Library.

Appointments are required and can be scheduled online at [wrightlibrary.org/services/passport](http://wrightlibrary.org/services/passport) or by calling Wright Library at 937-294-7171. Passport appointments are available Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. and Saturday mornings 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Expect to spend about 30 minutes per applicant.

Two payments are required: application fees made to the U.S. Department of State via check or money order only, and execution and photo fees paid separately to Wright Library.

We recommend checking the U.S. State Department website for an up-to-date fee listing. Passport photos can be purchased for \$10 each.

### Notary

The library is now able to provide Notary Services. No appointments are necessary, however we recommend calling in advance to ensure a notary is available and able to accept your documents.

Wright Library will notarize simple documents not requiring special expertise, such as auto titles, simple affidavits and medical release forms.

The Library cannot notarize certain types of documents, including:

- documents in languages other than English
- children's signatures or fingerprints
- real estate transactions
- deeds
- wills
- I-9 forms
- lengthy, complex documents

Please bring with you a valid, government issued photo ID, all unsigned documents to be notarized, and your own witnesses if needed.

Notary Service ends 30 minutes prior to closing time.

## City of Oakwood

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## Impacting Our Community Tricia Bauer



What started as an opportunity to volunteer at Lange School in the body management program has grown into a district-wide commitment for Oakwood resident Tricia Bauer to help Oakwood Schools students make the most of their learning experience.

“Volunteering has become a passion for me. It’s my chance of giving back to Oakwood for providing a challenging and enriching education for my children, while I get the satisfaction of working with such creative, fun and interesting adults and children,” Bauer said.

Bauer moved with her family from Flagstaff to Oakwood to be closer to family living in Ohio. Bauer is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati where she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in finance before continuing on to Xavier University, earning a Masters Degree in Health Services Administration. Husband Jack is a psychology professor at the University of Dayton. The Bauers have two children, Jackson, a junior, and Grace, a freshman, at Oakwood High Schools.

As her children have moved through the school district, Bauer has taken on a variety of volunteer positions

“While my kids were at Harman, I enjoyed serving as PTO president, Harman Trivia Night chair, and co-chair of Grand Affair for six years, but some of my favorite volunteer opportunities were working in the cafeteria and the library,” Bauer said.

Bauer currently serves as the visual arts liaison for Oakwood Fine Arts Boosters (formerly Oakwood Arts Bridge), a nonprofit organization that raises money through Young@Art to give grants to the many arts programs in the Oakwood Schools.

A group that has become part of Bauer’s routine is Destination Imagination.

“DI is a competitive program in which teams select a challenge that uses STEM and art education to develop skills like creative problem solving, team building, public speaking and performance, critical thinking, and project management skills. I have had the honor of managing my children’s teams for nine years.” Bauer said.