



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

OAKWOOD SCENE

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

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CITY NEWS | Ice Cream Social

Regrettably, our annual Ice Cream Social is cancelled. This event had been planned for Sunday, August 9, but COVID-19 prevents us from planning and conducting it in a manner that is safe for participants. We look forward to again conducting this special and traditional Oakwood community event in August 2021.

SCHOOL NEWS | OSF Names 10th Annual Parker Love of Teaching, Lifelong Learning Winner

Citing her “unwavering devotion,” connection with students and encouraging nature, the nominations for this year’s Oakwood Schools Foundation Parker Love of Teaching and Lifelong Learning Award winner describe an educator who continues to make a difference in her students’ lives, even in these unprecedented times.

(Continued on page 8)

LIBRARY NEWS | Serving Oakwood in the Extraordinary and Ordinary:

Library Foundation campaign will focus on preserving Wright Library services during budget downturn

When Wright Library made the necessary but difficult decision to close its building during the pandemic, few could fathom the impact of the coming months.

Now as the library’s leaders continue to evolve library services to the community, they also must plan for unforeseen budget cuts due to decreased state tax dollars. With the budget projections estimating a 20 percent cut in state funding for 2020-2021, the library is closely watching and reducing expenses as it prepares for the future.

(Continued on page 10)

CITY

P4: ANNUAL COMMUNITY DOCUMENT SHRED SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

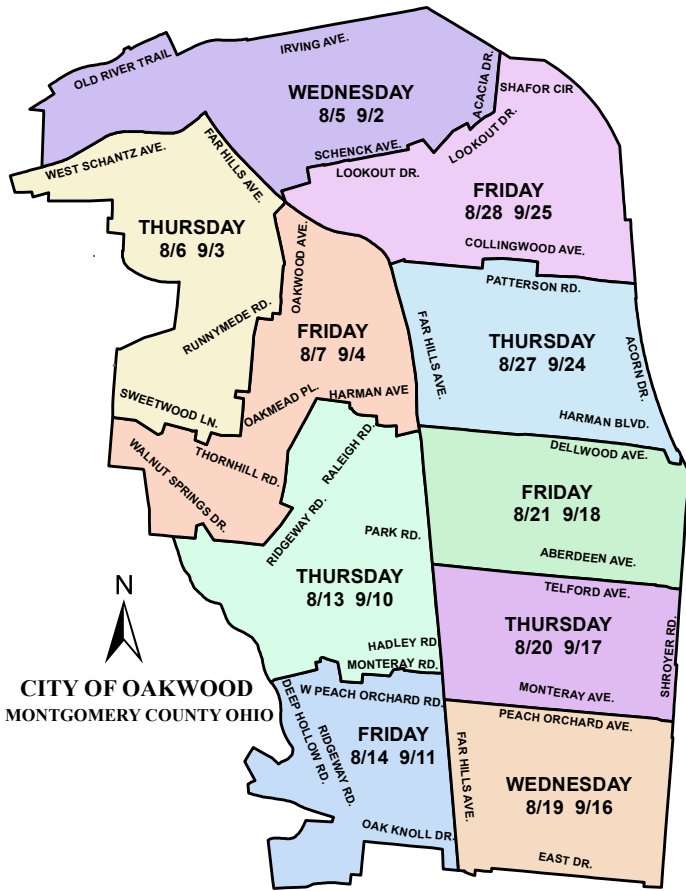
SCHOOLS

P8: SAM ANDREWS INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

LIBRARY

P11: GENEALOGY GROUP MEETS MONTHLY

**YARD DEBRIS PICKUP SCHEDULE
AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2020**



FAR HILLS AVE. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 8/13 & 9/10
SHROYER RD. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 8/27 & 9/24

Special Pickups



To arrange for a special pickup (furniture, appliances, etc.), please contact the Public Works Department at 937-298-0777. Items for special pickup must be placed on a driveway or other paved surface and must be accessible by city equipment. **Special pickups are not available during the fall leaf collection season from mid-October through the end of the year, so please plan your projects accordingly.**

2020 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Project

The 2020 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project in the area bounded by Far Hills, Patterson, Acorn, Irving and Springhouse is nearly completed. The purpose of the project is to maintain the concrete structures located within the City rights-of-way in good, safe condition. Please contact Streets Foreman David Shuey at 937-298-0777 with any questions or concerns regarding the work.



Roadway Resurfacing

The following asphalt streets were repaved over the last few weeks. Prior to the repaving, numerous sections of concrete curb were replaced, as were numerous concrete driveway aprons. Additionally, the City Public Works Department repaired and adjusted 23 utility manholes.

- Southwood Lane (East and West)
- East Schantz Avenue from Patterson Road to Spirea Drive
- Delaine Avenue (the entire street from Beverly Place to the Kettering corporation line south of East Drive)
- The intersection of East Schantz Avenue and Springgrove Avenue



Oakwood Community Center Events

The Leisure Services Department continues to evaluate the COVID-19 situation and reviews upcoming events on a case-by-case basis, which may result in possible cancellations. Protecting the health of our community is a priority for us. Please check the city's website for updates. We appreciate your understanding.

- **Pre-School Story Hour at Smith Gardens:** The OCC, in conjunction with the Wright Memorial Public Library presents another "Story Hour at Smith Gardens". This year, to maintain social distancing, the reading will be recorded and posted to both the City's and Wright Library's Facebook page at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, August 28.
- **Junior High Dance:** Due to COVID-19, the decision as to whether or not the Junior High Dances will be held will be decided at a later date.
- **10th Annual Dog Splash.** Normally held the Sunday after the pool closes, it is not known at this time whether or not the event will be held.

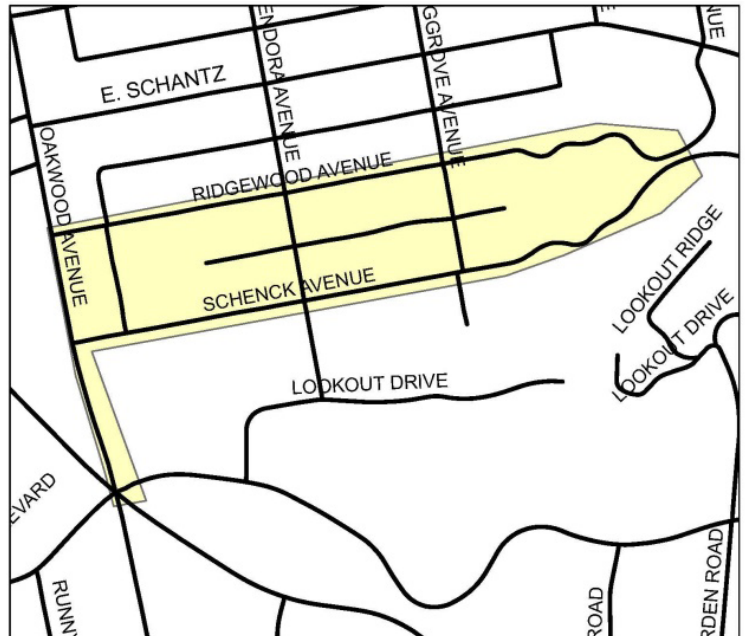
2020 Vectren Gas Line Replacement Project

Vectren is replacing underground gas distribution pipes and home service lines in the Oakwood neighborhoods identified in yellow on the maps below. In all work areas, Vectren is installing new polyethylene pipes in place of old steel and cast iron pipes and is moving indoor gas meters to outside wall locations. This is the continuation of a multi-year Vectren infrastructure replacement project in Oakwood. Oakwood residents personally affected by the work will receive detailed information from Vectren. Please feel free to contact Public Works Inspector/Foreman Tom Long at 937-298-0777 with questions about the work, or reference the Vectren pipeline projects map at www.vectren.com/gas-system/map.

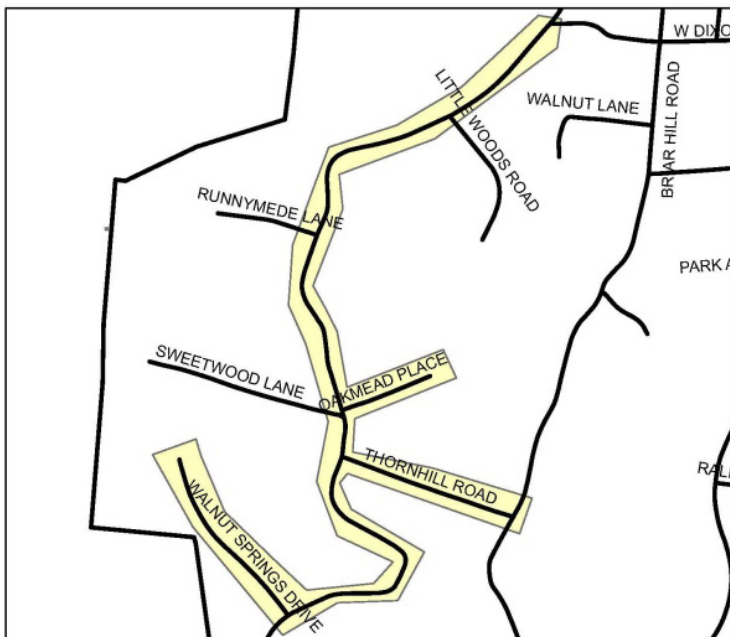
2020 VECTREN GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT A



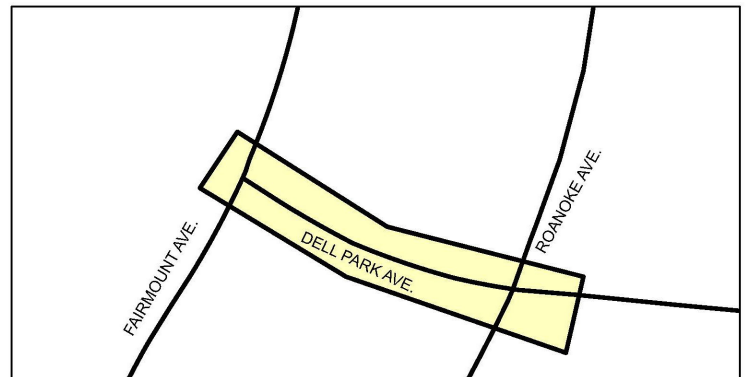
2020 VECTREN GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT B



2020 VECTREN GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT C



2020 VECTREN GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT D



Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project

The city of Oakwood and Oakwood Beautification Committee will again offer trees for purchase through the Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project. Applications and detailed brochures describing the project and the tree species will be available in mid to late September at the OCC and on the City website. Oakwood property owners may choose from four or five varieties of trees. The trees selected will be approximately 2 inches in diameter and will be discounted at 50%. One tree will be allocated for each approved property site at the discounted price but must be planted in the city right-of-way (property frontage). Trees will be planted in the latter part of November or early December. They will be planted by a local nursery, wrapped, staked, mulched and guaranteed for one growing season. Call the OCC at 937-298-0775 for more information.



Annual Community Document Shred Event

The city contracted with Shred-It, a mobile document destruction company, to be at the J. D. Foell Public Works Center at 210 Shafor Blvd. on Saturday, September 26 from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. to provide document destruction services. Besides paper products, Shred-It has the capability to destroy microfilm, microfiche, and other material of a secure or confidential nature. All material will be destroyed beyond recognition on-site and, if recyclable, will be baled and shipped to paper mills to be manufactured into new paper products. Any non-recyclable material processed will be disposed of in a secure location. If you have confidential papers or other material of a private nature being stored at your home and would like to have it destroyed, please take advantage of this opportunity. There will be individuals on-hand to assist you with unloading your documents. This event is free of charge.



Brush and Branch Trimming



Please take a few minutes this summer to inspect the trees and shrubs on your property frontage. City ordinances require a clear height of 8 feet above the sidewalk and 14 feet above the street. Also, vegetation should be cut so that it does not restrict your view as you pull out of your driveway. If you live on a corner lot, be sure that motorists have a clear line of sight from each side of the intersection. Citizens residing near stop signs and other street signs must ensure that vegetation does not obstruct the signs.

August/September Council Meetings

City Council will meet in regular sessions at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 3 and Monday, September 21. The meeting locations and attendance options will be announced on the city website. The regular sessions are preceded by an open work session beginning at 6:30 p.m. The regular sessions are televised live on the City's website at www.oakwoodohio.gov and cable TV (Spectrum Ch. 6, TV Tuner Ch. 5.03 and ATT Uverse Ch. 99). Meeting videos will be rebroadcast for a week or so afterwards. Please check your cable guide or www.mvcc.net for broadcast times. Within a day or two after the regular sessions, meeting videos can also be viewed on the City's website online at www.oakwoodohio.gov.

Oakwood Farmers' Market

The Oakwood Farmers' Market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday through August 29, with an extended "Harvest Season" through October 17. The market invites the community to join in celebrating another great farmers' market season. The Oakwood Farmers' Market is located at 22 Orchard Drive, and is open seasonally on Saturdays. For more information, visit www.oakwoodfarmersmarket.org.



Back to School Safety Tips

As summer comes to an end and students prepare for a new school year, the Oakwood Public Safety Department offers the following back to school safety tips.

Tips for Drivers

Drivers need to be aware that school is back in session and students will be walking and riding their bicycles to and from school.

- Watch for children running into the street in and around intersections and always come to a complete stop at stop signs.
- Watch for children entering the street from behind parked vehicles.
- When driving your child to school, deliver and pick them up in a designated area.
- Watch your speed when entering schools zones. Traffic safety is one of the cornerstones of law enforcement services provided by the Oakwood Public Safety Department and school zone speed limits are strictly enforced.

Tips for Walkers

As a walking community, Oakwood pedestrian traffic drastically increases when a new school year starts. Parents and students should be cautious of their surroundings as they commute to and from school.

- Pay attention to all traffic signals.
- If crossing Far Hills Avenue, cross at one of the four designated locations where a crossing guard is located (Far Hills Avenue & Aberdeen Avenue, Far Hills Avenue & Park Avenue, Far Hills Avenue & Patterson Road, and Five Points intersection).
- Plan a safe walking route to school. Choose the most direct route with fewest street crossings.
- Look both ways when crossing a street, even if you have a green light.



Bicycle Safety Tips

Bicycles are a popular way for students in Oakwood to commute to and from school.

- Don't take short cuts; follow the same path of travel as if you were walking to and from school.
- Always wear a bike helmet that is properly sized.
- Ensure the bike is properly maintained.
- Avoid wearing headphones. Music can be distracting and cause a person to ignore potential hazards.

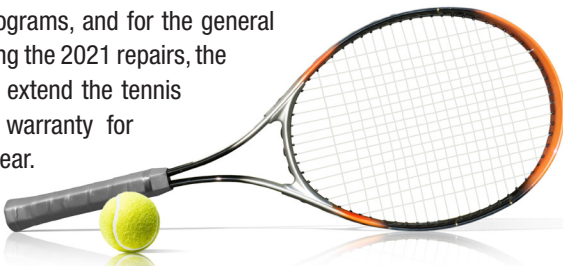
Personal Safety for Kids

- Encourage your children to be alert and aware of their surroundings.
- Teach your children to report suspicious persons to you, teachers, police officers or other responsible adults.
- If encountered by a suspicious vehicle or person, children should take notice of the color and model of vehicle, license plate number, detailed description of subject including clothing, and any other distinguishing marks.

In an effort to keep everyone safe, the Oakwood Public Safety Department encourages parents to discuss these safety tips with your children. Do not assume your child knows what to do.

Shafor Park Tennis Courts

The Shafor Park Tennis Courts will be repaired in 2021, under warranty, with no cost to the city of Oakwood or Oakwood Schools. The courts were rebuilt in 2018, but then experienced settlement in some areas of the court surface. The repair work will include resurfacing all five tennis courts. This work was scheduled to take place this year, but was delayed due to COVID-19. In the current condition, the five courts remain fully useable for the Oakwood Schools tennis teams, OCC tennis programs, and for the general public. Following the 2021 repairs, the contractor will extend the tennis court surface warranty for an additional year.



Labor Day Refuse Collections

City offices will be closed on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day. Refuse collection will be one day later than usual that week. Monday's route will be collected Tuesday; Tuesday's route will be collected Wednesday; Wednesday's route will be collected Thursday; and Thursday's route will be collected Friday.



Concrete Street Repairs

The City recently completed concrete roadway repairs on Oak Forest Drive. Thanks to all residents living in the construction area for their patience and understanding during the period of disruption.

Oakwood Beautification Awards

The Oakwood Beautification Award Program recognizes property owners who have enhanced the beauty of our community by undertaking exterior improvements to their home, rental property or business. Awards are given during the months of May, June, July and August. Monthly award winners are selected by members of the Property Maintenance Board, and will have a sign placed in their yard to recognize their beautification efforts.

May 2020 Winners

The Little Exchange, 45 Park Avenue
 Jeffrey & Susan Purks, 626 Garden Road
 Parker & Valerie Bedsole, 626 Hathaway Road
 William Roess, 140 Patterson Road
 Todd & Alice Henry, 25 Spirea Drive
 Rob & Molly Corrado, 251 Wiltshire Boulevard
 Michael & Rosalyn Williams, 255 Corona Avenue
 Byron & Deborah Stirsman, 219 Triangle Avenue
 Ryan & Delores Leibecke, 362 Wonderly Avenue
 James & Marty Schmidt, 1820 Coolidge Drive

June 2020 Winners

Benjamin & Ashleigh Holt, 11 Park Avenue
 Morten & Anja Kristiansen, 69 E. Thruston Boulevard
 Jane & Mike Maney, 300 Southview Road
 Matt & Kerri Jones, 233 Beverly Place
 Billy & Pamela Combs, 230 Greenmount Boulevard
 Rich & Tracy Bagienski, 413 Lonsdale Avenue
 William & Michelle McCarty, 221 Monterey Avenue
 Carol Holm, 223 Hilltop Avenue



Carriage House Restoration

The Oakwood Historical Society is proud to unveil, the “new and improved”, vintage carriage house from the original Long-Romspert Homestead dating back to the late 1800’s. It’s been a long, arduous restoration, but the Society couldn’t be happier with the outcome.

Two years ago, they were at a crossroads. The original carriage house was



badly riddled with termite damage, and they were at risk of losing this wonderful piece of history. The Society made the decision to restore the carriage house. Two roll-off dumpsters and ten husky high school students later they could see the potential, but it really needed their help.

After the termites were exterminated, the restoration began: the foundation needed to be repaired; the entire back wall had to be rebuilt; the roof shingles needed to be removed and replaced; and the old concrete floor had to be removed so that a new concrete floor could be laid. At one time, a small door had been cobbled-out of the front of the carriage house despite the fact that the sliding barn door provided ample access. The carriage house was propped up; long enough for two of our board members to remove the entire front of the carriage house, and restore the traditional X design, bringing it back to its original beauty. And lastly, it needed a new coat of paint to be ready for the unveiling. We think you will agree, it’s a handsome carriage house! The Society plans to use it for future events like their annual spring wine tasting, picnics, classes, and other social gatherings. It will be the perfect addition to the historic Long-Romspert Homestead and House Museum.

So many craftsmen, sponsors and volunteers worked on the restoration: Phyllis Niemeyer Miller, Ingrid Turnball and Linda Pearson – cleaning and directing the student assignments, Charlie Wilder Masonry – repairing the foundation, Kent Miller – rebuilding the structure, Stefan Neumeister (Enterprise Roofing), Sponsor – roofing, Houser Concrete, Sponsor – flooring, Larry Bilderback, Board Member – restoration of front, Larry and Jo Bilderback – painting and staining. The Society appreciates all of their time and talent, and a special thanks to Larry Bilderback who shepherded this project from beginning to end. It was indeed a labor of love.

The Oakwood Historical Society is very proud to dedicate the newly restored carriage house to Harry G. Ebeling, founder, past president, and friend of the Oakwood Historical Society. As soon as the Long Romspert Homestead is open to visitors, they will have a ribbon cutting ceremony. You are all invited to join in the celebration.

The Oakwood Historical Society's Holiday Home Tour

The Oakwood Historical Society members have been busy planning for their very popular third annual Holiday Home Tour. This year the spotlight is on the only Oakwood neighborhood to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places: The Schantz Park Historic District.

In 1880, Adam Schantz Sr, a German immigrant and successful bottler and brewer, purchased 108 acres of land in what is now Oakwood. He tasked his family with the challenge of turning this property into the most desirable residential district in Dayton. His family enlisted the landscaping firm of Frederick Law Olmsted, the creator of New York City's Central Park, to create a "park-like neighborhood". Under the tutelage of the Olmsted sons, Schantz Park was transformed into a garden-like haven with tree-lined streets and boulevards, green spaces and the planting and preservation of trees.

The Schantz family marketed their new estate as "The Place to Live". The homes in Schantz Park are unusually rich in early twentieth-century American architecture and detail. And it is nearly as intact now as it was in the early 1900's. In fact, the National Register of Historic Places has praised the Schantz Park Historic District as one of the finest nominations they have ever received. Reprints of the original 1915 marketing book, "The Place to Live" may be purchased the day of the tour for \$20.

This year's tour will focus on the history and vision of the Schantz family and the rich array of architecture in the district. "We have seven wonderful

homes slated for the tour," said Debra Edwards, coordinator for this year's Holiday Home Tour. "They range from stately through cozy, and each represents a unique architectural style and lends a rare glimpse into Oakwood's past." Guests will enjoy docent-led tours of the interior and exterior of the homes, including two of Oakwood's earliest homes, dating to the 1880's.

The tour is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, from 11 am to 6 pm. Tickets must be purchased on-line in advance and will become available in early October. Last year the tour sold out within 6 days. If you would like advance ticket notice, call the Oakwood Historical Society at (937) 299-3793 and provide your email address. The tour will start at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior on Thruston Blvd. and will include a tour of the original Frederick Patterson Home built in 1924. Shuttle vans will then drive guests to the entrance gates for Schantz Park. Guests will walk the tour route which is less than 1/2 mile, returning by van to the Church. Parking is complimentary of the Church of Our Savior. Special precautions are being taken due to the Covid-19 virus, and if Ohio faces another temporary closure in December, the tour will be postponed to the spring of 2021.

Volunteers are needed to help the day of event including van drivers, docents, and greeters. If interested in volunteering, please contact Debra Edwards at dedwards@oakwoodhistory.org. Attached are a few pictures previewing the upcoming tour.



Meet the Manager

The Oakwood Historical Society's Holiday Home Tour

Debra Edwards has always loved old buildings and unique architecture, and "fell in love for the first time" with Dayton's downtown Arcade when just a young girl. And for Debra, the more history surrounding a building, the more compelling she finds it to be!

A Dayton native, Debra has also lived in Texas, Northern Ohio, and Boston, all while pursuing a career in retail advertising and marketing. Though she professes to love old homes, with each of her relocations she has purchased a home newer than the last. Her home in Boston was built in 1803, her Cleveland Queen Anne home dated from 1907, and her almost "new" home in Oakwood dates to just 1941. Debra returned to the Dayton area where both her son and daughter attended school in Oakwood. She has called Oakwood her home for 27 years. Debra was a founding member of the Oakwood Preservation Trust, an organization dedicated to protecting some of the city's oldest and most distinctive homes.

Besides her interest in historic buildings, Debra enjoys gardening, birding, and traveling. Her favorite "retirement" job has been managing a bird food store in Kettering. And last year she went to Western Africa and South America. It was the first time I crossed the equator, and I'm hoping it's not the last", she said.

Debra volunteered as a docent for The Oakwood Historical Society's Holiday Home Tour last year. She loved the entire experience—meeting the homeowners, learning about the families who once lived in each home, and sharing all this history with the community.

Debra hopes to continue this sharing of Oakwood's history as she manages the many details of the Society's third annual Holiday Home Tour in December.



OSF Names 10th Annual Parker Love of Teaching, Lifelong Learning Winner

This year's winner is Family and Consumer Science teacher Leslie Blythe. Blythe, a 30-year veteran of Oakwood Schools, becomes the 10th winner of the award established by Beverly Parker, a former Harman teacher, in loving memory of her husband Bob. The award, presented each spring, honors a current Oakwood teacher who uniquely inspires the full potential of each student with whom he or she works.

"We feel such a close bond with the Oakwood education system. We have always believed the teachers in the Oakwood Schools are exceptional and give much of themselves for the betterment of the children in our community," Parker said. "Our family cannot think of a better way to give back to the schools than to honor the special teachers who go above and beyond what is expected of them. This award is one way we can show our appreciation and gratitude for all they do for our children."

A fellow Oakwood teacher/parent and a number of students wrote letters on behalf of Blythe's nomination.

In nominating Blythe for the award, one student wrote, "Mrs. Blythe is a role model to me, and is one of the most genuinely friendly and caring teachers at Oakwood High School. Her unwavering

devotion to the school and all the people in it is so amazing. I truly hope that in the future, I will be able to have such a positive impact on another person's life as she had on mine."

A fellow teacher wrote in her nomination letter, "Her modeling of curiosity energizes the students. The effects of which can be seen years later. They may not stay with sewing and they may not know how to cook what she taught them, but, because of her, they have more confidence in their abilities to take risks, to look more deeply, and make connections. It is those connections that are holding students together during this quarantine."

Another student shared that "no matter how badly I cooked, or how poorly I sewed, she never once got frustrated or impatient or gave up...always taking the time to cater to our individual issues, and did so gladly, with humility."

One student summed up the impact Blythe has on her students. Her mentorship does not end on graduation day. She maintains relationships, keeps up with students' pains, fears, joys accomplishments and milestones. "Mrs. Blythe will forever continue to share her encouragement with students just like me."

The Oakwood Schools Foundation congratulates Blythe on being the 10th recipient of The Parker



Love of Teaching Award and thanks all the alumni, parents, students and community members who nominated teachers and wrote letters of support. The Foundation thanks Bev Parker for her generosity and vision in establishing this important award.



Pursuing its mission, "Enhancing Excellence in Education," the Oakwood Schools Foundation provides significant annual support for the quality initiatives, including teacher and administrative grants, scholarships, and special wish list items.

For more information about the Oakwood Schools Foundation, please contact Dante Connell, Director, at 937-297-5332 or contact@oakwoodschooldfoundation.org or visit our website.

Former Players Aim to Honor Coach with Memorial

The goal of a proposed memorial to honor Oakwood High School's winningest coach is to reflect on his life and legacy, and instill a sense of tradition for years to come.

In cooperation with OHS, Oakwood Alumni Association and the Oakwood Schools Foundation, OHS alumni Jamie Greer, Jeff Hartley and John Jervis developed a concept for a memorial to honor Coach Howard "The Hat" Sales. Sales came to Oakwood in 1965 as a junior high and high school teacher. He was head football coach from 1968 - 1986, compiling 112 wins and becoming the winningest coach in school history. Sales also served as Athletic Director from 1988-1995.

Among his many honors, Sales was inducted into the Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor in 1998 and the Oakwood Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

Following Sales' death in December 2019, the group of former football players came together with the goal of commemorating his contribution to Oakwood football.

The proposed memorial will sit just outside the entrance to the Pit. The tribute will include a brick and limestone base with a bronzed hat in Sales' memory. Not only will the memorial pay tribute to Oakwood's past, it will serve as inspiration to Lumberjack teams for decades to come. Its

position outside the locker rooms will enable players to touch "The Hat" for good luck as they head out to the field.

The Sales' Memorial Team is challenging Coach Sales' former players to make donations to the effort. Their goal is to achieve 100 percent participation from those who played for Sales. For more information on how to donate, visit the Oakwood Alumni website at oakwoodschoold.org/community/alumni/sales-memorial.



Summer Work Wraps Up

This summer's Phase 1 work of the Oakwood Schools Master Facilities Plan is wrapping up at four of the District's five buildings. The majority of this summer's work was done at Oakwood High School and Junior High.

"The main focus for this summer was updating the Heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in the three-story section of OHS, replacing portions of the roof of that 100-year-old building to prevent leaking, updating plumbing and bathrooms to make more accessible, and improving the electrical and lighting systems," Operations Coordinator Todd Scott said.

The elementary portion of the project was completed this summer at Harman School and

Smith Elementary. Those buildings received new boilers, updated accessible bathrooms and repairs to the roofs.

"Much of the work completed this summer will improve the learning environments in our buildings. At the Junior High and Senior High, students will experience improved air quality, less noise with the removal of the window air conditioning units and better LED lighting. In all four buildings, temperatures will be more consistent and systems more efficient," Scott said.

While Phase 1 work is complete at Harman and Smith, more work is scheduled for OHS and OJH through next summer.



Oakwood Schools to Induct Educators into Hall of Honor

Congratulations to the 2020 Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor inductees:

Janet Block - Kindergarten Teacher, 1996-2014

Nance Bradds - Principal, 1999-2012

Randy Neff - Teacher, Junior High Athletic Director and Coach, 1999-2018

Please contact Sandi Branham at branham.sandi@oakwoodschoools.org or (937) 297-5332 with questions.

OSF Awards \$20,704 in Scholarships to Class of 2020

Thanks to the generosity of the individuals and families who established these scholarships and to the donors who contribute toward these funds each year, Oakwood's college-bound students appreciate this support for their continuing education. For more information, visit <https://www.oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf/scholarships>.

Janet Bourne Memorial Scholarship - Allison Bowman
 David R. Collins, OHS Class of 1950, Scholarship - Gabriella Stauffer
 Comeback Award - Eric Powers
 Robert L. Davidson Scholarship - Charlie Blumer
 Dr. Robert W. Gaines, Jr., OHS '60, Young Men's Golf Award - Rylan Quigley
 Susan Herman GLOW Scholarship - Abbie Stone
 Honorable Elizabeth Simms Gutmann Public Service Scholarship - Griffin Calaway
 Scott Harman Memorial Scholarship - Rocco Fiore
 Kevin Lauterbach Memorial Scholarship - Gabriella Stauffer
 Randy Neff Memorial Scholarship - Tallis All
 Thomas Neff Memorial Scholarship - Nicholas Wolcott
 Barbara Nichols O'Hara Scholarship - Anna Millard & Regina Powers
 Oakwood Centennial Scholarship - Lily Eifert & Nathan Pohl
 Guy W. Richardson Boys' Tennis Scholarship - Nathan Boyce
 Guy W. Richardson Girls' Tennis Scholarship - Sidney Purks & Sophie Schnell
 Pam and Chip Seidl Scholarship - A.J. Lewandowski
 Loran and Alberta Warner Scholarship - Abbie Stone
 Helen and Louis Wozar Scholarship - Luke Wilson

2020 – 2021 School Year

August 17	First Day for All Students
September 7	Labor Day
November 25, 26, 27	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 21 – Jan. 1, 2021	Holiday Break
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15	Presidents Day
February 16-19	Winter Break
March 29 – April 5	Spring Break
May 27	Last day of School for K – 12

For the latest list of happenings in the Oakwood Schools go to www.oakwoodschoools.org and check out our calendars.

Get connected with Oakwood Schools!

@OakwoodSchools @Oakwood_Schools

@Oakwood_Schools

Supporting Oakwood



Serving Oakwood in the Extraordinary and Ordinary:

Library Foundation campaign will focus on preserving Wright Library services during budget downturn

(Continued from page 1)

The Wright Memorial Public Library Foundation, led by a volunteer board of Oakwood residents and library supporters, has responded by gearing its upcoming annual campaign to focus on maintaining excellent core services to the community. The annual campaign, which last year raised over \$59,000, begins this month.

“The library serves in both extraordinary and ordinary times, and its valuable role in our community has never been so clear,” said Foundation President Elaine Gounaris.

She points in particular to Friday March 13. As word spread that the library was closing at 9 p.m., the community showed up in droves, clearing books and media from the shelves.

“It was a reminder of how important the library’s mission of lifelong learning is to Oakwood,” she said.

Since March, library staff members have worked to continue serving the community by guiding patrons to the library’s rich digital resources, offering virtual programs, and providing curbside pick up of physical books and other materials. When the death of George Floyd awakened our country to racism in society, the library responded with a set of new programs in its antiracism conversations series “Let’s Talk” that began in 2018.

As parents struggled to keep their children learning throughout the summer, the library added a book buddy reading program to its summer reading club offerings to pair teenage volunteers with young readers.

Meanwhile, staff members prepared the building and themselves for a safe reopening, securing adequate supplies of protective masks, sanitizer, and cleaner to welcome patrons back into the building in late June on a limited basis to browse and borrow books. A 72-hour quarantine process for books and other materials is carried out daily in the community room.

“The work is different, but our mission remains the same,” said Library director Kristi Hale. “We are connecting our users to a world of information and ideas.” The library’s staff have been buoyed by the support and appreciation of library patrons. “We are ever more cognizant of the phrase ‘absence makes the heart grow fonder.’ In this case, it is a mutual feeling from both the community and the library staff. We are so glad to be reopened for business.”

Serving During a Pandemic: A Timeline



March 13: Wright Library closes building. Patrons check out 313% more items than on an average Friday.

March 17: Library staff begin online storytimes to keep young learners engaged. Since March, the library has offered virtual programming for all ages.

April 27: Ohio primary election. Voters approve 1.5 mill levy for library operations and building improvements with 67.8 percent voting in favor of the measure.

March 13

March 17

March 24

April 27



March 24: Governor’s orders require that the library building closes to staff. Phone calls were quickly forwarded so staff could continue to answer phone calls and email from their homes.



Learning About Your Roots?

Find resources and connect with other ancestry sleuths.

Wright Library’s Genealogy Interest Group meets the second Wednesday of every month, virtually or in person depending on health recommendations at the time. Visit wrightlibrary.org or call 937-294-7171 to find out meeting details.

This informal meetup is for anyone who wants to discuss and engage in genealogy research. The library’s genealogy resources will be featured, and a librarian will answer questions and teach search tips and techniques. At the August 12 virtual meeting will be Lori Rotterman, Corresponding Secretary and the Education Chair for the Montgomery County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

From home, use your library card to explore databases such as Fold3, African American Heritage, and HeritageQuest Online, all available through wrightlibrary.org.

Fold3 is a premier collection of historical U.S. military records that brings to life the details of America’s military veterans with stories, photos, and personal documents.

African American Heritage allows you to search records, books, serials, and other historical records specific to African Americans to trace your genealogy or to do research.

HeritageQuest Online includes Census records (1790-1930), book and article searches, Revolutionary War records, and Freedman’s Bank.

Ancestry.com library edition, check wrightlibrary.org to see if this database is available in your home or only in the library.

Other databases, such as Family Search, are also available with your library card. Visit wrightlibrary.org/research/genealogy-history to see a full list.

Library Planning Fall Programs

Wright Library is closely following state and national guidance for holding in-person programs in the fall.

Please visit wrightlibrary.org to see where programs will be held in August and September.

“Youth Services is planning all programs to be flexible, capable of being held online or in person,” said Wright Library’s Jacqui Taylor. She expects to send out a survey for patrons this fall to discover community preferences for fall programs.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- Dianne Herman of the League of Women Voters will present “Let Women Vote: A History of the 19th Amendment” August 2 at 2 p.m.
- Lori Rotterman, Corresponding Secretary and the Education Chair for the Montgomery County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, August 12 at 6:30 p.m.
- The Process of Writing: Tools and Insights with Ann Hagedorn September 27 at 2-3:30 p.m.

May 16: Virtual Summer Reading Club launches for kids and adults.



May 22: Circulation of materials resumes with contactless curbside pickup and return.

June 29: Library opens for limited browsing and borrowing while continuing curbside service and home delivery to give the community multiple safe ways to use the library.



May 16

May 22

June 15

June 29

August



June 15: Public computers reopen by appointment.

Mid August: Annual Foundation campaign launches with focus on protecting library services from anticipated state funding loss.

City of Oakwood

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Oakwood, Montgomery County
Oakwood, Ohio 45419

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TURN IN SUMMER READING HOURS

Summer reading club wraps up on August 8. To turn in your summer reading hours, visit wrightlibrary.org and fill out the forms for 12 and 24 hours of reading and beyond. Didn't register earlier in the summer? Do that first then report your reading! Haven't been meticulously tracking your reading time? It's okay, estimate your hours based on the books you've read or listened to this summer.

We can't wait to see how many hours our community logged this summer! Need help? Email us at reference@wrightlibrary.org.

Need a library card? September is Library Card Sign Up Month

What's one of the most powerful cards in your wallet? Your library card!

In September, Wright Library joins libraries across the country to encourage their communities to sign up for library cards. This National Library Card Sign Up Month, Wonder Woman takes center stage to promote the power of a library card. Sign up for a card online at wrightlibrary.org or visit the library during business hours to register for a card in person. Do you have friends or new neighbors who don't have library cards? Invite them to sign up! There is nothing more empowering than getting your own library card. It gives you access to technology, resources, and services to pursue your passions and dreams.

