

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 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 | Scarecrow Building Contest

The Oakwood Community Center is very excited to announce the 18th annual "Scarecrow Building Contest." We encourage families, neighbors, organizations, co-workers and their groups to participate in this special, festive community event. Registration packets are available at the OCC or on the city's website. The building and placement of the scarecrows will take place on Sunday, October 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with safety protocols to address COVID-19. Scarecrow judging will take place virtually between October 18 and October 24. We will not conduct the Family Fall Festival this year.



SCHOOL NEWS | 2020 Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor Inductees Honored

Congratulations to the educators inducted into the Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor at a virtual ceremony held Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020.

(Continued on page 9)

LIBRARY NEWS | Search Statewide Collections Through New Partnership

Through a new partnership with SearchOhio and OhioLINK, Wright Library patrons now have access to millions of additional items. If a book, audiobook, CD, or DVD is not in the Wright Library catalog patrons may request it from a statewide consortium of public and academic libraries. Once the materials arrive, patrons will receive a notice via email or phone that the items are ready for pickup at Wright Library. Learn more at wrightlibrary.org.



CITY

P4: OUR ANNUAL LEAF
COLLECTION BEGINS ON
MONDAY, OCT. 12

SCHOOLS

P8: COME BACK
LUMBERJACKS THANK YOU

LIBRARY

P11: FALL PROGRAMS
ANNOUNCED

City Offices Closed

Veterans Day – City offices, the Public Works Center and the OCC will be closed on Wednesday, November 11. Please note that trash pickup for all routes the week of November 11 will be altered as follows: Monday's route will be picked up Monday; Tuesday's route will be picked up Tuesday; Wednesday's route will be picked up Thursday; and Thursday's route will be picked up Friday.

Thanksgiving – City offices, the Public Works Center and the OCC will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27. Trash and recycling pick up for the week of November 23 will be the same as the normal weekly schedule, except that Thursday's route will be picked up on Wednesday.

Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project

Under leadership of the Oakwood Beautification Committee, we are again conducting the annual Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project. Applications and detailed brochures describing the project and tree species are available at the Oakwood Community Center and on the city website. The trees selected are approximately 2 inches in diameter and are discounted 50% to residents. One tree will be allocated for each approved property site at the discounted price. The tree must be planted in the city right-of-way. Trees will be planted by a local nursery in late November or early December. All trees will be wrapped, staked, mulched and guaranteed for one growing season. For more details, call Carol Collins or Brian Caldwell at (937) 298-0775.



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 our number one priority. Please check the city's website for updates. We appreciate your understanding.

Halloween and Beggar's Night: October 31

We have not yet made a decision on whether to conduct Beggar's Night this year. The decision will be made in early October, based on the latest information on COVID-19, and guidance and direction issued by the Ohio Department of Health and Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County. We will announce the decision on the city website and through the local media.



Lighting up Oakwood & Holiday of Lights



The city of Oakwood, with assistance from the Oakwood Beautification Committee, is "LIGHTING UP" Oakwood with luminarias on Sunday, December 13 beginning at 6 p.m. Residents are invited to put luminarias out in front of their house and to consider participating with their neighbors. Luminarias for this event are sold at the OCC beginning Tuesday, November 10. Cost is \$5 per dozen and includes the white bags, sand and 10-hour burning candles. We have not yet made a decision on conducting the traditional Holiday of Lights event at Shafor Park.

Stormwater Management Program

Oakwood continues to meet the goals of the city stormwater permit which include street sweeping, dry weather screening of stormwater structures, public education and pollution prevention. Here are a few reminders about your storm sewers:

- Stormwater inlets and sewers are direct conduits to creeks and streams in the area.
- Water quality is directly affected by the material that gets into the storm sewers.
- Never place any material into a stormwater inlet (catch basin).
- Do not put any material in the street, the only exception being leaves between mid-October and mid-December.
- Pick up after your pet as the bacteria in pet waste is harmful to downstream wildlife.
- Limit the use of herbicides and pesticides in lawn care as they have a direct impact on the downstream water quality.

Thank you for your help in preserving our natural resources!

Oakwood Rotary Hazardous Waste Pickup

There are two ways for residents to properly dispose of household hazardous material. Residents may: 1) drop off the material at the Montgomery County Refuse Transfer Station (see www.mcswd.org for more information); or 2) use the quarterly Oakwood Rotary Club Hazardous Waste Collection program. This year's last collection date is scheduled for Saturday, October 24. Call (937) 296-5155 to sign up for the service. It is provided free of charge, but the Oakwood Rotary Club accepts donations. Donations to the "Oakwood Rotary Club Foundation" can be placed in an envelope and left with the items being disposed, or may be mailed to: Oakwood Rotary Club Foundation, PO Box 512, Dayton, OH 45409. All donations support charitable projects and community events led by your Oakwood Rotary!





Pedestrian Safety: Are You Taking The Right Steps To Stay Safe?

For your own safety and the safety of others, it is important to practice pedestrian safety. Here are a few safety tips to protect yourself from potential hazards:

Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.

Walk on sidewalks if available. If there is no sidewalk:

- Walk **FACING** traffic;
- Stay as far from traffic as possible;
- Proceed in a single file when traffic is approaching from the front or rear.

Keep alert at all times; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road.

Make yourself visible to drivers.

Between sunset and sunrise, or during inclement weather, pedestrians are required to wear high-visibility safety apparel that is reflective and can be seen clearly from 300 feet.

Per Ohio traffic laws, vehicular traffic must yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing in a crosswalk if there is no traffic signal in place or operation, **and** the pedestrian is on the half of the roadway in which the vehicle is traveling or approaching from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger. That said, never assume that a vehicle will yield.

Walking, jogging or running in the street is prohibited at all times on Far Hills Avenue, Schantz Avenue from Oakwood Avenue to the west corporation limits, Patterson Road between Far Hills Avenue and the east corporation limit, Shroyer Road between the north and south city corporation limits and on Oakwood Avenue from Far Hills Avenue to the north corporation limits.

Section 371.05 of the Oakwood Traffic Code outlines pedestrian rules and requirements so both motorists and pedestrians can safely use city streets for vehicle travel and recreational activities. This information may be accessed on the city's website at <https://oakwoodohio.gov/city-ordinances/>

Door-to-Door Solicitation

The city of Oakwood maintains a "Do Not Solicit" list to regulate certain types of door-to-door solicitation and canvassing throughout our community to protect the safety and privacy of our residents.

We encourage residents to register their address by submitting an online request form through our website at www.oakwoodohio.gov/door-to-door-solicitation. Once registered, your address will remain on the list for five years. When your five year expiration is reached, we will send a reminder postcard so you can re-register to remain on the "Do Not Solicit" list.

For residents who are on the Do-Not-Solicit list and are solicited, contact the Oakwood Public Safety Department at (937) 298-2122 to report this activity.

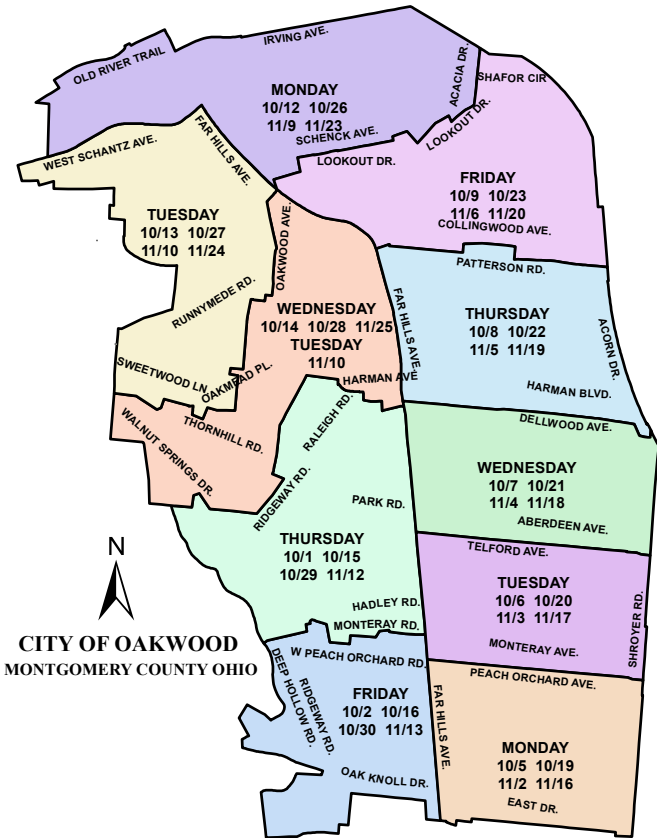
For residents who are not on the Do-Not-Solicit list, commercial solicitors have a 6 p.m. solicitation curfew, and religious or political canvassers have a 9 p.m. curfew.

It is important to understand that there are exceptions. Legitimate businesses have the right to advertise, and religious and political organizations and candidates have the right to spread their messages and solicit support. The City respects those rights while also protecting our residents. If persons are merely distributing flyers or literature, and not



knocking or making contact with the resident, the Do-Not-Solicit list does not apply. There is also an exemption for local kids, under 18, who are doing fundraising activities.

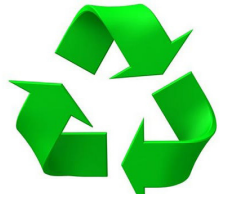
**LEAF AND YARD DEBRIS PICKUP SCHEDULE
OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2020**



FAR HILLS AVE. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12
SHROYER RD. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19

Refuse And Recycling Programs

Your city staff works hard to operate an efficient and comprehensive back-door refuse collection program. Please remember to:



- Limit your trash to not more than three cans that are 35 gallons or less and under 60 pounds. Containers must have lifting handles and detachable, tight-fitting lids.
- Use as many recycling cans as you need and know what is recyclable, and what is not. Please do NOT use toter-style cans for recycling. Remember ROLL... Recycle Oakwood Less to the Landfill!
- Leave cars out of the driveway and have cans easily accessible on your collection day.
- Have your trash and recyclable material out by 7:30 a.m. on your collection day.

These simple actions will allow us to be as efficient as possible and minimize the properties where we are unable to collect the refuse.

We have an extensive co-mingled recycling program. You may use as many recycling containers as are required for your household recyclables. You should co-mingle newspaper, junk mail, catalogs, magazines, paperboard, cardboard (small quantities - flattened), plastic bottles and jugs, various metal cans, and glass. Place all of these items loosely in your recycle can; do not place the items in plastic bags. Please take larger amounts of broken down cardboard directly to the cardboard recycling containers at the Creager Field parking lot just north of the Public Works Center, 210 Shafor Boulevard. Yard debris, and co-mingled recyclables may also be taken to the containers at the Creager Field parking lot. For a complete listing of recyclable materials, and information on items that are not recyclable, see the Oakwood Refuse Handbook on the city website or Rumpke's web page at <http://rumpke.com/for-your-home/recycling/acceptable-items>. Any questions, please contact Refuse Foreman Chris Harold at (937) 298-0777.

Annual Leaf Collection

We will begin our annual leaf collection program on Monday, October 12. As in previous years, the program will provide bi-weekly leaf pickups of all areas throughout the city. The city is divided into ten sections with each being collected on a 2-week interval as shown on the map above. The program is scheduled to continue until Friday, December 18, but will be shortened or extended if conditions warrant. We will make every effort to stay on this schedule, but may vary a bit from time to time based on weather conditions and other factors. After October 12, please place leaves in the street gutter, ideally just a day or two before the pick-up. Leaves must be unbagged and spread out along property frontages so that traffic flow is not impeded. Citizens interested in dumping their own leaves may do so 24-7 in the yard debris dumpster located at the Creager Field parking lot (Shafor and Irving), or at the public works yard, 210 Shafor Boulevard, between 8 a.m. and 12 noon on the following dates: Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5.



LEAF DROP-OFF AT PUBLIC WORKS CENTER

October/November Council Meetings



City Council will meet in regular sessions at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 5 and Monday, November 2. The meeting locations will be announced on the city website.

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 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.

Please Be Mindful of Construction Noise!

The city of Oakwood enforces a noise ordinance so everyone can enjoy our neighborhoods. Construction and maintenance noise is prohibited Monday – Saturday between 9 p.m. – 7 a.m., and on Sundays and holidays from 9 p.m. – 9 a.m.

Temporary Yard Signs

You may be wondering if there are any rules about how many signs someone can have in their yard. Title 12 of the Oakwood Zoning Code regulates temporary signage. Temporary yard signs are permitted in residential districts, pursuant to the following rules:

- Individual signs must be no larger than 6 square feet in area, and no more than 4 feet in height.
- There is no limit to the number of temporary yard signs that may be placed in a yard, so long as the combined total surface area of the signs is no greater than 12 square feet. For example, a property may display four one sided signs that measure 18 inches x 24 inches; or three one sided signs that measure 24 inches x 24 inches; or two one sided signs that measure 24 inches x 36 inches. If two sided signs are displayed, the limits, for example, are two signs that measure 18 inches x 24 inches; or one sign that measures 24 inches x 36 inches. All sign faces visible from the public right-of-way are included in calculating the combined total surface area.
- Signs must be in good condition.



The following signs are prohibited:

- Advertising/Commercial signs (e.g., window, roof or HVAC companies, plumbers, electricians).
- Signs in the right-of-way (e.g., boulevards or curb lawns).
- Signs that move.

To comply with the Oakwood Zoning Code, place your sign on private property and away from corners where it could block the view of oncoming traffic. Have further questions? The sign code is available on our website, or you can email us at zoning@oakwood.oh.us.

Fourth Quarter Estimated Tax Payment Due 1-15-2021

If you estimate that you will owe \$200 or more when you file your 2020 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, 2021. 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.



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.

July 2020 Winners

US Post Office, Wright Brother's Branch, 1 Oakwood Avenue

Robert & Donna Curry, 530 Maysfield Road

David Finkel & Holly Hall, 58 Spirea Drive

Josh & Kami Meador, 61 E. Dixon Avenue

Shaun & Tara Power, 50 Forrer Boulevard

Allan & Nancy McFarland, 310 Wiltshire Boulevard

Scott & Loretta Kadash, 442 East Drive

Cheryl & Amy Cleverly, 427 Triangle Avenue

Robert Dunlevey, 1317 Raleigh Road

Ryan & Abigail Platt, 535 Sweetwood Lane

August 2020 Winners

Brian & Cara Kite, 338 Volusia Avenue

David & Denise Richard, 5 Shafor Circle

Mark & Cristia Tokar, 48 Wisteria Drive

Steve & Jill Passaretti, 241 Aberdeen Avenue

Trent Jervis & Hayley Roeckner, 217 Hadley Avenue

Monica Brouwer, 336 Monterey Avenue

Nathan & Kaitlin Auttelet, 2400 Shroyer Road

Mike & Heather Ruetschle, 1020 Little Woods Road

Richard & Shari Scharrer, 1041 Runnymede Road

Oakwood Health Department

Did you know that Oakwood operates a Local Health Department? The Oakwood Board of Health addresses issues related to public health including inspections of food service operations, retail food establishments, public swimming pools, schools, and the municipal jail. Oakwood's Board of Health works in close coordination with the Ohio Department of Health and with Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County, which serves all of Montgomery County.

The Oakwood Board of Health includes five members who are citizens holding no other city office or city employment. Members are appointed by City Council and serve five year terms. The Oakwood Board of Health is assisted by the Health Commissioner, Assistant Health Commissioner/ Medical Director, Sanitarian, Board President, and Board Administrator. The current members of the Oakwood Board of Health are:

Dr. David Denka, D.O., Board Member, Chair
 Dr. Sallie Wilson, D.O., Board Member, Vice Chair
 Dr. Elizabeth Maimon, DVM, M.P.H., Board Member
 Diane Scott, R.N., Board Member
 Dr. Bill Coyne, D.D.S., Board Member

Dr. Steve Enseleit, MD, Health Commissioner
 Dr. John Ewing, MD, Assistant Health Commissioner and Medical Director
 Paul Scaglione, R.S., Sanitarian
 William Duncan, President (Oakwood Mayor)
 Norbert Klopsch, Administrator (Oakwood City Manager)

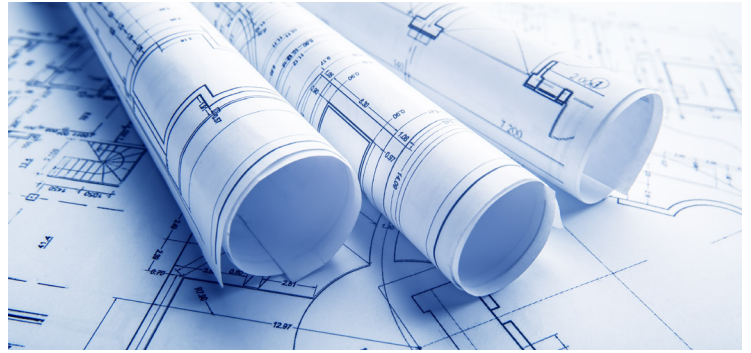
Automation for The Historical Society

Early this year the Society was given a very generous donation from one of their Lifetime Members. The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, had learned that the Society wanted to automate and better manage their membership and volunteer base, so the donation was directed towards that end. After several months of learning and converting, the Society is happily functioning with their new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. The new CRM system literally brings the Historical Society into the 21st Century, and they are delighted with upgrade.

Before the implementation of the CRM system, when a business or individual renewed or signed-up for a membership, they had to update a rather cumbersome Excel membership database, their financial records, their email distribution list, and lastly, they had to create a thank you letter and envelope to send it out to the member – 5 separate steps! With the new CRM system, the information is entered ONCE! The system updates their membership database, creates a financial report and automatically emails it to their Treasurer, updates their email list with any new email addresses, and creates and prints a customized letter and envelope which includes the members name and address, donation amount and date, as well as an official tax reporting notice. All they have to do is add the stamp. With the new CRM system, they are now tracking members, donors, volunteers and vendors – one-stop shopping for the Historical Society!

Now that they have automated the maintenance functionality, they can explore proactive initiatives through the help of CRM. By identifying groups of people with similar interests, they can communicate events, programs and updates specifically for them. They have barely scratched the surface

Blueprint Project



Last year, the City donated to the Historical Society, more than 300 old blueprints that they had in storage. These blueprints mostly represented additions or changes to the homes in Oakwood. After several attempts to return them to the rightful owners including a listing of the addresses on the Society's website, and several Saturdays working at the Farmer's Market, the Society decided to deliver these blueprints to the homeowners as a gift from the Historical Society.

The project has generated many favorable comments from the happy homeowners including several new memberships, and many donations. If you were the recipient of one of these blueprints and would like to show your appreciation, visit their website at oakwoodhistory.org to make a donation or become a member. The Oakwood Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Oakwood.

on the capabilities of the new CRM system, and they look forward to new and better ways to communicate with their members, donors, volunteers and vendors.

The Society appreciates the generous donation that made this possible, as well as the guidance and assistance of Barb Miller, their new CRM Administrator, who assisted with the technical aspects of the conversion, and Alice Miller, their new Membership Administrator.



Historical Society Donates Garden Produce



The kitchen garden at the Long Romspert Homestead is teeming with herbs and vegetables this year, despite the inability to open for their children's gardening programs due to COVID-19. At the time the garden was being planned and planted, the virus was starting to cause issues. They still hoped to be able to open the classes, just a bit later in the year than usual.

Instead, as everything grew tall and lush they had to find a new purpose for the bountiful produce that was coming on, and a new way to take care of the garden without all the children volunteers who would normally be learning skills while staking plants, pulling weeds, and harvesting the fruits of their labor. Just in time, two adults stepped in before the garden began taking over the Long-Romspert Homestead, so all was well!

In July, two neighbor children and their mother were able to help harvest produce, all while social distancing. What a joy to have student helpers! The garlic and onions were gently scooped from the ground and laid in a dry place to cure. All the remaining lettuce and the early tomatoes were harvested and taken to St. Vincent de Paul for use and distribution to needy Daytonians.

Unfortunately, a small garden can't produce enough to feed multitudes, but other ways to help out are indeed possible, as the "Little Garden That Could" illustrated. The garden at the Long Romspert Homestead is part of

the Dayton MetroParks Community Garden Program, which is now serving as an information and resource entity, as well as a collection point for all the successful community garden programs in the area. Any excess donated produce is collated by them for delivery to food programs throughout the Dayton area. They were thrilled to not only get produce from the Historical Society, but an abundance and variety herbs.



While the Historical Society regrets not being able to offer their children's garden programs this year, they are happy to donate their herbs and vegetables for a good cause.

Holiday Home Tour Rescheduled for 2021

The Oakwood Historical Society Board of Directors has come to the difficult decision to postpone their Holiday Home Tour to December 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While very disappointed, we hope to have this tour in its entirety, as planned, when we can better ensure the safety of our volunteers, homeowners and the community," explained Debra Edwards, this year's Holiday Home Tour Coordinator.

"The Schantz Park homes selected for this tour offer a rare glimpse into Oakwood's past, and will include a beautiful array of architectural gems found in this National Register of Historic Places neighborhood," she added. "Our hope is to showcase them in a less unsettling time."

The new date for the Holiday Home Tour will be December 4, 2021. The Society has tentative plans to offer a new event this spring to help offset some of their lost funds due to this postponement. Watch for details to come.



Oakwood Schools Students, Staff to Benefit from Cleaner Air Thanks to OSF Grant

Oakwood Schools' students and staff members will be breathing easier this fall thanks to a grant from The Oakwood Schools Foundation. OSF approved grant funding to supply the District with commercial-grade air purifiers for each classroom in the District's five buildings.

In normal years, OSF encourages Oakwood teachers to apply for grants to bring innovative ideas to life in their classrooms. This year, Foundation leaders contacted District administrators to find out how they could assist with the plans to reopen the schools. Based on feedback received from various focus groups that took place during the summer with staff, students, and community members, District leadership requested assistance in improving air quality in the classrooms.

"We have a clearly defined policy requiring students and staff to wear face coverings. We are created sanitation guidelines to clean our facilities several times each day. We are including hygiene in our daily activities and we have developed multiple modes of instruction to be able to maintain social distance to the extent possible between people in our buildings. The addition of air purifiers in our classrooms provides

an additional layer of protection for our students and staff," Oakwood Schools Superintendent Dr. Kyle Ramey said.

According to the EPA, air purifiers are part of an overall plan to fight COVID-19. In addition to battling COVID-19, recent research has demonstrated a school's physical environment plays an important role in academic performance, staff productivity and retention, and overall attendance. Portable air cleaners, also known as air purifiers or air sanitizers, are designed to filter the air in a single room or area. While they cannot remove all pollutants from the air, they can reduce indoor air pollution, increase classroom ventilation and reduce the transmission and spread of infectious agents in buildings.

"After extensive research, the best unit we found is not only an air purifier but also has an added feature of a germicidal UV light and a patented photocatalytic oxidizer that physically breaks down two major types of germs: bacteria and viruses. It offers a 10-year warranty and will not only help with COVID-19 but additional virus strains as they emerge," Operations Coordinator Todd Scott said.



Air purifiers will add another layer of protection for students participating in face-to-face instruction and staff members.

Thanks to the generosity of parents, alumni, students, teachers and the community, OSF has awarded more than \$900,000 since 1991 to fund teacher-proposed grants for state-of-the-art classroom technology, unique academic programs, innovative learning materials and more.

"OSF is pleased to show our support for the outstanding teachers and their commitment to providing a top-notch educational experience for our students during these uncertain times," Katherine Cezeaux, OSF Grants & Programs Chair, said.

Oakwood Alumni Association, Oakwood Schools Foundation Dedicate Alumni Plaza

In late September, Oakwood Schools Foundation and the Oakwood Alumni Association honored and celebrated Oakwood's outstanding alumni community, connecting the proud tradition of Oakwood Schools past and present. For a full list of alumni and community donors that made the project possible, visit: oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf/alumniplaza



Thank you Oakwood alumni and community members for joining us on Sept. 25 for the first-ever virtual Come Back Lumberjacks event!

It was a success and we could not have done it without YOU!

See highlights from CBL 2020 including a complete list of event sponsors on our website:

oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf/comeback-lumberjacks

Thank You to our Presenting Sponsor:



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 visit our website at: oakwoodschoools.org/community/osf.

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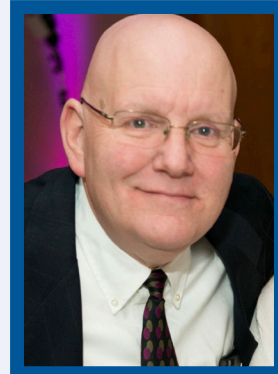
2020 Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor inductees:



Janet Block
Kindergarten
Teacher,
Lange School
1996 – 2014



Nance Bradds
Principal
1999 – 2012



Randy Neff
Math Teacher,
Coach, Junior High
Athletic Director
1999 – 2018

Class of 1948 Celebrate Milestone

Local members of the Oakwood High School Class of 1948 celebrated a landmark 90th birthday with lunch at NCR Country Friday, Aug. 21. The group exchanged surprise gifts including a talking Minion that Irv Harlamert pledged to re-gift to his great grandson. This amazing group is a testament to the life-long friendships created in the halls of OHS!



Standing, L to R: Moira Janney (wife of Harold Janney), Marilyn Huber Holland, Chrisoula Davis Vradelis, and Joey Smith Thiele **Seated, L to R:** Ruth Hoecker, Irv Harlamert, and Dottie May Duff

Tents Provide Outside Learning Environments

Oakwood Schools is working with community groups to provide creative solutions for keeping students who are participating in face-to-face instruction and staff safe. The idea of having outdoor instruction spaces, such as tents, surfaced during the District's stakeholder meetings held during the summer.



There are two tents on the campus of Oakwood High School and Oakwood Junior High. The OJH/OHS PTO paid for and coordinated the installation of the tents, which are 30x60 and 40x40.

"The tents are being used as outside, shaded learning environments, giving students and staff an opportunity for socially-distanced fresh air breaks. Band and choir use these spaces to practice playing instruments and singing since these activities aren't possible inside due to COVID-19," OHS Principal Dr. Paul Waller said.

Physical Education teacher Heather McGlothen has been using the tents since school first began.

"We have been encouraged to go outside as often as possible for an even safer environment. The tents provide a nice shady spot for students to get outside but still be protected from the sun. I also think they help to make it feel more like a classroom and minimize distractions," McGlothen said.

The tents will remain at least through the end of first semester.

2020 – 2021 School Year

October 12	Board of Education Regular Meeting 7 p.m.
November 16	Board of Education Regular Meeting 7 p.m.
November 25-27	No School
November 30	Classes Resume
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!



Making a Difference: Wright Library's Makerbox Collection Helps Community Learn New Skills, Save Money, Explore Hobbies During Pandemic and Beyond

Did you know you can check out a sewing machine, pottery wheel, ukulele, and more from Wright Library? How about tools for learning to drive, baking a cake, or learning engineering?

In all, Wright Library has 64 Makerboxes - borrowable kits for learning and exploring at home.

Four years ago, Wright Library introduced the first circulating Makerboxes among the region's libraries. Wright Library's Jacqui Taylor and Brian Potts started the Makerbox collection to add a hands-on component to the library's collection. The collection was an answer to a lack of space in the library for an in-house makerspace area.

Today the Makerboxes have grown to include an [Active Play collection](#), [Cake Pan collection](#), [Cars & Driving collection](#), [Fiber Arts collection](#), [STEAM collection](#), and [Tool & Gauge collection](#).

In the coming months, the library will focus on adding Makerboxes that support children and teenagers in home education.

"The library is a space and resource for every learner in the community, including those who learn by doing," Taylor said.

To see a full list, visit wrightlibrary.org/makerboxes

Ukulele: "A truly beautiful passion"



Sylvia learned to play ukulele with Wright Library's Ukulele Makerbox.

Eight-year-old Sylvia was interested in trying the ukulele. Like many parents, her mom and dad weren't sure if they could - or should - purchase one before knowing if their daughter would really take to the instrument.

So Sylvia and her mom, Jennifer, checked out ukuleles from Wright Memorial Public Library.

Said Jennifer: "I decided to learn along with her. We began to have ukulele time every week with a neighbor friend and Sylvia quickly took it up.

"Folk songs are an important part of our family life, and she loved figuring out the chords for all our favorites.

"She then began writing her own songs and tunes. During the pandemic, she has taken to songwriting as a way to make sense of all the change around us, and she has taken her ukelele to sing to neighbors who have been isolated. We are both so grateful for Wright Memorial Library, providing the way for Sylvia to turn an interest into a truly beautiful passion."

Most Frequently Circulated In 2020: Balloon Twisting



Evan learned how to twist balloons with Wright Library's Balloon Twisting Makerbox.

One of the newer Makerboxes is just pure fun: balloon twisting. The kit comes with two books, a DVD, a balloon pump, and assorted balloons for learning to make animals and other balloon art and creatures. Evan, a fifth grader, loved how quickly he could make something that looked good. This photo is from one of his first creations with the box.

Keeping Busy During The Quarantine

The Fuqua family has checked out several Makerboxes this year, including the telescope. The telescope was donated to Wright Library by the Miami Valley Astronomical Society.

"Our family had the opportunity to borrow the telescope Makerbox during quarantine. It was easy to use and came with clear instructions and a helpful guide. We were able to see the moon in several stages, a few planets, and lots of stars. We all enjoyed a few lessons in astronomy and it sparked some good questions and conversations in the weeks following."



Fall Events at Wright Library

Satisfy curiosity, learn, and connect. Find details, dates, and registration at wrightlibrary.org/calendar.

Youth Services

Don't miss out on the recurring programs offered this fall for teens, tweens, elementary, early/pre-readers, and parents (Parents Talk Education the second Tues. each month).

Special weekend programs are slated throughout October and November and can be registered for at wrightlibrary.org/calendar:

The Funk Museum - Oct. 3, 2 p.m.

How Kristina Learned to Cha Cha - Oct. 11, 2 p.m.

Croc Talk from the Newport Aquarium - Oct. 18, 2 p.m.

Slightly Spooky Campfire - Oct. 24, 7 p.m.

Jeopardy: Family Edition - Nov. 1, 2 p.m.

Step-by-Step Painting Party for Teens - Nov. 7, 2 p.m.

Teen Campfire - Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

Choose Your Own Adventure: Murder-Mystery - Nov. 29, 2 p.m.

Adult Services

Three popular programs continue this fall, the Far Hills Speakers Series in partnership with the Oakwood Historical Society, the Write@Wright author workshop series, and the Let's Talk antiracism series. Details for recurring programs like: *Book Club*, *Genealogy Interest Group*, and *Wright Library Poets* are also available at wrightlibrary.org/calendar.

Medicare Seminar Series

Oct. Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

Oct. Mondays at 2 p.m.

Write@Wright

Elements of a Scene, Oct. 4, 2 p.m.

Memoir: Unlocking the Treasures of Personal Story,
Nov. 14, 2 p.m.

Let's Talk: Antiracism

Beyond Colorblindness, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.



Learn about the Old Barn Club, a social hub in Hills and Dales Park's early days, Oct. 18, 2 p.m.

Far Hills Speaker Series

The Old Barn Club and the Golden Age of Hills and Dales Park, Oct. 18 at 2 p.m.

How Oakwood Grew, Plat by Plat 1872-1956, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m.



See a live American Alligator and a number of crocodylian artifacts as you learn what it means to be a reptile, Oct. 18, 2 p.m.

Wright Library Welcomes the 2020-2021 Class of Library Ambassadors

Each year since 2016, Wright Library invites local students from kindergarten-sixth grade to act as Library Ambassadors. They are selected from their participation in summer reading club and represent the library in the community, share their opinions about library programs and services, and collaborate on community projects with the library.

The 2020-21 Library Ambassadors are Addy Baumann, Katy Burges, Shepherd Ferrara, Yosef Fisher, Kai Gelbart, Rose Howell, Evey Inempolidis, Annabelle Neumeister, Lilly Neumeister, Samuel Peck, Audrey Thompson, Claire Webber, Sean Work, and Andrew Zhang.



City of Oakwood

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Oakwood, Ohio 45419

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GARY DURSCH SR.
Water Plant Superintendent

SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR WATER PLANT SUPERINTENDENT

Oakwood's Public Works Department provides a broad range of municipal services. Among the most important is operating the public water system.

Gary Dursch Sr. is retiring on December 31, 2020, after over 44 years of public service, including 14 years in running our Oakwood water system. In addition to his time in Oakwood, Gary worked for four years as Water Foreman in Germantown, 11 years as Water Operator/Supervisor in Miamisburg, and 15 years as Water Treatment Manager in Middletown. Gary holds an Ohio EPA Class IV Water Supply Operator certification, the highest level issued by the EPA. He expertly operated our eight water production wells, three water treatment plants and our 1.5 million gallon water tower on a daily basis throughout his tenure. Gary will be sorely missed. We wish him all the very best in his retirement.