

**CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 2022**

**IMPORTANT COUNCIL DATES:**

November 29, Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. – BRC Meeting (30 Park)  
December 5, Monday, 6 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)  
December 11, Sunday, 6:30 p.m. – Holiday of Lights (Shafor Park)  
January 9, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)  
January 23, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)  
February 6, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)  
February 27, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)  
March 6, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)  
March 20, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)

**BUSINESS UPDATE:**

- Veterans Day: City offices, the OCC and Public Works are closed tomorrow for Veterans Day.
- Holiday Turkey/Ham: Enclosed is a memo sent to all employees. On behalf of staff, thank you for once again providing this gift.
- Chris North Retirement: Enclosed is a nice *Register* article recognizing Chris North's 40 years of service to Oakwood.
- CPA: The 5<sup>th</sup> class of the Oakwood Citizen Police Academy graduated this week. Enclosed is the program.



- Dr. Ramey: Enclosed is a Q&A *DDN* article about Dr. Ramey's career as Oakwood Schools Superintendent.
- Citizen Committee: Enclosed are an application that we received from Paul Kavanaugh, and an acknowledgement letter from Lori. Paul is married to Megan, from our BRC... and is a fellow West Point grad.

- Far Hills Speaker Series: Enclosed is a flyer about the November 20 presentation... 2 p.m. at Wright Library. Steve will speak about “The Future of Oakwood”. I plan to attend. Also enclosed is a *DDN* article.
- Johnny Appleseed: Enclosed is a *Register* article about our 2022 Johnny Appleseed tree planting program being extended to November 13.
- Sidewalk Tractor: We took delivery of a new tractor. It replaces a worn out 1994 unit. The tractor is primarily used for sidewalk plowing.



S-22 2022 Kubota Tractor B2601



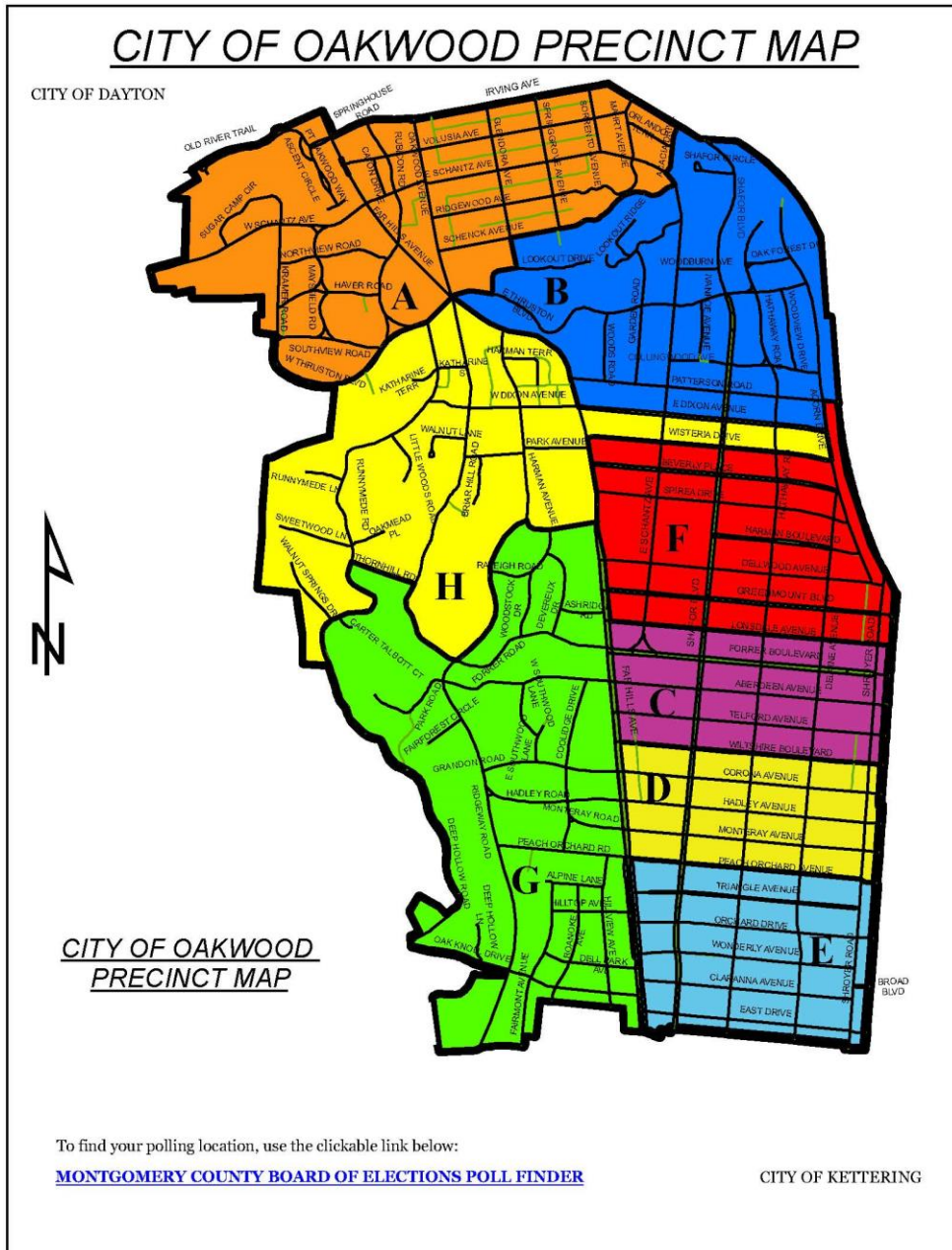
S-22 1994 John Deere Tractor

- Parking Lot Behind Oakwood Club: Last Saturday, we resealed and striped our city parking lot behind the Oakwood Club.
- Medic #27: Our new medic looks great.



Medic 27 2017 Ford Ambulance

- Oakwood Schools Interim Superintendent: Enclosed is a *Register* article about Allyson Couch being appointed interim superintendent.
- Precinct Map: The Board of Elections changed the polling location for some Oakwood voters. Everyone was mailed a postcard with notification of changes, but the BOE did not inform us here at the city... so the locations that we had on the bottom of the precinct map on our website were incorrect in some cases. We received two phone calls about this. We changed the website map to simply provide a link to the BOE website.





HAVE A WONDERFUL VETERANS DAY!

TRANSMITTALS NOTED WITHIN NEWSLETTER

Holiday Turkey/Ham Memo

*Register* Article re: Chris North

CPA Program

*DDN* Article re: Dr. Ramey


Citizen Committee App & Letter

Flyer & *DDN* Article re: Far Hills Speaker Series

*Register* Article re: Johnny Appleseed

*Register* Article re: Oakwood Schools Interim Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CITY AND MUNICIPAL COURT EMPLOYEES  
FROM: NORBERT KLOPSCH   
SUBJECT: HOLIDAY GIFT CARD  
DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2022

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The City is once again providing to each full-time and permanent part-time employee a Dorothy Lane Market gift card to use during the upcoming holidays. On behalf of City Council, thank you for your service to Oakwood.

We have continued to work together as a team to provide essential public services to the community. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of each and every city and municipal court employee. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

NSK:ls

enclosure

cc: Members of City Council

## North wraps up 40-year tenure tending city's plants, services

Christopher North wrapped a 40-year career with the city of Oakwood last Friday, ending a four-decade tenure in a city where most everyone saw his handiwork, even if they didn't know his name.

North started his career with the city in 1982 when he took a seasonal position working at Smith Memorial Gardens and helping the city's Leisure Services Department get ready for the Christmas festivities. He returned the next spring, again as a seasonal hire, and accepted a full-time position with Oakwood in March 1984. A few months later he met his wife and was married by Oakwood Mayor Earl Storms at the City Building in March 1985.

"I got both a job and a relationship the same year," he jokes, adding that he's known Department of Leisure Services Director Carol Collins longer than he's known his wife.

His responsibilities with the city have ranged from snow removal and landscaping to setting up the seasonal Candy Cane Hunts, Christmas festivities, That Day in May, ice cream social and Family Fall Festival events at Shafor Park, where generations of children have reveled in his behind-the-scenes dedication to his task. North can name more than a few families he's seen grow up in the city, eventually returning with their own children to find him still on the job setting up for another Santa or Easter Bunny visit.

"I never thought playing in the dirt as a child would lead to a career that pays," North laughs.

"Special events required one knowledgeable individual to set up the event with a crew or alone," he adds. "I started out helping as part of the crew, learned, showed an interest, then became that knowledgeable individual."

In 1997 he was named Oakwood's city Employee of the Year, an accolade in which he still takes pride. That, he says, "was about the same time that city's Beautification Department



Carol Collins and Christopher North

became part of Leisure Services and we moved to the old YMCA, which became the Oakwood Community Center," he adds. His area of responsibility eventually grew from working at Smith Gardens to beautification of the entire city – all of the parks, boulevards, natural areas in Oakwood.

"I am pretty sure I've planted over half a million bulbs for spring over the past 40 years," North says of his resume. Sometimes the work took on personal significance, like the time he helped collect funds for and select a bench and tree to memorialize two co-workers who died unexpectedly some years back. The city, he says, "was overwhelmingly supportive" of the effort.

He's worked with exchange workers from Oakwood's Sister Cities, and he's developed a fondness for the various plants and flowers he's encountered over the course of his career, with some obvious favorites. "There's been lots of plants, trees, shrubs and other species," he recalls. "It was difficult to remember all of them but with repetition you learn them. One of my favorites is the balloon flower - platycodon to some; the blooms look like a balloon in the air until they pop, revealing the flower."

He recalls preparing for the city's Centennial Celebration in 2008, the

See **North** on page 9 ►

► **North** from page 1

devastation caused in Oakwood by Hurricane Ike, as well as ice storms that followed in later years, wreaking havoc on his plantings. Not all of the damage he contended with was naturally occurring. "The most shocking was when we completed planting mums at Smith Gardens and some shenanigans occurred overnight with kids putting the majority of the mums in the pond," he remembers.

North says he won't miss the late-

night calls to come into work for snow removal, water leaks when pipes burst in the cold, or downed trees, but he says he's always worked with good people, including three city managers – Dave Foell, Mike Kelly and Norbert Klopsch – "each with their own styles." "I appreciated the opportunity and chance they took on me, to make a success of a unique department," he adds. "It has been my pleasure to know so many people for so many years. I've gotten so much enjoyment from the projects I've been involved in and

completed throughout the city."

"Over the years Chris has done a wonderful job for the city," Carol Collins, herself a 48-year city employee, said of the man she hired all those years ago. "He will be greatly missed because of all of the activities and projects and programs he's been involved in over the years. His work ethic is impeccable."

North says he has a few plans for retirement. "I want to travel, there's a few places I want to visit or go back to, maybe visit some new places."

OR 11 / 9 / 22

**Oakwood Public Safety  
Department 5th CPA  
Graduation Ceremony**



**Oakwood Public Safety Department  
November 9, 2022**

**CEREMONY AGENDA**

**Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Alan Hill

Public Safety Director

**Academy Remarks**

Lt. Chuck Balaj

CPA Coordinator

**Alumni Association Discussion**

Alan Hill

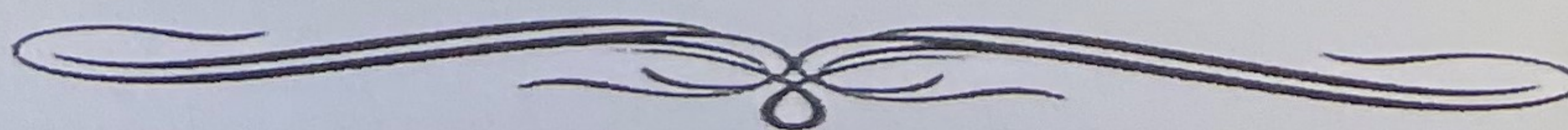
Public Safety Director

**2021 CPA Graduate**

Gary Mitchner

**Presentation of Certificates**

**Cake / Class Photo**





## OAKWOOD



Superintendent  
Kyle Ramey

of our students while always remaining open to innovation and growth necessary to prepare our students for the world that awaits them," Harman School Principal Sarah Patterson said.

# Profile

## Dr. Kyle Ramey

Dr. Kyle Ramey, Oakwood Schools Superintendent; retiring effective Dec. 31, 2022

### Q. Professional History:

A. Oakwood Schools - July 2013 – Present; Kettering City Schools - Jan. 1993 – June 2013; Graham Local Schools - Aug. 1989 – Jan. 1993

### Q. Tell us about your education:

A. Post-doctoral studies - University of Dayton; Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership - Sarasota University; Master of Science in Educational Administration - University of Dayton; Bachelor of Arts in Life Sciences - Otterbein College

### Q. How many years have you been with Oakwood Schools?

A. 9 years

### Q. Describe Ramey's leadership:

A. "Dr. Ramey is a transformational leader. He values collaboration among his staff and community stakeholders. He personally invests in the growth of his administrative team. He is the glue that binds us, pushes us to be better and challenges us to see the bigger picture across the district," Smith Elementary Principal Chrissy Elliott said. "He has supported staff in reflecting and learning to ensure we stay steadfast in our practices that continue to meet the needs

### Q. How have Oakwood Schools' students and staff benefited from Ramey's leadership?

A. "There are many examples, but one that will always stick with me is his unwavering commitment to students during the first summer of the pandemic. We probably developed 25 models for how to best meet the needs of students and staff in that environment, but Dr. Ramey's leadership with resolute focus on having in-person learning and options for families helped our district excel in very difficult times," Tim Badenhop, Oakwood Junior High Principal "Dr. Ramey truly stands for 'doing what is best for students' and recognizes stakeholders define that differently. He solicits input from others and is then willing to make the decision, even when it is hard," Educational Services Director Allyson Couch said.

### Q. What will be Ramey's legacy?

A. "He recognized the value of opening Rubicon's front door to our community and creating an environment of dynamic discussion and ideation. He understood and accepted that such engagement would be, at first, imperfect but trusted continued connectivity would refine and lend immeasurable value. Kyle did the work of an excellent leader. He excelled inside and outside the fence. He strategically planned for long-term success by imaging and implementing emerging initiatives that will assure the highest value of an Oakwood education for years to come," Board of Education President Todd Duwel.

DDN

11/16/22

**CITY OF OAKWOOD  
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT APPLICATION**

Name: Paul Kavanaugh		
Home Address: 132 Lonsdale Avenue, Oakwood, OH		
Years of Residency: 7	Registered Voter:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Birth Date (Optional): 7 May 1981		
Employer Name: Ohio Air National Guard		
Employer Address : 5319 Regula Avenue	City: Springfield	State/Zip: OH, 45502
Preferred Mailing Address: <input type="checkbox"/> Employer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home		
Home Phone: 860-462-0490		
Office Phone 937-327-2297	Fax:	
E-Mail: paul.m.kavanaugh@mac.com		

**COUNCIL APPOINTED STANDING COMMITTEES**

<input type="checkbox"/> 5	ADA COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	PLANNING COMMISSION
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	BOARD OF HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BOARD
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS	<input type="checkbox"/> ]	PUBLIC FACILITIES TASK FORCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	TAX/WATER & SEWER/ASSEMBLY APPEALS
<input type="checkbox"/> ]	HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION		

Please check in order of preference, i.e., #1 first choice, #2 second choice, etc. See attached information for description of each committee.

**Educational/Technical Background:**

High School  Post High School  College Degree  Post Graduate  
 Computer Literate  Bilingual

**Recent Work History:**

Employer	Job Title	Years
Ohio Air National Guard	Group Commander/Pilot	7
Alaska Department of Transportation	Airport Operations Officer	3
FedEx Express	Industrial Engineer	5

**Civic Participation, Interests & Activities:**

Volunteer Coach for Oakwood Community Center Recreation

(Springfield Air National Guard Base) Facilities Working Group, Financial Management

Board, Officer Force Development Council

**Other committees on which you serve or on which you have served:**

N/A

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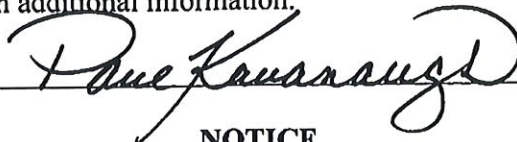
**Remarks on background, experience and interest:**

I am excited for an opportunity to serve the community that has welcomed our family  
these past few years and to fulfill a civic duty.

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Please feel free to attach additional information.

Signed:



Date: 8 November 22

**NOTICE**

Ohio Senate Bill #187 requires that all prospective volunteers be made aware of the law passed on March 22, 2001 regarding volunteers with "unsupervised access to children on a regular basis." Although your volunteer position will likely never require work with children, the City of Oakwood is notifying all prospective volunteers of the law.

This law is "for organizations and entities that have volunteers who regularly have unsupervised access to children...to provide for warnings to such volunteers that they might be subjected to criminal records checks, and to provide parental notification in certain circumstances regarding the outcome of criminal records checks of such volunteers."

Organization or entity means a religious, charitable, scientific, educational, athletic, or service institution organization or local government entity that provides care, treatment, education, training, instruction, supervision, or recreation to children.

Unsupervised access is defined as the person in question having access to a child and that either:

- 1) No other person eighteen years of age or older is present in the same room with the child,
- 2) If outdoors, no other person eighteen years of age or older is within a 30 yard radius of the child, or has visual contact with the child.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lori Stacel at (937) 298-0600.

## Stacel, Lori

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**From:** Paul Kavanaugh <paul.m.kavanaugh@me.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 4:00 PM  
**To:** Stacel, Lori  
**Subject:** Citizen Committee Application  
**Attachments:** Oakwood Committee Application\_Kavanaugh.pdf

Dear Lori,

I am submitting my citizen application to serve on a board or commission. Please let me know if I can provide any further information and I appreciate your time. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Paul Kavanaugh  
132 Lonsdale



# City of Oakwood

Government Administration

November 9, 2022

Paul Kavanaugh  
132 Lonsdale Avenue  
Oakwood, OH 45419

Dear Paul:

We received your application to serve on an Oakwood citizen committee. Thank you for volunteering. Over the next three months, City Council will consider 2023 appointments. We will be back in touch with you if we determine there is a position matching your interests.

Sincerely,

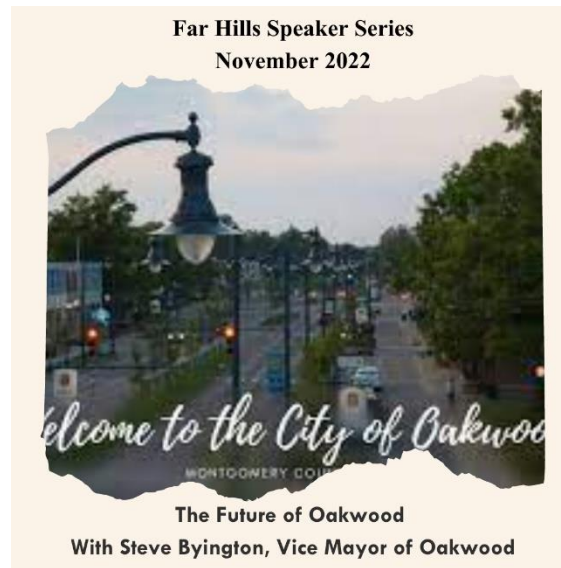
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori Stacel". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lori Stacel  
Clerk of Council

LS/sl

cc: Members of City Council  
Norbert Klopsch, City Manager

# The Future of Oakwood | Far Hills Speaker Series



## About the Program

As the final Far Hills Speakers Series lecture of 2022, we take a look forward and envision our community several decades in the future. Abraham Lincoln once said, “the most reliable way to predict the future is to create it.” Since our community’s initial platting 150 years ago, the citizens of Oakwood have continually used thoughtful development and shared values to create a truly unique sense of place. The City of Oakwood is now a mature, established community that is characterized by vibrant neighborhoods, beautiful historic homes, tree-lined streets, compact commercial districts, and a wide variety of public amenities. It’s traditional image and predominant residential character help distinguish it from many of its neighboring communities and ultimately make it a highly desirable place to call home.

But no community can allow itself to simply rest on the successes of its past or fool itself into believing that those successes can be maintained without recognizing the challenges and opportunities of the present. Oakwood must continually look towards our future and rely on the same virtues of conscientious planning and consensus building around community values that have served us so well to this point. Lincoln’s words still hold true today and Oakwood has shown that we won’t allow our future to be shaped by chance but will instead create it by choice.

Join us for an interesting look at many of the community catalysts which will shape and influence the decision-making visions of tomorrow’s Oakwood citizens and leaders.

The Far Hills Speaker Series is presented through a partnership between the Oakwood Historical Society and Wright Memorial Public Library

## About the Presenter



Oakwood Vice Mayor Steve Byington moved to the Dayton region directly after graduating architecture school in 1991 and was quickly drawn to the incredible architectural diversity of Oakwood. Wanting to get more involved in the future of his community, he volunteered for the Oakwood Planning Commission where he actively shared his expertise in architecture and urban planning principles. He was elected to the Oakwood City Council in 2008 and was chosen Vice Mayor in 2010. He is the city's liaison to the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, the Dayton First Tier Suburbs Consortium, continues to serve on the Planning Commission, and sits on several community committees.

## OAKWOOD

### Speakers series

In the final Far Hills Speakers Series lecture of 2022, presenters will take a look forward and envision the Oakwood community several decades in the future. Join in for an interesting look at many of the community catalysts from 2 to 3 p.m. on Nov. 20 in the Community Room of Wright Memorial Public Library, 1776 Far Hills Ave. The presentation is also available via Zoom.

Since the community's initial platting 150 years ago, the citizens of Oakwood have continually used thoughtful development and shared values to create a truly unique sense of place. The City of Oakwood is now a mature, established community that is characterized by vibrant neighborhoods, beautiful historic homes, tree-lined streets, compact commercial districts, and a wide variety of public amenities.

The Far Hills Speaker Series is presented through a partnership between the Oakwood Historical Society and Wright Memorial Public Library.

For more information or to register, go to [www.wrightlibrary.org](http://www.wrightlibrary.org).

STAFF REPORT

DDN 11/9/22



## City's tree planting project extended to Nov. 13

The City of Oakwood's fall Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project application deadline has been extended until Sunday, Nov. 13. Applications and detailed brochures describing the trees are available at the Oakwood Community Center, 105 Patterson Road, or by mail. Call the Oakwood

Community Center at (937) 298-0775 for a brochure or more information. The application deadline is 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at the OCC, 105 Patterson Road.

This award-winning project is offering six trees to homeowners at a 50% discount. The size of the trees

will be 2-inches in diameter. The six varieties of trees available are Green Mountain Sugar Maple, Frontier Elm, Ivory Silk Japanese Lilac, Sunburst Honeylocust, Eastern Red Oak and Swamp White Oak. One tree will be allocated for each approved property site.

Trees must be planted in the city right of way at the discounted rate and will be wrapped, staked, mulched and guaranteed by the nursery for one growing season.

Planting will take place in late November or early December. Homeowners may also purchase a tree

at 100 percent of the cost if a second tree is needed or the homeowner wants to plant a tree on private property. All tree varieties were chosen because of their excellent landscape characteristics including fall color, height, rate of growth, shape of tree, texture and landscape value.

OR 11/9/22

## School Board names Couch as Interim superintendent

On Monday, the Oakwood Schools Board of Education named Director of Educational Services Allyson Couch as the Oakwood Schools interim superintendent beginning Jan. 1, 2023. Board members approved a temporary contract with Couch at the board's monthly meeting on Monday, Nov. 7.

Couch has been with Oakwood Schools since January 2009. She served as the Harman School principal from 2009-14, before taking over as director of Educational Services in Aug. 2014.

A graduate of Wilmington College, Couch earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education. She earned her master's degree in education from the University of Dayton, where she also

did her superintendent coursework and gained her superintendent license.

"Allyson's deep awareness of our district and community and hands-on knowledge of district operations and curriculum make her the right leader at the right time to continue our seamless and steady transition," Dr. Kyle Ramey said. Ramey will retire from Oakwood Schools on Dec. 31.

Couch has expressed a desire to remain in her current position and is not interested in pursuing the Oakwood Schools superintendent position at this time. The posting for the superintendent position will be made public on Thursday, Nov. 10. Information can be found on the Oakwood Schools website.

OR 11/9/22