



FEBRUARY / MARCH 2022

# 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 | 2022-2024 Construction and Public Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Each year, the city of Oakwood engages in and oversees various capital improvement projects to maintain and improve the City's infrastructure. Over the next three years, we have several significant and notable projects planned.

*(continued on pages 2-4)*

## SCHOOL NEWS | Oakwood Alumni Association Welcomes New Director

A new year means a new opportunity to reconnect with Oakwood Schools. Oakwood Alumni Association Director Katelyn Brohman is looking forward to getting to know alumni and strengthening the already amazing ties they have with Oakwood.

Hoping to make all alumni, near and far, feel supported by their alma mater, Brohman is looking forward to connecting with you! Please contact her at [alumni@oakwoodschoools.org](mailto:alumni@oakwoodschoools.org) or call 937-297-5332.



## LIBRARY NEWS | Five Things to Love About the Newly Renovated Wright Library

Have you visited Wright Library lately? The Next Chapter Renovation Project is nearly complete — with a new children's and teens area, community room, and more — and there's a lot to love! With a nod to Valentine's Day, we're sharing five things making our hearts flutter about the newly renovated library. We think you'll love it, too.

*(continued on page 10)*

CITY

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2021 OAKWOOD TAX  
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LIBRARY'S UPDATES

## Projects Along Far Hills Avenue

### CenterPoint Gas Line Improvements on Far Hills Avenue

As part of CenterPoint's (formerly Vectren) final two years of replacing the natural gas distribution pipes and home service lines in Oakwood, work will take place this year along Far Hills Avenue from East Drive to Beverly Place. The scope of work is similar to other CenterPoint projects previously completed in Oakwood, but Far Hills Avenue has much heavier traffic requiring lane restrictions to accommodate the work. Motorists should anticipate delays during construction. The work will require many excavations into the roadway (and subsequent roadway patches) and many excavations into green spaces adjacent to the road. As explained below, the entire 2.2 miles of Far Hills Avenue in Oakwood is scheduled for resurfacing in 2024.

### Far Hills Avenue Stormwater Inlet Repair and Concrete Curb Replacement

This year, the City will repair a series of stormwater inlets along the east and west sides of Far Hills Avenue, and will replace numerous sections of concrete roadway curbing, mostly between East Drive and Patterson Road. This project is being completed in advance of the 2024 Far Hills Avenue resurfacing.

### Far Hills Business District Timber Wall Repairs

Repairs, including some top rail replacements, sealing and painting will be performed to the timber wall along both sides of the Far Hills Business District. The wall is nearly 50 years old, yet has been maintained over the years and is still serving its intended purpose.

### Far Hills Storm Sewer Reconstruction (in the Dellwood, Greenmount, Forrer and Devereux areas)

An engineering study of the existing storm sewer in this area of Far Hills Avenue found several storm sewers that are reaching the end of their useful life, and are no longer able to fully accommodate intense rainfall events. Design work will begin this year on a replacement storm sewer system crossing Far Hills Avenue at Greenmount Boulevard; on Dellwood Avenue from Far Hills to East Schantz; Forrer Boulevard from Far Hills to East Schantz; and along a section of Devereux Drive north of Forrer Road. Construction plans will be completed in 2022 with construction of the new storm sewer in 2023.

### 2024 Far Hills Asphalt Mill and Overlay

As work from multiple projects leaves Far Hills Avenue with many patches, 2024 will include the removal and replacement of the entire asphalt roadway surface from the south to the north corporation lines in the city of Oakwood. The Ohio Department of Transportation Urban Paving Program will provide a majority of the funding for this resurfacing project. This roadway was last resurfaced in 2011.

## Projects In Other Areas Of Oakwood

### CenterPoint Gas Line Improvements

CenterPoint (formerly Vectren) continues replacing underground gas distribution pipes and home service lines in Oakwood neighborhoods. The maps on page 3 identify work programmed for 2022. In all work areas, CenterPoint 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 CenterPoint infrastructure replacement project in Oakwood scheduled to be completed in 2023. Oakwood residents personally affected by the work will receive detailed information from CenterPoint. The city website has a map showing gas line work completed to date, and the work planned for the final two years of the city-wide project. Contact Public Works Inspector/Foreman Tom Long at (937) 298-0777 with questions about the work, or reference the CenterPoint pipeline projects map at: <https://midwest.centerpointenergy.com/gas-system/map>

### Asphalt Roadway Resurfacing

The April/May *Oakwood Scene* newsletter will include a list of the residential asphalt streets to be resurfaced this year. Another residential roadway resurfacing program is scheduled to take place in 2023.

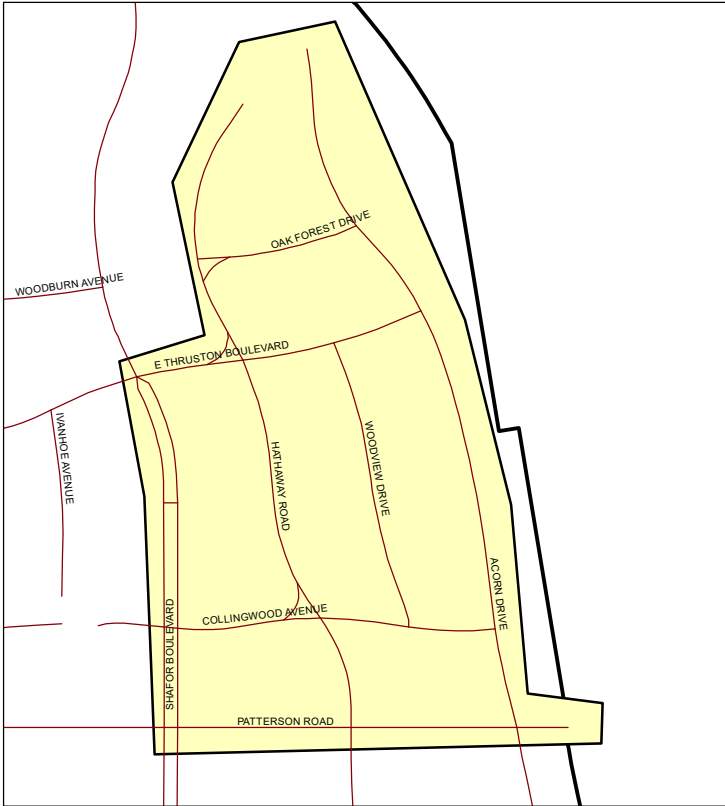
### Concrete Street Repairs

Repairs will be made to several concrete streets around Oakwood. Details about the 2022 project will be included in the April/May *Oakwood Scene* newsletter.

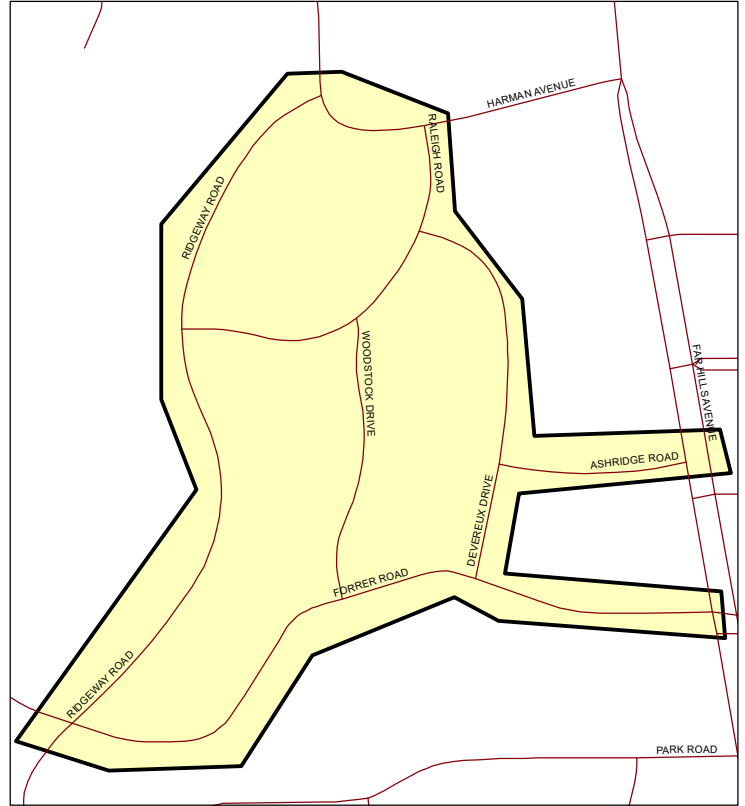
### Annual Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project

The 2022 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project will take place on the west side of the City, including all areas of Oakwood west of Far Hills Avenue. The purpose of the project is to maintain the concrete structures located within the City rights-of-way in a good, safe condition. City staff will inspect the areas and mark sections of concrete requiring repairs. Residents affected by the work will receive personal notification regarding their responsibilities. Please call Public Works Foreman David Shuey at (937) 298-0777 if you have any questions. For those who choose to do the repair work themselves, please remember to obtain a permit in advance and that all work must be inspected and completed by the date in the notification. This annual project will occur again in 2023 and 2024 in the southeast and south central sections of Oakwood.

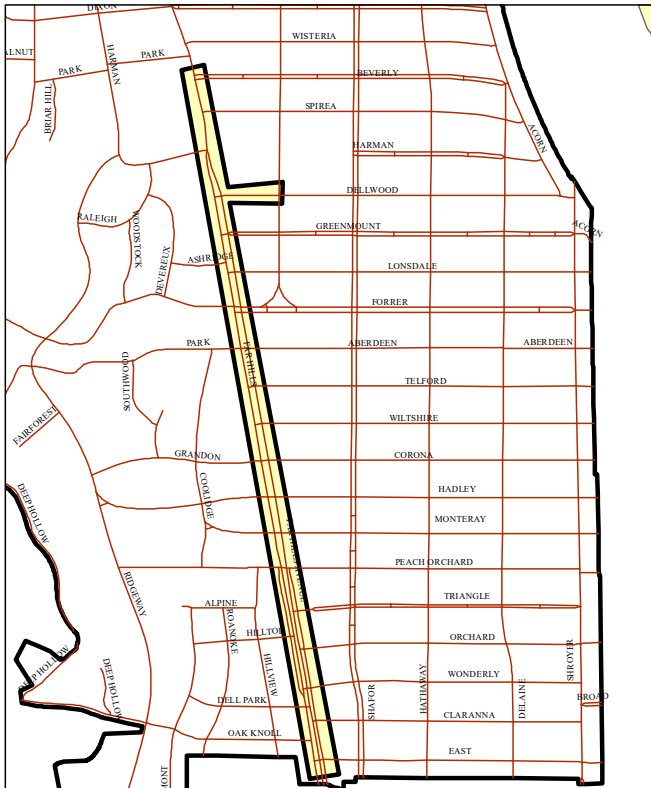
**PROPOSED 2022 CENTERPOINT (VECTREN)  
GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
AREA A**



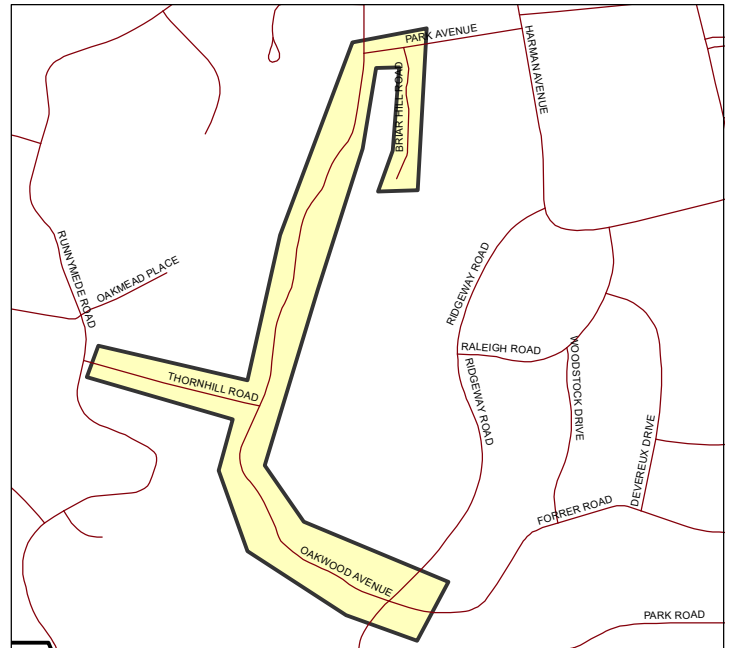
**PROPOSED 2022 CENTERPOINT (VECTREN)  
GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
AREA C**



**PROPOSED 2022 CENTERPOINT (VECTREN)  
GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
AREA B**



**PROPOSED 2022 CENTERPOINT (VECTREN)  
GAS LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
AREA D**





## Point Broadband City-wide Fiber Installation Project

Point Broadband, a private internet and telecommunications company, announced their arrival to the region as a new utility provider that will offer fiber-to-the-home service. Construction has already commenced in Springboro, and Point Broadband has advised that Oakwood is their next target market, with plans to soon begin construction here. The City will share information about the project as it progresses via the City website, Facebook page, and at public meetings. After city permits are issued, residents can expect to see construction crews identifying underground utilities and marking their location with temporary paint and flags. Point Broadband work will take place in the public right-of-way (including curb lawns) and in some utility easements as they install utility cabinets and pedestals, as well as the fiber optic cable. Point Broadband will announce when construction will begin in neighborhoods via a series of messages which may include letters, postcards, and yard markers. City staff will work with Point Broadband to ensure restoration and screening are completed as required by city code. Point Broadband will conduct open house events to provide information about the project in advance of starting work. The dates and times of these open houses will be announced on the City's website and Facebook pages. Construction is expected to take place on every Oakwood street and will include installation of underground fiber lines, and various above ground appurtenances as shown below:



Ground Level Closure Pedestal  
Size: 18.5 inches tall  
Number of pedestals in Oakwood:  
Approximately 200



Distribution Hub Cabinet  
Size: 7 foot tall  
Number of cabinets in Oakwood: 7



Handhole Fiber Junction Box  
Size: Flush-mounted and Inground  
Number of boxes in Oakwood:  
Approximately 2,000

## Gardner Pool Deck Replacement

In the fall of 2022, after the pool closes, the Department of Leisure Services will be working with a pool contractor on the demolition and replacement of the entire Gardner Pool deck. The existing deck is over 40 years old and in need of replacement. The scope of the work will include demolition and replacement of the deck, installation of fencing around the zero depth wading pool (children's pool), and installing new pool lifeguard stands and diving boards.

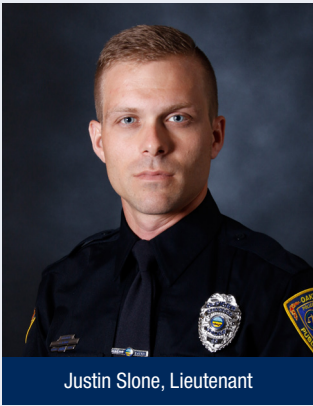
## Presidents Day Trash Pickup



Please note that trash pickup for all routes the week of February 21 will be one day later than usual. Monday's route will be picked up Tuesday; Tuesday's route will be picked up Wednesday; Wednesday's route will be picked up Thursday; and Thursday's route will be picked up Friday.

## February/March City Council Meetings

City Council will meet in regular public sessions at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 7 and Monday, March 7. Both meetings will take place at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. The regular sessions are preceded by an open work session beginning at 6:30 p.m. The regular sessions are televised live on the City website at [www.oakwoodohio.gov](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov), and on cable TV (Spectrum Ch. 6, TV Tuner Ch. 5.203 and AT&T U-verse Ch. 99). The meetings are also accessible via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Links to the meeting will be posted to the City website at 4 p.m. on the meeting date. Meeting videos will be rebroadcast on television for a week or so afterwards. Please check your cable guide or [www.mvcc.net](http://www.mvcc.net) for broadcast times. Meeting videos can also be viewed on the City website at any time.



Justin Slone, Lieutenant



Mike Tanner, Operations Captain

## Safety Department Announces Promotions

On January 3, 2022, Public Safety Officer Justin Slone was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Slone serves as the Crew 2 supervisor. Prior to joining the Oakwood Public Safety Department in January 2018, Lieutenant Slone was a firefighter/paramedic with the city of Fairborn.

On January 31, 2022, Lieutenant Mike Tanner was promoted to the rank of Captain. Captain Tanner serves as the Operations Captain. Prior to joining the Oakwood Public Safety Department in March 2010, Captain Tanner was a firefighter / paramedic with the city of Middletown.

## 2022 Capital Improvement Budget

The 2022 Budget appropriates \$2,277,750 for capital improvements and capital equipment. We make significant investments each year in our public infrastructure and capital equipment. This is critically important to maintaining our city and comprehensive public services. Major 2022 capital expenses include the following:

- Asphalt and Concrete Street Repaving Program: \$550,000
- Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Program: \$175,000
- Gardner Pool Improvements: \$316,750
- Front-end Loader Replacement: \$90,000
- Backhoe Replacement: \$100,000
- Far Hills Stormwater Inlet and Curb Repairs: \$130,000
- Leaf Vacuum Replacement: \$75,000



## Summer Employment Opportunities

Applications for summer employment with the city of Oakwood are now available at the OCC, the city building and on the City's website. Students 16 years of age and older are eligible for lifeguard and concession positions at Gardner Pool. Students interested

in general maintenance and landscaping positions must be at least 18 years of age at the time of employments. Equal Opportunity Employer.

## 2022 City Budget

On December 13, 2021, Oakwood City Council approved a 2022 budget that provides the financial resources needed to continue providing comprehensive city services and maintain the City public infrastructure. The budget was prepared with review, input and endorsement of the 35-member citizen budget committee and is accessible on the City website (search: 2022 Budget). Near the beginning of the document is the City Manager's Budget Message. It provides a summary of the budget and explains how the budget is structured within the five major categories shown below:

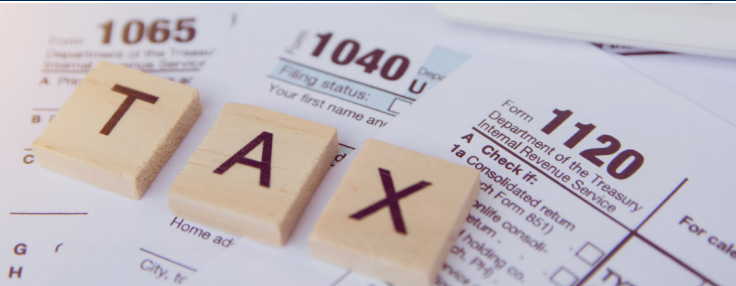
- General City Services
- Refuse Program
- Water Service
- Sanitary Sewer Service
- Stormwater Management

Oakwood continues to be the premier residential community in the Miami Valley. We have beautiful neighborhoods, unmatched public safety, excellent public works, recreation and leisure services, an excellent school system and public library, and, most importantly, an involved citizenry that values community and neighborliness. We take pride in and understand what it takes to keep Oakwood unique. The following qualities of Oakwood continue to be examples of the benefits of living in this city.

- We have the safest community in the region, with very low crime and very low fire loss.
- We have an extremely fast police and fire response time, and we answer every call with highly trained professionals.
- We have qualified paramedics and EMTs on-duty at all times to respond to medical emergencies. On average, medical help arrives in less than two minutes – unparalleled in the area.
- We have well-maintained streets, sidewalks, public trees and landscaped boulevards.
- Although most of our housing stock is over 75 years old, our citizens maintain their homes and properties in very good condition and our home values prove it.
- Our city parks, public pool, community center and public natural areas are wonderful community assets.
- Our overall community ambience is second to none.

## Oakwood Community Center Events

The Leisure Services Department continues to monitor the status of COVID-19 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.



## 2021 Oakwood Income Tax Returns Due April 18

The city of Oakwood has a mandatory filing requirement for all residents. Every individual, 18 years of age or older, who resides in Oakwood, must file an Oakwood City income tax return, whether or not there is any taxable income to report. Retired residents who have income derived exclusively from non-taxable sources (interest, dividend, social security and/or pension income, etc.) must first file a final return in order to be exempt from the filing requirement.

If you have filed for an extension of time to file your federal return, you will automatically receive an Oakwood extension. You should attach a copy of your federal extension to your return when filing so that you will not be charged a late filing penalty. Your extended return is due the same date as your extended federal return – October 17, 2022. If you do not have a federal extension, you may still obtain an Oakwood extension. Simply complete an extension request form, located on the City's web site, and submit your request by April 18, 2022. As always, an extension of time to file your returns does not extend the time to pay your taxes. All taxes paid after April 18, 2022 will be subject to a 15% late payment penalty and interest.

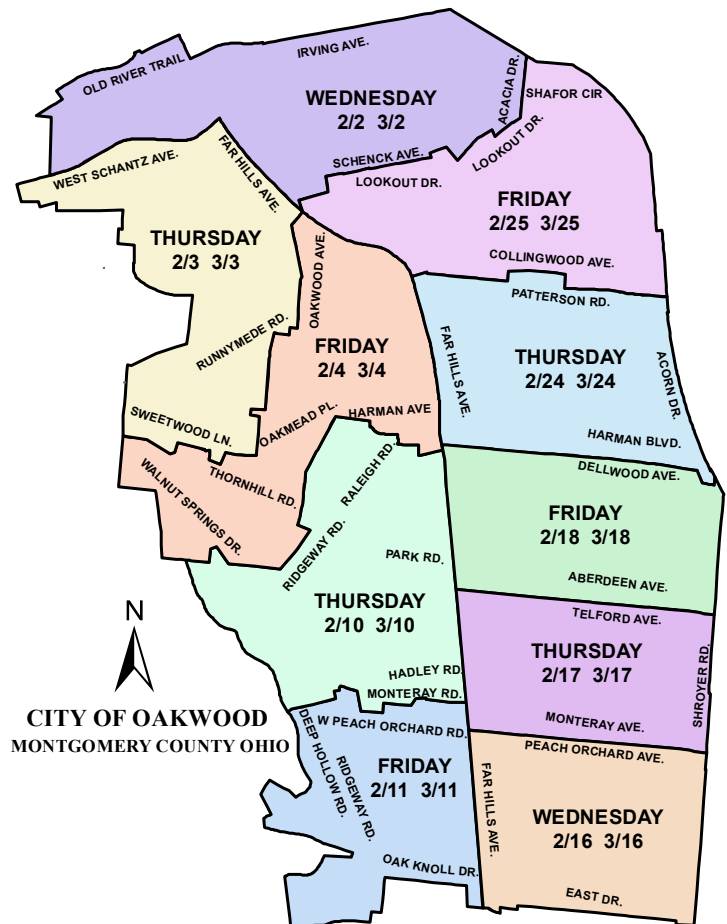
The 2021 Oakwood income tax return is available on the City's web site at [www.oakwoodohio.gov](http://www.oakwoodohio.gov). If you do not have internet access, forms will be made available at the City administrative offices, Wright Memorial Public Library and the Oakwood Community Center.

Full-year residents with W-2 wage income only will be able to file their 2021 City of Oakwood income tax return online. Visit the City's website for additional information.

**Important Note for Remote Workers:** Remote work (also known as work from home or telecommuting) is a type of flexible working arrangement that allows an employee to work from a remote location outside of corporate offices. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this arrangement has become increasingly popular. If you were working at home during all or part of 2021, yet your form W-2 shows that your wages were withheld for another municipality (your employer's office location), you are entitled to a refund for the taxes withheld to that city and will shift your tax dollars to Oakwood; you may also be able to reduce your overall local tax liability. You are only subject to the other city's income tax for the time actually worked in that city.

If you need assistance with the preparation of your Oakwood return, please contact the Tax Department at (937) 298-0531 to schedule an appointment. Normal business hours for the tax office are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Extended hours will be provided April 13-15, when the office will be open until 6:00 p.m.

## YARD DEBRIS PICKUP SCHEDULE FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2022



FAR HILLS AVE. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 2/10 & 3/10

SHROYER RD. WILL BE PICKED UP ON: 2/24 & 3/24



## In Memory...

The city of Oakwood mourns the loss of former Oakwood City Manager and Public Safety Director Mike Kelly. Mike served the city of Oakwood for over 33 years, the last nine plus years as Oakwood City Manager. He served as Assistant to the City Manager from 1968 to 1971; as Public Safety Director from 1971 to 1992; and as City

Manager from 1992 to his retirement in March 2002.

We are forever grateful for Mike's service to the Oakwood community.



## OCC Upcoming Events/Classes

**Little Kickers Spring Outdoor Soccer (ages 4,5,6):** Designed especially for children in-between pre-school indoor soccer and youth Co-ed soccer. Emphasis is on fun, education, sportsmanship and teamwork. No leagues or individual standings or statistics will be maintained. Practices and games will be held on Saturday mornings at Old River Athletic Complex, 225 Old River Trail. Dates are from April 9 through May 25, 2022. Please call the Oakwood Community Center for more information.

**Magic Workshop:** Saturday, April 23 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the OCC. Spend a magical morning with Stan the Magic Man as he will have participants learn simple magic tricks and balloon sculptures. A fun-filled morning is being planned, so don't miss out.

The Oakwood Community Center has plenty of activities for everyone! Please visit the OCC's online event registration website to view current activities at [OakwoodLeisureServices.com](http://OakwoodLeisureServices.com) or contact the Community Center at (937) 298-0775.

## Residential Fire Inspections

Home fires can happen at any time, but they generally increase during the winter months. You can make your home a safer place by requesting a Residential Fire and Safety Inspection from the Oakwood Safety Department. These inspections are conducted by request only. Home inspections provide an opportunity for residents to learn about fire safety issues and for Oakwood Safety Department inspectors to provide recommendations on measures to improve the safety of home occupants. If you would like to arrange for a fire inspection, please contact the Oakwood Safety Department at (937) 298-2122 and speak with one of our certified Fire Inspectors.

## Discover the Art, History and Joys of Maple Sugaring



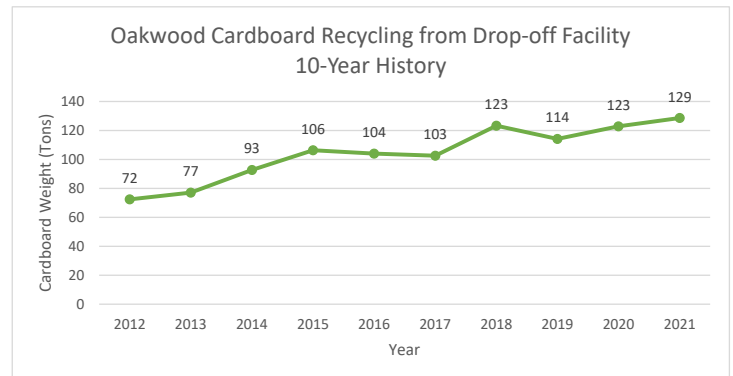
Join the Oakwood Historical Society at The Farm, home of John and MJ Gray, on Saturday, February 19 at 1:30 pm and discover how to tap a Sugar Maple tree, and watch how sap becomes a delicious syrup. A great winter time activity for the entire family— and you'll learn first-hand how you can do this time-honored tradition at home. You'll also learn a bit of the history of sugar maple tapping

in pioneer Oakwood, and how NCR's former Sugar Camp got its name.

This is a free outdoor educational activity, weather-permitting— but space is limited and advance reservations are required. Visit our website at [oakwoodhistory.org](http://oakwoodhistory.org) for more information and to register.

## Cardboard Recycling

For over three decades, the city has offered two ways to recycle cardboard. One is through the single stream process where the cardboard is co-mingled with other recyclables (glass, plastics, metal cans, newspaper, etc.) and picked up with the weekly city refuse removal. The second is through the single product cardboard drop-off at the city's yard debris and recycling drop-off facility located at the entrance to the J.D. Foell Public Works Center, 210 Shafor Boulevard. The preferred method for cardboard recycling is for Oakwood residents to bring their cardboard to the single product drop-off containers at the recycling facility. As a single product, it has the most value and is most efficiently recycled. The graph below shows a 10-year history of cardboard volumes dropped off by Oakwood residents. The graph illustrates how cardboard volumes have increased demonstrating the community's growing interest in and commitment to recycling.



## Get Involved with The Oakwood Historical Society

The Oakwood Historical Society is currently seeking volunteers for several positions now available, including:

**Property Manager of House Museum:** This position involves working with supporting vendors, such as roofing, landscape, plumbing, HVAC and painting companies, to ensure the House Museum is fully operational and in good condition. The position does require some "household" handy work, such as checking the lights, the security system, winterizing, etc.— but all heavy work, including the grounds, is done by the professionals, overseen by the Property Manager. This would be a wonderful opportunity for some handy person who likes to oversee a well-maintained property.

**Webmaster:** Looking for someone who is familiar with the technology involved in maintaining and improving our current website— would need to have computer skills and a desire to maintain a webpage. Helpful to have maintained a webpage in the past. Position requires approximately five hours a week, more or less, depending on amount of current Society events. Great position for someone who is interested in website maintenance and wants to expand their resume.

If you have a talent and are willing to share— let The Oakwood Historical Society know! You can email them at [info@oakwoodhistory.org](mailto:info@oakwoodhistory.org), or call at (937) 299-3793. They look forward to hearing from you.

## Alumni Student Ambassadors

Oakwood High School's Alumni Student Ambassador group is launching a podcast this spring. Students will host the podcast, connecting with alumni, sharing alumni experiences on how Oakwood shaped them into who they are today and providing updates on school events.

Stay tuned for more exciting details on how you can connect with Oakwood students past and present.

## Howard Sales Scholarship to Recognize OHS Athletes



Oakwood alumni are spearheading a fundraising effort for a new student scholarship in continuation of the successful Howard "The Hat" Sales Memorial dedicated in August 2021. Jeff Hartley and Bruce Harlamert, both 1984 grads and co-captains of the 1983 varsity Oakwood High School football team, are working to endow a scholarship for OHS senior athletes (all sports are eligible). If you are interested in more information or to make a contribution, visit: <https://www.oakwoodschoools.org/community/sales-scholarship>.

## OSF Accepting Nominations for Annual Parker Love of Teaching and Lifelong Learning Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the Oakwood Schools Foundation Parker Love of Teaching and Lifelong Learning Award.

Saying her family benefited in many ways from Oakwood's outstanding school system and wanting to give back to the schools in a special way, former longtime Oakwood teacher Beverly Parker created the award in 2010 in memory of her late husband Robert Parker.

Since 2010, 11 deserving teachers have received the award, consisting of a \$1,200 prize, which is divided between the recipient and the teacher's school, and framed artwork designed by an Oakwood High School art student. Past winners are: Janet Block (Lange), Kathy Allan (OJH), Tony Rainsberger (OHS), Ron Nelson (All buildings), Susan Kuntz (Harman), John Edwards (Harman), Nate Thompson (Smith), Lynne Irwin (Smith), Lori Morris (OHS), Leslie Blythe (OJH/OHS) and Tim Fleck (Harman).

Parents, students, community members, alumni, other faculty members and administrators can nominate teachers who meet the award criteria, which includes teaching in Oakwood Schools for at least five years.

Nominations and letters of support are retained for one year. If a candidate is not selected as the winner, the nominator may simply submit the current nomination form and the candidate will be reconsidered.

The nomination deadline is March 14, 2022. For more information, contact Bre Andrews, OSF Administrative Director, by email at [contactbre@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org](mailto:contactbre@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org) or by phone at 937-297-5332.

## Supporting Our Students' Voices

As students at Oakwood Junior High and High School ducked through the halls in December on their way to lunch or to meet classmates to study before finals, a group of students stopped in front of the clock. They shed their backpacks and then, after the tone from the pitch pipe, the students began to sing.

They were members of Oakwood's A Cappella groups – caroling in the hallways, singing "Jingle Bells" and other holiday classics, cutting through the stress-filled hallways with holiday cheer.

A Cappella is one of the many musical offerings at Oakwood Junior High and High School. Students can also join Concert Choir or Symphonic Chorale. Unsurprisingly, choir is one of the most popular extracurricular offerings at OHS.

"It's a really great way to get to sing with people you know and you like. It becomes like a family. It's a really good way to de-stress and focus on singing," OHS senior Mallory Moran said.

With so many different ways for students to share their voices, it is increasingly necessary for Oakwood's facilities to match. The new arts facilities at Oakwood Junior High and High School will include a new choir room, with better acoustics and larger space for students. Additionally, practice rooms will provide students a private area to rehearse before concerts and other performances.

The Oakwood Schools Foundation is committed to supporting the aspirations of all Oakwood students, and to provide them the space they need to flourish. To find out more about the campaign, visit [flourishcampaign.org](http://flourishcampaign.org) or contact Development Director Brandy McFall at [brandy@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org](mailto:brandy@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org).







## OJH Presents 'Flyers'

Oakwood Junior High students presented "Flyers," a musical comedy about the Wright Brothers, in January. The cast welcomed Oakwood's Stephen Wright who shared stories with them about his famous ancestors. Next up for the theatre department is "The Wizard of Oz" March 10 – 12. Stay up to date on the arts in Oakwood Schools at [oakwoodschoools.org/community/fab](http://oakwoodschoools.org/community/fab).



## Preschoolers Learn About Other Cultures

Oakwood Preschool students are learning about a number of different celebrations throughout the year. In the spirit of the celebration of Kwanza students made unity bracelets.



## Students Support Food Drive Efforts

Oakwood elementary students organized activities in December to benefit others. Students at Harman School collected hats and mittens to share with refugee families in the Dayton area. At Smith Elementary, students donated enough non-perishable food to fill more than 17 barrels for the annual Holiday Aid food drive.

## Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor

Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor nominations are being solicited for fall of 2022, is a wonderful way to recognize and celebrate past teachers, staff and/or administrators who have made significant accomplishments in their careers, making a difference in Oakwood Schools students' lives, community and education and maintaining high standards in personal integrity and character.

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

Please consider nominating one of our past outstanding teachers, staff and/or administrators! If you would like to submit a nomination for the 2022 award, please do so on or before the deadline of Feb. 23, 2022 and visit [www.oakwoodschoools.org/Community/SamAndrewsEducationalHallOfHonor](http://www.oakwoodschoools.org/Community/SamAndrewsEducationalHallOfHonor) or if you have questions, please contact Sandi Branham at [branham.sandi@oakwoodschoools.org](mailto:branham.sandi@oakwoodschoools.org) or 937-297-5332.

## 2021-2022 School Year

### FEB 2022

- 3** OHS Curriculum Night
- 18** Early dismissal for Students
- 21** No School - Presidents Day

**22-25** No School - Winter Break

**28** Classes Resume

### MAR 2022

**25** No School for Students - Staff PD

**28-31** No School – Spring Break

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

**Stay connected with Oakwood Schools!**

[f](https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodSchools) @OakwoodSchools [t](https://www.instagram.com/Oakwood_Schools) @Oakwood\_Schools [i](https://www.youtube.com/Oakwood_Schools) @Oakwood\_Schools

*Continued from cover – 5 Things*

**1. The Children's Terrace.** The French doors in the new children's area not only bring natural light into the lower level, they also open to a gated Children's Terrace. The Children's Terrace connects the library to the beauty of Katharine Wright Park, offering space for reading, exploring, and community programs. Its terraced steps provide a spot to sit and enjoy the outdoors.

**2. Historical integrity.** Wright Library is on the National Register of Historic Buildings, which makes historic integrity an important part of any project. As you walk through the building, notice the refinished wood tables and chairs, original from 1939 as well as a few donated pieces. The wood finishes throughout the renovated spaces match the original woodwork in the Main level reading rooms.

**3. New - and old - stained glass.** The library installed two stained glass windows from the former children's room into the new children's space, and added a new piece. Thanks to the generosity of a patron, donated stained glass was used to create a new piece in the children's area. All three are backlit to bring more light into the room.

**4. Better access.** Making the library more accessible to all was a critical goal of the project. As you enter the building, notice the new lower park entrance, improved walkways, ADA-accessible and family parking spaces, and larger restroom on the Main level. You'll also find improved access to meeting spaces, including the new Community Room and new small conference room, both easily accessible from the Main Level entrance.

**5. Separate spaces for adults and youth.** The lower level teen area features computers, booths, and seating for teens. Upstairs, adult patrons will find their own computer section. By creating these separate spaces, the library is better suited to meet the needs of various age groups.



Furniture from an anonymous donor brings Wright Library's historic feel into newly renovated areas.

## Special Programs

Visit [wrightlibrary.org/calendar](http://wrightlibrary.org/calendar) or the Wright Library App for details and registration.

### FEBRUARY

- Adult Winter Challenge - Do Winter Wright Read or watch 5 books or films in any combination and fill out a game card by Feb. 28. Claim a prize while supplies last!
- Write@Wright - Writing Short Stories Writing workshop led by author Erin Flanagan. Sun., Feb 6, 2 p.m. Virtual
- Nailed It Valentine's Day Edition. Fri., Feb. 11, 7 p.m. Virtual
- Far Hills Speaker Series – Discovery and Renewal on Huffman Prairie Led by David Nolan. Sat., Feb. 20, 2 p.m. at Wright Library

### MARCH

- Write@Wright - Point of View (POV) Writing workshop led by author and educator, Katrina Kittle. Sun., Mar. 6, 2 p.m.
- Attracting Pollinators to Your Yard Led by Elisabeth Rothschild of Ohio Lepidopterists. Sun., Mar. 6, Virtual
- Far Hills Speaker Series – Bletchley Park & Alan Turing Led by retired Colonel Andrew Lloyd. Sat., Mar. 20, 2 p.m. at Wright Library

## Service Highlights

### Libby



Meet Libby. The app for borrowing eBooks and audiobooks on your device.

Browse, search, and discover thousands of ebooks and audiobooks. Explore Wright Library's digital collection through catalog guides, subjects, featured titles, and curated

lists. It's a delight to discover new books through Libby.

### Passports



Wright Library is a U.S. Passport acceptance facility, where new passport applicants can apply for new passports in person.

An appointment is required when applying for a passport. You must bring a passport photo to your appointment. Wright Library cannot take photographs at this time. If you need to renew your passport, you probably don't need to apply in person.

To schedule an appointment, find details about ID and photo requirements, or see instructions for renewing by mail visit: [wrightlibrary.org/services/passports](http://wrightlibrary.org/services/passports)



## Library Renovations



Daylight now fills the library's Park Level. New amenities include a cheery space for young learners, an additional entrance with a Holds Pickup Locker, and a family restroom.



Teens have a new home at Wright Library. Comfy seating, colorful study booths, and a computer lab for teens were a priority in the library's facility update.



On the Main Level a new floorplan allows for wider aisles and additional study space without diminishing the number of books.



The new Park Level Entrance features access to new ADA parking spaces and the Children's Terrace, a new outdoor learning space.



## City of Oakwood

30 Park Avenue  
Oakwood, Montgomery County  
Oakwood, Ohio 45419

### CITY OF OAKWOOD DEPARTMENT NUMBERS

City Manager's Office  
**937-298-0600**

Personnel & Zoning  
**937-298-0411**

Public Safety (non-emergency)  
**937-298-2122**

Engineering & Public Works  
**937-298-0777**

Finance  
**937-298-0402**

Income Tax  
**937-298-0531**

Leisure Services/Horticulture  
**937-298-0775**

## Oakwood Schools Welcomes New Board Members

Oakwood Schools is welcoming two new Board of Education members. Laura Middleton and Lauren Kawai were sworn in at the Jan. 10 meeting. They join Todd Duwel, Deron Schwieterman and John Wilson, who was also sworn in to a second term Jan. 10. For more information on the Oakwood Schools Board of Education, visit the Oakwood Schools' website.

### Laura Middleton

Middleton, her husband Matt, and two daughters moved to Oakwood in 2012, making Oakwood their home due to the excellent schools and the wonderful community.

A licensed clinical child and pediatric psychologist, Middleton worked at Dayton Children's Hospital for more than seven years, focusing on the emotional and behavioral health needs of children with acute and chronic medical issues. She also owns a private practice in Oakwood where she addresses general mental health issues as well as promotes well being, growth, and resilience in children. Middleton is a

clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Boonshoft School of Medicine at Wright State University.

Middleton has been involved in the community in a variety of ways, including serving as a Girl Scout leader, serving on local boards, volunteering at her church, volunteering within Oakwood Schools and serving as a precinct captain.

### Lauren Kawai

Kawai and her husband Yusaku (OHS '00) have three children. The oldest two attend Smith Elementary and the youngest currently attends preschool, but is headed to Lange in the fall.

Kawai grew up in Oakwood, graduating from Oakwood High School in 2001. She received a degree in Elementary Education from DePauw University in 2005 and a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Dayton in 2008. Kawai taught preschool at Top of the Hill in Oakwood, second grade at Hemby Bridge



Oakwood Schools Board members Dr. Laura Middleton, Lauren Kawai and John Wilson were sworn in Jan. 10 2022 for a term that runs through Dec. 31, 2025.

Elementary in Charlotte, North Carolina, and third grade at Precious Blood Elementary School (now Mother Brunner) in Trotwood.

An active community volunteer, Kawai has served on various committees within the MOMs of Oakwood, including the role of co-president. She has also served on the Smith Elementary PTO and is currently a member of the Oakwood Farmers' Market Board, Citizens for a Better Oakwood and the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition.