



FEBRUARY / MARCH 2023

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 | 2023-2024 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 two years, we have several significant and notable projects planned. *See pages 2-3 for more details on the improvement projects.*



SCHOOL NEWS | Community Celebrates Groundbreaking

Construction has begun on the new Rick and Jane Schwartz Performing Arts Wing at Oakwood High School and Oakwood Junior High. *(Continued on page 11)*



LIBRARY NEWS | Wright Library's Winter Challenge: "Novel-tea" is Underway

It's not too late to join the adult and teen winter challenge and add some novelty to your February. Register in person at the library, track your progress, and earn spins on the "Tea-rrific" prize wheel! *(Find details on page 11)*



CITY

P5: FIND OUT WHEN YOUR
2022 OAKWOOD INCOME TAX
RETURNS ARE DUE

SCHOOLS

P9: KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION

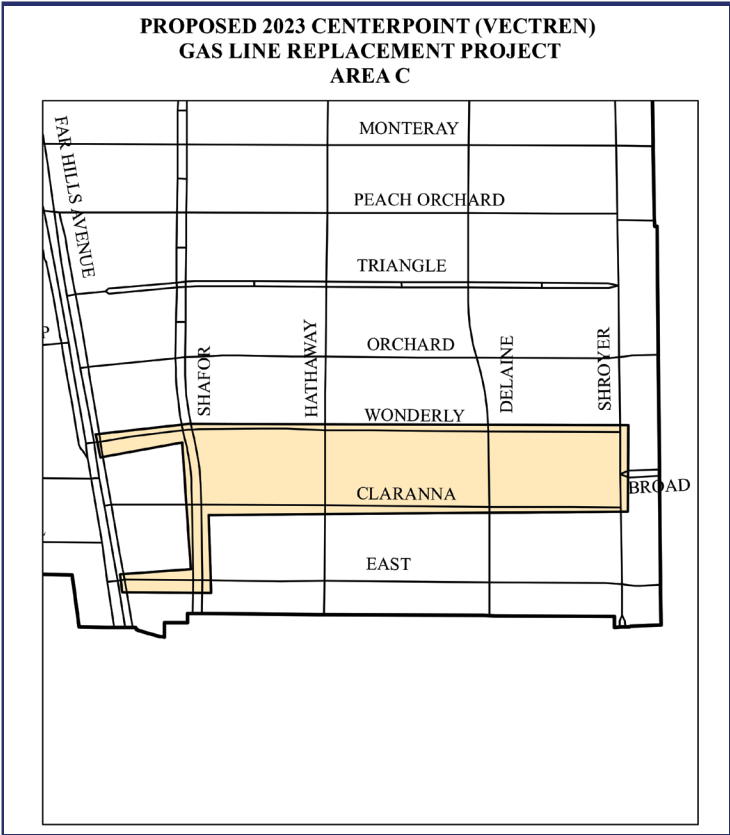
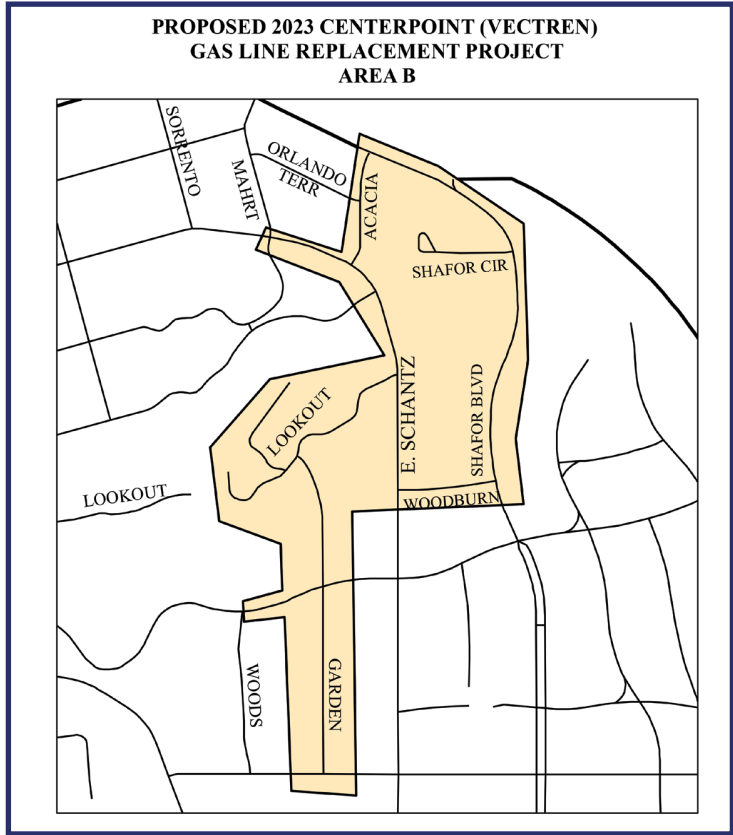
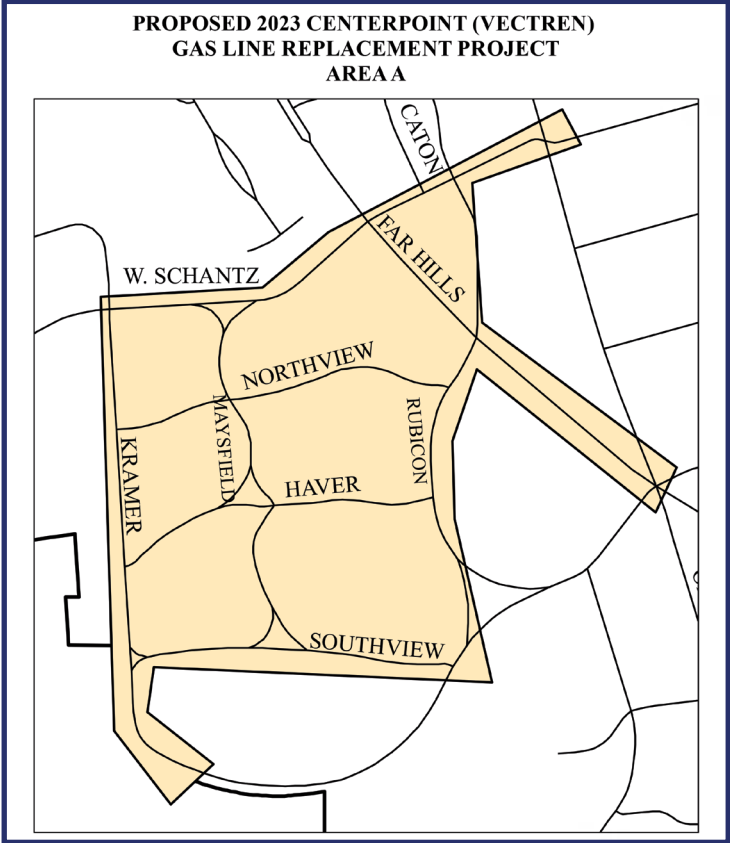
LIBRARY

P10: COMING EVENTS
AT WRIGHT LIBRARY

CITYWIDE PROJECTS

CenterPoint Gas Line Improvements

CenterPoint (formerly Vectren) continues replacing underground gas distribution pipes and home service lines in Oakwood neighborhoods. The maps below identify work programmed for 2023. 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. Contact Public Works 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>



CITYWIDE PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

Asphalt Roadway Resurfacing

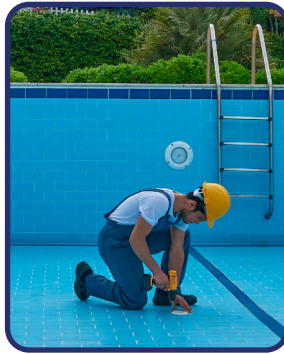
The *April/May Oakwood Scene* newsletter will include a list of the residential asphalt streets to be resurfaced this year. Another residential roadway resurfacing program will likely take place in 2024.

Concrete Street Repairs

Repairs will be made to several concrete streets around Oakwood. Details about the 2023 project will be included in the *April/May Oakwood Scene* newsletter.

Gardner Pool Deck Replacement

The Gardner Pool project is well underway. The work includes demolition and replacement of the concrete deck; installation of fencing around the zero depth wading pool (children's pool) and south side of the pool along Patterson Road; landscaping; and installing new pool lifeguard stands and diving platforms.



Annual Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project

The 2023 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project will take place in the southwest quadrant of the City, including all areas of Oakwood west of Far Hills Avenue and south of Park Road. 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. The 2024 project will occur in the southeast quadrant of Oakwood.



PROJECTS ALONG FAR HILLS AVENUE

Far Hills Avenue Stormwater Inlet Repair and Concrete Curb Replacement

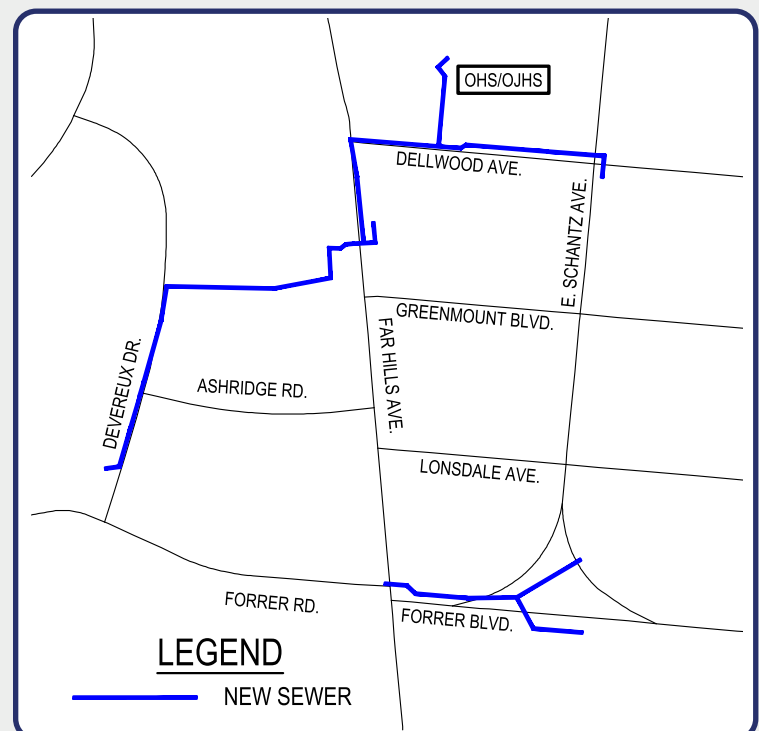
This year, the City will repair a series of stormwater inlets along the east and west sides of Far Hills Avenue, and will replace numerous sections of concrete roadway curbing, mostly between East Drive and Patterson Road. This project is being completed in advance of the 2024 Far Hills Avenue resurfacing.

Far Hills 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. Design work was completed last fall 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 on the project is anticipated to begin in late spring or early summer.

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.



2023 City Budget

On December 5, 2022, Oakwood City Council approved a 2023 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 32-member citizen budget committee and is accessible on the City website (search: 2023 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 ambiance is second to none.



February/March City Council Meetings

City Council will meet in regular public sessions at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 6 and Monday, March 6. Both meetings will take place at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. The regular sessions are preceded by an open work session beginning at 6:30 p.m. The regular sessions are televised live on the City website at 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 for broadcast times. Meeting videos can also be viewed on the City website at any time.

2023 Capital Improvements

The 2023 Budget appropriates \$5,302,994 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 2023 capital expenses include the following:

- Asphalt and Concrete Street Repaving Program: \$550,000
- Far Hills Stormwater Inlet and Curb Repair: \$375,000
- Far Hills Storm Sewer Reconstruction Project: \$2,163,394
- Sidewalk, Curb and Apron Repair: \$225,000

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, and camp counselors must be at least 18 years of age at the time of employments. Equal Opportunity Employer.



2022 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 16, 2023. 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, 2023. 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, 2023 will be subject to a 15% late payment penalty and interest.

The 2022 Oakwood income tax return is available on the City's web site at 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 2022 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 corona virus pandemic, this arrangement has become increasingly popular. If you were working at home during all or part of 2022, yet your form W-2 shows that your wages were withheld for another municipality in which you did not work, you must file for a refund for the taxes withheld to that city. Credit for taxes paid to other cities may only be claimed for another work city. You are only subject to another 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 17-18, when the office will be open until 6:00 p.m.



Oakwood Community Center Events

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 Sports Complex, 225 Old River Trail. Dates are from April 8 through May 24, 2023.



Magic Workshop: Saturday, April 15 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 or contact the Community Center at (937) 298-0775.



Electric Scooter Use in Oakwood

Electric scooters are a lot of fun and a great way to get around, but they can also present challenges in a walking community like Oakwood. As we see more of them in use around the city, please remember the rules for safe and legal operation on public streets and sidewalks:



1. When used on sidewalks, electric scooters are subject to the same rules that apply to bicycles. This means that scooter operators must always yield the right of way to pedestrians on foot. Reckless operation – which includes erratic riding, hand-held cell phone use or other distracted riding, unsafe speeds, or other careless behavior – is prohibited. When crossing a street, riders should cross with the appropriate light or walk/don't walk signal if one is present. Otherwise, they have the right of way as long as they are in a crosswalk and exercise due caution not to enter the street in front of oncoming traffic.

2. When used in the streets, the law treats electric scooters the same as a jogger or pedestrian using the street. This means users must ride on the left side of the road to ensure that they can see oncoming vehicular traffic. In addition, while scooters are permitted on most residential streets, they are prohibited on busier thoroughfares including Far Hills Avenue, Shroyer Road, Patterson Road, West Schantz Avenue, and the section of Oakwood Avenue between Far Hills and Irving Avenues.

Credit Card Security

Credit card security continues to be a challenge, particularly with the very heavy use of credit cards for online purchasing. There are several steps that you, as the cardholder, can take to improve the security of your credit cards.

GENERAL TIPS REGARDING CREDIT CARDS:

- Handle with care - It is never a good idea to carry a credit card on its own outside of your wallet or purse. A credit card can easily get misplaced or stolen, yet they tend to stay put when placed within a slot in your wallet or purse.
- Limit the number of cards you possess. Only carry those cards that you use on a regular basis.
- Shred your credit card statements and any other paperwork that contains information regarding your personal identity before putting it in the trash.
- Check your monthly statements, for sure, but also get in the habit of routinely checking your purchases online. It is the cardholder's responsibility to spot fraudulent charges and report them to the bank.
- Set up purchase notification alerts through your credit card company so you are immediately informed of activity on your account.



When making online purchases, adhere to the following tips to protect yourself and your identity:

- Try to use the same credit card for all online purchases so if it is stolen, you will only have to deal with one credit card company.
- Never use debit cards for online purchases - credit cards typically offer better protections to the cardholder.
- Never save credit card information on shopping sites. While this may speed up the process, it puts you at greater risk of becoming a victim of fraud or theft.
- Change your passwords regularly. This should include your email accounts. Use a combination of letters, numbers, symbols, and capital letters to make yourself less vulnerable.
- Don't use public Wi-Fi to make online purchases. Most public Wi-Fi spots offer little to no security protection and your personal information could be easily compromised.

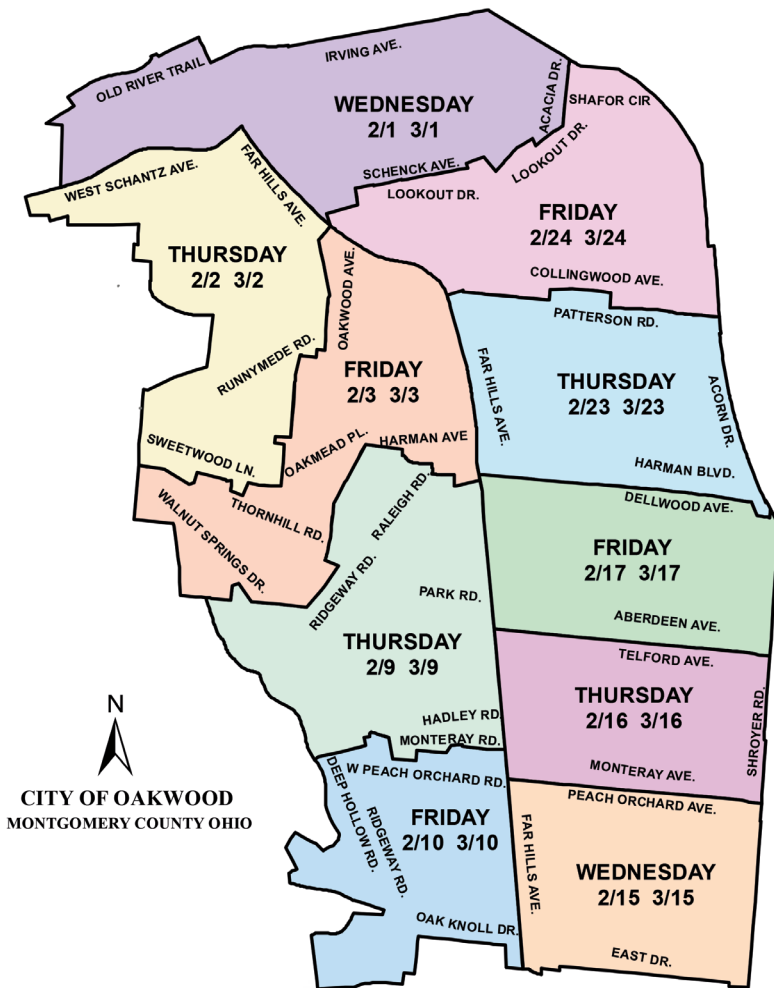
It is imperative that you report the loss or theft of your credit cards, ATM cards, or debit cards to the card issuer as soon as you become aware of loss, theft, or misuse of your account information. The vast majority of credit card companies have toll-free numbers and 24-hour service to deal with such emergencies. In most cases, the credit card company will request that you contact your local police agency to file a report. If your credit card company makes this request, please contact the Oakwood Public Safety Department at (937) 298-2122 to file the report.

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.



YARD DEBRIS PICKUP SCHEDULE FEBRUARY-MARCH 2023



Far Hills Ave. will be picked up on: **2/9 & 3/9**

Shroyer Rd. will be picked up on: **2/23 & 3/23**

Holiday Closing

City offices, the Community Center and the Public Works Center will be closed on Monday, February 20 for Presidents Day.

Presidents Day Trash Pickup

Please note that trash pickup for all routes the week of February 20 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.



Do Not Place Yard Debris in the Street or in Center Medians

The city of Oakwood offers several options for disposal of yard debris. The most popular method is via the monthly yard debris pickup. Residents may place piles of yard debris – brush and branches – into the tree lawn area at their property frontage just behind the curb or edge of pavement for pickup by the city. Residents should not place yard debris in front of other properties, nor should they place yard debris in any roadway center medians.

Under no circumstance should residents place anything in the street or roadway gutter (except leaves in the fall). Any amount of debris in the street is an obstruction and disrupts the stormwater collection system by diverting water away from the intended storm drains. Debris in the street can be dangerous to vehicles and is hard to see at night. Debris in the street also interferes with on-street parking and is a danger to pedestrians, joggers, and bicyclists.

It is against the law to place yard debris in the street. The only exception is for leaves during the fall collection program. As of January 1, 2023, the city's code enforcement officer responds to yard debris piles placed in the gutter or street by leaving a door-hanger notice at the property affording two business days to remove the obstruction from the street. After two days, the city will remove the obstruction and will charge the property owner \$150.

Property owners who routinely use the city's monthly collection program and wish to construct a hard surface pad (e.g., concrete, brick, paver) for debris placement should contact the code enforcement officer at (937) 297-2920 or see the city website for permitting information.

In addition to the monthly pick-up, the city offers other options for disposing of yard debris, such as the 24/7 drop-off facility at the J.D. Foell Public Works Center. Also, residents are provided two free special pickups per year, which can be used for yard debris. Additionally, dumpsters are available to be delivered free of charge for large amounts of green waste. More information on these options is available by contacting the Public Works Center at (937) 298-0777.

Nominate an Education Hero!

Parker Love of Teaching and Lifelong Learning Award Nominations are Open

Whether you are a current student, alumni or parent, you know the impact a wonderful educator can make in the lives of their students. They inspire, support, motivate and care for students on a daily basis, leaving their mark long after the school year ends.

Recognizing this impact, former longtime Oakwood Schools teacher Beverly Parker created the Parker Love of Learning and Lifelong Teaching Award in 2010 in memory of her late husband Robert Parker. Parker says her family benefited in many ways from Oakwood's outstanding school system and wanted to give back in a meaningful way.



Kathy Kash, Smith Elementary second grade teacher and 2022 Parker Award recipient, celebrated her award with Bev Parker.

Parents, students, community members, alumni, and other staff members are invited to 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 award recognizes educators and celebrates their contributions with an award consisting of a \$1,200 prize, divided between the recipient and an academic department, grade or program of the recipient's choosing. Smith Elementary second grade teacher Kathy Kash won the award in 2022. Now in its 13th year, The Oakwood Schools Foundation looks forward to awarding another deserving teacher this spring, when recipients are honored at a surprise end-of-year celebration. To learn more and nominate a teacher, visit oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org.

Community Celebrates Groundbreaking for Rick and Jane Schwartz Performing Arts Wing

Construction has begun on the Rick and Jane Schwartz Performing Arts Wing at Oakwood High School and Oakwood Junior High. The wing will provide enhanced classrooms, and rehearsal and performance space for related arts activities including choir, orchestra, and band. A groundbreaking ceremony was held Wednesday, Dec. 21. The new wing is the result of The Oakwood Schools Foundation FLOURISH campaign.

At the groundbreaking event, the OHS Band, led by Director Adam Uhlenhake, welcomed the community with members of the Oakwood Schools' staff, Board of Education and donors in attendance. OSF Development Chair Amy Martin OHS '98 kicked off the event and introduced guest speakers, including:

- **Kevin Jones OHS '82** - OSF Vice Chair and FLOURISH Campaign Chair
- **John Wilson** - Oakwood Schools Board of Education Vice President
- **Rick Schwartz OHS '67** - FLOURISH Honorary Chair
- **Dr. Paul Waller** - Oakwood High School Principal



During his remarks with wife Jane Flory Schwartz OHS '67 by his side, Rick Schwartz credited the "unsung heroes," the educators who inspired him and Jane in the classroom and throughout their lives. For Rick, it was Band Director Mr. Fred Walker, and for Jane, art teacher Mr. Carmichael who inspired them to give back to Oakwood Schools as the FLOURISH Campaign's lead donors. The groundbreaking event also highlighted the talents of Synergy, the OHS A Capella group, led by Director Jeremy Storost.

Fundraising for the FLOURISH Campaign will continue through 2023. The Oakwood Schools Foundation invites your support of this historical project that will have a lasting impact on generations of Oakwood Schools students. For more information, visit: oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org/FLOURISH.



Local Charities Benefit from Philanthropy 101

Oakwood High School's Wall Street 101 students are learning life lessons and making an impact on the community thanks to the Philanthropy 101 project. Each year, the project introduces students to local charities and the importance of giving.

At the end of the semester-long class, students create presentations about their selected charity. A panel of volunteer community judges scores the student presentations based on a rubric of presentation skills, determining monetary awards given to each charity. This year's panel included Oakwood Schools Foundation Trustees and fellow Philanthropy 101 Co-Chairs Emma Butler and Ashley Coyne, Mackensie Wittmer of National Aviation Heritage, Vince Russell of Johnson Investment Counsel and Matt Jessup of Jessup Wealth Management.

Ten student groups presented on five non-profit charities in December, resulting in \$4,400 awarded to the groups.

A special thank you to the 2022 Philanthropy 101 Annual Award Sponsors who made this program and the awards possible, including: Angela and Joel Frydman Family, Johnson Investment Counsel and Abby and Robert Wagner, with additional support from Jessup Wealth Management and The Dayton Foundation.

The Oakwood Schools Foundation would also like to thank Lee and Patti Schear, Kurt and Lisa Sanford, and Johnson Investment Counsel for their support of the Philanthropy 101 endowment which seeks to sustain the program for years to come. To support the effort, please visit oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org.



Students learn how service animals are trained with Janet Carpenter, Executive Director and Founder of Sophie's Companions for Veterans.

Oakwood Schools Prepares to Welcome the Class of 2036

Kindergarten registration for the 2023 – 2024 school year will begin Feb. 27. To register for next year, youngsters must be five years old on or before Sept. 30, 2023.

Families must reside within the school district boundaries and demonstrate proof of residence as outlined in the District's Residency Guidelines found on the District website.

To review the guidelines and begin the online registration process, visit the Oakwood Schools website at oakwoodschoools.org.

KEEP IN TOUCH: Connecting with friends, teachers and Oakwood Schools is easier than ever. Visit the District website at oakwoodschoools.org and search alumni. You can also email us at alumni@oakwoodschoools.org or call (937) 297-5332.

Celebrate Oakwood Alumni - Nominate Distinguished Alumnus Today

We are very excited to celebrate an outstanding group of alumni in September 2023. The Distinguished Alumni Award celebrates alumni who have made significant accomplishments in their careers or dedicated themselves to service while maintaining high standards of personal integrity and character.

The only requirement is the individual must have graduated more than 15 years ago. This year, we will accept nominees from classes 2008 and before. We hope to recognize our alumni who are achieving greatness at every stage of their careers and lives. The 2023 Distinguished Alumni Awards event will be a fun evening with friends and family of the recipients sharing stories and recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of our fellow alumni.

Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are honored with a plaque hanging outside of the Oakwood High School auditorium and recognized at the Homecoming football game the following evening.

Please consider nominating an OHS alum! Nominations are due March 31. For nomination information, visit: oakwoodschoools.org or contact Katelyn Brohman at alumni@oakwoodschoools.org.

2023 School Year

FEB. 2023

13 Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.

17 Early Dismissal for Students

20 Presidents Day – No School

21-24 Winter Break – No School

27 Classes Resume

MAR. 2023

13 Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.

27-31 Spring Break – No School

For the latest list of happenings in the Oakwood Schools go to 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.instagram.com/Oakwood_Schools) @Oakwood_Schools

Wright Library Eliminating Daily Fines on Most Items As Part of Fine Policy Changes

Wright Memorial Public Library, like many libraries in our region and across the country, is eliminating fines on most items in the collection.

Beginning Jan. 2, 2023, nearly all books and videos — those that were previously charged \$0.10/day in overdue fines — will no longer have fines assessed.

Fines will continue to be charged at the current rates for special items like interlibrary loans, video games, mobile hotspots, and Library of Things items (e.g. Makerboxes).

“The goal of library fines was to motivate timely returns. The new policy will better accomplish that goal while providing the broadest possible access to materials and services,” said Library Director Kristi Hale.

Visit wrightlibrary.org/policy-changes for details.

Wright Library Foundation Exceeds Goal

The Wright Memorial Public Library Foundation thanks the many generous donors who helped push the 2022 Annual Campaign above and beyond its goal.

“We are grateful for the loyal support of our community, and look forward to the new ideas and initiatives that can be powered by these donor gifts,” said Wright Library Director Kristi Hale.

The Wright Library Foundation board meets monthly to consider grant requests from library staff to fund high-impact programs, materials, and services that could not otherwise be funded by the library’s modest operating budget.

In addition to its annual fund campaign, the library foundation also manages major gifts and estate giving to support the library.

To learn more about the Wright Library Foundation, visit www.wrightlibrary.org/foundation.



Far Hills Speaker Series Spring Sessions Begin

Join the Oakwood Historical Society and Wright Memorial Public Library for entertainment and education. Whether you are a history lover or just interested in learning more about the place you live, the Far Hills Speaker Series has something new for everyone.

Lincoln's Northern Nemesis

Sun. | Feb. 19 | 2 p.m.

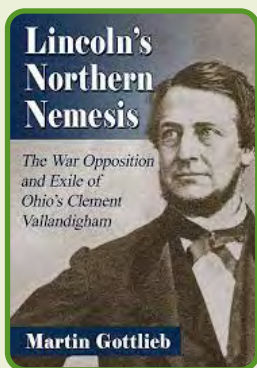
In honor of Presidents' Day, the series will delve into the life of Clement Vallandigham, a prominent Dayton Congressman who became one of Lincoln's strongest antagonists.

Who was Vallandigham and how did this Dayton lawyer, newspaper editor, orator and politician emerge to take such a strong stand against abolition, so strong that Vallandigham was eventually arrested, tried, convicted, and then exiled by Lincoln?

This is a presentation for all Lincoln buffs, civil wars historians, or people interested in how Dayton again played a significant role in national history.

About the Presenter

Martin Gottlieb is a retired journalist, columnist, and editorial writer for the Dayton Daily News for 27 years. Gottlieb wrote about local, statewide, national, and international events, everything from Dayton's effort to land a minor league baseball team, to the statewide redistricting issues that continue to this day, to presidential elections, to the Bosnia peace talks in Dayton and their aftermath.



Classic Architecture of Oakwood

Sun. | Mar. 19 | 2 p.m.

Continuing last year's celebration of the 150th anniversary of Oakwood's platting, this lecture explores the multitude of architectural styles within the Oakwood community. The rich diversity of styles — English Tudor homes, Georgian Revival homes, cottage style, and Craftsman style homes — are reflective of our community and its history.

As examples of our early 20th-century architecture are shared, the remarkable artistic details of the houses and the historical stories associated with them will come to light.

About the Presenter

Mark Risley is an active member of the Oakwood and larger Dayton community. Risley is a lecturer on a variety of topics including the great flood of 1913, Craftsman homes, the Mound Builders and Oakwood's Hidden Parks, and is an instructor for the University of Dayton's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Mark also is a contributor to the "Oakwood Register" Distinctive Homes section.



Wright Library's Winter Challenge: "Novel-tea" is Underway (CONTINUED)

The Novel-tea Winter Challenge will run through February 18. Adults 19+ and Teens Grades 7-12 can read books, listen to audiobooks, or watch films to earn a spin* on the prize wheels.

The "Tea-riffic" prize wheels include:

- a Harney & Sons' Best Sellers variety box
- tea/coffee from Equal Exchange
- boba tea kits
- snacks that pair with tea
- reading themed prizes for non-tea fans & library book sale vouchers
- and more!

Register in person at the library and pick up a tracking sheet.
Track progress and earn spins!

*Limit one spin per person per week.



Special Events: Visit wrightlibrary.org/calendar for a full list of library events.

FEBRUARY

Road to Effective Estate Planning

Sat. | Feb. 4 | 2 p.m.

Led by attorney Kim Estess.

Volunteering for Retired & Senior Adults

Fri. | Feb. 10 | 2 p.m.

Ages 55+

Join Hiroko Schierman to learn about RSVP, a Retired & Senior Volunteer Program.

Write@Wright: Writing Tough Topics for Teens

Fri. | Feb. 10 | 7 p.m. (Virtual – Registration Required)

Join Edgar-Award winning author Mindy McGinnis for the February Write@Wright workshop, made possible by a grant from the Wright Library Foundation.

Far Hills Speaker Series: Lincoln's Northern Nemesis

Sun. | Feb. 19 | 2 p.m.

Led by retired journalist, columnist, and editorial writer for the Dayton Daily News for 27 years, Martin Gottlieb. The series is sponsored by the Oakwood Historical Society.

The Newport Aquarium is Bringing Penguins to Oakwood March 4!

Live African penguins will visit the library with their human handlers to present information on the waddlers' natural history, geography, diet, and more. Visit wrightlibrary.org for all the details! Sponsored by the Wright Library Foundation.



MARCH

Write@Wright: Self-Publishing Best Practices

Sun. | Mar. 5 | 2 p.m. (Virtual – Registration Required)

Join author, editor, and publisher C.D. Tavenor for the March Write@Wright workshop, made possible by a grant from the Wright Library Foundation.

Make Art Like: Ed Emberley

Sun. | Mar. 12 | 2-4 p.m.

Ages 5-10

Come make art like Ed Emberley—a celebrated picture book illustrator who uses bold solid shapes and finger prints to illustrate children's books. This program can get messy; play clothes suggested.

Victoria Woodhall

Mon. | Mar. 13 | 7 p.m. (Virtual – Registration Required)

Learn the fascinating story of Victoria Woodhull: the first woman to run for president-IN 1872! This Ohio native achieved many "firsts" for women.

Irish Dancing

Wed. | Mar. 17 | Time TBD

The Nugent School of Irish Dance visits Wright Library on St. Patrick's Day, bringing liveliness, spirit, high kicks, and agile feet.

Far Hills Speaker Series: Classic Architecture of Oakwood

Sun. | Mar. 19 | 2 p.m.

Led by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute instructor, and contributor to the "Oakwood Register" Distinctive Homes section, Mark Risley. The series is sponsored by the Oakwood Historical Society.

Intro to Special Needs Planning

Thu. | Mar. 23 | 7 p.m.

Led by attorney Kim Estess.

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

Making A Difference

If all the world's a stage, Heather Jackson is helping to bring the world to Oakwood. The Oakwood resident since 2009 is passionate about the arts and hoping to spread that passion throughout the community. She recently joined The Oakwood Schools Foundation's efforts to enhance learning space for the arts in Oakwood Junior High and High School.

"Joining The Oakwood Schools Foundation Flourish Finale Committee this fall has been exceptionally fulfilling to me. Generations of my family and in-laws have been passionate about the arts and education and the arts in education," Jackson said.

Jackson is a graduate of Wright State University, earning a BFA in Theater Design/Technology and Stage Management. She has worked in theater and dance companies, dancing and managing groups across the country. She maintained her Actor's Equity Association and American Guild of Musical Artists memberships until becoming a stay-at-home mom in 2012. Her husband, Matthew Benjamin, is a theater professor at WSU and United Scenic Artists theatrical designer. Jackson says they moved to Oakwood for the schools and "completely fell in love with the walkability and community." The location also helps for getting together with family as five children and two grandchildren live nearby.

Shortly after her daughter Molly began attending Oakwood Preschool in 2015, Jackson found ways to support Oakwood Schools. She quickly joined the Smith Elementary PTO and made her first donation to the Oakwood Fine Arts Boosters.



In the years since, she has volunteered in the school library, classrooms and office, served as PTO president, publicity manager, recording secretary and vice president and helped raise more than \$45,000 for the Smith playground. She also makes times to help organize the Scholastic Book Fairs, coordinate room parents and welcome new families to the District.

"Volunteering and working with children in our schools and community has been one of the most rewarding things I've done in my life. Seeing their successes first hand and even being there to assure them their stumbles are a normal part of growing up has been awesome. Building relationships in our community has been a sanity saver over these pandemic years."

In 2021, Jackson was asked to serve on the board of the Oakwood Fine Arts Boosters.

"I was thrilled to assist with our return to an in-person event for Young@Art in March of 2022. The mission of the Fine Arts Boosters to promote and support the arts in all of our schools is especially close to my heart."

And now she hopes that love of the arts will continue to grow in Oakwood.

"I hope to see Oakwood Schools continue its commitment to academic excellence and expand its support of the fine arts."