

OAKWOOD SCENE

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CITY OF OAKWOOD, OAKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT AND WRIGHT MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

December 2007/January 2008

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CITY NEWS

Community Tree Lighting Ceremony at Shafor Park

The Annual Holiday of Lights Ceremony will be held at Shafor Park again this year. The event will take place at 6:30 P.M. on Sunday, December 9. All residents are invited and encouraged to hear the high school band and choir and other entertainment, enjoy hot chocolate and popcorn, and watch for a special red-suited visitor and his helpers from the North Pole.

The event is held in conjunction with "Lighting Up" of Oakwood. In addition to the activities mentioned above, there will also be carriage and wagon rides (free of charge) for citizens to view the lighted community. Rides depart from Shafor Park.

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SCHOOL NEWS

2007 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Scholars

We are pleased to recognize Oakwood High School seniors, Matthew Davis, Lilian Hartzell, Caitlin Jackson, Ty Kern, Kaitlin Key, Gabriel Svobodny, Elizabeth Swank, Jordan Taylor, and Calvin Williamson, who have been named Commended Scholars in the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

These students placed in the top 3.5% of college-bound high school students taking the PSAT in October of their junior year.

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LIBRARY NEWS

Library Book Club Meets at Starbucks

Wright Library has started a new book discussion club and has taken it "on-the-road" to Starbucks. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Starbucks at 2418 Far Hills Avenue in Oakwood. Reference Librarians Margaret and Laura will lead the discussions and they have chosen books in a variety of genres to spark lively discussions.

The book for the December 4 meeting is *The Professor and the Madman: a Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary* by Simon Winchester.

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“Lighting Up” Oakwood Set For Sunday, December 9

The City, under leadership of the Environmental Committee, is “Lighting Up” Oakwood on December 9, beginning at 6:00 P.M. This event is an effort to brighten the entire community at the onset of the winter holiday season. Luminarias will line the boulevards on Far Hills and on Shafor as well as the city building, community center, Smith Gardens, Huffman Park and other public areas. The committee encourages neighborhood participation and hopes to see many citizens joining in the fun.

Luminaria kits will be sold at the OCC. They are sold by the dozen at a cost of \$3.25 per dozen. The price includes the white bags, sand and 10-hour candles. Residents may purchase luminarias at the OCC during regular business hours beginning Monday, November 19. Residents interested in helping with this project should call Carol Collins at 298-0775.

Dog Licenses

Montgomery County dog licenses will be available at the Oakwood City Building from Monday, December 3, 2007 through Thursday, January 31, 2008. All dogs in Montgomery County that are three months of age or older must be licensed. The cost of the license is \$16. Payment for the license may be made by cash or check payable to the City of Oakwood.

Community Center News

Candy Cane Hunt: Join the OCC on Saturday, December 1 in Shafor Park for a candy cane hunt. Children ages 6-8, 2:00 P.M., and children ages 3-5 at 2:30 P.M.

Senior Holiday Luncheon: All seniors are invited to the 11th Annual Senior Luncheon on Thursday, December 6, 11:30 A.M. Free to all Oakwood seniors 60 and older, \$6 for non-senior or non-residents.

Breakfast With Santa: This event is scheduled for Saturday, December 8 from 9-11:30 A.M. The event is open to children ages 10 and under. Everyone attending must have a ticket to be admitted. Tickets are available at the OCC.

Pre-School Pillow Hockey: This program is designed for children ages 3-5. The focus is working on hand/eye coordination, sportsmanship, and having fun. This program will run from January 19 – February 16. All participants must be age appropriate when the program starts.

December/January Council Meetings

City council will meet in work sessions at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, December 3 and Monday, January 28, and in regular sessions at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, December 17 and Monday, January 7. All meetings will take place at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. The regular sessions are preceded by an open work session beginning at 6:00 P.M. Citizens are invited to attend any of these meetings. The regular sessions are televised live on cable TV. Please check your cable guide or www.mvcc.net/ for broadcast times. Within a week or so after the regular sessions, meeting videos may be viewed on-line at the city’s website www.mvcc.net/oakwood

Holiday Closings

City offices, the Community Center and the Public Works Center will be closed on Tuesday, December 25 for Christmas and Tuesday, January 1 for New Year’s.

The City offices, Community Center and Public Works Center will also be closed on Monday, January 21 in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please refer to the holiday refuse pickup article herein for refuse collection schedule.

Tax Season Approaches

Help direct your tax dollars to your community. Oakwood residents who work outside of Oakwood and incur business travel outside of their employment city can request a refund from their employment city. If you can provide a list of dates and work locations, along with vacation, holiday and sick days for which you were compensated during 2007, the Oakwood Tax Department will prepare the necessary tax returns in order to return the appropriate portion of your local tax dollars to the City of Oakwood. You will still pay the same total amount of tax.

For those individuals working outside the City of Oakwood, please review your pay stub to ensure proper withholding. You should be withheld for your city of employment, if applicable. If your employer also withholds a “courtesy tax”, (calculated as the incremental difference between your work and residence city tax rates) please make sure that your residence city is the City of Oakwood. If you have any questions regarding Oakwood income tax and filing requirements, please contact the tax department at 298-0531.

Safety Department Reminder

It is that time of the year again to make sure you have a working carbon monoxide detector for your house. Carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless, invisible gas. CO results from incomplete combustion from gas ranges, clothes dryers, furnaces, fireplaces, water heaters, automobiles, etc. Vehicles are the most common cause of CO poisoning. If you have an attached garage the gas can enter your home through the common entrance and walls. CO detectors should be placed on a wall about 5 feet above the floor. The detector may be placed on the ceiling. Do not place the detector right next to or over a fireplace. Each floor needs a separate detector. If you only have one detector place it near the sleeping area and make certain you can hear the alarm. Do not ignore the alarm; call the Oakwood Public Safety Department after you have exited the house.

Winter Weather Plowing Policy

In the event of a major snowfall, the city follows this policy to keep streets and alleys clear.

Salting: Major streets, hills and intersections take priority with residential streets following. In most situations, all streets are salted.

Plowing: During heavy snowfall, it may be necessary to clear streets of all parked vehicles. Please help us during any snowfall by not parking your vehicle on the streets. In emergency situations, temporary NO PARKING signs may be posted and cars parked in these locations may be towed.

Sidewalk Plowing: When there is an accumulation of 1" or more of snow, sidewalk plows are dispatched. Plows will make **one pass** through the city on all sidewalks accessible by our sidewalk tractors. Please remember that while our city offers this unique service, under city ordinance it is the property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks at their frontage clear of snow and ice.

Alley Plowing: Alleys are plowed after an accumulation of 4 inches or more of snow.

Driveway Plowing: If you are plowing your driveway, please make arrangements so that the snow is not pushed into or across the street. Also, please remember that it is the property owner's responsibility to make certain their own driveway is clear of snow and ice to allow the city refuse collection vehicles to enter into the areas in a safe and efficient manner.

Holiday Tree Disposal

Holiday trees placed between the sidewalk and curb will be picked up according to the normal brush collection schedule (see map below). These items should be placed at the property frontage as close to the curb (on the property side) as possible and not in boulevard areas. Please remove plastic covers from Christmas trees. Evergreen wreaths and boughs, wires, ribbons, ornamental items, and wrapping paper should be placed with your regular refuse items.

Cardboard Recycling

If you wish to recycle large amounts of cardboard, you may drop it off in the containers located at the Creager field parking lot at Shafor and Irving. These containers are accessible 24 hours per day. Small amounts of flattened cardboard may be placed with your regular recycling items.

Brush and Branch Collection

Brush and branch material may be placed between the sidewalk and curb for automatic collection by the city according to the schedule below. Please do not place any brush and branch material in the streets or boulevards. Brush should be no longer than 6 feet in length and in a manageable pile that is away from trees, poles, fire hydrants and other obstructions.

Leaf Pickup

Autumn leaf pickup service is scheduled to conclude on December 21, 2007. Please remember that leaves should be raked to the curb or gutter, but must not be bagged. Also, no brush, branches or other yard debris should be included with the leaves. This other yard debris should be placed off the street behind the curb, or in containers with the regular trash if it is a small amount. Please be aware of the safety concerns of having leaves in the street and spread out large piles to avoid blocking entire lanes of roadways. The leaf pickup schedule is the same as the brush and branch schedule per the map below.

Special Pickups

The city's special pickup program suspended during leaf season will begin again on January 2, 2008. You may schedule this service on or after January 2nd by phoning Theresa Caldwell at the Public Works Center at 298-0777.

Holiday Refuse Pickups

The refuse collection schedule will be adjusted during holiday weeks as shown below:

Week of December 17

On normal schedule.

Weeks of December 24 and 31

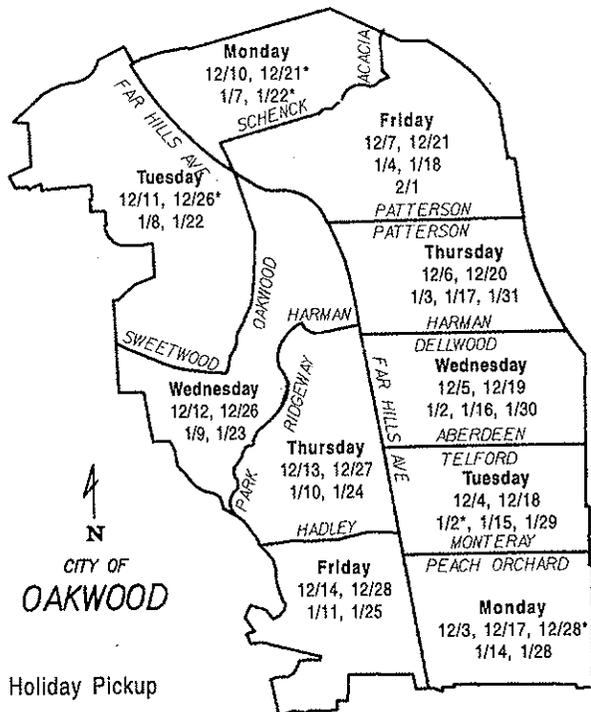
Regular Schedule	Holiday Schedule
Monday	Monday AM**
Tuesday	Wednesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday

Week of January 14

Regular Schedule	Holiday Schedule
Monday	Tuesday
Tuesday	Wednesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday

Please note that on December 24th and 31st refuse collection will take place entirely in the morning, so please have all of your materials out by 7:30 A.M. with driveways clear of obstructions.

Curbside Yard Debris Collection Schedule



* Holiday Pickup

The following two roads are scheduled as follows:
 Far Hills Avenue: 12/13, 12/27, 1/10, 1/24
 Shroyer Road: 12/6, 12/20, 1/3, 1/17, 1/31

Library News (continued from page 1)

The group will not meet in January because the first Tuesday is New Year's Day. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 5 when the club will discuss *The Pale Blue Eye* by Louis Bayard.

Advance registration is not necessary. Just come to Starbucks ready to enjoy the discussion. Call the Wright Library's Reference Desk at 294-7171 if you have questions about the book club.

Wright Library's Web Site Has a New Look

Be sure to visit the Library's updated web site at www.WrightLibrary.org. The site was designed to function as a "web branch" of the Library. Popular activities that patrons might do on a visit to the Library are easy to find and use, such as requesting a new book, asking for research help or interlibrary loans, searching the catalog, and checking a calendar of programs. Blogs and Instant Messaging are new additions that will make keeping in touch with your library easy and fun.

Shop for the Library

While you are visiting the Library's web site, click on "Support Wright Library" and investigate how your holiday shopping can make money for the Library. Using the Library's links to Amazon.com and Powell's Book Store will raise funds, as will purchasing from the many popular online merchants available through ShopfortheLibrary.net. (Be sure to choose Wright Memorial Public Library as your beneficiary.) Merchants include hundreds of popular online stores that you may already use: Bloomingdale's, Coldwater Creek, Harry and David, Hickory Farms, Home Depot, J. Jill, J. C. Penney, Lands' End, Macy's, Norm Thompson, Old Navy, Saks Fifth Avenue, Sharper Image, The Body Shop, and The Container Store, to name a few. Using ShopfortheLibrary year-round raises extra cash for Wright Library.

Lifelong Learning Enhances Quality of Life

The opportunity for lifelong learning was identified as an important factor for older adults' health and communities' quality of life in a survey released last year by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Partners for Livable Communities, and MetLife. The many baby boomers who will be retiring in upcoming years will increasingly seek lifelong learning programs and activities.

Public libraries provide countless opportunities for lifelong learners, whether they are still active in careers or retired. Self-instruction books, videos, and audio programs are available on everything from foreign languages to web site design to yoga. Call the Reference Librarians at 294-7171 for help choosing materials to support your lifelong learning goals.

At Your Service: A Nationwide Lending Network

If your reading tastes include vintage books or titles that are perhaps more academic than typical public library fare, Wright Library can help. The Library participates in an interlibrary loan network that can borrow items from public and academic libraries all over the country. Books usually arrive within a few days to three weeks after request. Any item not owned by Wright Library can be requested. Call the Library at 294-7171 to place a request, stop by the Reference Desk, or place your request online at www.WrightLibrary.org.

Creating the Future

As part of the process of updating its strategic plan, Wright Library is looking for suggestions from the public on what you'd like to see the Library do in the next three to five years. From December 10 through January 15 you may fill out a suggestion form at the Library, or on the "Contact Us" area the Library's the web site at www.WrightLibrary.org.

Oakwood City Schools Weather Closings and Delays

In the event that winter weather conditions cause school to be delayed or closed, the school district will:

- announce on TV and radio by 6:30 A.M. the status of school that day. We will either delay the opening to 9:30 A.M. or cancel school for the day.
- use The One Call Now system (*new this year*) to call parents for closings or delays. To ensure you are called in an emergency, please be sure that your child's school has your current emergency contact phone number.
- publish the status of school that day on our district website at www.oakwoodschoools.org.

If school is delayed:

- classes at Smith, Harman, Oakwood Junior High, and Oakwood High School will begin at 9:30 A.M.
- morning sessions for kindergarten, preschool, and South Connection are cancelled.
- afternoon sessions for kindergarten will operate as usual.

If school is closed:

All classes and programs are cancelled. This includes the preschool program and South Connection.

For Lange School only:

When Kettering Schools are closed there will be no bus transportation for kindergarten. If Oakwood Schools are open, parents will need to transport their children to Lange.

Oakwood is a "Walking Community." Students are reminded to dress appropriately for the weather conditions.

December 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Sadie Hawkins Dance 8:30-11 p.m.
	Band Parent Mtg 7-9 p.m. City Council Work Session 5 p.m.	TriM Music Honor Society 6:30 p.m. Gr. 3-6 Wrestling 7 p.m.	Booster Spirit Shop 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. SH Ecology Club 11:43 a.m. Plan Comm 4:30 p.m.	JH Lego League 12 Noon Muse Machine 2:15 p.m. Gr. 3-6 Wrestling 7 p.m.	JH Dance 9:30- 11:30 p.m.	1
2						8
Tree Lighting at Shafor Park 6 p.m.	JH Film Club Movie Days 11:50 a.m. Board of Education 7:30 p.m.	Ath Booster Spirit Shop 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Parent/Principal Mtg 11:45 a.m. Board of Education Work Session 5 p.m.	Smith Holiday Concert 10:30 a.m. SH Ecology Club 11:43 a.m. Smith Skateworld Party 3:45 p.m.	PTO Mtg 11:45 a.m. JH Lego League 12 Noon Gr. 3-6 Wrestling 7 p.m. Superintendent Neighborhood Mtg 7 p.m.		15
9						14
Holiday Concert 2 p.m.	Library Board Mtg 7 p.m. City Council 7:30 p.m.	JH Lego League 12 Noon Musical Auditions 3:30- 6:30 p.m. Gr. 3-6 Wrestling 7 p.m.	SH Ecology Club 11:43 a.m. PTO Lunch 11:45 a.m. Musical Auditions 3:30- 6:30 p.m.	Musical Auditions 3:30- 6:30 p.m. Gr. 3-6 Wrestling 7 p.m.		22
16						21
30	31 Library Closed	Christmas Day City Offices Closed Library Closed				28
						27
						26
						25
						24
						23
						29

NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK

Oakwood City Schools Parent Email Groups

Each of our schools maintains an electronic mailing list for the purpose of sending important and sometimes time-sensitive information to parents. If you have not yet subscribed, please do so by following these steps:

1. Go to www.oakwoodschoools.org
2. Roll the mouse over "Schools" in the left column, click on the appropriate school
3. Click on "Click here to subscribe to the Mailing List"
4. Click on "Subscribe to the Mailing List"
5. Click "Send"

Please Note: You must subscribe from the email account where you want to receive the emails. (You may subscribe from as many accounts as you want.) Example: If you want to receive the emails at home, you must follow these steps using your home email account. If you have any trouble with these steps, please contact the building secretary for help.

Staying in Touch: A Luncheon with Residents

Friday, February 29, 2008 ♦ 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Edwin D. Smith Elementary School

Are you an Oakwood resident *who does not have children in school*? Would you like to talk about what's happening in our schools? If you are, this is an opportunity for you to attend a luncheon with our Superintendent and district administrators to learn more about our successes, our challenges, and other important information.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Sandy at the Oakwood Board of Education Office at 297-5332 or maresh.sandy@oakwood.k12.oh.us by February 20.

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