

OAKWOOD SCENE

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

August/September 2006

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CITY NEWS

Public Safety Director Alex Bebris



On Friday, July 14, Alexander P. Bebris assumed duties as our new Public Safety Director. Chief Bebris replaces former Public Safety Director Chief Glen Beddies who retired on October 3, 2005. Alex was selected from a field of 85 candidates from around the country.

Alex Bebris formerly served as Chief Deputy for the Adams County, Wisconsin Sheriff's Department. That department serves a county of 18,600 residents. Before

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SCHOOL NEWS

Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor Ceremony and Luncheon September 8, 2006

We are pleased to announce that Alois "Chip" Seidl and Robert Whiteside, Oakwood educators, have been selected for induction into the Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor this year on September 8, 2006.

☛ **Mr. Alois "Chip" Seidl** taught Industrial Arts at Oakwood Junior/Senior High School from 1969-1998. He also held several coaching positions over the years. Most notably Mr. Seidl is known for developing Oakwood's wrestling program and coaching the wrestling team for 27 years.

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LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading, a Key to Student Success

This year Wright Library involved 350 children in grades K-5 and 75 teens in grades 6-12 in the Summer Reading Program. Activities included crafts, snacks, music, storytelling, movies, and rewards for reading books. The Library's Summer Reading Program encourages students to read for fun. It gives them the opportunity to develop interests in areas they may not study in school and keeps their reading skills sharp while school is out.

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(City News continued from page 1)

that, he served as Chief of Police for the city of St. Charles, Minnesota. Chief Bebris began his career in 1988 when he served as a University Officer while attending Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Since his graduation in 1991, he has held several positions of increasing responsibility, ultimately being appointed St. Charles Chief of Police in 2000.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Marquette and is a graduate of the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Just prior to joining Oakwood staff, Alex served as adjunct instructor of Criminal Justice at Sanford-Brown College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Oakwood Public Safety Department is very unique in that all officers are qualified in police, firefighting and emergency medical services. As Public Safety Director, Chief Bebris is responsible for delivery of all three public services.

Chief Bebris is in the process of relocating to the Dayton area with his wife Carrie and their two children. In his free hours, he enjoys spending time with his family, golfing, gardening, and model railroading. Carrie is a novelist and freelance writer/editor best known for her historical mysteries. She spent most of her childhood in Toledo and is also a Marquette graduate.

Alex is currently attending the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg. He will be formally introduced to the Oakwood community at the September 18 city council meeting.

Ice Cream Social

This year, the annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, August 20 from 3:30 - 7:00 P.M. at Shafor Park. Games will begin at 3:30 and dinner served from 4:30 - 6:30 P.M. Pre-sale tickets are available at \$5.25 from July 17 until 5:00 P.M. on August 19. After that, tickets will be \$7. For additional information, phone the OCC at 298-0775.

Beautification Awards

The Oakwood Beautification Award Program is designed to recognize residential, business and rental property owners who have enhanced the beauty of our community through the use of flowers, shrubs, trees, and other landscape improvements; or by making architectural modifications or building improvements to existing structures. Awards are given during the months of May, June, July, August and September. Monthly award winners will be selected by members of the Oakwood Environmental Committee and Property Maintenance Board. Winners will have a sign placed in their yard to recognize their beautification efforts.

Congratulations to the owners of the following residential and business properties which were selected as winners for May and June:

May Beautification Awards

- ⊗ 432 Shafor Boulevard—Mr. and Mrs. John J. Kanet
- ⊗ 1408 Schantz Avenue—Mr. and Mrs. Sven Anstadt
- ⊗ 204 Forrer Boulevard—Mr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Turben
- ⊗ 2100 Far Hills Avenue—Mr. William W. Burnett
- ⊗ 215 Triangle Avenue—Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Cosgrove

June Beautification Awards

- ⊗ 334 E. Thruston Boulevard—Joseph H. Vierckl and Maria Renner
- ⊗ 2016 Far Hills Avenue—Mr. Christopher Walker
- ⊗ 1501 Shafor Boulevard—Ms. Stacy L. Silverstein
- ⊗ 219 Triangle Avenue—Mr. and Mrs. Byron R. Stirsmann
- ⊗ 646 Runnymede Road—Mr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Teeters
- ⊗ 36 W. Dixon Avenue—Mr. Stephen M. Adler

If you know of someone who has enhanced the beauty of our community by planting shrubs, flowers, trees or with other landscaping improvements, or by making architectural or building improvements (including painting) to existing structures, and is deserving of recognition, we encourage you to take a minute and complete a nomination form (forms are available at the OCC and city building) or simply call the city offices at 298-0411 and the nomination can be taken over the phone.

Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project

The City of Oakwood and Environmental Committee will again offer the Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project to Oakwood homeowners. Applications and detailed brochures describing the project and the tree species will be available in late September from the OCC or by calling 298-0775. Property owners may choose from four or five varieties of trees. The trees selected will be approximately 2" in diameter and will be discounted at 50% to residents. One tree will be allocated for each approved property site at the discounted price and must be planted in the city right-of-way. Trees will be planted the latter part of November or the beginning of December. They will be planted by a local nursery, wrapped, staked, mulched and guaranteed for one growing season. For more details, call the OCC at 298-0775.

Mark Your Calendars

Labor Day Closings

City offices, including the Public Works Center, will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2006 for Labor Day. Refuse collection will be one day late that week. Monday's route will be collected Tuesday; Tuesday's route will be collected Wednesday; Wednesday's route will be collected Thursday and Thursday's route will be collected Friday.

The Community Center offices, Health Center and Teen Center will be closed on Sunday, September 3 and on Labor Day. Gardner Pool will be open from 11:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. through September 4, 2006.

August/September City Council Meetings

Mondays: Regular Sessions—August 7 and September 18 at 7:30 P.M.; Work Session—Monday, August 21 at 5:00 P.M. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers, 30 Park Avenue. You are invited to attend or view meetings live on cable television. Please check your cable guide for rebroadcast times.

Oakwood Community Center Activities

September Junior High Dances are as follows: Friday, September 8 and 22 from 9:30–11:00 P.M. after home football games.

Story Hour at Smith Gardens

The OCC, in conjunction with the Wright Memorial Library, is pleased to present the final session of "Story Hour at Smith Gardens." Spend a magical morning in the Gardens as the Children's Librarian, Jennifer Sommer, reads enchanting stories to your preschoolers. The event is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on Friday, August 25. In case of rain, the program will be held in the Garden House.

Safety Department Information

We are in the middle of summer and more children are out on bikes, in the parks or going to the pool. It is a good time for parents to stress safety with our children. Bicycle helmets have been proven to significantly reduce or prevent head trauma in accidents. Please make sure your child has a properly fitted bicycle helmet and wears it at all times. Occasionally inspect the helmet with your child for damage, defects and proper fit. Immediately replace any helmet found to have an obvious defect or that no longer provides a proper fit. Have your child lock their bikes when out of their sight. This helps to deter bike thefts which often occur in parks and public areas where numerous bikes can be found.

Talk to your children about strangers and suspicious activity. Make sure your child knows what to do if they are approached by a stranger or observes suspicious activity. Teach your children to always be aware of their surroundings. While Oakwood is a very safe community, all adults should also be vigilant and report any suspicious activity or persons to the Oakwood Public Safety Department immediately by calling 298-2122. Citizens and the Safety Department working together can keep Oakwood a safe community.

Smith Gardens Blanket Concerts

The final concert for the season is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on Sunday, August 27 featuring "The Fries" and is free to the public. In case of rain, the concerts will be held at the Oakwood Community Center.

Brush and Branch Collection

Brush and branch material may be placed between the sidewalk and curb, or on the property side of the curb in places without sidewalk, for collection by public works department crews according to the schedule below. Brush and branches must be no longer than 6 feet in length and in manageable piles. **Please do not place any debris in the streets or boulevards.**

Special Pickups

To arrange for a special pickup (sofas, stoves, etc.), please contact the public works department at 298-0777. Items for special pickup must be placed on driveway or paved surface and must be accessible to city equipment. Special pickups will once again be suspended for leaf collection beginning in mid-October through the end of the year, so please plan your projects accordingly.

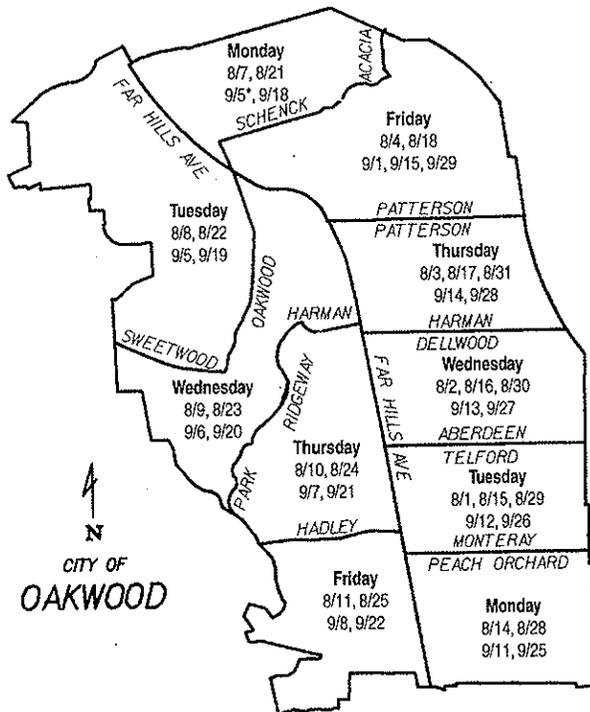
2006 Curb, Walk and Apron Program

The 2006 concrete curb, sidewalk and driveway apron repair project will continue through the summer with the goal of substantial completion prior to school starting. Please call Bart Bornhorst at 298-0777 with any questions.

Brush and Branch Trimming

Do tree limbs hang over your sidewalk, the street or alley behind your house? Do your bushes obscure stop signs or other street signs near your home? Tree and shrub maintenance by homeowners keeps Oakwood safe and beautiful—and it is the property owner’s responsibility. Please take a few minutes this summer to inspect the trees and bushes along your property frontage and, if applicable, in your alley. City ordinances require all property owners to trim any tree, plant or shrub so that it measures no less than 8' above the sidewalk and 14' above the street or alley. Vegetation should be cut so that it does not restrict your view as you pull out of your driveway. If you live on a corner lot, be sure that motorists have a clear line of sight from each side of the intersection. Anyone residing near stop signs and other street signs must be certain that the signs are not obstructed by vegetation.

The Public Works and Leisure Services Departments periodically trim trees in tree lawn areas (the space between the street and sidewalk), but your help goes a long way to help keep our city safe and protects you from liability.



* Holiday Pickup

The following two roads are scheduled as follows:
 Far Hills Avenue: 8/10, 8/24, 9/7, 9/21
 Shroyer Road: 8/3, 8/17, 8/31, 9/14, 9/28

(School News continued from page 1)

☛ **Mr. Robert Whiteside** taught Physical Education at Harman and Smith Elementary Schools from 1974-2001. He was an excellent physical education teacher who made gym a fun place to be. Mr. Whiteside started the recognition program referred to as the "Harman School Super Sport".

A luncheon will be held at The Mandalay Banquet Center at 11:45 A.M. on Friday, September 8, 2006, where the new inductees, as well as previous recipients of the award, will be honored. The inductees will be available at 11:30 for a meet and greet session prior to the luncheon. The public is invited to attend the luncheon (cost is \$15.50). To make reservations for the luncheon, please call the Board Office at 297-5332 by Tuesday, September 5.

Friday evening, (September 8) at 6:45 P.M., the recipients will be available to meet with you in the Alumni Terrace on the southwest corner of the Mack Hummon Stadium. Prior to the start of the home football game with Carlisle, a plaque will be presented to the new member of the Sam Andrews Educational Hall of Honor in a brief awards ceremony.

New 2006 – 2007 Staff Members

- Deb Osterfeld, PE/Adaptive PE Teacher–Smith School
- Lori Kavanagh, English Teacher–Sr. High School
- Ken Weaver, English Teacher–Sr. High School
- Beth Fasig, Intervention Specialist–Sr. High School
- Jeff Meek, 6th Grade Teacher–Harman School
- Patricia Reymann, 5th Grade Teacher–Harman School
- Ashleigh Spencer, Intervention Specialist–Smith School
- Kathleen Jabir, Intervention Specialist–Harman School
- Nicole Carlson, Intervention Specialist–Jr./Sr. High School

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Remember!
School Starts August 23, 2006

(Library News continued from page 1)

Summer reading programs at public libraries have a long history. They began in the late 19th century as a way to encourage children, especially urban children, to maintain their reading skills and to develop good learning habits by reading daily.

A study reported in the February 2002 issue of *School Library Journal* verifies that students participating in a

summer reading program are more likely to read at or above their grade level than their nonparticipating peers. Those reading above grade level are more likely to retain those skills into the next school year.

Children who see their parents reading are more likely to enjoy reading themselves. Ask the Children's Librarians for more tips on how to encourage your children and teens to read throughout the year.

A Visit to Wright Library...a Great Value

Shopping List:	Wright Library	Retail	Amazon.com
2 popular mystery books	\$0.00	\$49.90	\$32.34
1 "how-to" book on home improvement	\$0.00	\$29.99	\$20.39
1 Harry Potter book	\$0.00	\$29.99	\$18.89
2 children's picture books	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$20.80
1 unabridged audio book on CD for listening in car	\$0.00	\$19.95	\$13.96
1 DVD of a favorite movie	\$0.00	\$29.98	\$19.99
Ask reference librarian to find current value of antique radio	Priceless	Not available	Not available
Total:	\$0.00	\$191.81 plus tax	\$126.37
Out of pocket cost to do this once a month for a year	\$0.00	\$2,301.72 plus tax	\$1,516.44

Volunteer Recognition

This summer several teens volunteered their time and talents to help librarians with programs for younger children: Ben Banning, Michael Collins, Lyndsie Daeger, Ellen Geiselman, Grace Hahn, Katie Fritz, Austin Loftus, Tia Manaris, Claire Roess, Sarah Shewell, David Wang, Sarah Wilhoit, and Lauren Yu.

Scott Pritchard helps out regularly at the Library with a variety of tasks including moving donated books to the book sale storage area and checking shelves to make sure books are in the right order. Jake Basnett is a volunteer shelver and Chris Kolasa cleans videos and CDs.

Oakwood Rotarians John Berthy, Becky Butler, Steve Byington, Jim Ervin, Sue Gunnell, Earl Pritchard, Michael Roediger, Jim Schmidt, and Kevin Werst spent a Saturday morning doing yard work at the Library. They trimmed bushes, weeded, and cut back ivy that was starting to grow up the sides of the building.

Tom Scheidt, musician and longtime friend of Wright Library, volunteered to present a concert in August for Wright Library's patrons.

Many thanks to all for being great community volunteers!

Reading Recommendations for Adults from Ann Snively

Nonfiction

Hungry Planet: What the World Eats by Peter Menzel

This is a photographic collection exploring what the world eats. It features portraits of thirty families from twenty-four countries surrounded by a week's worth of food. I took this book home and sat down to browse for a few minutes. Before I knew it, two hours had passed while I was engrossed in details of the differences in the food supply available to people around the world. The photo of a German family shows them surrounded by a lavish room full of the fresh and packaged foods that they have purchased for one week's meals. A family in Africa is shown with the few bags of grain and buckets of water that make up their weekly food supply. The differences in food and cooking customs, preferences, and availability around the world were unexpectedly fascinating.

Fiction

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

A thought-provoking selection for book discussion groups, *Never Let Me Go* is the latest novel from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Remains of the Day*. Main character Kathy and her friends Ruth and Tommy grow up together in what seems like an idyllic setting. Yet their boarding school in the English countryside is kept curiously isolated from the rest of the world. As they reach adulthood, more is revealed about their origin and purpose in life. Is it a dark purpose, or is it for the good of humankind? You decide.

Upcoming Library Events

- ◆ *Friday, August 4, noon-3:00 P.M.—“Release the Creature Within” for anyone entering grades 6-12.*

A makeup artist will discuss and demonstrate the wonderful world of bringing creatures to life with the use of makeup. Each participant will have the chance to use “paint” to transform himself or herself into an animal or monster. Held in the Library meeting room. Pre-registration required.

- ◆ *Saturday, August 5, 2-3:30 P.M.—Pet Contest and Summer Reading Club Wrap-Up Party*

Held on the Library's north lawn. The Pet Contest will be cancelled in case of rain, but the Wrap-Up Party will move indoors to the Library meeting room. Bring a pet

to be judged in a variety of categories. An adult must accompany every child entering a pet in the contest. All pets must be leashed, caged, or otherwise physically controlled. Pre-registration required. An adult must sign an insurance liability form at the sign-up desk the day of the contest. Open to all ages including adults as part of the Adult Summer Reading Program.

- ◆ *Wednesday, August 9, 6:30 P.M.—Summer Family Blanket Concert by Debbie Clement*

Columbus area musician and storyteller Debbie Clement will perform. Held on the north lawn of the Library. Bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating. Rain site is the meeting room.

- ◆ *Sunday, August 13, 2:00 p.m. —Afternoon Concert by Chazz*

Popular musician, entertainer, and good friend of the library Tom Scheidt will present musical styles from Celtic to Calypso with his group Chazz. Children are welcome as always, but the performance will be more geared toward adults and teens. Held on the north lawn of the Library. Bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating. The concert will be held in the meeting room in case of rain or excessive heat.

- ◆ *Monday, August 21, 7:00 P.M.—Library Board meeting in the Library meeting room*

- ◆ *Thursday, August 24, 5:00 P.M.—Movie night for teens entering grades 6-12*

View the movie “Chronicles of Narnia” and join in the summer Wrap-Up Party. Pre-registration required. Held in the Library meeting room.

- ◆ *Saturday, September 9, 3:00-4:00 p.m.—Books and Blocks resumes for ages 6 and under**

Every Saturday in the Library meeting room. Drop in for pop-up books, blocks, puppets, puzzles, and coloring stations. “Mrs. G.” and teen volunteers will read stories to small groups and individual children in between all the busy activities. Suitable for young children with special needs. No registration is required.

**Ages 2 and under must be accompanied by an adult.*

- ◆ *Monday, September 18, 7:00 P.M.—Library Board meeting in the Library meeting room*

- ◆ *Wednesday, September 20 through Sunday, September 24—Annual Book Sale*

Held in Library meeting room during regular hours. Hardcover books \$1.00 each; children's books and all other items 50 cents each. \$2.00 per bag on Sunday.

August 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Plan Comm 4:30 p.m.		Release the Creature Within (Gr. 6-12) 12-3 p.m.-Library	Pet Contests/Summer Wrap-up 2-3:30 p.m.-Library
		1	2	3	4	5
	City Council 7:30 p.m.		Family Concert 6:30 p.m.-Library	Zoning App 4:30 p.m		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Concert by Chazz 2:00 p.m.-Library						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Ice Cream Social 3:30-7 p.m. Shafor Park	Library Board Mtg 7 p.m.		First Day of School	Movie Night (Gr. 6-12) 5 p.m.-Library	Story Hour at Smith Gardens 10 a.m.	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Smith Gardens Blanket Concert 7 p.m.						
27	28	29	30	31		

Story Hour Schedule Begins September 5

For Toddlers (2 year-olds and their caregivers), sessions run from September 5 through October 26. Registration begins August 21. Held in the Children's Room.

- Tuesday session, 10:00 A.M.
- Thursday session, 10:00 A.M.

Preschoolers, ages 3-5. Held in the Children's Room.

- Monday, 7:00 P.M.
- Tuesday, 1:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, 10:00 A.M.

Family Story Hours for all ages. Held in the Children's Room.

- Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

Books and Blocks for children under age 6. Held in the Library meeting room.

- Saturdays, 3:00-4:00 P.M.

Visit the Calendar of Events at www.WrightLibrary.org for additional programs and updates.

Library Board Meetings

Regular Library Board meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the Library's meeting room. Regular meetings, special meetings, and committee meetings are posted on the bulletin board across from the Library's checkout desk. The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

Library Hours

Library hours are 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Friday, and 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday and Sunday.

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