



WARD 3 - WINTER BULLETIN


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Greetings and Welcome to 2010!

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS

 Due to the devastation in Haiti, many groups are accepting donations for families and individuals affected by the earthquake. With so many choices available, it can be hard to distinguish among groups that truly want to help versus groups that are deceitful. We also have to consider the timeliness of the groups' efforts. If you want to donate anything to help Haiti, I suggest you do so through your local church or through the American Red Cross. There are a few options you can use to make your donation if doing so through the American Red Cross. If you have a cell phone, you can text "**Haiti**" to 90999 and a \$10 donation will be added to your cell phone bill. A second option is to visit the American Red Cross website at www.redcross.org and search on "Haiti Relief and Development" to make a donation via credit card. A third option if you don't want to donate by credit card or have access to a computer is to mail a check to the address: *American Red Cross, P.O. Box 4002018, Des Moines, IA 50340-2018*. When mailing a check, please indicate **Haiti Relief and Development** on the memo line.


U.S. CENSUS 2010

 You will receive the United States Census 2010 form in March. It is **very important** to fill out this form. We are at a time in our economy when everyone, including our government leaders, are trying to cut back and save money. When you receive your form, it is imperative that you complete and drop it in the mail by **April 1, 2010**. Census takers will visit households that did not return a form by the deadline. In addition, please be honest in your responses, especially questions involving age and race. According to U.S. Census Bureau at www.census.gov, the information the census collects helps to determine how approximately \$400 billion dollars of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and services like: hospitals, job training services, schools, senior centers, bridges, tunnels and other public works projects and also emergency services. The government needs an accurate count of those living in your home, and living in the entire Village of Oakwood. This allows your local government leaders to apply for grants and/or resources to help our residents and bring in new businesses. Did you also know an accurate census for us also affects our school system? The Bedford City School District needs to account for all the children in the district so it can create more programs that are beneficial to the needs of Bedford Schools' students. **The Census form only contains 10 questions**. Please take the time to complete it. If you have any questions about the form, you may contact me and I will assist you.

TIPS FOR SHOVELING YOUR DRIVEWAY

This winter, Oakwood has had several weeks of heavy snowfall. Like me, residents have had to shovel their driveways more than once in a single day. If you often shovel your driveway, please be mindful of your health. Here are some tips to make shoveling easier and safer: 1. **Push rather than lift** to avoid straining or twisting your back. 2. **Pace yourself**. Don't shovel more than 15 minutes before taking a break to warm up and rest. 3. **Dress warmly**. Try to reduce the chances of getting sick while shoveling snow. 4. **Watch for ice**. Look out for ice under the snow or on the ground that can cause you to slip and fall. Black ice, which looks like water but is actually thin ice, can be especially dangerous. 5. **Listen to your body**. If you feel tightness in your chest or have any pain, stop right away and call your doctor. If you're sore after shoveling, take a hot bath, get a massage, or take a pain reliever. If you still don't feel well, see your doctor. Hopefully these tips will help ease your shoveling experience as we ride out the remainder of this season.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

 If you have access to a computer, you can sign up for CodeRed on our village website, www.oakwoodvillageoh.com. This is an emergency notification system that calls your home or cell in the event of a tornado, flash flood, and severe weather warnings. This system also notifies you in the event of emergency situations or critical village alerts. Examples include evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 440-665-3360 or at aakins@oakwoodvillageoh.com. For emergency situations, please call 911 and for non-emergency police, please call **440-232-1035**.