

COUNCIL

Council President

Spring 2009

THE VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

In Washington For You

While at the National League of Cities (NLC) in DC on March 13th, I met with members of the U.S. Senate and Congress; Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, Congressman Dennis Kucinich as well as a special liaison on staff at the office of Senator George Voinovich. During these meetings, I had the opportunity to discuss not only the needs of our own community but of neighboring communities for regionalizing our efforts to pursue grant money and other opportunities.

I have been selected to participate on a committee that is addressing regional concerns. Each of these officials have indicated to me that they are in support of many of our concerns and objectives

and request that I stay in contact with them to address the needs of our community and financial support required.

I was selected as one of the first to attend the NLC Crises Leadership Training for Local Officials pilot program. From the training and information presented, I am now working with other local and national leaders in preparing disaster strategies incorporating a comprehensive plan for Oakwood Village in conjunction with our neighboring communities for disasters we may experience such as black outs, flooding, tornadoes, etc.

The program is sponsored by NLC and FEMA, funded by Homeland Security.



Johnnie A. Warren
Council President



HELP FOR THE PREVENTION OF HOME FORECLOSURES

COMMUNITY WIDE MEETING TO ADDRESS FORECLOSURES

Council is partnering with Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland (NHS) in putting together an informative seminar for homeowners in our community..

NHS has helped low to moderate income families with pre- and post-purchase education, flexible loan products, inspection and rehabilitation.

The organization also helps

identify the common causes of foreclosure and prevention and intervention strategies.

The **seminar will take place on Thursday, April 23, 2009 at 7:30 pm at the Oakwood Village Community Center**, 23035 Broadway Avenue. Light refreshments will be served.

Individual counseling will be available for those who are interested. Simply bring a

recent pay stub or proof of income and a mortgage statement or letter from your lender. There will be space provided for privacy.

In these turbulent times many of us are facing tough financial issues.

Please feel free to visit their **w e b s i t e** at www.nhscleveland.org or you may contact them at 216-458-4663.

Community Center Renovation



Broadway Walkway

Many of you will notice that our community center has received a much needed "face lift".

In 2008 Council passed ordinance 2008-08 authorizing the Village Service

Director to prepare plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the community center re-flooring project.

Along with the improvements you will find an audio and

visual system which will be available for many events.

The additional funding for the audio and visual system was approved as part of the 2009 budget.

Your Council At Work

Visit the village website where you will find information about council members, contact information, departments, links, newsletters, view the village calendar, sign up to receive email alerts and much more! Our website: www.oakwoodvillageoh.com

Council is hard at work. Some of the ordinances council passed last year and so far this year are; 2008-13 passed April 8, 2008 establishing a tax exemption for View Ray, the most recent high tech company to call Oakwood Village its corporate home which is located on Thermo Fisher Way.

2008-14 was passed December 9, 2008 approving phases I & II of the Meadows of Oakwood. The Meadows has raised the level of income per household in Oakwood putting this village sixth in the county with communities as Pepper Pike, Moreland Hills, Orange, Brecksville and Solon being named above Oak-

wood.

Other improvements passed by village council are: 2008-31 designating the Mt. Zion Fine Arts Center as a disaster refuge, 2008-40 appointment of Brian L Thompson as our Finance Director, 2008-42 Grant application from OPWC for funding of the Medusa and Division Street Reconstruction projects, 2008-52 which brought Home Instead Senior Care to Oakwood village implementing a job creation grant, and 2008-71 which secured the purchase of much needed Fire and Rescue equipment.

This year, council passed 2009-04 which provides the village with "Code RED" otherwise

known as "Reverse 911". This will enable the village to contact each home in the event of a disaster, inclement weather, and community events. The system has the capability to notify residents via telephone, cell phone or email.

To view a complete list of ordinances please visit our website at www.oakwoodvillageoh.com (click council, then legislation). You may also contact Debra Hladky, Council Clerk at 440-232-9988 x 125 or email: dhladky@oakwoodvillageoh.com



Will you know what to do if disaster strikes?

The Southeast CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) offers free training on how to handle emergency situations from fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. If you are interested or are just looking for more in-

formation, please go to the Oakwood Village website at www.oakwoodvillageoh.com and click on Departments, Fire then CERT. You may also contact Joel or Debbie Hladky (village residents) at 440-232-8183 or email dhladky@myfishonline.net for more informa-

tion.

The Southeast CERT encompasses the communities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Glenwillow, Maple Heights, Oakwood Village, Walton Hills and Warrensville Heights.



CPR Training

Did you know that our very own Fire Department offers *Free* CPR training each month?

Take advantage of this free service. Simply phone the fire department's non-emergency number

at 440-232-1035 for more information.



Keep it in Oakwood

When you renew your motor vehicle license plates please remember to **list Oakwood Village as your city of residence.**

In doing so, our community gets its fair

share of the annual license tag fees. We use the money toward street repairs.



More From Washington

I have the pleasure of being appointed to serve on the NLC—Community and Economic Development (CED) Steering Committee.

The meeting I attended in Washington concentrated on opportunities for our community to participate in the stimulus money offered by the federal government for infrastructure im-

provements and other community projects.

The CED Steering Committee is an advocacy group part of the NLC for many of the social and economic development concerns of local municipalities which addresses concerns on a national basis with our congressional and senatorial leaders as well as

the administration.

This meeting as well as future meetings will continue to address the concerns and needs of local government and I dedicate myself to communicating the needs of our community to our federal officials as well as seeking funding for our needs.



Why Are My Sewer Rates Going Up?



Both Northeast Ohio (NEORS) and Bedford Heights (BHSD) sewer bills have steadily increased over the last several years and are going even higher. Below is a comparison of the 2007-2009 NEORS and BHSD rates per mcf. According to the NEORS, one of the reasons that water and sewer rates are increasing is because of a federal mandate to reduce storm water outflow.

Year	REGULAR CUSTOMERS		HOMESTEAD CUSTOMERS	
	NEORS	BHSD	NEORS	BHSD
2007	\$35.10	\$33.35	\$23.55	\$22.35
2008	\$37.85	\$35.20	\$25.40	\$23.85
2009	\$40.90	\$38.10	\$27.45	\$25.50

For more information about your sewer bill please contact NEORS at 216-641-6000 website: www.neors.org/index.php
BHSD at 440-786-3201 www.bedfordheights.gov/water



It Takes a Neighborhood to Make a Community, a Community to Make a Village, and a Village to Raise a Child

Does Your Neighborhood Have A Community Block Club or Ward Club?

Oakwood Village is a family friendly village.

These clubs are beneficial in that they

enhance communication between your neighbors, councilperson, and the Mayor's office.

We already have a few working organizations in our community.

In order to foster a community wide effort, we are looking for individuals who would be interested in helping to set up a street club or neighborhood club in your area.

If you are interested please contact your councilperson.



Rubbish Collection



As a reminder, Rubbish must be placed on the tree lawn no earlier than one-hour prior to sunset the evening prior to, or by 7:00 am, the day of regular rubbish collection. Empty containers shall be removed from the tree lawn no later

than midnight of the day of collection (section 981.03 codified ordinances of Oakwood).

Rubbish takes place on Mondays by Waste Management **except on New Years Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day,**

Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Waste Management at 440-439-3555.

HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS



The Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP), through the Cuyahoga County Department of Development Housing Division is available for homeowners looking to do some repair, maintenance, remodeling, landscaping, correct

code violations and property upgrades. There is no income limit for the borrower.

For more information contact Rick Frumkin at 216-443-8079.

Other loan programs include The Home Weatherization Assis-

tance Program, Down-Payment Assistance and the Housing Loan Program for Seniors.

There are informational brochures at Village Hall or you may access the HELP website at www.development/cuyahogacounty.us

Contact your Councilperson



Council Position	Name	Contact Number
Council President	Johnnie Warren	440-232-6776 x 151
Council-at-Large	Elaine Gaither	440-232-1976
Ward 1	Harry Painter	440-439-6789
Ward 2	Eloise Hardin	440-232-5750
Ward 3	Diana Cobb	440-439-1731
Ward 4	Patricia Rogers	440-439-2059
Ward 5	Mildred Tabor	440-232-1955
Clerk of Council	Debra Hladky	440-232-6776 x 125

Are You In A Flood Zone?

FEMA recently updated the Cuyahoga County flood hazard maps.

Many of our residents that were previously included in a flood hazard zone have now been removed while others may have been added. This may eliminate the mandatory requirement of your mortgage companies requiring flood hazard insurance.

Residents in the original flood zone will be contacted soon to update them as to the recent change.

There will be a Flood Risk Information Open House on April 14, 2009 from 4-7pm at NEORS, 4747 E. 49th St., Cuyahoga Hts. You may also be contact by mail to update you on these changes.

Scholarships



Please remind your student that the interview process will take place April 2nd and 4th. **Your student must have signed up for one of the interviewing time slots and must keep his/her appointment in order to qualify for a scholarship.**

Please contact: Yvonne Warren, Chairperson of the Oakwood Scholarship Committee 440-232-0775

Did You Know?

As a village homeowner, your taxes are lower than 52 of communities in the northeast Ohio area.



Only 8-10% of your property taxes go to the village, 68% goes to Bedford Schools and the balance is distributed between the state and county.

For a home that is valued at \$100,000, the village receives \$80-\$90 annually from your

property taxes.

Nearly 80% of village revenue comes from our local businesses; 2% payroll tax. Every \$1,000,000 (\$1 million) in payroll brings \$20,000 in revenue.

High tech and medical related businesses bring in higher payrolls yielding higher revenue. This is why we are proud to attract businesses such as Thermo Fisher Scientific, Medical Service Companies and our

most recent company, View Ray. With the addition of View Ray, Broad Oak has been recognized as the High Tech and Life Science Park in our region.

We will continue to seek out these types of high quality businesses that will offer financial security for our future.





GOOD NEWS !

While in Washington DC I enrolled our community in the National League of Cities (NLC) Prescription Discount Card Program. The CVS Caremark administers the NLC prescription discount card program. More than 59,000 retail pharmacies and all major pharmacy chains nationwide participate in the program. With this program our residents without prescription coverage can save an average of 20% off the retail price of prescription medications. You will be notified as soon as we receive the NLC prescription discount cards which can be distributed by your council member, picked up at village hall and many of our local pharmacy chains. We expect to receive the cards in six to eight weeks



Hawthorne Valley
Bike Path
Richmond Road

Pedestrians on the Rise

Most of us are pedestrians at one time or another. We usually take for granted that we can walk without incident however, accidents still occur.


Please be aware of some basic rules for walking:

1. If sidewalks are not available, walk on the edge of the road facing traffic.
2. Wear bright colors or reflective clothing.
3. Cross at marked cross walks or intersections.
4. Look left, right, and left for traffic prior to crossing the road.
5. Carry a flash light while walking near dawn or dusk and after dark.
6. Make eye contact with drivers while crossing busy streets.
7. In bad weather, take care that your umbrella or raincoat does not prevent oncoming vehicles from seeing you.
8. Obey traffic signals.

9. Note that if you are **escorting your pet** off your property, please **do not forget your pooper scooper**. Section 505.18 in the codified ordinances of the Village of Oakwood states that it is a **misdemeanor in the fourth degree** if the owner of the animal does not remove animal excrement from public or private property.

The Pooper Scooper Law



It's cheaper to scoop 

Than to pay the loot



Up to \$250 Fine

