

# The Village Voice

### A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NIKOLIC

Dear Resident of Oakwood Village,

My name is Erica L. Nikolic, and as a result of the passing of our beloved Mayor Gary V. Gottschalk, I've been appointed to lead Oakwood Village. I am taking this time to introduce myself.

I am a deeply-rooted product of this community, so much so there's a small park named in honor of my family. My aunt, Gloria Wainwright, also served as a councilwoman in Ward 5.

A fourth-generation resident and graduate of Bedford High School, I left Oakwood to attend Duke University and later Fordham University School of Law. Back then, I planned to go out and make my mark in the world. I went on to study and work abroad, which allowed me to build a wealth of experience in contract negotiations, litigation, and international public policy.

Becoming a mother inspired me to reconnect with my roots. When my son was two, I returned to Oakwood with a renewed perspective and a strong desire to contribute to our community. I realized I could put my skills and experiences to meaningful use.

Prior to this appointment, I served as Vice Mayor/Council President. On Council, I chaired the Environmental Committee, where I initiated a community garden, worked with residents to plant over 100 trees, established an annual Earth Day celebration, hosted two EV car shows, and launched the drafting of our first Climate Action Plan. In addition to working closely with the late Mayor Gottschalk to implement policies and initiatives aimed at improving services, infrastructure, and economic development, I also paid strict attention to the village budget as a member of the Finance Committee. Moreover, I served as a liaison between the council and community organizations, representing the village's interests and advocating for residents' needs.

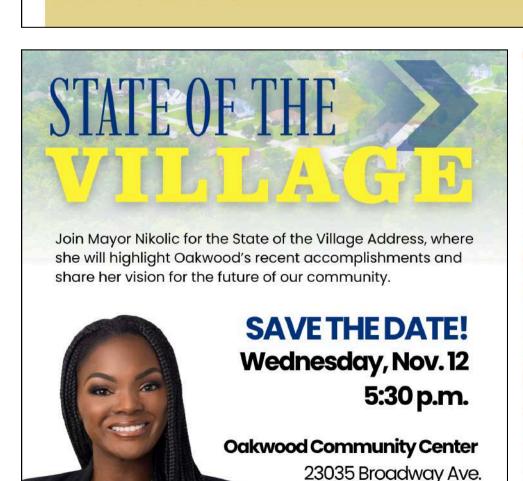
Assuming this role, I do so with excitement, passion, and a steadfast commitment to serving the residents of Oakwood. While we honor and preserve the most valuable parts of the late Mayor Gottschalk's legacy, our shared focus must be on continuing to build a healthier and stronger Oakwood Village. As your mayor, I look forward to meeting you and hearing your thoughts and concerns.

Proud to serve,

Suca L. Nifelic

Mayor Erica L. Nikolic Esq.





Oakwood, OH 44146

## Oakwood Safety Forces Halloween Bash

Join Mayor Nikolic and Oakwood's Safety Forces for a scary good time. Learn safety tips and meet those who protect and serve you daily.

**Sun. Oct 26<sup>th</sup>** 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

\*Arrive promptly to ensure you can get your shoes and find your lanes.

### **Roseland Lanes**

26383 Broadway Ave. Oakwood, OH 44146

### To register:

call 440-232-9988 OR email: enikolic@oakwoodvillageoh.com





# OAKWOOD VILLAGE TOWN HALL MEETINGS

- Wednesday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 19th at 6:30 p.m. . Holiday Party!

Oakwood Community Center | 23035 Broadway Ave.

FREE Food | Music | Trivia | Q&A Session

Mayor Erica L. Nikolic

Office:(440) 232-9988 enikolic@oakwoodvillageoh.com



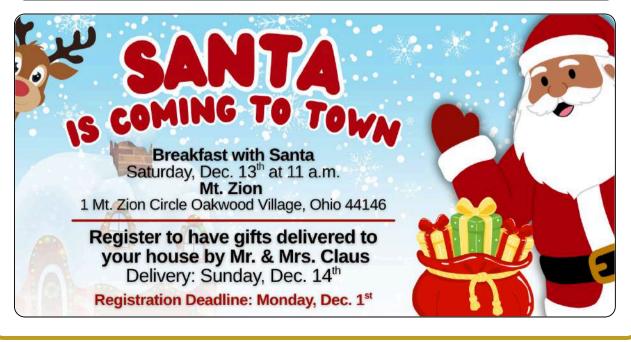
### Honoring Mayor Gary Gottschalk's Favorites



Mayor Nikolic proudly carries on the beloved traditions of Mayor Gary by hosting these cherished Oakwood Village events. **To register**, **please call 440-232-9988 or email enikolic@oakwoodvillageoh.com**.







### Growing a Greener Oakwood: Mayor Nikolic's Vision for a Sustainable Future

One of Mayor Nikolic's key initiatives is building a more sustainable Oakwood. Over the past year, the Village launched a tree-planting program to help expand our community's tree canopy — offering free trees for residents to plant in their yards.

As part of this broader sustainability effort, then-Council President Nikolic also introduced a community garden, where neighbors will have a space to learn about planting, harvesting, and growing together. This initiative is scheduled to launch, spring 2026. Kickoff meetings for those who reserved plots will soon be scheduled.



# Sustainable Home Fair

Let's shrink Oakwood's carbon footprint together! Learn how to live greener and smarter. Green vendors and resources will be available to help you establish a more sustainable home.





Let's work together to make our village more sustainable for future generations.

-Mayor Erica Nikolic

Join us on:

Wednesday, Dec. 10 6:30 p.m.

Oakwood Community Center 23035 Broadway Ave.

## Community Connections Initiative

New community wellness programs are launching soon in Oakwood Village! Interested in joining? Call 216-550-3097 or email ericanikolic@oakwoodvillageoh.com to learn more or sign up.

# Hands & Hearts | Programming



Creative courses that allow learners to work with their hands and connect with their hearts.



#### **Crocheting & Knitting Club**

Love to knit or want to learn? Join our Knitting Club! All skill levels welcome — bring your needles and let's stitch together.

### **Soul Food Cooking Classes**

Soul food classes serve up more than just flavor. Join our soul food classes and bring tradition to your table.



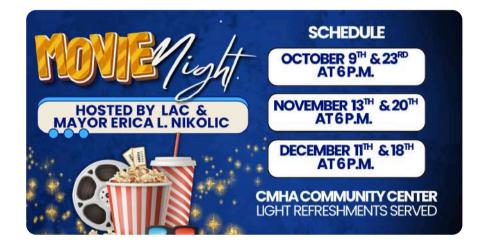
## **Bridging Generations Academy**

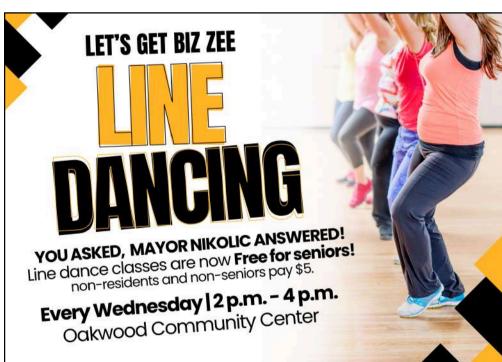
First project out of the initiative where our seniors from our community teach our youth.

#### **Homework Help**

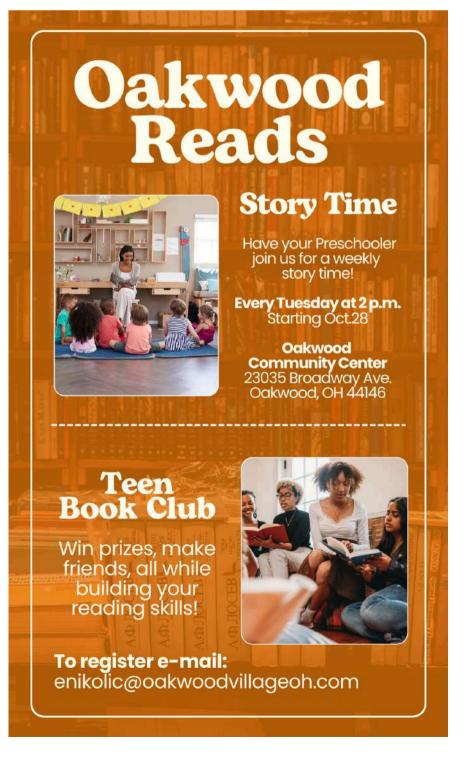
Need help with your math or reading homework? Come join us for a little extra help!











where you can share, learn, and connect with others who understand the autism journey? We Are you looking for a supportive community THURSDAY, NOV. 20 | 6:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22 | 6:30 P.M. invite you to join our Autism Support Group! THURSDAY, DEC. 18 | 6:30 P.M.

SUPPORT GROU

OAKWOOD
COMMUNITY CENTER
23035 BROADWAY AVE.
OAKWOOD, OH 44146





Mayor Erica L. Nikolic

The Village Voice

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oakwoodvillageoh.com



**HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS** 



STAY IN GROUPS STAY ON SIDEWALK WHEN POSSIBLE



**EXAMINE CANDY BEFORE EATING** 



**USE FLASHLIGHTS/** REFLECTIVE CLOTHING FOR VISIBILITY