

Letters to the Editor

Youth playtime toy info needed

Friends:

I need some information from our OR readers, men and women, about one aspect of their own growing-up play time experiences. Please briefly respond via email to jkuphoff@aol.com with the following information. No names are needed!

Your gender (M or F)

When were you in elementary school? The 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, or 90s.?

To what extent did you play with any of the following toys?

Tinker toys
Erection sets

Gilbert metal puzzles
Lincoln logs
Legos
etc.

If you played with any of the above, what do you feel that you learned from that process?

Thank you for responding to this request to help me prepare for a future column or two but using your local information and experiences as a key part.

Sincerely,
James K. Uphoff, Ed.D.
150 Spirea Dr.

To the staff of Harman School and the Oakwood School District - a heartfelt thank you

Thank you for all you did to make the administration of H1N1 vaccines so tolerable. Since Harman received more doses of the shot (Ouch!), painless is not the right description of the day! Still, teachers, nurses, and other staff members got our children through the process with efficiency, kindness and care. Allyson Couch, the Harman School principal, did an amazing job communicat-

ing with parents and teachers and offered encouragement and comfort to the students. Bobbie Logan, the Harman nurse, worked many hours to make sure the wishes of every family were followed. Thank you Bobbie!

Thanks to the district administrators, Superintendent Mary Jo Scalzo, Treasurer Kevin Philo, Director of Educational Services Pam Taiclet, and Director of Curriculum Kim Kappler-

Hewitt. It was wonderful to see you hand out paperwork, lollipops and stickers to the students as they left the auditorium.

Oakwood schools are great for many reasons. The care, compassion and respect I saw at Harman School this week is just another thing to add to the list.

Julie Cannon
Oakwood

H1N1 student inoculations a success

November 2009 will forever become part of Oakwood's rich history as the time when over 1400 Oakwood students received the H1N1 flu vaccine while at school. Many Oakwood students will undoubtedly one day tell their future children how they received either a "shot" or a "sniff" of the H1N1/swine flu vaccine while at school and describe their experience to them.

Undoubtedly the memories of this event will vary with each child. Some children will remember being accompanied by their parents while receiving the vaccine. Other children will remember lining up with classmates to receive the vaccine surrounded by caring teachers, nurses and administrators. Regardless this was most likely a once--in-a-lifetime event children will remember and talk about years from now.

History will tell us more about H1N1/Swine Flu vaccinations of 2009. It is a huge undertaking by the Montgomery County Health Department to provide vaccine to all children with parental consent in Montgomery County. Oakwood School District personnel worked especially hard to assist in this undertaking. Dr. Mary Jo Scalzo, Oakwood Superintendent, all of our principals, secretaries and nurses are to be especially thanked



Dr. Ed Spitzmiller and Karen Keller, RN, carried the day.

as they worked many additional hours to set up flu clinics in each of our buildings. Dr. Richard Garrison, Oakwood's Health Commissioner gave us medical guidance along the way. It was not an easy task for an educational institution to become a "flu clinic" but the task was done with dedication to the well being of our students.

Our parent and community volunteers cannot be thanked enough for their assistance in this endeavor. We had numerous outstanding nurse and physician parent volunteers who arranged their work schedules so they could spend a day volunteering their medical expertise administering H1N1 vaccine to students. The

clinics simply could not have happened without these caring individuals.

Yes history will recall the year of the H1N1/Swine Flu epidemic and the accompanied vaccinations of students at Oakwood Schools. Time will tell if this is a repeatable event as new flu strains appear on the horizon. No one will know just how many students were spared the illness by receiving the vaccine. Children will simply recall the day that they and many of their classmates lined up to receive a "shot" or a "sniff" surrounded by caring parents, volunteers and health professionals.

Sue Martin
Harman School

Oakwood Giving seeking backpacks, toiletries

Thanksgiving is a time of fun and giving thanks. As you give thanks for how lucky you are, please take time to remember those less fortunate. This year *Oakwood Giving*, an Oakwood High School community service club, will be participating in The Holiday Backpack Project. The Backpack Project is hosted by The Other Place and St. Vincent de Paul's homeless shelters. Their goal is that one day we will have a community where there is no homelessness. Until that goal is reached, these backpacks will be given to the needy.

Over the next couple of weeks *Oakwood Giving* will be collecting backpacks and basic hygiene supplies to fill these packs. Desired items include: shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, hats, gloves, socks, thermals, and scarves. All items must be turned in by Monday, Dec. 7. If you would like to contribute in anyway, please contact Adam Sobol at Battingboy90@aol.com or 299-4769. Always remember, "A great life isn't about great huge things; it's about small things that make a big difference."

Correction

Due to a technical glitch, the following announcement regarding last Thursday's shopping in Oakwood, which appeared on the front page of last week's Oakwood Register, was missing the first two paragraphs. The following is the complete information that was supposed to appear.)

If you haven't browsed the shops of Oakwood on Thursdays, you're missing a special treat offered by three of Oakwood's favorite shops - Oakwood Florist, Central Perk and From Inside Out.

This Thursday, November 19, and one Thursday each month (the next event being on Dec. 17) from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. the Oakwood Florist at 2313 Far Hills Ave., and its next door neighbor Central Perk, invites you not only to shop and browse, but also to taste wines provided by Cork and Vine, whose owners, Shannon and Alex Kolodesh, live right here in Oakwood. Hors d'oeuvres are from the skilled cooking of none other than Central Perk's own Rosie Morgan (who incidentally is the best scone-maker this side of London). You'll see artwork by Amy Gantt, gifts by Jules

Gems, clever, attractive Vintage Pillowcase Dresses by C Creations in children's sizes 0 - 14, and greeting cards by Jamie.

As a special do-gooder event, Clothes That Work will be on hand to accept clothes you might no longer need, but can help those who need proper attire for job interviews and/or new jobs.

Cross to the east side of Far Hills and a bit south to 2512 Far Hills Ave. to "from Inside Out," the shop that dazzles with everything decorative for home and patio. There, every Thursday from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., owner Leslie Dixon, uncorks the wine, unveils the cheese, along with hors d'oeuvres, and invites you in to inspect the shop which is always filled with a treasure trove of unusual and artful decorative items for the home. With Christmas on the way, the holiday additions can add just the right festive look to your rooms, mantle, tables, or whatever it is you need to "Christmas up." And the friendly, helpful staff allows you free and easy browsing, glass in hand. It's definitely worth a stop on your "to do" list.

Please donate hats, mittens and school supplies

My friends and I never need to worry whether we have warm hats, gloves, and coats during the winter. Nor do we worry about having enough school supplies to be able to be successful students.

The first grade students at the World of Wonder School (Dayton Public K-8) where I volunteer with my Mom don't have it so lucky. The students aren't always dressed as warm as I would hope. Some

of them don't have very clean clothes. Their school supplies are sparse - broken crayons, short pencils I would toss, rarely any colored pencils or markers. This year for the holidays I would like to give every first grader a gift of a hat, gloves or mittens, pencils, erasers, crayons and maybe even colored pencils or markers.

Help me make this possible by donating items. Drop off

your donations at the Oakwood Community Center -in a box in the lobby. (Thank you to the City of Oakwood for making this possible.) Or, you may leave things on my front porch at 430 E. Schantz Ave. If you have questions please call me at 299-6118.

Thank you very much and happy holidays.

Olivia Ireland