

# Scouting News

## Scouts complete Eagle projects at Homestead

The Oakwood Historical Society is pleased to announce the completion of two Boy Scout Eagle projects this year. Both add to the use and value of the programs at the historical society's house museum at the Long-Romspert Homestead. Both projects were completed by scouts from Oakwood Troop 101.

Completed last spring was a major painting project involving two outbuildings: the Pump House and the Summer Kitchen. Both were in varying stages of

peeling paint, and both are now in excellent condition thanks to Peter Schweizer's Eagle Project. The Historical Society offers children's summer programs based in the summer kitchen, which is now well protected from weathering.

A new addition has been added to the area near the 1920's kitchen door. Mitch Thomas for his Eagle Project has developed a garden area, complete with white picket fence. Completed at the end of this fall's growing season, the garden will be planted in the spring,

and will grow kitchen items for use in both the existing children's programs and in new gardening programs for children next summer.

The Historical Society is honored to have been the recipient of two such excellent projects this year. Both projects involved many man-hours of volunteer labor, and required the new Eagle Scouts to do some technical research on skills they needed to conduct the projects.



## Holiday Events

### 'Quiet Christmas' service

The lights, colors, sounds, and bustle of the holidays can be stressful under the best of circumstances. But for those who find themselves alone at this family-oriented time, or who have suffered a loss during the year, or who live with difficult memories, "Blue Christmas" is much more than a Christmas carol. Traditional church Christmas services, which might otherwise be a source of solace, too often become painful reminders of what's missing.

This year St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oakwood will continue its custom of offering A Quiet Eucharist in anticipation of Christmas on Thursday, Dec. 24, at 12 p.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. This service, open to all, is especially designed to offer a prayerful atmosphere of peaceful

and calm reflection, with a message of hope and healing.

Other Christmas services offered at St. Paul's include the traditional Family Eucharist with Christmas Pageant (featuring children and youth of all ages) at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24; the Festal Christmas Eucharist, which will be preceded by a choral prelude featuring the Chancel Choir, Bell Choir and guest musicians, at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 24 (the service will begin at 8 p.m.); and Christmas Day Eucharist in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 25.

All members of the community are warmly invited to attend. The church is located at 33 W. Dixon Avenue. For more information, contact the Church Office at 293-1154, or visit our web site at [www.stpauls-dayton.org](http://www.stpauls-dayton.org).

### St. Paul's hosts Advent & Angels

The community is invited to visit St. Paul's Episcopal Church on the Sundays of Advent for a celebration of one of the "unseen" parts of God's Creation, the world of angels. How do humans perceive and encounter and interact with them? Facilitator Joanne McPortland will draw on Scripture, liturgical texts, theological writing, art, music, and literature to discover more about these heavenly messengers.

Advent IV: Sunday, December 20—*Wings of Desire: Angels in Popular Culture*. Angels have little in common with chubby winged babies or fairylike stat-

ues, but their comforting presence is everywhere in popular culture, from films to TV shows to pop music and gift-shop tchatchkes. This week we'll look at our desire for angels, as we get ready to hear once again the tidings of great joy they bring.

Each 1-hour session will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 33 W. Dixon Avenue in Oakwood. For more information about this series or other events, please call St. Paul's Episcopal Church at (937) 293-1154, or visit our web site: [www.stpauls-dayton.org](http://www.stpauls-dayton.org). We look forward to seeing you!

### 'Blue Christmas' worship services

Perhaps the Miami Valley's most unusual church service this Christmas season is planned at Corinth Presbyterian Church, 4269 Corinth Blvd. in the Belmont neighborhood. "Blue Christmas: A worship service for difficult times" will be held Tuesday, Dec.

15 at 7 p.m. and again Saturday, Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. The service seeks to connect those experiencing loss or hard times with the good news that God is near to the broken-hearted. All are invited to worship and experience grace in time of trial.

### At the O.C.C...

**Santa's Magic Mailbox** is now in the lobby of the OCC!!! Drop of your letter before Dec. 20 and Santa will return each letter personally! Be sure to include your address.

**Cookies for Santa** (ages 7-10, 6 &

under with adult helper) Saturday, Dec. 19 from 10-11:30 a.m. Each child decorates a dozen cookies to take home for Santa. Be sure to bring a container. \$12 (M), \$18 (NM), \$24 (NR)

**Cookbook Sale!** Just in time

for the gift-giving season, the Oakwood cookbook, 'Talk of the Town' is on sale. For the month of December only the cookbook will sell for only \$8. Hurry in and get one for your neighbor, teacher or any other person on your list.

### Holiday Shopping Bazaar at Shops of Oakwood

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, Dec. 17, and one Thursday each month 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 own-

ers, Shannon and Alex Kolodesh, live right here in Oakwood. Hors d'oeuvres are from the skilled cookmanship of none other than Central Perk's own Rosie Morgan (who incidentally is the best scone-maker this side of London).

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.

### Holiday celebration for kids Dec. 19

On Saturday, Dec. 19 at 3 p.m., Wright Library will be hosting a Holiday Celebration for kids! Make

a holiday craft, decorate a cookie, and sing along with local artists Shaun and Abigail Bengson as they

lead everyone in Christmas and Hanukkah favorites. All ages are welcome. No registration necessary.

### Oakwood Holiday Food Drive underway

The City of Oakwood Holiday Food Drive continues through Sunday, Dec. 20. Donations benefit

the Food Bank serving Montgomery, Greene and Preble Counties. Collection boxes will be available

at the OCC, 105 Patterson Road and the City Building, 30 Park Avenue. Share your blessings with others.

### Christmas Eve at Fairhaven Church

You are invited to celebrate Christmas Eve at Fairhaven Church in Centerville. Bring the entire family for a festive celebration at 5:30

or 7:00 pm. Or at 11 pm, contemplate the meaning of the season with the traditional, candle lit, Lessons in Carols. Join the Fairhaven Church

family for Christmas Eve. 5:30, 7, or 11 p.m. Fairhaven Church, 637 E. Whipp Rd., Centerville. 434-8627. Or the web at [Fairhavenchurch.org](http://Fairhavenchurch.org)

### Christmas Eve at Southminster

"Christmas Eve at the Manger," a family worship service, will be held at 5 p.m., Dec. 24, at Southminster Presbyterian Church, 7001 Far Hills Avenue, in Centerville.

Children are invited to come dressed as their favorite character from the Bible story of Jesus' birth. (or, they may choose to bring a favorite stuffed animal.) The chil-

dren, along with the Children's Choir, the Children's Chimes, and selected readings, will act out "The Story of Christmas." Following the service, there will be "birthday cupcakes" to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

Also, a Candlelight Service at 8 p.m. and a Candlelight Communion Service at 11 p.m. will feature Pastor Eric Pasanchin and his message,

"God is Betting on You."

Childcare will be provided at the 8 p.m. service only. However, Southminster's Sanctuary Lounge offers families a comfortable space with quiet games to take children out of the sanctuary, yet still be in a service of worship.

For more information, call the church office at 433-1810.