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OHS alumnus sponsors entrepreneur competition

Irvin H. Harlamert, former Oakwood Municipal Court Judge and member of the OHS class of 1948, recently partnered with Oakwood High School and the Oakwood Schools Education Foundation to create the Oakwood Entrepreneurship Competition, a contest open to the school's 10th through 12th graders, challenging them to actively consider the idea of becoming an entrepreneur.

This year students will write an essay or submit a multimedia presentation on the topic *Rewards and Risks of being an Entrepreneur*. Topics will change each year, always focusing on exploring and understanding the value of entrepreneurs. Mr. Harlamert wanted to give back to the schools where he and his children received their initial education.

Students attended an orientation session on November 4th where Mr. Harlamert led a discussion about risks, rewards and the characteristics of an entrepreneur. He outlined the components of the competition and fielded questions from the students, encouraging them to think about a broad vision for being an entrepreneur. "Ten years out it would be a

huge reward for me if some of you participants become entrepreneurs after being encouraged by this competition." Awarded at a celebration in April 2010, participants will be competing for one of twelve cash prizes totaling \$4,800, donated by Mr. Harlamert.

Students participating in this contest will gain an understanding of the value of entrepreneurship in our marketplace. In addition to learning more about what it means to be an entrepreneur, students will examine the importance of leadership, strategy, culture and people. Students interested in participating should contact Mrs. Jamie Walker at the High School for competition requirements and judging rubrics.

The Oakwood Schools Education Foundation is grateful to Mr. Harlamert for bringing this exciting new program to Oakwood High School and helping to further the Foundation's mission of Enhancing Excellence in the Oakwood Schools. For more information about the Oakwood Schools Education Foundation, please visit our website: www.oakwood.k12.oh.us/osef or contact Karen Gillingham, Director, at 297-5332.



With OHS business teacher Jamie Walker looking on, Irvin Harlamert discusses new Oakwood Entrepreneurship Competition with students in school library

Holiday Decorating Contest underway

The City of Oakwood's Environmental Committee will soon be judging Oakwood residences for the Holiday Decorating Awards. Each year during the holiday season, decorated Oakwood homes, multi family units and businesses are judged on the following criteria: use of natural or

natural looking material, tastefulness, and originality in keeping with the winter holiday theme and curbside appearance, both during the day as well as night time hours.

Judging will be done from Sunday, Dec. 13 through Friday, Dec. 18. Residential winners of

each district as well as one multiple family unit and one business winner will be notified after the judging has taken place. Winners will appear in local newspapers. Winners will also receive a framed certificate of award that will be presented at an Oakwood City Council meeting in January, 2010.

Holiday of Lights celebration Dec. 13

On Sunday evening, Dec 13, the Holiday of Lights festivities will take place at Shafor Park, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Judy Cook will welcome those attending, followed by the lighting of the holiday tree. Entertainment will be provided by "the Mini Pops" as well as the

Oakwood High School Band who will be performing holiday songs and entertainment. This will be followed by a visit from Santa Claus arriving on the Oakwood fire truck. Children will be able to talk with Santa, after his arrival in the park. Hot cocoa and popcorn will be served. Also,

this year, there will be horse drawn carriage and wagon rides for the family going throughout the community to see the beautiful display of luminarias decorating and lining the streets of the community. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this community event.

Luminarias on sale

Luminarias are now on sale at the Oakwood Community Center, 105 Patterson Road. The cost is \$3.50 per dozen and includes the white bags, sand and 10 hour burning candles. Residents may pick them up at the Community Center during regular business hours. Luminarias will be sold up until the end of the business day on Sunday the 13th or until sold out, whichever comes first. The response to this project has been tremendous and residents are encouraged to participate.

Instructions for the placement of luminaria, if placed in the right of way area or the sidewalk area is at every crack in the curb or sidewalk area, or, at approximately 5' to 7' intervals.

The 'Lighting of Oakwood' will take place on Sunday evening, Dec.

13 beginning at 6 p.m. Oakwood residents are encouraged to celebrate "community" by participating in this seasonal tradition. As a part of this event, the City of Oakwood and the Oakwood Environmental Committee will have a display of luminarias lining the boulevards on Far Hills Avenue, Shafor Boulevard, Shroyer Road as well as the city building, OCC, Smith Gardens, Huffman Park, city parks and other areas around the community. This holiday lighting event has become a tradition in an effort to brighten the entire community at the onset of the winter season. We hope all can participate and enjoy the efforts put into this project.

Any resident interested in helping with this project should call Carol Collins at the Oakwood Community Center at 298-0775.