

## Community Garden News

The season for growing is coming to a close, as we harvest the last of our vegetables. We celebrated our accomplishments this year with a Harvest Dinner on September 17th, where we enjoyed recipes from Chef Channon Mondoux using many of the things that we grew in our garden. The event attracted 30 gardeners from both Oakwood and Vine Neighborhood Community Gardens. The meal was prepared at the Can-Do Kitchen, which is operated by Fair Food Matters. A local organization whose mission is to build, educate, support and empower our community around local food. The Can-Do Kitchen is a licensed facility for new & existing food businesses, local-produce processing, and job training.

As we look forward to next year's garden, we hope to build on the skills and experiences learned in our first year. With an eye toward improvement, we are offering classes this fall for anyone in the neighborhood who is interested in organic gardening, high-density nutrition, and natural healing. The classes will be held at the Oakwood Neighborhood Association over the course of 4 consecutive Wednesdays : October 21 – November 11. New topics will be discussed each week and registration is required as space is limited to 16 people.

We also wish to build a solid network of people within our neighborhood who are interested in growing and sharing food. The garden is as much about food as it is about building community. This year there were a few occasions where vegetables were taken before they reached full maturity because someone saw food and decided to take it. We would love to feed everyone as much as they need, and assume that those who took the food really needed it. However, keep two things in mind. One, food picked before it is fully ripe will be lacking in nutrition. And two, the people who worked hard all summer in the garden did not get to enjoy the results of some of the produce because it disappeared. If you like fresh produce but don't have time to help in the garden, then let us know and we will include you as a supporter who gets a share of what is available. Don't be shy about your situation... and don't just take without giving. That does not build a sense of community and trust.

The size and layout of this year's garden are being reviewed and modifications will be implemented to increase the quantity of food that we can grow. However, this may require more hands in the soil. If you enjoyed food from the garden this year and would like to improve on what we had available, we would love to see you in the garden next spring. If you are physically unable to participate but would still like to benefit from the harvest, there are other ways of getting involved.


For more information or to register for the Organic Gardening class, please contact Shelly at (269) 330-1740. You may also call Shelly to sign up to be part of next year's garden. It is never too late, and never too early to join the "Eat Local" movement.

Re-elect


# **McKinney & Miller**

to the City Commission

They are dedicated to building  
on Kalamazoo's grand  
tradition of progressive and  
good government



**Hannah  
MCKINNEY**



**Barbara Hamilton  
MILLER**

Paid for by Barbara Hamilton Miller for Kalamazoo City Commission,  
2525 Winchel, Gordon C. Miller, Treasurer and Committee to Re-elect  
Hannah McKinney 1425 Grad Ave. M. Files, Treasurer.



Barbara Hamilton  
**MILLER**

Re-elect

# Miller

to Kalamazoo City Commission

She is dedicated to building on Kalamazoo's grand tradition of progressive and good government

Paid for by Barbara Hamilton Miller for Kalamazoo City Commission, 2523 Winchell, Gordon C. Miller, Treasurer



Come join us for the  
Halloween Party  
Sunday, October 25th

Beginning at 1 PM

At the ONA Center



There will be a costume contest, games, prizes, and treats.

### Neighborhood Candidates Forum

Ask questions of those running for City Commission and learn about the two ballot issues.

October 15, 2009 from 6:30 to 8:00  
PM

At Northside Association for Community Development (NACD)  
612 N. Park Street

Light Snacks will be Provided

### After School Tutoring

Runs from Sept. 28th - Dec. 18th

3:45 - 5:30 PM, Monday—Friday

Call the ONA Center for more information  
342-0129

Call City of Kalamazoo Parks and Recreation to register  
337-8191