



Oakwood Neighborhood Association  
3320 Laird Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

**NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
KALAMAZOO, MI  
PERMIT NO. 189**

**Newsletter deadline for ads and submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

**Suggested donation for ads:** ¼ page=\$20,

1/3 page = \$35, full page ad is \$65

Six month special for ¼ page is \$100

Electronic submissions in pdf or .

doc format are appreciated!

ONA People

Gary Wager, President

Don Verhage, Vice Pres.

Diane Stanke, Treasurer

Niah Venable, Secretary

At Large Members:

Ann Beattie

Bree Bennett

Michael Markel

Kathleen Olmsted

Jane Turner

Cheryl Lord, Exec. Director

ONA Office: 269-342-0129

[www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org)

[center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org)

This newsletter is published, in part, with funds provided by the City of Kalamazoo. The views and opinions expressed herein may not necessarily represent those of the City of Kalamazoo. This activity is brought to you in partnership with the Oakwood Neighborhood Association and the City of Kalamazoo.

*June Events*

5-Trash/brush pickup Madison eastward

9 - Friends of Woods Lake: 7 p.m.

12 - Trash/brush pickup Madison westward

16 - Board of Directors & Neighborhood Watch:  
6:30 p.m.

25 - Trash/brush pickup Oakland eastward

28 - Neighborhood picnic/reunion

*July Events*

3 - Trash/brush pickup Madison eastward

10 - Trash/brush pickup Madison westward

14 - Friends of Woods Lake - 7 p.m.

19 - Board of Directors & Neighborhood Watch:  
6:30 p.m.

23 - Trash/brush pickup Oakland eastward

*Aug./Sept*

Aug. 4th - National Night Out

Sept. 20th - First Annual After School Golf Out-  
ing

Recycling every Friday

East of Oakland recycling is Thursday

Senior Drop In & Free Bread 1-3 p.m. Weds.

Computer tutoring for adults each Friday 1-3 p.m.

## Oakwood Leadership Opportunities

Summer has arrived and new opportunities to get involved with projects around the neighborhood are bursting out all over! From a community garden on Springmont, to an art project at the Tot Lot, to Earth Day-honoring cleanups at Woods Lake and Memorial Park, there are lots of things **to do in the great outdoors this spring to help spruce up the neighborhood.**

Or how about an Oakwood history project, updates and improvements at the neighborhood center, or mentoring youth or seniors in our computer center? There are plenty of indoor opportunities to share time with kids, seniors, and neighbors to make their lives and yours more rewarding and constructive.

Enjoy the spring renewal of our planet, participate in a project that makes a difference in our neighborhood, and do something that blasts away those winter blahs. Call Cheryl at 342-0129 or email; [center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org), or check out our website at <http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org/>.

Or stop by the center at 3320 Laird, across the parking lot from the Oakwood Elementary, between 1-5:30pm Tuesday

We are also looking for motivated people to join the Oakwood board of directors. If you are interested stop by the



## Oakwood Reunion

Join us for the 26th Annual Oakwood Reunion, on Sunday June 28th, 1-4 PM. Bring a dish to pass and a smile and share some memories or make new ones.

**2009-10 Super Books are here. They are still \$39, make great presents, save money, and help support your neighborhood programs. They can be purchased at Initial Attractions, Oakwood Pharmacy, Keystone Community Bank @ Oakwood, or the ONA center.**

## Community Garden

We are excited to announce that our first Oakwood Neighborhood Community Vegetable Garden was officially planted on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. The garden project is being funded by a Penny Kelly hopes to see her vision strengthen neighborhoods by bringing people together. This sustainable community project will provide not only food for those that care for the garden, but it will also provide food for Oakwood residents that are struggling during these difficult economic times.

It is not too late to join in the garden, so dust your garden gloves off and call Shelly at 330-1740 or email her at [greengirl-travel@charter.net](mailto:greengirl-travel@charter.net) for more information. You can also check the progress of our garden on Facebook by searching for *Oakwood Community Garden*. No experience is necessary and there will be plenty of learning opportunities through field trips and demonstrations.

If you would like to see how our garden grows, please stop by the site at 2529 Springmont Ave. We ask that you do not bring your pets to the garden, but everyone is welcome!



Neighbors plant the community garden on May 30th.

## Federal Stimulus Plan for the Employment of Summer Youth

- We are NOW taking names of youths ages 14-17 for summer youth employment. Work will start on June 22nd and through August 28th. Wages are \$7.40 an hour. There are family income eligibility requirements for employment.
- Youths ages 18-24 may apply directly to Y.O.U. by calling 349-9676.

## From the Desk of the Director...*By Cheryl Lord*

- We are again planning a summer youth drop-in for ages 5-12. It will go from June 15th to July 24th from 3-5 PM., Monday through Fridays. Although it is free, registration is required.
- If you have any special needs or concerns please contact the ONA center.

### Wish List

1. Floor or standing fans for the center
2. Frost-free fridge for the youth room
3. Paper towels
4. Cereal, canned pasta, beans (red, black kidney, pinto, or black), and canned chicken soups for the food pantry.

## Thank You!

- The Gospel Mission for free bread for seniors and families in need.
- The Keystone Community Bank at Oakwood for providing the bunny costume for our Easter Party.
- Mike Finn for donating and installing a new flag pole at the center and Martha and Charlene Austin for a new flag donation.
- Sarah Bergren, Martha & Charlene Austin, and Elizabeth Fulton for food for our food bank.
- Our newsletter folders Doreen Ellwood, Gail Camp, Fran Gustafson, Marian Porter, Ruth Olmsted, Janet Loucks, Martha and Charlene Austin, Pat Henry, Betty Helmer, Phil Thoms, and Henrietta Schilpzand.
- Dorothy Martin for bingo gifts.
- Y g p m g ø u " I t g g p j q w u g " h q t " h n
- Ruth Olmsted and Pat Henry for caretaking our center garden and Memorial Park.
- Lori McGregor for books for our lending library.
- Harold and Betty Knowles for picking up the Gospel Mission bread each week.
- Margaret Shoemaker for the seeds for the community garden.
- Lou Miller for the computer and computer desk.
- Dave Nesius for assisting with building repairs.
- Ron Lawson and Michael Markel for daily technical assistance.
- Mike Fine for mowing the Tot Lot and Joshua Hueschen for mowing the Memorial Park.

\* Please let us know if we have overlooked your name or business so we can give you the acknowledgement that you deserve for supporting the Oakwood Neighborhood.

## MAJOR APPLIANCE SERVICE

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## Free Items

There are an additional 2 CRT monitors still available on a first-come, first-serve basis at the ONA center. All items are functional. Stop in today to claim one.

## Come to the center for computer help any Friday from 1-3 p.m.

Bring your laptop if you need help with it, or learn to use q p g " q h " v j g " e g p v g t-mail accoupto r w v g t look up information, sell items, or do your taxes online.

## City Ordinances - Nuisances

The following are considered public nuisances in the city: Noxious weeds or any other weeds or grasses which have attained a height of 12 inches or more, unless said vegetation is a noxious weed. (Poison ivy, poison sumac, poison oak, nettles and/or ragweed.) Any trash, garbage, rubbish, debris, waste or similar offensive or unsightly material. Any dead trees or shrubbery or any accumulation of dead vegetation, other than a managed compost and other than that which is properly placed for public or privately-contracted collection.

1803 Whites Road Kalamazoo, MI 49008



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Cell: (269) 998-2754

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### FREE Lead Safe Work Practices Class in Oakwood

- Class on August 27th at the ONA Center funded by an EPA grant.
- Free breakfast for the morning session and a lunch for the afternoon session. Register, eat and learn!
- Advance registration required. Limit 15 students per session.
- Call Sharon at the City for info at 337-8804, or Jackie or Amy

Get crime stats and calls for service information off of the City of Kalamazoo Public Safety site at [http://www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/government.php?page\\_id=229](http://www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/government.php?page_id=229).

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## Openings for ONA Board Members

Would you like to help lead ONA in its plan for the future? Do you have ideas about additional activities, programs, or events that you would like to see held at ONA? Do you have the motivation and desire to make Oakwood the best neighborhood in Kalamazoo? If so, we are looking for people like you. Joining the ONA board is a fun way to meet your neighbors and get involved with your community. Being a board member requires attending a monthly meeting and being active on a committee and/or project.

Applications are available at the center or you can contact Cheryl. Applications are due by June 15th with elections being held at the board meeting in July.

## Golf Outing

The 1st Annual Oakwood After School Golf Outing will be Sunday, September 20th from 2 - 8 PM, at The Prairies. Registration fee is \$60 before August 1st, \$70 a person after that. If you would like to be a sponsor or donate prizes, please contact Cheryl.

We are in need of sponsors, prizes, and outing participants. You can register via email at [center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org), by calling Cheryl at 342-0129, or by stopping by the center for a registration form.



Visitors from the Ukraine with Executive Director Cheryl Lord (third from right) and our summer consultant Bill Birch, right, from the Community Support for Youth Engagement program visited the center on May 28th.

## Building Blocks

Another successful year of Building Blocks has come to a close. Thank you to the student volunteers, site supervisors, and the neighbors for making this another excellent year.



Neighbors from BB site 2 building a fence.



Work day from Building Blocks site 1.



After School tutoring staff begin to dish out ice cream snack to youth for an end of program celebration.