



Oakwood Neighborhood Association  
3320 Laird Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

### Leaf Pickup

Leaf pickup is scheduled for November and December. The exact dates vary by street. Find dates for your street online by searching for "Fall Leaf Collection" at [kalamazoocity.org](http://kalamazoocity.org), or call 337-8215. Leaves should not be put in the street until the night before your pickup.

### November Events

- 4 - Bulk trash pickup Madison eastward
- 5 - Fall Into the Streets: noon to 3 P.M.
- 8 - 11 - First City Leaf Pickup
- 11 - Bulk trash pickup Madison westward
- 12 - Oakwood Businesses Holiday Hop: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 15 - Neighborhood Watch/Board of Directors: 6:30 p.m.
- 16 - Senior Craft Class: 1 p.m.
- 20 - 26 D&W Non Profit Days: See coupon inside
- 24 - Bulk trash pickup-Oakland Eastward
- 30 - Senior Bingo: 1 p.m.

### December Events

- 1,2,5,6 - Second City leaf pick up
- 2 - Bulk trash pickup Madison eastward
- 4 - Neighborhood Holiday party: 1 p.m.
- 7 - Senior Holiday Craft Class: 1 p.m.
- 9 - Bulk trash pickup Madison westward
- 16 - Bell, Book and Canto holiday Concert: TBA
- 20 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 p.m.
- 21 - Senior Bingo: 1 p.m.
- 22 - Bulk trash pickup-Oakland Eastward



**Carol Miller**  
Realtor® / Broker



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[www.Greenleafrealty.com](http://www.Greenleafrealty.com)

Recycling every Friday west of Oakland  
East of Oakland recycling is on Thursday  
Computer help every Friday from 1-3 PM by appointment  
Senior Drop In: 1-3 PM Wednesdays  
Free Bread: 2-5 PM on Wednesdays

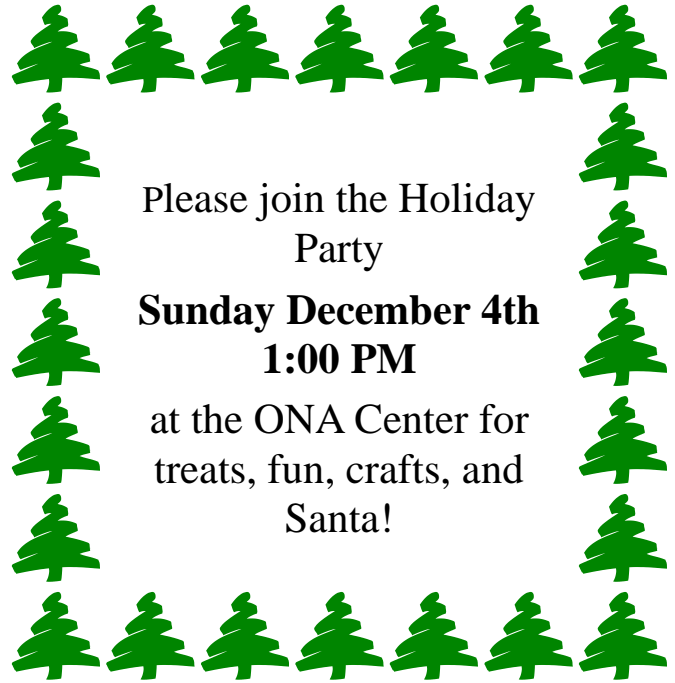
**From the Desk of the President** Michael Markel

By the time you are reading this, the stair rebuild at Oakwood Memorial Beach should be completed. This project was made possible through a grant from the Volunteer Kalamazoo organization through their Days of Service to the community and the hard work of several Oakwood residents. I would like to thank Rob Kneen and Scott Pennings for their knowledge and willingness to oversee this project.

The cold weather is upon us, and that means the year is coming to a close. It also means it is time for our Annual Building Campaign. This year, we will be asking for your help to raise money to improve the infrastructure of the ONA center. We are working on a grant to help with the project, and your help will make it evident to the grantors that the people of Oakwood care about the neighborhood center and want to see it stay vibrant for years to come. The scope of the project we are looking to tackle includes updating the electrical in the community and youth rooms to be safer and more efficient, replacing the doors to the center to improve heating and cooling efficiency, re-roofing the entire building, installing a more efficient on-demand water heating system to reduce those costs, and replacing the cabinetry in the community room to better facilitate the events that are held in that room. In the December newsletter, you will find an envelope. Please consider the ONA and the needs of your neighborhood and, as always, any gift is tax deductible. You may also make gifts on our web site, [www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org).

If you are planning a holiday event, the ONA community room is available for event use. Call Cheryl today to reserve the room for your special event.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Please join the Holiday Party

**Sunday December 4th**  
**1:00 PM**

at the ONA Center for  
treats, fun, crafts, and  
Santa!

**Shop D&W**

Non-Profit Days

November 20 – November 26

Use the code: 94693 to earn 2% of your purchase for Oakwood Neighborhood Association

**Conservation Easement**

The Oakwood Memorial Beach has always held a special place in the hearts of many Oakwood residents. In the past, you have fought to make sure that the beach is protected from development and left open to the residents of Oakwood for their enjoyment. In that vein, the board of directors has been looking for a way to make sure that the property remains open forever to the residents of Oakwood as a green space. We have been working with the Kalamazoo Nature Center to draft a conservation easement that will ensure that, in the event of the Oakwood Neighborhood Association dissolving, the beach would continue to be protected and remain available to the residents of Oakwood. A conservation easement allows ONA to designate the Nature Center as holder of the easement and protects that land from changes by future ONA boards and any organization that make take care of the property in the event of dissolution. The

ONA can specify what can and can't be done to the property, but, once the easement is in place, the easement determines what can be done on the property and can't be changed. Some of the decisions the board will need to make include what activities to allow on the property (such as construction of buildings, installation of park equipment and furniture, defining what types of plants can be added or removed from the property including invasive plant species, and what kind of improvements can be made including removal of dead trees, planting of new trees, creation of trails, etc. The board of directors will be drafting a preliminary list of items in the upcoming months but will also be holding a town hall style meeting for all residents of the neighborhood to explain the easement and receive feedback. If you have questions, you may email me at [michael@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:michael@oakwoodneighborhood.org). We believe this is the best way to protect this property for our children and grandchildren and to make sure that it remains open for

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

1. Our second Fall Into the Streets will be on November 5<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3 P.M. If you are senior, or need assistance with yard work or leaf raking due to special circumstances, please register at 342-0129.
2. Please note that senior craft classes are free at this time due to the generous donations of Cheryl Arndt. The craft class in November will be to make holiday wreaths, and the December class will be for holiday center pieces. Please call ahead or let Janet Loucks know that you are coming so we can have enough materials for everyone attending.
3. Visit our web site at [www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org) to see a list of our many programs and some of our accomplishments this past year.

### Wish List:

1. Food donations for our food pantry, especially canned fruits and meats, canned pastas, dish and clothes detergents, macaroni & cheese, canned tuna and chicken helpers, and juices. Pet food is also appreciated, and we are also preparing for holiday food baskets.
2. Holiday treats and presents for youth.

### Thank You!

- The Gospel Mission for free bread
- Tom Banner for keeping Oakwood Memorial Park mowed and looking great.
- Mike Finn for picking up bread donations, and mowing the tot lot.
- Rob Kneen and Scott Pennings, and all of the volunteers who worked on October 15th to rebuild our beach stairs and remove invasive plants.
- Janet Loucks, Hearth and Grove Fellowship, Margaret Shoemaker, Michael Markel, Martha Austin, Mike Finn and the many other who have dropped off food for our food bank and youth programs.
- Mr. Robert Brown and Pat and Bill Henry for Halloween donations
- Michael Markel for pet food for our food bank.
- Wenke's green house for fall plants for our tot lot and center gardens.
- Ruth Olmsted for keeping our gardens looking great, and for taking care of our food pantry.
- Carl and Sharon Awe for paper towels and bathroom cleaner.
- Sharon Jones for a computer system.
- Our newsletter folders Ruth Olmsted, Martha Austin, Janet Loucks, Jan Mercer, Patti Slagle, Connie and Robert Patterson, Dolores DeShong, Scott Ridenour, and Steve Szekely.
- Ron Lawson and Dave Nesius for IT assistance.

\* 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.

### Silent Observer

Kalamazoo County Silent Observer offers a confidential web tip information system available at [kalamazoosilentobserver.com](http://kalamazoosilentobserver.com) and 343-2100.



**Computer help is available on Fridays from 1-3 PM at the center.**

### E-Newsletter

Interested in receiving the Oakwood Times newsletter electronically?  
To sign up, please send your email address to [editor@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:editor@oakwoodneighborhood.org).



ONA Volunteers gathered at Fletcher's Pub in October.

### Law at the Library

The Law Library, in partnership with the Kalamazoo County Bar Association, offers free monthly legal clinics for low to moderate income persons at the Central Library and Powell Branch Library. Upcoming dates include November 10th & 11th, and December 6th. Registration is required due to limited space. Call 553-7920 for more information or to make an appointment.

### Xin's November Cooking Class: Thai Cuisine

Did any of you guys tried to make the Szechuan eggplant or fried rice at home yet? If so, how did that turn out? I am trying to squeeze a class in before Thanksgiving and Christmas, so I get to say Happy New Year to you. :) I know everyone is very busy around Holidays, so let's see how this goes. Here is the menu for this month's cooking classes:

1. Coconut Shrimp - Yummy
2. Vegetarian Curry - I loved to eat spicy food in cold weather
3. Thai Tea

Classes will be held:

1. Saturday, 11/12 - from 12 to 2 pm
2. Monday, 11/14 - from 6 to 8 pm
3. Wednesday, 11/16 - from 6 to 8 pm
4. Potential Date - Sunday, 11/27 - from 1 to 3 pm

As usual, class is RSVP only with a \$10 deposit which you can drop off at the store or mail in. I cannot hold your seats based on an email, due to no shows. Sorry!

Things to bring: Cutting knife, non-stick wok (if you have one already).

**Cost:** \$25.00 per person. Class is RSVP only with \$10 deposit.  
**Location:** Oakwood Neighborhood Association, 3320 Laird Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Pacific Rim Food premium Asian market is located at 1926 Whites Road, open Mon-Sat 10 AM - 8:30 PM and Sun 12 PM - 6 PM.

Phone: (269)382-0888, Fax: (269)382-1388

Email: [Pacificrimfood@yahoo.com](mailto:Pacificrimfood@yahoo.com)

Online shopping available: [www.Pacific-Rim-Food.com](http://www.Pacific-Rim-Food.com)

### ONA's After School Tutoring by Liz VandenHeede

Every week, Monday through Friday from 3:45 to 5:30, something special is happening at the Oakwood Neighborhood Center. Not many know about it, but for the people involved it's had a huge influence. Every day after school, Miss Cynthia and Miss Lindsey tutor a small group of neighborhood kids ages five through twelve. These students come back each day all school year, and some are even on their third year in attendance.

"I think this program is really special because of the amount of care and attention to each kid," said Miss Lindsey, a senior at Kalamazoo College, "we give the one-on-one time that other schools and programs can't because of their size." The great things this program is doing are evident through speaking to any of the students, parents or tutors. The after school tutoring runs through December 16<sup>th</sup> and there are still a few openings left! For more information on how to sign up please contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at 337-8191.

Get the full story online at [oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://oakwoodneighborhood.org).

### Waste Reduction: Holiday Packaging by Michael Markel

It's time for holiday shopping, and that can mean buying new items packaged in tons of plastic and cardboard wrapping. This holiday season, try to give gifts that don't require a ton of packaging such as gift certificates or cards. Or, better yet, give the gift of an event such as a show, a day at the museum, going sledding, or some other outdoor activity. If you do purchase material goods to give to others, think about using newspaper or paper bags as wrapping paper. Either can be decorated with a markers or stamps, and would reduce the amount of waste by reusing an existing item and not purchasing another item that will only be used once.

### Female Roommate Wanted

Female roommate wanted to share house for \$400/month. Call 516-5058.

**Newsletter deadline for ads and submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Suggested donation for ads:** quarter page \$20, third page \$35, full page ad \$65. Six month special for ¼ page is \$100. Electronic submissions are appreciated!

#### ONA People

Michael Markel President  
Don Verhage, Vice President  
Diane Stanke, Treasurer  
Bree Bennett, Secretary  
At Large Members:  
Jackie Luedtke  
Jim Jeakle  
Janet Loucks  
Kathleen Olmsted  
Ellen Tober  
Tom Cleveland  
Liz Stuart

Cheryl Lord, Exec. Director  
ONA Office: 269-342-0129  
[www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org)  
[center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org)

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## FOOD PANTRY



Oakwood Bible Church located at  
4100 Oakland Dr Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
is opening a short-term food resource  
available to Oakwood Neighborhood  
residents

Appointments are necessary  
and are scheduled the  
3rd week of each month.

**CONTACT: BILL KIEWIET**  
at Oakwood Bible Church  
phone: 269) 349-2835

HOURS OF OPERATION:  
**4th week of each Month**  
WEDNESDAYS: 9:00AM-11:00AM  
THURSDAYS: 1:00-3:00PM

APPOINTMENTS ARE NECESSARY  
(Availability is limited to first come first served basis)

## Community of Christ

2523 Amherst Ave.

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 AM Coffee and Donut Fellowship  
9:45 AM Sunday School Opening  
10:00 AM Sunday School (3yrs-Adult)  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship

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**Thanksgiving**  
Pot Luck after worship  
November 20<sup>th</sup>

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**Christmas Program**  
December 18<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM

For more information go to:  
[WWW.KalamazooCommunityofChrist.com](http://WWW.KalamazooCommunityofChrist.com)  
FACEBOOK: Kalamazoo Community of Christ