



Oakwood Neighborhood Association  
 3320 Laird Ave.  
 Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

**Kalamazoo Marathon**

Jane Turner

The Kalamazoo Marathon is coming!  
 We need you!

Do you have a special talent? Singing, dancing, drumming, cheer-leading, or even playing an instrument?

You are invited to be a part of the excitement/refreshment station located in your very own neighborhood. We are very pleased to share that the Kalamazoo Marathon scheduled for May 8th (a Sunday) is running through/coming through on Parkview and Broadway and we are going to be heading up the excitement/refreshment station that they need to keep the participants ready to complete the last half of their 26 mile run. We will be needing 2 hour shifts of as many volunteers as we can find for this very exciting event that we are partnering with the Winchell neighborhood for. Please call or email Cheryl Lord at the Oakwood neighborhood Center to let us know of your interest in participating 342-0129 or center@oakwoodneighborhood.org.

**Wanted: Building Blocks Supervisor.**

**This is a paid part time position in May and June to coordinate, manage and supervise one site in Oakwood with WMU students and the site residents. Good budgeting and managing skills are a must. Handyman and contracting skills are helpful. Must be willing to work as a team member.**

***February Events***

- 4- Trash pickup Madison eastward
- 6-12-D & W Non Profit Days use the #94693
- 9-Valentine Bingo for seniors: 1 P.M.
- 11- Trash pickup Madison westward
- 15- Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 p.m.
- 24-Trash pickup-Oakland Eastward

***March Events***

- 4- Trash pickup Madison eastward
- 11-Trash pickup Madison westward
- 15- Board of Directors Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
- 24-Trash pickup-Oakland Eastward

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

## From the Desk of the President

Michael Markel

Welcome to all those families that have moved into the neighborhood in the last couple of months. If you are not aware of the many programs and services the ONA offers, visit our web site for more information or stop by the center and take a tour.

We have completed our Annual Campaign. We were able to raise \$840 towards our programs. Thank you to all who contributed: Ronals Kaul, Amiel Swartz, Constance Cook, Martha Austin, Carol Glidden, Raymond and Joyce Car-ruth, Christine Flagler, Susan Liebendorfer, Delores DeShong, Joyce Zastrow, Michael Markel, Betty Nuyen, Gail Camp, Fran Gustafson, Pat and Bill Henry, Beverly Harmon, David Henry, and Bree Bennett.

On Sunday May 8th, 2011 we are going to be helping out with the Kalamazoo Marathon. We will be at the water/cheer station at Wellington and Parkview. We need 40 people to help hand out water and cheer for the runners. We will be participating in this with the Oakland Drive-Winchell neighborhood. If you are interested you can get more information at [www.kalamazoomarathon.com](http://www.kalamazoomarathon.com), and you can register to help out by contacting Cheryl or emailing at [center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org).

We have been approved for our fund development/marketing consultant through Recover MI and will be working with them over the next few months.

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Oakwood Bowl-A-Thon. We are moving it to the spring to accommodate more people. It will be Saturday April 30th. More information and registration forms can be found on our web site or can be picked up at the ONA center. Bowler registration is \$25 and includes shoes and 3 games of bowling.

If you would rather receive the newsletter via email, send me an email at [michael@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:michael@oakwoodneighborhood.org) from the address you would like to receive it at and with the subject of 'E-newsletter'. We will begin doing electronic newsletters in March.

We have a service learning student from WMU that will be working with the local businesses to create a business organization to help the businesses coordinate their events and work in partnership with the ONA and other local non-profits.



Fun was had by everyone at the Christmas party. Above the children are doing art. Below all are enjoying good food, and visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus



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

- Our after school tutoring program is full but the next session starts March 28th.
- We are scheduled to have free tax preparation done here at the ONA during the first week of March. Call 211 to schedule a time. Your income should be below \$49,000 to qualify.
- 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 food pantry, especially canned fruits, soups, pasta, and beans.
2. Kitchen wall cabinets
3. Paper towels and bathroom tissue
4. Easter candy and prizes for our Easter party.

#### Thank You!

- The Gospel Mission for free bread.
- Santa and Mrs. Claus aka John and Nancy Bremer
- Water St. Coffee Joint for great holiday deserts.
- Wenke's for holiday poinsettias.
- Tyler Williams for donating a vacuum cleaner that he repaired.
- Mike Finn for picking up bread donations and donating to the food bank.
- The Oakwood Bible Church for donating food, gifts and services for four Oakwood families.
- Community of Christ Church on Amherst for generous food pantry donations.
- Grace Christian Reformed Church for food and gifts for several Oakwood families.
- Ruth Olmsted for food pantry assistance, and two new self-timing coffee makers.
- Michael Markel, Harold and Betty Knowles, Janet Loucks, Elizabeth Lyman, Liz Stuart, and Maria Dunning for holiday gifts.
- Maxine Moran for new books for our reading library.
- Ruth Olmsted and Nancy Walker for gloves, hats, boots, and other warm clothing for our after-school youth.
- Margaret Shoemaker and Cecil and Susan McIntire for sidewalk salt.
- Our newsletter folders Pat Henry, Gail Camp, Ruth Olmsted, Martha Austin, Janet Loucks, Connie and Robert Patterson, Fran Gustafson, Doreen Ellwood, Marian Porter, and Donna Walker.
- Janet Loucks and Connie Patterson for office help.
- Ron Lawson and Dave Nesius for Friday computer help time.

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

#### Free Legal Advice

Upcoming free Ask A Lawyer sessions held through Kalamazoo Public Library. Registration is required due to limited space. Call 269-553-7920 for more information or to make an appointment.

- February 1, 6-8 PM, Powell
- February 11, 11:30 AM - 1 PM Central library

Please remember to shovel your sidewalks. It is a city ordinance and your neighbors that walk to get where they are going really appreciate it.

## ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH THRIFT SHOP

*Offering gently used clothing  
and miscellaneous items*

**432 S. Burdick Street  
343-3194**

**Open Mon - Thurs 10 to 3  
and Fri & Sat 10 to 1**

**Receive \$1 off any clothing item  
with this ad!**

### SHOP D&W

**February 6 - 12, 2011**

D&W is once again providing an opportunity for you to help the Oakwood Neighborhood Association, as you do your grocery shopping. 2% of your total purchase will be donated by D&W to ONA, during this "School Days" promotion.

You do not need a coupon, just tell the cashier at any local D&W location the code number:

**94693**

**Oakwood Neighborhood Association**

#### Second Annual Oakwood Bowl-A-Thon

Do you like to bowl? Do you like to have fun? Would you like to support the many programs that ONA offers the neighborhood? Then sign up today for the Second Annual Oakwood Bowl-A-Thon. It will be Saturday April 30, from 6 -9 PM at Airway Lanes in Portage. Registration is open now and is \$25 for shoes, three games of bowling, and mystery bowling. There will also be a raffle for door prizes. All proceeds go to continue Oakwood programs including: after-school youth tutoring, senior drop-in, holiday parties, summer youth art program, and the food pantry.



If you are unable to bowl but would like to help out we are also looking for lane sponsors and door prize donations. Lane sponsorship is \$50. If you would like more information or to make a donation or sponsorship, visit our web site or contact Cheryl at the center.

### After School Tutoring

Our after school tutoring program is full but the next session starts March 28th for youths between the ages of 5-12. Any child can enroll, and children on free or reduced lunches are entitled to half off the registration fee. Call Parks and Recreation at 337-8191 for registration or more information.

**Computer help is available by appointment on Fridays from 1 -3 PM at the center.** So give us a call at 342-0129 to schedule a time.

**Super Books are now available. They make great gifts while benefiting your neighborhood. They are \$39 for the set of two books, which includes a special dinning book where you can get \$8 - \$12 off a second meal at more then two dozen restaurants.**

**Super books can be purchased at the ONA center, Keystone bank, Kazoo Books, Initial Attraction and The Mercantile.**

### Free Tax Preparation and Filing

Free federal and state tax preparation for individuals and families with household income of up to \$49,000 in 2010. This includes the Michigan State Property Tax Credit. Free electronic filing is also available at all locations. Since 2003, this service has been provided by IRS-certified community volunteers. Beginning January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 call 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment or go online at [www.gryphon.org](http://www.gryphon.org) and click on the tax calendar for a list of locations, dates, times and items to bring.

**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

Michael Markel President

Don Verhage, Vice Pres.

Diane Stanke, Treasurer

Bree Bennett, Secretary

At Large Members:

Jackie Luedtke

Jim Jeakle

Janet Loucks

Kathleen Olmsted

Jane Turner

Ellen Tober

Tom Cleveland

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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# Community of Christ



2523 Amherst Ave.

*All are welcome in Fellowship*

Sundays- Coffee & donuts 9:15am

Free Family Movie Night

Friday, February 18, 7:00pm

### Princess Bride

*All are welcome in Study*

Sunday School 9:45 am

Thursdays, Bible Study 7:00 pm

*All are welcome in Worship*

Sundays 11:00am

Wed: Prayer Service 7:00 pm

For more information go to:

[WWW.KalamazooCommunityofChrist.com](http://WWW.KalamazooCommunityofChrist.com)

FACEBOOK: Kalamazoo Community of Christ



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1924 Whites Rd, Oakwood Plaza, Kalamazoo

269-343-5670

email: [rebecca@happyourart.com](mailto:rebecca@happyourart.com)

### Our Community Room is Available for Rent

It's time to think about graduation parties and birthdays.

Need a place to entertain your child and all of their friends or to hold an open house? The Oakwood Neighborhood Community Room is available for use and has a full kitchen and room for all of your family and friends. Contact Cheryl at 342-0129 for more information and to reserve your date before it is too late.