

From the Desk of the President Michael Markel

October is here already and that means the leaves are changing and winter will be here before you know it. If you need assistance with yard work please call the center to be added to our Fall into the Streets list. October also brings the last volunteer day. We will be reconstructing the top set of stairs at the beach that were badly in need of repair. Look inside for more information and how you can help.

This time of year also brings planning for the upcoming year. With the economy still lagging and the city making tough budget decisions for the upcoming year, the ONA also needs to make tough decisions. In order to maintain the core programs including the after-school tutoring program and the neighborhood food pantry, some other programs may need to be cut or scaled back. The board of directors will be making these decisions in the next couple of months. If you would like to see programs such as the neighborhood holiday parties, annual reunion, and other family programs, we need your support. Any gift that you make to the ONA is tax-deductible. Please remember us when you are considering places to give to this holiday season.



Please join the Halloween Party

Sunday October 30th
1:00 PM

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

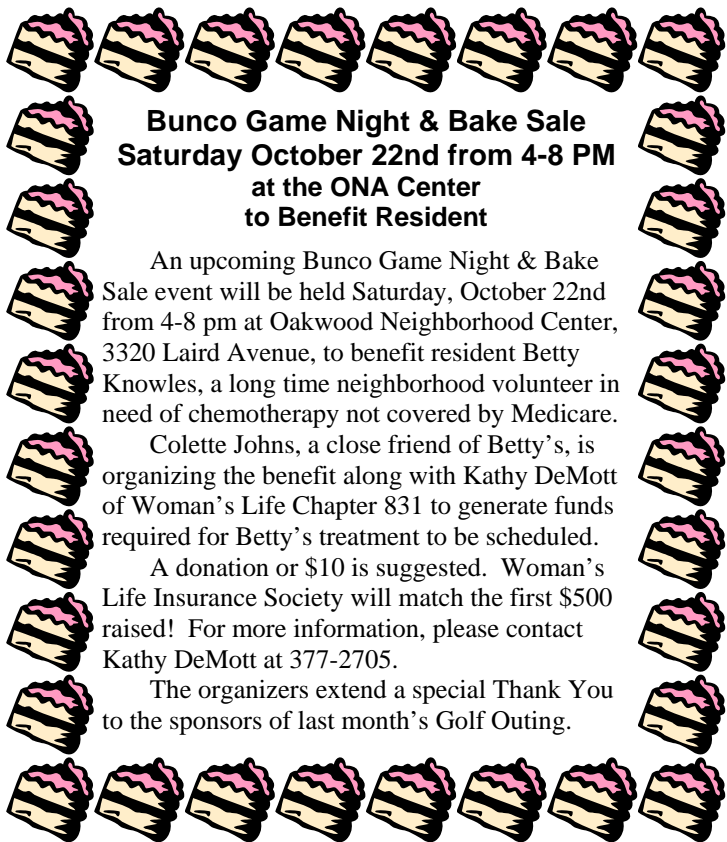
How the Halloween Parties Started in Oakwood

by Janet Loucks

In 1976, I started the Oakwood Neighborhood Halloween parties at the Oakwood United Methodist Church so that the children would get safe treats at the church instead of trick or treating. There were problems with mean people putting razor blades, needles, and drugs in apples and candy that they handed out for trick and treats.

On the Sunday before Halloween, from the church pulpit, I asked for monetary donations. I collected three hundred dollars that very first time for treats for the children. Each year thereafter, I made a request to cover the Halloween's party expense.

The Oakwood Neighborhood Center is now in need of donations to cover the expenses of the youth parties for the holidays. We would like to continue this long standing tradition but need your help to do so. To learn more about how you can help, please contact director Cheryl Lord at 342-0129.



Bunco Game Night & Bake Sale
Saturday October 22nd from 4-8 PM
at the ONA Center
to Benefit Resident

An upcoming Bunco Game Night & Bake Sale event will be held Saturday, October 22nd from 4-8 pm at Oakwood Neighborhood Center, 3320 Laird Avenue, to benefit resident Betty Knowles, a long time neighborhood volunteer in need of chemotherapy not covered by Medicare.

Colette Johns, a close friend of Betty's, is organizing the benefit along with Kathy DeMott of Woman's Life Chapter 831 to generate funds required for Betty's treatment to be scheduled.

A donation of \$10 is suggested. Woman's Life Insurance Society will match the first \$500 raised! For more information, please contact Kathy DeMott at 377-2705.

The organizers extend a special Thank You to the sponsors of last month's Golf Outing.

Shop D&W
Non-Profit Days

October 2 – October 8 &
October 30 – November 5

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

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

1. Oakwood's After School Tutoring Program has a few more openings. It is a first come first serve program run by Parks and Recreation with funding in part from the Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation. The Program is for youth 5-13 years of age. Please call 337-8191 for information and registration.
2. Our first Fall Into the Streets will be on October 14th. If you are a senior, or need assistance with yard work or leaf raking due to special circumstances, please register at 342-0129.
3. Register at www.volunteerkalamazoo.org to help us rebuild our beach stairs and remove invasive plants from the Oakwood beach area on October 15th.
4. Visit our web site at www.oakwoodneighborhood.org to see a list of our many programs and this year's accomplishments.

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.
2. Paper towels.
3. Halloween treats and donations for the Halloween Party.

Thank You!

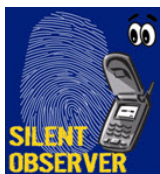
- The Gospel Mission for free bread
- Tom Banner for keeping Oakwood Memorial Park mowed and looking great.
- Mike Finn for picking up bread donations, and mowing the tot lot.
- Rob Kneen and all the volunteers who worked on September 11th to take down our old stairs at the beach and remove invasive plants.
- Janet Loucks, Initial Attraction, Hearth and Grove Fellowship, Michael Markel, Martha Austin, Mike Finn, Linda McDonald, Liz Stuart and the many other who have dropped off food for our food bank and youth programs
- Patricia Bishop for new books for our free book library.
- Michael Markel for pet food for our food bank
- Dawn Howe and Henrietta Schilzband for paper goods and Ruth Olmsted for hand soap.
- Ruth Olmsted for weeding and keeping our gardens watered and looking great, and for taking care of our food pantry.
- Our newsletter folders Ruth Olmsted, Martha Austin, Grace Riley, Rosie Trevino, Kevin Gallagher, Janet Loucks, Jan Mercer, Patti Slagle, Henrietta Schilzband, Pat Henry, Donna, Donna Walker, Connie and Robert Patterson, Dolores DeShong, Dave Henry, Keith Oudsema, and Tracey Frovel.
- 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 <http://kalamazoosilentobserver.com>.

You can also call Silent Observer at 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.



Students and Volunteer Staff enjoy ONA's Summer Youth Art Drop-In Program.



This and That by Pat Henry

Fall is upon us and "Chicken Little" would go crazy with all those walnuts falling! It seems as they are crashing on the roof with such a loud resounding BANG that it will fall in!

The Senior trip to Three Rivers and Millers Discount Store in Centerville was a very delightful, beautiful day to be out with friends. Going thru the covered bridge over the St. Joe River was so "sparkly" with the fall sun shining on it! It is a trip everyone should take, especially in the fall.

Facebook provided me with an "essay" using spelling words from our great grandson in NC. I could not have spelled some of them let alone use them in a sentence, and he is only in the 3rd grade! Guess they need a TV show, "Are you smarter than a 3rd grader."

Oakwood has been fortunate to have volunteers for so many years even going back to the 1920's. A gathering of current volunteers will be rewarded at a Buffet at Fletcher's Pub in October. Dan, the manager (who cooks and donates meats for our annual reunion), will be putting it on, along with other funds. You need to visit the Pub, especially on Friday for his Pepper Crab Soup! Thanks also to the shopping days at D&W, where they will give back to the neighborhood some of your food money. Our businesses are so good to us, we need to support them!

Halloween is approaching fast. Watch out for the little gremlins!

No area deaths that I am aware of. We still need our prayers and thoughts with our shut-ins, Doreen and Fran, especially to Betty who needs all the prayers we can give support her "benefit" to help with her cancer treatment, and Gail who joined us with her helper on our senior trip. For the snow birds that are leaving for warmer climates: Drive carefully! We need you!

Waste Reduction: Transportation by Michael Markel

This month's waste reduction tip is to use alternate modes of transportation. Try carpooling with your co-workers or ride the bus to work, downtown, and to the mall. Better than the bus is walking or riding your bike to where you need to go. Living in Oakwood provides you with a number of opportunities to walk or ride your bike to local businesses. This also helps support your local businesses, which in turn support your neighborhood.

Newsletter deadline for ads and submissions is the 20th of each month. Suggested donation for ads: quarter page \$20, third page \$35, full page ad \$65. Six month special for 1/4 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
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.



LIVING TRUTH 2

Elroy and Tammie Kosters
playing antique and
contemporary instruments
in a ministry of music.

Come experience **Living Truth 2**
In concert and Worship
October 29th, 6PM and Oct.30th
11:00AM



TRUNK-O-TREAT

Monday October 31st 6:30-8:00pm

Visit us on the web at
Facebook: Kalamazoo Community of Christ
www.kalamazoocommunityofchrist.com

**Join us for the Beach Build at
Oakwood's Memorial Beach!**

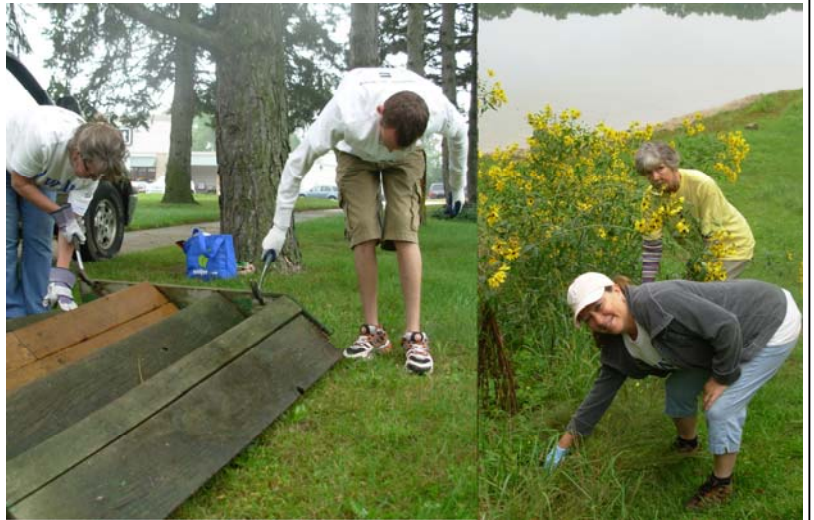
When: Saturday, October 15, 2011, 9AM-1PM

Where: Oakwood Neighborhood

What: Help us complete the beach staircase that we removed during the last Day of Service and make the beach safe for all that visit. Beach clean-up and anti-erosion efforts will also take place.

Why: On National Make a Difference Day, join with millions of volunteers and hundreds of WMU students right here in Kalamazoo to make a positive impact! We are partnering with WMU's Fall Into the Streets program to engage students and community members in service at dozens of sites throughout the county. This Day of Service is a project of our Kalamazoo Neighborhood Safety Initiative, which addresses neighborhood safety in Kalamazoo through an engaged, mobilized group of volunteers tackling safety issues.

Call the ONA Center at 342-0129 for more information, or sign up today at <http://volunteerkalamazoo.org/volunteering/day-of-service/>.



Historic District Commission Openings Announced

Looking for an opportunity to serve on an appointed board or commission - and you are interested in old buildings? The Kalamazoo Historic District Commission which is responsible for design review of proposed work on the exterior of buildings in Kalamazoo's five historic districts, will need two new members in 2012. The commission meets once a month - rarely twice a month in the summer - on the third Tuesday at 5:00 pm in City Hall. To be appointed to the commission an applicant must live in the city of Kalamazoo and have an interest in or knowledge of historic preservation. For more information on the historic district commission call the historic preservation coordinator Sharon Ferraro at 337-8804. For an application, go to the city website (www.kalamazoo.org) and click on "Boards and Commissions in the right hand column - then scroll down to "Board and Commission Application Instructions" Please submit your application by November 1st if you are interested.

**Re-Elect
Barbara Hamilton
MILLER**



**KALAMAZOO CITY
COMMISSION**

**DEDICATED TO
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMITTED TO
KALAMAZOO**

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

**David
Anderson**
FOR CITY COMMISSION



RE-ELECT DAVID ANDERSON

"I'm running for re-election because I believe that cities are more than balance sheets and numbers - that choices made on the City Commission and in other governing bodies are directly related to quality of life, safety and opportunity in Kalamazoo and in our region."

Paid for by David Anderson for Kalamazoo City Commission Committee

• www.anderson4kzoo.com •

**Neighborhood
Candidates Forum**



Ask questions of those running for City Commission
October 4 from 6:00-7:30 pm at:

Northside Association for Community Development
(NACD)

612 N. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Light snacks will be provided.

For more information, please contact
Tammy Taylor at 382-0916.



Living Truth 2

Living Truth 2 is a husband and wife ministry team composed of Elroy and Tammie Kosters from Caro, Michigan. Combined, this duo can play many antique and contemporary instruments, including acoustic guitar, Appalachian dulcimer, bass guitar, guitar-zither, bell chimes, djembe drum, keyboards, mandolin-guitar, marxaphone, melodica, psaltry, recorder, soprano saxophone, and wooden flute. They travel throughout Michigan presenting their ministry of music and occasional drama sketch in combination with their testimonies of a vital, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Come share in Music and Praise

Where: Community of Christ 2523 Amherst Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008

When:

Saturday October 29th

5PM Potluck dinner

**6:00PM Living Truth 2 Program and
instrument Demo**

Sunday October 30th

**11:00AM Worship provided by
Living Truth 2**



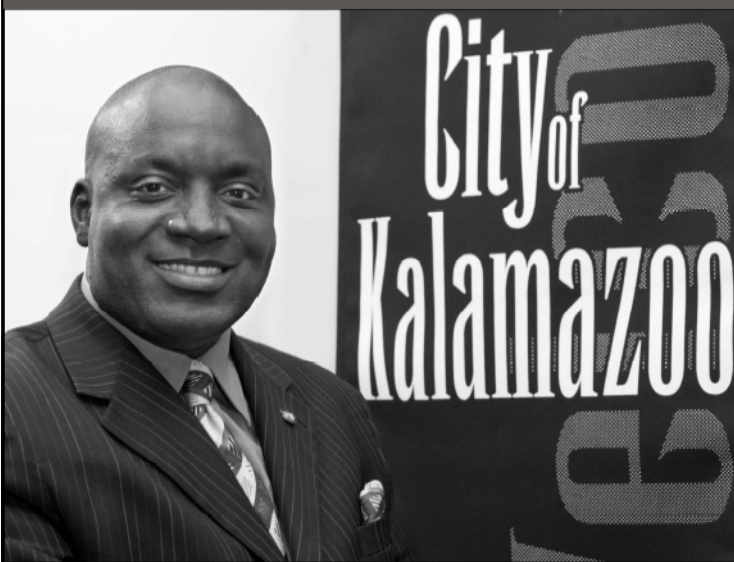
Oakwood Neighborhood Association
3320 Laird Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

Tuesday, Nov. 8 | Re-Elect Mayor Bobby

Hopewell

Kalamazoo City Commission



www.bobbyhopewell.com

Friend Bobby Hopewell on Facebook | twitter: Hope4Kzoo

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Bobby Hopewell

Oakwood's After School Tutoring Program for youth ages 5-13, funded in part by the Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation, has a few more openings. Please call 337-8191 for information and registration.

October Events

- 2 - D&W Non-Profit Days (see coupon inside)
- 7 - Trash & brush pickup Madison eastward
- 14 - Trash & brush pickup Madison westward
- 14 - Fall Into the Streets: 1-4 p.m.
- 15 - Fall Into the Streets: 1-4 p.m.
- 15 - Volunteer work day (see article inside)
- 18 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch 6:30 p.m.
- 26 - Senior Craft Class: 1:00 p.m.
- 27 - Trash & brush pickup-Oakland Eastward
- 30 - Halloween Party: 1:00 p.m.
- 30 - D&W Non-Profit Days (see coupon inside)

November Events

- 4 - Trash pickup Madison eastward
- 11 - Trash pickup Madison westward
- 15 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 p.m.
- 16 - Senior Craft Class: 1:00 p.m.
- 24 - Trash & brush pickup-Oakland Eastward
- 30 - Senior Bingo: 1:00 p.m.

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