



Oakwood Neighborhood  
 Association  
 3320 Laird Ave.  
 Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

**Super books are in! Get them at the Oakwood Community Center or at Kazoo Books.  
 Get them while they last!**

### ONA Calendar

#### June 2018 Calendar of Events

- 13- Seniors out to lunch at Crocker Barrel.
- 18 – Youth Summer Art Program begins 3 P.M.**
- 19 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 P.M
- 20.- Senior Crafts: 1 P.M.
- 23 – Kazoo Books Reception– 4-6 P.M. (see insert)**
- 24 – Annual reunion/neighborhood picnic barbeque 1 P.M.**
- 27— Senior Bingo: 1 P.M.

**At the ONA Center (3320 Laird Ave)**  
**Chair Yoga:** 1:30 Mondays  
**Yoga:** 6:30 P.M. Wednesday  
**Senior Drop In:** 1-3 P.M. Wednesdays  
**Free Bread:** 2-5 P.M. on Wednesdays/Thursdays  
**Tai Chi: 6:30 P.M. Thursdays 6:30 P.M. must register  
 on line at [www.taichiinfo.com](http://www.taichiinfo.com) or call Kristy at 612-  
 7222**  
**IT help with Dave and Ron:** 1-3 P.M. Fridays

#### July 2018 Calendar of Events

- 4 - Senior cards and socializing: 1 P.M.
- 11– Seniors out to lunch at Marjos in Schoolcraft
- 14 - Oakwood Memorial Beach cleanup: 10:00 A.M.**
- 17 – Neighborhood Watch/ **Board of Directors: 6:30 P.M.**
- 18 – Senior Crafts: 1 P.M.
- 25 - Senior Bingo: 1 P.M.

#### August 2018 Calendar of Events

- 1- Senior cards and socializing: 1 P.M.
- 3 – Art Hop for Summer Art Program at Public Media at the Epic Center
- 8 - Seniors out to lunch at Yogis
- 11 - Oakwood Memorial Beach cleanup: 10:00 A.M.
- 15 - Senior Crafts: 1 P.M.
- 21 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 P.M
- 22 – Senior Potluck: noon
- 29- Senior Bingo: 1 P.M.

#### Wanted

- 1. Volunteers for our annual reunion.**
- 2. Teen volunteers for summer youth art program**



**Patricia Balch Henry:**  
**A pioneering gem of Oakwood**  
by Karen Klein

“This is my television” Patricia (Pat) Henry points towards the windows in front of us as she leads me from the front door into her sitting room. Large, clear windows allow plenty of natural light to enter this wonderful picture room. Bird feeders, grass, trees, water and the numerous winged visitors who zip in for a brief moment and a bit of food all seem to be in the room with us as well. Flickers, cardinals, nuthatches, woodpeckers, grosbeaks, and orioles all alight while we sit and chat. The orioles, in particular, delight both of us; the brightly painted male and muted female appear and chug grape jelly like two teenagers at a pie-eating contest.

It’s a pleasant room with the windows, the creams and greens of the furniture, and a wicker chair. Behind the sofa upon which we sit is a long, dark wood Jacobean dining table with chairs and a sideboard to match that Pat and Bill, her husband of 69 years, picked up “years ago at a rummage-type fundraiser for Kalamazoo College.” The delicious meals and family gatherings that the table and Pat have seen over the years still hold a strong presence in this room. It’s a truly welcoming place to visit.. To continue reading, please visit our web site at [www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org).



*Do you know someone interesting in Oakwood who has a story to tell or a life to share? We’re looking for neighbors to highlight for our newsletter. Please let us know who you’d like to know more about. Just call Cheryl at 342-0129 with suggestions.*

*Comerica Bank is offering workshops on these topics. If you are interested in any of these, please let Cheryl at the Oakwood Community Center know so we can schedule them.*

- 5 Ways to Make Banking Easy with Tech
- Managing Your Credit Score
- Managing your Money for Students
- Protect Yourself from ID Theft
- Renting vs. Buying a Home
- Retirement Planning 101  
The Power of Saving money

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Our Oakwood Neighborhood Reunion and Picnic is Sunday, June 24th 1-3PM! Bring a dish to pass if you want, but come anyway.**

**Kazoo Books Reception is June 23rd at Kazoo Books. All Oakwood residents are invited. Authors, Music, Food and Delicious Drinks will be offered. This is a must not miss event!!**

**See the center insert for more details.**

*The Oakwood Annual Bowl-A-Thon was lots of fun and helps to support our neighborhood programs! Thanks to everyone who participated.*



## Free Summer Camp At Oakwood Elementary!!

SUPER REC is a free drop-in program for children to participate in supervised activities throughout the day. They are Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. for nine weeks. SUPER REC staff provides quality recreational experiences that promote creativity, teamwork and healthy lifestyles. Activities include organized sports, arts and crafts, games, and possibility of a couple of field trips and special guest instructors. Due to State Licensing, there are a max of 40 kids that can be on site.

WHO: Youth ages 8-14  
WHEN: June 18 – August 17, 2018, 9 A.M. – 5 P.M.  
**(No camp on July 4<sup>th</sup>)**

## From the Desk of the Director:

1. It is **Youth Summer Art Time**. The program begins June 18<sup>th</sup> and goes until July 27<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 5:15 Monday through Friday. Youth ages 5 through 14 may be registered for \$50. Youth ages 15 and older are encouraged for Volunteer and assist with art projects for free. Youth volunteers will have training session before the program begins. It is a first come first serve program with limited space. Scholarships may be available.

2. **Kazoo Books will again have a special Open House for Oakwood. There will be music by Neil Jansen, chair massages, specialty drinks, treats and local Authors to meet on Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4-6 P.M.**

3. It is also **neighborhood barbeque/reunion** time again. Join us on Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> at 1.P.M. for barbeque foods cooked by Dan from Fletcher's and bring a dish to pass if you can.

4. Keep the **D & W receipts** coming? We reached \$150,000 for the second time and are starting over again. We are also now collecting the UPC barcodes from Spartan "Our family" cans, boxes and bottled products. Every bundle of 500 of these labels will give us \$25.

5. Please note that we are doing bimonthly **newsletters** as often as we can to cut down cost. You can keep up with us on Facebook, Nextdoor.com and our website [www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org). We cannot predict when our newsletter will be delivered. We bring them to 9<sup>th</sup> St., Then they are sent to Grand Rapids and eventually delivered back to our neighborhood. Our newsletters are not considered a priority as we pay a bulk mail rate.

### Thank You to:

\*All of our Kalamazoo Marathon water station volunteers and our station captain Dave Nesius

\*Margaret Shoemaker, who is starting all over again to count D & W receipts towards another \$150,000.00 goal, and for donating cloth bags for our food pantry.

\*Mike Finn for mowing the tot lot and Debbie Norton for the community garden area, and Rob Kneen for Memorial Park.

\*Kim Myers for coordinating the community garden on Springmont

\*Debra Norton, Janet Loucks, Mike Finn, Georgetta Tober, Sue Schultz and Sandy Oaks and the Hearth & Grove Fellowship and the many others who donate to our food pantry.

\*Robin McEnroe for center, plates, cups and utensils. Karin Larsen, and Sally Stevens for their green thumbs around our center.

\*Dave Nesius and Ron & RJ Lawson our Friday IT volunteers

\*The Gospel Mission for free bread and produce and to Jan Sneddon for making the bread runs each week, and Alan Hill, who fills in when needed, and Al Rizzo for sorting help.

\*Dian Vander Molen for office help on Thursdays. Marcia Weare and Kim Myers for helping to keep our center clean.

\*Janet Loucks for coordinating our senior events.

\*Rosie and Kevin Tracey and Ruth Olmsted and Denise Fisher for delivering food to neighbors in need.

\*Vince Whitmore for web site updating.

\*Georgetta Tober for food shopping for our food bank.

\*Ruth Olmsted for coordinating our newsletter folding

\*Our newsletter folders: Janet Loucks, Dian Vander Molen, Martha Austin, Dolores DeShong, Donna Walker, Fran Hosier, Sharry Cook, Linda Lykins, Denise Fisher, Ruth Olmsted, Georgetta Tober, Pat Henry, Alice Coss, Kathleen Olmsted and Jan Mercer.

\*To everyone, who is bringing D & W receipts to the center.

\* 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.

# Youth Summer Art Drop In Program Youth ages 5-13



**June 18 – July 27, 2018**

**Time: 3-5:15 P.M. Monday-Friday**

**Place: Oakwood Neighborhood Center  
3320 Laird Ave.**

**Snacks provided**

**\$50 Registration fee  
Call 342-0129 for more info.**

### ONA Board of Directors

Renee Ruple, President  
Alfonso Espinosa, Vice President  
AJ Srmek, Treasurer  
Jan Sneddon, Secretary

#### At Large Members:

Ellen Tober, Rachael Grover, Frank Dawson,  
Barry Wade Jr., Marcia Wallace, Karin Larsen,  
Patricia Lyons Olsen & Cheri Norton

Cheryl Lord, Exec. Director  
ONA Office: 269-342-0129

Hours: Tue. - Fri. 1-5 p.m.

[www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org)  
[center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org)

"Like" Us: [facebook.com/oakwoodneighborhoodcenter@oakwoodneighborhood.org](https://www.facebook.com/oakwoodneighborhoodcenter@oakwoodneighborhood.org)

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## Summertime in Oakwood By Pat Henry

Oakwood has been fortunate to have not one but two beaches for swimming plus the swimming hole. We were raised near water. We took our first swimming lessons from the Red Cross on the "pay side". Membership to the Becker family in the early 40s a dollar a family. And for a large family it really was easy on the budget. Remember the pier that on one side was shallow and on the other it was over your head. The 2 diving boards one low and one high. It really took a lot of nerve to climb to the top and either dive or jumped. The locker room with the old wringer so you could get the excess water out of your suit. Then there was the "free" side now owned by Oakwood that if you did not have the membership or dime you could swim to the pay side. With no life guard on duty and no houses around the lake we would swim all around the lake. Now the swimming hole before being purchased by the Henry family was a different story. There was a vine that you could swing on and grassy hill that was just right for a peanut butter and banana sandwich the kids would share as they spent the time on the shores of the creek. A tornado had ripped out a lot of trees and we could climb among the dead branches. After the Henry family purchased it they turned it into a playground with a swing set and Merry go round that were on loan from an old school yard and finally made there family home there but swimming still continued. Now it has not been used a swimming hole and the waters are quite shallow. Another water hole was the marl ponds where Mr. Stevens dug marl. The boys like that part they may ride the bucket and away from prying eyes were heard to skinny dip. Oakwood children were lucky children to have this in their own yard and not have bus across the city to get there. I have enjoyed so many good memories and good friends thru out my many years of living in Oakwood

## Community of Christ

2523 Amherst Ave.



### All Are Welcome!

Sundays until Memorial Day:  
9:45 Sunday School, 11:00 Worship

Summer Sundays: 10:00 Worship



Free Hotdog meals on  
Wednesdays 6:00 to 7:00  
p.m. during the summer

Visit us on the web at  
**Facebook: Kalamazoo Community of Christ**  
[www.kalamazoocommunityofchrist.com](http://www.kalamazoocommunityofchrist.com)



## A CATALYST FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Chemical Bank aims to create a personal bond with each community we serve and every small business, family or customer that walks in our door. Visit your local Chemical Bank office or visit [ChemicalBank.com](http://ChemicalBank.com) to learn more.

### COMMUNITY PAPER SHRED WEEK

Kalamazoo | 1910 Parkview Avenue | 269.382.0161

June 18 - 22nd

Paper shredding will be available to the community

June 22nd, 9am - 5pm



Customer Appreciation  
Day

## Thank You for Your Support 2018 Bowl-A-Thon Sponsors

**\$2,500.00 co -sponsor,**  
Modern Woodmen of America  
**Gold sponsor at \$250.00,**  
Grace Christian Reform church  
**Silver Sponsor at \$100- \$150**  
Martha Austin,  
Matt McDonald of Edward Jones,  
Orin B Hayes Inc.

**Door Prizes were provided by:**  
The Civic Theatre  
Joan Herbon,  
Kazoo Books  
Chemical Bank  
Plush Puppy

**Parks and Recreation of Kalamazoo::**  
Treat Street  
D & W Fresh Market  
Barry and Linda Reeser,  
Latitude 42  
Marcia Wallace  
Fletcher's,  
Ron's Beans,  
Water St. Coffee Joint  
Rachael Grover,  
Great Clips

**Thanks!!**