



Oakwood Neighborhood Association
3320 Laird Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

ONA People

Gary Wager, President
Don Verhage, Vice Pres.
Diane Stanke, Treasurer
Niah Venable, Secretary

At Large Members:

Jim Ross
Kathleen Olmsted
Bree Bennett
Jane Turner
Cheryl Lord, Exec. Director

ONA Office: 269-342-0129
www. oakwoodneighborhood.org
center@oakwoodneighborhood.org

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April Events

- 13-19: D & W Non Profit Days- ONA
No. is 94693
- 15- Board of Directors & Neighborhood Watch:
6:30 p.m.
- 18- Computer Class for Seniors, 1 p.m.
- 26- Annual Oakwood/Winchell Yard Sales

May Events

- 3-Oakwood Beach & Tot Lot Clean Up: 9 a.m.
- 9-Recycling, Trash & Brush Pick Up
- 8- Sundowners: 7:00 p.m.
- 20- Board of Directors & Neighborhood Watch:
6:30 p.m.

June Events

- 12- Sundowners: 7:00 p.m.
- 13-Recycling, Trash & Brush Pick UP
- 16-Summer Youth Drop IN begins: 3-5 P.m.
- 17- Board of Directors & Neighborhood Watch:
6:30 p.m.
- 27-The BigE shows comes to Oakwood-8 p.m.
- 28-Ice Cream Social and Carnival
- 29-25th Annual Reunion/Neighborhood Picnic

Easter in Oakwood '08



The Easter Bunny finds some friends at the Oakwood Neighborhood Easter party.



Janet Loucks reads an Easter story to children waiting for the Easter Bunny to arrive.

D&W Non-Profit Days

April 13th-19th, 2008

5% of your purchase goes to the ONA!

Code # 94693

From the Desk of the President... by Gary Wager

ONA Annual Meeting Moved to July to devote more time to Centennial Planning and to allow for more time for neighbors to get involved with the board.

Your Oakwood Neighborhood Association has received a three-year grant through the Michigan NOW! Program. The first-year focus will be human resources, and we will begin working on that in the next few months. In order to utilize this assistance in the most efficient way, our current board of directors has decided to move the Annual meeting from our usual May, to July.

So you still have time to come to a meeting or two, and decide if YOU would like to help direct programs that affect your neighborhood, your schools, and your family! Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 pm and usually run 60 – 90 minutes.

With three Building Blocks projects totaling over \$15,000 for exterior home improvements, an active after school program, computer training, Recycle for Warmth, Holiday Parties, Annual Reunion, and this year, the Oakwood Centennial Celebration, there is something for everyone to become involved with and help promote "neighbors helping neighbors". See you at the meeting, neighbor!

Other fun events coming up at Woods Lake include:

Work Party for tree-trimming and removal. Saturday, April 26, 0900 meet at Oakwood Beach.

Annual Beach Cleanup, Saturday, May 3 0900 meet at Memorial Park.

Ladies' Library Assoc. Park Bench dedication and Nate Fuller guided tour, Tuesday, May 6th at 4:00 pm Woods Lake Beach Park



The Big E Comes to Oakwood!

See Elvis (aka Steve Gagnon), in person at the Oakwood Centennial Celebration on June 27th!

The TOT LOT Needs YOUR help!

Please volunteer to mow grass, pick up litter, or plant flowers. Call now to sign up at 342-0129.

SUPER BOOK

New books available NOW from the ONA

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

- Please call Kalamazoo Public Safety if you see something suspicious or illegal going on in the neighborhood. Their non emergency number is 337-8994. We appreciate your e-mails, and we do refer them to Public Safety. Remember though we cannot receive e-mails in a timely enough manner to contact Public Safety while an event is occurring.
- **Now is a great time to get on our Board of Directors. We are now part of the MI NOW grant program. This means that our board members qualify for free workshops and classes to help improve the Association & the Neighborhood.**
- 2008-9 Super Books are now on sale. Help support Oakwood and buy yours from the ONA center, Initial Attraction, The Oakwood Pharmacy, Shears to You, or the Keystone Community Bank at Oakwood.
- Centennial t-shirts and hoodies must be ordered by May 31st.
- Elvis is coming to Oakwood on June 27th.

Senior Drop-In for Free Bread and Goodies:
Every Wednesday from 1-3 pm.

Wish List

1. Centennial volunteers, June 27th -29th
2. Paper towels
3. Volunteer to help clean the bathroom once each week
4. Door prizes and gifts for centennial and reunion
5. A detail-oriented volunteer comfortable with using computer applications like e-mail, word-processing, basic image and desktop publishing software, printers and copiers to produce 5 ONA newsletters per year on an alternating month basis.

Thank You!

- The Gospel Mission for free bread for seniors, and Tom Cleveland, Don Verhage and Betty and Harold Knowles for picking the bread up.
- Easter Party helpers: Kathleen Olmsted, Diane Stanke, Tyler Evans, a.k.a. the Easter bunny, Janet Loucks (arts & craft table), Jackie Luedtke, and volunteers from WMU's Alpha Lambda Delta
- Rick Howe for Easter party paper supplies
- Water St. Coffee Joint for Easter Party desserts
- Keystone Community Bank and Dana Fruehauf for the Easter bunny rental
- Charlene and Martha Austen, and Janet Loucks for Easter treats and candy
- Ruth Olmsted for paper towels

- John Paul, Jen Bond, and Kathleen and Ruth Olmsted for after school snacks and drinks
 - Fran Gustafson, Gail Camp, Betty and Harold Knowles for apple juice and food pantry items.
 - Our great IT help Michael Markel, Ron Lawson, and David Nessius
- * Please let us know if we have overlooked your name or business so we can give you the acknowledgment that you deserve for supporting the Oakwood Neighborhood.

VOTE!

- For our Oakwood After School READ poster on line May 5th-10th at www.kpl.gov
- Your vote will help put our Oakwood After School Program on a bookmark or banner

Show us your talent!

We need anyone such as a music band, clowns, jugglers, etc. that would be willing to perform at the Oakwood Centennial Celebration on June 27 through 29, 2008. Please call 342-0129!

The Oakwood Neighborhood Association continues to need donations to help payoff the banknote on the Community Center and to help support improvement activities on the facility. Thank you to the following friends and neighbors who sent the most recent donations:

Betty Clough and Nancy Walker

WANTED: Dependable youth to do neighborhood yard work. Please sign up at the ONA center or call 342-0129 today!

Do you ride the Oakland Bus? Please let us know how the route changes since last summer have affected your use of the City bus. Call 342-0129 today!

Fun at the After School program...



Julian Lord-Hill wows program attendees with his performance of Yo-yo tricks.

Summer Youth Employment

- We will be taking applications starting April 28th for youths from ages 14 to 17 for the Y.O.U. summer employment program.
- It will be first come first serve as there are only a limited number of youths that can be employed.
- This year there may be positions with the neighborhood as well as with local businesses. The program will run from July 7th to August 18th from 8 to noon Monday through Thursdays.
- Call 342-0129 or come to the center on 3320 Laird Ave for more information.

Real Estate Statistics for April

From Jan Wier, Prudential Preferred Realtors
269-217-8620

HAPPY SPRING! Please welcome your new neighbors at 3618 Madison, 3612 Madison, and 2909 Parkview. I always appreciate referrals and am looking for new listings- Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist YOU or someone you know!

- There are 28 homes on the market ranging in price, from \$39,900 to \$129,900 with an average price of \$84,900.
- There are 5 Pending listings, priced from \$28,963 to \$74,900.
- Three homes have closed, ranging in price from \$30,000 to \$95,000.

National Teach Children to Save Day
April 29, 2008

Keystone Community Bank
Oakwood Plaza Office



Mark your calendars for this important day!!



As we Move from Snow Season to
Grow Season, 
we get more nominees!

Residents that kept their sidewalk clear of snow for the month of March, nominated for the \$25 Home Depot gift card drawing by their neighbors:

1. Gail at 2209 Parkview
2. Jeff at 3407 Barnard
3. Family at 2418 Logan
4. Cecil at 2304 Stevens

By random drawing, this month's winner is.....

The Family at 2418 Logan!

Come by the center during office hours to get your gift card!

- Nominate a neighbor that regularly keeps their walk edged and clear for pedestrians through the month of April drawing by calling 342-0129 or e-mail center@oakwoodneighborhood.org.

Building Blocks Information:

- Site #1: 2300-2500 Edgewood Ave, 3736-4000 blocks of Barnard, and 3900-4041 Laird- Your students from Kalamazoo College are Rachel, Toni and Evan and your supervisor is Rob Kneen.
- Site #2 3700-4000 Adams St, the 2500 Block of Hazel and the 2600 block of Edgewood- Your students are Jillian, Jes and Gabe, and your supervisor is Gail Vader.
- Site #3 is 3500-3700 Adams- Your students are Jon, Katie and Allie, and your supervisor is Billy Campbell.



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Item or ad for the Oakwood Times Newsletter?

Submission deadline is by the 20th of the month.

Ad rates: 1/4 page = \$20, 1/3 page = \$35, full-page ad = \$65,

Six month special for 1/4 page is \$100

Senior Drop-in & Free Bread: 1-3 pm Weds.