



Oakwood Neighborhood Association  
3320 Laird Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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

**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

Gary Wager, President

Don Verhage, Vice Pres.

Diane Stanke, Treasurer

Niah Venable, Secretary

At Large Members:

Ann Beattie

Bree Bennett

Michael Markel

Kathleen Olmsted

Jane Turner

Cheryl Lord, Exec. Director

ONA Office: 269-342-0129

[www.oakwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.oakwoodneighborhood.org)

[center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org)

This newsletter is published, in part, with funds provided by the City of Kalamazoo. The views and opinions expressed herein may not necessarily represent those of the City of Kalamazoo. This activity is brought to you in partnership with the Oakwood Neighborhood Association and the City of Kalamazoo.

***July Events***

19 - Annual Board of Directors Meeting & Neighborhood Watch: 6:30 p.m.

23 - Trash/brush pickup Oakland eastward

***August Events***

4 - National Night Out 6:30 p.m.

7 - Trash/brush pickup Madison eastward

11 - Friends of Woods Lake - 7 p.m.

14 - Trash/brush pickup Madison westward

18 - Board of Directors/Neighborhood Watch

Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

27 - Trash/brush pickup Oakland eastward

***September Events***

Sept. 20th - First Annual After School Golf Outing

Recycling every Friday

East of Oakland recycling is Thursday

Senior Drop In & Free Bread 1-3 p.m. Weds.

Computer tutoring for adults each Friday 1-3 p.m.

## 1st Annual Oakwood After School Golf Outing

We will be holding the 1st Annual Golf Outing on Sunday, September 20th at The Prairies on West Main with registration beginning at 1 PM. There will be a hole-in-one contest with a prize of \$25,000, a silent auction, and a dinner provided by Treat Street Catering.

All benefits of this outing go to support the Oakwood Neighborhood children's after-school tutoring program. The program helps kids with homework and keeps them safe until parents get out of work. Here is what the program means to one Oakwood youth: "I like the program because I can get a snack, use a computer, get help with my homework, and make friends."

We would like to thank those sponsors who have donated to this worthy cause: Initial Attractions, Phil Thoms, Michael Markel, Kazoo Books, Sheldon's, and Steven Washington Jr..

We would also like to thank those teams who have registered already or are in the process of forming teams: Bill Birch and his team, the 3 teams from Fletcher's Pub (formerly Main St. Grille).

There is still time to register by contacting Cheryl Lord at 342-0129 or [center@oakwoodneighborhood.org](mailto:center@oakwoodneighborhood.org). Registration is \$60/person or \$240 for a team of 4 before August 1st and \$70/person or \$280 for a team of 4 after August 1st.

If you do not golf but would like to help out the after-school program, you can make a donation for the silent auction, or to the cause directly by also contacting Cheryl.



Join Us For National Night Out  
August 4, 2009  
6:30 - 8 PM

There will be a picnic and good times. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy a nice night at the Oakwood Neighborhood Center.

## Community Garden

The community garden project is coming along nicely. We have within the last month had a demonstration on composting and vermicomposting (composting with worms indoors) and had a field trip to go pick strawberries at Mandigo Farms in Paw Paw. We have an active Facebook page under *Oakwood Community Garden*, that includes posts and discussions to questions and resources for gardening information. Also listed on the page are upcoming gardening events in the Kalamazoo area.

It is not too late to join in the garden, so dust your garden gloves off and call Shelly at 330-1740 or email her at [greengirl-travel@charter.net](mailto:greengirl-travel@charter.net) for more information. No experience is necessary and there will be plenty of learning opportunities through field trips and demonstrations. If you would like to garden with others from the neighborhood, stop by Mondays at 6:30 pm at 2529 Springmont Ave..

We ask that you do not bring your pets to the garden, but everyone is welcome!



Picking strawberries during the June 22nd field trip.



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

- I would like to thank the City of Kalamazoo for the Youth Initiative grant to support our youth summer drop in, and the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation for their grant to provide daily art projects for our Oakwood youth during the drop in.
- Both Edgewood (2100-2200 blocks) and the Knox St. Improvement Group are receiving Good Neighbor grants to continue work started during Building Blocks of Kalamazoo.
- Come celebrate National Night Out on August 4th with a picnic at the ONA center.

## Wish List

1. Floor or standing fans for the center
2. Beans, soups, canned pastas, dry pastas, and sauces for the food pantry.

## Thank You!

- The Gospel Mission for free bread for seniors and families in need.
- The Fetzer Institute for a two for one matching fund donation and to Rob and Molly Lehman for their generous donation.
- Dan Housler, of Main St. Grille, for his barbeque expertise and donation of hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken for the reunion/picnic.
- Phil Thoms for his generous prize donation for our golf outing fund raiser in September.
- Larry and June Canning for a frost-free fridge.
- Josh Hueschen for mowing our Memorial Park and Mike Finn for mowing the tot lot.
- Woods Lake Magnet School for the Arts PTA and youth for work on the Springmont tot lot.
- Our newsletter folders Doreen Ellwood, Gail Camp, Fran Gustafson, Marian Porter, Ruth Olmsted, Janet Loucks, Martha and Charlene Austin, Pat Henry, etty Helmer, Phil Thoms and Henrietta Schilpzand.
- Martha Austin and Harold and Betty Knowles for food bank donations.
- Wenke's Greenhouse for flowers and vegetable plants
- Ruth Olmsted and Pat Henry for caretaking our center garden and Memorial Park.
- Harold and Betty Knowles for picking up the Gospel Mission bread each week.
- Ron Lawson and Dave Nesius for Friday computer classes.
- Henrietta Schilpzand and others for paper goods for the center, and Dorothy Martin for her donations.

\* Please let us know if we have overlooked your name or business so we can give you the acknowledgement that you deserve

## City Ordinances - Burning

Open burning is prohibited in the city limits, this includes bonfires and campfires. Burning of leaves or brush in the city limits is also prohibited.

## Free Items

There are an additional 4 CRT monitors still available on a first-come, first-serve basis at the ONA center. All items are functional. Stop in today to claim one.

## Come to the center for computer help any Friday from 1-3 p.m.

Bring your laptop if you need help with it, or learn to use one of the center's computers. Set up an e-mail account, look up information, sell items, or do your taxes online.

## HUESCHEN LAWN & LANDSCAPING

Joshua Hueschen & Michael Hueschen

Cell: (269) 929-1749

Cell: (269) 998-2754

E-mail: [pitbullbluekwmu@live.com](mailto:pitbullbluekwmu@live.com)

**Hurry! There are a few Super Books left to be sold by August 1st. They cost \$39, make great presents, save money, and help you support your neighborhood programs and businesses. They can be purchased at Initial Attraction, Oakwood Pharmacy, Keystone Community Bank @ Oakwood, or the ONA center.**

## FREE Lead Safe Work Practices Class in Oakwood

- Class on August 27th at the ONA Center funded by an EPA grant.
- Free breakfast for the morning session and a lunch for the afternoon session. Register, eat and learn!
- Advance registration required. Limit 15 students per session.
- Call Sharon at the City for info at 337-8804, or Jackie or Amy to register at 337-8226.

## Federal Stimulus Plan for the Employment of Summer Youth

- We are NOW taking names of youths ages 14-17 for summer youth employment. Work has already begun and will continue through August 28th. Wages are \$7.40 an hour. There are family income eligibility requirements for employment.
- Youths ages 18-24 may apply directly to Y.O.U. by calling 349-9676.

Get crime stats and calls for service information off of the City of Kalamazoo Public Safety site at [http://www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/government.php?page\\_id=229](http://www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/government.php?page_id=229).

## Real estate stats for July

Currently there are 31 homes listed for sale ranging from \$45,000 to \$109,000 for a median of \$88,000 averaging 120 days on the market; 7 homes went under contract and are now pending sales ranging from \$44,900 to \$74,900, averaging 196 days on the market and 3 homes sold (closed) in June ranging from \$82,000 to \$91,500 averaging 177 days on the market.

REMEMBER if you are renting now is the time to purchase and receive an \$8,000 tax credit (for first time home buyers or those who haven't owned a home in 3 years). This benefit expires soon, so please give me a call to see what I can do to assist you.

Jan Harper Weir, CRS  
Weir at YOUR Service!  
Prudential Preferred Realtors  
Mobile: 269-217-8620

Website: [www.KazooAreaHomes.com](http://www.KazooAreaHomes.com)  
[JanWeirRealtor@gmail.com](mailto:JanWeirRealtor@gmail.com)

# Vacation Bible School

August 12th—15th

Wed, Thu, Fri - 6pm to 8pm

Saturday Open House - 10 am to noon

Ages - 3 to 12

Have Fun - Learn About Jesus

Stories Games Snacks  
Fun Arts & Crafts Skits

Free

Community of Christ Church  
2523 Amherst

For more information - 269-544-2477

Parent or Guardian must be Present  
to Register Children

## Kazoo Books

*Excite Your Mind*

Kazoobooks.com



Kazoo Books  
407 N. Clarendon St  
Kalamazoo, MI 49006  
269-385-2665  
800-516-2665

Kazoo Books II  
2413 Parkview  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
269-553-6506

Founding member of Buy Local Kalamazoo



### Contacting Public Safety

Not all issues require 911 so here are other ways to contact Public Safety for non-emergencies:

Non-emergency number - 337-8994  
Main phone number - 337-8120  
Kalamazoo Valley Enforcement Team (KVET) - 337-8880  
Silent Observer - 343-2100 or  
[www.kalamazoosilentobserver.com](http://www.kalamazoosilentobserver.com)

## 24th Annual Circulation Day

Sponsored by Unity of Kalamazoo

Saturday, August 29, 2009

8 am - 3 pm

Unity Church

1204 Whites Road

Circulation day is about re-circulating and recycling your: household items, gently used clothing, books, toys, small appliances, sporting goods, tools, and other items that can be easily carried.

Nothing is priced - you take what you want and leave a donation, if you choose. Unity provides the location, manpower, tables and shopping bags-you help re-circulate.

Clean, gently used items may be dropped off at the church anytime August 22nd-28th. NO drop offs the day of the event. No large furniture or appliances please. For more information contact Unity at 385-2239.