



Oakwood Neighborhood Association
3320 Laird Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

**NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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KALAMAZOO, MI
PERMIT NO. 189**

Newsletter deadline for ads and submissions is the 20th of each month.

Ad rates: 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
center@oakwoodneighborhood.org

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November Events

9- Fall Into the Streets
11-Friends of Woods Lake: 7 p.m.
13-**City Leaf Pick Up**
14- Bulky Trash pick up
15-Giving Spree Specials at Crossroads Mall (see inside for details)
18- Board of Directors Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
23-29: D & W fund raiser-ONA # is 94693
Computer help every Friday from 1-3 p.m, (except 11/28/08)
Senior Drop In & Free Bread: 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays

December Events

7- Holiday Party
12-Bulky Trash pick up
16- Board of Directors Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
22-January 2: Holiday hours
Computer help every Friday from 1-3 p.m,
Senior Drop In & Free Bread: 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays.

D&W School Days

Oct. 12-18th & Nov. 23-29, 2008
5% off your purchase goes to the ONA!
Code #94693

Spookily Successful Halloween Party at ONA



Mummies in the Making



The finished product, Real Live Mummies

The annual Oakwood Neighborhood Center Halloween Party was a big success. "We had more children than ever participate this year." There were games and prizes and lots and lots of candy. This event gives neighborhood children a chance to have fun with other kids in the neighborhood in a safe and fun environment. As always we had some great adult volunteers who kept the party running smoothly.



ONA Computer tutor Ron Lawson uses his talent as makeup artist at the Halloween party.

FALL INTO THE STREETS

Students from WMU's honor society Alpha Lambda Delta will be here on Saturday, November 8th to help with leaf raking and yard work for seniors and those residents that need extra help. Please call 342-0129 or email Cheryl at center@oakwoodneighborhood.org if you need help with your fall leaf clean up.

Free Legal Clinics

The Kalamazoo County Bar Association holds free legal clinics at the following locations:

- Powell Branch Library, 1000 W. Patterson St. Wednesdays 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. By Appointment only, call 553-7960
- Kalamazoo Public Library – Downtown, 315 Rose St. Thurs. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. By Appointment only, call 553-7920
- Portage Community Center 325 E. Centre Monday 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Please Note: In order to serve the most people, each appointment is limited to 20-30 minutes. In some instances an attorney may be willing to spend additional time attempting to solve a problem; however, there are limits on how much time an attorney can donate to solving a client's problem. In no instance is there any charge for the services at the clinic.

If you have questions about the clinics, call Denise Nelson, Executive Director of the Kalamazoo County Bar Association at 381-4693.

2009/10 Super Books will be available the first week of December.

They make great holiday presents and support your neighborhood association at the same time.

From the Desk of the Director

- On November 8th we will be doing leaf raking and yard work for seniors and those residents that need extra help. WMU's honor society Alpha Lambda Delta is volunteering again this year. Please call 342-0129 to be added to the list.
- Our after school program has a few openings. Please contact Parks and Recreation to register at 337-8191.
- We appreciate your support for our fall fund raisers. These include the Giving Spree, D & W non profit days, and our capital building campaign to help pay off the ONA center mortgage and begin center repairs.

Wish List

1. Fruit Juices and snacks for after school
2. Christmas gifts for youth and families
3. Food for holiday food baskets for families in need
4. Volunteers to help with food baskets.
5. Licensed electrician to help rewire the ONA center
6. Magnesium Chloride for melting sidewalk ice

Thank You to:

- The Gospel Mission for free bread for seniors and families in need.
- Kathleen Olmsted, Diane Stanke and Jackie Luedtke for decorating and putting on a fun Halloween party.
- Janet Loucks and Elsie and Kaman for a hand rail in the center restroom.
- Doreen Ellwood, Marian Porter and Ruth Omlsted for Senior Drop In supplies.
- Betty Clough and Michael Markel for Halloween candy
- Vicky of Neat-N-Tidy cleaning service, who is doing a marvelous job of cleaning our center restroom
- Pat Henry, Ruth Olmsted, Don Verhage, and Janet Loucks, who attended the Kalamazoo Community Foundation's Changemaker's grant workshop.
- Ron Lawson and David Nesius our tutors for the Friday computer classes
- Dave Nesius and Mark for helping with building Maintenance
- My faithful group of newsletter folders, thank you, thank you, thank you

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.

Meet the Board...



Ann Beattie (no relation to Beattie Grocery) is a current ONA Board Member-at-Large who has recently moved to the Oakwood Neighborhood. She enjoys cooking, contra dancing, and gardening.

Ann looked at over 100 houses before she decided on her little bungalow in Oakwood. She appreciates the quiet here as well as the large trees in the neighborhood.

Ann was introduced to the Oakwood Neighborhood Center when she needed to do find a facility for her yoga instruction internship in 2005. She is currently working as a yoga instructor and studying to become a certified yoga therapist. Ann was involved with the Hoover Street Block Club and a Green Street Block Party committee member.

Ann's pet projects on the board are building improvements and creating a Community Garden for the neighborhood.



The 9th Annual

UNDERWEAR Open House

To benefit the Homeless of Kalamazoo
Monday November 17, 2008

*Lawrence Education Center
on Borgess Medical Center Campus*

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Hearty hors d'oeuvres and beverages served

Wish List: *new, unwrapped items, please*

- Adult Men's & Women's Underwear and Socks (all sizes)
- T-Shirts (large, x-large and larger)
- Thermal Underwear, Sweatshirts and Flannel Shirts
- Hats, Gloves and Scarves

Interested in Joining the ONA Board?

We will be holding an Open House on February 15, 2009 for members of the community to meet the current board members and learn about the many activities ONA provides the community. During this time we are also looking for people interested in serving on the ONA Board.

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Holiday food Baskets

We will be putting together Holiday food baskets for families and seniors in need.

The Oakwood Bible Church and the Grace Christian Reform Church will be assisting us in providing food and presents. Please nominate a friend, neighbor, or senior in need at 342-0129 by November 17th.



Oakwood Neighborhood Center
Annual Holiday Potluck
Everyone Welcome
Sunday Dec. 7th
1:00–3:00 p.m.

ONA will be providing treats and beverages. Feel free to bring your favorite holiday goodies to share with your friends and neighbors.

A Friendly Reminder, in these tough economic times, if you or a friend need food, heating assistance or help meeting your basic needs, please call 2-1-1. Gryphon Place is a 24 hour confidential help line for services in Kalamazoo.

Real Estate Statistics for October

The fall has been good in Oakwood.

There are 25 active listings, ranging from 2 to 4 bedrooms, 731 sq ft. to 1,622 sq. ft, priced from \$54,900 to \$118,700, average list price of \$84,000 and 117 days on market.

October brought contracts to 7 homes pending, all are 2 bedrooms, ranging from 628 to 1,496 sq.ft, listing from \$25,000 to \$109,000, with an average list price of \$71,095 and 135 days on the market.

There were 2 homes that closed, with an average of 316 days on market and average sale price of \$88,000. My Best Wishes for a Very Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. When you go to list your home, remember, Weir at YOUR Service! Jan Weir, Prudential Preferred Realtors, 269-217-8620.

Capital Building Campaign

We are holding a Capital Building Campaign this November with the goal of paying off the ONA Center Mortgage and providing funds for Capital improvements to the building. If we raise \$1,500 there has been a generous offer of a matching donation. We have included an envelope in this newsletter to make donating to the building fund that much easier. Call 342-0129 or stop in to make a donation. You can also mail it, or drop the envelope in the mail slot at the Center.

Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to our neighborhood center.

**Help your community
and save on
your holiday
shopping – what
could be better?**



The Giving Spree at Crossroads

Saturday, November 15, 2008

Looking for a **FUN** way to start your holiday shopping and make a difference in your community?

Make a **\$5** minimum donation per person and receive a **SPECIAL Shopping Pass** with exclusive retail offers!

100% of your donation benefits



Check it out and get your savings at www.TheGivingSpree.com and be sure to pass this information to your friends and family.

**MAIN
ST.
GRILLE**

Thanksgiving Eve
American Ale Party

Sponsored by: Budweiser

7-9PM

Join us for games, prizes, and great
specials on food and drinks

Main St. Grille at 3013 Oakland Dr.