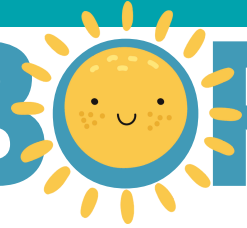


# HEY, NEIGHBOR!



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## Contact Us:

Liz Last, Executive Director  
lizlast@gohni.org  
920-230-2717

Julie Kiefer, Neighborhood Coordinator  
julie@gohni.org  
920-420-8653

135 Church Avenue,  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

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

## The Heart of Our City: Celebrating, YOU, Our Volunteers

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, a time to remember and thank the incredible neighborhood volunteers who make Oshkosh a better place to live, work, and play.

Volunteering isn't just about giving time; it's about investing in our shared future. Whether it's organizing the annual block party, tending to community gardens/landscaping projects, keeping up with neighborhood communications, or attending a neighborhood meeting or event, neighborhood volunteers turn a collection of houses into vibrant, supportive neighborhoods.

Volunteers are an essential part of any organization. Volunteering gives you the chance to give back to your community, develop new skills, and meet people with similar interests. No matter the reason for your participation in your neighborhood, we appreciate you giving up time in your busy lives to support healthy neighborhoods in Oshkosh.

This month, we recognize the dedication, passion, and energy that you bring to our community. We know that there are many worthwhile organizations in our community, so your efforts do not go unnoticed. Because of you, our community is safer, cleaner, and more welcoming. Plus it is a wonderful way to meet neighbors, feel more connected, and take pride in your surroundings.

As we celebrate this month, please take a moment to thank a volunteer when you see them. Thank you to our volunteers for your dedication and amazing generosity of your time and talents. We couldn't do this without you!

### THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

*"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another. Thank you."*  
—Author unknown



# You are invited to the **SPRING RALLY**



## **About our Featured Speaker, Melinda Myers:**

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author, and columnist Melinda Myers has 35+ years of horticulture experience and has written more than 20 gardening books, including her most recent Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition (which will be available for sale at the event). She hosts the "Melinda's Garden Moment" radio program and The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video series. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms and hosted "The Plant Doctor" radio show for over 20 years and 7 seasons of "Great Lakes Gardener" on PBS. Myers' website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com)

**This will be a kick-off to the Good Neighbor Grant Season!** Ms. Myers will have something for everyone! Any size yard and budget, everyone can benefit from some added curb appeal. Melinda will share tips on everything from quick, simple, and affordable to more elaborate makeovers to create a beautiful and welcoming front yard and entrance for you, visitors, and passersby. Learn ways to dress up your front door and walkway, add some creative container gardens or create a stunning garden bed, border, or entryway garden.

## **Event Schedule**

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 9:00 am -12:00 pm

Schedule: 9:00-10:00 Continental breakfast and local home improvement vendors

10:00-11:15 Melinda Myers presentation with Q & A

11:15-12:00 Book Sales and Signing

Location: Lakeshore Pavilion, 1875 Punhoqua St, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Ticket: \$25 are available at: <https://gohni.org/events/springrally26/>

*All proceeds from the event and book sale will go to Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods to support community building and curb appeal grants in City of Oshkosh Neighborhood Associations.*

## **Good Neighbor Grant applications will be accepted starting April 20.**

This grant is for exterior improvements made to the street-facing portion of a property. The homeowner is responsible for purchasing materials and/or paying a contractor with a minimum contribution of \$250 paid by the property owner, who can then submit paid receipts to receive up to \$750 in reimbursement for improvements beyond \$250. Please review all of the details on our website, at <https://gohni.org/grants-loans/>



# Neighborhood Alliance

The Neighborhood Alliance is made up of a leader or two from each neighborhood. The Alliance meets on the second Monday of the month to share resources and information and to allow for peer to peer exchange. Our next regular meeting is **Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6 pm in the lower level of the Library.** Brandon from City Planning will share information about City Grant programs and Liz will be presenting about how OHN supports Neighborhoods and some of our new initiatives.

Each Neighborhood has the opportunity to utilize up to \$1,000 for **Community Building & Engagement** to help support social connectedness in your neighborhood. After your event, record volunteer planning hours, number of participants, pictures, the sign-in sheet and receipts for reimbursement **HERE**. This is also the location where quarterly volunteer hours are submitted. Please submit the first quarter's hours in April.

## Meet Your Neighbors

OHN supports 26 recognized neighborhood associations. This month we are highlighting a fun neighborhood adjacent to Menominee Park – Menominee North Neighborhood Association.



MONTHLY NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE MEETING



2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6 - 7 PM  
OSHKOSH PUBLIC LIBRARY (LL)



## Neighborhood Spotlight



Established: 2019

Households: 490 parcels

Boundaries: New York Ave, Irving Ave, Railroad & Broad St, & Lake Winnebago

Amenities: Menominee Park, Recreational Shoreline Trail, Water Access, & the new Menominee Elementary School

Favorite Project: Janet Planet Concerts and currently working on pollinator patches with Menominee South and Urban Ecology

Contact: menomineenorth@gmail.com  
facebook.com/menomineenorth

## Upcoming Events

### **OHN Board of Directors**

Wednesday, April 8, 7:30 – 9 am  
OACF Board Room

### **Public Health**

### **Community Engagement Fair**

Thursday, April 9, 5 – 8 pm  
Sunnyview Expo Center

### **Alliance Meeting**

Monday, April 13, 6 – 7 pm  
Oshkosh Public Library

### **Spring Rally**

Saturday, April 18, 9 am – 12 pm  
Lakeshore Pavilion

### **Good Neighbor Grants**

Applications open Monday, April 20

### **Pups on the Runway**

April 23, 5 – 8 pm  
Becket's

### **Celebrating Neighborhood Heroes**

Thursday, November 5  
Venue 404

# Housing Loans and Incentives

The City of Oshkosh Planning Department has a number of Housing Loans and Incentives to help homeowners make improvements to their properties. **Applications for these programs open April 1, and some close as soon as April 30 or until funds are exhausted.** Apply early.

## Sold on Oshkosh

Home buyer assistance  
0% Interest Loan Forgiven After 5 Years  
\$7,500 if within a Recognized Neighborhood Association  
\$5,000 City Wide  
There is no longer an age of the home requirement



## Historic Preservation

0% Deferred Payment Loan for Exterior Projects only  
Reimbursement up to \$25,000

## Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation

0% Interest Loan Interior and Exterior Projects  
Up to \$30,000  
Structure Must Be Built Prior to 1970



Applicants will be notified in May 2026 regarding approval or denial.

## Housing Improvement Loan Program for Low to Moderate Income Households

0% Deferred Payment Loan for Interior and Exterior Projects  
Maximum loan amount: \$30,000

Applicant notifications: Applicants will be notified in May 2026 regarding approval or denial.

Income Qualified Applicants

1 person: \$58,050

2 persons: \$66,350

3 persons: \$74,650

For more information, contact Harmony Powell:

HPowell@oshkoshwi.gov

(920) 236-5058,

or visit their website for more details and applications:

[oshkoshwi.gov/PlanningServices/HousingLoansAndIncentives.aspx](https://oshkoshwi.gov/PlanningServices/HousingLoansAndIncentives.aspx)





# Meet the OHN Board

As a non-profit organization Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods is lead by a volunteer board of directors. This month meet our new Board Chair, Alicia Ulrich.

**OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS**

## Meet Our Board Member

Alicia is a Project Coordinator with Plexus, has been on the board since 2023, and lives in Stevens Park Neighborhood Association.

**Why did you get involved?**  
I knew Tom (previous ED) through Feeding America and connected with him about opportunities as I looked to get involved with other non-profits

**Favorite Event/Activity**  
Annual Celebrating Neighborhood Heroes

**What excites you about OHN:**  
The new direction of the organization and supporting the growth into its next phase.

ALICIA ULRICH

**FOR A DONATION OF \$5, THIS YARD SIGN COULD BE YOURS!**

**OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS**

*Need a Gift?*

**OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS**

**Get them something useful:**

**OHN has Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards**  
5 Ultimate Car Washes  
\$10 each = value \$50  
for only \$36!

Contact [julie@gohni.org](mailto:julie@gohni.org) to get yours today!



Our intern, Alexia & Julie at the Unity Fair

On Saturday, March 21, we attended the Unity Fair at Vel Phillips Middle School. We shared information about the transportation grant and neighborhood associations.

Unity Oshkosh is a collaborative initiative of community partners and volunteers working together to connect residents with resources and opportunities. Uniting Community & Supporting Opportunity.

For more information about Unity Oshkosh visit their

[Facebook page.](#)

