

HEY, NEIGHBOR!



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1: Building Community in May

Page 2: Spring Rally Recap - Thank you!

Page 3: Neighborhood Alliance & Volunteer Form

Neighborhood Spotlight: Middle Village

Upcoming Events

Page 4: "Breaking" News

**Pages 5: Meet the Board
New Neighborhood Alert
Outreach**

Pages 6: Fundraisers



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Building Community with May Day Baskets

In an era of digital connections and high fences, there is something wonderful about leaving a token of kindness on a neighbor's doorstep. May Day baskets are a charming way to bridge the gap between "people who live next door" and a true neighborhood community.

The tradition of May Day baskets is rooted in a Roman festival which welcomed the return of spring and blooming flowers. By the Victorian era, the custom had evolved into a popular social grace in Europe and North America. Baskets were handmade from scrap paper, woven ribbons, or small wicker containers. The containers were filled with spring flowers, sweets, or small trinkets, and delivered on the morning of May 1.

To make your own, use scrapbook or construction paper to make a paper cone, then thread a ribbon through two holes on the top for a handle or upcycle a jar or container by decorating the outside. Baskets could contain:

- Fresh flowers or a plant;
- Seed packets or small gardening tools;
- Local coffee beans or tea bags;
- A small bundle of fresh herbs;
- Candy, snacks, bubbles, etc...

Include a note encouraging the recipient to make their own basket and deliver it to a neighbor sometime in the month of May. Watch as kindness travels through your neighborhood.

Delivering a basket is a low-pressure, high-impact way to strengthen neighborhood ties that make a neighborhood feel safe and friendly.

- It's a perfect "no-excuse-needed" way to introduce yourself to a new neighbor.
- They are a fantastic way to teach children about service and the joy of giving without expecting a thank-you.
- It's a powerful reminder that the recipient is seen and valued by their neighborhood.

By reviving this simple tradition, you aren't just giving a gift; you're cultivating a neighborhood culture of kindness, one doorstep at a time.

Thank you for attending the

SPRING RALLY

On Saturday, April 18, 84 people joined us at Lakeshore Pavilion for an engaging discussion about creating curb appeal by presenter, Melinda Myers.

We also enjoyed a continental breakfast, raffle baskets, and time to interact with vendors such as McKay Gardens, Kitchen Tune-Up and Bank First.

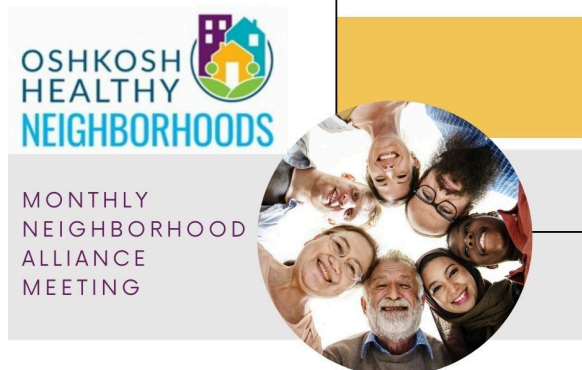
We are pleased to report that we raised \$4,000! Those funds are being reinvested in neighborhoods to support Community Building and Engagement and Good Neighbor Grants.

Thank you for your support!



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, May 11, 2026, at 6 pm in the lower level of the Library.** *Note Change in Presenter:* Kate Mann from the Oshkosh Police Department will be there to give us information about Neighborhood Night Out, Citizens Academy, and new Dog Walker Program.



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

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. If you haven't already, please submit the first quarter's hours ASAP.

Meet Your Neighbors

OHN supports 26 recognized neighborhood associations. This month we are highlighting a vibrant central city neighborhood - Midtown.



Neighborhood Spotlight





Established:	2019
Households:	507 parcels
Boundaries:	Main Street, Harrison/Custer, Train Tracks/Broad, and Irving Avenue
Amenities:	Close proximity to Downtown and St. John's Church
Favorite Event:	Annual Block Party - This year it will be a kick off to summer and held in June.
Contact:	MidtownOshkosh@gmail.com facebook.com/MidtownOshkosh

Upcoming Events

Alliance Meeting

Monday, May 11, 6 - 7 pm
Oshkosh Public Library

OHN Board of Directors

Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 - 9 am
OACF Board Room

New Neighborhood Meeting

Wednesday, May 13, 6:15 pm
Vel Philips Middle School
Boundaries: Back of Jackson St, Murdock, Harrison/Main, Irving

Good Neighbor Grants

Applications period closing on or before May 20

Ground Breaking

Thursday, May 21, 10 am
302 Merritt Avenue
(see page 4 for details)

Celebrating Neighborhood Heroes

Thursday, November 5
Venue 404



Exciting “Breaking” News!

Greater Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. (GO-HNI) is pleased to announce a new affordable housing development at 302 Merritt Avenue, in the Historic Fourth Ward Neighborhood. A two-bedroom duplex and a two-car detached garage is being built to help expand access to quality, affordable housing in the Oshkosh community.

Units will be offered at affordable rates aligned with HUD income guidelines, prioritizing households earning below 80 percent of the Area Median Income. Residents will be referred through local transitional housing partners, including programs that support individuals and families transitioning from homelessness, refugee resettlement, or domestic violence. By providing stable, long-term housing, this project aims to strengthen connections between residents and the surrounding neighborhood. Future tenants will benefit from a centrally located property near the Oshkosh Public Library, GO-Transit, the Oshkosh Boys and Girls Club and Downtown Oshkosh YMCA, and the Oshkosh Farmers Market.

The City of Oshkosh Redevelopment Authority has approved the sale of the lot to GO-HNI for one dollar, supporting the transformation of an underutilized parcel into a productive and community focused housing development. This investment will add value to the neighborhood while addressing a growing need for affordable housing.

GO-HNI is partnering with Signature Homes by Adashun Jones to construct the duplex. The project is funded in part through grants and contributions from the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority Foundation, J. J. Keller Foundation, Signature Homes by Adashun Jones, the Theda Tamblin Clark Smith Foundation, and the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation.

This duplex project marks an expansion of GO-HNI’s work into the development and management of affordable housing and is expected to serve as a catalyst for future redevelopment of underutilized parcels throughout Oshkosh.



You are invited to a Groundbreaking

Thursday, May 21, 2026

10:00 AM

302 Merritt Ave

Join us!



Meet the OHN Board

As a non-profit organization Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods is lead by a volunteer board of directors. This month meet our Board Treasurer, David Rucker.

Meet Our Board Member

David is a mortgage lender with Bank First and has served the board for twelve years. He is a resident of the Midtown neighborhood association.

Why did you get involved?
I was looking to get involved in Oshkosh

Favorite Event/Activity
Celebrating Neighborhood Heroes Event

What excites you about OHN:
Growing the organization into many new endeavors.

DAVID RUCKER

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods
GOOD NEIGHBOR GRANT

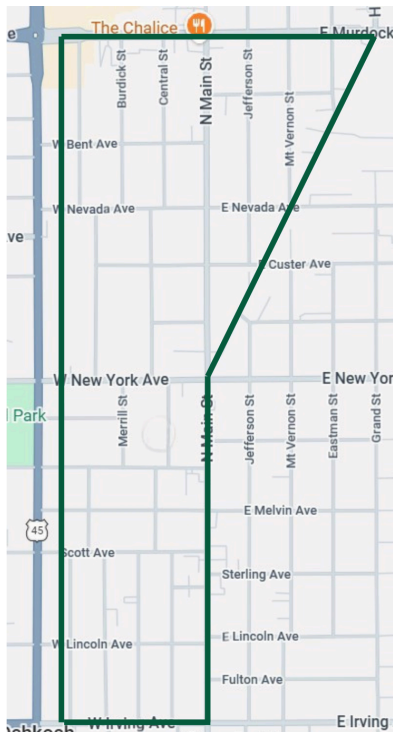
Great Neighborhoods Start With You!

More info at: www.gohni.org

Good Neighbor Grant update:
We have now received more than 50 applications for this grant. We will continue to accept them, but may not be able to award all eligible requests based on funding availability. As a reminder, this is for exterior curb appeal projects. If you know someone who is interested in receiving a grant, they may apply and find all the details here:

<https://gohni.org/grants-loans/>

New Neighborhood Alert



We have a new neighborhood formation meeting on Wednesday, May 13, at 6:15 pm at Vel Philips Middle School.

The proposed boundaries are the back of Jackson Street, Murdock, Harrison, Main, and Irving.

If you know anyone in this neighborhood, please encourage them to attend. If they can't attend or have any questions, please contact julie@gohni.org.

Outreach



Our intern, Alexia, Julie, and board member JD Williams at Pups on the Runway, supporting [Day by Day Shelter](#).



Dine In/Out Fundraising Events

Great ways to help OHN raise funds is by either ordering or dining in at Panda Express on May 16, 10 am - 9:30 pm or Chipotle on Wednesday, May 27, 4 - 8 pm. A portion of the proceeds comes back to OHN to help support neighborhoods. We appreciate your support! You do need to show the flyer when ordering in the restaurant. If ordering online use Code: 3858349 for Panda Express and Code: G2EZ3NC for Chipotle. TIA!



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH | 4-8PM
440 S KOELLER ST, OSHKOSH, WI, 54902

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **G2EZ3NC**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

Fundraiser for
OShkosh Healthy Neighborhoods

20% of event sales will be donated
2 fundraising events yearly, grants for revitalization, funds for block parties.

When
Saturday, May 16, 2026
Time: 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM

Where
Panda Express located at:
570 S Koeller St Oshkosh WI 54902

(920) 891 - 3060

How to Order

Online

PandaExpress.com or the App.
Enter 3858349 in the fundraiser code box

In-Person

Bring paper flyer or show it on your smartphone

Order ahead or on the event day Saturday, May 16, 2026

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (paper copy or digital image) with each order to receive credit towards the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within the vicinity of the restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during the fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. ("PRG") reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events, if the Neighborhood Fundraiser Terms and Conditions are not followed. If the organization is not in good standing with the IRS, Franchise Tax Board, or the State of California (for California organizations only), then donations may not be made to the organization. You must present your unique code or a copy of this flyer (digital copies are accepted) at the designated date, time, and your Panda Express location at check-out. PRG will donate 20% of all pre-tax purchases made, provided that the organization raises a minimum of \$100 in total event sales pre-tax. PRG does not charge the organization fees related to the event. Purchase(s) of gift cards do not count towards the fundraiser, but purchases made with gift cards will count. No portion of purchase is tax deductible. The donation from PRG to the organization is tax deductible. The organization receiving the donation must be a tax exempt organization. PRG will issue the donation check and provide an accounting statement to the organization within 45 days of the completion of the event. Participants in the fundraiser may request the total dollar amount donated to the organization by emailing communityprograms@panda.com or by submitting the question at <https://community.pandaexpress.com/faq>

Find a local hiring event or apply online at: [PandaCareers.com](https://pandacareers.com)

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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 to get yours today!

Hey it's Graduation season and Mother's/ Father's Day are also coming up. Kwik Trip Car Wash cards make a great gift. Or these signs are a gentle reminder to dog walkers. Proceeds from sales support neighborhood initiatives.

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

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

