NOVEMBER 2026

HEY, NEIGHBOR!

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OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

We are Grateful for Neighborhoods

Neighborhoods are much more than just a collection of houses and streets; they are the social fabric of our daily lives that offer connection, safety, and a sense of belonging.

1. A Built-In Sense of Community
Humans thrive on social connection. Whether it is a friendly wave across the garden fence, a chat over a cup of coffee, or recognizing a familiar face on an evening walk, our neighborhoods provide an immediate way to feel connected. Engaged neighborhoods work to turn a group of strangers into a trusted circle.

2. Safety and Peace of Mind
A good neighborhood creates an environment where people look out for one another. Active eyes on the street, well-lit sidewalks, and community support systems give neighbors the comfort to enjoy the outdoors, let children play, and rest easier at night.

3. Gather, Connect, and Relax
Neighborhoods support Third Spaces: parks/green spaces, local libraries, cafes, shops, and community centers where people can gather and relax. They serve as neutral, affordable, and welcoming grounds that foster informal conversation, and a sense of belonging among both regulars and newcomers. By encouraging face-to-face interaction and strengthening community bonds, third places play a vital role in reducing loneliness and supporting public well-being.

4. Resilience Through Hard Times
When life brings unexpected challenges, a supportive neighborhood steps up. From shoveling a neighbor's driveway after a heavy snowfall to sharing meals or checking in on older residents, the mutual care found in an neighborhood builds resilience.



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

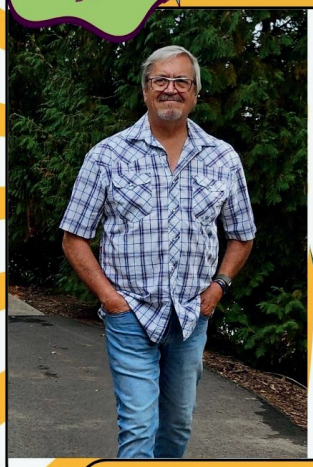
www.gohni.org

Announcing the 2026 Neighborhood Heroes

NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEER HERO

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

An individual whose passion, skills, and gifts are shared willingly in a volunteer or leadership role and has made a positive difference in the health and vitality of their neighborhood.



Tim Macho is a person who really defines what it is to be a neighbor. His efforts extend far beyond his own neighborhood to support the city and county! Tim stepped up to be the next chair in his Neighborhood and also planned new events. Tim has actively supported the new neighborhoods that are forming on the south side. He took the lead for the south side neighborhoods to participate in the activities at South Park after the Childrens' Day Parade and has been involved for all of the years of the South Side Halloween Bash. Tim is a good neighbor throughout the county, as well, serving on the County Board and even more importantly taking the block party trailer to Menasha to help with relief efforts following the tornado.
---JD Williams

TIM MACHO

GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD HERO

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

An individual who reaches out to support neighbors or who shows great pride in their property and therefore contributes to the beauty of your neighborhood and our city.



Lori is a huge supporter of our neighborhood and big reason it's thriving. She has a wonderful and passionate heart. Her beautiful home encourages others improve their homes. She does a great deal behind the scenes to make sure our events are well planned, that we have the things we need, and make the event something neighbors want to attend. She's a beautiful reason our marigolds look great! She reaches out to neighbors with words of encouragement or flowers when someone is ill or has suffered the loss of a loved one. I'm grateful she's in my neighborhood!
--- Kirsten Langkau

LORI BUSKIRK

Thursday, November 5,
5-7:30 pm
at Venue 404
gohni.org/events/2026-neighborhood-heroes/

What to expect:
5:00-6:15 pm Music, Games, and Raffles
6:15-6:45 pm Buffet Dinner
6:45-7:15 pm Awards Presentation
7:15-7:30 pm Raffle Winners & Closing

NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT HERO

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

A business who has provided the neighborhood association with resources to support the mission in bringing people together to create a safe, active and connected community.



After neighborhood car break-ins, Austin & Jen opened up their doors for neighbors to come together and discuss keeping our neighborhood safe with the OPD.

I am proud to nominate Jeff's On Rugby for stepping up! Not only did they open up their room for a meeting, they purchased and give away 30 video door cameras to the neighborhood.

That is a great neighborhood hero going above and beyond to keep our neighborhood safe!
--- Micki Dewing

AUSTIN & JEN, JEFFS ON RUGBY

NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH HEROES

OSHKOSH HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

Individuals who are improving their community through service to others and making a positive difference with acts of kindness and transformative neighborhood development.



Jamison and Willow are always the kids that are ready to help. The helped with moving bedding collections from our house to The Sleep in Heavenly Peace trailer five years in a row! They have made hygiene bags for their schools' along with five other schools in a Bee the Good-Oshkosh project. They love to help fundraise and you will see them at a brat fry being the racing sausages to bring in customers. It's the things you don't see them do that makes them heroes. They help fill the blessing box at Menominee Elementary. They lead by example and show what it is to be a good friend. They are the two most empathetic, kind hearted kids. That's why they are my heroes! --- Jaime Gibbs

JAMISON & WILLOW GIBBS

All funds raised go directly back to our neighborhoods to support social events, communication, and reinvestment projects and Good Neighbor (curb appeal) Grants.

What is happening in November & Beyond:

Alliance Meeting
Monday, November 9, 6 - 7 pm
Oshkosh Public Library Lower Level

OHN Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 11, 7:30-9 am
OACF Board Room

Purposeful Pour
Thursday, December 3, 5-7:30 pm
Gibson's Lobby Bar
537 N. Main Street

Alliance Holiday Party
Monday, December 14
St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
Leannah Hall - 519 Knapp St

Spring Rally
"Every Garden Tells a Story"
Saturday, April 24, 2027, 9 am - 12 noon
Menominee Elementary Atrium
overlooking Millers Bay



Community Building and Engagement

Each Neighborhood has the opportunity to utilize up to $1,000 for Community Building & Engagement to help support events and social connectedness in neighborhoods.

1. To apply for funding, fill out the form **HERE**.
2. After your event, record volunteer planning hours, number of participants, pictures, the sign-in sheet and receipts for reimbursement **HERE**.

Also in this form is the the location where quarterly volunteer hours are submitted.

This information can be found on our website here: **https://gohni.org/community-building-engagement/**

It doesn't have to be fancy, time-intensive or expensive to connect with neighbors. It just takes someone like you to take that first step, because.....

Great Neighborhoods Start With You!

Neighborhood Alliance

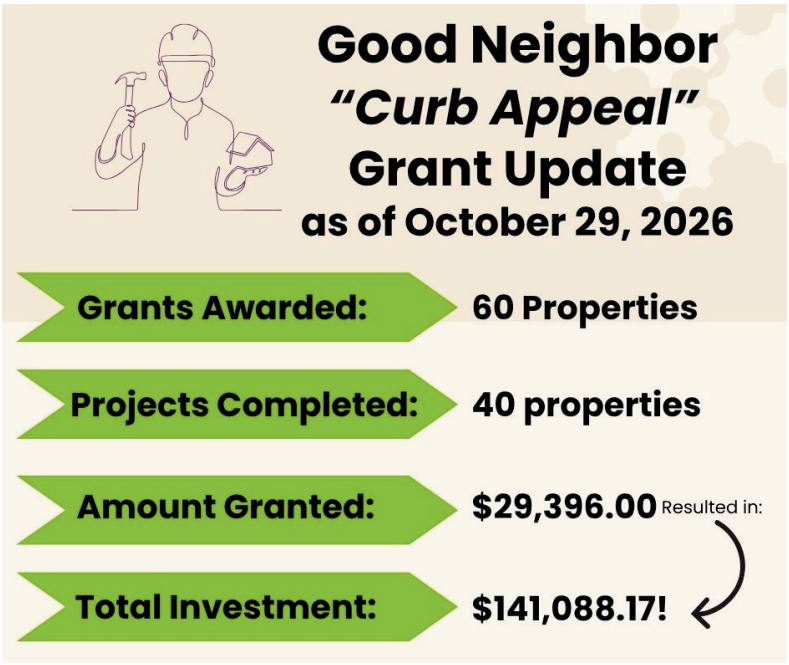
The **Neighborhood Alliance** is made up of a leader or two from each neighborhood. The Alliance meets on the second Monday of the month to share resources and information and to allow for peer to peer exchange.

Monday, November 9, 6-7 pm Kathy Griese from the City Economic Development will discuss the housing loans and incentive programs that are opening again in January.
https://www.oshkoshwi.gov/PlanningServices/HousingLoansAndIncentives.aspx

December 14 will be our Alliance Holiday Party. Details to follow.

Good Neighbor Grant Update

Our Good Neighbor Grant Season is getting close to the end. Good fall weather is allowing contractors to continue working on projects. Our numbers continue to show that homeowners are investing more than four times the amount given by the grant which is a wonderful return on investment. We appreciate the homeowners who have made a commitment to improving their property and neighborhood. Here are three examples of projects completed in October. What a difference a new front porch makes! Thank you homeowners for investing in your property!











Neighborhood Updates

As of October 28, OHN staff have worked with five new neighborhoods that have formed in 2026, for a grant total of 30 neighborhoods!

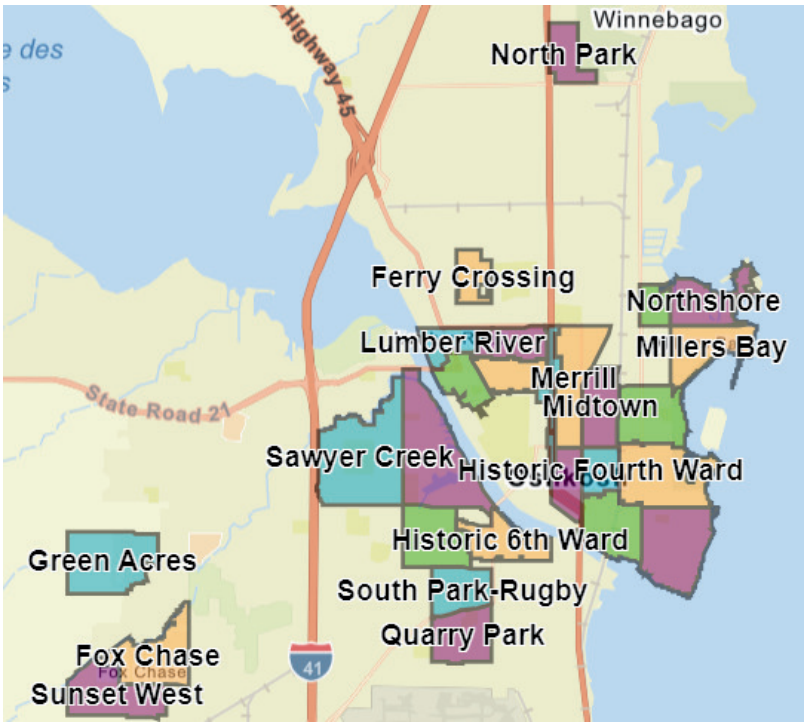
- South-Park Rugby
- Merrill
- Jefferson (9th, Oregon, South Park, & Ohio)
- Old Westside (9th, Koeller, Witzel, & Sawyer)
- Labyrinth: (South Park, Oregon, 16th, & Ohio)

The last three have not received formal recognition yet, so are not on the map.

Other new areas interested in forming are:

- Abbey/Graceland: 9th, Westhaven, Witzel, and Washburn
- Area around North High School: boundaries not determined

If you know anyone in these areas, please contact us.



This month we will celebrate our 2026 Neighborhood Heroes, but you are all HEROES in the work you do to elevate our neighborhoods and community. We are grateful for and celebrate YOU! It doesn't have to be a large act to make a difference. Every time you reach out to a neighbor, wave and give a smile, connect over a cup of coffee &/or visit outside while raking, you are making a difference. Thank you for all you do to build engagement in our neighborhoods.

Duplex Project Update



Progress continues at the build-site for the duplex at 502 & 502A Madison Street. **We now have a garage!** We have a webpage that gives more information about that project. https://gohni.org/asset-management/ We are still planning on early spring for renters to move in.



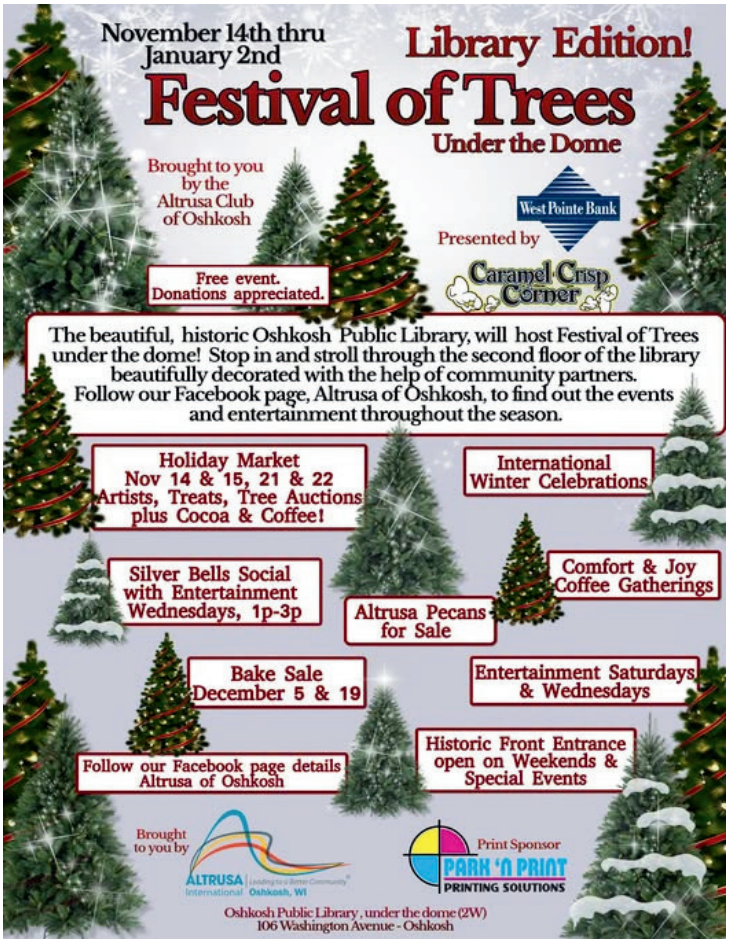


Community Resources



If you or someone you know needs help with yard clean-up, visit by November 2:
https://forms.gle/8iLevaNKrga7TLX19
to register for assistance!
You may also use this link to volunteer to help.
*Priority is given to older adults and adults with disabilities





Thank you!

Sometimes PIONEER ISLAND

Thank you to **Sometimes at Pioneer Island** for sponsoring our Good Neighbor Day Celebration. We were able to raise $300 for Community Building and Engagement neighborhood funds. Thank you to everyone who attended! We appreciate your support!