



# NEWS, EVENTS, & MORE FROM ONEKAMA, MICHIGAN

July 2019  
Volumn 15, No. 2

## *President's Letter*

The PLA has been very busy this Spring Season. We had a fun and memorable Adult Prom, a successful Shoe Drive with the proceeds going to the Portager Pride Pack program, and the Petunias are blooming along Main Street once again. Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time and energy to make all of these events so successful.

Summer has returned to Onekama and with it our friends and neighbors, many of whom joined us at our 2nd Annual PLA Potluck Picnic and Meeting. Everyone enjoyed beer brats and hot dogs purchased from EZ Market with PLA Members providing the delicious side dishes and desserts. A BIG THANKS to Papa J's for grilling the brats and hot dogs. It was a great time catching up with everyone.

PLA Monday Night Concerts in the Park also return. The first concert is July 1st @ 7:00pm. Schrock Brothers with Madcat return to the Onekama Village Park along Portage Lake. So, bring your chairs and blankets and enjoy an evening of great entertainment. Visit us on the Web at [www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info) for a complete schedule of the 7 additional Monday Night concerts.

The Summer Block Party is scheduled for Thursday, July 11th from 5:00 – 8:00 pm throughout the Village of Onekama. Take a walk along the Village Streets and join in the fun.

Onekama Days begins Thursday, August 1st, with a "Tap Take Over" at the Blue Slipper. The PLA PIG ROAST, with proceeds going to Onekama Schools, will take place on Friday, August 2nd, 5-8:00 pm PLA CRAFT BEER TASTING also takes place on Friday, August 2nd from 4:00-8:00 pm. Enjoy a great picnic atmosphere with great food and great craft beers.

At DUSK ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 2nd, Portage Lake Association FIREWORKS will begin. The PLA would like to acknowledge our generous sponsors for this year's Fireworks Display: Portage Wire Systems, Portage Lake Motel, Little Eden Bible Camp, Honor & Onekama Building Supply and Onekama Guild. We would like to thank all who donated to 2019 Fireworks. Community support keeps these fireworks going.

The PLA sponsored Classic Car Show will be on Saturday, August 3rd from 9-2:30 pm at the Village Park. Come see a variety of classic and unique cars. VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!

Enjoy the Onekama Days Parade on Sunday August 4th starting at 1:30pm.

For a complete guide to 2019 ONEKAMA DAYS, please visit our website at [www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info). The Portage Lake Association is an All-Volunteer Organization with members who strive to make Onekama area a great place to live, play and stay. Come join us and make a difference in your community. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Julie Lapinski  
President of the Portage Lake Association  
269-832-2392

## Petunia Parade Much More than Beautification

It was far from the prettiest planting day the PLA-sponsored Petunia Parade has had in their 26-year long history. Damp, cooler than usual temperatures and wind gusting off the lake on May 22, 2019, made getting the job done a bit more challenging than some years.



This hardly deterred one enthusiastic group from showing up and digging in, however. The fifth-grade classes from Onekama Consolidated Schools had begun their work on the Petunia Parade earlier in the year. Under the guidance of Art Teacher, Dana Woolman, class members used fabric pens to beautifully decorate bright pink “weeder’s bags” which are being given to community members who do the onerous job of weeding the petunia beds all summer long.

The filled bags, provided by the Petunia Parade Committee, contain a safety vest (critical for this work on Onekama’s Main Street which also happens to be the busy M-22 Highway), hand trowel, nitrile gardener’s gloves, band-aids, sun screen, Preen weed preventer, mosquito repellent, and a thank you note — everything that a dedicated “weeder” will need this summer.

This same group of ambitious fifth graders, under the supervision of their classroom teachers Bonnie Brown and Tracy Bennett, showed up on planting day to plant sections of the Main Street. In



fact, they were so efficient that some adult volunteers showed up to find their plots already planted by these budding gardeners!

Enjoy our river of pink this summer, and if you see someone out weeding, be sure to thank them.

*Submitted by  
Bonnie Garbrecht*



### Petunia Barrels

Check out all the beautiful barrels lining Main Street. Each one is sponsored by a business. Onekama loves it’s petunias.



*Lilli and Lainey Zielinski with their father, Keith.*

## ***Breakfast with a Purpose ~ Onekama Students Celebrate Their Parents***

*By Mairin McCarthy*

What's better than starting the day with muffins and donuts? Sharing them with your mom and dad.

This month, Onekama Elementary students gathered in the school's cafeteria to celebrate the most important people in their lives: their parents. The celebrations, known as "Muffins for Moms" and "Donuts for Dads," were opportunities for Onekama students to share some special time with their parents.

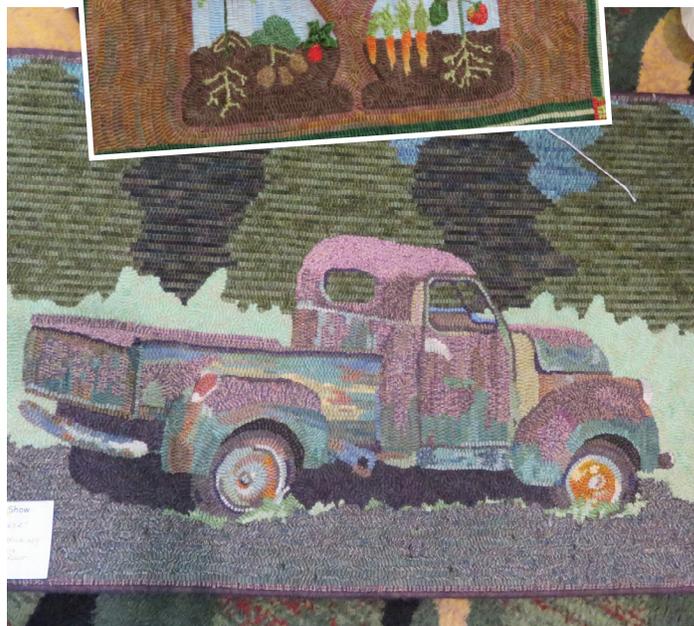
"It was a really special event," commented Onekama School parent Heather Volkema. "It was nice to spend this special time with my children and their friends, and to see them enjoying their school environment and each other.

Added Volkema: "The photo booth was a fun touch, too. I think the children enjoyed showing off their moms and posing for pictures."

Onekama School is a small school with a tight-knit community, and the Muffins for Moms and Donuts for Dads events were another chance to honor the families that help make the Onekama School community strong.

Adalyn Zeller, a fourth grader at Onekama, said that the experience is "a great way to do something special for your parents, and just remind them that you love them."

**The Westshore Ruggers Guild** hosted their 19th annual Rugschool in a new location. They gathered at the Casino. There were 117 students ranging from beginners to experts and 7 teachers. So many beautiful pieces! Enjoy just a few here, but make sure to visit their Facebook Page: Westshore Ruggers Manistee Rugschool to see many more.





2019  
ONEKAMA  
**BLOCK**  
party

**Thursday, July 11**  
5-8 pm

- MacBeth & Co-Wine and hors d'oeuvres for adults; surprises for the kids
- The Blue Slipper Tavern-Founder's Brewery Tap Takeover 5p-8p "The Clear Heels" 6p-9p
- Onekama Township Fire Department-Spray water at "fire" and receive a coupon for a free ice cream cone at Papa J's
- EZ Market-Dine on ribs to support the Onekama Athletic Boosters!
- Green Buoy Resort-Guess the number of Flamingos in the pool area and win a flamingo inflatable
- Performance by The Mad Suns at the Green Buoy Resort 5p-7p
- Onekama Athletic Boosters-Popsicle giveaways, prize drawings, and Portagers Cornhole
- A.T. Photography-Photography set up, "photo booth" style block party pictures and giveaways
- Onekama Marine-Putt-Putt
- Boiler Up North-Snowcones!
- Inn Fun Cruises-Boat Races-Race a sailboat and win!
- Scentaur Slimes-kid friendly slimes
- Portage Lake Association-A volunteer organization dedicated to making The Portage Lake area a great place to live, play and stay!
- Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts-Information on the Ramsdell events Townline Unlimited Bargain Barn-drawing for giveaways!
- Renew Onekama-information on community issues
- Anchored Designs-Kiddie carnival with games and prizes
- Side Hill Customs, LLC-Laser engraving and etching
- 1st Congregational Church-family friendly games with prizes
- West Shore Bank-Childrens games, bubbles
- Handstand-Live music
- Hopwoods Heating & Cooling Inc.-Learn about our units and installation
- Century 21 Boardwalk-Giveaways and fun with balloons!
- Appearance Salon & Spa-Open house with a 25% discount on gift shop items (1 day only)
- Onekama Building Supply-Games, prizes, and temporary tattoos for the kids and those young at heart!
- Yellow Dog Cafe-Art of Jamie Barnard and Don Peone and Awesome Distraction at 7p in the garden
- Patina-Flea Market for charity (Homeward Bound)
- Papa J's Ice Cream & Eatery-Rock painting and receive a ticket from the Fire Department for a free kid cone
- The Thrift Store-Live acoustic music
- Portage Lake Watershed-Citizen Scientists! Be a part of Portage Lake's water quality with active, fun projects and how-to's
- Manistee Tabernacle-Bouncy house for kids Manistee County Trails
- Lakeside Treats & Bait-Corn hole & fishing for kids



## ONEKAMA HITS 2,500 PAIRS OF SHOES COLLECTED!!!

In January 2019, the Portage Lake Association (PLA) asked itself, “How can we make some money with minimal investment of cash?” The answer was found with Funds2orgs, a Florida-based organization that helps non-profits run a Shoe Drive campaign. Here is how it worked:

The PLA set a goal of collecting 100 bags of shoes, each with 25 pairs of shoes, boots, slippers, flip-flops, etc. per bag, between May 1 and June 30

The PLA then partnered with Onekama Consolidated Schools (OCS), EZ Market in Onekama, and Snyder’s Shoes in Manistee and Ludington to serve as collection sites for gently worn used, or new, shoes

Hundreds of residents, visitors, families, and friends donated shoes through their church, by personal request, or by taking shoes to donation sites

In the July / August time frame, Funds2orgs will send a truck to pick up the shoes, will weigh them, and will give the PLA a check paying 40 cents per pound of shoes collected.

The PLA will then donate all proceeds to Portager Pride Packs, a program at OCS that helps students and families in need; about \$1,000 is expected.

The shoes will eventually be transported to third-world countries where micro-entrepreneurs have built companies to use what we will send to them.

How was the SHOE DRIVE a win-win for everyone? Onekama (and beyond) people cleaned out their closets to de-clutter, simplify, and contribute to the goal of 2,500 pairs of shoes

Students and families at OCS in need will have



*"2,500 pairs of gently worn used, or new, shoes collected for Portager Pride Pack program.*

food, school supplies, and personal care items given in back-packs during the next school year

Those shoes will stay out of landfills, thus contributing to environmental sustainability. Micro-entrepreneurs in third-world countries like Haiti will use the shoes to repurpose them, clean and sell, etc. depending on their business model.

Special thanks to Sally Koon at Jackpine who donated printed materials; Gina Hagen, Naomi Kolehmainen, and Nikki Torrey who championed the cause at Onekama Consolidated Schools; Jill Snyder at Snyder’s Shoes; EZ Market management and associates who helped managed the drop off of shoes; and Sally Bobek at Benzie Area Christian Neighbors who partnered to gather shoes with us.

Way to go, Onekama!!

### **WALKING TRACK AND FITNESS CENTER HOURS**

Monday through Friday	5AM to 8AM & 3PM to 9PM
Saturday	8 AM to 10AM
Sunday	1PM to 8PM

NOTE: Walking Track is closed during Athletic Events.

Applications for keycards to the walking track and fitness center are available in the Superintendent’s Office (hours are Monday–Friday 8AM to 3PM).

## Near & Farr Friends Program Returns in September

The winter and spring meetings of Near & Farr Friends ran for 20 consecutive weeks, and resulted in nearly 400 attendees for games, authors, and speakers on interesting topics from ice fishing over the years to pilots in our midst and church/family histories.

Planning is underway for the fall and we could use some help from our newsletter readers. We would like to answer a question - who is Andy in the named Andy's Point? If you know any of the backstory on this please send an email to- [nearandfarrfriends@gmail.com](mailto:nearandfarrfriends@gmail.com).

The advisory committee continues to find amazing speakers on a wide variety of topics pertinent to our area. Even more amazing is how our speakers have not been hesitant to say 'yes' when asked and to put incredible amounts of time and energy into their presentations. We are a very fortunate to have such willing presenters here!

If you are willing to share your knowledge with the community about a topic, please contact the committee at the above email address. We are planning for the winter and spring of 2020 at this time.

Here are a few confirmed dates and speakers for this fall:

September 12- The History of Onekama Park's Fountain by Tom Gerhardt/Jeanne Fitzgerald

September 19- John Wemlinger, author of Before the Snow Flies will discuss his latest book and sell/sign copies

September 26- Better Birding in Portage Lake Area with Mathew LaMore speaking about habitat issues to enhance bird watching

October 3- Game Day with the ever popular game- Qwirkle

Near & Farr Friends (a program of the PLA) meet on Thursdays at 2:30pm at the Onekama Township Hall on Main Street next to the fire station. We are grateful to the Township for the use of their space at no charge.

We hope to see our newsletter readers in the fall!



## FARMER'S MARKET

Don't forget to visit the Farmer's Market on Fridays starting at 1:00pm in the parking lot of 4850 N. Main. Check out the delicious maple syrup, potholders, locally grown fruit and vegetables and fresh baked goods.



## PLA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Portage Lake Association Scholarship & School Committee provides scholarships to college and technical/trade schools to Onekama students excelling in community service.

At the May 13, 2019 Onekama High School Awards Ceremony, one-time scholarships of \$1000 each were presented to Maggie Domres and Hope Showalter. Maggie Domres will be attending Grand Valley State University and plans to pursue a degree in Occupational Therapy. She has been an active 4-H member and volunteers regularly at the Manistee Intermediate School District working with special needs students. Hope Showalter will be attending the University of Michigan and is interested in studying history. She has been active in the Manistee County Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Council, an officer of the National Honor Society, and an altar server at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

The Portage Lake Association Scholarship & School Committee also sponsors Onekama class trips to Michigan colleges, and a Scholarship Workshop. Funds for all committee activities are raised at the annual "Pig Out for School & Scholarships" dinner and the PLA Craft Beer Tasting, both held the Friday night of Onekama Days.

We are proud to support Onekama Consolidated Schools, their students and our community.

**SUMMARY OF ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING DRAFT MINUTES JUNE 4, 2019**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Channel work update -The timeline has extended to mid-August. One concern has been sent to the design group for evaluation. Arcadia Bluffs South Course restaurant is slated to open August 1.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Filer Credit Union will be in the Bear Lake office in mid-July. Point of Sale (POS) was passed by the Health Department and is now awaiting the September date.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** The Kettle Hole Drain is now closed. The Economic Development Group is set, with one seat open. Jason Allen is the USDA Rural Development contact with the State of Michigan. The Schneider Road project is complete. The Manistee Blacker Airport received a grant for \$801,000 for the runway project. The rising tide is ongoing and creating havoc. Russ Pomeroy is retiring as of June 30; Rachel Nelson is the replacement to the Treasurer's office. Jason Haag has a new assistant prosecutor. The Tax Levy was authorized. Fablite has a large addition going on with approximately 50 additional people to hire. DEQ is renamed EAGLE. MDOT has signed off on the Round-about slated for M22 and US31.

**FIRE/RESCUE:** June recorded 9 EMS runs, 7 Fire Runs (2 MTFD, 1 BLFD, 1 AFD), 1 EMS Meeting, 1 Fire Meeting/Training, 1 JAWS Training, and 1 Maintenance Meeting. OFD is now registered in the Knox Box Program for both businesses and residences. This is highly recommended in the community, especially for businesses. It allows the Fire Department to enter the building without needing the key holder on scene, as we would have access to a key. The Forest Service attended the last fire meeting. Kubiskey has been aiding in the "Stop the Bleed" courses for public awareness in the county. OFD is receiving gear from the Wildland purchase. June will include a joint training with Bear Lake Twp on fire pumps and ladders. A request for dual band radios was made with the 9-1-1 board.

**ROADS:** A letter was received from Mark Sohlden regarding the Milarch Road resurfacing from US31 to 8 Mile Road. Discussion is underway.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** David Wallace to fill the vacancy of planning commission and complete the term for Roger Cody.

**ASSESSOR:** The database with all the current Principal Residence Exemption and rescind affidavits was electronically submitted to Equalization yesterday, June 3. Any late exemptions will be addressed at the July 16th Board of Review. Most of the deeds and transfer affidavits have been processed. New county multipliers have been received from the State Tax Commission. The residential multipliers increases range from 2.91% to 4.95%. The commercial and industrial multipliers increases range from 2.88% to 7.22%.

**PARKS & REC.:** At the last meeting, a tour of Arcadia marsh project was done. The Committee received bids for work to be done at Glen Park. Approval of Swidorski's Bid was approved, based on a negative answer from Harju Construction. An estimate was received for an Arboretum Project at North Point Park. Approved with cost not to exceed \$3,000. Langland Park had the camera installed, screen installed on the vault, and the mobi-mats in place. DNR Park Kayak Launch information was submitted to the State with minor changes. An agreement was presented to the Board from the DNR to proceed ahead.

**PLA:** The PLA is attending the Block Party. The Shoe Drive is in full force and doing well. The planting of the petunias is complete. Preparation is being made for Onekama Days. The fireworks are proving to be important to the community as we are receiving wonderful support from the entire community. The Onekama banners are in place. Concerts in the Park start on July 1st.

**WATERSHED/INVASIVES:** Purple Loose Strife Beetle placement is scheduled for the 1st week in July. 2 Grants are being applied for: 1) Ecoli and 2) DEQ Permit. The Watershed 10 year plan, including the POS with Septics is being worked on. There is a possibility of using drones for data. The due date of June 14 for completion date and gathering priorities. Approval was given to purchase the property behind the Township Hall for a price not to exceed \$3,000.

**VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES May 15, 2019**

Village of Onekama Summary of Draft Regular Council Meeting Minutes May 15, 2019

**Public Comment:** Jeneanne Fitzgerald, on behalf of the Garden Club, asked permission from the council to place a sundial in the rain garden. Shirley Brooks reminded council of the refurbished park fountain dedication, June 27 at 1 p.m. All welcome and encouraged to attend. Susan Halloran, president of the Garden Club introduced herself. Susan Halloran stated that the PLA charges the food trucks at Fall Festival.

**ZONING:** ZA Vacancy- contract was presented from C.C. Zoning Services for Board approval. It was explained that this service would be used by our temporary ZA for more challenging issues. Approved.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** – no report. After some discussion, there was a request that the PC revisit the sign, fence and overlay district ordinances.

**SEWER**

--saw grant work continues.

--contract for new sewer service at 3792 Portage Point Dr. was returned to Village and now will be sent on to Twp. For approval.

--quarterly cleaning of wet wells has been completed.

--The run off from the 2nd ave drain (discussed in the April min) was tested with negative results for e- coli. Investigation continues with regard to the source of said run off.

--sewer meeting regarding Bed & Breakfast equivalents has not taken place. Hoping for a report in June.

**TWO LAKES SEWER COLLABORTIVE**

--President Franz responded to a letter and e-mail from Brian Sousa/Township Engineer with regard to our interest in joining this endeavor. Village is interested and hopes to be working with them in the very near future.

**STREETS:**

-- Road grant application for \$55,000. In funding from M-Dot (discussed in March minutes) was sent in. Decisions came down and the Village will not be receiving one. Maybe next time.

--Village streets were swept.

--list of streets for repair will be going out for bid.

**PARKS AND THE FARR CENTER**

**Parks:** --Zosel Walk-in-Park sign is gone and needs to be replaced. A property owner next to park has placed debris and logs from the lake in the entrance to the park. Trustee Drumm and Miller will make contact with said property owner to remove debris.

**Farr Center:** -- Two bids received to replace the carpeting in FC. Haglunds/\$6,600. And Van Dries/\$3707. Van Dries bid accepted.

--Food Trucks- no action taken by the council during this meeting. Ordinances are still being investigated. Will be addressed again under unfinished business at the June meeting.

--revisions to fence, sign, and overlay district ordinance are being sent to the PC for revisions.

## Portage Lake Garden Club Commits to Natural and Cultivated Beauty

*"So many beautiful flowers and trees growing in the wild in close proximity to cultivated gardens, we need to preserve this wild beauty."*

—founding member of Portage Lake Garden Club

The Portage Lake Garden Club celebrates a long history of civic pride. One of the main service goals through the years has involved making Onekama an even more beautiful place.

The focus for the past three years has been restoring the historical fountain in the village park. Along with fundraising, planning for the the new base and stone surrounding, and contracting with a local business to do the stonework, members planted petunias, sweet potato vines and green spikes in the newly created planting space. Garden club members will maintain the flowers throughout the season. The beautiful fountain is certainly a community treasure.

The next time you visit the library or attend an event at the Farr Center, take a moment to notice the various plantings. Shrubs and flowers surrounding the building are pruned, replaced, weeded and watered by club members from spring through fall. The butterfly garden in the back corner of the building thrives with plants to attract and support butterflies. The area on the east side of the building contains many beautiful native plant species, such as lupine. The rain garden has been the site of a self-watering flower bed that also provides drain-off for the parking lot. The Memorial Brick Patio provides a place for the community to honor people or remember those they've lost. A small planted arrange-



ment is placed in the center.

Over the years, PLGC has planted and maintained the flowers and plants at both entrances into the village. This beautiful greeting welcomes visitors and residents alike. The Portage Lake Community Schools sign is another effort undertaken by members.

The Portage Lake Garden Club commemorates its 84th anniversary this year, and members continue their dedication to add to the beauty of the Onekama area for everyone who calls it home and those who come to visit.

For information about joining the Club contact Susan Halloran at [snhalloran@yahoo.com](mailto:snhalloran@yahoo.com). Check out their website: <https://www.portagelakegardenclub.org>.



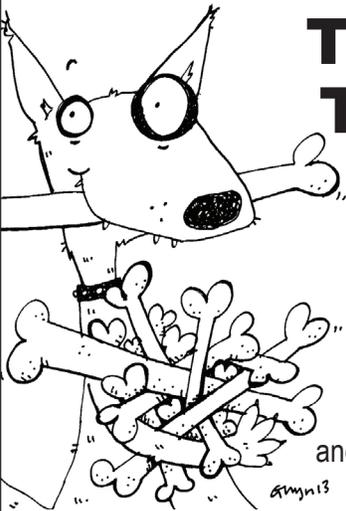
**LARSEN'S LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE**

Main Office: (231) 757-3850 • North Office: (231) 398-9900  
 3091 N. US-31 Scottville, MI 49454 • 3021 Schoedel Rd. Manistee, MI 49660

Fertilization – Mowing – Seasonal Clean-up – Landscape Maintenance

Seasonal Clean-Up – Snow Removal – Installations



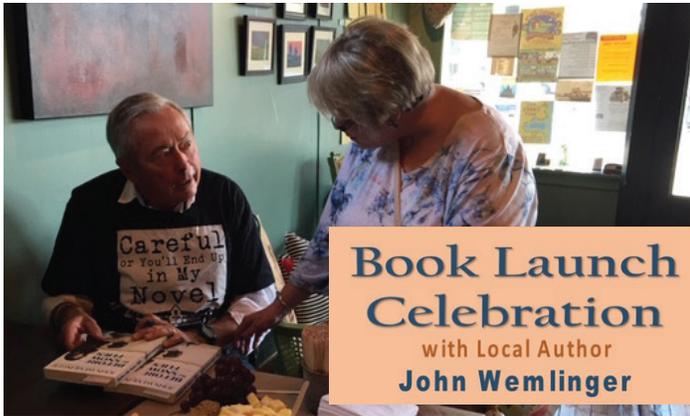


## Trinkets & Treasures Sale

### August 3, 2019

Inside the Farr Center  
 Rain or Shine  
 No pre-sales  
 Doors open at 8:30 a.m.  
 and sale continues until 2 p.m.

**For More Info on the School Visit: [ocs.manistee.org](http://ocs.manistee.org)**



On June 21, John Wemlinger and his wife, Diane hosted a book launch for John's 3rd book. The Yellow Dog made a perfect setting for the launch and features in the book. "Before the Snow Flies" is set in Onekama. There was a constant stream of visitors. Friends, family, neighbors, near and far came to meet the author and enjoy lovely food and wine.

## FOOD TRUCKS

The June 19 Village Board meeting was packed. The topic that brought so many community members out was the issue of food trucks. Food trucks have a long history in the village—think Donuts! They are a presence at Festivals and Events like Onekama Days, Fall Festival, and the Onekama Block Party and they also provide variety to restaurant menus at the Blue Slipper. The Public comment period started with statements from the owners of the Blue Slipper, who were passionate in their commitment to providing a local place that is open year around and their need for food trucks to continue to make that happen. They also explained some of the issues they have been having with permitting. Then a series of people, young, old, local, out of towners, and summer people gave their 3 minute or less statements in support of food trucks. The applause was enthusiastic for each speaker. The sentiment was that the Village needed to facilitate food trucks, not obstruct them. There was no actionable motion on the Village agenda. During the business part of the meeting the Village agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

*Owners of Blue Slipper*



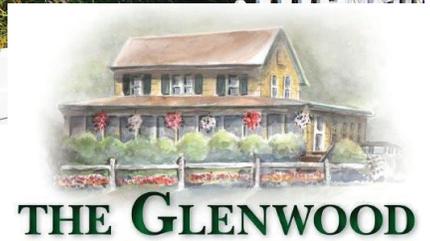
## Check out the grand prize for the Summer Reading Program!

*Check with the librarian for more details.*

### Onekama Branch Library Summer Hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday 10:30-5:00  
 Tuesday 1:00-5:00 • Wednesday 12:30-7:00  
 Saturday 10:00-2:00

## Celebrating 25 Years!



**THE GLENWOOD**

The Glenwood has offered distinctive, casual, lakeside dining since 1994. Located in an historic 1920s resort on M-22 in Onekama, the restaurant overlooks gorgeous Portage Lake and its channel to Lake Michigan.



**Portage Lake Watershed Forever**

*What we do here matters.*

Summer 2019 on Portage Lake will have its usual flurry of activity with boaters, kayakers, swimmers and park patrons. Less obvious, but still important to our healthy water environment, are the seasonal activities that have also begun: Water monitoring, testing, and treatment of the lake in the battle against non-native invasive species that fight to take over our waterways.

Essential work for the Portage Lake Watershed Forever organization began in the new year with work on the latest drafts of the Storm Water Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) Grant proposal, before the ice had begun to thaw and the ice fishing shanties had been skidded off the lake.

The hard work paid off with the successful awarding of a 10-year Special Assessment District designation that will ensure another decade of resources for the treatment of invasives in and around Portage Lake.

Manistee County has made historic moves in recent years to improve its position to face an evolving economy and environment. Kalkaska joined with Manistee when our county was among the first in the State of Michigan to enact the Sewer and Wells Inspection Program (aka Point of Sale Sewer Inspection Program), with the overwhelming support of 18 townships, which served to vastly improve local efforts to safeguard our water quality and enhance the health and viability of our remarkable bodies of water, which are vital to local economies, like tourism and agriculture, and quality of life, like health, safety, and recreation.

The Sewer and Wells Inspection Program has been seen as the standard for what our water quality and environment mean to this county. When Kalkaska County Commissioners inexplicably voted at the end of 2018 to withdraw from the program, Manistee County's Commissioners were faced with a vote on whether to continue on in the program.

The PLWF was alerted to the possibility of the code being abandoned and a call to action was sent out. Concerned citizens and businesses, primarily realtors and environmentalists showed up to protest Manistee's withdrawal.

Once informed of the code's history and purpose,



the commissioners unanimously voted to let the program remain and took the opportunity to actually request a strengthening of the existing code with suggestions provided through research of the PLWF's Council. Another silver lining to Manistee's water-citizens' action was learned of later: Kalkaska County Commissioners had to face citizen protests against their vote to withdraw. As a result, those commissioners have put their decision to withdraw from the program on hold. We hope that our water-neighbor will continue with its participation in the code.

PLWF is proud of its ability to help with education and citizen action. The organization will continue to increase its efforts to alert and to educate residents about Michigan's growing problem with aging, failing septic systems that are threatening the health and safety of our inland lakes. The implementation of protective health codes are only one part of the solution. Newer technology, such as sewer systems and water treatment systems are also part of the answer to replacing the old septic systems and answering the needs of a growing population.

Looking to the future, PLWF is taking under con-

sideration the use of drone technology to assist in water monitoring and mapping of the lake, for invasive aquatic species, as well as targeted treatment of same, and accurate surveying of vital lake shoreline.

An informational presentation of drone technology and its possible applications was presented by Dennis Wiand of Zero Gravity. ([www.zerogravityariel.com](http://www.zerogravityariel.com)) Mr. Wiand and his company has worked for years in Lower NW Michigan with multiple lake associations, environmental and biological scientists.

None of the work done by the PLWF happens without the support and donations of our membership. This year's fundraiser will actually be a "non-event" – Invitations to NOT come to a NOT-planned event may have already arrived in your mailboxes.

This fund-raising method may seem a bit cheeky, but the decision to "take a year off for future improvements" came about due to a number of converging factors, some of which actually had to do with engineering and improvements around the channel.

The PLWF will still keep the "fun" in fund-raising, though. As a result, for this year alone, a series of smaller "house parties" are planned throughout the summer.

Funds must still be raised. The PLWF annual funds are used to pay for on-going monitoring and maintenance of our lake and watershed. Fund raising for any organization is vital, so please respond to the lovely "non-invitation". For friends and members who may be thinking of their futures, please consider your local watershed in your possible endowment fund and estate planning,

In other summer news: The PLWF will be a presence at several annual Onekama events. We will have an information table on RAIN GARDENS (Nature's efficient and pretty water filters in your backyard!) at Onekama's popular Block Party event on Thursday, July 11. Our table at the Onekama Days event on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, will give kids of all ages ideas for how you all can become CITIZEN SCIENTISTS. Learn more about Portage Lake, learn how local citizens have become guardians of our waters and how you can, too. In some of the easiest – and fun – ways imaginable. We will be located at the Yellow Dog Café's Garden and we will have fish painting contests, pictures, tattoos, treats and information on the PLWF and a number of lake related news and events.

Love the Lake? Consider yourself a "water-baby"? A "water-wonk"? Perhaps even a curious citizen-scientist who wants to take a larger part in keeping our local waters clean and protected? The PLWF organization has two openings in its Board of Directors. For more information, please contact Mary Reed. (616) 540-1248

## ANNUAL PICNIC

On June 19 the PLA had its Annual Meeting, a potluck/picnic. Approximately 90 people attended, enjoyed the food and catching up with friends. Papa J's volunteered to cook the brats and hot dogs. Two student volunteers from Onekama H.S. National Honor Society as well as Deb Major, Rich and Julie Lapinski, served food. Al Taylor sold raffle tickets for the raffles for the Dinning Package (\$400 for gift cards to the Glenwood, Bluefish, Arcadia Bluffs, TJ's Pub and Grill 44), the Kevin Hughes Fishing Cruise, and the Kayak. PLA members brought delicious side dishes and desserts. People let our president, Julie Lapinski know how much they enjoyed it.

## ANOTHER LOCAL INFORMATION RESOURCE: NEXTDOOR

Year-round resident or summer resident, you're invited to sign up for the local Nextdoor.com group. This social media website is a great way to share information and stay up-to-date on the area and get info about what's going on in your neighborhood—getting referrals for services, finding a babysitter, selling or borrowing items, finding out where to buy local produce, bears visiting bird feeders, whatever. They verify addresses, so you know the other people on the site actually live in the neighborhood. Currently, there are 3 NextDoor groups up and running in the Onekama area: Portage Point, Pierport, and Kerry-Maidens Rd (covering roughly the village and surrounding area, up 8 Mile Rd, and around the southeast Portage lakeshore)

To sign up, either 1) get a current member to invite you into the group, or 2) go to Nextdoor.com and sign up, and follow the instructions to verify your address. (Note that if you're already registered with another Nextdoor neighborhood, you'll need to register in Onekama with a different email address.)



OCS students were volunteers for the 2018 Pig Roast

# **AUGUST 2** **“PIG OUT” FOR** **OCS STUDENTS**

**The Portage Lake Association is hosting its eighth annual Pig Roast during Onekama Days. Proceeds benefit students at Onekama Consolidated Schools (OCS) by funding school projects and awarding scholarships to college-bound students. 300 tickets available!!**



**Friday, August 2,  
2019 from 5 to 8  
PM**

---

**Under pavilion in  
Onekama Village  
Park, rain or shine**

---

**On-site or take-out  
dinner with locally-  
roasted pulled pork  
on bun, cole slaw,  
baked beans,  
dessert, and non-  
alcoholic beverage  
served to you by  
community leaders**

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**\$15 adults, \$5 kids  
under 12. Cash or  
check only.**

**PORTAGE LAKE  
ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 493  
Onekama, MI 49675  
[www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info)**

## LOCAL INFORMATION

The **Zoning Administrator** is Larry Thompson and he can be contacted by email, by clicking [here](#) or the township office at (231) 889-3308. The Zoning Administrator's hours will be 9 am to 2 pm on Wednesdays.

**The Two Lake Sewer Authority (TLSA)** meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at the Bear Lake Township Hall.

**BURNING PERMITS:** Burning permits issued by visiting: [www.dnr.state.mi.us/burnpermits](http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/burnpermits)

### ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP OFFICES

5435 Main Street, PO 458, Onekama MI 49675

Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am - 2pm  
(231) 889-3308, FAX: (231) 889-5587

**Harbor Commission Information:** The Portage Lake Harbor Commission meeting dates for 2018 are all on Thursdays, at 7 p.m. in the Onekama Township Hall. 2018 Meeting Dates: April 19, June 21, August 16, October 18, December 20

**Village Council** meets on the Third Wednesday 7 pm at the Farr Center.

**Farr Center Hall rental:** please make arrangements with the clerk @ (231) 889-3171 or email: [clerk@villageofonekama.org](mailto:clerk@villageofonekama.org).

**No burning** is permitted within the Village Limits – only bonfires

**Feeding of waterfowl**, including but not limited to ducks, geese, and swans IS NOT PERMITTED in the Village.

**Land use permits** may be obtained by contacting Village Zoning Administrator. Hours are Wednesday 9-2.

**RECYCLING:** Recycling bins (cans, plastic, glass, cardboard & paper) are now in Onekama township parking lot for your convenience. Please recycle responsibly ... no styrofoam or garbage. IF THIS SERVICE IS ABUSED, IT WILL BE DISCONTINUED.

### ONEKAMA VILLAGE OFFICES

5283 Main Street, Onekama, MI 49675

Phone#: (231) 889-3171, Fax # (231) 889-3423

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 9a - 2p

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** The Village of Onekama Planning Commission will hold its regular meetings at 1:00 p.m. in the main room of the Farr Center on the following dates. Please check the calendar for more information.

### Onekama Village Council

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Ray Franz: [president@villageofonekama.org](mailto:president@villageofonekama.org)

CLERK

Ruth Hudson: [clerk@villageofonekama.org](mailto:clerk@villageofonekama.org)

TREASURER

Nikki Jach: [treasurer@villageofonekama.org](mailto:treasurer@villageofonekama.org)

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

(231) 889-3155, [zoning@villageofonekama.org](mailto:zoning@villageofonekama.org)

FIRE CHIEF

Lawrence Hrachovina: [fire@onekamatwp.org](mailto:fire@onekamatwp.org)  
(231) 889-4240 (fire building)



### Onekama Branch Library

5283 Main St.

P.O. Box 149

Onekama, MI 49675

p: (231) 889-4041

f: (231) 889-5420

Monday 10:30am - 5pm

Tuesday 1:00pm - 5pm

Wednesday 12:30pm - 7pm

Thursday & Friday 10:30am - 5pm

Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm (June 10th to Aug 5th)

Branch Librarian: Gary Block

# 2019 ONEKAMA DAYS

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN ONEKAMA ON 

## Thursday August 1st

### Onekama Stashed Cash

Info @Papa J's Ice Cream;

sponsored by Absolute Auto Repair

5-7pm **Bell's Brewery Tap Takeover**  
@ Blue Slipper Tavern

## Friday August 2nd

### All Day Onekama Community Yard Sale

12-3pm **"Rare Bird Watching"**

**Count the Flamingos**

@Green Buoy Resort

2-6pm **Lions Arts & Crafts**

@Fairgrounds

4-8pm **PLA Craft Beer Tasting**

@Village Park

5-7pm **PLA Pig Out for Onekama**

**School Pig Roast**

@Village Park

9pm-12am **"Flying Toasters"**

@Portage Point Resort

**DUSK Portage Lake Fireworks**

Rain date Saturday

Sponsored by: Little Eden Bible Camp,

Onekama Building Supply,

Portage Wire Systems

Portage Lake Motel

## Saturday August 3rd

9am til noon: Free Shuttle Bus connects Village Park to Fairgrounds

### All Day Onekama Community Yard Sale

7am **Lutheran Church Doughnuts** @ Village Park

8am-12:30pm **Lions Breakfast: All You Can Eat Buffet** @ Fairgrounds

8:30am **Warren Vaughan Doubles Tennis Tournament** @ School Courts

8:30am-2pm **Trinkets and Treasures Sale** @ Farr Center

8:30am **1 Mile Fun Run** @ Village Park

9:00am **5K Run/Walk** @ Village Park

9am-3pm **Trinity Lutheran Farmers Market, Bake & Craft Sale** @ the church

9am-2:30pm **Car Show** @ Village Park

9:30am-4pm **Church of the Brethren Yard Sale** @ the church

10am-7pm **Lions Arts & Crafts** @ Fairgrounds

11am-2pm **Trinity Lutheran Salad Luncheon** @ the church

12-3pm **"Rare Bird Watching" Count the Flamingos** @ Green Buoy Resort

2-4 pm **Face Painting** @ Papa J's Ice Cream

2-4pm **Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt** @ Village Park sponsored by M22 Grill

4-7pm **Lions Grilled Steak Dinner** @ Fairgrounds Indoors

4-10 pm **Beer Tent** @ Fairgrounds

7pm **TNT Bump n Run & Demolition Derby** @ Fairgrounds

8:30pm-12:30am **Lions Dance Party with "Junk Monkey"** @ Village Park

**Beer Tent** @ Village Park

9pm-midnight **"Flying Toasters"** @ Portage Point Resort



**Sunday August 4th**

- 8-11am Lions Breakfast:**  
All You Can Eat Buffet with  
Children's Vision Screening  
@ Fairgrounds
- 9am-3pm Lions Arts & Crafts**  
@ Fairgrounds
- 1pm Grand Parade** from Village  
Park to Dyke Street
- 2-3pm Free Live Concert**  
with John Pomeroy  
@ Fairgrounds
- 3:00pm Lions Raffle**  
@ Fairgrounds Indoors

**Monday August 5th**

- 6pm Rock N' Roll Magic Show**  
with Michael Trixx  
@Village Park
- 7pm Concert in the Village Park:**  
Awesome Distraction  
*Rain Venue: Onekama School*



**ONEKAMA LIONS RAFFLE  
TOTAL CASH PRIZES**



**\$6250**  
cash plus door  
prizes

**THANK YOU SPONSORS**

- Onekama Lions**  
**Portage Lake Association**  
**Manistee County Fair Board**  
**Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp**  
**West Shore Bank**  
**Terwilliger Funeral Home**
- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Blarney Castle                | Hopwoods Heating & Cooling Inc |
| Junior Clio Club              | Portage Lake Motel             |
| Onekama Marine                | Little Eden Camp               |
| Papa J's Ice Cream & Eatery   | Onekama Building Supply        |
| Van Brocklin Real Estate      | MacBeth & Co                   |
| Grand Rental Station Manistee | Century 21 Boardwalk           |
| Onekama Guild Thrift Shop     | Portage Wire Systems           |

**Contact Information**

website: [www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info)  
 Facebook: 1,-Onekama, MI  
 phone: 231-690-6918 email: [udave\\_40@yahoo.com](mailto:udave_40@yahoo.com)  
 Lost & Found: 231-690-6918  
 Lions Raffle: 231.889.4870  
 Car Show: 231.889.5936  
 Parade: 231.690.5790  
 Community Yard Sale: 231.508.5008  
 Bump n Run & Demo Derby: 231.889.5566  
 Lions Arts & Crafts: 231.723.9783  
 1K & 5K Race: website: [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)  
 phone: 760.927.5740 or email: [j-sedelmaier@yahoo.com](mailto:j-sedelmaier@yahoo.com)  
 M22 Road Rally: 231.889.7133  
 Tennis: 231.233.8378  
 PLA Events: 231.889.0205

46th Annual  
**ONEKAMA  
DAYS 2019**

*Schedule of Events*



*August 1-5, 2019  
Onekama, Michigan*



**DONATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact phone \_\_\_\_\_

How should we use your donation? Check one:  General fund (best use / most needed project)

Petunia Parade  Celebration of Lights  Onekama Days Fireworks

Concerts in the Park  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Portage Lake Association**.  
 Send, along with this completed form, to: PLA, PO  
 Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675

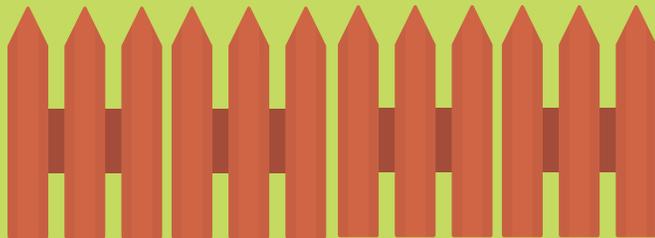


# ONEKAMA COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Onekama Days Weekend  
**AUGUST 2-3**

\$5 fee to be added to map/flyer  
Drop off payment, address, and short  
description of sale to The Yellow Dog  
Café or Anchored Designs.  
**Deadline for entry is July 14, 2019**

For more information email  
[anchoredesigns2015@gmail.com](mailto:anchoredesigns2015@gmail.com)



**Portage Lake Association**  
**Summer 2019**  
**MONDAY NIGHT**

## CONCERTS IN THE PARK

- July 1 Schrock Brothers with Madcat**  
Roots-Blues-Jazz-Rock family band, featuring  
Grammy-winner Peter Madcat Ruth on Harmonica
- July 8 the Rough & Tumble**  
Americana-Folk Duo for the Faint of Heart/Strong of Will
- July 15 Miriam Pico and David Chown**  
Pop, Light Rock, Show Tunes & Blues, Masterfully Done
- July 22 Scottville Clown Band**  
Millions of Smiles from the Famous Clown Band
- July 29 Elvis Tribute by Jake Slater** You'll know that it's  
true, ELVIS LIVES!
- August 5 Awesome Distraction**  
Acoustic Sound with Beautifully Blended Voices
- August 12 Benzie Playboys**  
Authentic Cajun Music to Make You Clap and Dance
- August 19 Jim Hawley and the Piano Man: *music of***  
*Elton John & Billy Joel* by Our Favorite Troubadour

Concerts start at 7 PM in the Onekama Village Park\* and are free  
Donations are welcome & encouraged  
Bring Lawn Chairs, blankets, picnic baskets, children, etc.  
Visit our website: [www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info)  
and on Facebook, 1,- Onekama, Michigan

\*Rain Venue: Onekama Consolidated School Auditorium

*For More Events and information – check out [www.onekama.com](http://www.onekama.com)*



Portage Lake Association  
P.O. Box 493  
Onekama, MI 49675