



NEWS, EVENTS, & MORE FROM ONEKAMA, MICHIGAN

October 2017
Volumn 13, No. 4

October 2017 President's Letter

With the air turning cool and crisp, our thoughts turn to Fall. Here in Onekama you can find all your Fall favorites. Your perfect pumpkin patch or apple orchard appear as you drive through the countryside. Or lose yourself in a turning-twisting corn maze. The Fall colors are extraordinary. M 22 has been designated one of the most scenic drives in the country! Along with the bright colorful trees, the water radiates with a deep blue color that takes your breath away. Onekama, what a beautiful place!

This October, watch for Charlie Brown and the Great Pumpkin to spice up the windows throughout the Village of Onekama. Onekama School's art students will be weaving their magic for all of us to enjoy.

The Scarecrows will also reappear with each scarecrow uniquely designed by students, businesses and individuals. Take a stroll up and down the street. Try to decide, if you can, which one is your favorite. What a perfect fall activity to do with family and friends!

The Portage Lake Association has planned a fantastic Fall Festival on Saturday, October 14th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Village Park. There will be an Arts and Craft fair, games for the whole family, pet parade, lots to eat and much more. Don't forget to vote for your favorite scarecrow too. Make this a wonderful Fall memory for yourself and family. Come join us at the Fall Festival.

Christmas in Onekama is another wonderful event organized by the Portage Lake Association. Don't miss it. It will be held at Onekama High School Gym on Saturday, November 18th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Beautiful and unique arts and crafts will be showcased. A perfect venue to find that one of a kind gift. There will also be great home-made treats to buy and the Chili Cook Off returns. Local businesses and individuals will compete to get your vote for the tastiest chili. The winner is decided by You. Come warm your tummy up on a cool fall afternoon. The Celebration of Lights will be held the next day, Sunday, November 19th at the Farr Center. Memorials are read right after we light the Village Christmas Tree. What a wonderful way to start your Christmas Season.

Come make lasting memories here in Onekama!

The Portage Lake Association is a group of volunteers dedicated to making the Portage Lake Area a great place to live, play and stay. If you think you would like to make great friends and be part of what we do for the Portage Lake Area, we would love to have you join us. You can call me or email me at Julie Lapinski, President of the Portage Lake Association, 269-832-2392 or jalapinski@gmail.com

2017 Monday Night Concert in the Park Series Reprise

Fortunately, we had good weather for all but one of our concerts. Our first, featuring the Blue Water Ramblers was held in the Onekama Community School's Cafetorium.

Our Independence Day concert on July featured the Schrock Brothers entertaining 450-500 people.

The July 10 Concert, featured the Rough & Tumble. Faye & I enjoyed their company overnight, a they parked their travel trailer in our lower driveway.

On July 17's Monday Night Concert, the Gratitude Steel Band brought their toe-tapping, limbo-lower fun to at least 500 folks.

The July 24's Awesome Distraction, entertained an estimated 500 fans.

For July 31, we lucked into yet another perfect summer evening with the delightful Cajun music from the Benzie Playboys.

On August 7, the concert featuring Jim Hawley and his '70s music; we had about 450 people who enjoyed another evening of perfect weather.

Our final concert of the year, August 14, topped that, with the Scottville Clown Band drawing an estimated 850-900 people on a beautiful evening. The Clown Band's ability to keep the large crowd engaged and thoroughly entertained was a real treat and a strong way to end a successful concert season



Onekama Events – Fall 2017

September 14 – until Dec. 7

Farr Friends meets every Thursday from 2:30 – 4:30 at Farr Center in downtown Onekama. Get together with friends and neighbors for an afternoon of fun, games and lectures – watch for posters and check www.onekama.info or our Facebook page – 1, - Onekama, Michigan.

Late September 'til Halloween

Enjoy the many delightful, creative scarecrows as you drive through Onekama on M-22. Stop and take some pictures and enjoy the shops and the Village.

October 14

Onekama Free Fall Family Festival – Village Park

10am – 4pm – Arts & Crafts Show, food vendors, bake sale, pet parade/costume contest, many children's activities

11am – 3pm – hay rides, bull train, bounce house & more

November 18

Christmas in Onekama – Onekama Consolidated School Cafetorium and gym

10am – 3pm - Craft Show, PLA silent auction & raffle, baked goods sale by local churches

11am – 2pm - Chili Cook-off

November 19

6pm – Celebration of Lights – Farr Center

Lighting of Community Tree and reading of memorial names, carol singing

For more information see www.Onekama.info; Follow us on Facebook at 1, - Onekama, Michigan



OCTOBER 14 PET PARADE

The Portage Lake Association is hosting a costumed Pet Parade during the annual Fall Festival at noon on Saturday, October 14!

Father Munoz from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Onekama will provide a Blessing of the Pets. Kathy Fenstermacher, professional groomer, will judge the costumed pets and award the prizes. Sponsored by:

Manistee Veterinary Hospital



Bring your adorable pets and join in the fun and Kodak moments! The Portage Lake Association will hold its annual Pet Parade as part of Onekama Fall Festival on Saturday, October 14 at 12 noon. Costumes are strongly encouraged for the pets. Owners should bring their pets to the parking lot near the pavilion in Onekama Village Park shortly before noon to register their pet. Prizes will be given for the cutest, most creative, and best “human” costume on a pet. In addition, Father Munoz from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Onekama will provide a “blessing for the pets”.

**Saturday, October
14, 2017 at 12
Noon**

**Meet in the pavilion
parking lot at
Onekama Village
Park**

**Costumes strongly
encouraged**

**Prizes for most
creative, cutest,
and best “human”
costume**

**PORTAGE LAKE
ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. Box 493
Onekama, MI 49675**

www.onekama.info



Onekama Fall Festival

Saturday, October 14

Onekama Village Park

9 AM — 4 PM



- Arts and Crafts
- Bake Sales
- Produce Vendors
- Food and Donut Wagon
- Live Entertainment
- Scarecrow Contest Voting

FREE ACTIVITIES and GAMES
for all ages

- Horse & wagon rides 11 AM-3 PM
- Cow train
- Inflatable bouncing castle
- Face painting 11 AM-3 PM
- Mr. Balloon Man 11 AM-3PM
- Donut eating contest
- Bob for apples
- Needle in haystack
- Corn hole tournament
- Bowling with pumpkins



Pumpkin Decorating Contest— Voting at 1 PM



Pet Parade at 12 Noon — Meet in parking lot west of park pavilion
Costumes encouraged

Sponsored By



BLARNEY CASTLE UPDATE ON ONEKAMA STORE

Lots of progress on the new grocery store and gas station in Onekama!

The exterior is almost finished- gas tanks and gas pumps (with pay at the pump) are installed for 3 grades of no lead, recreational gas (premium, no ethanol) and on road and off road diesel. Freezers, refrigerated storage, deli area, meat department, liquor and wine shelves and grocery isles are being installed inside.

They are still looking at an autumn startup depending on equipment delivery.

And for those that have asked, they will still have pizza and their delicious cookies, as well as bread and other bakery items. The deli will offer daily hot entrees as well as lunch meats and other deli items. There will also be a fresh produce section.

This is a great addition to Onekama and we are looking forward to the opening.



Christmas in Onekama

Yes, time does fly when you are having fun! Before you know it, "Christmas In Onekama" will be here! Mark your calendars for Nov 18th and 19th. Our annual Art and Craft show from 10-3 pm. (Nov 18th in the Onekama Consolidated School Gym). We have awesome Vendors lined up. You don't want to miss this show!

Chili cook off will be from 11-2pm. You will be voting for your favorite chili. The best part is, proceeds from this will benefit the National Honor Society and Onekama Student Council projects.

Plus, dinner at M22 grill that night! (I know I'm not cooking on the 18th!) We will be having John's famous pork dinner. Gather your friends and neighbors for a great dinner! Call or stop by the Grill to reserve your spot and prepay for your dinners. B.Y.O.B., M22 Grille, 5159 Main Street
231-889-7133, or email john@m-22grill.com. See you there!

Sunday, Nov 19th

Celebration of Lights at the Farr Center

We will be lighting the Blue Spruce on the grounds at the Farr Center. Each light represents a special tribute/or memorial to family members and friends. Plus see the miniature village set up by Frank English inside the Farr Center. You won't be disappointed.

More up to date information at www.Onekama.infor as the date gets closer.



More Up To Date Inforamtion at www.onekama.info



A Brief History of Camp Tosebo

The Beginnings

In Woodstock, Illinois the headmaster of the Todd Seminary for Boys wanted to give his students opportunities to experience the freedom of the woods and the waters, so a summer camp was the answer. Originally intended to be in Wisconsin, Noble Hill's son insisted on Portage Lake with its access to Lake Michigan for sailing. In 1912 the first boys came to Camp and started a 65 year tradition. The Clubhouse, built in 1894, (the large Victorian building at Miller and Crescent Beach) was originally a community center to help sell building lots in the newly platted Red Park. With 18 acres of woods and the Boathouse on the lake Noble Hill had one of the first summer camps in the Midwest. The name TOSEBO came from the TODD SEMINARY for Boys.

The Camp for Boys

Many of the boys came directly from the school although soon it was attracting boys from all over, but mostly the Chicago area. Boys were ages 6 to 15 with younger boys sleeping in cabins and older boys in platform tents. The program included land sports, crafts, horsemanship, Red Cross swimming, sailing, canoe trips, and nature study. Also important to the program was a Native American theme and boys were separated into tribes for friendly competition and also learned about Native American ceremonies. The Camp flourished for 65 years until the competition from other summer opportunities and the natural attrition of experienced leadership led to the Camp closing in 1977.

The Restoration

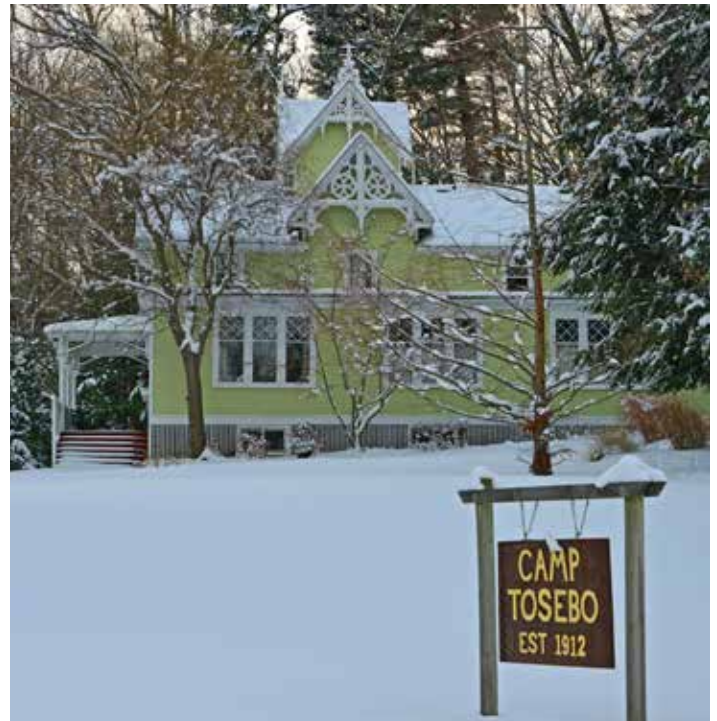
Idle for six years, Camp Tosebo found new life when Dr. David Wild purchased the property and began the task of determining a new direction. Soon his son, David Jr. and wife Lulu took over and began a huge restoration of the three main buildings. The Clubhouse was raised and given a complete foundation and all new mechanicals. Bedrooms were refurbished and the kitchen was completely modernized. By 1996, they opened the Clubhouse as a bed and

breakfast and many former campers came back for a nostalgic stay. The B&B changed to rentals by the week and it became a family destination.

Tosebo Today

In 2004 Tosebo was purchased by four couples, Martha and Mark Schrock, Kris and Steve Darpel, Kim and Joe Perrin, and Fran and Dave Wallace. The renovations and restorations have continued and so has the summer rental business. Camp Tosebo is 56 acres today with 45 of that in a Conservation Easement with Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Our group has enjoyed the challenge of maintaining the grounds and has hosted camper reunions, weddings, fishing retreats, corporate meetings, and, most important, families gathering for a week of fun and relaxation in this perfect location.

For more information visit www.tosebo.com



*Local Business Feature –***Larsen's Landscaping & Lawncare**

In 1999, Bruce & Karen Larsen established Larsen's Landscaping and Lawncare. With offices located in Scottville (3091 N. US-31) and Manistee (3021 Schoedel Rd.), Bruce and Karen employ over 35 team members to service customers in Benzie, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Oceana and Wexford counties.

A variety of landscaping and lawn care services are available at Larsen's. Services include:

- On-site consultation
- Custom design & installation
- Full service lawn care & maintenance
- Lawn fertilization & weed control
- Lawn aeration
- Hydroseeding, sod & seeding
- Seasonal cleanups
- Road grading
- Brush hogging
- Retaining walls
- Paver patios & walkways
- Water features
- Outdoor kitchens & living spaces
(i.e. outdoor fire pit with custom built bench seat)
- Food plots
- Wildflower seeding
- Tree Services
- Plant health care

It's hard to think about winter during these warm days of summer, but snow and ice season is looming in the distance. Larsen's has a fleet of 40+ trucks and loaders. They offer dependable residential and commercial snow and ice management from snow blowing and shoveling, snow removal and salting of driveways, parking lots and sidewalks and haul away of excess snow.

For more information, visit Larsen's website www.larsenslandscaping.com. Phone numbers and email addresses are:

Manistee (231) 398-9900
 Scottville (231) 757-3850
larsenslandscapingnorth@hotmail.com
larsenslandscaping@hotmail.com

A big Thank You to Larsen's Landscaping for their generous contribution to our 2017 Petunia Parade. They saved our volunteers many hours of work by providing their expertise and manpower in such a professional manor. They did all of the plot preparation starting in October of last year by applying a weed killer after all the petunias had been rolled up and discarded. In the spring, approximately three weeks prior to planting Larsen's roto tilled and raked out all the beds. At that time they also applied a weed killer. This made it possible for our seventy volunteers to plant ninety seven flats of flowers in two hours. Larsen's Landscaping helped make the 2017 Petunia Parade look great this year!



BRUSH PICKUP 2017:

Saturday, October 14, 2017; and Saturday, October 28, 2017 are the last two brush cleanup days for the Village. Brush is considered to be branches smaller than 3” in diameter, small tree limbs, and bush and shrub trimmings. Brush is not old trees cut into lengths, old cedars, or old arbovitae. The weight limit per bag is 30 pounds. Bags must not be contaminated with metal, glass, chemicals, concrete, asphalt, or other household refuse.

Brush is collected by the Village Maintenance Personnel and by a contractor using your tax money. Because we want to use your money as efficiently as possible, please use brush collection properly. Please keep our Village looking neat. Do not place brush or bags out until after 07:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled collection.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Please feel free to send suggestions, pictures, and nominations for A Person You Should Know to me at jmcmom@aol.com. Our next newsletter deadline for submissions is 12/10/17.
Jean Capper



RECYCLING:

Recycling bins (cans, plastic, glass, cardboard & paper) are now in Onekama township parking lot for your convenience. Please recycle responsibly.

Farr Friends Return for Fall Fun

If you are new to the area, newly retired, or just plain looking for something new to do, you have to check out the Farr Friends. The Farr Friends program was started in 2015 and meet on Thursday afternoons at the Farr Center on Main Street (same building as the library). This is a Portage Lake Association sponsored program and it hosts speakers and activities that educate as well as entertain us during the non-summer seasons.

We will be meeting on the dates listed below at 2:30pm for 2 hours. Besides the activities listed, we have loyal group of Mahjong players who attend as well. We hope to see you at one or all of these events planned for the coming fall months.

- Oct. 5 Euchre tournament-card game with long history in MI
- Oct. 12 Watershed Plan update-discuss with Lee Nordloh and Board
- Oct. 19 Wellspring Project Revisited by Gail Verplank
- Oct. 26 History of Onekama Cemetery by Mark Fedder
- Nov. 2 UFO- work on your unfinished craft projects
- Nov. 9 Learn to play the games Qwerkle and Dominos
- Nov. 16 John Wemlinger, author of “Operation Light Switch”
- Nov. 30 Learn to play the games Scrabble and Upward
- Dec. 7 Cookie Swap and Holiday Games

All of these dates are on Thursdays starting at 2:30pm. Look for the posters around town describing in more detail these events!

Walking Track and Fitness Center Hours

Mon - Fri	5:00am - 8:00-am & 3:00pm - 9:00pm
Sat.	8:00am - 10:00am
Sun.	1:00pm - 3:00pm and 6:00pm -8:00pm

Note: Walking Track is closed during Athletic Events. Applications for key cards to the walking track and fitness center are available in the Superintendent’s Office (Hours are Monday – Friday 8am-3pm). Downloadable fitness application linked below.

PLWF Plan Update

PROGRESS REPORT: Upcoming Survey

Within the next month or so, you will be invited to complete a survey which will help refine Plan priorities and determine where our efforts should be aimed in the future. Plan Update Chair, Lee Nordloh, points out that our main goals are: 1) to access the current knowledge base and; 2) to identify priorities and areas of concern.

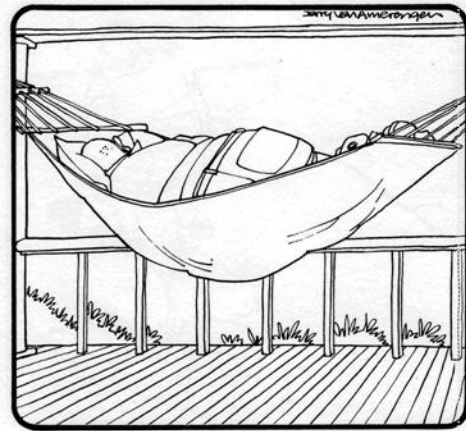
While the fundamental objectives of the Watershed Plan remain unchanged, the survey is meant to capture a snapshot of the community as it is now. It will also let us compare data with state and national averages of similar questions and others that are unique to our watershed.

Plans call for the survey to be on-line as well as available in paper format. It will deal with a variety of issues including:

- Water Quality
- Pollution
- Access
- Recreational Use
- Fishing
- Waterfront Landscaping
- Agricultural Practices
- Septic Systems
- Information Access

We hope you will take the time to answer the questions. If you want to know more, please don't hesitate to contact Lee or any Council member.

An Open Letter to Mort * . . .



Some years back, Mort decided to stop by the side of the road and just think about where everyone else was going.

Dear "Mort",

Get off your duff. Leave the side of the road. Find a cause you believe in. Join a committee, volunteer your skills, expand your horizons. Everyone else is making a difference; you are just blocking the view.

Sincerely and with all due respect,

Your Neighbors

P.S. Coincidentally, PLWF is seeking people to serve on the Watershed Council. You'd be more than welcome to put your hat in the ring!

* Quite possibly not his real name.

2017 Officers: *Chair*, Al Taylor; *Vice Chair*, Ted Lawrence; *Treasurer*, Jim Simons; *Secretary*, Kathy Ervin; *Past President*, Mary Reed
Members: Bee Capper, Frank English, Susan Halloran, Herb Lenon, Jamie Meister, Jim Mrozinski, Lee Nordloh

Watershed Council meetings are held the last Tuesday of the month at 7PM at the Farr Center. All are welcome.

More information: portagelakewatershed.com

Invasives Species Status

Phragmites & Eurasian Milfoil

The Water Quality and Environmental Monitoring Committee reported that they reviewed maps of different points around Portage at their August meeting. Mary Reed said that there was an increase this year of Eurasian milfoil from 22 acres in 2016 to 64 acres. Apparently such fluctuations are not unexpected but monitoring will continue. Reed also said that the nine years of data collected indicate that phragmites is at a maintenance level and is 'in control'. However, there will be a survey of the lake to detect any spread; if there is a rapid response could be implemented to contain it.

PLWF Membership

Grouch Marks once famously said that he didn't want to belong to any club that would accept him as a member. We are certain that, had he been asked to become a member of the Watershed, he'd have quickly changed his tune. After all, where else could he claim to support one of the most pristine, picturesque, and lovely places on the planet?

If you haven't joined yet, please go to portagelakewatershed.com and do so. Don't let Grouch invoke the duck.



Every year, DEQ receives complaints that someone is putting laundry detergent into the lake. Be assured that this phenomenon is usually the result of natural processes, not pollution.

The foam that appears along lakeshores is most often the result of the natural die-off of aquatic plants. The DNR explains that when plants decompose, the oils in the plant cells are released and float to the surface. Wind and wave action push them to the shore; this froths up the water, forming bubbles. If you want to know even more, contact Michigan's Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

It was not a dark and stormy night but it could have been as the forecast predicted rain and who-knows-what else. Instead, as has happened so frequently when our party takes place, threatening clouds gave way to blue sky, gentle breezes wafted through the crowd, and nary a cross word was heard. All in all, we had a good time, were grateful for generous donations from, and an unexpected cruise offered by Ted and Pam Arens. Thanks again to all who attended - and to all who helped put it together.

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP

Onekama Township Board has received a \$101,200 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for a Kayak Launch, to be installed at the DNR launch site. Additional grants received for the project are \$5,000 from the PLA and \$5,000 from the Watershed. The township's responsibility is 25 per cent of the grant amount. The project may start in the Spring.

Northwoods Invasive Species Network delivered 600 trees to North Point Park and Glen Springs Park. They are now being watered by a new irrigation system, installed during the summer.

The township's Parks and Recreation Committee hosted the annual "Appreciation Day" at North Point Park where visitors not only enjoyed the park but also enjoyed hot dogs, snacks, sodas and ice cream, courtesy of the PLA and Onekama Marine.

The Fire Department participated in the 1st Annual Onekama Block Party, drove the trucks in Onekama Days' parade and other parades in the county, and were in attendance with the fire equipment during the car races at the fairgrounds.

The Township Board approved a resolution adopting the Articles of Incorporation of the Two Lake Collaborative Sewer Authority. Purpose of the Authority is to plan, design, engineer, finance, construct, and operate a public sewage disposal system serving sewage districts within the constituent municipalities of Onekama Township, Pleasanton Township, Bear Lake Township, and the Village of Bear Lake, and transporting the collected wastewater for treatment to the facilities of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The Township is beginning the grant writing process.
Shelli Johnson, Clerk, Onekama Township

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION

Summary

The Environmental and Water Quality Committee of the Portage Lake Watershed Forever Group is evaluating whether to treat phragmites this year. It appears that phragmites are under control with subsequent application done as a "maintenance" program. 66 acres of milfoil were treated the first part of August and milfoil will continue to be monitored and treated as needed.

There have been at least two groups of prospective bidders for work on the south side of the channel, but to date has seen no activity on the north wall.

The Michigan Port Collaborative has received the grant money from The Michigan Waterways Commission and the matching funds have also been received. With this money they will construct a matrix for the ports in Michigan to evaluate their ports commercially, tourism and recreation-ally. There was a discussion concerning the importance of Onekama Township and Village participating in this program and being involved in the effort with the State. The Commission believes participation is essential if the Port of Onekama is to benefit from State funding in the future.

The small harbors received \$7 million for dredging and \$21 million for revetment work from the Federal Government this year. So far there has been no money budgeted for the harbors in next year's budget.

A letter was sent to Melissa Bosman, US Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District with our concerns with the design documents for the infrastructure repairs to our channel walls.

Plans are to attend the Village and Township meetings to asked their support for the Michigan Port Collaborative matrix template program to benefit Portage Lake Harbor.

Next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 19, 2017

VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA NEWS

Pending permits have been reviewed to ensure they are in compliance with the zoning ordinances. Trustee Hendricks appointed to be deputy zoning administrator, with Trustee Milasich as the assistant until a permanent zoning administrator can be found.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on 7/25 on the Master Plan. Two village residents attended and 20 responses to the survey sent out with the taxes will help the planning commission complete the Master Plan. A quote for upgrading the irrigation control system has been received for approximately \$13,000. No final decision has been made.

The sewer committee is going to work on a policy with regard to sewer payment late fees.

Repairs are complete to Brandt and to Dyke/Johnson streets. The 2nd Street sewer drain has been repaired. The Garden Club has requested that the park fountain be converted to a circulating pump. Costs are being investigated.

The Park Shelter upgrade is scheduled to start in the Spring of 2018.

The Village will seek donations from the groups that use the Farr Center to replace the front door with a power assist door.



Onekama Consolidated School Report

The recent passage of the zero mill bond (1.7 million dollars) and the one mill sinking fund (\$288,000) for 10 years is ensuring the constant upkeep of the Onekama K-12 campus and keeping technology current. The building team has been busy since the May passage and summer projects are under way.

This summer, new LED lights in the parking lot and around the building will increase security and also lower energy costs. A new well at the Track/Football Field Complex has been replaced. Updated and additional security cameras in and around the campus will assist our students in staying safe while on campus. In the classrooms voice enhancement systems are being installed and a Chromebook pilot in grades 3,4, & 5 will be implemented in the fall.

With the recent hiring of a architectural and engineering firm the large projects (roofs, heating and cooling, new stairs and sidewalks) will be designed and bid this upcoming school year with the projects commencing in the spring of 2018.-

Mary E. Bergren
 Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
 Onekama Consolidated Schools
 5016 Main Street
 Onekama, MI 49675



Above is the senior class on Blue & Gold day.

Middle, Coach Neph talking about the football team.)

Left, Fourth grade teacher Mrs. Bennett with elementary students dressed up for Disney Day.



Portagers Spirit Week Fun

by: McKenzie Bradford and Elizabeth Domres

This year's homecoming theme was Disney. Each day of the week was a different designated dress up day. Over the week, students participated in different activities like float building, a pep assembly, and a contest between the classes in a spirit competition. The week ended with a football game on Friday night. The Onekama varsity football team took on Tri-Unity Christian and came out with a victory of 36-8. The Sophomores won the spirit competition, while the Juniors blew everybody out with the prize-winning float. King and Queen were awarded to Jeremiah Torrey and Elizabeth Domres. Overall, it was a week to remember for everyone with many memories that won't be forgotten.



Picture caption: Pictured: John Wemlinger looks on as Margaret Punches presents Brett Mathieu with his award.

A Person You Should Know- Bret Mathieu

The Portage Lake Association awarded its Citizen of the Year Award at the last Monday Night Concert in the Park. Margaret Punches and John Wemlinger, co-chairs of the Award Committee, presented Bret Mathieu with the award. His nominator mentioned that Brett Mathieu was born and raised in Onekama and was long time member of the Onekama Volunteer Fire Department. They pointed out that he quietly works behind the scenes in the village and, in particular, at the school, to make things better. Voters agreed.

Nominations were received from the community and members of the Portage Lake Association voted for the person they felt most deserving of the award. This year was particularly difficult, as many worthy candidates were nominated. Congratulations Bret!

Show Us Your Art – Aug. 5, 2017

Close to thirty folks came to the first Show Us Your Art event held during Onekama Days in the park next to the library. Many of the attendees knew Evelyn Sorenson and read of the show in the Manistee paper. Her tapestry was on display as well as a number of visual art pieces created by local residents of all ages. Much of the art was hung on clothes lines, a format adopted from an annual quilt show in Sisters, Oregon. The Leaps and Bounds children made over 40 pictures/drawings for the event. Local quilters and rug hookers were on hand to show and tell about their art.

The enthusiasm of the those who attended has helped us conclude that the Evelyn Sorenson Memorial art project will be repeated next year during Onekama Days.

Since Evelyn believed that there is an artist in everyone who lives in this beautiful area, we think she would love to see everyone try to find something to show or perform next year. So plan to work on your art- visual or performing- over the next 9 months and have an item or two to share with the community next year on August 4th.



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

