



Dear Friends:

Summer has already swept me off my feet with live music, social events, gardening, fishing, cycling, yoga classes, etc. Hope you're enjoying Onekama Summer in your own way.

Inside this PLA newsletter, you'll find information on upcoming events such as the Monday Concerts in the Park and Onekama Days; updates from PLA committees such as the Petunia Parade; plus articles we solicit from local organizations so you stay up-to-date on all things Onekama.

Major Onekama events for 2023:

Monday Concerts in the Park: June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31; August 7 & 14

Onekama Block Party: July 6

Onekama Days: August 4-7

Manistee County Fair: August 15-19

Fall Festival: October 7th

Christmas in Onekama & Celebration of Lights: November 18th & 19th

Visit our updated website onekama.info; our Facebook group Onekama Community Connection and our Facebook page Portage Lake Association.

Please consider becoming a member of Portage Lake Association and or signing up to volunteer for our projects and events. You'll find a form towards the end of the newsletter, or visit our website.

Warm regards to all who cherish the Onekama area.

Roz Jaffe

Portage Lake Association President

**Have any great ideas or articles for the Newsletter? Suggestions or comments?
Ideas for a Person we should know?**

Contact the editor, Jean Capper via email at jmcmom@aol.com

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO THE PLA NEWSLETTER:

Articles must be in Microsoft Word format. Name the file something that is readily understandable e.g., petunias 0320. Photos must be jpg format. Name them the same as the file they are associated with (petunias 0320_1.jpg, petunias 0320_2.jpg). Action photos, close ups are preferable to still photos of groups.

The next newsletter will be coming October 1, 2023. Deadline for submission is September 10, 2023.

The Canfield House is
hosting our Portage Lake
Watershed Forever
Summer Fundraiser

Saturday, July 22
5 to 7 PM

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres

\$80 per person

Mail check to PLWF

P.O. Box 299

Onkama, MI 49675

RSVP by July 15. Include email
/ phone number for
acknowledgment



Onkama Block Party Voted 2nd Best Festival in Manistee County

Bring the whole family down Thursday, July 6th from 4-6pm! Wander Main Street from MacBeths to Lakeside Treats and find activities, games, food, live music, local authors, farm market, raffles, crafts, store sales, local information booths and MORE! The highlight of the Party will be a free bicycle giveaway at 6:30pm in the Village Park. Followed by a concert sponsored by the PLA, of our favorite local musician Cousin Curtiss.

Welcome New Businesses!

There are some familiar places, with new owners. We are excited to have the following still up and running in Onkama, due to enthusiastic new folks:

The Canfield Mansion, a Bed & Breakfast

The Portage Lake Motel

Traveler's Motel

Papa J's

The Blue Slipper

And Welcome to Amigos Mexican Restaurant



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

A Person You Should Know

Another Face for the Petunia Parade

By Mary Jo McElroy, Petunia Parade Committee

What does it take to become a member of the Petunia Parade Committee? A well-known face, if not a name. That is the case with Valerie Clements, our newest Committee member. Whenever I tell people it's Valerie, the response is usually, "Who is Valerie?" My response is, "You know her. The blonde, ponytail gal who walks through Onekama every day." I get a laugh, then "Yep, I DO know her!"

So, if you do not know Valerie Clements, this is her history. She and her husband Doug are both from suburbs south of Detroit. They moved to Onekama for retirement. Between them, they have three children and nine grandchildren.

According to Val, "We enjoy the simpler life here and the lake most of all." Boating, fishing, hunting, and beach walking are their favorite activities. Val especially likes the small-town atmosphere. She enjoys walking and everywhere people wave or beep hello even if she does not know them That is what it's all about for this friendly resident.

Valerie and the author connected via Messenger, the private chat feature on Facebook. It began with her communicating about some issues with petunias e.g., plots needing to be weeded, flowers needing water, etc. That moved on to Valerie recruiting new petunia planters and weeders. Good examples of newer recruits are Leann Clapper and Tim Chambers who live in the condominiums on Main Street. Valerie first recruited Leann to pitch in with weeding petunias. Then Tim, on his own, decided to walk over to the plot in front of the Onekama Consolidated Schools sign and started pulling out weeds when they needed it. In April this year, Valerie recruited Tom and Jane Foster for assistance with pre-drilling holes, planting, and weeding.

Valerie's job for the Petunia Parade Committee is to be our eyes and ears on the street. She will stay in touch about plots needing additional attention with watering, weeding, or another issue. She will also continue to be our best recruiter for new adopters of petunia plots.

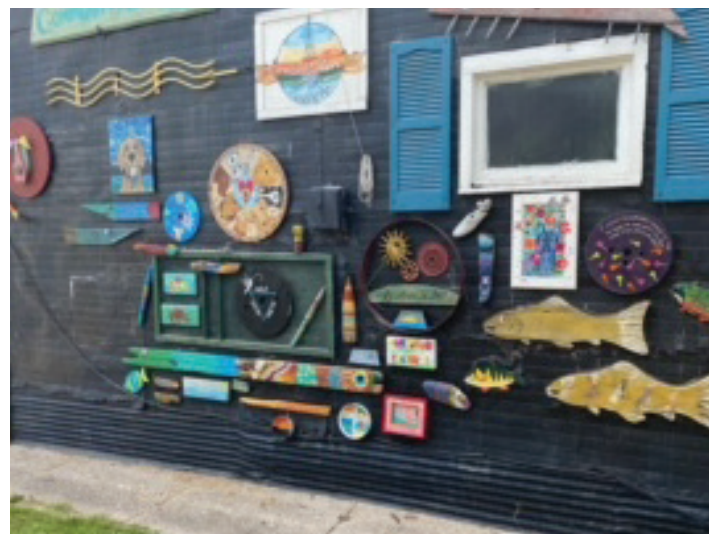
The energy is always highest on planting day (that was May 24 this year). We usually have 50 to 75 enthusiastic adults and kids to get those 3,420 little plants into the soil. As the days and weeks go by and people

are busy with outdoor activities and visitors, their energy starts to wane. So, Valerie will use her upbeat and can-do attitude to encourage all of us to get the job of weeding done.

If you would like to pitch in to help with petunias this year, please contact me via maryjomcelroy@sbcglobal.net or 614-325-1717. They will continue to need attention through the month of September.



Art Gallery Update



The new Patina Art Gallery is off to a great start! Owner Nikki Schneider is pleased by the many compliments on the new endeavor.

"Love seeing an artist at work"

"The space is so open and fresh" "The new colors are amazing"

The season is just starting and there is still room on the schedule.

Upcoming artists include Sky Mage Ceramics, Cindy Swan-Eagan (Artsy Goods) Jewelry, Ann Madson (Dyeing on the Inside) Clothing, Deborah Besanson Photography, Poetry reading by Louisa Loveridge Gallas and more.

Follow Patina on Facebook and Instagram for the latest schedule or to inquire about doing a show.

Patina is open Thursday – Sunday 11-3



5K RUN/WALK & 1 MILE FUN RUN

SATURDAY AUGUST, 5

ONEKAMA VILLAGE PARK

8:30 a.m. - FUN RUN

9:00 a.m. - 5K

5K Run/Walk - \$30 INCLUDES SHIRT
Overall Male/Female 5K Master Awards - Run Only.

1 Mile Fun Run - \$15 NO SHIRT
All 1 Mile Kid Racers Receive a Medal.

EARLY REGISTRATION Mail form and fee
BY JULY 1, 2023 to: Justin Sedelmaier
7791 Adamson Lake Rd.
Kaleva, MI 49645

All early registration will receive a t-shirt. Sizes are NOT guaranteed to late registrants.

SPONSORED BY **ONEKAMA LIONS INTERNATIONAL** PROCEEDS BENEFIT **ONEKAMA ATHLETIC BOOSTERS** LIKE US ON

Eventbrite.com/e/onekama-days-5k-runwalk-tickets-575946931777
OR Scan the QR Code with your smartphone camera to register online>>>>

The Pla is Reigniting A Welcome Committee After A Short Hiatus

If you know of someone that has moved to The Village or Township of Onekama since January 2023 please email Diane Wemlinger at d.wemlinger@charter.net Please provide the new people(s) name and physical address.

Also if you are interested in volunteering to help welcome newcomers please let Diane know.

Senior Trip to Mackinac

Just a day before our last day of high school ever, the Onekama class of 2023 was able to take a day trip to Mackinac Island. Our class has raised money for our class account for years, so we were able to pay for this trip completely out of that account, sparing any student expenses. We started our day early as groups made their way up to Mackinac City. From there, we took a scenic ferry route to the island, going underneath the Mackinac Bridge first. It wasn't the warmest of days, since it was mid-May, but at least the sun was shining. As soon as we got off of the ferry on the island, we all had rental bikes we got to ride around for an hour. Some went to Arch Rock, some took it slow and enjoyed the views, and others pedaled as fast as they could seeing how far they could make it in the time we were given. When we returned an hour later with our hands numb and legs tired, we made our way over to the Grand Hotel, where we were able to eat lunch from their impressive buffet. This was a really cool experience because no student had ever been able to go inside let alone eat at the Grand Hotel before, so it was a first for everyone.

With our bellies full, we made our way back down the hilly roads back to the main strip of shops. Thanks to the generous donation from the Portage Lake Association, each student had extra money in their pocket to spend on souvenirs. Some students bought fudge and other island-specific goodies, others bought t-shirts and sweatshirts, and some bought gifts to bring home to their families. The donation was greatly appreciated by everyone and allowed students to indulge themselves in things they otherwise couldn't have. I know that for me and my group, the PLA contribution made all the difference in our trip and is something that will stand out when we look back and remember it. The last two hours on the island were spending shopping and roaming around before we all got on the ferry to go home. This trip was a great last thing to do with my class and I'm so glad I was able to experience it.



ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION

OPEN PICKLEBALL



**LEARN THE SPORT - IMPROVE YOUR GAME
JOIN THE FUN!**

Updated days/times

NET & EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
OPEN TO ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

Tuesday, June 20, 12:00PM - 2:00PM
Wednesday, June 21, 5:15PM - 7:15PM
Thursday, July 6, 4:00PM - 6:00PM
Tuesday, July 11, 12:00PM - 2:00PM
Wednesday, July 19, 5:15PM - 7:15PM
Tuesday, July 25, 12:00PM - 2:00PM
Wednesday, August 2, 5:15PM - 7:15PM

ONEKAMA CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL ON THE BASKETBALL COURT

5016 MAIN ST.
ONEKAMA, MI 49675

QUESTIONS? EMAIL PARKS@ONEKAMATWP.ORG





SCIENCE FUN FOR KIDS

The Watershed of Portage Lake
Thursday, June 29: What a watershed? Come find out! Can YOU keep the lake clean? Give it a try on a model watershed. Craft and snack.

The Lifecycle of Trees
Thursday, July 13: Are trees alive? How do you know? Are trees born? What is a mother tree? Come find out! Tree craft and snack.

The Animals of Glen Park
Thursday, July 27: The big ones and the little ones. The fast ones and the slow ones. The feathered ones and the furry ones. Let's discover them all! Critter craft and snack.

The Amazing Dirt of Glen Park
Thursday, August 10: Do you dig dirt? We do! It's full of amazing secrets, come discover them! Craft and snack.



ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
ALL CLASSES ARE AT GLEN PARK.
REGISTRATION IS LIMITED. SCAN QR CODE OR REGISTER ONLINE.



Glen Park 8460 Fourth Ave
www.OnekamaTwp.org




WE NEED YOU!

Join the Portage Lake Association: Your membership supports the Petunia Parade, Onekama Days Fireworks, Monday Night Concerts, Fall Festival, Onekama Days events, Christmas in Onekama & the winter lights, etc.

Volunteer with Portage Lake Association: Prefer to work a few hours on a particular project or do you enjoy planning and strategizing? Let us know and we'll find a place for you. A great way to help your community & meet new people.

Current Needs:

Help with our October Fall Festival plans and marketing. Adopt the Onekama Days parade! We need a group or family to organize the parade, now & on the parade date. Contact PLA at information@onekama.info or visit our website onekama.info or visit us on Facebook



"YOGA TAKES YOU INTO THE PRESENT MOMENT, THE ONLY PLACE WHERE LIFE EXISTS"

YOGA

(gentle for all levels)

Hosted by: The Canfield House
4138 Portage Point Drive
(on the lawn or beach, weather permitting)
Begins June 12th
Monday: 9:00am (Lauren Gilmore)
Tuesday: 5:30pm (Sky Mage)
Please park on the road.
Donation: \$12

(bring your own mat, props and dress appropriately)
Sky - 231-342-5757 or Lauren 513-304-5068

Portage lake Garden Club Updates

Onekama Village Park Fountain: It is the last surviving 19th century cast iron fountain in the state. The restoration work received national and state awards. The fountain is listed as both a Michigan Historic Site and in the National Register of Historic Places.

Farr Center: Club members maintain all of the gardens and landscaping. The Butterfly and Native Plant gardens are educational as well as being a lovely backdrop for events held at the Center. The Butterfly Garden is a recognized Waystation for butterflies and other migratory species. The Memorial Brick Patio gives the community a place honor people.

Black Willow Trees: Working with Archangel Ancient Tree Archive, the club arranged for Onekama tenth grade students to learn tree cloning. Using genetic material from a champion 200 year old black willow tree in Traverse City, the students propagated over 200 trees. The students planted saplings in low-lying areas around Portage Lake, replacing trees that died during high-water years.

Environmental School: Portage Lake Garden Club and Manistee's Spirit of the Woods Garden Club partnered to host a National Garden Club Environmental School consisting of 40 hours of study divided into four courses. Open to the public, Environmental School emphasizes action for sustainable development, the interrelationship of all living things and environmental literacy. The next course is scheduled for October 2023.

Langland Park Beach Cleanup: After Labor Day, club members collect trash at Langland Park Beach. Members itemize every piece of trash so that researchers can better monitor the health of the Great Lakes.

Welcome to Onekama Signs: Located along M-22, the Welcome to Onekama signs greet residents and guests. Club members plant flowers, water and remove weeds.

Onekama Schools Sign: The club planted native grasses below the sign and maintains the garden.

For more information, please visit portagelakegardclub.org. New members are always welcome. Our wide-range of programs and projects means that nearly everyone can find something of interest, even those who don't enjoy traditional gardening. Although some members originate from Manistee county, many members are transplants or summer residents. We are all united by a common interest in improving and protecting the Portage Lake area.



From February to May 2023, the Portage Lake Garden Club served as project manager for an ambitious program that taught tenth grade students for Onekama Consolidated Schools how to propagate and plant champion trees. Champion trees are those that have grown larger and lived longer than what is typical. Propagating them is important because their DNA has allowed them to grow for hundreds of years, surviving climate changes and extreme weather events.

During the winter, students went to the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive and propagated over 200 black willow trees using clones from a National Champion Black Willow tree located in Traverse City. At the end of May, the students planted their black willow saplings at Portage Wetlands Park and on land owned by Portage Lake Watershed Forever. Many trees at these locations died due to recent high water levels. The black willow saplings are an excellent choice for these low-lying areas.

In addition to planting the saplings, the students learned about native and non-native species, and the challenges of maintaining a healthy environment for native plants. As an example, there are invasive buckthorn and phragmites on these sites that need to be removed and replaced with appropriate native species. Students saw the trees that died, illustrating the need for planting different tree species as the environment changes.



Here it comes! ONEKAMA DAYS 2023

August 4th - 7th

Tentative Schedule: Stay posted for updates!

Friday August 4

Onekama Lions Steak Dinner

Pig Out for Onekama School Pig Roast
TNT Demolition Derby

Saturday August 5

5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Fun Run

Fireworks over Portage Lake @Dusk

Onekama Lions Breakfast
Frank English Memorial Car Show
Friends of the Library Book Sale
Trinkets & Treasures
Painted Chairs Silent Auction
Congregational Church Bake Sale
Cornhole Tournament
Craft Beer Tasting

Sunday August 6

Onekama Lions Breakfast
Onekama Days Parade

Monday August 7

Concert in the Park with Michael Trixx,
Magican & Elvis Tribute Artist Jake Slater

EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Updates: Onekama.info and 1, [Onekama, MI](#) and [Onekama Community Connection Facebook](#) pages

ONEKAMA DAYS IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Portage Lake Association, Onekama Lions, Onekama Athletic Boosters, Manistee County Fair Board

06/25/2022

Portage Lake Association presents:



SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH, 2023

9 AM TO 2:30 PM | ONEKAMA VILLAGE PARK

M22 & Portage Street, Onekama, MI 49675 • CAR SHOW REGISTRATION \$20

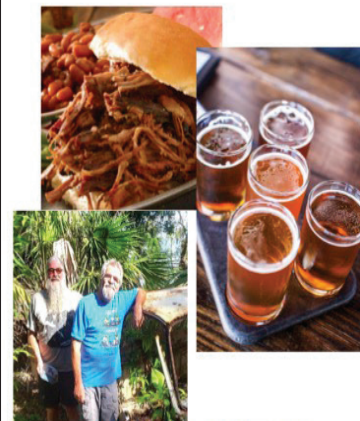
Contact: MaryJo McElroy 614-325-1717 or maryjomcelroy@sbcglobal.net

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN TO TOP 25 VEHICLES!

- ☛ DASH PLAQUES to the FIRST 75 CARS
- ☛ GOODIE BAGS
- ☛ BEST OF SHOW TROPHY
- ☛ LOTS OF DOOR PRIZES!
- ☛ PARTICIPANT JUDGED AWARDS at 2:30 PM



Onekama Days
August 4-7, 2023
FOOD
PARADE
LOTS OF FUN
ACTIVITIES



AUGUST 5

**"TRIFECTA" -- BEER
TASTING, PIG ROAST, AND
FERAL CATS MUSIC**

THE PORTAGE LAKE ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING ITS TWELFTH ANNUAL EVENT DURING ONEKAMA DAYS. PROCEEDS BENEFIT STUDENTS AT ONEKAMA CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS (OCS) BY FUNDING SCHOOL PROJECTS AND AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR POST-HS EDUCATION. 300 MEAL TICKETS AVAILABLE!!



Saturday, August 5,
2023

Craft Beer Tasting
from 4 to 7 PM

Feral Cats from 5 to
6:30 PM

Pig Roast from 5 to
7 PM

Onekama Village
Park, rain or shine

Craft beer tasting
\$25 for 8 tastes
with souvenir glass

Pig roast \$17
adults, \$6 kids
under 12

PORTAGE LAKE
ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 493
Onekama, MI 49675
www.onekama.info

Check out the Great Events planned by the Onekama Township Parks and Rec Committee. There is something for everyone.

By Jean Capper, Seasonal Onekama Township Parks and Rec Supervisor

2023 Onekama Township Parks and Recreation Programming Calendar

See <https://www.onekamatwp.org/parks-recreation-committee> for registration and updates.

All events are FREE! Registration required. Questions? Parks@OnekamaTwp.org

	Day		Start	End	Event Name	Event Description	Location
June	Wed	28	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	Yoga on the Beach	Fun, gentle & inspirational yoga at waters edge	Langland Park Beach
	Thurs	29	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	The Watershed of Portage Lake - Children's Series	What is a watershed? Come find out! Can YOU help keep the lake clean? Craft and snacks provided.	Glen Park
	Fri	30	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Who Are You?! BioBlitz: Monitoring our ecosystem	All ages Learn to identify plant and animals using field guides, iNaturalist and Seek. Your participation provides data for scientists! Hands ON!	North Point Park
	Fri	30	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Rockhounding 101	Gather at Pierport Beach to learn about geology of Michigan and the fun hobby of rock collection	Pierport Beach
July	Thurs	6	4:00 PM	6:00 PM	Open Pickleball	Learn the sport, improve your game, join the FUN! Net & Equipment available. All ages and abilities.	Onekama Consolidated Schools Basketball Courts
	Fri	7	9:00 AM	9:45 AM	Yoga on the Beach	Fun, gentle & inspirational yoga at waters edge	Langland Park Beach
	Tues	11	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	Open Pickleball	Learn the sport, improve your game, join the FUN! Net & Equipment available. All ages and abilities.	Onekama Consolidated Schools Basketball Courts
	Wed	12	11:00 AM	11:45 AM	Yoga on the Beach	Fun, gentle & inspirational yoga at waters edge	Langland Park Beach
	Thurs	13	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	The Lifecycle of Trees - Children's Series	Are trees alive? How do you know? How are trees born? What is a mother tree? Come find out! Craft and snacks provided.	Glen Park
	Fri	14	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Rockhounding 101	Gather at Pierport Beach to learn about geology of Michigan and the fun hobby of rock collection	Pierport Beach
	Wed	19	5:15 PM	7:15 PM	Open Pickleball	Learn the sport, improve your game, join the FUN! Net & Equipment available. All ages and abilities.	Onekama Consolidated Schools Basketball Courts
	Fri	21	9:00 AM	9:45 AM	Yoga on the Beach	Fun, gentle & inspirational yoga at waters edge	Langland Park Beach
	Fri	21	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	Onekama History Club Presents: Walking Tour of Portage Point & the Historic Portage Point Inn	Stroll about Portage Point to learn about the first two decades of Portage Park Resort. <i>(Self Guided)</i> Then enjoy a lively <i>guided</i> walking tour of the Portage Point Inn. Learn the legends and truths!	Portage Point & Portage Point Resort
	Tues	25	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	Open Pickleball	Learn the sport, improve your game, join the FUN! Net & Equipment available. All ages and abilities.	Onekama Consolidated Schools Basketball Courts

BLACK WILLOWS FOR SALE

This black willow tree propagation and planting project is an excellent example of public and private organizations and citizens working together for the common good. Many groups and people donated their expertise, time, and money to give students a hands-on learning opportunity. They are:

- Archangel Ancient Tree Archive
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- Manistee Conservation District
- Onekama Consolidated Schools
- Onekama Township Board
- Onekama Township Parks and Recreation
- Portage Lake Garden Club
- Portage Lake Watershed Forever
- Private Donors

The Portage Lake Garden Club is selling the remaining black willow tree saplings for \$20 each. The saplings come with a stake and a tube to protect the sapling from deer. For purchase information, please go to portagelakegardenclub.org. Proceeds go to the AATA and the PLGC to support ongoing programs and service projects.

Champion Black Willow Trees for Sale

GREAT TREES FOR PORTAGE LAKE AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Under the direction of the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive (Copemish, MI), Onekama's 10th grade biology class cloned saplings from Traverse City's 200 year old champion black willow tree. Champion trees are superstars whose DNA allows them to live longer than other trees of their species. These saplings are genetically designed to thrive!



Plant saplings in areas that are sunny and moist (near lakes streams, swamps, etc.) Black Willows are fast-growing trees, averaging 30-60 feet and are tolerant of clay, loam and sandy soils as long as ample moisture is present. Don't plant near septic fields as roots will seek out the water in the pipes. Average life is 65 years with a range of 40 to 100 years.

How to purchase

Email order to mary.talbott@gmail.com
 Send check made out to PLGC to:
 (write "Black Willow" in the memo line)
 Portage Lake Garden Club
 PO Box 494
 Onekama, MI 49675

\$20 per sapling

Includes:
 a 5' deer protection tube,
 a stake and instructions.

For additional information,
 please visit:
portagelakegardenclub.org



Proceeds to be shared between PLGC and AATA to support ongoing programming.

GARDEN MIXOLOGY

Join the Portage Lake Garden Club for its ANNUAL meeting open to the public. Enjoy learning how to use plants and flowers from the garden to create summer beverages and appetizers.

AUGUST 10, 2023

- 1 PM to 2:30 PM
- FARR CENTER
- 5283 Main St., ONEKAMA

portagelakegardenclub.org

Please call for Curbside Hours



Onekama Branch Library

5283 Main St.
 P.O. Box 149
 Onekama, MI 49675
 p: (231) 889-4041
 f: (231) 889-5420

Monday 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 Wednesday 12:30 PM - 7:00 PM
 Thursday 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 Friday 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Please Call for Curbside Hours

ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

If you would like to volunteer contact:
 Leslie Osborn
foodpantry_2014@yahoo.com
 General Information

Donations can be given in the collection basket or sent to:
 St. Joseph Community Food Pantry
 8380 Fifth Street
 Onekama, MI 49675



DALA HOUSE

This Spring, a new business with local historical significance opened in Onekama – the Dala House.

The term "Dala House" originates from "The Dala Horse", a Swedish term that symbolizes strength or good fortune. The owners of 4880 Main Street are from a Swedish descent, therefore Dala was a natural fit as it is a part of their familial history.

Originally built in 1870 as a hotel or boarding house, it truly has come full circle as it takes in travelers all over the world once again.

In 1914, the building was the base for the local telephone switchboard, when telephones were being installed in homes across the area. In the 1940s, Bill and Winona Green purchased the building and rented the rooms upstairs out as apartments, while using the first floor as their family home. Winona also opened her own beauty shop on the main floor during that time.

It switched hands a few times more before Greg Carlson purchased it in 2022. With a complete overhaul and some modern and Swedish influences, he brought the building back to its original use, a modern boarding house. Today's Dala House is ready to serve the sophisticated traveler visiting Onekama.

Some say a logger named Grund built the original hotel, and you wonder if he realized what an amazing spot he picked, as the Dala House sits right on the popular and scenic M-22 route to the North which includes Arcadia Bluffs, Leelanau Wine Country and the surrounding Traverse City area. It is also within walking distance to shops, restaurants, and beautiful Portage Lake!

Enjoy a stay at the Dala House this summer or to see photos of its luxurious interior, visit www.dalahouseonekama.com.

Portage Lake Association Awards Two Scholarships

This year the PLA gave two \$1000 scholarships. The recipients are: Madison Gutowski and Carly Bennett.

Madison Gutowski

My future plan is to attend Grand Valley State University for a major of business or science. My older brother also attends Grand Valley so I'll always have someone I can rely on there. In high school, I was on the volleyball, basketball, and track teams for all four years of high school. I recently graduated as one of the two valedictorians of the Onekama Class of 2023. I can't wait to see what my future holds and I'm so thankful to have been awarded this generous scholarship!



Carly Bennett

My future plans are to attend Ferris State University to study elementary education. My parents are Tracy and Gregg Bennett who are both teachers. I have an older brother Taylor Bennett who attends Ferris State University



The PLA is on Instagram

Check it out by searching @portage_lake_association on Instagram. The posts are fun and informative.



Onekama Park Improvement Project

The Onekama Village Council has given its approval to pursue a phased plan to make improvements to the Onekama Village Park located at Portage and Main Streets. The Village Council has committed to working with a grassroots group of citizens called Onekama Collaborative Recovery (OCR). OCR will seek private donations to provide the funding for Phase One of the project which is to construct an event stage along the park's eastern border.

Spokesperson for OCR Joe Suchocki says, "We were one of only 10 small Michigan communities selected to compete for three grants to be awarded by Consumers Energy Foundation. The grants are to be used for community improvements. Unfortunately, we weren't chosen, but Onekama Village Council and OCR still believe we can raise the \$70,000 needed for the entertainment venue to be completed."

If you've ever been to one of Onekama's Summer Concerts in the Park, then you know how badly an event stage is needed. Steve Szilvagy, who has coordinated the summer concerts for many years, says, "We have long needed a proper venue for our great performers at the summer concerts. Not only will this phase of the park improvements satisfy that need, but it will benefit our terrific audiences as well by allowing them to enjoy the performances with their backs to the setting sun."

Fundraising will be undertaken by OCR and headed up by Doug May and John Wemlinger. The plan calls for the establishment of a yet to be named park improvement project fund at the Manistee County Community Foundation (MCCF). The fund will be managed by an advisory committee and contributions to the fund can be directed to any phase of the improvements as long as the Village Council has approved the park improvement. Donors contributing to the fund may take advantage of MCCF's status as a non-profit, 501 c 3 organization, and may consult their tax preparer for purposes of determining the eligibility of their donation as a tax deduction. Expect to hear more about the fundraising effort in the near future.

If you or a group of your friends would like more information or would like to talk about this project please feel free to contact either Doug May at Doug-may29@gmail.com or John Wemlinger at jwemlinger46@gmail.com.

CONSERVATION CLASS

Environmental Educator, Chelsea Cooper, recently visited John Neph's sixth grade class at Onekama Consolidated Schools to discuss what happens to inland lakes in the winter.

Chelsea went out this past winter and collected samples and took videos of plankton and plants beneath the ice of Portage Lake. Then, right before visiting the 6th grade class, she went out again and collected live samples of plankton, giving the students an opportunity to make insightful comparisons between the live samples and the previously collected samples from beneath the ice. The focus was on energy cycling through the overall food web, which is one of the sixth grade's core science concepts. The students examined the live samples under digital microscopes, which were purchased by the Manistee Conservation District through a grant funded by the U.S. Forest Service. Other workshop equipment was purchased through donations from Portage Lake Watershed Forever. The students were also given some aquatic invasive species education materials.

The students gained knowledge about the pivotal role of photosynthesis and the seasonal effects on plankton and other organisms residing in the lake. They discovered that even in sub-zero temperatures, the remarkable properties of water enable our inland lakes to sustain a diverse array of aquatic life. The lesson left students with a conservation message on how citizens can contribute to the health and productivity of inland lakes.

This sixth grade workshop is the third curriculum package created and offered by the Manistee Conservation District. The MCD also offers a "Introduction to Macroinvertebrates" workshop for third grade and a "Macroinvertebrates and their Habitats" workshop for fifth grade. These curriculum packages are designed to create a hands-on field trip experience without having to leave the classroom. The curriculum packages include everything an educator would need to facilitate their own macroinvertebrate workshop and corresponds with Michigan's k-12 standards for science. These packages can be accessed at the MCD website at www.manisteed2.org/environmental-education.



Published on *Onekama, MI* (<http://www.onekamatwp.org>)

Board Members:

David Meister- Supervisor;

Edward Bradford-Treasurer;

Shelli Johnson-Clerk;

Bob Blackmore and Allen Taylor-Trustees

Phone: (231) 889-3308 Fax: (231) 889-5587

Address: Onekama Township Board 5435 Main Street Onekama, MI 49675 United States

Meet: Second Wednesday of the month at 4:00pm

Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday from 9:00am to 2:00pm

Check out the new website for additional information: Onekama Township

Onekama Township News

Township Website: Onekama Township has created a website dedicated to Township business. The address is: www.onekamatwp.org The site provides comprehensive information about the Township including announcements, agendas, minutes, ordinances, contact information, and much more. www.onekamatwp.org

Radar Speed Signs: The Onekama area sees a dramatic increase in population, pedestrians, bikers, and traffic in the summer. To encourage all drivers to SLOW DOWN, the Township will be installing radar speed signs on Portage Point Drive (2), and Crescent Beach Road (1). Let's all be safe this summer.

Township Committees: Looking for a way to get involved? The Township has several committees that you may be interested in serving on: Parks & Recreation Committee, Planning Commission, Invasive Species Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Harbor Commission Each of these committees has a dedicated page on the website where you can learn more about their responsibilities.

Vacancies will be announced on the Township website and interested individuals will be

able to complete an application and submit it to the Clerk for Township Board consideration and appointment. The committees are integral to the operations of the Township, and we need dedicated individuals to serve on them.

Short-Term Rental Ordinance: The Township has reviewed and revised its short-term rental Ordinance 2019-08 which governs this activity. If you rent your property on a short-term basis, you must register the property per the Ordinance requirements and obtain a permit. Non-compliance will be monitored, and fines will apply if you violate the Ordinance. The Ordinance strives to balance private property owner rights with the needs of the community.

Invasive Species: The Township continues to work with PLM Lake & Land Management to produce an annual Portage Lake Management Plan and to conduct invasive species control based on recommendations in the plan. The 2022 report can be found on the website. The invasive species control work is funded by a special assessment levied against Township property owners. The treatment program has been quite effective in controlling and reducing the level of infestation. The Invasive Species Committee is responsible for reviewing the program and making recommendations to the Township Board.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: The Manistee Conservation District will be holding its annual Household Hazardous Waste disposal event on August 19, 2023 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Manistee County Road Commission building located at 8946 Chippewa Hwy. For more information, please visit the Conservation District website at www.manisteedc2.org/hhw. Disposing of this waste properly keeps it out of our lakes, streams, and groundwater.

Fireworks: The Township has a fireworks ordinance in effect that limits when and where fireworks can be used. Please be respectful of your neighbors and comply with Ordinance 2019-02 If you have a fireworks complaint, please contact the Manistee County Sheriff's office at their non-emergency number (231) 723-8393. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.



Happy Summer!!

Village of Onekama Summary

Planning Commission:

The Village Council approved the Overlay District Map as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission delivered zoning amendments to address standards for Drinking Establishments-Hotels, Motels, Hotel Boutiques, and Bed and Breakfasts within the Village of Onekama Commercial Residential district and to add general provisions regarding parking requirements and lighting standards. The Village Council voted to adopt the amendments. Complete Ordinance is on file with the Clerk the Village office.

A Request for Proposal was extended to invite proposals from consultants interested in bidding on work for the Village Master Plan.

Parks:

A community organization called Onekama Collaborative Recovery (OCR) proposed Village Park improvements using grants and private donations to add an event stage. The Village Council voted to support the project. Private donations will be managed through the Manistee County Community Foundation.

Jetty repair work is complete.

Cemetery:

Flags were planted at the gravesites of Onekama veterans in honor of their service.

Council Trustees:

Suzanne Schwing tendered her resignation at the April meeting. John Wemlinger was welcomed as the Council's newest member at the May meeting and was sworn in shortly after.

2023 Brush Collection Schedule:

This year's brush collection schedule is available on the Village web page, www.onekama.info/village, and posted at

the Clerk's office at the Farr Center.

Meeting reminders – At the Farr Center

Village Council – 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm

Village Planning Comm. – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 pm

Check the Village website at www.onekama.info/village for the latest.

Onekama Village Council

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Roger Burger
president@villageofonekama.org

CLERK

Ruth Hudson
clerk@villageofonekama.org

TREASURER

Nikki Jach
treasurer@villageofonekama.org

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

County Planning Director
 (231) 723-6041
planning@manisteecountymi.gov

TRUSTEES

Rod Hudson
 Andrea Arthur
 John Wemlinger
 Wayne Miller
 Susan Halloran
 Sarah Fauble

FIRE CHIEF

Rob Johnson
fire@onekamatwp.org
 (231) 889-4240 (fire building)



**Portage Lake Association
 2023 Monday Night
 Concerts in the Park**

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 and on

FaceBook, 1,- Onekama, Michigan and

Onekama Community Connection

*Rain Venue: Onekama Consolidated School Auditorium

June 26 **Awesome Distraction** - Manistee based band playing originals and covers of Americana, folk, and rock classics

July 3 **The Schrock Brothers Band feat. Peter Madcat Ruth**
 West-Michigan folk, rock, and Americana band

July 10 **Jim Hawley** - Traverse City based nationally touring artist playing originals and classic covers

July 17 **The Benzie Playboys** - Benzie County based cajun/zydeco band

July 24 **Whispers of the North**
 Mackinac City Group playing the timeless classics of Gordon Lightfoot from the 1960's to 1980's

July 31 **The Handstanders (Jamey Barnard)**
 Group of local veteran musicians featuring a high energy blend of musical genres self – described as "gallery fusion".

Aug 7 **Elvis Tribute Artist Jake Slater**
 Bellaire, MI based national and international award winning Elvis Tribute Artist

Aug 14 **Barefoot (Phil Coryell)** - Acoustic rock and blues group featuring local harmonica legend Phil Coryell

Recycling

Wonder if something is recyclable? Check this link for a helpful guide: Manistee Recycling PA69 Recycling Program. Nine of Manistee County's communities, including Onekama Township/Village use Public Act 69 to fund their local recycling programs. The recycling sites located in six communities are paid for and are for use by residents of the PA69 Recycling Program communities only.

All Manistee County residents have access to the recycling drop-off site located at the Republic Services Manistee County Landfill at 3890 Camp Road, Manistee. Have Questions? Call the Toll-free Recycling Hotline - 855-2Go-Zero (855-246-9376).

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).

MEMBERSHIP & DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Best Contact Phone _____

Email Address _____

How should we use your donation*: Check one:

- General Fund (best use / most needed project)
- Petunia Planting Concerts in the Park
- Celebration of Lights Onekama Days Fireworks

Other _____

**Excess funds roll over to best use as determined by the PLA Board.*

MEMBERSHIP

- Individual \$35
- Family \$50
- Renewing Member
- New Member
- I'm interested in Volunteering

Make checks payable to **Portage Lake Assoc. and send along with this form to:**
PLA, PO Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675



For More Events and information – check out www.onekama.com

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

