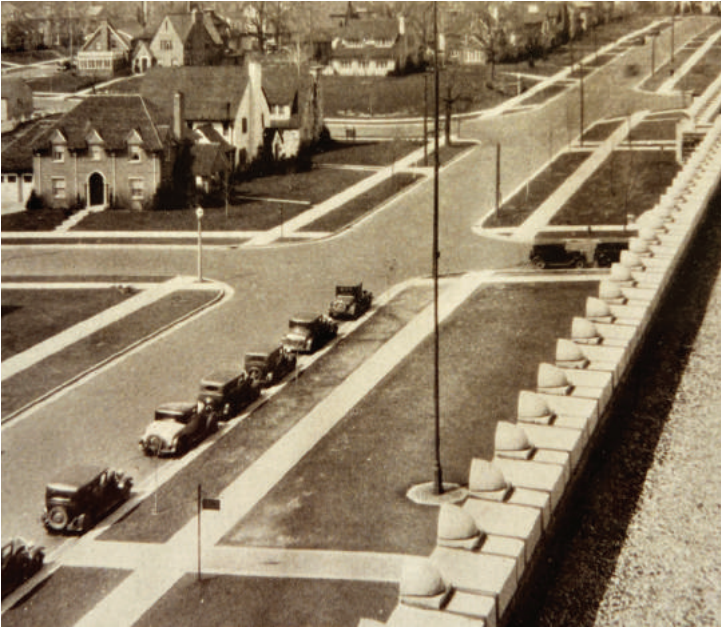




Ottawa Hills Neighborhood Association  
NEWSLETTER 2022



**Celebrating  
100 years as  
a community**

## A NOTE FROM THE ACTING OHNA PRESIDENT

Spring has been slow to come this year. The TV meteorologists said this was the cloudiest beginning ever to April. And the temperatures have climbed for a day or two at a time before plunging back to snow friendly ranges. But the sun is growing stronger and we know that eventually warm weather will be here to stay.

2021 was like that. The introduction of vaccines gave us hope that things would get back to a post-COVID normal. But the Delta and Omicron variants slowed that process. Schools and businesses opened up unevenly. And while some of our activities in the neighborhood returned, not everything did.

Neighborhood Clean Up Day, the Hollyhock Parade and the food trucks were the type of outdoor activities that allowed us to gather together again. Though even the food trucks fell victim to overbooking and labor shortages. Monthly board meetings and the annual meeting continued to occur via Zoom. And TGIF returned sporadically, but with reduced attendance. We still hope that the neighborhood will return to normal, but the pace has been slow.

So as we look forward to the coming year, what are our best expectations? The first houses in the neighborhood were built in 1922. That makes this our Centennial year. Over the winter plans have been developing to recognize and celebrate this landmark in various ways.

Over the last two years over 100 trees have been planted in the neighborhood. This has been done not only to spruce up the neighborhood for us, but for future generations of neighbors. There is talk of planting special Centennial Trees at the school.

The Hollyhock Parade will continue its string of consecutive commemorations of the nation's birth. An idea has been floated for a special OHNA entry in the parade.

The OHNA Garden Tour is an annual summer highlight. The last Saturday in June may see gardens decked out in Centennial finery.

This summer may see the wholesale return of block parties. Will your block gather to celebrate the Centennial in a neighborly way?

Only two things hold back the variety of ways we can celebrate the Centennial. One is the extent of our imagination. What fitting way can you think of to celebrate this milestone? The other is the "people power" to implement those ideas. We are a volunteer organization and we need your effort to carry out these ideas.

I've served on the OHNA board for several years; first as a block captain and now as Vice President. After attending a meeting (and especially lately after chairing a meeting) I will often say to my wife, "our neighbors are such good people." The officers, block captains, and volunteers who give of their time care about their neighbors and their

neighborhood and demonstrate that every time we get together.

That gives me confidence that we will pull together to properly celebrate our Centennial. We just need to volunteer. I lived in the neighborhood for over 20 years before I first volunteered to serve on the Board. I felt like I owed it to the neighborhood to help keep it the kind of place that attracted us here in the first place. If you have a similar feeling, then this is the year to step forward to help.

The Board recognizes that we all have multiple demands on our time; family, work, school, church, charities, hobbies, politics, entertainment, etc. But the neighborhood calls, too. This is the perfect time to get involved in your/our neighborhood. Please consider volunteering to help with the Centennial celebration. Feel free to contact me at [tom@geelhoedlaw.com](mailto:tom@geelhoedlaw.com) or 616-826-2889 to join the effort or to ask questions.

Among the good people who help keep things running smoothly in the neighborhood, I want to recognize two. Doug Vance has served for several years as our Treasurer. He does so with attention to detail and faithful reporting. His care for our finances is a bedrock of all that the OHNA does. Lisa Theule has served for several years as our Secretary. She also misses no detail and holds the board together with her regular reports and scheduling. If you see them in the neighborhood be sure to thank them for their faithful service.

In Partnership,



Tom Geelhoed, Vice President and Acting President

### 2022 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 16 at 10:30am

#### NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

Friday & Saturday, May 13 & 14

#### ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, June 25 from 9am to 1:00pm

#### NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, July 9 from 8am to 11am

#### ICE CREAM SOCIAL & NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 2, 7pm

#### HALLOWEEN

Monday, October 31 from 6pm to 8pm

## OHNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Part of what makes Ottawa Hills great is the willingness of our residents to get involved in the neighborhood. This includes things like getting to know people in the area, putting your yard on the Garden Tour, participating in the Hollyhock Lane Parade, giving donations for trees and supporting our nearby schools and businesses. Another way to invest is by volunteering to help with some of our Neighborhood Association projects!

We are currently in need of:

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Communications Coordinator
- Centennial Committee
- Photographer
- Website Administrator
- Block Captains

Opportunities to serve as the president, vice president, treasurer and secretary will be up for a vote later this fall.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact a current officer or block captain.

**Please indicate your willingness to get involved using the enclosed reply card or visit our website: [ottawahillsga.org/volunteer](http://ottawahillsga.org/volunteer)**



## ABOUT OTTAWA HILLS

Ottawa Hills was plotted out as a residential area in the early 1900s on what was then the Grand Rapids Golf Club. The first houses were built in 1922 and homes continued to be constructed until the 1950s. The winding roads are said to follow the paths of the former fairways.

In the 1970s, the Neighborhood Association was established to preserve the neighborhood's unique features and prevent the decline that many other local neighborhoods were experiencing. Over the past 50 years, the Neighborhood Association has evolved and now sponsors many events, including an annual garden tour, ice cream social, neighborhood-wide garage sale and neighborhood clean-up. Ottawa Hills is also the site of the Hollyhock Lane Parade, Michigan's longest running Independence Day parade, of which the Association is a sponsor. The strength of the Neighborhood Association comes from committed residents working together.

## OHNA FINANCES

Highlights of our financial activity in 2021 includes revenue of \$4,558 in neighborhood dues, this represented 67.6% of OHNA neighbors who paid dues in 2021. The newsletter brought in \$2,775 in revenue and we had generous tree fund donations of \$10,095. In all, we had a total revenue of \$18,475.

Our largest expense was the tree project, spending \$19,793. We continued the tradition of decorating the streetlight poles for \$2,340. The annual newsletter design and printing was a cost of \$1,617. The remaining expenses of \$4,739 covered events like the Garden Tour, Easter Egg Hunt, Ice Cream Social, Hollyhock Lane Parade, and dog waste containers at Pontiac Field, and operating expenses such as, Zoom subscription, officers' liability insurance and our PO Box. All reflecting total expenses of \$28,489.

For 2022, absent the tree initiative, we anticipate about \$9,500 in revenue. Our major expenses will be supporting our Centennial, refurbishing the four neighborhood signs, rebuilding of the OHNA website, decorating the light poles, planting a few new trees, supporting the food trucks and so on.

**Your continued dues and donations help maintain the great neighborhood we all cherish!**

REVENUE	2022 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL
Dues & General Fund	4,600	4,558
Garden Tour Ads	350	357
Tree Fund Donations	1,000	10,095
Newsletter Ads	2,775	2,775
Centennial Donations	500	410
Pontiac Field Donations	280	280
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,505</b>	<b>18,475</b>

EXPENDITURES	2022 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL
Operating Fees & Expenses	1,202	1,133
Newsletter	1,400	1,267
Events	2,950	1,595
Tree Fund	2,000	19,793
Donations	600	1,350
Website	2,300	0
Centennial	1,000	0
Lightpole Decorations	2,400	2,340
Hospitality	750	550
Sign Refurbishment	2,000	0
Pontiac Field	0	255
Misc. expenses	300	206
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,901</b>	<b>28,489</b>



## 2022 OTTAWA HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### President

Open Position  
president@ottawahillsgsr.org

### Vice President

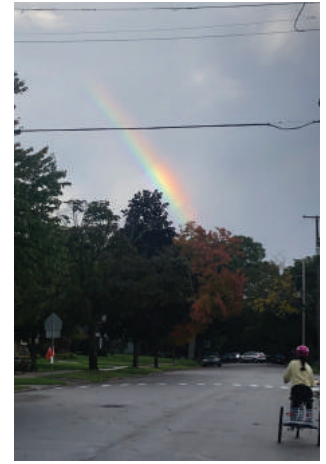
Tom Geelhoed / 1579 Alexander SE  
vicepresident@ottawahillsgsr.org / 616.826.2889

### Secretary

Lisa Theule / 908 Iroquois Dr.  
secretary@ottawahillsgsr.org / 616.485.1248

### Treasurer

Doug Vance / 917 Iroquois Dr.  
treasurer@ottawahillsgsr.org / 616.243.2480



## 2022 BLOCK CAPTAINS

BLOCK	CAPTAINS	
1	<b>Cray Mulder</b> camulder73@sbcglobal.net / 616.821.6545	
2	<b>Janet Hanson</b> janet.lynn.hanson@gmail.com / 309.714.0861	<b>Kathy Vance</b> kathyvance917@gmail.com / 616.243.2480
3	<b>Liz Maher</b> mattliz@mac.com / 616.818.8481	<b>Nancy Winden</b> nancywinden@sbcglobal.net / 616.450.3958
4	<b>Dawn Jenkins</b> dawnvanderkolk@gmail.com / 616.901.5356	<b>Lori Dann</b> tldann@comcast.net / 616.204.5943
5	<b>Molly McCarthy</b> mccarthyconsult@gmail.com / 231.557.5511	
6	<b>Marc Hoeksema</b> marchhoeksema@sbcglobal.net / 616.245.4014	
7	<b>Bob Crow</b> rcrow3361@gmail.com / 616.446.3009	<b>Dave Walker</b> davewalker2@gmail.com / 202.821.8217
8	<b>Catie Richert</b> catie.richert@gmail.com / 616.540.4986	<b>Mary DeYoung</b> marydeyoung73@gmail.com / 616.648.2733
9	<b>Peri denDulk</b> peridd@gmail.com / 616.485.0853	
10	<b>Kathleen Kelly</b> kathymilanowski@gmail.com / 616.454.8044	<b>Simon Vance</b> ssvance07@gmail.com / 616.914.3781
11	<b>Craig Geers</b> craiggeers@city2shore.com / 616.304.5571	





## OTTAWA HILLS CONTACTS

<b>Block Records/Dues</b>	<b>Doug Vance</b>	243.2480	treasurer@ottawahillsggr.org
<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>	<b>Diane Petrakis</b>	247.0907	dpetrakis49@gmail.com
<b>Garden Tour Chair Scheduling/Advertising</b>	<b>Nancy Kooienga</b>	635.1721	nancy.kooienga@gmail.com
<b>Garage Sale</b>	<b>Elizabeth Van Vels</b>	340.1390	elizabethvanvels@gmail.com
<b>Hollyhock Lane Parade</b>	<b>Eric Doyle</b>	425.9331	hollyhockparade@gmail.com
<b>Ice Cream Social</b>	<b>Emily Van Veis</b>	885.6701	emilyvanvels@gmail.com
<b>Neighborhood Clean-up &amp; Dumpster Day</b>	<b>Dan Haveman</b>	243.4231	dshaveman6@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Kathleen Kelly</b>	454.8044	kathymilanowski@gmail.com
<b>Social Media Administrator</b>	<b>Taylor &amp; Bella Dever</b>	847.650.8559	taylormdever@gmail.com
<b>Fire Department Liaison</b>	<b>Lt. Dan Vanderhyde</b>	456.3504	dvanderh@grcity.us
<b>Principal at GRCS</b>	<b>John Barkel</b>	574.6502	jbarkel@grcs.org
<b>Superintendent at GRCS</b>	<b>Tom DeJonge</b>	574.6002	tdejonge@grcs.org
<b>East Congregational Church</b>	<b>Office Administrator</b>	245.0578	eastchurchgr@gmail.com
<b>Residential Safety Program - GR Fire</b>	<b>Michael Curtis</b>	456.3965	mcurtis@grcity.us

## OTTAWA HILLS BUSINESSES, CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

<b>Grand Rapids Public Library Ottawa Hills Branch</b> 1150 Giddings Ave. SE	www.grpl.org 616.988.5412
<b>Cutting Edge Barbershop</b> 1153 Giddings Avenue SE	616.589.3009
<b>Mr. Thanh Tailor Shop</b> 1151 Giddings Ave SE	616.241.3200
<b>East Congregational Church - United Church of Christ</b> 1005 Giddings Ave SE	www.eastchurchgr.org 616.245.0578
<b>Grand Rapids Christian Elementary</b> 1050 Iroquois Dr SE	www.grcs.org 616.574.6500

## NEARBY BUSINESSES, CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

<b>St. Stephen Catholic School and Church</b> 750 Gladstone SE	www.ststephenschoolgr.com 616.243.8998
<b>Hall Street Bakery</b> 1200 Hall Street SE	www.hallstreetbakery.com 616.214.7604
<b>Earl's Transmission Service</b> 1356 Hall St SE	www.transmissionrepairshopgrandrapids.com 616.452.9844
<b>Miti-Mini Superette</b> 1210 Giddings Ave SE	616.452.1288



# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

In 2022, the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood will celebrate its centennial anniversary, acknowledging our theme of community support that over 100 years has never stopped. We are excited to mark this milestone anniversary that pays tribute to our history, celebrates today, and will influence tomorrow. Our Centennial celebrations will extend throughout the year giving us a chance to celebrate all year long.

Our neighborhood is one with a storied history that began in the early 1900s and includes a 160-acre pig farm and a 9-hole golf course. The golf course changed hands several times and eventually one of the owners decided to develop the land which would become our neighborhood. The land was mapped out and featured beautiful winding drives and large open areas where streets intersect. The first lots were sold in 1922 and went so quickly that a second plat was put on the market in 1923.

In 1925, Ottawa Hills High School was built on 9 acres of the land and ended up anchoring the neighborhood for 85 years. By 1928, 200 brick homes of varying architectural style dotted the neighborhood, within walking distance of Franklin Park (now Martin Luther King Park), Calvin College and the Clark Home. There was little change during the Depression and World War II. In the 1960s property values decreased to the point that the Association coordinated efforts to stop redlining, blockbusting and soliciting listings with scare tactics.

Over the years the Association, which will also celebrate 50 years of existence in 2022 has sponsored a babysitting co-op, a bridge group, a garden tour, and has been a long-time supporter of the beloved Hollyhock Lane Parade.

In 2009 the Grand Rapids Public School system sold the school building to Grand Rapids Christian schools to develop a pre-kindergarten through 4th grade school and this anchor, along with Pontiac Field once again stabilizes the neighborhood. It is clear our neighborhood has seen many changes through our history, but several things have remained constant, a deep appreciation for our community's history and a dedicated and tenacious group of neighbors.

We are honored and delighted to call Ottawa Hills our home. Many festivities will mark this anniversary and we will look to you for ideas on how to promote the fun. We are already brainstorming of ideas like outdoor fitness classes, walking and architectural tours, music in the park, food trucks, outdoor movies and a neighborhood picnic. Keep your eye on the monthly newsletter for ways you can contribute to making this a brilliant and memorable year.

Happy 100th Ottawa Hills!





**City of Grand Rapids, Michigan**  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**ROSALYNN C. BLISS**  
MAYOR

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood was created in 1922 when the land that was once a pig farm and golf course was platted, and the first home was built; and

WHEREAS, soon after the neighborhood's creation, Ottawa Hills High School, now Grand Rapids Christian's Iroquois Campus, was established, further anchoring and bringing the community together; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood Association was formally established to ensure the preservation of the neighborhood's unique features; and

WHEREAS, the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood sponsors and participates in a number of community events throughout the year including garden tours, ice cream social, tree plantings, and Michigan's longest running Independence Day Parade – the Hollyhock Lane Parade; and

WHEREAS, today the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood contains nearly 300 homes, and this year will come together to celebrate the landmark occasion of its centennial year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, do hereby recognize the

## **Centennial Year of the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood**

and encourage residents to come together to celebrate this significant milestone throughout this year.



Rosalynn Bliss





**SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022**

**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join us for the 29th Annual Garden Tour, when we open some of our lovely yards to the public. Gardens large and small, sunny and shady, are visited by hundreds of admirers. Some gardens are designed and manicured while many others are "works-in-progress," but we never fail to have all who walk through our tree-lined streets enjoy our neighborhood and friendly residents.

Consider being a stop on the tour. It's fun, and your garden doesn't have to be perfect! Show off your new deck, garden hardscaping or water features. Benefits include bragging rights and a special pre-tour happy hour celebration Friday, June 24.

Have a young entrepreneur? Lemonade, water and treat stands are always popular on the tour.

The event is totally free, and is on rain or shine. We can't control the weather, but we are actively promoting the tour with public relations and social media to encourage attendance. Help spread the word!

If you are interested in being on the tour, volunteering, or advertising your business in the brochure, please contact a member of the committee:

Craig Geers  
Nancy Kooienga  
Jeff Lake

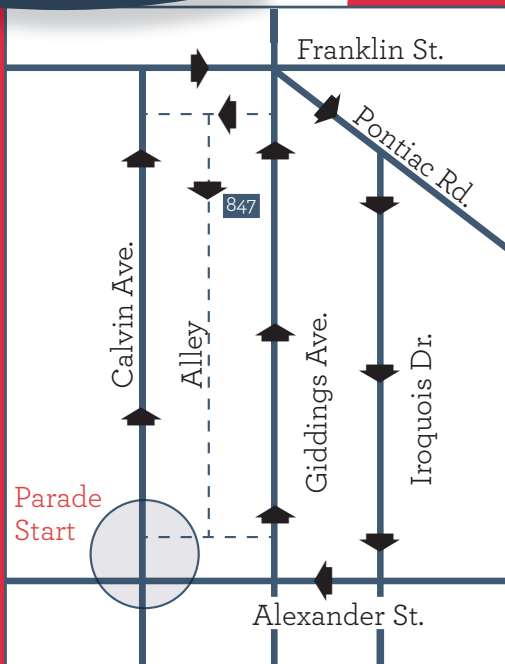
[craiggeers@city2shore.com](mailto:craiggeers@city2shore.com)  
[nancy.kooienga@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.kooienga@gmail.com)  
[the6greatlakes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:the6greatlakes@sbcglobal.net)



88<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
HOLLYHOCK LANE  
4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

PARADE & CELEBRATION

★ ★ ★ MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022 ★ ★ ★



8:00 am - Parade Line Up  
(At Calvin and Alexander)

8:30 am - Parade Begins

9:00 am - Hollyhock Lane Ceremony  
(Behind 847 Giddings)

9:30 am - Jazz  
Provided By Elgin Vines & Co.

Independence Day Parade Float Prizes

★ ★ ★ Three Categories ★ ★ ★

Best Patriotic Float  
Best Environmental Float  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$40 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$20

Get up to date information @ [facebook.com/HollyhockParade](https://facebook.com/HollyhockParade)



Kids, Decorate Your Bikes And Ride In The Parade!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Play An Instrument?? Join The Hollymock Band!!

Call Karen at (616) 475-3859 for details

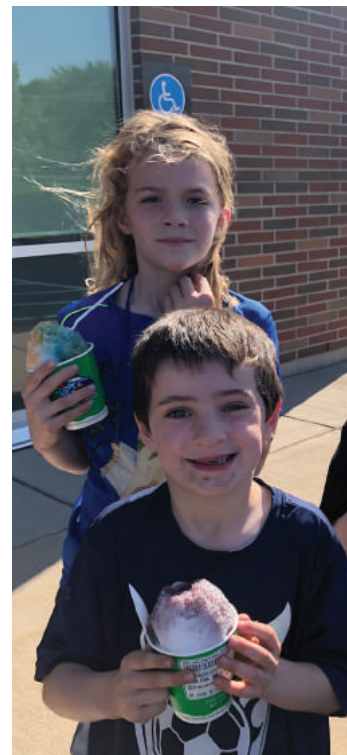
Donate to help keep this historic tradition alive!

[www.tinyurl.com/hollyhockparade](http://www.tinyurl.com/hollyhockparade)

Celebrate the 88<sup>th</sup> Hollyhock Lane Parade on July 4  
The Oldest Independence Day Parade in Michigan

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Sponsored by the Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association, Inc. • Music provided by: American Federation of Musicians MTF





## SUNDAY FOOD TRUCKS THIS SUMMER!

You heard it right! We are excited to invite our community outside for food and fun this summer. One Sunday a month, OHNA will sponsor food trucks in the parking lot of the Grand Rapids Christian Elementary School. All are welcome.

Check out this mouth-watering lineup of food from across the city. We will post menus as they become available closer to the event date.

### SCHEDULE:

**Sunday, May 15** from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Let's Taco 'Bout It and UCC Desserts

**Sunday, June 12** from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Momma D's Kitchen and Olly's Donuts

**Sunday, July 17** from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Patty Matters and Kona Shaved Ice

**Sunday, August 14** from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
El Jalapeño and Furniture City Creamery

**Sunday, September 11** from 4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Around Baking Co. (Pizza) and Kool Breeze

*If you have any questions please contact Kathleen Kelly ([kathymilanowski@gmail.com](mailto:kathymilanowski@gmail.com)) or Amy Brower ([amybrower@gmail.com](mailto:amybrower@gmail.com)).*





# OHNA TREE UPDATE

The OHNA is pleased to announce that all spots for parkway trees have been planted. **We now have 712 trees in our neighborhood parkways.** As our young trees mature, we should reach 80% tree canopy coverage of our sidewalks and eventually our streets. From 2007 to 2019, John Wittkowski and Kathy Vance worked diligently to raise the funds and grants while gathering volunteers to plant 130 trees. In the last 18 months we have planted an additional 130 trees. We have planted 34 new tree species, thus a mini arboretum!

Our neighborhood has 214 Norway Maples that have reached the end of their lifespan. They will all die off over the next 10 years or so. We will quickly replace them with new trees as they are removed. The City's policy is to remove a tree when it no longer shows signs of life. Several neighbors, with the city's approval, have paid to remove dying and/or unsightly Norway Maples in their parkway. The cost to remove a tree and stump ranges from \$800 to \$1,200. The OHNA will plant a new tree at no charge. This is an option for you.

It takes three years of a consistent watering program to establish and develop a city tree's root system. It is critical that they receive the correct amount of water at the right time. You have probably noticed the green watering bags on many trees around our neighborhood. Our professional watering service has done an excellent job nurturing them. The annual cost for this service is approximately \$5,000, covered by a neighbor's generous contribution.

We expect to be replacing about five trees a year. Total cost per tree is approximately \$200-\$300 depending on species. The watering program will continue for two more years. Please continue to give generously to the OHNA Tree Fund.

**Please contact Jeff Shutz at 616-540-3349 or [jeff1shutz@gmail.com](mailto:jeff1shutz@gmail.com) with any questions or comments about our neighborhood trees.**

*PS: PLEASE NOTE that our City Forester pointed out that in large enough quantities the urea nitrogen found in dog urine will kill a young tree. Please make sure that your dog doesn't pee any closer than five feet from our young trees. Thanks!*



# WHAT DO WE DO?

That was the question one of our young neighbors asked when he found out about the Afghan refugee crisis. After some investigation, we landed on an answer: Join with nine other Ottawa Hills families to support a newly arrived Afghan family of seven. In mid-November, in partnership with Bethany Christian Services, our team welcomed the exhausted family at the airport and helped them settle into temporary housing. Since then we have been walking alongside this family. We help with everything from getting phones and groceries to assisting with medical appointments, deep needs with ESL instruction, and countless immigration challenges. The family is a joy and always meets us with immense hospitality, regularly inviting our team members in for tea or a meal. Once settled into an apartment, they even hosted the entire team for an Afghan feast! While we didn't plan to build a team with specific roles, our members have a variety of professions and skills that have all worked together to help with different aspects of settling into life in Michigan. We are all quick to point out that no one family could have done this on their own—**we all need our neighbors**—and that the rewards are beyond what we ever imagined!

Please reach out if you'd like to hear more about welcoming Afghan refugees into our community.

Peri den Dulk  
peridd@gmail.com





## GET YOUR FREE SMOKE ALARMS FROM THE GR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Within the last nine years, the Grand Rapids Fire Department has installed approximately 67,000 smoke alarms in 11,500 homes — entirely free of charge. Many older homes in the city have less than three smoke alarms which aren't nearly enough, and a significant number of homes have no working smoke alarms at all.

With that in mind, the GRFD initiated the Residential Safety Program (RSP) in 2013 to help reduce home fires potentially saving property as well as lives. Using a FEMA-based (Federal Emergency Management Agency) grant, the RSP not only provides free smoke alarms to Grand Rapids homeowners, but their trained crews also install the devices. During installation of the devices personnel preview the home to ensure there are no potential safety hazards which may cause a home fire. If any exist, the homeowner is notified and if possible, the firefighters help to resolve the matter. In addition, the program also offers up to three free carbon monoxide (CO) detectors along with smoke alarms. One for each level of the home. Carbon monoxide is a tasteless, odorless, invisible gas sickening 20,000–30,000 per year and killing 500+ people annually.

Call 311 or 456.3000 today to schedule your FREE carbon monoxide and smoke alarms from the fire department.

And as warmer climates are fast approaching, the desire to take in the best activities of summer are always heightened. So here are a few helpful hints to keep you and your family safe during this period:

- Never leave your grill unattended. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires throughout the year.
- Before grilling, ensure the fire pit is at least three feet away from the house.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill when it's hot.
- Use a metal meshed screen over wood-burning recreational pits to keep sparks from floating out.
- If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts. Sparklers can reach 1,200 degrees F and cause third-degree burns.



# FREE SMOKE ALARMS

6-8 working smoke alarms. That is the average number of detectors to adequately protect your home. To help prevent loss of property and life, the Grand Rapids Fire Department's Residential Safety Program will install 10-year lithium battery operated smoke alarms into a local homeowner's residence FREE of charge. The program now includes up to three free carbon monoxide detectors. Allow us to make your home more secure from fire and carbon monoxide.

**CALL 311 or 616.456.3000**  
to get your FREE smoke alarms and CO detectors

WE SERVE  WE CARE





# Annual Dues — Donate

We are accepting online payments for annual OHNA dues and donations. We'll also continue to accept payments by standard check. Donation cards will be distributed along with this Annual Newsletter. Additional donations to the Neighborhood Tree Fund, Pontiac Field Fund and the General Fund are very much appreciated.

## **OHNA \$20 a year dues help pay for:**

- Annual newsletter delivered to your home
- Security updates throughout the year
- New neighbor welcome packets
- Community promotion of Ottawa Hills
- Old-fashioned summer ice cream social
- Annual garden tour
- Neighborhood dumpster day
- Advertisements for the OHNA garage sale
- Winter holiday lamp post decorations
- Pontiac Field expenses

## **OHNA Member benefits include:**

- Eligibility to vote at the OHNA annual meeting (dues must be paid to vote)
- Access to the neighborhood dumpster day (dues must be paid to dump items)

## **Instructions to pay with a check:**

- Make your check out to – Ottawa Hills Neighborhood Association or O.H.N.A.
- Drop off to your block captain or mail to: OHNA Treasurer, 1451 Lake Dr. SE PO Box 68212, Grand Rapids, MI 49516

## **Instructions to pay online with PayPal:**

*NOTE: If you do not have a PayPal account, you can check-out as a guest with any major credit card.*

- Select an option from the drop-down and Add to Cart.
- You can continue shopping and return to this page to add other items to your shopping cart. Donations can be made in \$10 or \$25 increments. It is easy to change your donation by increasing the "quantity" in your shopping cart.
- If you are not sure what block you live in, check out the OHNA map on page, 16.

## **You can now pay with Venmo:**

- Find us @ohna1922 - Ottawa Hills Neighborhood, located under the Business tab.
- If you are giving more than your \$20 dues, please indicate in the notes section exactly what your donation should be allocated towards (Pontiac Field, Tree Fund etc.)



## **COMMUNICATION AND USAGE POLICY**

The Communication and Usage Policy is intended to address all forms of communication including: letters, flyers, emails, newsletters, brochures and verbal exchanges on behalf of the Association, as well as various social media forums including, but not limited to, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. All communication shall be of a civil tone and respectful to all receivers. Association business or activities shall never include:

- a) Propaganda or attempts to influence legislation, intervention for, or in opposition to any public office candidate.
- b) Pornographic images, jokes, stories or any other objectionable material.
- c) Content intended to disparage or discriminate against Members or any citizen associated with the Association by virtue of any protected classification including race, gender, nationality, religion, age or handicap.

Violation of any of these policies may cause the offender to be removed, by the Executive Committee, from any future email correspondence and from the Association email list.

The email list, website and newsletter are solely the property of the Ottawa Hills Neighborhood Association, a not-for-profit corporation. The email list, website and newsletter exist solely for the purpose of conducting Ottawa Hills Neighborhood Association business. The Association owns all communication sent via email, information on the website and in the newsletter. Email addresses of Association members are private and to be used only for Association business. The email list shall not be forwarded to any individual(s) or organization(s) outside the Association without prior approval by the Executive Committee. Any unauthorized email use is prohibited, including but not limited to advertising, informational search inquiries, endorsements, announcements and solicitations. If a subscriber wishes to be removed from the email list, they may unsubscribe at any time. Any feedback, questions, concerns, complaints or information relating to this Communication and Usage Policy may be directed to a member of the Executive Committee.

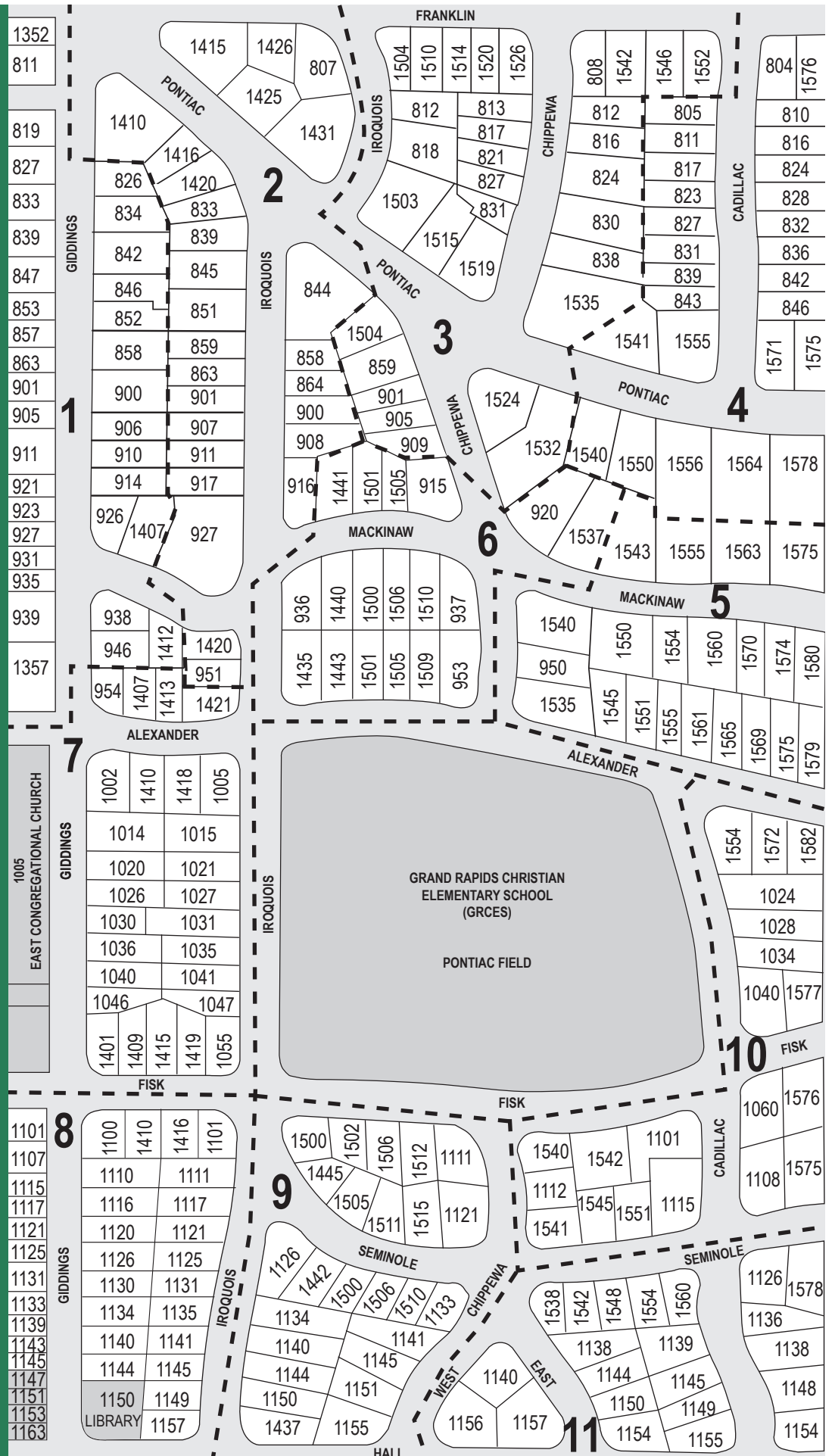
## **COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES**

Substantive written material, visual or audio content developed on behalf of the Association for external audiences by any Executive Committee member, Block Captain or committee member must comply with the Communication and Usage Policy and shall be approved by at least two Executive officers of the Association, in addition to the author of said communication. In the event the reviewing officers cannot reach agreement the material shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for a vote according to Article III, Section 8 of the bylaws dated October 16, 2007.

## **SOFTWARE ACCESS & USE PROCEDURE**

Some job/volunteer responsibilities of the Association require access to the internet and the use of requisite software. The purchase of additional software needed to support Association activities must be authorized by the Board of Directors.

# OHNA Map



# ONE CALL TO CITY HALL



City of Grand Rapids

**311 is an easy-to-remember number** that connects you with a trained customer service representative eager to assist.

For more information, visit [www.grandrapidsmi.gov](http://www.grandrapidsmi.gov) or call 311 or 616.456.3000

## **EVENING & WEEKEND CITY EMERGENCY NUMBERS** *(ONLY after regular office hours)*

Storm/Sanitary Sewers

**456.3246**

Street Lights

**456.3281**

Streets/Sanitation

**456.3232**

Traffic Signals/Signs

**456.3283**

Water

**456.3249**

## GRAND RAPIDS MAYOR



**Mayor Rosalynn Bliss**

616.456.3168

[mayor@grcity.us](mailto:mayor@grcity.us)

## THIRD WARD CITY COMMISSIONERS



**Senita Lenear**

Third Ward  
Commissioner

616.456.3860

[slenear@grcity.us](mailto:slenear@grcity.us)



**Nathaniel Moody**

Third Ward  
Commissioner

616.456.3857

[nmoody@grcity.us](mailto:nmoody@grcity.us)





# SAFE HOMES

Safe Disposal for Safer Homes

KENT COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS



Published  
3/18/2022

## SAFE SHARPS

Safe disposal of needles, syringes, lancets, epi-pens, and medical sharps.



Available to all Kent County residents. Pick up your **FREE** SafeSharps container today at any Kent County Health Department Clinic Location.

## SAFE CHEM

Safe disposal of household chemicals and hazardous waste

### Wealthy St. Admin. & Recycling Center

1045 Wealthy St. SW, Grand Rapids  
Mondays 1:30-5:30pm (year-round)  
Wednesdays 7:30-11:30am (year-round)  
Thursdays 1:30-5:30pm (year-round)  
Second Saturday of the month 8:30-11:00am

### Kentwood DPW

5068 Breton Rd. SE, Kentwood  
Tuesdays 1:30-5:30pm (April—Oct.)/2:30-4:30pm (Nov.—March)



Accepted: oil-based paints, solvents, gas, oil, antifreeze, aerosols (spray paint, inhalers), pesticides, fertilizers, household cleaners, mercury thermostats/ thermometers, fluorescent lights, CFL & LED bulbs/tubes, **rechargeable, lithium, and button** batteries, ink cartridges, fire extinguishers, pool chemicals, and much more. Visit [www.reimaginetrash.org/SafeChem/](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/SafeChem/) for a complete list of accepted materials.

## SAFE MEDS

Safe disposal of medications and pharmaceutical waste



Accepted: Prescriptions, Over-the-Counter medication, cold and flu meds, vitamins, antibiotics/steroids, medicated ointments/lotions, pet and veterinary medications.

### Controlled & non-controlled substance drop-offs available!

SafeMeds Program includes many local pharmacies and law enforcement agencies accepting your unwanted and expired medications. Visit [www.reimaginetrash.org/SafeMeds/](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/SafeMeds/) for a free drop-off location near you.

### North Kent Waste & Recycling Center

2908 Ten Mile Rd. NE, Rockford  
Fridays 8:30-11:30am (April—Oct)/8:30-10:30am (Nov.—March)

### South Kent Waste & Recycling Center

10300 South Kent Dr. SW, Byron Center  
Mondays 8:30-11:30am (April—Oct)/8:30-10:30am (Nov.—March)

### Wyoming Clean Water Plant

2350 Ivanrest Ave SW, Wyoming  
Mondays 1:00-3:00pm & Thursdays 7:00-9:00am (year round)

**NOT Accepted:** latex paint, medical waste, medication, electronics, business/school/farm hazardous waste.

## ELECTRONIC & APPLIANCE RECYCLING

### North Kent Recycle & Waste Center

2908 Ten Mile Rd., Rockford  
(Mon-Fri. 7:30am-5:00pm)  
(Sat. 7:30am-3:30pm)

### South Kent Recycle & Waste Center

10300 South Kent Dr. SW, Byron Center  
(Mon-Fri. 7:30am-5:00pm)  
(Sat. 7:30am-3:30pm)

### Wealthy St. Admin. Recycling Center

1045 Wealthy St. SW, GR  
See service hours for this location in SafeChem Section above.

Accepted: Televisions/computers (including CRT\*), gaming systems, wires/extension/power cords, tablets, small kitchen appliances (microwaves, hand mixers, blenders), fans, telephones/iPhones, printers, projectors, and more are accepted for free. **Appliances and Freon containing items (Fridge\*, Air conditioner/AC window units\*, Oven\*, dehumidifier\*) are only accepted at the North & South Kent locations. \* Denotes a recycling fee due to presence of hazardous waste or being a bulky appliance.**

## PROPANE, OXYGEN, & HELIUM TANKS

While many compressed gas tanks are metal, they hold dangerously explosive or flammable fumes, even when empty.

**Small, 1lb. non-refillable tanks:** please recycle these at any of our SafeChem Locations or North Kent/South Kent Waste Centers for free.

**For all other size tanks:** recycling options can be found at [www.reimaginetrash.org/material/propane-tanks/](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/material/propane-tanks/)

### HAVE QUESTIONS?:

Find you answers at [www.ReimagineTrash.org](http://www.ReimagineTrash.org) or contact our resource recovery specialists at 616-632-7920 or [recycle@KentCountyMI.gov](mailto:recycle@KentCountyMI.gov)



# RECYCLING GUIDE

Kent County Recycling & Education Center | ReimagineTrash.org



KENT COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

## PAPER

### CLEAN AND EMPTY

Flattened Cardboard  
Clean Pizza Boxes (No Food Residue)  
Paper Boxes & Containers  
Newspapers & Magazines  
Junk Mail & Office Paper  
Cold & Hot Paper Cups

**NO SHREDDED PAPER**



## PLASTIC

### CLEAN AND EMPTY

Plastic Bottles,  
Cups & Containers  
(LEAVE CAPS ON)

**NO PLASTIC BAGS**  
**NO FOAM**



## GLASS

### CLEAN AND EMPTY

Glass Bottles & Jars

**NO WINDOWS OR CERAMICS**



## METAL

### CLEAN AND EMPTY

Steel & Aluminum Bottles & Cans,  
Aluminum Foil

**NO PROPANE TANKS**  
**NO SCRAP METAL**



## CARTONS

### CLEAN AND EMPTY

Milk, Juice, & Soup Cartons  
(LEAVE CAPS ON)



**S.O.R.T.**



**SEPARATE  
OUT  
RECYCLING  
TRASH**

## KEEP OUT OF RECYCLING CONTAINERS



Anything  
stringy,  
like cords,  
cables, hoses,  
clothing



Anything  
in bags.  
Leave  
recyclables  
loose.



Hazardous  
materials like  
batteries,  
medical waste,  
or propane tanks

# DO YOU RECYCLE?

## Economic Benefits

- Recycling creates American jobs in the recycling industry
- Recycling supplies American manufacturers with raw materials
- Recycling keeps valuable materials out of landfills

## Environmental Benefits

- Recycling conserves natural resources and energy
- Recycling is an investment in our community's environmental health
- Recycling prevents pollution and other environmental impacts from raw materials extraction

**BUT  
WHERE  
DOES IT  
ALL GO?**



## TO START RECYCLING

[www.reimaginetrash.org/recycle](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/recycle)



In my third year as your neighborhood librarian, I continue to appreciate the love, power, and joy of this community. It was an absolute honor to be your speaker at the Hollyhock Lane Parade and to be a part of the community's warm and wonderful Independence Day traditions. I am humbled that I had the chance to share about the great power of neighborhood libraries and the community that makes the Ottawa Hills branch so special.

It is a big relief to have our doors fully open, our hours back to normal, and the hope for in-person programming coming soon. Hopefully this next year brings us more time together at the library!

This summer, you can join us for Storytime in the Park with Storytime GR right around the corner at MLK Park. Drop by on Tuesday nights for stories, free books and ice cream, special guests, and a whole lot of family fun. You can find up-to-date storytime information on our website at <https://www.grpl.org/storytimes/>. We hope to see you there!

We also have plans to resume our regular Family Storytime program at the Ottawa Hills library this year, as well as a super fun after-hours Halloween party for kiddos. I can't wait to see families gathering in the library again to connect, read, and play together. It's been too long.

To celebrate the neighborhood's centennial, the library is working with the OHNA and local architectural researcher, Pam VanderPloeg, to put together an exhibit featuring Ottawa Hills homes and architecture. A display would be available for viewing at the library and would include posters with photo essays and historical information about homes and architects in the context of Grand Rapids history. Details are not yet confirmed, but we're excited for the potential to showcase and celebrate the neighborhood this way!

Through the course of the pandemic and beyond, we will continue to find ways to keep you connected with books, information, and each other. I am truly looking forward to offering more opportunities for you and your families to find community at the library this next year. Our branch belongs to the community, so please always feel free to reach out to me with your thoughts about what you'd like to see at the library. My very favorite part of this job is hearing from all of you.

Love from your library,

Madison Perian  
Branch Manager  
Grand Rapids Public Library  
Ottawa Hills Branch | 1150 Giddings SE | 49506  
616-988-5402 x5512  
[www.grpl.org](http://www.grpl.org)

## Serving the Ottawa Hills Community since 1957.

### Ottawa Hills Branch



Grand Rapids  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

616.988.5412 | [www.grpl.org](http://www.grpl.org)

# BEAUTY, GOODNESS, & TRUTH

Saint Stephen Catholic School's mission is to partner with parents in the whole person formation of their children, who are made in the image of God and destined for communion with Him.



## Now Enrolling!

Preschool-8th grade

Introducing our new *Way of Beauty* program  
- Fall 2022 -



**Saint Stephen**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

New Principal, Ms. Elizabeth Black  
740 Gladstone Ave. SE  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
[info@ststephenschoolgr.com](mailto:info@ststephenschoolgr.com)



For neighborly updates and reminders, join our email list. Visit our website **ottawahillsgsr.org** and register with your email address.

OHNA events can be found at **ottawahillsgsr.org/events**



**www.facebook.com/ottawahillsneighborhood**



**www.instagram.com/ottawa\_hills\_neighborhood**



## Welcome to Calvin Church!

Calvin Church is a community of people learning to follow Jesus. As a church, we believe that in Jesus Christ, God is transforming individuals, communities, and the whole world, and we welcome anyone who's curious about following Jesus to come, visit, and see if you'd like to join what we're up to.



700 Ethel Avenue SE, Grand Rapids 49506  
<http://www.calvincrc.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch/>





## NOW HIRING Care Partners

We're seeking part-time and full-time Care Partners to join our team at Clark, a Life Plan Community that provides assisted living and memory support. As a care partner on our team, you'll be providing service to residents in a person-centered and professional manner to ensure each resident's comfort and well-being.

### GREAT BENEFITS:

- New wage scale!
- Flexible schedules
- Need training? We will pay for your training and invest in you!
- Generous paid-time off (PTO) program
- Affordable health insurance



Text or call 616-449-2796 for information or visit [clarkretirement.org/careers](http://clarkretirement.org/careers)

Come, join us at Fuller!

We are a church that believes that God calls us to engage the world with a message of love and a promise hope.

If you are new to Fuller, welcome. If faith is foreign to you, welcome.

We hope you will join us as we explore how God continues to call us deeper into this journey together.



[www.FullerCRC.org](http://www.FullerCRC.org)

Facebook - @FullerAveChurch

Instagram - Fuller.Church

1239 Fuller St. SE





**Staging Partners LLC**

**Robin Deur**  
**(616) 460-8294**

[staging@stagingpartnersllc.com](mailto:staging@stagingpartnersllc.com)

[www.stagingpartnersllc.com](http://www.stagingpartnersllc.com)



Join our loving and inclusive community



Now enrolling ages 3 - 5



[gracepreschoolgr.org](http://gracepreschoolgr.org)



Email [grace@gracepreschoolgr.org](mailto:grace@gracepreschoolgr.org) for more info!



Follow us on social media @gracepreschoolgr  



# East Church

## East Congregational United Church of Christ

***"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."***

East Church is an intergenerational Open and Affirming congregation. We celebrate the diversity of God's creation. We affirm that each person has special worth and is created in God's image. We seek justice, equal rights and inclusion of all people in society and in the life and leadership of our church.

***Get to know your neighborhood church...  
join us on Sundays!***

Check out our website for information on special events including our Kids *Summer Arts Camp*, *Easter* and *Christmas* special worship services, and more.

Planning a wedding? Our website provides information on small to large wedding venues.

1005 Giddings Ave. SE  
616-245-0578  
[www.eastchurchgr.org](http://www.eastchurchgr.org)  
[eastchurchgr@gmail.com](mailto:eastchurchgr@gmail.com)

**Traditional Worship Service**  
**10:30am Sundays**

**Drop-In Nursery**

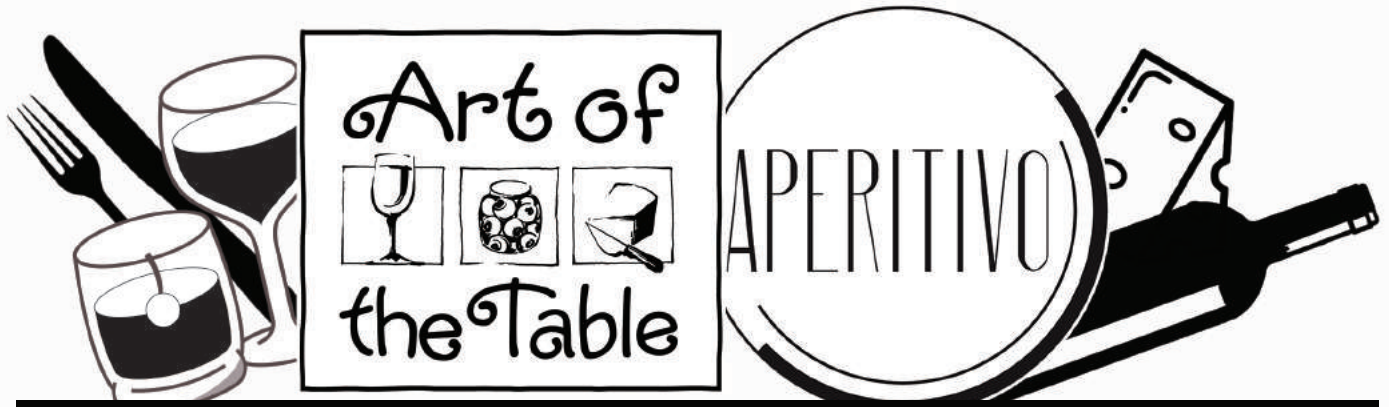
**Sunday School, Sept.-May**

**Adult Education**  
**9:00am Sundays**



***"Empowering God's community to grow in faith through  
worship, service, and learning at every age."***





**FILL YOUR TABLE. FILL YOUR PLATE.**

**DINNERWARE - GLASSWARE - LINENS - KNIVES  
WINE - CHEESE - CHARCUTERIE - MORE!**

**ART OF THE TABLE**

606 WEALTHY SE GRAND RAPIDS MI 49503  
616.301.1885  
[www.artofthetable.com](http://www.artofthetable.com)

**APERITIVO**

435 IONIA SW GRAND RAPIDS MI 49503  
616.259.7045  
[www.aperitivogr.com](http://www.aperitivogr.com)



**Your Ottawa Hills  
Farmers Insurance Agent**

Jeff Lake, Agent  
Patrick Lake, Agent

1136 Wealthy Street SE

(616) 726-2475

[Jlake@farmersagent.com](mailto:Jlake@farmersagent.com)



**GEERS LAW**



## All In Hospitality Group

### Hancock

1157 Wealthy St SE  
[www.hancockgr.com](http://www.hancockgr.com)  
 616.805.4232  
 [Hancockgr.com](http:// Hancockgr.com)

### Donkey

665 Wealthy St SE  
[www.donkeygr.com](http://www.donkeygr.com)  
 616.259.9483  
[donkeygr.com](http://donkeygr.com)

### Royals

701 Wealthy St SE  
[www.royalsgr.com](http://www.royalsgr.com)  
 616.551.1108  
[royalsgr.com](http://royalsgr.com)

### Winchester

648 Wealthy St SE  
[www.winchestergr.com](http://www.winchestergr.com)  
 616.451.4969  
[winchestergr.com](http://winchestergr.com)



For one hundred years,  
GRCS has been not only  
driving academic excellence,  
discovery, and community,  
but we've been helping  
wrestle with life's biggest  
questions, and pointing  
students to a lifelong journey  
of world-shaping faith.

Today, we celebrate you,  
Ottawa Hills Neighborhood,  
on your own legacy of  
100 years of community  
building and support.



**GRAND RAPIDS  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**

[grcs.org](http://grcs.org)



# NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS MAKES THIS BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOOD GREAT!

Thinking of selling your home? Call Craig for a expert "Market Analysis" of your Ottawa Hills property. With Craig's 12 Step Marketing Plan your home will be prepped for top dollar and setup for multiple offers in this **HOT** selling market.



## CRAIG GEERS

Residential & Commercial Realtor

616-304-5571

[craiggeers@city2shore.com](mailto:craiggeers@city2shore.com)

718 Wealthy St. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

“ I love and live in the Ottawa Hills Association and know it well! ”

**CITY2SHORE**  
REAL ESTATE