# Neighborhood Association NEUSLETTER

Lawrence, Kansas

Volume XXIX, No. 1

Fall. 2006

**Oread Neighborhood Association's Mission Statement:** The mission of the Oread Neighborhood Association is to stabilize and maintain the neighborhood as a quality, mixed-density residential neighborhood by accommodating the need for student housing, preserving existing single-family housing, and revitalizing the neighborhood's unique architectural, environmental, and historical character. This mission is accomplished by encouraging the participation of residents and property owners in the maintenance, planning and development of the neighborhood.

#### Living in the Oread Neighborhood 1919 - 1966

Fred McElhenie, pictured, recently authored a book, Making Do and Getting

Through: Co-ops, Halls, and Houses, 1919-1966. This 400 page volume presents a history of the many houses that surrounded the KU campus prior to the building of most of the large residence halls on campus and includes the memories of those who lived in them. A significant number of these living units were located in the current Oread Neighborhood. Fred will give a

PowerPoint presentation with comments about those halls, their residents and

other information that makes the history of these building interesting to those fa-

miliar with the area. Some ONA members may have lived in these houses or halls. The good news... some of these facilities are still standing and one is back in operation as a cooperative.

Are you wondering what the photos on this page represent? If so, make plans to attend the Fall General meeting to learn more about the rich his-

tory of the Oread neighborhood. We'll see you on October 25th!





ONA Invites Neighbors To Attend the Fall 2006 General Meeting

The Special Guest Speaker will be:

Fred McElhenie Author

When: Wednesday October 25th 7:00 p.m.

Where: Plymouth Congregational Church 925 Vermont—Mayflower Room

(North Door)



Consider attending the ONA Board of Directors meeting too! That meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the same location.



#### **Progress in the Neighborhood**

#### The Lawrence Community Shelter

#### **GOOD NEIGHBOR AGREEMENT**

There will be two public meetings held to facilitate the discussion and drafting of the Good Neighbor Agreement between the LCS, neighbors and other interested parties. The purpose of a Good Neighbor Agreement is to define goals and tasks for the LCS and neighbors to create and maintain a neighborhood where all persons feel safe and proud and are able to express concerns and solve problems. Everyone interested in participating in this important effort should plan to attend.

#### Where

Lawrence Public Library - Gallery Room

#### When

Saturday, October 21st Saturday, November 11th

Both meetings will begin at 10:30 a.m.

#### NEW POLICY IMPLEMENTED September 01, 2006

No intoxication on the LCS property during the daytime, except for specific appointments or crises needs. There has always been a policy of no using or drinking on the property but this new policy goes further in not allowing intoxication even if the drinking or drug use occurred off the property.

#### **COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS**

Neighbors are reminded that they can contact the LCS with complaints or concerns. All communications will be kept confidential.

#### E-mail

www.lawrenceshelter.org loring@lawrenceshelter.org

#### **Phone**

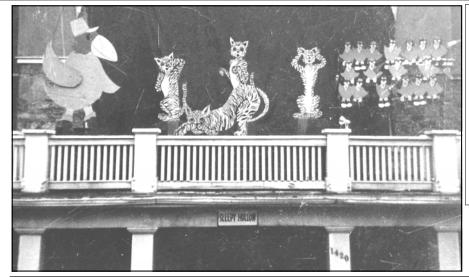
Day - 785-832-8864 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily) Night - 785-832-0040 (8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. daily)

#### Mail

214 W. 10th Street, Lawrence, KS 66044

The following information is requested when communicating with the LCS:

- 1. Name of Neighbor,
- 2. Address of complaint / concern,
- 3. Date of Incident,
- Whether Law Enforcement Authorities were notified.
- 5. Description and/or name of individual involved.



There have been significant changes in the neighborhood since the picture on the left was taken!

Come to the ONA General Meeting on Wednesday October 25th and enjoy guest speaker, Fred McElhenie (See page 1 for details)



#### 1232 Louisiana

**KU Endowment Association Property** 

On August 21st, the City of Lawrence conducted an interior inspection of the property located at 1232 Louisiana, pictured above. An ONA board member participated in the inspection and reported on the findings at a recent board meeting. The interior of the house was found to be in relatively good condition.

- No cracked or falling plaster,
- Original woodwork is intact,
- No evidence of roof leak with the exception of the chimney, and
- Floors are level
- The stone foundation is in excellent condition.

As can be expected with an aged property, the plumbing and wiring are in very poor condition. This needs to be replaced. Another item that would need to be considered prior to renovation is the availability of parking spaces.

The cost of bringing the house up to code is estimated at \$125,000.

The KU Endowment Property Management Committee met on October 06, 2006. A decision was made to market this property. Daryl Beene, Senior VP Property, states, "Hopefully we will have a buyer in the near future."

Improvements at this location will be a significant plus for the neighborhood!





Renovations are planned for the Castle Tea Room. The Libuse Kriz-Fiorito Historical Foundation is credited with this important effort in the neighborhood. Plans are to continue to use this location for special events.

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#### **Proposed Changes for the Neighborhood**



#### Demolition Permit Request 1019 Kentucky

A demolition permit has been submitted for the house pictured above. This will be considered by the Historic Resources Commission at their November 16th meeting. According to the drawings submitted to the Planning Office for review, the area where the house now stands will convert into open, green space. Additional parking will be provided at the rear of the lot. Neighborhood input is always welcomed and encouraged as part of the HRC review process. Written comment should be submitted to the Planning Office no later than 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 16th to be included in the communications packet to the HRC.

#### **Rezoning Proposal**

Nils Gore, District 1 Representative on the ONA board, is credited with an important effort that will help to preserve about a seven-block area in the neighborhood. Those who own property from 9th to 11th street and from Illinois to Arkansas street will be receiving correspondence from the neighborhood association asking for their support for a potential zoning change.

In the summer of 2006, the City of Lawrence instituted a new zoning code, with a new set of guidelines controlling future development in the city. The effect of this on the neighborhood is to continue to allow the construction of duplexes on a single lot. According to a visual survey completed in the summer of 2005, approximately 76% of the houses in the affected area are single-family homes. 7% are duplexes while the remaining 15% are multi-family dwellings.

The Oread Neighborhood Association would like to preserve the historic character of the area by protecting the remaining 76% of the single-family houses. This small area is unique in its high percentage of affordable, historic homes and in its concentration of smaller, single-family, bungalow style homes. Rezoning the area to allow only single-family dwellings will make it more desirable for families and individuals who prefer to live close to downtown and KU. If the zoning change is approved, existing duplexes and multi-family dwellings would be allowed to remain. However, future duplexes or other high-density construction would not be possible.

ONA believes that changing the zoning density to single-family will help to stabilize and improve the area by preventing the destruction of older homes and encouraging the improvement and renovation of the existing housing stock.

All property owners in this area are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial request for feedback. Each will be receiving a response form that will need to be mailed back to ONA. A neighborhood meeting will also be held to help gather input. This will be announced in a future newsletter.

#### Talks Continue About 12th & Indiana

The architectural model pictured here was part of the ONA Summer General Meeting discussion. Jeff Morrow, owner of the Yello Sub building, had hoped that Oread residents would be in favor of this "prairie style" structure which is 22-feet shorter than the high-rise development initially proposed for the corner at 12th & Indiana. Features would include:

- Underground: Parking for 20 vehicles
- First Floor: An additional 20 parking spaces will take up half of the first floor. The other half of the first floor will be used for retail space.
- Second and Third Floor: Eleven apartment units will be divided between these floors.
- Fourth Floor: Three apartment units.
- Fifth Floor: Two apartment units.
- Roof: A deck made from the Cyprus floor of the Crossing will be used for private and public use.

The following observations / comments were made at the ONA Board of Directors meeting on September 14th:

<u>Scale</u>: A structure that looks like it has evolved over time would be preferred. The scale should be broken up to appear as if it has grown over time.

<u>Bars</u>: Expansion of outdoor alcohol consumption will be opposed.

Request for Neighborhood Preferences: There is some reservation about investing time in identifying neighborhood architectural preferences because there is a bigger issue that needs to be clarified before aesthetics are addressed. This being a zoning change requested by the developers. Board mem-

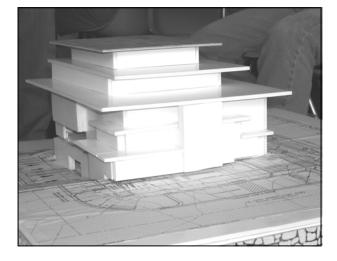
bers continued discussion of this topic during a luncheon meeting held at the Yello Sub on campus on Friday, September 22nd. The following information was provided by Sandra Day, Planning Office, in reference to the zoning issue:

Three lots are included in the developer's re-zoning request (i.e.: Crossing, Yello Sub buildings, and 1142 Indiana). These lots are to be combined into one. Because the request for re-zoning was submitted prior to July 01, 2006, the re-zoning of these properties will fall under the guidelines of the former zoning code if approved.

What is the current zoning for each of these lots (i.e.: Implemented July 01, 2006)?

#### Answer:

• 618 W. 12th Street is zoned CN1 [Old code called this C-1 (Inner-Neighborhood Commercial) District]



- 1144 Indiana Street is zoned CN1 [Same as above]
- 1142 Indiana Street is zoned RM32 [Old code called this RD (Residence-Dormitory) Distric

What are the differences allowed under the current zoning / lot configurations vs. the proposed Planned Commercial Development (old code) with combined lots?

#### Answer:

The proposed PCD-2 (Planned Commercial District) district under the old code would allow a wide range of uses including commercial and multi-family uses up to 35 dwelling units per acre. Samples of uses for the commercial portion could include churches, community buildings, hospitals, child care centers, office uses, and retail uses [food store, dry cleaning, bakery, banks, hair care, hardware, gift shops, licensed premises, liquor sales, sporting goods, variety store, etc.

Combining the lots provides the greatest opportunity for redevelopment. There are building setback requirements, parking and open space requirements that impact the total density of a project. A planned unit development allows for many things to be varied within the project including setbacks, parking and open space either to be reduced or mitigated depending on the project specific conditions. Likewise land uses can be restricted and limited.

Future potential uses of the site, under the PCD-2 zoning, is something that ONA wants to consider up front. It is anticipated that this project will appear again on the November HRC agenda.

#### **Your Neighborhood Association**

### Want to Serve on the ONA Board of Directors?

ONA members will be voting to select their 2006-2007 Board of Directors at the Fall General Meeting (announced on page 1).

#### Who Can Serve?

Any member of the Oread neighborhood can serve on the board of directors. Membership is open to any person eighteen years of age or older living or owning property within the geographical boundaries of the neighborhood. You do not have to be a paying member of the neighborhood association to serve on the board.

#### How Long is a Term?

Each member of the Board of Directors serves a one (1) year term.

#### Which Positions are Open?

Officer positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition to officer positions, there are six area representatives. One from each of the geographical areas of the neighborhood. There are also two at large members who serve on the board.

#### What Am I Going to Have to Do?

The time commitment for a board member includes attendance at monthly board meetings and quarterly general meetings. Your interest and passion for the neighborhood will dictate the amount of time and energy you invest outside these meetings. The important thing is that you have an opinion to share and a willingness to identify areas needing improvement in the neighborhood. The board's mission is to continue the tradition of making Oread a better place to live. If you would like to make a contribution to that effort, then you should consider serving a term.

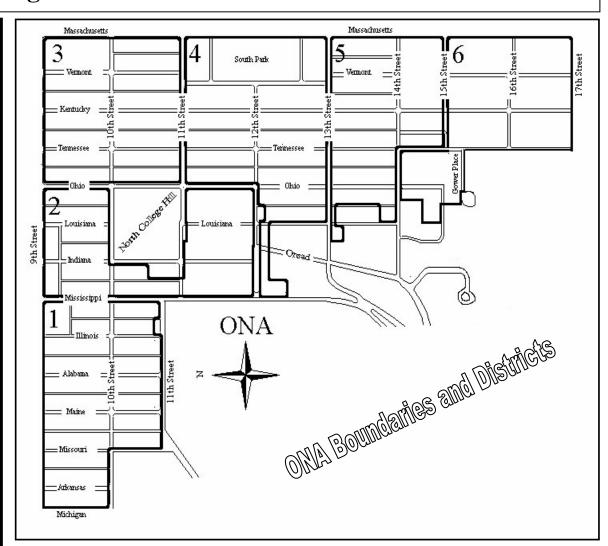
#### What If I'll Only Be Living Here for a Few Years?

Since June 2006, there has been a vacancy on the board for District # 6. Elizabeth Collins was the most recent incumbent in this position. She was a graduate student who lived at the Olive House, a student co-op in the neighborhood. At this time, there are no students or renters represented on the ONA Board of Directors. If you happen to fit this profile, you should consider joining the board so that your perspectives can be considered as decisions are made. Community involvement is always a plus when it comes time to pull a resume together!



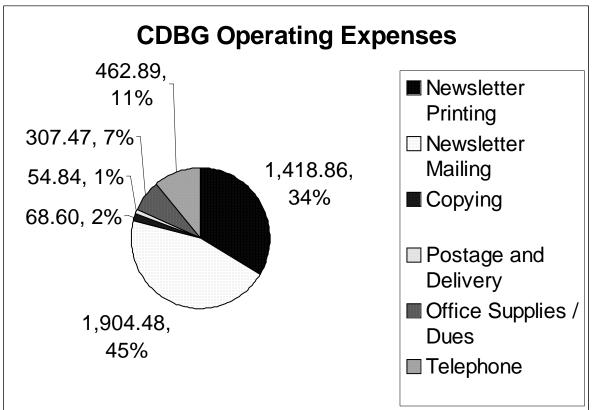


What's this all about?
Come to the October 25th General Meeting and find out!



#### Where Did the Money Go?

Each year, the Oread Neighborhood Association receives federal funds from a Community Development Block Grant to finance the operations of the organization. \$3,985 was allocated for operating expenses during the August 2005 - July 2006 grant year. An over expenditure of \$232.14 was paid from other income received by the association. Provided below is a chart illustrating how those funds were used. Grant funding is also received for a Coordinator's salary and neighborhood cleanup expenses. It should be noted that funding for neighborhood cleanups was not funded for any neighborhood association for the 2006-2007 grant year.



#### **Highlights From ONA's Board Of Directors Meetings**

The following are highlights from recent ONA Board meetings that address matters not otherwise discussed in this newsletter.

#### August 2006

#### **Blight Issues**

Julie Wyatt, Neighborhood Resources, provided the following information about properties located in the Oread neighborhood:

#### **Projects Completed**

- 1017 Indiana House has been completely repainted and guttering/eaves repaired.
- 1011 Indiana House has been repainted and guttering/eaves repaired.
- 1247 Kentucky Storm damage has been cleared (i.e.: tree branch on roof)

1232 Louisiana – Endowment Property

The next meeting of the Endowment Property Management Committee will be held in October. See page 2 for additional information.

1043 Indiana – University of Kansas Property Doug Riat, Director of Facilities Operations, has been contacted about this property which needs to be painted. There may be a lead paint issue which will need to be handled appropriately.

#### 12<sup>th</sup> & Indiana – Skyscapes Redevelopment project

- It was the opinion of the board that the size and scale of the project is inappropriate (i.e.: too large/tall). Something similar to the Oread Apartments would be better suited for the area.
- Building materials and design are not reflective of structures throughout the neighborhood.

#### **ONA Board of Directors**

The Oread Neighborhood Association Newsletter is published quarterly by the Oread Neighborhood Association, through funding provided by a Community Development Block Grant, membership dues, and advertising revenues. The views expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all the residents and landlords in the Oread neighborhood, the administrators of CDBG funds, or the business owners that advertise in the newsletter. Letters to the editor may be sent to the Oread office and may be published in part or in their entirety.

Below is the roster for ONA's 2005-2006 Board of Directors, voted upon by the general membership at ONA's Fall meeting, October 26th, 2005:

President: James Dunn

Vice- President: Devon Kim

**Secretary:** Beth Reiber Treasurer: Debbie Milks

**District Representatives:** 

District 1: Nils Gore District 2: Fred Sack **District 3:** Laura Herlihy

District 4: Carol von Tersch District 5: Marci Francisco

**District 6: VACANT** 

Representatives at Large:

Rene Diaz Candy Davis Jerry Stubbs

Coordinator/Editor: Jodi P. Wente

**Photographs:** Brian R. Barfoot

Jerry Stubbs

ONA Address: P.O. Box 442065 Lawrence, KS, 66044 Phone: 785-842-5440

- Parking and pedestrian traffic is a concern. Pedestrians often walk in the street to go around the cars parked in front of the Crossing / Yello Sub.
- The intersection will not support an increased flow of traffic.

An ONA representative spoke on behalf of the neighborhood association at the August Historic Resources Commission meeting.

#### Neighborhood Resources Advisory Committee

The Neighborhood Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC) is responsible for defining allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The Oread Neighborhood Association's operating grant and coordinator salary are financed by CDBG funding. See page 4 for details about how the 2005-2006 operating grant was used.

The following are requirements and considerations being made for the 2007-2008 grant year:

- NRAC Goals: The federal government is asking for performance measures from the recipients of CDBG funding. Performance outcomes will need to be identified in the next CDBG application due on December 01, 2006. NRAC has identified a set of goals for discussion with the City Commission in September. The following are some of the projects that will be targeted for 2007-2008 grant year funding: Affordable housing, enhancing public services, elimination of blight.
- NRAC discussed identifying CDBG funding for the homeless shelter. This would work to help transition people out of the shelter and into more permanent housing.
- The federal government may take students out of the equation for determining if a neighborhood qualifies for CDBG funding. This could have an impact on whether neighborhoods continue to be eligible to receive CDBG funding.

#### Lawrence Community Shelter

Candy Davis, At Large Member of ONA, serves on the Community Cooperation Committee. This committee is in the early phases of identifying goals and projects. Candy is working on an educational piece to be used by the community to help the public better understand the problem homelessness.



• People will no longer be allowed to sleep under the awning behind the shelter.

#### **Boarding Houses**

According to Treni Westcott, Neighborhood Resources Zoning Enforcement Officer, boarding houses were not included in the new code implemented in July 2006. The new code will need to be revised to include a boarding house designation. Parking spaces for boarding houses continue to be a concern for the neighborhood.

#### September 2006

#### Oread Pedestrian Safety Concern - 1400 Block of **Kentucky**

The Old Home Store had been renovating a home in this block. As part of this process, the construction company dumped gravel and dirt over the sidewalk and into the street. Consequently, the sidewalk was left impassable. The city was contacted and it was learned that the sidewalk would be blocked off until the construction project had been completed. Pedestrians would have to walk into the street to get around this site. Current city code does not require provisions for providing a covered, safe walking space through construction

The proximity of this project to an elementary school was of particular concern. If a similar situation should arise in the future, the school should be contacted so that the school can file a complaint with the city. This may result in a better solution than sending pedestrians into the street.

Board of Zoning Appeals – September Meeting 1140 Mississippi (boarding house residential use / 7 bedrooms): Reduce lot area and request NO offstreet parking. A minimum of 6 off-street parking

The requests for variance were approved by the BZA.

spaces required according to city code.

- Developers need to be required to comply with city zoning requirements before they are allowed to build. As it stands, variances are being requested after work has been completed. This has been repeatedly the case where parking requirements are concerned.
- An overlay district needs to be implemented for the Oread neighborhood so that regulations for parking can be established and enforced prior to development in the neighborhood. At a minimum, developers should be required to provide a site plan drawing / sketch for every property to be redeveloped in the neighborhood. Parking would need to be identified in the site plan sketch. A subcommittee of the ONA board will draft an overlay district requirement proposal for consideration by the city.
- The BZA could ask the City Commission to implement a fine for developers who do not ensure that adequate parking is available prior to building / renovating properties in the Oread neighborhood.

#### Cheers and Chides from the Oread Neighborhood by Marci Francisco

Cheers to everyone who has yard signs up letting the neighborhood know who you are supporting for election; chides to everyone who is not yet registered to vote: the deadline for registration is Monday, October 23, advanced voting begins October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers to the fans walking through the neighborhood for the football games; and although it's been fun to hear the roar of the crowd supporting our team, chides to whoever turned up the speaker system so that it's way too loud.

Cheers to those who have voiced their opinions about the recent plans for redevelopment at 12<sup>th</sup> and Indiana; changes in zoning should be made only when we believe they will give us better direction.

Cheers to those who are keeping up their sidewalks; chides to those who have let them get out of repair. Many more chides to those who have let construction block the sidewalks without providing for safe pedestrian alternatives.

Cheers to those who make repairs and continue to keep up their property; special cheers for that new porch on the 1600 block of Massachusetts Street.



New steps and porch floor on a great old Oread house.

#### REMINDER

#### You, too, could become an Interested Party...

ONA members can be included in an interested party's email distribution list. Interested party's receive information routinely sent to ONA Board members. This includes board meeting agendas and minutes, city agendas (these are valuable resources for staying up-to-date on changes that may affect the neighborhood), neighborhood activities announcements and more...

Members who would like to be included on the interested party's list can contact ONA at 842-5440 or e-mail jodi@sunflower.com.

#### Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 7th

Election day is quickly approaching. Don't miss this important opportunity and privilege to cast your vote. The deadline for registering is Monday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. The Kansas Voter Registration Application can be found on-line at: http://www.douglascounty.com/clerk/voteapp1.asp. To ensure that you meet the registration deadline, please consider hand-delivering your completed form to the County Clerks Office located at 1100 Massachusetts.

Your voter registration is based on your residential address. The precinct and districts are assigned by the residential address that you provide on your voter registration application. The following is a list of voting sites for Oread residents:

Precinct #7: Plymouth Congregational Church - 925 Vermont Street Precinct #8: South Park Recreation Center - 1141 Massachusetts Street

Precinct #25: Central United Methodist Church - 1501 Massachusetts Street

Precinct #26: Cordley Elementary School - 1837 Vermont Street

To find your voting location, look on the back of your voter registration card. If you can't locate your voter registration card, please contact Jamie Shew, County Clerk, to identify your polling place. He can be contacted at 832-5267 or via e-mail at jshew@douglas-county.com.

records



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#### Address Changes

On Election Day, if you are currently a registered voter in Douglas County and you have moved within Douglas County, you may go to your new polling place or the Election Office, complete a voter registration card and vote a provisional ballot. Please contact Jamie Shew, County Clerk, to locate your new polling place.

On Election Day, polls will be open from 7:00am to 7:00pm.



M





















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DID YOU KNOW... About This Guideline for CDBG Funded Neighborhood Associations?

Business may be conducted only at open meetings of which all members have been notified a reasonable time in advance.

All neighborhood residents, 18-years of age and older, and property owners can attend Oread Neighborhood Association meetings... not just those that have paid neighborhood association dues. This includes quarterly general meetings and monthly ONA board meetings. Beginning in November 2006, all board meetings will be announced on the ONA answering machine. Please call 842-5440 to find out the time and location of upcoming meetings.

#### **Proposed Oread Historic District Meeting**

October 19, 2006 City Hall 6 E 6th Street 6:00 P.M.

Lynne Braddock Zollner, Historic Resources Administrator for the City of Lawrence, and Deon Wolfenbarger, preservation consultant for the City, will present the draft nomination and information for the proposed National Register of Historic Places district nomination for the Oread Neighborhood. A question and answer session will follow.



For more information, contact Lynne Braddock Zollner Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Office

Phone: 785-832-3151 Email: lzollner@ci.lawrence.ks.us

#### **Sustainable Design Assessment Team**

The City of Lawrence has hired a Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT). The SDAT program is a community assistance program that focuses on the principles of sustainability. SDATs bring teams of volunteer professionals (such as architects, urban designers, planners, hydrologists, economists, attorneys, and others) to work with community decision-makers and stakeholders to help them develop a vision and framework for a sustainable future.

The first city meeting with the team was not well attended. The next meeting will be held in early November. It will be really important to have a number of people in attendance who can initiate discussion of the following:

- The importance of downtown Lawrence;
- The dynamic of the Oread neighborhood and it's relationship to the downtown area;
- Schools in the area;
- New urbanism

The SDAT will have an influence on the City Commission in reference to future development, or redevelopment, in the city. The more knowledgeable the group can be about the Oread neighborhood, the better the outcome will be in retaining the focus of what the neighborhood would like to see in years to come.

Community discussions on various topics will be held on Wednesday, November 1st. The public presentation of the SDAT team work will be in the afternoon on Friday, November 3rd. Exact times and locations for the November 1st and 3rd meetings will be announced at the city's website: http://www.lawrenceks.org/

#### Help The Oread Neighborhood Association Continue to Serve You

If you would like to verify the date of your last donation, please call the ONA Office at 842-5440.

# Make a Donation Today! ONA Makes a Difference

The Oread Neighborhood Association has been serving the folks who live and/or own property between Kansas University and Downtown Lawrence for more than 29 years.

During the last few years, ONA has been actively involved in reducing neighborhood blight, protecting the neighborhood's limited parking space, seeking options for homeless services that do not infringe upon residents and property owners, finding effective methods of deterring criminal and disorderly behavior, protecting the neighborhood from encroachment by The University of Kansas, preserving Oread's historic structures, and much more.

If you are one of those folks who wants to be actively involved in shaping Oread's future, how about joining the Board of Directors or make a donation to ONA? If it has been over one year since your last donation, how about renewing it today?

Residents and property owners in the Oread neighborhood are encouraged to donate \$1.00 to the neighborhood association each year. Oread's friends who don't live in the neighborhood can help too for only \$5.00. All donations help finance ONA's various efforts to improve the neighborhood, and those donations are tax deductible.

Thanks to all those who have helped make Oread the great neighborhood it is today!

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GENERAL MEMBERS: Any person eighteen years of	GARDENING
age or older living or owning property within the Oread	FUNDRAISING
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Oread Neighborhood

—— Association

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Neighborhood Association meetings.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Any interested person

eighteen years of age or older who neither lives in nor owns property within the Oread Neighborhood. An

associate member is not entitled to vote at Oread

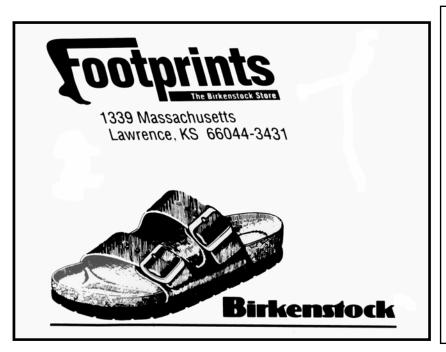
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