



THE CITY OF OAKLAND PARK
VOLUNTEER CORPS
NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2015



Volunteer Corps called to assist with Oktoberfest 2015

The 11th Annual Oakland Park Oktoberfest Celebration will be held once again at Jaco

Pastorius Park on October 2nd and 3rd. This is one of the City's signature events that draws almost 10,000 visitors for authentic food, music, dancing and entertainment.

Once again, the primary roles for volunteers at this event will be assistance at the two gates with the smooth welcoming of our visitors and some crowd control. We will also once again be rotating some volunteers to keep the Oktoberfest tent clean and useable for the constant flow of revelers. We continue to implement procedures to maximize the guest experience, and YOU play such a vital role in that process.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in being an integral part of this fun and successful community event.



Make A Difference Day Nears

This year, October 24th marks Make A Difference Day across the nation. The Oakland Park Volunteer Corps is in the process of lining up several projects from which our residents and members can choose to spend a day of stepping up, getting involved and giving back.

If you or your organization has any key projects, big or small, that you'd like help with or would serve a community or resident need, please let us know so we can add it to our list! Call (954) 630-4502.

**Operation Our Neighbor
September 5th**



The Volunteer Corps, along with many community partners, has set Saturday, September 5th for Operation Our Neighbor. Our partners, **The Home Depot** and **The Home Depot Foundation**, have included this project in their annual "Celebration of Service", a period from September through Veterans Day focusing on home improvements for our veterans. The primary day for Celebration of Service is Thursday September 10th with many South Florida Home Depot stores participating in this annual kickoff for their season of giving. Please come join us for either or both days of meaningful community service as we come to the aid of a local veteran.

On Saturday morning, the Volunteer Corps will get an early start at 7:30am helping with yard cleanup and trash removal. We'll also have team members helping with interior painting.

We'll provide all paint materials and most garden material including gloves. Be sure to wear appropriate clothing you won't mind getting dirty (or splashed depending on your artistic skills). Bring a favorite pair of garden gloves if you like. Hats and sunblock are always recommended.

Lunch will be donated by the Garlic Knot Restaurant. And of course, plenty of water will be available.

Please let me know you'll be there so I can plan equipment. If you'd like more information or would like to volunteer for this terrific event, please call 954-630-4502 for details. Hope to hear from you. Call soon.

ONGOING OPENINGS

Reading Buddies – The Volunteer Corps is working with our Library to expand reading programs to our youth programming. We're looking for high school age members who are interested in reading for our younger students. Time requirements are flexible and would include after school hours during the week. This is a great way to obtain your community service hours while providing a much needed skill that will be carried on throughout a child's life.

Adopt A Street – The Volunteer Corps has assumed the oversight of the City's Adopt A Street program. If you, your family, office or social group would like to adopt an available street, it would only take six visits per year. We'd love your help. Call for info.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Elizabeth "Lizzie" Dost is an Oakland Park resident and has been a part of the After School and Summer Recreation Programs most of her life. So as a new freshman at Northeast High School

she wanted to come back as a Summer C.I.T. (Counselor In Training).

Lizzie enjoyed volunteering over the summer so much that she continues to volunteer during our After School Program. "I like the summer better", says Lizzie. She helped with all the fun field trips and every day is different over the summer. When asked why she volunteers, Lizzie shared "I just like to help".

In her spare time, Lizzie enjoys swimming and playing basketball with friends. "I'm pretty good" she admits. Yes you are, Lizzie. Thank you so much for giving back to the City's youth programs through volunteering!

HAPPY LABOR DAY!
HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR SUMMER.



For more information on upcoming events, contact Bruce Garrison, Volunteer Services Manager, at (954) 630-4502, or visit the Volunteer Corps webpage:

<http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov/235/volunteer-corps>

On our page, you'll find:

- Full details on each Volunteer Corps activity or event
- A list of ongoing clerical and professional opportunities at City Hall
- Volunteer Corps Application