Summertime
FOLLOWS AN UNUSUAL SPRING

What's Inside
How Orion came together during the COVID-19 pandemic
Online options and upcoming events at the Orion Township Library and Parks & Recreation
Looking ahead to summer with the Chamber and DDA
LOCS special education program encourages acceptance and access

YOUR QUARTERLY guide TO LIFE IN ORION

Photo by Nancy Bennett
Signs of the times

Orion makes the best of a bad situation during COVID-19 with drastic changes in business and messages of hope and love.

FRONT: A day of tubing brings joy no matter what else is going on in the world. Sam Bennett enjoyed a summer afternoon out on Lake Orion with his family in 2019.
It took a pandemic to show we are Orion Strong!

I know how difficult these past few months have been for everyone. At the same time, it has been incredible watching this community come together, more than it ever has before.

Residents were writing encouraging chalk messages in their driveways to uplift those walking by. They were turning their doors and windows into rainbows, and writing messages supporting our front-line workers. Neighborhoods were organizing ‘bear hunts’ to give kids something to look forward to. It’s amazing how much we came together while still managing to stay apart.

As you read this summer issue of Orion Living, I want you to keep something in mind. We are writing this issue as if things will be open by June. Content is submitted for this issue in mid-April, we are not sure where we will be in the summer. We remain hopeful and optimistic. Please check websites and social media pages for the most current and up to date information.

Remember—we are all in this together, we are Orion Strong!

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor
Life interrupted

The COVID-19 pandemic changed our world in an instant. Our community responded, survived and looks ahead

No one ever imagined that life as we knew it would be canceled. It had to be canceled though, in order to flatten the curve, ease the strain on our healthcare system, and to save lives. The pandemic has caused many changes to our daily life, most of which we could have never anticipated.

Handshake greetings are now a thing of the past. Concerts and sporting events have been canceled for the foreseeable future—or they have been changed to an online event. The remainder of the school year was canceled, and distance learning was a huge adjustment for everyone involved. Playgrounds were closed. You couldn’t find toilet paper, disinfecting cleaners, and hand sanitizers in stores or online. Restaurants were only able to offer curbside pick-up or delivery.

In April, more than 22 million Americans filed for unemployment. We are living in unprecedented times. It’s times like this that we show we are Orion Strong. The Orion community came together in a big way. Those that could were ordering from local stores and restaurants to help support these small businesses. The school district gave food to kids in need, Forgotten Harvest was in our community weekly giving out boxes of food to those in need. Residents were donating items to the Orion Center—such as non-perishable food, cleaning products, water, PPE, and more. A helpline and email were set up for people to contact if they were in need and amazing volunteers would deliver it right to their porch.

This has been a trying time for everyone and it feels impossible to predict what the world will look like in a month, let alone next year. Just know that we will get through this, together, as a community and as a country.

In life, it’s always about the team

Legendary University of Michigan Football Coach Bo Schembechler gave his famous “The Team” speech in 1983. It was about winning football championships. It’s one of my favorite speeches, not because it is about football, but because it is so simple and resonates so true today.

In life, it’s ALWAYS about THE TEAM! Everything that has been accomplished in the eight years I’ve had the distinct privilege to hold this position, has happened for one reason: The Team.

From Bo: “There’s gonna be one Team that’s gonna play solely as a Team. No man (or woman) is more important than The Team. No coach is more important than The Team. The Team, The Team, The Team; and if we think that way, all of us, everything that you do, you take into consideration what effect does it have on my Team?... and think what a great thing it is to be a part of something that is, The Team. We’re gonna win it. We’re gonna win the championship again because we’re gonna play as team, better than anybody else in this conference, we’re gonna play together as a team. We’re gonna believe in each other, we’re not gonna criticize each other, we’re not gonna talk about each other, we’re gonna encourage each other. And when we play as a team, when the old season is over, you and I know, it’s gonna be Michigan again, Michigan.”

When I think back on the COVID-19 crisis of 2020, I will do so with fond memories.

Never in my career have I seen a team come together like this; community leaders and stakeholders from across different backgrounds, political beliefs, organizations, and religions, united with one goal; support each other and support our community. Simply put, others all around us got worse, while we got better.

We have taken a nasty pile of rotten lemons and opened up a lemonade stand! And our customers might surprise you: More than 20 communities have copied our senior citizen check-in call program, from Ferndale to Inkster and even the City of Columbia, South Carolina! Hundreds of thousands of seniors have received personal phone calls because our team cared. Strangers have opened up their hearts and wallets to people they have never met. Volunteers have daily delivered
Responders make birthdays special

Unless you worked for the Center for Disease Control, no one fathomed the possibility of a pandemic so contagious that nearly the entire country would be told to quarantine. Weddings have been postponed, school years were canceled, and birthday parties were labeled too risky to host. But in the wake of so much confusion and frustration, restaurants weren’t the only industry offering curbside service. Local first responders knew there was a way to make birthdays a little more memorable while still abiding by the social distancing order.

Sparked by a national initiative and with Lake Orion Police Department at our local helm, children with April birthdays were able to request their favorite first responder vehicle to pay them a visit on their special day. Sort of like ordering an Uber, parents logged on or emailed LOPD to give the birthday boy or girl’s name, address and request, the most important part, a police car or fire truck.

Almost daily throughout April, roars of large diesel engines and flashing emergency lights embarked down residential neighborhoods to anxiously awaiting families at the end of driveways. Oakland County Sheriff’s deputies would sing happy birthday through their loud speakers and fire truck bumpers would deliver special treats. The kids stood next to the large tires and glistening diamond plate; long enough to capture a photo for the scrapbook. Firefighters and police officers would wave and wish them well, then it was off to the next birthday celebration.

Local businesses and residents got involved by making and donating signs to be hung from the vehicles to help bring even more birthday cheer. Even as calls for service were increasing for both law enforcement and the fire department, each made the time to make sure their biggest fans had the best birthday possible.

The coronavirus managed to shut down the unimaginable. The pandemic silenced slot machines in Las Vegas casinos, postponed an entire Olympic Games and forced whole states to stay indoors. We learned the value of toilet paper and showed more gratitude to grocers than ever before. But what remained constant was first responders’ willingness and commitment to their community.

To ensure that childhood innocence wouldn’t be lost and, despite a pandemic, COVID–19 wouldn’t be the only birthday memory they had.

Chris Barnett,
Orion Township Supervisor
Sound the alarm

The Fire Alarm Triangle dates back to the 1800s, where it was used in towns to signal and summon the fire department. These large metal triangles were placed on the ground, a top of buildings and in steeples. Where there was an emergency in town, they would ring the alarm by using a hand gong or a metal mechanism pulled by rope to sound the alarm.

This actual iron triangle (pictured above) hanging here was once located on Flint Street in downtown Lake Orion in the early 1900s and was used to summon the fire department of Lake Orion. This triangle was later replaced with an electric siren in 1920. The Orion Township Fire Department is proud to have such a great piece of Lake Orion history on display in front of Fire Station 3.

New Rescue 1 designed to meet community needs

Pumping apparatus and aerial devices are the backbone of the fire service. The pumping apparatus is crucial because it delivers water (or other fire extinguishing solutions) through a hose and the aerial devices, including ladders, elevating platforms, and the like are a must for the many different types of situations firefighters find themselves in.

Fire departments have always had an eye out for vehicles and equipment to fulfill multiple emergency response functions. One example of this is our NEW Rescue. No, we’re not referring to the definition of the word—to save (someone) from a dangerous or distressing situation, rather the new heavy rescue vehicle named Rescue 1.

That’s right, there are all sorts of rescue vehicles out there, with very different capabilities. Many rescue vehicles have transformed from open squad cars to bread–van–type delivery vehicles to pick up–sized rigs with utility bodies (e.g., Squad 51 on the 1970s television show “Emergency!”).

The Orion Township Fire Department’s heavy rescue vehicle was developed by department personnel; defining the capabilities that were the most important and determining which pieces of equipment would be most beneficial to the community to have on it. Once a consensus was reached, the new Rescue was built around those requirements.

Rescue apparatus can carry an array of special equipment such as the Jaws of life, wooden cribbing, generators, winches, hi–lift jacks, cranes, cutting torches, circular saws and other forms of heavy equipment that are unavailable on standard trucks.

Rescue 1 features the latest and greatest in equipment and tools, including:

• Two full sets of extraction tools.

2020 siren tests

Please be advised the Oakland County Homeland Security Division will be testing the outdoor warning siren system on the first Saturday of most months at 1 pm: June 6, July 4, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7 and December 26.
extrication from car accidents, commonly known as the “Jaws of Life”. Two sets are carried in case of a multi vehicle incident.

- Set of stabilizing tools. These are used in case a vehicle has flipped over or is laying on its side. These tools are used to stabilize the vehicle to make it safe to treat the patient.

- Technical rescue tools. These tools include a multitude of saws, ropes, and patient transporting devices. These could be used in situations where normal moving and loading isn’t an option.

- Water rescue equipment. This includes water rescue suits that allow responders to enter the water and perform a surface rescue—no matter the water temperature. These suits keep the responder buoyant and allow them to perform the rescue. Also, on Rescue 1 is a variety of ice rescue equipment that would allow them to rescue someone who has fallen through ice or becomes trapped on ice. Rescue 1 is the latest addition to the Orion Township Fire Department, and allows them to be prepared for any emergency they face.

Let’s go on a Scavenger Hunt!

With all of the parks and trails in Orion Township, it’s the perfect time to get outdoors and explore them. Pick a spot and let the adventure begin!

Can you find them all?

Ready...Set...Go!

- A dog (not yours)
- Animal tracks
- Butterfly 🦋
- Squirrel
- A flying bird
- Mushroom
- Pine cone
- A flower
- A body of water
- A spiderweb
- Something rough
- Something smooth
- Something yellow
- Someone riding a bike
- A bench
- Speed limit sign
- A fence
- A flag
Famous Lake Orionites: Tom Gillis

Hometown golfer turned pro and toured the world

In Michigan, the summer months bring warm weather and sunny skies; both of which allow us to play outdoors a lot more. One of the more popular places to play is on one of our local golf courses.

While the majority of golfers are considered amateurs, did you know that a professional player actually lived here and graduated from Lake Orion High School? His name is Tom Gillis. He turned professional in 1990 after playing collegiate golf at Oakland Community College. He made his pro debut in August 1990 at the Ben Hogan Dakota Dunes Open. He shot a three–round score of 209 and finished in a tie for 49th place. He's come a long way since then.

Gillis started his career playing on the Nationwide Tour, before finally progressing to the PGA Tour in 2010, although he had previously played some events on the PGA Tours during the 90s. He made the progression after achieving his first win on the Nationwide Tour, at the 2009 Nationwide Tour Players Cup. This win helped him to finish in fifth place on the end of the season money list, earning him his PGA Tour card.

Over his golfing career, Gillis has played in 26 different countries! In 2010, he finished tied for fifth at the Deutsche Bank Championship. He retained his playing rights for the 2011 season, finishing 76th on the money list. He spent 2014 on the Web.com Tour, but a strong performance in the Finals earned him a place on the PGA Tour for 2015.

His best career finish is a tie for second at the 2012 Honda Classic and a solo second at the 2015 John Deere Classic after a playoff against Jordan Spieth. Between playing on the PGA Tour and switching to the PGA Tour Champions, Gillis spent a year coaching the varsity team at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

This summer, step onto the green and play a few rounds. Who knows, you might end up playing with a professional golfer or becoming one yourself.

2020 Tax Season

You will be receiving your 2020 summer tax bill in the mail shortly. Summer taxes are payable beginning July 1st through September 14th, without penalty. If you haven’t received it by mid–July, please contact our office and we will send you a copy of it. You can reach the Treasurer’s Office Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm, by calling 248-391-0304, ext. 8000.

Payments can be mailed in or placed in the drop box in from of Township Hall, paid at local branches of Oxford Bank or Genisys Credit Union, through your financial institution website, or online at bsaonline.com via credit/debit card or e–check with additional fee.

Where do your property dollars go?

While the Treasurer’s Office collects all the property taxes, only 22% remain with Orion Township. Those taxes include the Township’s General, Fire, Police, Safety Path, and Parks funds. The remaining 78% is distributed to the proper public entity. The Area Education taxes include State Education, Oakland Inter School, and Oakland Community College. The Lake Orion Community Schools taxes are the School’s Debt and Sinking fund; their Operations fund is collected from non-homestead properties only. Oakland County’s taxes include their General and Parks funds, and Area Authorities represents the MetroParks and the Zoo and Art Authorities.
What’s going there?

Lavender Ridge
(Squirrel Road and E. Silverbell Road)

Located at the southeast corner of Squirrel and Silverbell Roads, this recently approved development by Jacobson Moceri Orion, LLC, features 260 high-quality, for-lease, luxury two- and three-bedroom townhomes contained within 39 buildings, as well as a community center for its residents. The buildings are clustered on less than 32 acres of the 75.64 acre site with the remaining acreage remaining undeveloped. The entrance to the development will be off of Squirrel Road. As part of this development, Moceri will be completing a number of public benefit enhancements, including permanent public restrooms at Jesse Decker Park.

Tommy’s Express Car Wash
(Brown Road)

This approved development is located between Bank of America and Lake Orion Roofing on Brown Road. Tommy’s Express’s mission is to be the absolute best car wash brand in the world, with the best wash quality, the best value, and the best car wash experience available anywhere. The land for this development has already been cleared, and the developer will start the construction of the 5,157 square foot state-of-the-art, single lane car wash any day.

It’s time for some routine sewer maintenance

During the spring and summer months, the Public Services department will be throughout the Township providing routine sewer maintenance. Sewer manholes will have to be opened, so any sod or landscaping that may be over them will have to be removed. If you see one of our vehicles in your neighborhood, we will be jetting (sending high pressure water) through the sewer lines to clear them of any debris. There is no preparation needed. The only recommendation for homeowners is to keep the toilet lids closed, and make sure your sewer vent pipe is clear from blockage. When a sewer vent pipe in your home is clear from any blockages, then sewer jetting does not have any effect on your home. When a sewer vent pipe is blocked, then you could experience water and/or sewage coming up from your toilets and drains in your home. A blockage could be caused by a number of things, including leaves or animals. After the sewer jetting is complete, if you experience an odor coming from your sinks or toilets, run water down them. This will fill the traps with water again and should correct the issue.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during our routine maintenance.

Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304
**Mandatory summer watering restrictions**

Each year from May until the end of September, **mandatory watering restrictions** have been adopted for **everyone connected to Orion Township water who has an automatic sprinkling system**. If the restrictions for Monday through Saturday are not followed, your water service could be discontinued.

The following mandatory watering restrictions shall apply:

- **Monday through Saturday**: Watering may only be done between midnight and 5 am.
- **Sunday**: Watering may be done at any time.

If you are connected to Orion Township water, and **do not** have an automatic sprinkling system—meaning you water your lawn from a hose—please water your lawn between 10 am and 4 pm, Monday through Saturday.

**Annual water quality report information**

Drinking water quality is important to our community and the region. The Charter Township of Orion and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) are committed to meeting state and federal water quality standards including the Lead and Copper Rule.

With the Great Lakes as our water sources and proved treatment technologies, the GLWA consistently delivers safe drinking water to our community. The Township operates the system of water mains that carry this water to your home’s service line.

The Water Quality Report highlights the performance of GLWA and the Charter Township of Orion water professionals in delivering some of the nation’s best drinking water. Beginning July 1, 2020, the annual Water Quality Report can be viewed online under the Department of Public Services section on the Orion Township website at oriontownship.org/WaterQualityReport2019.

If you are unable to view the report online and would like a copy mailed to you, please contact our office at 248–391–0304 ext. 8505.

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**Don’t wait to be counted!**

Each person counted in the 2020 Census results in over $18,000 in funding for vital community programs, including: Head Start, National School Lunch Program, Emergency Services (Thank you First Responders!), roads, grants, food assistance programs, and so much more. Please take a few moments to visit my2020census.gov or call 1-844-330-2020 to complete your Census today. Your response is vital to continue the support for essential community programs. The future of Orion Township is in your hands—be counted today!

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**If a water or sewer emergency occurs:**

Monday through Friday during Township hours, call 248–391–0304 ext. 7005.

During non-business hours contact the Oakland County Emergency Dispatch at 248–858–4911.

**Moving?**

If you are moving out of Orion Township, please call 248–391–0304 ext. 7005 to schedule a final water/sewer bill.

Please have the following information available:

- Property Address
- Date Of Closing
- New Owner’s Name
- Name and Address of Title Company

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**Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304**
Our pets love Orion

It’s no secret that pets are an important part of many families, now more than ever. One company is setting out to break down barriers to have pets welcome in more places.

Mars Petcare US created the Better Cities for Pets program to celebrate pets across the country. This first-of-its-kind initiative was designed to create more places for every dog, cat, and four-legged (or less) friends to live, visit, and play.

According to Mark Johnson, President of Mars Petcare North America, “Pets can’t speak for themselves, so it’s up to people and communities to advocate for them and the many ways they make our lives better”.

That’s why Mars Petcare US works with key community partners, businesses, and local governments to better understand how to improve communities by encouraging pet-friendliness by supporting shelters, homes, businesses, and parks.

Pets help people in so many ways, from reducing stress, lowering blood pressure, and increasing a sense of community. Being active outdoors also supports health, whether you have two legs or four.

According to a 2019 survey, conducted by OnePoll on behalf of the Better Cities for Pets program, dog walkers typically get more exercise than those without dogs, and they’re also five times more likely to know their neighbors.

Orion Township stands out from the rest with our recreational amenities, including over 70 miles of trails and safety paths, over five parks, and the Orion Oaks Dog Park, it’s no wonder that pets love Orion!

Orion Oaks Dog Park draws visitors from all over metro Detroit. This 24-acre fenced enclosure features separate areas for small and large dogs, two trails, picnic shelter, drinking water, open play areas, modern restrooms, and access to Lake Sixteen for swimming (dogs only). In Oakland County, all dogs older than the age of four months are required to have a license and wear it at all times. Licenses can be purchased online at oakgov.com/petadoption.

With amenities like that, it’s no surprise that Orion Township has been named a Better City for Pets!

“We are committed to being an inclusive community and are excited to share our continually expanding recreational and business offerings with our furry and four-legged friends,” said Orion Township Supervisor Chris Barnett.

We are honored to be recognized and continue to celebrate pets all over town!
Lake Orion Loyalty

*Businesses and residents were eager to show their love and support during trying times*

There is certainly no shortage of Lake Orion Loyalty! Every business in Downtown Lake Orion had to endure uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic that was made easier by your support.

The community purchased gift certificates, made online purchases, ordered curbside for dinner, and simply waited for downtown businesses to open. But businesses didn’t just pace the floors waiting for the green light to fully re-open. They showed just how strong they are and how much Lake Orion Loyalty they had.

**Broadway Embroidery, Ed’s Broadway Costume & Gifts**, and **Heritage Spinning and Weaving** tirelessly made and collected face masks, to sell and donate to health care workers and facilities, active and retired military, and those with health issues.

**IdealCore, Hamsa Yoga Studio, and Oakland Sports Chiropractic** held live workout and yoga classes—some for free. **Caruso Chiropractic** performed in-person adjustments to keep clients out of the hospital and urgent care. **Hanson’s Running Shop** made sure we stayed active by delivering running shoes.

The **Fire Station, Police Department, County Sheriff**, and **Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake** put together the birthday club for Lake Orion.

Many financial businesses shifted their focus to make sure current and new clients were prepared and secure for whatever comes next. **Sarah’s Bath Boutique** made large quantities of hand sanitizer. **Lucky’s Natural Foods** kept their doors open to provide natural and holistic products to the community.

Left, Greg and Lindsay Hill of Ideal Core Pilates hosted live 30-minute workouts on Facebook. Kathy Coe and her daughter Kelly of Ed’s Broadway Costume & Gifts were busy sewing face masks of all varieties for front line workers and the residents at large.
Treeside Psychological Clinic utilized tele-health to stay available for people in need.

Many restaurants in Downtown Lake Orion stayed open to provide meals for curbside pickup and delivery.

Green Hippo Gifts, Heritage Spinning & Weaving, Nuts about Chocolate, and the Orion Art Center provided curbside pickup and delivery of yarn, puzzles, and activities to stave off boredom and chocolate for the nerves.

Hair salons, spas, and wellness businesses supported the community by offering discounts to services and gift certificates. They also talked clients through at-home cuts, treatments, and kits.

M&B Graphics ran an #OrionStrong promotion to support Downtown businesses and fundraisers for local charity Love INC. With each purchase, customers received a #OrionStrong bumper sticker and personal protection mask. Michigan Outfitters also donated 25% of their proceeds to a charity that benefits Michigan.

“We have a community made up of kind, caring, and generous people,” said DDA Chairperson, Debbie Burgess. “I know if we keep doing what we’ve been doing, we’re going to come out of this stronger.

“Call it Orion Strong, call it faith strong, call it family strong, call it community strong,” Burgess continued. “Every little thing that you do matters and is helpful. The small thing you do could be the very thing that keeps someone encouraged. You are appreciated. I greatly appreciate you.”

Keep showing your Lake Orion Loyalty! For every $50 you spend Downtown, the DDA will give you $10 in Downtown Dollars while supplies last. Visit the DDA at facebook.com/LakeOrionDDA for more information.

Parks and trails await your visit

Now that we can get out and enjoy the sun, be sure to visit the parks of Lake Orion, they are so well maintained by Friends of Lake Orion Village Parks.

National Trails Day is June 6th, so make sure to snap a picture while you’re in the park and use the hashtag #LakeOrionTrails for an opportunity to win $50 in Downtown Bucks!

- Stretch your legs with a walk through Meek’s Park
- Let your little ones run free in Children’s Park
- Sunbathe and dip your toes into Lake Orion at Green’s Park
- Bike all 8.9 miles of Paint Creek Trail

Visit the DDA at facebook.com/LakeOrionDDA for more information.

Are you feeling Lake Orion Lucky?

Win prizes weekly during construction

Summertime is construction season in Michigan. Sorry folks, this year is no different. The Restore M24 project kicked off in May and will continue throughout the summer and into the fall months.

As a fun distraction, the DDA is hosting the Lake Orion Lucky challenge! Through November 8th, $200 in prizes will be awarded weekly. There are three easy ways to win:

- Post a picture on the Downtown Lake Orion Facebook page using the hashtag #LOLucky
- Buy from a downtown business
- Write a review of a downtown business

Visit the DDA at facebook.com/LakeOrionDDA for more information and to enter the contest.
SPECIAL EVENTS

Youth Fishing Derby
Camp Agawam | Sun, Jun 14 | 10 am–12 pm | Ages 1–15 | Free
Join us at Camp Agawam for this FREE children's fishing program. Fishing poles and tackle to catch fish will be provided to kids 15 years old and younger. Event will take place at the fishing dock behind the Peterson Lodge. Pre-registration is required.

Antique, Toy & Comic Expo
Orion Center | Sat, Jun 20 | 9 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Buy, sell or trade comic books, collectibles, antiques and memorabilia at our annual Expo! Vendor setup opens at 8 am. Vendors: $20R/$25NR, multi-table discount available.

Closet Clean-out Outdoor Community Garage Sale & Recycle Event
Orion Center | Sat, Jun 20 | 9 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Shop from dozens of vendors selling everything from clothing to tools, household items to children’s toys. Watch for details on our recycling event to include Shred–It and prescription drug collection from 11 am–1 pm, working cell phones, eyeglasses & hearing–aids! Vendors: $12R/$15NR

Concerts in the Park at Wildwood
Wildwood | Tue, Jun 23–Aug 11 | 7–8:30 pm | Free Parking & Admission
No matter your taste in music you’ll be sure to find a performance to enjoy. Grab your lawn chairs and a blanket, gather up your family and friends, and join us for an evening of FREE music on the hill at Wildwood Amphitheater. Sit back, relax, and enjoy. Concessions will be available. Check orionparks.com for performance details.

Coffee With Chris
Orion Center | Fri, Jun 26 | Jul 24 | Aug 28 | Sep 25 | 9:30–10:30 am | Free
Stop in the Orion Center for an informal meeting with Supervisor Barnett. Feel free to come with questions or join in on the discussion. Topics will include current events in the Township and other matters of interest. If you have a request that may take some research, please submit it in advance to cbarnett@oriontownship.org or schedule an appointment. No registration is necessary.

Summer Sizzle
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 25 | 6–8 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Kick off your summer with a free mini family staycation that SIZZLES, right in Orion! Your kids will love the carnival games, face painting, bounce house, balloons, grilled hot dogs, live performance with Guy Louis and his Chautauqua Express and more!

Slow Row LO
Lake Sixteen | Sun, Jun 14 | Noon
Lake Orion | Wed, Jul 15 | 6 pm
Tommy’s Lake | Sun, Aug 9 | Noon
Squaw Lake | Wed, Sep 16 | 6 pm
Graham Lake | Sun, Oct 11 | Noon
Join an informal social group of kayakers on area lakes. Each participant is required to provide their own craft, PFD and any user fees to gain access to boat launch. Visit SlowRowLO on Facebook for event details and exact location. Parking permits/passes may be required for some locations.
Kickball Home Run Derby
Friendship Park | Sat, Aug 1 | 4–9 pm | Ages 18+ | Free
Come out to the new Miracle Field at Friendship Park and show off your kickball skills! Each participant will get 10 pitches and 8 kicks (must provide your own pitcher). Concessions will be available for those who just want to come out and watch—a fun night out for the whole family! Prizes for the top home run scorers. Donations accepted and all will be donated to the Daisy Project.

Big Rig Gig
Friendship Park | Fri, Aug 7 5–9 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Big kids, little kids, and kids at heart, load up the family for an unforgettable experience. Experience dozens of trucks, tractors, diggers, dozers, buckets and back-loaders first hand. Forget about dinner, concessions will be available for purchase. Load up the entire family, come early, stay late. Event runs at Friendship Park, on the corner of Baldwin & Clarkston Roads.

Virtual 5K Your Race At Your Pace
Anywhere | Sep 1–30 | Anytime | $33 R/NR
Get healthy and fit in your own way, on your schedule. Run, walk, hike, bike, paddle or even stroller your way through 3.1 miles or 5K in your neighborhood, local park or even in your house! Register at mparksfoundation.org to get started on your way to good health and prepare for the upcoming Dragon Dash 5K. Registration fee will get you a commemorative, shirt, medal and healthy new you. Let’s get started!

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at
ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
Fall Festival of Family Fun
Camp Agawam | Sat, Sep 26
11 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Come out to beautiful Camp Agawam for a day filled with Fall activities for the entire family including crafts, petting farm, hay wagon rides, carnival games, and more!

SAVVY SUSTAINABILITY SERIES
An easy introduction on how to be greener every day.

Camp Clean Up
Camp Agawam | Tue, Aug 11 | 5–7 pm | $5/Family
You are invited to take part in a green sweep of Camp Agawam. Each participant will be given gloves and a trash bag. Help us to create a sculpture from all the trash you collect throughout the park! Families, children, and adults of all ages are encouraged to come and to help keep Camp Agawam green. You are the solution.

Who, What, How
Orion Center | Thu, Aug 20 | 5–7 pm | $5/Family
Have you ever looked at a bottle or box or candy wrapper and wondered if it was recyclable or not? Come to this session and get a few tips on how to identify recyclable materials, reduce your plastic consumption without changing much of your lifestyle, and how to start your own compost at home. There will be an informational portion along with family friendly activities for children of all ages. Be part of the solution.

Leave No Trace
Camp Agawam | Tue, Aug 25 | 5–7 pm | $5/Family
Take part in an interactive training session that will teach you how to be more eco–friendly when outdoors. There will be several activities for individuals, families, or children of all ages to interact and perform the techniques on the spot. Come ready to take part in activities and learn how to be a zero–impact outdoor traveler. Make memories, leave nothing but footprints.

Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show
Orion Center | Sat, Oct 3
10 am–5 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Buy Nearby and Shop Local! Shop early from one of a kind, unique and distinctive Made in Michigan products, made by Michiganders for Anyone–who–anders. Exclusive hand–made jewelry, clothing and home decor for holiday, birthday or just because gifts for yourself, your friends and family.

Farmers Market
Orion Center | Jul–Sep
Wed, 9 am–6 pm | Sat, 8 am–5 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Coming Soon to the Orion Center! Shop and buy locally grown Michigan–made fresh fruits, vegetables, honey, flowers, bread and other goods. Enjoy the vibrant colors, aromas and flavors of the growing season.
**YOUTH ENRICHMENT**

**Tea Time with Princess Belle**
Orion Center  |  Sat, Jul 11  |  1–3 pm  |  Ages 2+  |  $50R/$52NR

Summer is here, it’s time to play. The sky is bright, not cloudy and gray. Princess Belle would love to see smiling faces for cookies and tea! Dress your best for a magical day of fun. Registration includes wand making, cookie decorating, charm lessons, high tea, story and a special take–home gift from Belle! Pictures will be from 2:30–3 pm so that this magical day can be cherished for years to come. A dream come true for your little prince/princess!

**THE ARTIST’S APPRENTICE**

*Classes taught by Pamela Palmer B.F.A.*

**Farm Animals Workshop**
Orion Center  |  Mon, Aug 24  |  1:30–4:30 pm  |  Ages 7+  |  $25R/$30NR

With a CLUCK, CLUCK here! For the animal lovers in your family, our young artists will be drawing in 3 mediums: oil pastels, markers, and pencils to depict our bunnies, hens, and roosters! There will also be a wide selection from photo references of other farm animals from which to choose. $10 material fee payable to the instructor at the start of class.

**Pond Friends Workshop**
Orion Center  |  Tue, Aug 25  |  1–4 pm  |  Ages 7+  |  $25R/$30NR

From friendly frogs and pollywogs, to snails and water bugs, let’s get going! We will be drawing flora and fauna for our ‘Life in the Pond’ drawing collection using all sorts of mediums for a fun afternoon of aquatic awareness. Parents are welcome to a little Gallery Show at pick up time. $10 material fee payable to the instructor at the start of class.

**Painting Birds, Blossoms & Brook Trout Workshop**
Orion Center  |  Wed, Aug 26  |  1–4 pm  |  Ages 7+  |  $25R/$30NR

Kids will be experimenting with Chinese painting using bamboo brushes and rice paper. We will be learning how to properly use the brushes, then paint our fish, birds or cherry blossoms. Stamping with a red inked ‘chop’ and writing our animal, or flower, word in Chinese calligraphy will complete our artworks. Our preliminary paintings will be collected and compiled into a ribboned booklet! $10 material fee payable to the instructor at the start of class.

**Maker Clay Workshop**
Orion Center  |  Thu, Aug 27  |  1:30–4:30 pm  |  Ages 7+  |  $25R/$30NR

Pigs, Horses, Dogs & Cats! Welcome all animal lovers of a working farm! Students will be engaged in self-drying clay, plasticine, and Model Magic to create figurines of farm animals. We will comb the grounds for pebbles, sticks and moss to include with a self-made diorama, drawing in background elements for our individual habitats! $10 material fee payable to the instructor at the start of class.

**Papier-mâché Flowers**
Orion Center  |  Fri, Aug 28  |  1–4 pm  |  Ages 7+  |  $25R/$30NR

Flower Power! Our young artist will select a flower of their choosing to construct a bas-relief sculpture using plywood and Papier-mâché! Let’s celebrate our long summer days with the creation of these triangular-shaped constructions that will act as a beautiful reminder of all of the pretty gardens we’ve seen! Drawing and painting will play a part of this workshop as well. $10 material fee payable to the instructor at the start of class.
**Home Alone Training**

Orion Center | Thu, Jul 9 | 10 am–1:30 pm | Ages 9+ $16R/$19NR

Is your young teen staying home alone after school? Prepare yourself and your child for this new adventure with Home Alone Training. Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills your child will need to be home alone safely. Includes walking home, key responsibility, securing the house, answering the phone, safe choices, and emergency procedures. Training follows the American Red Cross curriculum. Certificate is presented upon completion of the workshop. Handouts are included.

**Babysitter Training**

Orion Center | Thu, Jul 9 | 12–2:30 pm | Ages 11+ $19R/$22NR

Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills needed to start your own babysitting business—basics such as meeting the family, setting appointments, age appropriate activities and safety instruction. Handouts are included. Certificate presented upon completion of the workshop. Program incorporates the American Red Cross guide and video into the curriculum. Suggested pre-requisite class: Home Alone Training.

**ORV Safety**

Friendship Park | TBD | 9 am–4 pm
Ages 12+ | $18R/$20NR

Open to persons of all ages, but is required for students ages 12–16 who wish to operate an ORV (ATV, UTV, Motorcycle or related 2–wheel, 3–wheel or 4–wheel). This course is designed to teach you how to be a safe and responsible ORV operator and covers the latest laws. To earn your certificate, students must attend 7 hours of instruction and pass a written state exam. Students ages 8–10 must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required. Instructor: Chuck Comstock

**Boater Safety**

Orion Center | Tue, Jun 23 | 9 am–4 pm
Ages 12+ $18R/$20NR

Open to persons of all ages. This DNR Course is designed to teach you how to be a safe and responsible boater. Class covers basic fundamentals: boat maintenance, personal watercraft and boat operation, legal requirements of boating, personal preparedness and survival skills. After passing the required test, those 12 years and older are given Boating Safety Certificate Cards. Persons born after 12/31/78 are required by law to have this card in their possession while operating a personal watercraft on State of Michigan waterways. Students 8–11 must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required. Instructor: Chuck Comstock

**YOUTH FITNESS**

**Youth Golf Lessons**

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon, Jul 6–Aug 17 | 6:30–7:30 pm
Ages 7–15 | $120R/$125NR

Lessons with Mulberry Hills will introduce proper grip, stance and posture, basic putting and chipping and examine the fundamentals of the full swing. Students will be approached as if they have little or no experience. Group lessons are designed to create a comfortable and affordable instructional environment for the new or intermediate golfer.

**Horseback Riding Lessons**

Times Square Riding Academy | Sat, Jun 6–Jul 11 | Sat, Jul 25–Aug 29
Sat, Sep 12–Oct 17 | 1:30–2:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $150R/$160NR

Give your child the experience they have been dreaming of. Each lesson consists of basic grooming, riding and horse care for beginner riders in the English Saddle style. All riders are required to wear long pants and hard sole shoes with a 1-inch heel. Looking for that special time with your child? Take lessons together. Register early for a rewarding and unforgettable experience. Additional times available by calling Paula at 248-431-0940.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
ADULT ENRICHMENT

Alcohol Ink Tile Class
Orion Center | Wed, Jul 29
10 am–12 pm | 1–3 pm
Ages 30+ | $10R/$12NR

Make your own one-of-a-kind alcohol ink tile for gifting or displaying. Participants will complete 3 tile projects using alcohol inks with additional introduction of various metallic mix-additives. Your project will be left on site for drying and sealing. $7 material fee is due directly to the instructor the day of class. Sample works are on display in the Orion Center lobby.

Italian Cooking Class
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 9 | 6–8 pm
Ages 16+ | $8R/$10NR

Benvenuti nella cucina di Valentina—Welcome to Valentina’s kitchen! Participants will learn how to make fresh pasta from scratch and how to cook it with sugo! Buon appetito and enjoy a taste of it at the end of the class.

ADULT FITNESS AND WELLNESS

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming
Free Trial Class Thu, Jul 9
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 16–Sep 24
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+ | $93R/$100NR

Japanese drumming uses big drums, big sticks and big moves. Combine the Taiko drumming style with high energy music and cardio and you have a really fun workout that reduces stress and is good for your mind, body and soul. No drumming experience is necessary. Drums and sticks provided. Instructor: Cindi Carter, with Great Lakes Taiko Center in Novi. Drop in rate, $14R/$15NR per night.

Tone & Stretch
Free Trial Class Thu, Jul 9
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 16–Sep 24
7:45–8:30 pm | Ages 16+ | $55R/$60NR

Combines strength training for all areas of the body using closed loop resistance bands as well as full body stretching with and without closed loop resistance bands(s), high-density foam roller, and yoga mat (limited number of mats available during class). Bands available for purchase for $5ea through the instructor. Instructor: Cindi Carter. Drop in rate, $9R/$10NR per night.

HEF HIIT It
Friendship Park | Tue and/or Thu, Jun 16–Aug 20
7–8 pm | Ages 18+ | $70/$125

Fitness is a team sport with High Energy Fitness! Push yourself to reach new levels with new friends in this high-energy interval training class. We’ll hit every muscle group and burn tons of calories using a variety of equipment and exercises for one great workout. Get HIIT done with HEF! Register for one or two nights. All fitness levels welcome. Bring a mat and weights to class. No class Jul 7 & 9.

Hatha Yoga Gentle
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 1–29
Jul 13–Aug 10 | 5:45–6:45 pm
Ages 18+ | $50R/$53NR

Learn the foundational yoga poses and begin to experience all the wonderful benefits, including breathing and relaxation techniques to help to calm the mind. Please bring a yoga mat to class. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate, $12R/$13NR per class.

Hatha Yoga Continuing
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 1–29
Jul 13–Aug 10 | 7–8:20 pm
Ages 18+ | $50R/$53NR

In this yoga class we will review the foundational yoga poses learned in the gentle class and continue to explore new postures and practices. Each class will include meditation and relaxation. Please bring a yoga mat to class. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate, $12R/$13NR per night.

Hatha Yoga Open
Orion Center
Thu, Jun 4–Jun 25
10–11:20 am | Ages 18+ $40R/$43NR

Thu, Jul 9–Aug 6
10–11:20 am | Ages 18+ $50R/$53NR

Exploring yoga asanas, breathing and relaxation techniques. Open to beginning or returning students. Please bring a yoga mat and strap to class. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate, $12R/$13NR per class.
Yoga with Ease
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 4–25
Jul 9–30 | 1–2 pm | Ages 40+
$26R/$29NR
Come join us for adaptive yoga as we explore gentle stretches to bring flexibility into your body, strengthen your muscles and relax your mind. With the support of chairs and the wall you will explore Yoga with Ease. Please bring a yoga mat to class. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate, $9R/$10NR per class.

Zumba Gold
Orion Center | Mon, Jul 6–Aug 24
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+
$64R/$68NR
A Latin inspired cardio workout, incorporating dances such as merengue, salsa, cumbia, belly dancing and more! This class is different from regular Zumba in that it provides more verbal instruction to better learn the moves and is done at a slower pace. Great class for someone new to exercise or someone hesitant to try regular Zumba. You will have so much fun dancing, you will forget you’re working out! It’s exercise in disguise. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate, $10R/$11NR per class.

Zumba Gold Toning
Orion Center | Wed, Jul 8 – Aug 26
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+
$64R/$68NR
Zumba® Gold Toning blends the Zumba® party you love at a slower pace with a redefining total body workout using Zumba® Toning Sticks (1 lbs. weights recommended, no more than 3 lbs.) to shake up those muscles! Walk in ready to have a blast and tone up, leave exhilarated and empowered! Just want to dance without using the weights? No problem! Come to class for the same Zumba fun without using the weights and enjoy the party! Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate, $10R/$11NR per class.

FIT4MOM
Stroller Strides®
Friendship Park | Fri
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 18+
Stroller Strides® is a total fitness program that moms can do with their babies. It includes power walking/jogging and intervals of strength and body toning exercises using resistance bands, the stroller and the environment. Taught by certified and specially trained fitness instructors – a great workout for any level of exerciser.

Stroller Barre®
Friendship Park | Mon & Wed
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 18+
Stroller Barre® is a unique blend of ballet, Pilates, barre, yoga and stroller-based exercises designed to help moms build strength and muscle tone and improve posture. Stroller Barre® focuses on strengthening and creating an ideal length/tension relationship in all the postural muscles.

Body Back Transformation®
Friendship Park | Mon & Wed
7–8 pm | Ages 18+
Body Back Transformation® this is a results–based program designed for moms who want their body back, whether they just had a baby or their last child was born twenty years ago! Body Back clients experience targeted HIIT workouts, inspiration and motivation in every class.

FIT4BABY®
Friendship Park | Mon & Wed
6–7 pm | Ages 18+
FIT4BABY® is designed specifically for moms–to–be. All exercises are carefully selected to prepare your body for the many changes you will experience during pregnancy. The 60–minute workout includes cardio, strength, balance, and flexibility training and ends with a relaxing meditation; everything you need during this precious time!
MELT Method Class
Orion Center | Wed, Jul 8 | 10:45 am–12:00 pm | Ages 18+ | $20R/$22NR
We will cover all of the Level 1 moves to do on the soft body roller for your upper and lower body, SI joint and pelvic area, and the neck & head area as well as hand and feet compression techniques. MELT is a simple compression technique that addresses the connective tissue to help you get out of and stay out of pain. It helps with back & neck pain, arthritis, headaches, tension and stress, and alignment and posture. MELT improves all over body movement, and makes you feel more vibrant and youthful! (Must be able to independently get on and off the floor) Roller and mini ball kits will be available for purchase but not necessary to buy to participate in the class. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal.

Beaumont
AT THE ORION CENTER

Blood Pressure
Need your blood pressure taken? Beaumont’s Wellness Liaisons, are here to help you with that. Stop by and they will be glad to help. Don’t forget to ask about upcoming classes.

Stay Strong Exercise Class
Every Thu | 10:15–11:15 am | Free
Come and join the seniors for some gentle chair and standing exercises. Registration preferred.

Advanced Stay Strong Exercise Class
Every Tue | 1–2 pm | Free
This program is designed to provide baby boomers and older adults with exercises to improve muscular strength and endurance, posture and flexibility with the help of resistance bands. Registration preferred.

CPR CLASSES
American Heart Association
HeartSaver CPR/AED
Fire Station #2 | Wed | TBD
5–9 pm | Ages 12+ | $40
Fire Station #2 | Sat | TBD
10 am–2 pm | Ages 12+ | $40
Class will cover CPR/AED/Choking for all age groups.

HeartSaver CPR/AED/First Aid
Fire Station #2 | Sat | TBD
10 am–5 pm | Ages 12+ | $50
Class is held the third Saturday of every other month. Class will cover CPR/AED/First Aid/Choking for all age groups.

Heartfulness Meditation Programs
Learn to Meditate
Friendship Park | Thu, Jul 16–Aug 6
7–8:30 pm | Ages 18+
Offers a simple set of relaxation and meditation exercises, which when practiced daily, help restore balance in life, manage stress, improve your health, and most of all will lead you to inner calm and peace. Each class covers both the conceptual framework as well as practical meditation and relaxation sessions. Program is conducted by certified Heartfulness trainers, who have been meditating and training for several years. Class is free, but registration is required.

Adult Golf Lessons
Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon, Jun 15–Jul 13 | 6:30–7:30 pm
Ages 18+ | $145R/$150NR
Review and improve existing skills, introduce variations of the golf swing, shot techniques and implement aspects of golf course management. Students will be approached as if they have some experience and some grasp of golfing fundamentals.

TOPS
Orion Center | Thu | 5:45–8 pm
Ages 18+
(Take Off Pounds Sensibly) A weight loss support group. Members receive encouragement while making changes slowly and steadily in their life. Call Sue Shubert for more information at 248–931–1881.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at
ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
**ADULTS 50+**

**Membership and registration required**

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**Orion Center Membership**

Interested in participating in one of our programs? Become a member at the Orion Center for 50+ Orion Township Residents and Non-Residents. Membership to the Orion Center is free. Stop by or call to register. Once registered you may sign up for any of the programs below. The Orion Center also has many different resources available to community members. Call us today if you are in need of help in topics including: Medical Equipment, Dental, Housing, Alzheimers, and many other support groups.

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**FITNESS**

**Exercise Room**

Orion Center | Mon–Fri
8:30 am–4 pm | Ages 54+
$6R/$12NR/Month

Members must be 54 or older to use the Exercise Room.

**Fitness Partnership with Great Lakes Athletic Club**

Great Lakes Athletic Club of Lake Orion, 3800 S. Baldwin Rd, is offering Aquatic Classes and Active Life Exercise Classes to our Orion Community Center Members, age 50 and over on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am–1 pm. Call Great Lakes Athletic Club and ask for Gabrielle (Gabby) at 248–393–3085.

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**ENRICHMENT**

**Java Joes**

Orion Center | Tue | 9:30–10:30 am
Free

Java Joes meets the 4th Tuesday of the month. Each month the Orion Center will have a special guest or the group discussion leader. Join us for a fresh cup of joe and great conversations with your neighbors.

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**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Ask the Financial Guru**

Orion Center | Thu | 11:30 am–2 pm
Free

Appointments are 30 minutes and on the first Thursday of the month.

**Ask the Attorney**

Orion Center | Mon, Sep 14
1–2:30 pm | Free

Attorney Dana Wilson provides private consultations at the center. If you need assistance with legal problems or if you have legal questions, call the center for a 15–20-minute appointment.

**Euchre Tournament**

Orion Center | Thu, Aug 13
1–4 pm
$3R/NR

No partner needed and all levels welcome! Beverage and light snacks will be provided. Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place!

**Summer Picnic at Camp Agawam**

Camp Agawam | Sat, Jun 20
12 pm
$5R/$7NR

Let’s celebrate the return of Michigan’s favorite season: summer at Camp Agawam. Music and some of your summer time favorite foods will be provided.

**Giving Table**

Orion Center | Mon, Jul 20–Mon, Aug 3
Members only. The Orion Center will have a “put and take” giving table downstairs in the lobby. Please feel free to take what you desire or place things on the table that are no longer needed in your home. Examples include: apparel, mittens, jewelry, canned items, unopened toiletries, seasonal décor, games, and housewares.

**Detroit Tigers Tailgate**

Orion Center | Wed, Jul 29 | 1:45 pm
$3R/$4NR

Come join us for a Tigers home game, and watch our Detroit Tigers play the Chicago White Sox on the big screen. Join us for some baseball appetizers, drinks, and desserts at 1:45 pm with the game starting at 2:10 pm.

**Bocce Ball Tournament**

Camp Agawam | Thu, Aug 20 | 1 pm
$3R/$5NR

Drink, eat, and roll with us! Never played Bocce Ball before? No problem! It is a fast game to learn with hours of fun. Beverage and light snacks will be provided.

**End of Summer Luau**

Orion Center | Tue, Sep 22 | 12 pm
$6R/$8NR

Come say goodbye to summer at the Orion Center! Lunch and entertainment will be provided.
**FIELD TRIPS**

**Shop Local Senior Day Downtown Lake Orion**  
Lucky's Natural Food  |  Wed, Jul 15  |  11 am  |  FREE

Meet us at Lucky’s Natural Foods, the day will start with a health presentation with their health professionals. Members will then get the opportunity to shop at downtown stores with a discount. Lunch will be together, but not included.

**Jimmy John’s Baseball Game**  
Orion Center  |  Thu, Jun 25  |  5:30 pm  |  $5R/$7NR

Enjoy a night at the Jimmy John’s Stadium in Utica. Cost includes transportation, ticket and hot dog/soda meal. Thank you to Waste Management for sponsoring this field trip! Bus leaves at 5:30 pm.

**Lake Orion Historical Boat Tours**  
Registration Opens June 8  
Orion Marine  |  Jun 23  |  Jul 23  |  Aug 27  |  2:45 pm  |  $10R/$20NR

On the tour participants will hear of the Lake Orion Dragon, Park Island’s Amusement Park, the Bellevue Hotel, and much more! Riva has collected antique postcards, rare photographs, and artifacts of Lake Orion, which can be viewed while on board. Refreshments and light snacks will be included. Tour will meet at the Orion Marine and Pontoon Rentals dock.

**Detroit Zoo**  
Orion Center  |  Fri, Sep 4  |  9:30 am  |  $10R/$35NR

Enjoy a day at the Detroit Zoo for their annual Senior Day. Senior Day features live entertainment, tram tours, bingo, zookeeper talks, and a senior resource area. Transportation and admission cost is included. Bus leaves at 9:30 am.

**CLUBS**

**K4 Knit/Crochet**  
Mon  |  12:30–3:30 pm

**Chinese Mahjong**  
Mon, Jul 6–Sep 28  
12:30–3:30 pm  |  $4R/$5NR

**Ham Radio**  
Mon & Thu  |  6–8:45 pm

**Bingo**  
Tue  |  10–11:45 am and 12:45–2:45 pm

**Painting**  
Tue, Jul 7–Sep 29  |  10 am–2 pm  
|  $4R/$5NR

**Walking Club**  
Wed  |  10 am

**Pinochle/Euchre**  
Wed  |  12:30–3:30 pm

**Library Book Club**  
Wed, 2nd of the month  |  1–2 pm  
|  Ages 30+

**Orion Center Band**  
Thu  |  10–11:30 am

**Game Day**  
Fri  |  12:30–3:30 pm

**Movies**  
Fri  |  1–3 pm

**Quilting**  
Fri  |  9 am–12 pm

**American Mahjong**  
Fri, Jul 10–Sep 25  
11 am–3:30 pm  |  $4R/$5NR

*You must bring your own 2020 Official Standard Hands and Rules card.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM  
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
LEAGUES

Introducing Fall Ball!

The fall Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL) and Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL) leagues feature divisions for kids ages 4 through 15. Teams practice one night during the week and play a game on Saturdays for a total of 6 games. There will be no tournament. Participants will receive a jersey and a hat.

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL)

$90R/$100NR
Civic Center Park
8U Clinic Division Coach Pitch
10U Intermediate Division | Player Pitch
14U Junior Division | Player Pitch

Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)

Tee Ball | Ages 4–6
Clinic | Machine Pitch | Ages 6–8
Junior | Player Pitch | Ages 9–10
Intermediate | Player Pitch | Ages 11–12
Senior | Player Pitch | Ages 13–15
$90R/$100NR

Support Orion Recreation
Youth Athletics Team Sponsor

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL) and/or Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)

$300/team or $250/2+ teams (either league)
Call or email Jesse Hayes at 248–391–0304 x3506 or jhayes@oriontownship.org for more information.

Volunteer Coaches Needed!
Visit orionparks.com for more information about our Youth Leagues.

LOYBL Umpire Program

Aug 22–Oct 3 | Ages 14+ | $10R/NR | Training times TBD

Are you interested in becoming a paid baseball umpire? LOYBL is seeking new and returning umpires for the 2020 season. A $10 registration fee will get you an umpire shirt, hat, indicator, use of umpiring equipment, on–field training, and online certification. We will provide everything you need to get out on the field and start making calls and money!

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

Introducing Fall Ball!

The fall Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL) and Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL) leagues feature divisions for kids ages 4 through 15. Teams practice one night during the week and play a game each Saturday. Practices begin the week of August 10th. Six games will be played from August 22nd to October 3rd. As always, an emphasis is placed on having fun, learning good sportsmanship, developing each individual player, and encouraging an active lifestyle. Volunteer coaches who create a love for the game and have fun are always needed! Register at orionparks.com, call 248–391–0304 x3500 or come into the Orion Center. Walk–in registration is Wednesday, July 1st from 4–8 pm at the Orion Center. League coordinators will be available for questions.

For questions about OGSL, contact Jesse Hayes at 248–391–0304 x3506 or jhayes@oriontownship.org. Contact Daniel Dobrosielski at 248–391–0304 x3505 or ddobrosielski@oriontownship.org for questions about LOYBL.
Volunteer Highlight: The You Before Me Group

Middle schoolers prove that volunteering is fun

Orion Township Parks & Recreation offer multiple large community events throughout the year. The staff work very hard to put on these events, but they would be impossible without the help of volunteers, good volunteers at that.

The You Before Me group is a volunteer club at Waldon Middle School and Oakview Middle School, run by Carol Burke and Christine Kutchen. This club is made up of students who volunteer at different community events. All of the students volunteer with You Before Me not to collect hours, but because they love it, and you can tell. Each student always comes in (often in themed outfits) with a smile and a great attitude! Out of the seven large events the Parks & Rec team put on throughout the year, the You Before Me group volunteers at five. At Boo Bash, the You Before Me group are tasked with checking in participants, handling the craft/food tables, running carnival games, and assisting where needed. Part of what makes this group such an asset is when given a task we know it is being done to the best potential. We are very lucky to have them at our events and we love working with those great kids!
**SUMMER CAMP**

**Camp Oak Ventures**  
Orion Center | Mon–Fri,  
Jul 6–10 | Jul 20–24  
Aug 10–14 | 8:10 am–4 pm  
Ages 6–12 | $155R/$160NR  

Do your kids love adventures and exploring new places? Oakland County Parks' Adventure Day Camp consists of County Park tours, spending their time in the great outdoors! Camper activities may include making waves at our waterparks, strolling trails through guided nature hikes, lying under the stars in our star lab, shooting archery, scaling a rock wall and soaring through the air with a free–standing zip–line! Campers will also spend their days running through inflatable obstacle courses, riding the BMX track, doing crafts, and participating in wacky games to name a few! Trained summer camp staff and OCP bus drivers will pick up participants and transport to and from County Parks each day.

**Go Wild!**  
Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jun 22–25 | 10 am–12:30 pm  
Ages 4–7 | $45R/$48NR  

Does your little camper love to get dirty in the great outdoors? Join us at Camp Agawam for a hands–on, Growing Up Wild nature investigation! Use all 5 senses to explore animal habits, recycling for a cleaner environment, animal tracks and become aware that Wildlife is Everywhere!

**Play It Safe Camp**  
Friendship Park | Mon–Thu, Jul 6–9 | 10 am–12:30 pm  
Ages 4–7 | $45R/$48NR  

I hear...and I forget, I see...and I remember, I do...and I understand. Learn by doing with daily hands–on activities and guest speakers, including many of the following topics: stranger danger, bus safety, bike safety, 911, health and nutrition. Daily nutritious snacks are included.

**Youth Sports Camp**  
Civic Center Park | Mon–Thu, Jul 13–16 | 10 am–12:30 pm  
Ages 4–7 | $45R/$48NR  

Basketball, soccer, hockey and t–ball too! Is your little camper becoming interested in sports? Not sure which sport is right for them? Come and join us for Youth Sports Camp– each day they will learn different basic sport skills. Pre–registration required. Beginner level.

**Young Scientist**  
Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jul 20–23 | Jul 27–30  
10 am–12:30 pm | Ages 4–7 | $45R/$48NR  

How are tornadoes formed? What is a fossil? What makes electricity? So much more to discover in our Young Scientist camp. Daily activities to stretch young minds and to make a mess in our space. Daily nutritious snacks are included.

**Kids Can Act! Summer Theater Camp**  
Wildwood Amphitheater | Mon–Fri, Jul 13–17  
9 am–Noon | Ages 6–12 | $87R/$90NR  

Do your kids love using their imaginations? Are they looking for a fun outlet for their “creative sides” over the summer? The Kids Can Act! Summer Theater Camp will let your kids’ imaginations and creativity go wild. While they have fun, they will also learn to develop some very valuable skills, such as speaking in public, problem–solving, and teamwork. The week will be full of exciting theater games, engaging rehearsals and activities, and, to cap it all off, a final performance in the style of a “variety show” at the Wildwood Amphitheater, complete with all the best skills to keep the whole audience entertained. Registration includes a final performance program on Friday at 11 am.

**The Artist’s Apprentice**  
Kids’ ‘Art Fun’ Camp  
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, Jul 20–Jul 24 | 1:15–4:15 pm  
Ages 7+ | $145R/$150NR  

This is a good camp choice for kids who love art and like to try new things! We will embark on many appealing art endeavors including: sculpture birds, clay bees and bugs, Clare Young’s zentangle animals, daisy paint transfer prints, pulled string painting and more! This camp encompasses many forms of art, drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. Please wear clothes that are not precious as well as sunscreen as we will be heading over to the playground on our break. Bring a snack and water bottle if you wish. $50 material fee payable to the instructor on the 1st day of class. Instructor Pamela Palmer B.F.A.
The Artist’s Apprentice

**Sculpture Camp**
Orion Center  |  Mon–Fri, Aug 17–21  |  1:15–4:15 pm
Ages 7+  |  $145R/$150NR

Sticky! Picky! Sometimes Icky! Your kiddo will be involved in several fun and satisfying SCULPTURE ventures on these sunny summer afternoons. Get ready to get messy as we explore all sorts of modeling and carving projects! Our young artists will be making bas relief objects with papier-mâché artwork including a recycled element. We will also explore face structure, (*human* or *animal*), in a clay, glitter paint piece and learn the basics of carving in styrofoam. Please wear clothes that are not precious as well as sunscreen as we will be heading over to the playground on our break. Bring a snack and water bottle if you wish. $50 material fee payable to the instructor on the 1st day of class. Instructor Pamela Palmer B.F.A.

**Horseback Riding Camp**
Times Square Riding Academy  |  Mon–Thu, Jun 22–25
Jul 20–23  |  Aug 3–6  |  Aug 24–27  |  9 am–4 pm
Ages 7+  |  $300R/$310NR

Give your child a summer they will never forget with two hours of daily riding, bathing, grooming, feeding, as well as fun crafts and games on and off horseback at Times Square Riding Academy. Campers need to bring a sack lunch each day. Lessons are for beginner riders and are in the English Saddle style of riding. Riders will require long pants and hard sole shoes with a 1-inch heel. Times Square Riding Academy is located at 4835 Oakwood Rd in Ortonville.

**Tiny Tykes British Soccer Camp**
Civic Center Park  |  Mon–Fri, Jul 6–10  |  5–6 pm
Ages 4–5  |  $92R/NR

A fun introduction to soccer influenced by the very popular year-round TinyTykes curriculum. Includes games, activities, and adventures to introduce and develop coordination, balance, running, stopping, turning, kicking, dribbling, throwing & catching. Any camp or clinic participant will receive access to our TopYa! app along with free skill-building videos, providing access to a virtual coaching world that will motivate players to practice more at home! Register only on-line at challengersports.com

**Half Day British Soccer Camp**
Civic Center Park  |  Mon–Fri, Jul 6–10  |  5–6 pm
Ages 6–14  |  $134R/NR

Complete technical player development featuring practices from around the world in our new international camp curriculum. Includes access to our TopYa! app along with free skill-building videos, providing access to a virtual coaching world that will motivate players to practice more at home! Register only on-line at challengersports.com

**Junior Golf Camp**
Mulberry Hills Golf Course  |  Mon–Thu, Jun 15–18
Jul 6–9  |  Jul 27–30  |  9:30 am–1 pm
Ages 7–15  |  $214R/$219NR

All aspects of the game are covered and the instruction is kept simple, fun and relaxed with games and contests. Camps begin with the basic fundamentals of the golf grip, stance, posture, aim alignment and moves through the swing plane and motion. Youngsters will be taught lessons in fairness, perseverance, self-control and self-esteem that will help them long after they have left the instruction tee. Camp includes; camp shirt, lunch, on-course instruction, practice balls, range use, essential gift bag, certificate reduced green fees all season, use of equipment (*if needed*), games, prizes and awards! Rain make ups on Fridays if needed.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM  
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

Summer 2020  |  Orion Living
SNAPOLGY SUMMER CAMPS

Half Day & Full Day Options: Drop off is permitted as early as 8:30 am. Pick-up can occur as late as 5:00 pm. Children should bring a snack for half day sessions and a packed lunch for full day sessions.

Minecraft: Advanced
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jun 22–26
9 am–12 pm | Ages 7–14
$145R/$155NR

Minecraft® lovers unite! Snapology’s Advanced Minecraft® is a technical class involving advanced Minecraft® building using LEGO® bricks and game–play experience. Students will learn the art of crafting and stirring up their own potions using LEGO® bricks. You came, you saw, you mined at Snapology’s Advanced Minecraft®! Material fee of $12 due to instructor at first class.

Animation Studio: Let’s Make a Movie
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jun 22–26
1–4 pm | Ages 7–14 | $145R/$155NR

Create amazing movies with stop motion animation using LEGO® bricks. Children will work in teams to produce their very own movie complete with dialogue and sound effects. Movies are uploaded to a secure site for family and friends to see how cool they are! Material fee of $12 due to instructor at first class.

Gamebots: Beginner Coding
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jul 13–17
9 am–12 pm | Ages 7–14
$145R/$155NR

Calling all hackers! Have a blast learning how to code while building robotic games to test your code. Students will learn about sequencing commands, value and sensor inputs, and loops. Whether creating a robotic hockey player, pinball machine, or a ring toss, your child is sure to have fun building, learning, and playing.

Sports Science
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jul 13–17
1–4 pm | Ages 7–14 | $145R/$155NR

In this class, children will learn the science behind their favorite sports. Students will learn about momentum, energy, measurement, air pressure, and much more as they perform simple experiments related to sports. Perfect for both sports and science lovers, this fun interactive program exercises both the body and the mind.

Amusement Park Adventure
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jul 27–31
9 am–12 pm | Ages 6–12
$145R/$155NR

Design your own amusement park in this super fun program! Learn how to use LEGO® bricks and other building materials to make coasters and other awesome rides. Can you design the next Disney World?

Remote Control Robot Challenge
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Jul 27–31
1–4 pm | Ages 7–14 | $145R/$155NR

Learn engineering strategies and building techniques to use robots constructed from LEGO® bricks to complete missions using remote controls. Apply your knowledge and skill in friendly competition. Complete as many missions as you can in a specific time frame to win the ultimate challenge match. Take your building to the next level.

Black Belt Engineers
Camp Agawam | Mon–Fri, Aug 3–7
9 am–12 pm | Ages 8–14
$145R/$155NR

Come build super–cool models that use gears, axles and technic bricks. Children will use engineering and physics concepts as they work in teams under guided instruction to build a different model using LEGO® TECHNIC® bricks each class.

Video Game Design
Camp Agawam | Mon–Fri, Aug 3–7
1–4 pm | Ages 8–14 | $145R/$155NR

Students will create their own video game in this awesome Snapology camp. We’ll teach students how to design their very own side–scrolling platforming game with Stencyl game creation software. They even get to take their game home on a flash drive that can be shared and played at home with family & friends.

Mechanical Masterminds
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Aug 17–21
9 am–12 pm | Ages 8–14
$145R/$155NR

This program gives your student the tools they need to understand mechanical movement through the foundations of simple machines, physics, and engineering design. They will see moving parts up close as they follow instructions to build various machines, then use the models to develop new design ideas, test out physics concepts, and even play games with their partners and classmates.

Robotic Olympics
Friendship Park | Mon–Fri, Aug 17–21
1–4 pm | Ages 8–14 | $145R/$155NR

In Snapology’s Robot Olympics, students will build and program robots to compete in sports themed challenges. Your child will learn both mechanical and computer programming concepts as they create robots that run races, play hockey, and much more. Students will work in groups, using LEGO® Mindstorms® EV3 technology, to complete challenges. Your child is sure to have fun as they build, learn, and play.
Park Highlight: Friendship Park

Amenities that brings our community together

Friendship Park is the hub of Orion parks. Located on the corner of Baldwin and Clarkston Roads, Friendship Park is the home of many Orion events, from the Big Rig Gig to summer camps, yoga classes and school picnics.

The 8 soccer fields and 4 newly renovated baseball fields see action all spring and summer with leagues and tournaments.

The 135-acre park features the ADA-accessible playground, the Dragon’s Den, as well as the inclusive Let Them Play playground and the new Miracle Field of North Oakland. This state-of-the-art ballpark is designed to give mentally and physically disabled children the joy of experiencing America’s pastime.

A park building with indoor multi-purpose room, kitchen, restrooms and outdoor seating is available for rent.

The park also houses a wedding gazebo, a fishing pond, a community garden, the historic Howarth School and Porritt Barn and more.

Visit OrionParks.com to see the full list of recreational amenities.

Visit all our Orion Township Parks!

FRIENDSHIP PARK
3380 W. Clarkston Road

CAMP AGAWAM
1301 W. Clarkston Road

CIVIC CENTER PARK
2525 Joslyn Road

WILDWOOD AMPHITHEATER
2700 Joslyn Court

ORION COMMUNITY CENTER & PARKS OFFICE
1335 Joslyn Road

JESSE DECKER PARK
4100 N. Squirrel Road

GINGELL NATURE CENTER
2689 Maybee Road
JUNE

6 Summer Reading Begins
9 National Donald Duck Day
14 Slow Row on Lake Sixteen
14 Youth Fishing Derby, 10 am to noon, Camp Agawam (Parks & Rec registration required)
19 National Flip Flop Day
20 Outdoor Garage Sale, Antique, Toy & Comic Expo and Recycle Event, Orion Center
23 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater
25 Summer Sizzle, 6 to 8 pm, Orion Center
25-July 4 Lake Orion American Summer, various activities, throughout Lake Orion
26 National Coconut Day
30 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater

Photo by Tracie Papciak

JULY

1 LOYBL & OGSL Fall Walk-In Registration, Orion Center
4 Independence Day
7 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater
11 National Blueberry Muffin Day
13 National French Fry Day
14 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater
15 Slow Row on Lake Orion
21 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater
23 National Gorgeous Grandma Day
25 National Hot Fudge Sundae Day
28 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater

Photo by Nancy Bennett

Background Photo by Lee Smith

Orion Living | Spring 2020
As you can see, this Spring’s COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc on the many events normally scheduled for the summer months in Lake Orion. As of press time, many departments were unsure whether they would be able to hold planned events so they have not been included in this calendar. We encourage you to check the websites and social media pages for the Township, Lake Orion DDA, Parks and Recreation, Orion Chamber, Orion Library, Lake Orion Community Schools and the many community organizations for news and updates on their events. The Orion Living staff looks forward to presenting you a full calendar of activities in the Fall issue.
A SELLER’S GUIDE TO REAL ESTATE TRENDS

The launch of a new decade has brought with it a plethora of changes and the shift in real estate trends and preferences is a great showcase for them. People are seeking comfort more than ever, leading to an abundance of warm colors, nostalgic accents, and low maintenance finishes both inside and out.

The style of the 2010s was all about clean lines, cool colors, industrial accents, and perfection. The early 2020s is shifting towards something a little more granny chic, if you will. We’re seeing a resurgence of organic forms, earth tones, vintage accents, and a truly lived-in feeling. Buyers in their 20s and 30s are quite literally looking for the comfort of visiting their grandparent’s home when they were younger.

Here are some recommendations for current and future sellers based on the current style trends.

**Painting**

If you’re planning on doing some painting in preparation for a sale, we recommend that you stick with warmer earth tones, avoiding the cool tones and grays that have been popular for so long. If you’re looking to do some bold accents, a trend that’s in right now is darker painted trim and doors. The Pantone Color of the Year for 2020 is Classic Blue, a navy shade, which would be perfect for this.

**Finishes**

Another shift being seen is that granite and marble are no longer the gold-standard counter tops being sought out. Buyers are looking instead for materials like quartz and faux marble, which have a similar look, with far less upkeep and maintenance required. If a remodel is in the cards for you, keep this in mind when shopping for materials.

**Staging**

As far as staging goes, the most notable trends are wicker and rattan, live plants, and vintage and classic accents. The current trending styles focus heavily on individuality, so going overboard won’t be helpful. Making sure that your home looks like a home as opposed to a hotel is first and foremost.

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**Small fixes**

Consider making these fixes before your inspection:
- Fix leaking faucets, showers, and toilets
- Clear drains
- Replace air filter
- Clean gutters
- Check smoke and carbon monoxide alarms
- Re-caulk showers, tubs, and windows
- Replace broken shingles
Curb appeal

It’s no secret that the outside of your house is the first thing that a potential buyer sees, but what are the best ways to make sure it's as appealing as possible? One simple trick is to make sure that your windows are both clean and open. This immediately makes your home more inviting. Showing a furnished outdoor living area will also help show potential buyers the possibilities of your outdoor space.

Spending time updating your front door is a well known must for curb appeal, but many overlook updating a garage door. This is a fairly inexpensive update that shows a huge return on investment as many garage doors are a large feature facing the street. Also making sure that your mailbox is in top shape shows a buyer that you’ve taken good care of your home.

Interested in purchasing or selling a home in the Orion area? Contact one of our trusted Orion Area Chamber of Commerce Realtors listed in the Member Directory at orionareachamber.com.

Pushna Wellness.
At the newly renovated pink house in Canterbury Village, the Chamber recently celebrated the opening of new business Pushna Wellness with a ribbon cutting. Owner Jess Dues strives to elevate, heal and energize clients through offerings of yoga, coaching, seminars, classes, and events. To see the full range of classes and all that Jess offers, visit pushnawellness.com.

Chamber Member Realtors

Allison McClintick, Realtor® /Coach
248-897-1038

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Michigan Real Estate
248-895-2327

Coldwell Banker Professionals
248-628-1900

Heritage Real Estate
248-860-5244

Janiga Estates
248-579-9931

Keller Williams
248-609-8000

Lake Homes Realty LLC
248-765-6607

Liberty Way Realty
248-935-2309

Liberty Way Realty—Sue Campbell
248-793-9000

Paula Reese Realtor
586-215-6801

Real Living
John Burt Realty
248-628-7700

The Integrity Team at Keller Williams Paint Creek
248-840-3434

The Peardon Team—Keller Williams Realty
586-685-1105
What Michigan insurance reform means for you

On July 1st, 2020, major auto insurance reform will take effect in the state of Michigan, giving our residents more coverage options allowing for lower premiums, and cutting down on the state’s excessive insurance lawsuits.

Michigan drivers have the best auto insurance coverage in the country due to Personal Injury Protection (PIP) having a legal requirement of unlimited, lifetime coverage for people injured in car accidents. A downside of this is the steep cost involved. Michigan drivers pay on average 83% more in annual insurance premiums than the national average, according a 2019 report by The Zebra. Another downside is that the high costs involved tend to cause more legal contesting of claims from accidents. In fact, in 2017, half of all civil cases heard in the state were regarding car accidents.

After years of strategizing, Governor Whitmer signed a bill to enact insurance reform in five major areas in an effort to alleviate many of the burdens felt in the state.

New coverage options

The new insurance reform will attempt to give residents options in terms of the PIP coverage, instead of the blanket requirement of unlimited, lifetime coverage. This is where most of the immediate savings will be seen by residents. There will be five coverage options, though the lowest will only be conditionally available.

- **Unlimited, Lifetime Coverage.** Same as current coverage, at a 10% cost savings.
- **$500,000 of PIP Coverage.** Covers up to $500,000, at a 20% cost savings.
- **$250,000 of PIP Coverage.** Covers up to $250,000, at a 35% cost savings.
- **$50,000 of PIP Coverage.** Covers up to $50,000, at a 45% cost savings.
- **Opt out of PIP Coverage.** Only if health insurance covers car accidents.

Liability coverage requirements

Despite Michigan being a “no-fault” state, meaning that drivers turn to their own insurance for medical claims in an accident, lawsuits can still be brought in the case of serious injury or death. Current law requires drivers to purchase a minimum of $20,000/$40,000 for individual/multiple injured parties. This new bill will default to $250,000/$500,000 for individual/multiple injured parties, with the option to request only $50,000/$100,000 instead. This change may eat into some of the cost savings seen from the new coverage options.

Personal information now banned for pricing

Insurers will no longer be able to use a driver’s gender, marital status, occupation, education, ZIP code, credit score, or resident status to determine policy pricing. They can still access credit records to view payment history.
What should YOU do?

**Maintain insurance.** Established payment history and reliability will reduce your rate.

**Add Uninsured Motorist Coverage.** It’s relatively inexpensive considering the large number of uninsured motorists in Michigan due to current costs.

**Compare again after the change.** With the changes, companies will be recalculating their premiums, and your insurance company may no longer be the best option for you.

**Reach out to your local insurance agents.** They can answer any questions and get you any additional information you may need.

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**Information**

information, and they can use more broad location information in place of ZIP codes. The cost effects for this change will vary widely from person to person. This will result in a savings for some, while possibly increasing rates for individuals who were getting a break due to one of these categories.

**Medical billing limits**

This bill will place limits on what medical providers can bill to insurance companies beginning in 2021. These limits will prevent medical companies from over-billing insurance, which some currently bill up to 600% what they would bill Medicare. Initial terms would limit them to only billing 200% to 250% of what they would bill Medicare for the same services. In 2023, those limits would drop to 190% to 230%. This would ideally cut back on insurers contesting medical billing in court.

**Rate change regulations**

The current set-up allows insurers to file rate changes and implement them before approval. Now, approval will have to be given before rate changes can be implemented.

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**Learn more about changes in insurance reform and to check your coverage, contact one of your trusted Orion Area Chamber of Commerce insurance professionals listed in the Member Directory at orionareachamber.com.**

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**Let’s Webinar!**

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce has launched a weekly webinar series that takes place each Wednesday at 10 am.

The series will present information from members of our business community to share resources and information.

These events are free and open to the public and we invite you to join us. To learn more about upcoming webinars please visit our webpage or subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

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**Oat Soda.** There’s a much anticipated new eatery and bar in town! Oat Soda opened their doors in January, with the Chamber hosting a combined ribbon cutting and Thirsty Thursday a couple of weeks later. With thirty rotating craft taps and an extensive menu, there’s something for everyone to enjoy! Located at 197 S. Broadway in downtown Lake Orion, the restaurant enjoys open views over Paint Creek and has outdoor seating for the warmer months. For menu and beers go to their website at oatsodalakeorion.com.

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**Learn more about us at orionareachamber.com or call 248-693-6300**
COVID-19 is no match for Orion Strong

The Stay Home, Stay Safe order had many residents and businesses struggling to adjust to a new normal. However, our local businesses stepped up and showed what it meant to be “Orion Strong” in times of crisis.

Love INC, an organization already working hard to help those in our community that are in need, stepped up in a big way. In collaboration with Orion Township, they collected and managed monetary donations earmarked for Orion during the COVID situation. They worked hard to ensure that there were resources available to all those who needed them in our community.

Broadway Embroidery put their knowledge and skills to use by making well over 3,000 masks for hospitals, medical professionals, first responders, and at-risk citizens in need. Their selfless efforts inspired many residents to join them in creating masks, or to donate the much needed materials to have them made.

M & B Graphics contributed to the Orion Strong initiative in many ways during the COVID–19 crisis. Together with Lucky’s Natural Foods they created and donated individual bottles of hand sanitizer to the Orion Center. M&B Graphics also created “Orion Strong” stickers to be given for free to any person making a donation to Love INC. They launched an “Orion Strong” clothing line, with $5 of each purchase going to Love INC. This effort allowed residents to show their community pride while helping a great cause.

Cookies and Cream by Sprout Bake worked to bring a little extra joy to children whose birthdays took place during the lockdown. They emailed a printable scavenger hunt and a gift certificate for a free cookie sundae at Cookies & Cream when they reopen, reminding the birthday kids that they have not been forgotten and that this situation is not permanent.

Speaking of children’s birthdays, our very own Lake Orion Police and Orion Fire Department provided drive up birthday visits for local children. A child could choose a police car or fire truck to show up and run their lights and sirens. Plus they had pictures taken with the vehicle (from a safe distance). The kids were also given gift certificates to Cookies and Cream by Sprout Bake.

These businesses are showing the true spirit of Orion and proving that together we are Orion Strong!

Haney Farm Bureau. A new business to Lake Orion, Haney Farm Bureau moved into the beautiful, recently renovated Suite 100 of 18 S Broadway (the Navarro–Vezina Holdings building) in downtown Lake Orion. The Chamber held a ribbon cutting to welcome Wayne Haney and his team to both the Chamber and the Orion area. Haney Farm Bureau offers a wide range of insurance products, both personal and business. Learn more at haneyfarmbureau.com.
New & renewing members

**New Members**

**NON-PROFIT MEMBERS**
- Grace Centers of Hope
- Oakland Mediation Center

**BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS**
- Allison McClintick, Realtor/Coach
- Chase Bank, N.A.
- Dent Patrol, LLC
- Heritage Real Estate
- Janiga Estates
- Rebekah’s Health and Nutrition
- Lake Orion
- Verdant Landscape Consulting LLC

**JUNIOR MEMBERS**
- Cracked Electronic Repair of Lapeer
- Rhino Earthwork

**SIGNATURE MEMBERS**
- Hawkman Entertainment

**Renewing Members**

**NON-PROFIT MEMBERS**
- Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church
- Holy Spokes

- Lake Orion’s American Summer, LLC
- Orion Area Youth Assistance
- Orion Township Firefighters Association
- Polly Ann Trail/PATMC
- The Daisy Project — MI

**BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS**
- Allison McClintick, Realtor/Coach
- Chase Bank, N.A.
- Dent Patrol, LLC
- Heritage Real Estate
- Janiga Estates
- Rebekah’s Health and Nutrition
- Lake Orion
- Verdant Landscape Consulting LLC

- Cracked Electronic Repair of Lapeer
- Rhino Earthwork

**JUNIOR MEMBERS**
- The Expedition Soap Company, LLC

**BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS**
- 20 Front Street
- AAA—Craig Zmijewski
- Alarm Services Network (ASN)
- Autumn Moon Holistic Wellness
- Brain Balance of North Oakland
- Builders Custom Flooring
- Caliber Home Loans
- Catering by Katherine
- Enviro Turf
- Henry Ford OptimEyes
- Heron Springs Townhomes and Apartments
- Lake Orion Plumbing Heating and Cooling
- Lifton PromoSource Inc
- May Audiology & Hearing Aid Center
- Motor City Granite
- New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc
- Northern Wholesale Flooring
- Oakland Christian School
- Optimum Chiropractic Wellness & Massage
- Pedal Boat Pub
- The Goddard School—Lake Orion
- The Integrity Team at Keller Williams Paint Creek
- The Birney Directive
- Training & Treatment Innovations, Inc
- US Farathane
- Valley Tent Rental
- Zale Group

**SIGNATURE MEMBERS**
- G’s Pizzeria
- Lake Orion Vision
- Michigan Greens Keeper
- Pearle Vision

**PREMIER MEMBERS**
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Seniors Helping Seniors

**ELITE MEMBERS**
- Culver’s
  - 4963 Interpark Dr N
  - Lake Orion, MI 48359
  - 248–276–2222
  - culvers.com/restaurants/lake–orion

- Paint Creek Country Club
  - 2375 Stanton Rd
  - Lake Orion, MI 48362
  - 248–693–4695
  - paintcreekgolf.com

**The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce thanks our members and the community for their support during these trying times. We appreciate you!**
Orion Oaks Animal Hospital. The animal hospital on the northwest corner of Baldwin and Clarkston is under new ownership. We were delighted to welcome vet Dr. Andrea Milam and her team—including Toby the cat—to the Orion Chamber! Orion Oaks Animal Hospital is a full-service caring companion animal hospital providing quality veterinary care, grooming, pet support services, and education for pet owners. The staff provides services for dogs, cats, pocket pets, and reptiles. To make an appointment or get more information, go to orion.vet.

Mount Ruffmore. The creatively named Mount Ruffmore, a long-established Orion business, recently moved to larger, new premises in the Palace Pointe Plaza opposite Home Depot on Lapeer Road. On a snowy February afternoon the Chamber and Mount Ruffmore celebrated the opening of the new, spacious facility. Mount Ruffmore offers a full range of grooming services for your doggie friends. Go to mountruffmorepets.com for details.
This year marks Lake Orion’s American Summer’s (LOAS) fifth anniversary! While this year may look different than the previous four, the mission is still the same—promote and embrace all of Lake Orion’s local businesses and amenities that make the Orion area so special!

Typically, LOAS runs from the beginning of the Lions Club Jubilee to July 4, but with the COVID–19 outbreak, things will be changing this year. While many events, functions and celebrations have been canceled or postponed, this annual celebration of freedom will go on, with a few unforeseen twists.

“We will need to be mindful of any governmental restrictions that may be placed on our businesses and simply work through them,” said Brian Birney, President of Lake Orion’s American Summer. “This event is too important to not figure out a safe and reasonable way to have it. We will push through and make the best of it, while celebrating our nation’s independence and our awesome community,”

Now more than ever is a time to support local businesses and reinvigorate the economy. All businesses and organizations are invited to participate by hosting an event, volunteering or joining with something that is already scheduled. This celebration is meant for all ages and interests, so the options are endless.

LOAS will compile a comprehensive calendar of all participating activities that register with them during the time period of June 27 to July 4. This will be available at loamericansummer.com and promoted via social media and email blasts.

“If in previous years children have enjoyed numerous events at the Library, we’ve had events on the lakes and parks, ladies’ nights, dance nights, firework shows, boat cruises, runs, live entertainment, Restaurant Week, Pub Crawl and more,” added Birney. “This celebration is meant for everyone in the community, residents and businesses alike. This is going to be an important year for all of our businesses and we need to make sure they know they are supported.”

If you’re interested in participating, contact the Lake Orion’s American Summer office at info@loamericansummer.com, or visiting Facebook, Instagram or loamericansummer.com.

Events

**RESTAURANT WEEK**
**JUNE 29–JULY 5**

**PUB CRAWL**
**JULY 2**

**FLARE NIGHT**
**JULY 3**

With the ever–changing environment we live in, the schedule will be subject to change.
From the Director

Let’s celebrate summer reading!

I’m sure we have all heard enough about COVID–19 in recent months, and we’d like to look to a brighter future together. But I would like to thank all library patrons for your continued and increased use of our online resources during the quarantine. We are so glad that we are able to provide you with access to library materials from your home. Remember that these resources are always available to you from our website at orionlibrary.org.

In fact, I would love to hear from you and know more about how you DID use our online resources. Did you find a new read in an e-book or downloadable audiobook? Did you have a virtual book group meeting? Did you find a favorite movie or some new music on hoopla? Maybe you learned a new language with mango? Send me an email or give me a call and let me know! You can reach me directly at kknox@orionlibrary.org or 248–693–3000 x430.

As summer approaches, we do hope that we get to see your faces again in the library building soon. With that in mind, we are planning for an amazing summer reading program again this year! At the time of this printing, we don’t know that it’s wise to plan the big kickoff party like we usually do, but we will definitely be celebrating reading all summer long! Sign up for summer reading will begin on June 6 on our website, and you can definitely contact us for all the information when that date gets closer.

I know many of you have missed coming to the library, for materials or socialization or refuge, during the quarantine. Please know that the staff and board have done everything we can to take care of you and ourselves during this unprecedented time. For those of you that might have felt lonely or sad or frustrated, please know that I truly understand, and if there’s anything that I or the library might be able to do for you, please reach out. We are here for our amazing Orion community.

Karen

Thank you to our volunteers!

We miss our volunteers but want to keep everyone safe. Check our website for future volunteer opportunities at orionlibrary.org/volunteering, or contact Lori Morris at lmorris@orionlibrary.org.
**Leave your mark**

**Personalize a stepping stone in the Orion Library’s Reading Garden**

Stepping stones in the Reading Garden at the Orion Township Public Library can now be engraved with a personalized name or thoughtful message. Proceeds will benefit the library. There is a limited number of engravable stones in the Reading Garden, and orders will be filled in a first come, first served basis. The library director will approve all requests before orders are placed. After an order is placed, a proof will be sent for final approval before the stone is engraved. A 50% deposit is due when order is placed, and balance due with final approval. You can submit an order by completing the form online at orionlibrary.org/donations, or stopping in the library to get a form. Look for new engraved stones in the Reading Garden soon!

**Go on a scavenger hunt to find our Little Libraries!**

Our Little Libraries are a great way for the library to bring books out of our building into the Orion Community. Visitors can take a book to read and keep it as long as they would like and also leave books for others to read. Little Free Libraries encourage sharing the joy of reading by allowing patrons to add books to the collection. Please come to area parks and trails to find our Little Libraries!

- Camp Agawam
- Civic Center Park
- Children’s Park
- Downtown Parklet
- Friendship Park
- Green’s Park
- Jesse Decker Park
- Orion Center
- Orion Oaks Dog Park
- Paint Creek Trail behind KFC on Lapeer Road
- Polly Ann Trail at Indianwood Road

**Orion Library Trustees**

Mary Anne Thorndycraft, President
Mary Pergeau, Vice President
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Mike Luna, Trustee

Monica Zalewski, Outreach Services Clerk, missed her homebound patrons during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place, so she hand-painted a few cards to mail to them.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
We have probably all heard the term summer slide, but what happens when “summer” ends up being twice as long? We don’t know what effect the extended time away from the classroom will have on our students, so our goal is to promote literacy in as many ways as possible over the summer. Luckily, we have our tireless teachers and parents who picked up the time away from school in the spring and we have librarians to do what they know best—SUMMER READING PROGRAMS!

This year, we will continue to offer a fun, top notch program that utilizes incentives and fun activities to promote reading and advancing literacy gains over the summer. Fantasy and Fairy Tales come alive this year with our theme “Imagine Your Story.” Whether you participate in the Read with Me (0–5), Readers (K–5), Teen (6–12), Adults, or Seniors, you will for sure expand your vocabulary, sharpen your literacy skills, and have a great time reading. All other program information and exact dates can be found at orionlibrary.org.

**Youth Summer Reading Program**

Early learners and elementary grades are invited to participate in our youth programs. In Read with Me, youth ages 0–5 are encouraged to read together 10, 20, and 30 books throughout the summer with prizes along the way.

In our Readers program, elementary age students are encouraged to read 5, 10, and 15 hours this summer for prizes. We will also have additional reading challenges throughout! Along with keeping track of your reading via our online and/or printable reading logs, we will be offering a wide variety of programming throughout the summer.

- Level 1—Fun Prize
- Level 2—Fun Prize
- Level 3—Free Book/Raffle ticket for Showcase Prize

**Teen Summer Reading Program**

Teens can read 2, 4, or 6 books to win prizes and complete the summer reading program for the chance to win the grand prize of a $100 Amazon gift card. Complete other library challenges to win additional prizes. Don’t forget to sign up for the teen summer programs like Disney Terrariums and The Hungry Games which follow fantasy themes come true! Prize pick-up deadline is August 15th.

- 2 Books Read—Assorted Candy
- 4 Books Read—Free Pass to Urban Air
- 6 Books Read—Book of your choice
- Challenge Prizes—$10 Visa gift card (random drawings)
- Grand Prize—$100 Visa gift card (random drawing)

**Adult Summer Reading Program**

Adults can read five books over the course of the summer and receive a free coffee from ABeanToGo in downtown Lake Orion. This year we have many challenges and prizes to expand your horizons and keep you reading all summer. Multiple programs like Fairy House Makerspace, Dungeons and Dragons, and Mythological Monsters follow the fantastic fantasy theme.

- 2 Books Read—Assorted Candy
- 4 Books Read—Free Pass to Urban Air
- 6 Books Read—Book of your choice
- Challenge Prizes—$10 Visa gift card (random drawings)
- Grand Prize—$100 Visa gift card (random drawing)

**Outreach Senior Summer Reading Program**

Mon, June 8—Fri, Aug 7

The Orion Center Branch Library is offering a tech free Summer Reading program especially for the senior crowd. Participants will get a bingo card to mark off the books they read or listen to and earn prizes! The more you read, the greater your chance to win! You can participate in either Senior or Adult Summer Reading—not both.
2020 SUMMER PROGRAMS

As of this printing, we are planning the following programs this summer. Contact the library or visit orionlibrary.org for exact dates and times, as the details are subject to change.

Youth and Family

Family
- Create with your Crew
- Imagine You’re on a Game Show
- Harry Potter Maker Night
- SRP Finale Party

Early Learning
- Kindermusik ®
- Little Dragons Mini Storytime
- Baby Buddies Storytime
- Toddler Dance Parties
- Pick Up STEAM—Fairy Tales
- Nursery Rhyme Olympics
- Outdoor Fun Storytime

Elementary Age
- Imagine You’re an Outlaw Games
- Sensory Free Play
- Magical Creature Crafts
- Imagine You’re a Secret Agent—NERF Games
- Party Like a Troll
- Pizza Gardening
- Minion Madness
- STEAM Academy—Fairy Tales
- Splash + Play
- Mad Hatter Tea Party
- Parkour Workshop!
- Dragon and Unicorn Party
- Backyard Olympics
- Homemade Squishes
- Dogman Afternoon

Teen
- Geek Club
- Oreo Taste Test Challenge
- Disney Terrariums
- Imagine You’re a Secret Agent: NERF Games for Teens
- Perler Bead Creations
- The Hungry Games
- SAT Practice Test and Results
- Parkour Workshop
- Summer Teen Lock-In
- Registration Walkthroughs
- Perler Bead Creations
- Sharpie Tie-Dye

Adult & Outreach
- Book Discussions
- Cook the Book
- Adult Dungeons and Dragons
- ELL Conversation Group
- Michigan Works
- Roaming Readers Walking Club
- Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group
- The Sandwich Generation: Making Health Care Decisions for Our Parents
- Community Conversations
- Bicentennial History of Oakland County
- Cutting the Cord
- Michigan Notable Book Award: “Where Today Meets Tomorrow” by Susan Skarsgard
- Indoor Herb Gardens
- Fairy Houses
- Introduction to Inkscape
- Mythological Monsters
- Melt and Pour Soap
- Self-Defense Basics
- Adult Battle of the Books
- Social Media Privacy
- Maker Space Open Hours

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
ONLINE RESOURCES

Adult & Outreach Resources

The Orion Library provides its users with subscriptions to online resources that can be accessed with an Orion library card. Additional resources provided by the Michigan eLibrary can be accessed via MeL.org with a Michigan driver’s license. You can view all of the library’s databases by going to orionlibrary.org. The library has databases covering topics like crafts, finance, automotive repair, language learning, investment research, legal help and much more!

Get creative

If you’re in the mood for something creative, CreativeBug offers unlimited access to over 1,000 online art and crafts classes taught by artists and creative experts, with new videos added monthly. The library also subscribes to Lynda.com from LinkedIn which is a premier online learning resource that offers more than 3,500 courses and 250,000 tutorials covering technical skills, creative techniques, and business strategies to name a few.

Learn auto repair

For automotive repair, the library has ALLData which gives you instant access to the most complete and up-to-date automotive repair, maintenance procedures, and diagnostic information.

How about a new language?

If learning a language has always been on your to-do list you can sign up for Mango Languages where library card holders can learn over 70 languages from native speakers.

Business and investing

Finally, if you want to learn a little more about business and investing, the library subscribes to Morningstar Investment Research Center which gives you access to comprehensive financial information on stocks, mutual funds, and exchange traded funds.

Even more resources

Anyone with a valid Orion library card also has 24/7 access to streaming and downloadable content in a variety of formats.

- cloudLibrary (eBooks & downloadable audiobooks)
- Hoopla (eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, music, movies/TV)
- Kanopy (movies and award-winning documentaries)
- OverDrive (eBooks & downloadable audiobooks)
- RB Digital (magazines)

If you’re ever unsure what you want to read next you can try out NoveList Plus which is a comprehensive source of information about books that includes expert recommendations, reviews, read-alikes, articles, book discussion guides and more. You can also contact the Adult Reference Desk at 248-693-3001.

Teen Resources

While we have many databases for patrons of all ages, our Teen Services databases range from middle school specific to high school specific, so there is something for all the stages the teen years take you.

Help for students

One favorite is LearningExpress Library as it provides online tutorials, practice tests, and eBooks to help students. It offers job search and workplace skills improvement, skill building in reading, writing, math, and basic science, career certification and licensure exam prep, college and grad school entrance test prep, GED® test prep, and more. The college prep test range for the middle schooler starting their PSAT testing, to the high schooler deciding between the SAT and ACT. Such an easy way to practice right from your home, all you need is a valid library card.

Driving assistance

For the teenager getting ready to drive, we offer DrivingTests.org. This database is specific to the State of Michigan driving regulations, and consists of over 500 questions and practice tests on road signs, fines, situations and even a Michigan exam simulator. A DMV 2020 handbook is also included, as well as a section of Michigan Driver’s License and Permits FAQ.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
Social challenges

Opposing Viewpoints in Context is for the student who needs information on a specific issue. It features contextual information and opinions on hundreds of today’s hottest social issues. This database has continuously updated pro/con viewpoint essays, topic overviews, primary source documents, biographies, court-case overviews, periodical articles, tables/charts/graphs, and more. This is a popular resource for both middle school students as well as high school students, as social issues are taught at all levels of secondary education.

Reference data

Finally, we have many reference related databases to help all secondary students find the top-ranked reference collection information in magazines and journals articles, video and audio podcasts, poetry, encyclopedias, maps, images, etc. Reference databases provide information on historically significant figures to present-day newsmakers, from hundreds of countries, as well as the U.S. states and Canadian Provinces, not limited to classic literary works, important historical documents and general reference materials. The reference collection has information to match middle and high school reading levels, as well as each student’s ability.

Any questions regarding the Teen Services databases, please contact the Adult Reference Desk at 248–693–3001, or the Teen Librarian at 248–693–3000 x414.

Resources for Kids

The Orion Township Public Library has a wide variety of online resources for children and families. To find a full list beyond the four highlighted here, visit orionlibrary.org/youth/student-resources.

Hoopla

Hoopla, a free on demand digital resource, available to all Orion Township Library card holders includes a large multi-media collection for kids of all ages. Kids can search for favorite characters and authors, finding e-books, television shows, and audio books including authors like Dav Pilkey, Beverly Cleary, and Erin Hunter, and characters like Big Nate, Garfield, and Sonic. Checkouts are available immediately with no holds, and check out times vary depending on the media. Much like Netflix, Hoopla has great television shows and movies for kids that are easy to search by clicking the “Children’s Titles Only” option. Dinosaur Train, Muzzy Language Learning, Magic School Bus, and Wayside School are just a handful of shows available. You will also find a large array of Scholastic books available as movies. All of these options are available anytime while you are at home or on the go via either a smart phone app or at hoopladigital.com. Each library card is able to check out six titles a month, so look for something new for youth to explore this summer.

Tumblebooks

TumbleBooks is an online collection of animated, talking picture books which teach children the joy of reading in a format they will love. TumbleBooks are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce a digital experience where children can practice their literacy skills. TumbleBooks also offers content for older children like narrated chapter books, graphic novels, and language learning titles all designed to develop reading proficiency as they complete elementary school. Help combat summer slide this year with an interactive way to keep your child interested in reading! In an effort to help library patrons during these difficult times, TumbleBooks has generously donated access to their entire suite of online resources through August 31, 2020. See orionlibrary.org for more details.

Creativebug

If you’re looking for some creative fun this summer, try Creativebug, a resource created by volunteers, activists, and teachers who believe the arts deserve to be shared with everyone. Creativebug offers hundreds of classes for school-age kids in categories like Crafts, Drawing & Painting, Holiday & Party, Jewelry, Paper, Sewing, and Yarn. Classes vary in length; some are just a few minutes, while others are a few hours and can be viewed in multiple parts. There are classes offered for ages 5 and up, and ages 8 and up, with various skill levels available. There are many doodling and drawing classes, including some focused on Manga. Galaxy slime and felt animal masks are a couple of the many craft offerings. You will also find a multitude of sewing and yarn projects—including a robust pattern library for knitting and crochet projects. Classes never expire, allowing children to start and stop projects at their own pace. Sign up with your library card today and let your creativity come out to play!
**Novelist K–8 Plus**

Have you or your child ever been in a reading slump where you’re not sure what to read next? Let us introduce you to NoveList K–8 Plus, an amazing online resource for read–alike recommendations and exploration specifically designed for kids in grades K–8. Just finished a series you loved and looking for something similar? NoveList can suggest read–alikes for authors, titles, and series. Simply search for a favorite and NoveList will suggest a custom list of recommended titles. Beyond a read–alike search, NoveList also has the ability to search by reading facets, including genre, style of writing, pace of book, themes, reading level, and recommended age groups. NoveList is linked to our catalog, so all you need is your library card to start exploring today. But don’t worry—we librarians are always available to help if you’re still stuck. You can request help finding your next favorite book by email, phone, or stopping in to see us in person. We love connecting readers with books they’ll love. We can’t wait to hear about what you’ll read next!

**Free Friends Memberships**

The Friends of the Orion Township Library are offering free memberships for its May 1, 2020–April 30, 2021 membership period. This offer is available to current and new members.

“Traditionally we mail our annual membership renewal notices in the springtime; however, this year the Friends board decided to suspend the membership fee requirement for the upcoming fiscal year,” said Michelle Jerome, membership chairperson of the Friends of the Orion Township Library. “Right now so many people are hurting, every penny counts. We wanted to ease the burden to our members and at the same time offer up our friendship to potential new members.”

**Thank you for being a Friend!**

**How to Join the Friends**

Current memberships will automatically be renewed for the upcoming year. Those who are interested in joining the Friends of the Orion Township Library can visit orionlibrary.org/friends/membership/join.

**Libraries Need Friends and the Friends Need You!**

If you are able to give, we welcome your support. By donating to the Friends, you’ll help shape the future of learning and living in our community because it’s our goal to make new programs a reality at the Orion Township Public Library. Since 2011, the Friends have provided in excess of $270,000 to the library in the way of program funding, equipment and material purchases and monetary contributions. Donations are welcome at orionlibrary.org/friends/donate, or you can submit a Friends Membership & Donation Form with a check made payable to “Friends of the Orion Township Public Library” by mail to Friends of the Orion Township Library, Membership Chair, 825 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, MI 48362.

Friends Membership & Donation forms are also available at the library. For information on donating used books and other materials, please see orionlibrary.org/donations.

**Youth Program Highlight**

**Neighborhoods of Stories**

Returning for a second year, the popular traveling storytime series is back and bigger than ever! Along with local parks, we will visit downtown Clarkston and Lake Orion, a local splash pad, and the Wint Nature Center. This program aims to connect communities and nature, allowing libraries to highlight their programs and celebrate others’ neighborhoods. Librarians from Orion and Independence Townships welcome the whole family for mornings of books and activities, where everyone can spread out and have fun at our local parks. All parks and beaches will be free to enter for program attendees. Exact days, times, and locations can be found at orionlibrary.org.
Friends Fall Book Sale

Tue, Sept 15
10 AM–4 PM
Friends of the Library
Member Day & Teacher Day
*(Membership will be available for purchase at the door)*
4–8:30 PM
Open to the Public

Wed, Sept 16 & Thurs, Sept 17
10 AM–8:30 PM
Open to the Public

Fri, Sept 18
10 AM–4:30 PM
Open to the Public
1/2 off books day

Sat, Sept 19
9:30 AM–1 PM
Open to the Public
$5 bag day *(fill a bag supplied by the Friends for $5)*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Friends Holiday Silent Auction
Sun, Nov 1–Sat, Nov 21

Help the Library while you shop
If you participate in Kroger’s Community Rewards Program or use Amazon Smile, you can designate the Orion Township Library as your charity of choice and a portion of your purchases will be donated to us.

Visit kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards and smile.amazon.com for details and to sign up.

About the Friends
The Friends are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that was started in 1985 “to promote public support of the Orion Township Public Library and the library in the community, to promote reading, literacy and lifelong learning, and to maintain an association of persons interested in the library.”

Friends act in cooperation with the library board and staff, serving as a liaison between the community and library. All money raised by the Friends, except for minimal administrative costs such as postage and printing, is donated directly to the library in the way of program funding, material purchases and monetary contributions.

Friends of the Orion Township Library Board. Back: Michelle Jerome, membership chair; Carla Tousley, treasurer; Shae Smith, secretary; Jan Thomas, president. Front: Mary Duenow, fundraising chair; Bob Bambach, deputy treasurer; Dale Bell, book sale chair; Don Walker, vice president
LOCS Special Education

Acceptance, access, learning & opportunity

When Lake Orion Community Schools redistricted its elementaries prior to the 2017–18 school year, Pine Tree Elementary was a wonderful facility looking for some students to reopen.

LOCS Superintendent Marion Ginopolis leaned on her experience and brought a proposal to the LOCS Board of Education and the community to create a center–based special education facility for Oakland County. Approved by the Board on August 23, 2017, the facility was established for elementary and middle school aged students with autism and students with emotional impairments.

Continuing the district’s history of supporting the county programs, the benefits were significant.

Previously students with autism and emotional impairments were bused from the northern part of the county to Waterford, Birmingham, and Lamphere and now those travel times for the students were dramatically reduced.

Entering a renovated facility updated to fit their specific needs was a bonus.

The PHASES program for post–secondary adult education students (ages 18–26) was relocated to the upper floor of Pine Tree Center, providing students with an area to call their own.

When the Pine Tree Center ribbon–cutting was held in the fall of 2018, the LOCS community was energized, reminded again about the LOCS Special Education Department’s dedicated consideration to its students.

“We are dedicated to create individualized plans for each student that will move all students forward so they can participate and have access in all areas of their grade level and their peers,” said Julie Gutman, LOCS Special Education Director.

Program Goals

The LOCS Special Education program’s goals center around acceptance, access, learning, and opportunity.

LOCS has programs at multiple levels to accommodate the best learning

From the Superintendent

Dragon Strong & Dragon Proud

Anyone who doesn’t understand what “Dragon Strong” means only has to review how Lake Orion Community Schools staff, students, and families bravely coped and made it through the recent COVID-19 crisis.

Despite school closure until fall 2020, staff immediately rallied to develop online educational opportunities to deliver to students and remain connected through the use of virtual environments. For those students who did not have technology equipment, staff gathered district devices and distributed to those in need.

Parents accepted their new role as “home–teacher” by laboriously helping their children with their lessons. Certainly not an easy task!

To ensure that children had meals, an immediate meal preparation and distribution process was developed by the food service department, providing weekly meals to hundreds of children.

And, by honoring stay–at–home orders, LOCS Dragons have come out of this terrible pandemic, not only Dragon Strong, but also Dragon Proud.

I am proud of the empathy displayed to those in need and especially thankful for the support everyone provided to each other. I am grateful to our community residents who came forward to support the district, even those who no longer have children in our schools. And, I am appreciative of Orion Township and Lake Orion Village leaders and local businesses who offered assistance for any needs of our students and families.

So, yes, we have come through these past months stronger than ever because we are Lake Orion Dragons!

Marion Ginopolis, Superintendent, Lake Orion Community Schools

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Marion Ginopolis, Superintendent, Lake Orion Community Schools
environment for each student.

Each student in Special Education has an Individualized Educational Program designed in concert with an LOCS team of staff members and the student’s parents or guardians. Goals are established at a yearly meeting for that student and the educational focus for the year adapts to changes in the plan and continually progress.

Finding the best plan for each student to continue moving forward is a focus.

The process shifted early in director Julie Gutman’s tenure as director 12 years ago. Instead of pulling students out of the general education classroom during their core subjects (math, reading and writing), students remained in the class and then received supplementary learning at another time.

“They should be getting double–dipped for these things,” Gutman said. “That was huge.”

The collaboration with the Teaching and Learning Department is a significant focus and asset for Gutman. The district’s instructional coaches meet with the Special Education staff in addition to general education to offer input and continuous learning.

Pine Tree Center

Opening the Pine Tree Center was a major step forward for the Special Education program, creating a building where the focus was the special education students and meeting their needs. Previously, the PHASES students were located at the CERC Building, which also held the alternative high school, the early childhood program, technology and multiple administrative offices. It was a less–than–ideal learning environment.

Now, at the Pine Tree Center for the past two years, every day embraces the opportunities for children and young adults to reach their potential.

When the district held a Special Education Field Day for all students in programs, it was at Pine Tree Center. This opportunity allowed all students, staff and parents to come together.

When there was a Special Education summer camp, it was at Pine Tree Center.

Pine Tree Center students held a musical concert and variety show last year and the facility is used regularly for Special Olympics practices.

Many opportunities previously were limited by a venue are now available for the 75 students.

“Our students progress and success is highly–based on how the center is set up,” Pine Tree Center supervisor Jillian Knapp said. “We have the resources and staff to ensure all of the students are successful, and that we’re able to meet all of their individualized needs. Our biggest attribute and success is creating a positive educational environment with love.”

Unique assets within the building: sensory rooms on each of the two floors, a gross–motor development room, 2–to–3 classrooms for each program, allowing space to break up into groups and teach students at their level.

The school also has flexible seating options and smaller areas within the classrooms if the students need more of a focus.

Despite the three disparate programs, the Pine Tree Center has become a school community.

The Positivity Project of character strengths has become a school–wide focus, allowing the three different groups to have peer–to–peer interaction and relationships between programs as well as within the community.

“We have a really great reputation,” said Knapp, in her first year as the center’s supervisor. “(Other districts) reach out continuously to see how they can get their students enrolled at Pine Tree Center.”

All Together

The Special Education program continues to evolve, build on our continuing growth of students.

Under the supervision of LOCS Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Heidi Mercer and Julie Gutman, the program continues searching for new and innovative ways to support special education students.

Integration remains one of the primary tenets of the program. Many special education students throughout the district spend a vast majority of their day in general education classrooms.

(Continued on next page)
Special Education students at LOHS take an adaptive physical education class to get exercise suited to their abilities. A high school special education class has made a microbusiness of selling soap to interact with the general public. In 2019–20, LOHS created its first Unified basketball team consisting of special education students and general education students. They played a season schedule against similar teams across Oakland County. The Special Education Field Day was assisted by students from Waldon Middle School and LOHS.

“We constantly are creating ways to have peers together,” Julie Gutman said.

While there are special education classroom teachers, covering all of the students across the district requires a large staff with varied roles. There are 11 different classifications of special education students in LOCS, from a specific learning disability to speech and language impairment to cognitive impairment to Autism Spectrum Disorder and a variety of others.

To support students, LOCS has social workers, psychologists, speech therapists, teacher consultants, occupational therapists, and physical therapists, each helping meet students where they are with their IEP goals.

LOCS has set a standard that is admired across the county and beyond.

The Special Education Department serves students in many disability areas at various levels of needs.

From babies and toddlers through post-secondary students who are educated until age 26, each arm of the department has its own specific mission.

Early Intervention Services at the Community Education Resource Center (CERC). Early intervention helps babies and toddlers through five-year-old students with developmental delays or disabilities.

Learning Resource Center rooms (LRC) in all elementary, middle, and high schools. LRC rooms provide specially-designed instruction to meet the individual learning needs of our students. Teachers target academic as well as executive functioning skills.

Emotional impairments or social emotional challenges: Paint Creek Elementary, Oakview Middle School, Lake Orion High School. The EI program supports students with social, emotional and behavioral issues that impede student success.

Autism: Blanche Sims Elementary, Orion Oaks Elementary, Scripps Middle School. A room for students with autism allows them to learn within their individual needs. The unique setting allows for multiple sensory breaks throughout the day.

Cognitive Impairments: Paint Creek Elementary, Waldon Middle School, Lake Orion High School. A CI classroom supports individualized instruction in all core academic areas. The program follows the Essential Elements state modified curriculum. Students focus on academics and adaptive living skills.

Post-secondary for students ages 18–26: Pine Tree Center. The mission of the post-secondary program, PHASES, is to create habits for the future through work skills, life skills, community experiences, and/or increasing independence.

Student voices

Being a part of Lake Orion High School’s special education program has forever changed my life! Since I have become involved with these students, I have learned so much that has helped me to prepare for my future in working with people who have special needs. I have also developed unbreakable friendships that I will treasure forever with our special education students. These students have so much love, kindness, and silliness that they have turned some of my worst days into my best days. These students hold such a big place in my heart.

Carissa Hicks, LOHS student
PHASES and the community

One of our transition goals for PHASES students is to teach them to access their community through working, volunteering, or participating. Students have the opportunity to take the money and social skills they learn in the classroom out into the community by choosing a fun place to go like a restaurant, the movies, mall shopping, or a place to make art.

One way PHASES students increase their skills for employment is through job sites in the community and at PTC or other LOCS buildings (Stadium Drive Elementary, Scripps Middle School, CERC). Students have opportunities to work at different job sites that align with their interests and needs while attending the PHASES program. Students start learning these skills in the building or on field trips. If a community member or business is interested in this opportunity, contact the Pine Tree Center at 248–693–5470.

Might your child need specialized programming?

Here are steps to take if you think your child may need specialized programming or suspect a disability:

1. Meet with your child’s teacher or counselor. Share your concerns and ideas. Develop a plan for working together.

2. Share information you have from outside sources. School personnel welcome input from family doctors, tutors, private therapists, etc.

3. Talk with the principal, who can work with parents and teachers to come up with helpful new strategies or mobilize additional resources. You may wish to request a Student Support Team meeting involving one or more of your child’s teachers.

4. Contact the Special Education Office if you have specific questions about evaluations or programming under IDEA or Section 504 at 248–693–5430.

5. Questions about services for preschool aged children may also be addressed at the Special Education Office.
Community Spotlight: Love in the Name of Christ

A helping hand when times are tough

The COVID-19 pandemic marked a disruption to our lives—not just an interruption where things will go back to normal—but a change in direction from what was once predictable to something totally new. As a result, people’s lives are in flux and they need help.

Love In The Name of Christ of Oakland County, or Love INC as it is commonly known, has been a local resource for those in crisis for the past decade and their expertise has been much needed during this tumultuous time.

Love INC is part of Orion Township’s COVID Response Team assembled by Supervisor Chris Barnett to address all aspects of the crisis for township residents. Love INC relies on its existing model of directing people to available resources throughout our area, counseling them on ways to get help, and assisting those who live in fear how to brainstorm solutions to their challenges.

Building relationships

Love INC has always been about building relationships and this pandemic situation has brought that mission into stark focus as the best way to move people forward in troubled times.

“I hope that this pandemic will make us realize what is important in life,” says Executive Director Patricia Duke. “We all have the ability to touch someone’s life and to build relationships through listening and prayer. We are not alone; we can get through this together.”

Love INC is currently assessing how their ministries will operate once they reopen to their clientele. Their Clothes Closet ministry and a housewares ministry called Bed, Blessings & Beyond operate out of church facilities in Orion and Oxford. While they rely on donations from the public, the new process for accepting those donations are still being crafted to ensure the items are cleaned and sanitized to avoid transmitting the virus.

How to help

The agency anticipates the need for their services will be great once the pandemic is over. Many people will find themselves in difficult times and need the guidance and services that Love INC provides. In response to that need, a Benevolence Fund has been set up for the public to donate funds to help Love INC’s efforts.

Love INC is also the beneficiary of the Orion Strong merchandising campaign created by M&B Graphics. A portion of the sale of the “Orion Strong” merchandise will be donated to Love INC.

We all could use a strong and helpful friend to guide us through life’s difficult patches. Love INC is that friend to the Orion community and stands ready to help as our new version of normal emerges from the events of the past few months.

To donate to the Benevolence Fund, visit loveincofnoc.org/orioncovid.
Check out M&B Graphic’s Orion Strong merchandise at inktogarment.com/orion-strong. For more information about Love INC’s services, call 248-693-4357 or visit loveincofnoc.org.
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One of our goals during this time will be to
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June is the start of the Class of 2021 Senior
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As a long-time resident of this community and with 18 years of real estate experience, I am an expert at analyzing the data of the housing market and what it's telling us right now. If you're ready to start the buying or selling process, contact me today to discuss your goals.
Summer brings long awaited rebirth

Did you ever envision the streets of downtown Lake Orion completely void of activity? The COVID-19 pandemic of this past Spring brought some dark and desolate days to our community. We join you in welcoming life, leisure, health and commerce back to Orion as we slowly resume our normal lives.