What’s Inside

Summer Reading 2021 begins June 12 at the Orion Library
Live concerts, social district nights and summer events bring Orion back to life
Parks & Rec camps and activities for all to enjoy
Chamber invites golfers to the links
Celebrating our excellent teachers

Life is better at the lake

Photo by Nancy Bennett
### Useful Numbers

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**Useful Information**

Cover: Orion’s many lakes and trails provide plenty of opportunities to exercise and stay fit while enjoying the surrounding beauty. An Orion resident and her pup take in the serenity of Lake Orion atop her paddleboard.

Background photo by Nancy Bennett
School’s out for summer! *(Admit it, you started singing that!)* That means summer is officially here and I’m excited because there are so many great things happening in our community this year.

From the Summer Reading program at the Library and family movie nights to all the free concerts at Wildwood Amphitheater and in downtown Lake Orion, it’s going to be a fun-filled summer. I can hardly contain my excitement in anticipation of the return of the Lion’s Club Jubilee and Lake Orion Fireworks in June and the Dragon on the Lake festivities in August.

Remember to check the event websites for updates, as we will follow current COVID guidelines at that time.

In addition to all the great events, don’t forget to continue to explore our trails, parks, and lakes. It’s a great way to have fun and stay socially distant. While enjoying all that our community has to offer, be sure to also support our local businesses; it’s been one heck of a year.

See you on the trails!

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor
Ancient financial principles still apply today

The seven cures to a lean purse

In the book *The Richest Man in Babylon* by George S. Clason, he tells a fictional story that outlines the financial principles used by the citizens of Babylon to help the city become known as one of the richest cities in the history of the world. In this story, he gives seven principles to “cure a lean purse” and build wealth. Although the story takes place in a city which was 4,000 years old, the correlation is that these seven principles of money accountability are timeless.

### #1. Pay yourself the first 10 percent.

For every 10 coins that you earn, keep one and use the other nine to pay your debts and other expenses. The idea is to make sure you pay yourself before you pay all outside expenses. Keep this money in a savings account and/or use it to invest.

### #2. Control your expenses.

It’s pretty common to feel like no matter how much money you make, you end up spending it all. This is probably the hardest lesson for most people but controlling your expenses is key. No matter how much money you earn, you will never achieve financial success if you can’t control how much money you spend.

### #3. Invest the savings.

Money in a bank account is great yet investing your money can reap greater rewards. With the low interest earnings on today’s saving accounts this is especially true. The book says that we should use the savings we accumulate from principle #1 and invest it to earn more: “The gold we may retain from our earnings is but the start. The earnings it will make shall build our fortunes.” Have your money work hard for you!

### #4. Guard your money from loss.

The key to successful investing is to invest where you believe that the money is safe: “Guard thy treasure from loss by investing only where thy principal is safe, where it may be reclaimed if desirable, and where thou will not fail to collect a fair rental. Consult with wise men. Secure the advice of those experienced in the profitable handling of gold. Let their wisdom protect thy treasure from unsafe investments.” In other words, invest wisely—don’t trust a talented chef to invest your money, seek advise from someone who specializes in investments.

### #5. Own your own home.

Homes are a blessing unless it ties up all your free money and puts you into a stressful financial position. If you are financially able to purchase, owning your own home is a great way to achieve wealth. Historically, real estate has appreciated over time, which means that owning your own home and paying the mortgage rather than paying someone else rent, you are building on an investment that will theoretically grow over time. Owning your home free and clear (no mortgage) is an awesome goal and will greatly reduce your cost of living which will allow more funds to be available for investing and for your wants and desires.

### #6. Invest for retirement and get life insurance.

One day, you may not be able to or want to work anymore. By investing, you give yourself the opportunity to draw an income from your investments without needing to work. They key is to invest wisely as stated in principle #4. It is also important to have life insurance and possibly other types of insurance so you can protect your family in case of death or injuries which may cause you to prematurely leave the workforce.

### #7. Increase your earning capacity.

This last principle encourages us to work on increasing our earning potential. Learn anything you can that will help you in your career field: “The more of wisdom we know, the more we may earn. Cultivate thy own powers, to study and become wiser, to become more skillful, to so act as to respect thyself”. Acquire the confidence to achieve your desires.

In following these seven principals, you must also do the following:

- Pay you debts with all the promptness within your power. Do not purchase things that you are unable to pay for.
- Take care of your family that they may think and speak well of you.
- Make out a will so that there is proper and honorable division of your property upon your death.
- Have compassion for those who are less fortunate than you and do good deeds.

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Complete the Community Survey this summer!

Check our Facebook page and website for the link.

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Master Plan
The Township is currently undergoing revisions to its Master Plan. The Master Plan is a big-picture, long-range document that guides policy and decision-making about how land in the township is used for housing, transportation, commerce, and recreation. The process of updating the master plan is expected to go through early 2022. Please watch the Township website, Planning Commission Agendas, and our Facebook page for opportunities to become involved in discussions on the amendment of this important Township document.

What’s going there?
Firestone Complete Auto Care Center
This development, located at the southwest corner of Indianwood Road and N. Axford Street, is approved to redevelop 25 Indianwood and 545 N. Lapeer by demolishing the existing buildings and constructing a new 6,116 square foot auto care center on the recently combined parcels.

There are always projects in the works at Orion Township! Once the ground has been broken, you’ll see an update on the project here in Orion Living. Until then, you can view cases moving through the Planning Commission approval process on the Township’s website or by attending a Planning Commission meeting the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Additionally, all current project under construction can be found on the Township’s website under Current Developments.

Know the mandatory summer watering restrictions
From May through September each year, a mandatory watering restriction is in force for everyone with an automatic sprinkling system who is connected to Orion township water.

The mandatory watering restrictions are:

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

Watering of any kind may not be done between 5 and 10 am, Monday through Saturday. If the restrictions for Monday through Saturday are not followed, your water service could be discontinued.

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.

During the summer months, lawn irrigation systems put a strain on the system, in terms of the volume of water being used and how that water volume affects the water pressure. These restrictions allow for the demand on the water volume to be broken up. Orion Township experiences a high demand in the morning hours as residents prepare for their day. After the morning peak demand of usage, the water tower fills in preparation for the same demands on the system that take place every evening.

Orion Township randomly inspects for compliance of the watering restrictions. Notices of violations are sent out to residents who are observed watering outside of the designated times. If continued non-compliance of the ordinance is observed, residents could receive a ticket and penalties in the amount of $500 could be ordered by a judge.

Please make sure your sprinklers are set for the designated times. We appreciate everyone's help and cooperation in following the mandatory watering restrictions.

Annual water quality report information
Every year, the Township is required by the DEQ to publish a water quality report. This report details the results of contaminant testing that is performed at the Lake Huron treatment plant, which is the source of the water that Orion Township receives.

Beginning July 1, 2021, the Township’s annual water quality report can be viewed online at oriontownship.org/waterqualityreport2020 or under the department of public services section of Township’s website.

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. 8500.
Summer sewer maintenance

During spring and summer, the Water & Sewer Department will provide routine sewer maintenance throughout the Township.

Sewer manholes will be opened to remove any sod or landscaping that may be over them. We will be jetting (sending high pressure water) through the sewer lines to clear any debris. The only preparation that a homeowner needs to do is put down your toilet lids and make sure your sewer vent pipe is clear from blockage. When a sewer vent pipe in your home is clear from any blockages, sewer jetting does not have any effect on your home. The pressure from the sewer jetting will go out through the vent pipe and not cause any problems. If the sewer vent pipe is blocked, you could experience water and/or sewage coming up from your toilets and drains. A blockage could be caused by any number of things, including leaves, animals or snow.

There are a couple of ways you may check your vent pipes:

- Open the faucets at the tub and sink nearest the roof vent pipe. Go on the roof with a flashlight and visually inspect the roof vent. If the vent is clear, you should be able to hear the water running.
- When it's cold outside, you can run hot water inside your home and simply check to see if you see steam coming out of the roof vent.

If you find the roof vent is blocked, run a hose down the vent pipe to flush out the debris. The water will run down through the pipe and out the sewer line. If the vent pipe begins to fill with water, you have a major blockage and should contact a licensed plumber.

After the sewer jetting is done, 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 fix the problem.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while our routine maintenance takes place.

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Siren Test Dates

Oakland County Emergency Management will be testing the outdoor warning siren system at 1 pm on June 5, July 3, and August 7.

Oakland County has 277 outdoor warning sirens located throughout the county. When sirens are activated, a steady three minute tone indicates a tornado and/or a severe thunderstorm with 70 mph winds or greater in the area. Seek shelter immediately.

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Filling a pool?

Every summer the Water & Sewer Department receives phone calls from residents who want to fill a pool with water from their hose wondering about the cost.

For residential customers, we bill water usage the same way whether the water is used inside of your home or outside. Sewer billing is not based on water usage; it is a flat rate, so if you use a considerable amount of water to fill a pool, your sewer bill will remain the same.

Water usage is billed in units. One unit of water on your bill is equal to 748 gallons of water. Using a per unit rate of $3.54, a 10,000-gallon pool would equate to 13.36 units of water or $47.30. Keep in mind, this amount would be in addition to your normal water usage.

We hope this information is helpful when deciding to fill a pool using a hose.

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Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304

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If a water or sewer emergency occurs

Monday through Friday during Township hours, call 248–391–0304 ext. 8500.

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

Don’t let your world go up in smoke

There’s no place like home! Don’t let your world go up in smoke. When it comes to fire safety, it’s always good to prepare, but it’s even better to prevent. Consider these recommendations for preventing fires from starting or spreading, and keep these fire safety tips top-of-mind to keep you and your loved ones safe.

In the kitchen: Cooking is the number one cause of home fires. Take these steps today to prevent a cooking fire in your home:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food.
- If you leave the kitchen, turn the burner off.
- Keep things that can burn away from your cooking area.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so they won’t get bumped.

Electrical sense: Follow these safety tips to prevent an electrical fire:

- Plug only one heat-producing appliance (microwave, coffee maker, and portable heater) into the electrical outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Extension cords are for temporary use only.
- If you have an electrical cord that is frayed or broken, don’t use it.

Home protection: Fire prevention is important, but also make sure you and your home are protected.

- Put working smoke alarms on every level of your home and inside and outside sleeping areas.
- Test your alarms each month.
- Create and practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year.

Backyard risks

Home fire safety doesn’t stop at the door. There are many fire risks outside the home as well. You likely have these in your backyard. Here are some ways you can keep your home safer from outside fire.

Grilling: Make safe outdoor cooking a priority.

- Move the grill away from siding, decking, and other things that can catch fire.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill when it’s hot.
- Stay with the grill the entire time you’re cooking.
- Keep your grill clean so leftover grease and fat won’t catch on fire.

Backyard fire pits: Permanent and portable fire pits bring fire danger to your home. You can prevent fire or burn injury with these simple steps:

- Make sure the fire pit is at least three feet away from your house and anything that can burn.
- Closely watch children when the fire pit is in use.
- Use a metal screen over wood-burning fires to keep sparks from floating out.
- Turn off or put out fires before you leave the backyard.
- Store matches and lighters out of children’s sight and reach.

AutoPay and paperless billing

Visit oriontownship.org/departments/public_services/billing_information.php to enroll in ACH (AutoPayment) and paperless billing of your water and sewer bill.

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

To learn more about fire prevention visit usfa.fema.gov.

Moving?
Rewards for recycling

Have you seen the new Recyclebank offers from local businesses? Simply sign up at recyclebank.com or contact a representative at 888-727-2978 and browse the list of rewards. Check back frequently; new offers are being added regularly. Each week you recycle you’ll earn points, and those points can be redeemed for discounts and free products at local stores. Take a look at what you can recycle to help you earn points. Acceptable recyclables include the following clean and dry commingled items:

- Newspaper, magazines, brochures and inserts
- Corrugated flattened cardboard and paper bags
- Paperboard boxes, such as cereal, pasta, and tissues
- Pizza boxes, clean of food
- Greeting cards, regular and junk mail
- Office paper
- Phone books
- #1, #2, #4, and #7 plastic containers (NO foam or styrofoam)
- Aluminum and metal cans, including aerosol cans
- Paperboard drink boxes and cartons
- Glass bottles and jars, all colors
- Bulky rigid plastics such as buckets, baskets, chairs, and toys

TURN RECYCLING INTO GREAT LOCAL DEALS!

If you haven’t already joined your neighbors in Orion who are turning their recycling into discounts at local businesses, then you’re missing out on the chance to save some big bucks, just by helping us keep stuff out of landfills!

Signing up is quick and easy, and once you’ve confirmed your membership, you’ll be able to earn points by the recycling you already do at home.

So what are you waiting for? Visit Recyclebank.com and start getting rewarded for helping Orion become a cleaner, greener town!

Can you recycle frozen food boxes?

Frozen food boxes are similar to the boxes that your favorite cereal and granola bars come in, but one important detail changes everything.

Frozen food boxes are made of poly-coated paperboard (sometimes called “plastic-coated” paperboard), which basically means it’s made of paperboard and then coated in a thin layer of plastic designed to prevent freezer burn and moisture leaks. While paperboard is regularly recycled worldwide, the thin layer of plastic used in frozen food packaging is not.

Poly-coated paperboard is an example of mixed-materials packaging, where a product contains a combination of...
Local real estate market news

Low inventory creates challenges for buyers

The new year started off with a strong real estate market, similar to last year; however, as we headed further into February and March/April we saw an extreme change.

With inventory low (not enough homes on the market for the amount of buyers) and interest rates being at historically low rates that brought out a large pool of buyers. I have referred to the market many times as the Wild, Wild West! While sellers have seen unprecedented activity and offers on their homes, it has been extremely challenging for buyers. In a normal market we see a variety of offers come in from Conventional to FHA (Federal Housing Administration) loans to VA (United States Department of Veterans Affairs) loans to the rare cash offer.

However, during this very abnormal market we have seen a significant increase in the number of cash sales within the first quarter of 2021. While cash sales have come in on occasion, lately they have been making a more frequent appearance in these multiple offer situations. In Oakland County we saw a 171% increase in cash sales from January 2021 to March 2021. And while there are very few cash sales within the Lake Orion school district, which greatly affects the percentage, there was a 300% increase in cash sales during the same period of time. Buyers who are submitting offers with a loan are offering sellers above list price and providing a “cash guarantee” in the event the home does not appraise for the agreed upon sales price.

Another area we have seen changes from the normal market is with home inspections. Typically, a buyer will submit an offer contingent upon a satisfactory home inspection. Once a home inspection is complete a buyer has the option to move forward accepting the home “as is,” choose to not move forward with purchasing the home, or move forward with purchasing the home if the seller will make some repairs. This home inspection process has many factors involved and is different for every transaction.

I have seen and negotiated almost every scenario you can imagine, with the market being as competitive as it has been we have been seeing changes in this piece in buyers’ offers as well. Some buyers have been waiving home inspections (I highly discourage this) or letting the seller know in advance that they will not ask for any repairs under a certain cost to repair and others are even offering a simple pass/fail—either move forward, regardless of what an inspector finds or not move forward, if the repairs are beyond what a buyer can or wants to take on themselves.

While this recent market trend may have felt like the Wild, Wild West, it’s nothing that a seasoned and persistent realtor can’t help you maneuver through!

By Orion Living Contributor
Tracy Woodrum. Tracy is an Associate Broker/Realtor with DOBI Real Estate.
Lake Orion History

Where living was a roller coaster

An amusement park in Lake Orion? Yes it’s true! From 1911 until the 1930s, Lake Orion had everything from dancing, live music, lunch stands, souvenir shops, gaming like Japanese Rolling Ball, a $12,000 carousel, Michigan’s largest water slide—and even a roller coaster. This is on top of the best fishing around, swimming and boat excursions.

It all started with John Winter in 1911 who owned Lake Orion Summer Homes Company. He purchased Park Island and quickly developed it into a destination that thousands of people traveled to each week during the summer months. He also built many summer homes on the island that attracted vacationers who wanted the “up north” living.

The Main Landing to the summer resort (now Green’s Park) had easy access to the two main railroads passing through town: the Detroit Urban Railway and the Michigan Central Railroad. It also had a large lit entrance with arches inviting those to board the launch to their getaways and a day full of fun at the amusement park. The Main Landing also had the Lake Shore Cafe and the Lakeside Hotel owned by the Green family.

The Thriller

On the island, the wooden roller coaster, “The Thriller,” and a large dance pavilion were main attractions for Park Island. The Thriller lived up to its name because at one point, the coaster tracks extended out over the lake making it an exciting ride. Rumor had it that a car left the tracks on one occasion and dropped out of site. The dance pavilion attracted major talent like Logan’s Lansing Orchestra and Butler’s Band from Detroit.

Wouldn’t it be great to step back into time and see all of this happening in our city? Being able to set foot on Park Island listening to the screams of the roller coaster, the smells of the park food, the live music blaring and the laughter of all the excited patrons. It was truly “Where Living is a Vacation.”

By Orion Living Contributor Jimmy Johnson. Jimmy owns Graphic Takeover and shares Orion history at WhereLivingisaVacation.com and on Facebook @WhereLivingisaVacation.

Photos courtesy of Images of America: Lake Orion, Orion Since 1818, Ingram Collection, and the Lake Orion Library.
Celebrate safely with fireworks

The Fourth of July has only been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941. Its roots however date back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. “Taxation without representation!” became the battle cry throughout the 13 Colonies. America's colonies were forced to pay taxes to England's King George III despite having no representation in the British Parliament. British troops were sent over to alleviate the frustration and movement toward rebellion. Dissatisfaction continued to grow.

In 1776, the Colonies’ Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and formed a committee to draft a document that would ultimately sever ties with Great Britain. Thomas Jefferson was considered the strongest, most eloquent writer of the group, and was the one whom crafted the original document. A total of 86 changes were made to his draft.

On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence and two days later, delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence. Festivities range from fireworks, parades and concerts to family gatherings and barbecues.

Fireworks safety

Fireworks have long been a part of our celebrations, for hundreds of years. More than anything else, when you think of fireworks, the first thing most people think of is the Fourth of July and celebrating our country’s independence. The only safe way to do that though is to attend a professional show fireworks display; however, if you plan to use consumer grade fireworks at home, make sure everyone knows about fireworks safety ahead of time.

- Never allow children to handle, play with, or light any fireworks. Sparklers can reach 1,800–2,000 degrees, hot enough to melt gold!
- Don’t hold fireworks in your hand and never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse.
- Light fireworks one at a time and never use them indoors. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap. Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them in the trash can.

If not handled properly, fireworks can cause burns and other injuries in both kids and adults. As mentioned above, sparklers can burn at about 2,000 degrees, so this “fun” activity is actually a lot more dangerous than most people think. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping them on their feet. According to the National Fire Protection Association, sparklers alone account for more than 25% of emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under 5 years of age, sparklers accounted for nearly half of the total estimated injuries.

There are other ways to celebrate the holidays at home, here’s a few ideas to get you into the patriotic spirit without using fireworks:

- Use glow sticks, they glow in the dark and are a safe alternative to a sparkler. This is fun for all ages.
- Use noise makers. This one is sure to get the kids excited—better yet, you can even make your own at home.
- Who doesn’t love silly string? If you want to make this feel even more patriotic, look for red, white, and blue silly string at the store.
- Have an outdoor movie night. Set up a screen or a white sheet and a projector, pop your favorite popcorn, and enjoy. Don’t forget the bug spray!
We don’t want a world without trees

Stop for minute and try to imagine a world without trees. Go on, really think about it.

It’s impossible. We wouldn’t be here without trees. Trees are able to remove excess carbon dioxide (CO2) from the air and convert it into oxygen through photosynthesis. In one year, an acre of mature trees can provide enough oxygen for 18 people and absorb the same amount of CO2 produced when you drive your car for 26,000 miles. In addition to removing excess carbon dioxide from the air, trees absorb odors and pollutant gases and help filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark leaving the air a little cleaner.

The leaves on a tree catch rain before it reaches the ground, allowing some of it to slowly drip and the rest to evaporate. Tree roots hold soil in place, reducing erosion. In these ways, trees lessen the force of storms and reduce the amount of runoff into sewers, streams, and rivers, improving water quality. When mulched, trees act like a sponge that filters this water naturally and uses it to recharge groundwater supplies. One hundred mature trees can intercept about 100,000 gallons of rainfall per year. This is also helpful when situated...
Plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day

During our 5th Annual Orion Green-Up, on April 24th, we planted a tree in Camp Agawam in honor of Arbor Day. National Arbor Day is the last Friday of April and is a day of observance in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant trees.

The history of Arbor Day came from Julius Sterling Morton who had a passion for planting all kinds of trees. Morton was born in New York and married his wife in Detroit and thereafter they headed west to the wilds of Nebraska Territory where he ranched on 160 treeless acres. There he planted orchards and took every opportunity to spread the word to people of Nebraska to plant trees and try new crops. Once he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, he further spread his message of the value of trees. It was on January 4, 1872 that Morton first proposed a tree planting holiday to be called “Arbor Day” at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

One million trees

At the meeting, the celebration date was set for April 10, 1872. To encourage participation, prizes were offered to counties and individuals for the largest number of properly planted trees on that day. More than one million trees were planted that day! In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal state holiday in Nebraska, and April 22 was selected as the date for its permanent annual observance. However, National Arbor Day is always celebrated on the last Friday in April. Many states actually observe Arbor Day on different dates throughout the year based on best tree planting times in their area.

Near bodies of water as they massively reduce the amount of rainwater entering the watercourses to reduce the likeliness of flooding.

Trees have been shown to lower air temperatures and humidity. Evaporation of water vapor into the air through their leaves, trees have a cooling effect, by about 10 degrees Fahrenheit. By shading our homes and streets, the shade from a tree breaks up urban “heat islands” caused by dark roofs and pavement absorbing solar energy and radiating it back. Trees in parking lots have been shown to reduce asphalt temperatures by 36 degrees Fahrenheit and car interiors by up to 47 degrees Fahrenheit. Not only does their shade help with the temperature, it provides cover for people and animals from cold, hot, or windy conditions. Trees have also been shown to reduce UV–B exposure by about 50 percent.

Wherever trees are established, wildlife and other plants are sure to follow. This ensures a healthy and balanced ecosystem. They provide excellent shelter and food for birds, bees, bats, and squirrels to name a few. Oak trees have been found to support over 280 species of insects, which in turn provide food for many birds and other animals.

Trees are also a great food source, they help combat noise and light pollution, help reduce stress, and are good for the economy. It’s pretty clear that trees provide wonderful benefits for both humans and the natural environment.

Trees are the lungs of our planet. They’re the homes for our wildlife. They are our protectors against flooding. Trees are vital to so many aspects of our life. So take a minute to appreciate all of the natural beauty that we are so lucky to have all around us.
Out and about in Downtown Lake Orion’s Social District

If you see people drinking on the sidewalks, don’t worry! You did not get transported somewhere along the Gulf Coast, you are in Downtown Lake Orion’s Social District.

A Social District provides flexibility for restaurants and bars by enabling the on-site sale and off-site consumption of alcoholic beverages in the designated “Social District Commons” areas.

When the new social district legislation passed last June, The Village of Lake Orion immediately started looking at how to build their District. As a result of all the quick action taken, in August Lake Orion became the first downtown in Oakland County to have a Social District.

Lake Orion’s Social District is open when the permitted restaurants are open, year round. Five Social District Commons Area Dining hubs were established throughout town, with the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority (DDA) providing courtesy sanitation stations and Social District information at each.

**Downtown opportunities for outdoor fun**

The Social District has become the foundation from which the DDA has been able to bring focus to all of the outdoor entertainment and amenities available to visitors. When the Social District first opened, the American Legion had their cornhole toss league going and that brought at least 60 additional people to town each week. The DDA added over 20 picnic tables and provided live concerts and a DJ weekly. Other outdoor entertainment included watching the artists from Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) clinging to the side of our tallest building to create the “Enter the Dragon” Mural. Finally, the Orion Township Library staged their first nationally acclaimed Storywalk featuring the children’s book *Owl Babies* in the windows of downtown stores.

“Looking back at last summer—there we were, in the middle of a pandemic with road construction along M–24 hindering

Holden Payne and his mom Njani follow the pages of *If You Give A Mouse a Cookie* in downtown businesses as they stroll south on Broadway. Storywalk is a partnership with the Orion Township Library.

The Social District commons area includes the sidewalks on Broadway from Shadbolt to M–24, on Flint and Front from Anderson to Lapeer, and the Flint Street Alleyway, Meek’s Park at Broadway, and the Children’s Park bike lot area.
traffic flow yet Lake Orion was a thriving, busy downtown—it was brilliant and provided hope,” says Molly LaLone, Lake Orion DDA Executive Director.

In February, the DDA launched “Social District Nights.” It is an educational campaign about the District itself and the many businesses who stay open after 5 pm. As part of the weekly event, the village created “Festival Warming Hubs” featuring fire pits, seating, heaters and s’mores kits at the American Legion and at the corner of Anderson and Flint. Tables and heaters placed in the Flint Street Alleyway provide a sheltered dining area. The Social District Nights started out with an Ice Sculpture Festival featuring live ice carving weekly on Thursdays for the whole month of February.

This summer, you can expect to see something new every month!

- Storywalks with a new children’s book each month
- More live music in the park
- More festivals
- More outside games for families to enjoy
- and more of the dining and shopping you’ve grown to love

Downtown Lake Orion is ready for you!

SOCIAL DISTRICT
Participating Restaurants
EVERY THURSDAY FROM 5 TO 8 PM

313 Pizza Bar
American Legion Post 233
Anita’s Kitchen
Bitter Tom’s Distillery
Fork n’ Pint
Johnny Black’s Lakehouse
Oat Soda Lake Orion
Sagebrush Cantina
Wine Social

Grab some friends and head downtown this summer to enjoy beverages outdoors in the Social District. Matt Shell, Jeff Dimitrievski and Jon Sanders sample the latest craft beer at Fork n’ Pint.
SPECIAL EVENTS

Blood Drive with Versiti Blood Center
Orion Center
Thu, Jun 17 | 2–7 pm
Every day, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan needs more than 560 blood products to meet hospital demand. Sign up to donate today at donate.michigan.versiti.org.

Concerts in the Park at Wildwood
Wildwood Amphitheater
Tue, Jun 22–Aug 10 | 7–8:30 pm
Free Parking & Admission
No matter what 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 music on the hill. Sit back, relax, and enjoy. Great food & drink options will be available. See the full concert schedule on page 29.

Summer Break Car Bingo
Orion Center | Tue, Jun 22 | 1 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Need something to do over summer? Join us for some safe fun in the Orion Center parking lot playing Car Bingo! Participants receive a set of bingo cards and a marker to mark their card when they hear the numbers on the radio. If you get a BINGO you’ll honk your horn and flash your lights and we will come out and give you a prize! Thank you to our Sponsor: Swirlz Lake Orion.

Game Day Swap
Orion Center | Thu, Aug 12 | 12–7 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Do you love games and need some new ones? Join us for the Game Day swap and exchange puzzles, books, DVDs and board games with others from Noon–7 pm in the Orion Center at 1335 Joslyn Rd.

Dragon Trails: Orion Family Bike Ride
Orion Center | Sat, Aug 14 | 9 am–2 pm
1st Adult $20 | 2nd Adult $10
Ages 7–17 $5 | Under 7 Free
Take a leisurely ride with the entire family through the woods and past the lakes of Orion Township. Choose your own speed and distance for a fun ride on the Polly Ann Trail and our lovely safety paths. Routes ranging from 1.75 to 11 miles begin at Civic Center Park and pass by Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Camp Agawam, Orion Oaks County Park, and Friendship Park. Additional mileage is available in the parks including over ten miles of easy mountain bike trails in Orion Oaks. Enjoy bicycle fittings, checkups and demonstrations before and lunch after the ride.

Dragon Trails: Bi–Weekly Family Rides
Family-focused, bi–weekly rides on Saturdays along the Polly Ann Trail and Orion Township’s safety paths will take place starting in June. These rides will be a great way to learn about the sections of the Township that you’ve yet to ride! Visit orionparks.com for more information about ride locations, dates, and how to get started.

Slow Row LO
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 dates, details and exact location. Parking permits/passes may be required for some locations.

Summer Sizzle
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 24 | 6–8 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Kick off your summer with a mini family staycation right here in Orion Township. Your kids will love the carnival games, face painting, bounce house, balloons, grilled hot dogs, and much more without breaking the bank to get there! All of this fun is free for everyone, a staycation that SIZZLES!

Big Rig Gig
Friendship Park | Fri, Aug 6 | 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. Load up the entire family, come early, stay late. Event runs at Friendship Park, on the corner of Baldwin & Clarkston Rds.
Dragon Dash
Wildwood | Sun, Sep 12 | 9 am
$14R/$17NR

Whether you run or walk, join us for the Annual Dragon Dash! This new 5K certified course beginning and ending at Wildwood and following the Polly Ann Trail north toward the Orion Center will enhance your training season. All runners will receive an award crossing the finish line. All levels of runners and walkers are invited, from beginner to competitive.

Fall Festival of Family Fun
Camp Agawam | Sat, Sep 25
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! Parking and admission is free, more details to come.

Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show
Orion Center | Sat, Oct 2 | 10 am–5 pm | Free Parking & Admission

#BuyNearBy and Shop Local! Start your holiday shopping early with one of a kind, unique arts and craft show featuring distinctive and classic Made in Michigan products, made by Michiganders for Michiganders! Find exclusive holiday, birthday or just because gifts for yourself and your friends & family! Vendors will be throughout the Orion Center with everything from one of a kind, hand–made jewelry, clothing and home décor. Interested vendors can contact Jennifer Vezina at jvezina@oriontownship.org or 248.391.0304 Ext 3503 for details. Only hand made locally products will be considered.

YOUTH ENRICHMENT

Home Alone Training
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 15 | 10–11 am | Ages 9+ | $17R/$19NR

Is your young teen staying home alone this summer? 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. Hand–outs are included.

Babysitter Training
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 15 | 11:30 am–2 pm | Ages 11–14
$20R/$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 prerequisite class: Home Alone Training.

Horseback Riding Lessons
Times Square Riding Academy | Sat, Jun 5–Jul 10
Jul 24–Aug 28 | Sep 11–Oct 16 | 1:30–2:30 pm
Ages 7+ | $150R/$160NR

Each lesson consists of basic grooming, riding and horse care for beginner riders in the English Saddle style with Times Square Riding Academy, located at 4835 Oakwood Road, Ortonville. Looking for that special time with your child? Take lessons together. Register early for a rewarding and unforgettable experience. Additional lesson times are available Mon–Fri evenings, Sat and Sun afternoons.

Babysitter Training
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SNAPeLOGY

Better Robotics Workshop
Friendship Park Meeting Room | Sat, Sep 18 | 9:30 am–12:30 pm | Ages 5–10
$32R/$37NR

Does your builder enjoy designing beautiful buildings and cities for their mini–figures? If so, this program is the perfect space for your young architect or city planner to sharpen their design and building skills on national clean up day! In this workshop, students will learn all about the importance of collaboration, careful planning, and skillful execution of their building plans.

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

Summer 2021 | Orion Living
Join Orion Living’s Parks & Recreation Program for a fun and educational outdoor experience! From camping to archery, there’s something for everyone! All programs will be following current Covid-19 regulations, including wearing face masks and social distancing. Some program modifications/changes may take place as regulations change.

Nature—All About Insects!
Civic Center Park, Sheardy Pavilion
Wed, Jul 14 | 5–7 pm | All Ages
$5/Family
Join us and Oakland County’s Mobile Rec Unit at Camp Agawam. At this event we will have insect related crafts and games, a science experiment station, and a Go Fish station with Backyard Bass—bringing fishing to the backyard, no water required! Preregistration is required, limited number of spots available.

Intro to Trail Riding
Friendship Park | Sat, Jun 19
9–11 am | Ages 8–16 | $15R/$18NR
Join Main Street Bicycles and Lake Orion Cycling Team for a fun introduction to the basics of trail riding. Coaches will be there to assist new riders with the safety requirements for riding trails and to show some techniques for getting out and enjoying the trails. Main Street Bicycles will be there to help make any adjustments to helmets or bicycles if anyone is in need. Coaches will be provided by Lake Orion Cycling Team. Please bring your own water bottle, helmet, and bicycle. Raffles will be offered onsite for a chance to win prizes. Action portraits will be provided for each participant by K Gedda Smith Images.

Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP)
Camp Agawam | Sun, Jun 13, Jul 11, Jul 25 | 2–3:30 pm | 4–5:30 pm
Ages 8–14 | $30R/$33NR per class
*Multi–child discount
Participants will learn the basics of Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP) including the best methods to balance, paddle, navigate, and re-board. SUP Safety will also be addressed. Participants will participate in a fun navigational course, and other fun SUP games! Clinic includes the use of SUP (Stand Up Paddleboard), paddle, life jacket, instruction, water portraits and digital downloads. Hosted by Game On Paddleboarding, Portraits by K Gedda Smith Images. Participants need to bring; towel, bathing suit, shoes that can get wet, water bottle, snack. *Additional family participants are $15 each, must live in the same household.

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

CAMPFIRE WITH DINOSAUR HILL
Camp Agawam Fire Bowl
Thu, Jun 10, 24, Aug 28 | 8:30–9:30 pm | Ages 5–12
$12R/$14NR per night/per youth
Join Dinosaur Hill in an evening by the campfire as we learn about sounds and activities of our forest friends around us. Educational and entertaining, you will be spellbound by what is happening in the environment around us. Presentation themes change nightly and may include; owls, bats, coyotes, spiders, astronomy and more! Individual s'more kits will be made for each registered family so that we can be properly energized for the evening’s fun! Registration fee includes s'more kit and an hour–long interactive presentation. Remember to bring bug spray!
ADULT ENRICHMENT

Coffee With Chris
Orion Center | Fri, Jun 25, Jul 23, Aug 27 | 9:30–10:30 am
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, submit it in advance to cbarnett@oriontownship.org or schedule an appointment. No registration is necessary, discussion is held virtually when necessary.

YOUTH FITNESS

Kiddie Kickers
Friendship Park, Soccer Field #1
Wed, Aug 4–Sep 8 | 6–7 pm
Ages 3–4 or 5–6 | $57R/$60NR
Youth soccer is a great way to encourage an active lifestyle while enhancing your child's social and physical development. This program offers a fun and safe atmosphere for learning the basics of soccer, and incorporates fun activities and non–competitive scrimmages that promote sportsmanship and teamwork. Participants are encouraged to bring a size 3 soccer ball. Soccer balls are available for purchase at the time of registration for $12 (limit of 1 per registered participant). Rain date scheduled for September 15 if needed.

Amazing Athletes
Friendship Park | Thu, Sep 2–Oct 28*
5:45–6:30 pm | Ages 7–12
$144R/$154NR
*No Class Thu, Sep 23
Our action–packed curriculum is endorsed by Early Childhood Expert, Bonnie Bruce who reviews each element of our program to ensure our Amazing Athletes get every possible advantage. Our programs show kids just how much fun fitness can be! During our 35 minute weekly classes, children learn the importance of patience, teamwork, and self–confidence in a non–competitive, learning–based environment that fosters a love of healthy living. Their excitement for structured physical activity promotes advancements and advantages that keep children on the path to personal well–being.

Amazing Athletes PE
Friendship Park | Thu, Sep 2–Oct 28*
5:45–6:30 pm | Ages 7–12
$128R/$138NR
*No Class Thu, Sep 23
Amazing Athletes P.E. is a game–based sports program designed to engage older children in active wellness through advanced physical fitness challenges and interactive sports lessons. Children between the ages of 7 to 12 display a wide range of physical abilities and strengths. Our coaches work with each child to help them strive for their personal best. Each 45 minute class engages athletes in non–competitive, sport–specific training for focused development. Athletes work in pairs to develop teamwork, motor skills, and patience.

Instructor Highlight: Pamela Palmer
Our fine art classes and camps are taught by Pamela Palmer of The Artist's Apprentice.

Pamela was born and educated in Canada. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in painting and a minor in drawing from the University of Windsor and a Diploma of Interior Design from St. Clair College. Her works have been accepted into the government collection of Ontario and into juried shows at the Windsor Gallery of Art. She has been the 4th grade art teacher and an art instructor at the Early Childhood Learning Center.

Pamela has been an instructor with Parks & Recreation for three years. Her classes continue to grow in popularity. In The Artist's Apprentice program, students work to improve their personal best, an mindset that should continue throughout their lifetime. Pamela is offering these art camps this summer: Japanese Cartooning Camp, Art Fun Camp for Kids, Sculpture Camp, and Last Chance Drawing Camp! If your child is interested in art, you will not regret signing them up for these fun camps!
ADULT FITNESS AND WELLNESS

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 3–Aug 26 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+
$10R/$11NR per class

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 spirit. No drumming experience is necessary. Classes will be held outside at the Orion Center, weather permitting, or on Zoom. An email will be sent to all who are registered on Thursday afternoon confirming if the class will be in person or on Zoom. Registration is per class. No equipment for the Zoom class? No problem, we have a list of comparable items you can use at home! Instructor: Cindi Carter

Visit eastoakcounty.fit4mom.com to view the schedule and enroll in your first class for FREE!

High Energy Fitness X–Training
High Energy Fitness/Virtual
Tu/Th, Jun–Aug | 7–8 pm | Ages 18+
$50 monthly

X–Training—We will hit every muscle group and burn tons of calories using a variety of workouts like Cycle, HIIT, Bootcamp, Functional Training, and Kickboxing. These classes are good for your health, body and mind! All fitness levels welcome. Virtual classes are 30–minute express and are available on–demand in a private FB group or with a YouTube link. We will combine strength and cardio for a super effective total body workout! All fitness levels welcome. Please follow High Energy Fitness on Facebook for more details! High Energy Fitness is located at 155 S. Washington St, Oxford.

Hatha Gentle Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 7–21
Jul 12–26 | Aug 2–16 | 4:40–5:40 pm
Ages 16+ | $33R/$35NR

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 night.

Hatha Continuing Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 7–21
Jul 12–26 | Aug 2–16 | 6–7:15 pm
Ages 16+ | $33R/$35NR

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.

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, it is 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!
**Hatha Open Yoga**
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 3-17
Jul 8-22 | Aug 5-19 | 10-11:15 am | Ages 16+ | $33R/$35NR
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.

**Hatha Yoga with Ease**
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 3-17
Jul 8-22 | 1-2 pm | Ages 40+ | $24R/$26NR
Thu, Aug 5-12 | $16R/$18NR
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/Virtual | Mon, Jun 7-Aug 2 | 9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $64R/$68NR
Orion Center/Virtual | Mon, Aug 9-23 | 9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $24R/$28NR
Drop in fee: $10R/$11NR
Choose in person or virtual classes! 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.

**Zumba Gold Toning**
Orion Center/Virtual | Wed, Jun 9–Jul 28 | 9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $64R/$68NR
Orion Center/Virtual | Wed, Aug 11–25 | 9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $24R/$28NR
Drop in fee: $10R/$11NR
Choose in person or virtual classes! 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.

**MELT Method Class**
Orion Center/Virtual | Wed, Jun 9 | 10:45–11:30 am | Ages 18+ | Free
Orion Center/Virtual | Wed, Jun 16–Jul 7 | 10:45 am–12 pm | Ages 18+ | $45R/$48NR
Drop in fee: $15R/$16NR
MELT is a simple compression technique that uses a soft body roller and balls for the hands and feet to address the connective tissue in order to 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. Try a free demo class on Mon Jun 9. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal.

**Pickleball Lessons—Beginner**
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Jun 8 & 10 | 10 am–12 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jul 12 & 14 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Aug 10 & 12 | 10–12 pm | $40R/$42NR
These beginner lessons will introduce you to the basic rules, proper grip, shots, scoring, and play of pickleball. Paddles and balls will be provided. Bring your own if you have one.

**Pickleball Lessons—Intermediate**
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jun 7 & 9 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jul 12 & 14 | 10 amq–12 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Aug 10 & 12 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR
Develop and improve your pickleball skills through drills and game situations. Learn advanced playing strategies to give you the edge over your opponents. Previous experience necessary.

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

**ENRICHMENT CLASSES**

**Introduction to Medicare—Don’t be Sold, be Informed**
Orion Center | Thu, Aug 26 | 5 pm
Free

The Michigan Retirement Agency, locally owned, specializes in helping older adults learn about their Medicare options. Many important topics will be covered that will help guide you through the maze of Medicare and to keep you informed. There is not a “one size fits all plan” like many suggest, so they will help you identify the most suitable plan specific to your doctors and your medication list. If this class doesn’t work with your schedule Chad will also meet with you one on one.

**Ask the Attorney**
Orion Center | Mon, Jul 12
1:30 pm | Free

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

**Let’s Craft Together!**
Orion Center | 2 pm | Thu, Jun 3, 17, Jul 1, 15, Aug 5, 19 | Fee varies per craft

Let’s get crafty! In this class we will work together to learn a craft that you may not have had the confidence to do at home by yourself. All supplies are provided. Registration Deadline is 24 hours before the class meeting time.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Picnic at the Park**
Friendship Park | Wed, Jun 9
12 pm | $5R/$7NR
Civic Center Park | Wed, Jul 7
12 pm | $5R/$7NR
Camp Agawam | Wed, Aug 25
12 pm | $5R/$7NR

Join us for a boxed meal at a new park every month. Trivia, games, and socially distanced fun!

**Happy Father’s Day**
Orion Center | Fri, Jun 18 | 1 pm
Free

The Orion Center wants to celebrate all our members who are dads! Come stop by the Orion Center to pick up a goodie bag of treats. Registration is required.

**Ice Cream Daze of Summer**
Orion Center Patio | Fri, Jun 25, Jul 23, Aug 20 | 2 pm | $1R/$3NR

Treat yourself to an Ice Cream Sundae and socialize with other members on our back patio.

**CPR CLASSES**

**American Heart Association**

**HeartSaver CPR/AED**
Fire Station #2 | TBD | 5–9 pm
Ages 12+ | $40

Fire Station #2 | TBD
10 am–2 pm | Ages 12+ | $40

Class will cover CPR/AED/Choking for all age groups.

**American Heart Association**

**HeartSaver CPR/AED/First Aid**
Fire Station #2 | 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.

All programs will be following current Covid-19 regulations, including wearing face masks and social distancing, some program modifications/changes may take place as regulations change.
Shop Local Senior Day
Downtown
Downtown Lake Orion  Thu, Jul 29 1:30 pm  Free
The day will start at Cookies and Cream where all guests will receive a wristband and a complimentary ice cream. From there guests will shop around Lake Orion and enjoy a Senior Day Discount at most stores downtown.

Bocce Ball Tournament
Orion Center  Wed, Aug 11  1 pm  $3R/$5NR
Drink, eat, and roll with us! Never played Bocce Ball before? No problem! The game is very fast to learn with hours of fun. Beverages and light snacks will be provided.

CLUBS
Membership and registration is required. Due to the current regulations, some clubs may not be meeting. To check if a club is actively meeting, please call the Orion Center or check online at orionparks.com.

K4 Knit/Crochet
Mon  12:30–3:30 pm
Chinese Mahjong
Mon  12:30–3:30 pm
$4R/$5NR
Ham Radio
Mon & Thu  6–8:45 pm
Bingo
Tue  1–2:30 pm
Painting
Tue  10 am–2 pm
Spanish Club
Virtual  every other Tue  3 pm
Trail Blazers
Wed & Fri  10 am
Pinochle/Euchre
Wed  12:30–3:30 pm
Library Book Club
Orion Center Patio
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  11 am–3:30 pm
$4R/$5NR
You must bring your own 2021 Official Standard Hands and Rules card.

Silver Sneakers
Circuit
Orion Center  Every Mon  10–11 am  $3R/NR per class
*Free for Silver Sneakers Members
Combine fun with fitness to increase your cardiovascular and muscular endurance power with a standing circuit workout. A chair is used for standing support, stretching and relaxation exercises. Instructor: Becki Doyle

Classic
Orion Center  Every Wed  10–11 am  $3R/NR per class
*Free for Silver Sneakers Members
Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activities for daily living. A chair is available if needed for seating or standing support. Instructor: Becki Doyle

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
EXERCISE ROOM AT THE ORION CENTER

The Exercise Room at the Orion Center provides an opportunity for seniors age 54+ to enhance their health and wellness. You must have a current membership to use this room. Interested in an Exercise Room Membership? Please call 248-391-0304 x3500 and a staff member will guide you through the registration process.

Monday–Friday | 8:30 am–4 pm (by appointment only)
Monthly Fee: $6R/$12NR

- Equipment available for use: 4 treadmills, 1 elliptical, 3 recumbent bikes, 1 rowing machine, 2 PhysioSteps (recumbent crosstrainer), Curves resistance machines
- Members need to make an appointment with Orion Center staff prior to entering the Exercise Room. Participants will be limited per MDHHS guidelines.
- Each membership will need to have up-to-date contact information in our software system.
- Once you arrive for your scheduled appointment, participants must fill out the designated wellness form confirming they do not have any symptoms.
- Before entering the Exercise Room, participants need to scan their key fob to the right of the door to log the date and start time in our software system.
- Participants must wear a facial covering at all times.
- Please maintain 6 foot distance from other participants in the room. Some equipment will be marked as “out of order” to ensure 6 foot distance.
- Patrons must disinfect exercise equipment after use.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be readily available at all times.
- When exiting, participants must scan their key fob to log the date and end time in our software system.
- The room will be disinfected twice daily (7 am and 12:30 pm).

LEAGUES

FALL YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Aug 9–Oct 16 | $20 Multi–Child Discount
$30 Late Fee after Jul 11 | Registration Deadline Jul 18
League schedules finalized in July

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL)
$90R/$100NR | Civic Center Park
The Fall season will consist of two nights during the week. Late fee may be waived up to one week after deadline, call Jesse Hayes at 248–391–0304 x3506. Fee includes jersey, hat, and socks.

8U Clinic Division | Coach Pitch
10U Intermediate Division | Player Pitch
14U Junior Division | Player Pitch

Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)
$90R/$100NR per player
The Fall season will consist of one night during the week and Saturday mornings. Fee includes jersey, hat, and socks.

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

Uniforms will be available to try on upon request during Orion Center business hours.
LOYBL Umpire Program
Spring & Fall seasons | Ages 14+ | $10
Classroom Training | Orion Center Time TBD
On-Field Training | Friendship Park Time TBD
Are you interested in becoming a paid baseball umpire? LOYBL is seeking new and returning umpires for the 2021 Spring & Fall seasons. A $10 registration fee will get you an umpire shirt, hat, indicator, use of umpiring equipment, on-field training, and online certification. Game fees start at $30 per game! We will provide everything you need to get out on the field and start making calls and money!

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.

YOUTH SOCCER
Orion/Oxford Soccer League (OOSL)
Online registration available at orionparks.com
Aug 9–Oct 16 | $95R/$105NR per player | $35 Jersey if new player or replacement needed
$30 Late Fee after Jul 11
Registration Deadline Jul 18
League schedules finalized in July
Any child born between Jan 1, 2008 and Dec 31, 2018 is eligible and encouraged to play soccer in the OOSL Fall 2021 season. The season will consist of one practice during the week with games on Saturdays (weekday games if necessary based on number of teams in division).
U-4 | Coed | 2018
U-5 | Coed | 2017
U-6 | Coed | 2016
U-8 | Coed or Girls | 2015 & 2014
U-10 | Coed or Girls | 2012 & 2013
U-12 | Coed or Girls | 2011 & 2010
U-14 | Coed or Girls | 2009 & 2008

Junior Golf League
Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Tue, Jun 15–Aug 24 | 1–3:30 pm
Ages 10–15 | $135R/$140NR
The Mulberry Hills Junior Golf League is designed for both boys and girls, with some prior playing experience and a firm understanding of the game. All participants will play nine holes each week on a semi-competitive basis. All scores and handicaps will be calculated to maintain a level playing field. The league includes on-course supervision, a hot dog & pop, games, contests, awards and prizes each week. No league on July 6.

ADULT LEAGUES
2021 Adult Fall Softball League
Men’s Rec League
Civic Center Park
Tue, Jul 27–Sep 21
6:20–9:50 pm | Ages 18+
Coed Rec League
Civic Center Park
Wed, Jul 28–Sep 22
6:20–9:50 pm | Ages 18+
$305/Team
$20/Non-Resident Player | Refundable Forfeit Deposit: $100
Umpire Fees: $20/Team/Game
Open Registration begins Jun 21 | Manager’s Meeting Jul 19 | 7 pm

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

All programs will be following current Covid-19 regulations, including wearing face masks and social distancing, some program modifications/changes may take place as regulations change.
**PARKS & RECREATION**

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**Orion Living**

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**SUMMER CAMP**

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**Horseback Riding Camp**

Times Square Riding Academy  
Mon–Thu, Jun 21–24 | Jul 19–22  
Aug 2–5 | Aug 23–26 | 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, Ortonville.**

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**Japanese Cartooning Camp**

Orion Center  
Mon–Fri, Jun 7–11  
12:15–3:15 pm  
Ages 7+  
$147R/$152NR

Young artist’s in this camp share a common interest in Manga! Drawing these big–eyed characters with attitudes to match will be the main focus of this camp as we navigate the ins and outs of proportion. We will focus on storyboards with the insertion of transformation Chibis. As we step into the Japanese culture of Kawaii (affectionate, cute, adorable), we will create interesting bubble backgrounds using food coloring and a soap solution. Experimental painting will come into play in the garments we envision. Please wear clothes that are not precious as well as sunscreen as we will be heading over to the playground.

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**Junior Golf Camp**

Mulberry Hills Golf Course  
Mon–Thu, Jul 12–15  
Jul 19–22 | 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!

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**‘Art Fun’ Camp for Kids**

Orion Center  
Mon–Fri, Jul 26–30  
9 am–12 pm  
Ages 7+  
$147R/$152NR

Curious kids will be happy to give a go at all of these innovative projects, carefully selected to promote creativity, and delighted to share their impressive results with you! 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. A $50 material fee, payable to the instructor, due at the first class.

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**Sculpture Camp**

Orion Center  
Mon–Fri, Aug 16–20  
1:15–4:15 pm  
Ages 7+  
$147R/$152NR

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 and
encourage creative reasoning in new ways, allowing them to build amazing things they have only dreamed of before! They will enjoy themselves so much, you might think we have them under a spell!

**Incredible Inventions Robotics PM Camp**
Camp Agawam Alberici Lodge  
Mon–Fri, Jun 14–18 | 1–4 pm  
Ages 6–11 | $159R/$169NR

Whoever said you could not solve the world’s problems with LEGO® bricks? In this camp students learn about the process real inventors go through to create new inventions while designing, building, and programming robotic machines to solve real world problems. If your student likes open-ended problem solving and tinkering, this camp is for them!

**Last Chance Drawing Camp!**
Orion Center  |  Mon–Fri, Aug 30–Sep 3  
9 am–12 pm  |  Ages 7+  
$122R/$125NR

What does it take to become an artist who is fantastic at drawing? PASSION! If your child is constantly sketching, the passion has already begun! It’s time to feed that fire with practice of various techniques, individual instruction, time to concentrate, making mistakes, and growth in abilities. Students will be working on value to add depth, stippling to add interest and hatching and cross-hatching to add texture to their drawings. In these four mornings students will gain confidence as they see their skills improve. Graphite, chalk pastel, oil pastel, colored pencils and light washes of watercolors will be implemented in our nature focused drawings. Bring a snack and water bottle if you wish. A $40 material fee, payable to the instructor, due at the first class.

**Stop Motion Minecraft Animation AM Camp**
Friendship Park Meeting Room  
Mon–Fri, Jul 12–16 | 9 am–12 pm  
Ages 8–13 | $159R/$169NR

Let’s make super cool Minecraft movies with stop motion animation using LEGO® bricks! Students will go through the entire movie making process, from plot and character planning to editing, all using Minecraft as the backdrop for the movies. The best part is the kids will get on our YouTube Channel to watch the video so they can show friends and family!

**Robot Olympics PM Camp**
Friendship Park Meeting Room  
Mon–Fri, Jul 12–16 | 1–4 pm  
Ages 8–13 | $159R/$169NR

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.

**Awesome Robotics Adventure AM Camp**
Friendship Park Meeting Room  
Mon–Fri, Jul 19–23 | 9 am–12 pm  
Ages 6–11 | $159R/$169NR

Come to enjoy a fun morning of Robots and Programming. During the camp children will build many different Robotic Lego® models that use gears, axles, pulleys, sensors, and motors. The camp is designed so that children of all ages and building abilities can build and work together to create some really fun and engaging projects. Some of the sample models include a Mars Rover, Robotic Creatures, and various games just to name a few.
Poké–Heroes PM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 19–23 | 1–4 pm
Ages 6–11 | $142R/$152NR
In Snapology's Poké–Heroes camp, students will explore the Pokémon world and practice their Pokémon training skills! They will create their own training gyms, unique battles, and even their very own generation of Pokémon. Your student will also explore some real-world science as they examine the habitats, characteristics, and needs of different Pokémon. They will do more than catch 'em all; they will build and examine them all very closely and have a blast doing so!

Space Wars Robotics AM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 26–30 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 7–12 | $159R/$169NR
Robotics inspired by Star Wars® and space travel! Come on an adventure building and programming functional robots using LEGO® bricks in this super-fun program. Learn about space, space travel, and of course Star Wars®! Build different robots each day! Learning is enhanced through the use of laptops in this class!

STEAM Survivor PM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 26–30 | 1–4 pm
Ages 7–12 | $142R/$152NR
Does your learner have what it takes to be a STEAM Survivor? If your child enjoys taking on engineering and design challenges, working with a team to complete timed tasks, and using partnerships to brainstorm and explore new possibilities to solve unique problems, this program is the perfect place for them to push their STEAM and building skills to the next level! Throughout the camp, students will be challenged to design and build objects, work cooperatively with others, and compete to be the fastest and most precise competitors in the class. Although the tasks will be challenging, we’ll all work together in this fun and enriching camp to be true STEAM survivors!

Ocean Exploration AM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 2–6 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 5–8 | $159R/$169NR
Students will discover all sorts of fun in the ocean in this interdisciplinary camp that uses robotics, coding, art and engineering concepts to teach children about their underwater friends. Your learner will be too busy underwater exploring, building and creating to realize that they are also gaining critical social and developmental skills.

Story Builders PM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 2–6 | 1–4 pm
Ages 5–8 | $142R/$152NR
Students will explore the primary elements of storytelling as students design their own unique stories focused on the characters and plot lines of stories they’ve heard before. Maybe they will dazzle us with tales of faraway lands, with amazing adventures of superheroes, or even science experiments gone very, very wrong. The possibilities for creation are endless!

Mining & Building AM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 9–13 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 6–11 | $142R/$152NR
Travel to the Nether with Snapology but watch out for those creepers! Come join us as we bring Minecraft® to life using LEGO® bricks. Create your own world, including animals, creepers and your very own Minecraft® character.

Science of Superpowers PM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 9–13 | 1–4 pm
Ages 6–11 | $142R/$152NR
Students explore the world of their favorite superheroes. Students will learn about forces, energy, gravity, and problem solving as they build models inspired by Superman, Batman, and all their favorite heroes. Experimentation and fun are crucial components of this ‘super’ camp!

Amazing Athletes Summer Camp
Friendship Park | Mon–Thu
1–1:45 pm | Ages 3–6 | $64R/$74NR
Amazing Athletes Camps are the premier developmental physical fitness camps empowering children aged 3 to 6 years old to reach developmental milestones at an individual pace. Through our structured active play, Amazing Athletes advance 6 key areas of Motor-Development. During our 45 minute daily, one-week camps, children learn the importance of patience, teamwork, and self-confidence in a non-competitive, learning-based environment that
Concerts in the Park

No matter what 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. FREE Parking & Admission.

Tue, Jun 22  North Oakland Concert Band
Tue, Jun 29  Lake Orion High School Band
Tue, Jul 6  Fifty Amp Fuse—Music of Your Life
Tue, Jul 13  Rock Harley as Johnny Cash
Tue, Jul 20  The Wayback Machine—Trip through the 60’s, 70’s & 80’s
Tue, Jul 27  Dave Bennett Jazz Quartet
Tue, Aug 3  The Island Guys—Caribbean Vacation
Tue, Aug 10  Shout—Beatles Tribute

Wildwood Amphitheater
2700 Joslyn Court, Lake Orion
Tuesdays | 7–8:30 pm

Check out ORION.EVENTS for even more music, entertainment and art events!

fosters a love of healthy living. Their excitement for structured physical activity promotes advancements and advantages that keep children on the path to personal well-being. Our fun, active camps encourage kids to explore and develop a variety of athletic skills through the introduction of 10 different sports. Coaches break the fundamentals of each sport–based skill down into simple steps based on each child’s age and ability.

Tiny Tykes British Soccer Camp
Civic Center Park | Mon–Fri, July 12–16
5–6 pm | Ages 3–5 | $92
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. Registration only accepted at www.challenger.com.

Half Day British Soccer Camp
Civic Center Park | Mon–Fri, July 12–16
5–8 pm | Ages 6–14 | $134
Complete technical player development featuring practices from around the world in our new international camp curriculum. Registration only accepted at www.challenger.com.
1 Registration opens for Youth Fall Leagues (OGSL, LOYBL, OOSL)
3 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
4 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
5 Community Garage Sale & Antique, Toy & Comic Expo, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
5 Free Shred-it Event, Orion Center, 11 am–1 pm
5 Perennial Exchange, Orion Center, 2–3 pm
7 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
10 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
12 River Day, Clinton River Watershed
12 Summer Reading 2021 begins at the Orion Library
12 Tales about Tails and Owls, 11 am and Tails of Wildlife, 2 pm, Orion Library
12 Free Disposal Day, Eagle Valley Recycling, 7 am–1 pm (Free to Orion Township residents only)
13 Slow Row LO, Lake Sixteen, 12 pm
15 Car Bingo, Orion Center, 1–2:30 pm
17 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
19 Orion Community Road Rally, Orion Library, 11 am
21 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
21 Registration opens for Adult Fall Softball League
22 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater
24–27 Lions Club Jubilee, Downtown Lake Orion
24 Summer Sizzle, Orion Center, 6–8 pm
24 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
25 Coffee with Chris, Orion Center, 9:30 am
26 Lake Orion Fireworks, dusk
29 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater, 7–8:30 pm

JUNE

Photo by Lee Smith

JULY

Photo by Ajit Makhecha

6 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
6 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater, 7–8:30 pm
7 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
8 Community Art Project, 10 am
8 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
13 Concert in the Park, Wildwood Amphitheater, 7–8:30 pm
14 All About Insects, Civic Center Park, 5–7 pm, Pre-reg required
14 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
15 Slow Row LO, Lake Orion DNR Boat Launch, 6 pm
15 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
15 Lifecycle of a Honeybee, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
18 Registration deadline for Youth Fall Leagues (OGSL, LOYBL, OOSL)

Background Photo by Nancy Bennett
AUGUST

11 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
12 Game Day Swap, Orion Center, 12–7 pm
12 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
13 Summer Reading Party—Teen Outdoor Movie, Orion Library, 8 pm
14 Dragon Trails, Orion Center, TBA, Pre-reg required
15 Slow Row LO, Tommy’s Lake Camp Agawam, 12 pm
16 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
18 Let’s Get Wild!, Civic Center Park, 5–7 pm, Pre-reg required
18 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
19 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
19 Family Movie, Orion Library, 8 pm
24 Orion Chamber Women In Business Conference, Orion Center, 11 am–1 pm
25 LO Live Concert, Children’s Park in Downtown LO, 7 pm
26 Social District Night, Downtown LO, 5–8 pm
26–29 Dragon on the Lake, Downtown LO
27 Coffee with Chris, Orion Center, 9:30 am

Photo by K Gedda Smith Images
Networking on the links

Register now for the Chamber’s 6th Annual Golf Outing on Monday, August 9th

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is delighted to announce its 6th Annual Golf Outing. The outing will take place on Monday, August 9th and will once again be held at the beautiful, 18-hole championship golf course at Paint Creek Country Club.

We have changed things up a little for this year’s Golf Outing and have some new features! The day will start a little earlier and as well as a full breakfast to see golfers on their way there will be a Bloody Mary bar. *(And maybe Mimosas will also make an appearance!)* We will also have “Golfzilla”—a huge inflatable dinosaur *(or perhaps dragon—this is Lake Orion after all)*! Golfers will get three shots for $5 to try to pitch a golf ball through Golfzilla’s mouth. Golfers who manage to do that will get a raffle ticket to a premium prize *(rumored to be alcohol of some sort)!*

On one of the holes there will be a “Golf Ball Cannon” which golfers can pay $5 to blast a golf ball 325 yards to the green. Don’t worry insurance folks—the Golf Ball Cannon comes complete with its own “handler”!

And finally, after the luncheon one lucky golfer will be drawn for a putting contest. They will have the chance to make a 50 yard putt for a prize of $5,000!

The $175 golf package includes:

- Bloody Mary bar and full breakfast before golf begins
- Drinks tickets
- 18 holes of golf on the “Best Of” course in Lake Orion
- A full luncheon
- Open Premium Bar during luncheon

Golfers may register individually or as a team of four for $650. For non–golfers there is a luncheon only option for $30 *(($45 for non-Chamber members) that includes the open bar.

Registration begins at 9 am and golfing begins at 10:30 with a shotgun start. Winners, including Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive and Straightest Drive, will be announced during the luncheon.

To register to play, go to orionareachamber.com/golf-outing.
Thank you to all of our sponsors! The following businesses are sponsors of the 2021 Golf Outing (correct at time of going to press):

**EVENT SPONSORS**

- **BCF Builders Custom Flooring**
- **Culver’s**
- **Haney Farm Bureau**
- **Northern Wholesale Flooring**
- **Orion Oaks Dental**

**BLOODY MARY BAR SPONSOR**

- Caliber Home Loans

**LUNCHEON SPONSOR**

- Capocore Professional Advisors

**GOLF CART SPONSOR**

- Closets by Design of Southeast MI

**GOLFZILLA SPONSOR**

- Genisys Credit Union

**GOLF BALL SPONSOR**

- Nuvue Nutrition LLC

**GOLF BALL CANNON SPONSOR**

- Edward Jones Investments—Grant Fodor

**SCORE CARD SPONSOR**

- Michigan Greens Keeper

**BEER CART SPONSOR**

- Counelis Agency—Farm Bureau Insurance

**PUTTING GREEN SPONSOR**

- Seniors Helping Seniors

**PHOTOGRAPHY SPONSOR**

- K Gedda Smith Images, LLC

**HOLE SPONSORS**

- Capocore Professional Advisors
- Lakes Community Credit Union
- Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake
- Waste Management

Sponsorships are a great way to showcase your business! Remaining sponsorships available include: Presenting Sponsor, Hospitality Sponsor, Breakfast Sponsor, Golf Cart Sponsor, Golf Gift Sponsor, Driving Range Sponsor, Contest Sponsors, Hole Sponsors, Survival Kit Sponsor.

If you are interested in taking out a sponsorship, please contact the Chamber office. Chamber member businesses are also invited to donate items to put into golfers’ gift bags.

About Paint Creek Country Club

On the outskirts of Lake Orion, Paint Creek Country Club offers terrific views and challenging play for golfers of every skill level. The course is tight and demanding but the friendly staff can offer tips and tricks for playing your best round. Their two island greens and water hazards come into play on eight holes. The hilly fairways have many grass and sand bunkers and the small greens are undulating and well bunkered.

The driving range is located in front of Lake Araho and is one of only three aqua ranges in Michigan. Golfers hit floating balls (actual surlyn covered balls and not limited flight golf balls) into the lake.

As well as the 18-hole golf course, Paint Creek Country Club boasts a state-of-the-art fitness facility with locker rooms, saunas and indoor golf net. The attached swimming complex has a Junior Olympic pool, kiddie pool, adult hot tub and lighted tennis courts. Additionally, the 20,000 square foot clubhouse overlooking the course features formal and informal dining in the spacious dining room, Creekside Grill and lounge area.
Celebrating 70 years of promoting Orion business

Creating the Chamber of Commerce helped put Orion on the map

For a few years before the official establishment of a Chamber of Commerce in Lake Orion, the need for such a community-minded organization had been advocated for repeatedly by the business community. Multiple newspaper editorials can still be found detailing these desires. One reason was to have an organization that would work to entice vacationers to the village by making sure that people knew where Lake Orion was, and all of the amazing amenities that it offered. Another big concern was the perceived loss of business opportunities to neighboring communities like Rochester, Oxford and Pontiac.

On Thursday, May 18th, 1950, around 60 business people met to plan the creation of a Chamber of Commerce for Lake Orion. This was not the first time that meetings had occurred for this purpose, but this was the first time that there was such a great turnout of support. It was clear that a shift had finally happened in the Lake Orion community, and people were joining forces in their support of this cause.

This first meeting was led by the President of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, Russell Basset, and recorded by the Secretary, Morton T. Scott, to facilitate the proper procedures for this type of organization. Decisions about the organization’s form, size and desired activities were set at this meeting. A week later, on Thursday, May 25th, the newly created organization met to elect a Board of Directors, and the executive officers that would lead the organization through January 1st of the following year. (See the sidebar for the complete list of these prominent founding members.)

From the outset, the Lake Orion Chamber of Commerce went to work to find ways to support Lake Orion in every way possible. They worked closely with the village on projects for paving all of the roads in the village proper, and dealing with village parking issues. They created and advertised a “Citizenship Checklist” encouraging residents to be active in local politics and to vote.

To help with putting Lake Orion on the map and encouraging vacationers to visit, the Chamber held a contest to create a tagline for Lake Orion. The contest was won by James Tate, a local theatrical producer, with the still active tagline, “Lake Orion, Where Living is a Vacation.” They also planned to advertise the village through the use of pamphlets or booklets that would show local businesses, tourist attractions, and vacationing activities.

And just over a month after its inception, the Lake Orion Chamber of Commerce was encouraging people to ‘Shop Local’ by having a gigantic sale featuring many local vendors. The Orion Weekly Review, now the Lake Orion Review, reported that, “The cooperation of the local merchants has combined to make this one of the greatest bargain events in the history of the community.”

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce was created out of necessity, and it has flourished by being dedicated to this fantastic community and all of the people that make it. We’re proud to carry on this great legacy of supporting the Orion Area in every way that we can.

ORIGINAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1950

PRESIDENT
Earl Milliman, Earl R. Milliman Motor Sales, Ford Dealership

VICE PRESIDENT
Rod Wiley, General Motors Pontiac Division

SECRETARY
Al Walker, Walker Cleaners

TREASURER
Walter Shoup, Orion State Bank

DIRECTORS
Wilfred Burde, Burde’s Variety Store
James Haddrill, Pure Oil Service
William Porritt, Porritt Dairy Farm
Max Wichmann, Max’s Beverage Store, Fireman, Merchants of LO
Oran Thomas, Orion State Bank
Earl Cascaddan, Cascaddan’s Market
Ray Van Wagoner, Lake Orion Pharmacy
Harry Slater, Harry Slater Insurance—Pearson Agency
Sterling Schaar, Contractor
Marcus Freud, Attorney
William O’Brien, O’Brien’s Party Store
Dr. A.M. Watson, Doctor

Citizenship Check List

Are you a registered voter?
Did you vote in the last primary? In the last general election?
Do you get out and work for your political organization?
Do you maintain close contact with your local political officials?
Have you ever offered to serve in public office on any public board or commission?
Do you know your elected representatives in Congress? Do you write, call, or talk in person with them, and let them know your views?

Board of Commerce
Affiliates With National Body

The Orion Chamber of Commerce to Encourage Local Shopping
Visitors to the Village of Lake Orion during the three days, June 30, July 1 and July 2, will find a list of Chamber members and the services they provide. A copy of the list will be available at the Chamber office and at various locations throughout the village.

The Chamber of Commerce directors meeting was held Friday afternoon, July 1, when members discussed elements of free and stakeholder engagement.
Voices of inspiration, growth and change

The Chamber’s annual Women in Business conference returns in August with inspiring speakers and an English garden party theme.

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is delighted to announce the return of our Women in Business Conference on Tuesday, August 24th from 11 am to 1 pm. This year the event will be an English Garden Party hosted at the Orion Center Gardens and Gazebo.

Building on the success of the previous year’s sold-out event, the Chamber will be bringing in inspirational speakers to engage with the audience while exploring the themes of inspiration, growth and change.

This year’s speakers are Rhonda J. Meyers M. Ed., CEO and Owner of Heartfelt Impressions Learning Centers; Hollie Gyarmati, Interior Designer & Author of The Mother of All Makeovers: A Memoir of More, Less and Making Busy Beautiful; and Elisha Huddleston, Global Workplace Safety—Strategic Business Manager, General Motors; Co-Founder of The Get WISE (Women in Science & Engineering) Foundation. These impressive women have a year of challenges, trials and triumphs to share with attendees.

While the event is primarily geared towards women, men are encouraged to attend. The event includes a full luncheon, meaningful networking and a special gift for each attendee.

The Women in Business Conference is $45 for Orion Chamber members and $60 for non-members. To register visit orionareachamber.com or call 248-693-6300.
New and renewing members

**New Members**

mid-January 2021 to mid-April 2021

PREMIER MEMBERS
Reliance Financial Group, Inc.—Michael Halker

SIGNATURE MEMBERS
T-Mobile
Tri-Cities Fire Safety

JUNIOR MEMBERS
Proceptions Media LLC

**BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS**

Accent Pontiac
American Home Fitness
Click Reign Internet Media
Edward Jones Investments—James Vrabel
K Gedda Smith Images, LLC
Leet LLC
Main Street Insurance Agency
Oak Flint, LLC
Pro-Health Urgent Care
Sweet Pastimes LLC
Swirlz Lake Orion
The Exterior Zone—Renovation Specialist
Zen Business

**RENEWING MEMBERS**

mid-January 2021 to mid-April 2021

NON-PROFIT MEMBERS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church
Friends of the Paint Creek Trail
Holy Spokes
King of Kings Lutheran Church
North Oakland Transportation Authority
Orion Area Parade Group
Orion Area Youth Assistance
Orion Veterans Memorial
The Daisy Project—MI

**BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS**

Alarm Services Network (ASN)
Allison McClintick, Realtor®/Coach
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Michigan—Anita Beaman
Brain Balance of Oakland County
Canterbury Village
Crawford Insurance Group, Inc.
Dent Patrol, LLC
Erika Proctor Photography
fLipSpot Gymnastics & Cheer, LLC
Great Lakes Crossing UPS Store
Great Lakes Laser Design, LLC
Heritage Real Estate
Henry Ford OptimEyes
Heron Springs Townhomes and Apartments
Indian Lake Village Apartments
KMT Construction
Lake Orion Plumbing Heating & Cooling

HealthQuest Physical Therapy Lake Orion Celebrates 20 Years.

In April 2001 physical therapist Phil Krause started his own physical therapy practice in his hometown of Lake Orion. Twenty years later, Phil and his team at HealthQuest Physical Therapy in Lake Orion are still going strong! The practice now boasts 13 PTs and PT Assistants led by directors Phil Krause, Daniel Cady and Daniel Bennink. In April the Chamber of Commerce and Orion Township recognized HealthQuest Physical Therapy's 20 year milestone with a small celebration. Garrett Hoffman, Chamber President and Chris Barnett, Orion Township supervisor, both presented Phil Krause with certificates. HealthQuest Physical Therapy are long-standing Chamber members and the Chamber appreciates their continued vigorous support and all they contribute to the Chamber and the larger community. For information on HealthQuest Physical Therapy's services call 248-393-7707 or visit hqpt.com/location/lake-orion.

Find out more about how being a Chamber member can help your business grow and thrive in challenging times at orionareachamber.com.
Dr. Cindy Burke—A Wellness Way Affiliate. Last fall, the Chamber celebrated Dr. Cindy Burke’s new affiliation with The Wellness Way. Located in Oxford, Lucinda P. Burke, D.C., P.C. is a chiropractor who emphasizes improving your health in an effort to reduce the risk of pain and illness in the first place. She specializes in Orthospinology/Upper Cervical Care and the Pierce technique. The Wellness Way procedures include testing for hormones, digestive issues and food allergies with recommended supplements. For more information on all the services Dr. Burke provides or to make an appointment call 248-628-2891 or visit her practice at oxfordmi.thewellnessway.com.
Meet us outdoors!

Summer 2021 will persevere, in spite of the uncertainty of this past year with COVID-19. With warmer temperatures comes opportunities to be outside again, and so the Orion Library will be having more outdoor events. However, we will continue to listen to the requirements for safety and limits on gatherings as they change during these months.

Summer is always a big deal for our library! Summer Reading is an amazing opportunity to spend more time reading, finding new books and authors that help boost your creativity and knowledge. As always, we WILL be having an amazing Summer Reading program this year. However, we are also very aware that many of us are struggling with TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME. Therefore, we are excited to share that our Summer Reading Program will be on PAPER! No matter your age, there is a program for you: Kids, Teens, and Adults! Commit to yourself that you will do some reading this summer, and you might also win some great prizes along the way. All the details are available in the coming pages.

On March 15, 2021, we started our ‘Grab & Go’ service, which allows for short visits inside the library, while still maintaining safety precautions and continuing our curbside service. All of our current services are available on our website at orionlibrary.org. Staff are available to help as well, so call us at 248-693-3000 during our open hours. Speaking of open hours, just a reminder that we are closed on Sundays during the summer.

For those who prefer our online resources, those are definitely still available online, from e-books to downloadable audiobooks (did someone say “road trip”?) to movies, music, and more. Check it all out from our website!

Have you seen our Bookbike yet? We are so excited to take it back out on the trails this year! We always have special things happening, so look for us around the community!

Wishing you a safe and happy summer!

Karen

Despite the pandemic, we had a winning year

Despite an unusual and difficult year, the Orion Township Public Library provided over $3.6 million in savings to over 5,500 active library users in the Orion community who used the library rather than buying items at list price in 2020. Were you one of them? If not, you are likely missing out!

“Like everyone else, we had to look at all of our library services in 2020 and find ways to provide access in a safe way when the COVID-19 pandemic began,” said Library Director, Karen Knox. “We enabled automatic renewal, so you no longer have to request a renewal for an item that has an eligible renewal available.”

“We put more funds into our digital collections,” Karen added, “so we allowed more checkouts in hoopla and bought additional titles in CloudLibrary. We added Curbside Pickup for safe access to physical materials and printed items. We created Take & Make programs so you could pick up supplies and complete them safely at home, and we added a new online resource to provide online tutorials on using many of our research tools.”

General Info

Notary Services
We are able to provide notary services, either remotely (through June 30, 2021) or in person, by appointment only. Contact Joyce at jbecker@orionlibrary.org or at 248-693-3000 x431 to set up a notary appointment.

Upcoming Library Closings

Independence Day: Sat, July 3, Sun, July 4, Mon, July 5

For a calendar of all library events please visit the Events tab at orionlibrary.org.
General Federation of Women’s Clubs—Lake Orion
Do you like to have fun? Do you like to volunteer in your community? Come join the GFWC! For more info, contact Renee at 248-701-8821.

Personalize a stepping stone in our 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 contact Joyce Becker at 248-693-3000 x431 for more information.

Library Board of Trustees
The interests of the Orion Community are represented by an elected six-member Library Board of Trustees. The Board governs the library and is responsible for its annual operations and upkeep. Current trustees were re-elected in November 2020, and we are so grateful for their support!

- Mary Anne Thorndycraft, President
- Mary Pergeau, Vice President
- Bert Quinn, Secretary
- James Phillips, Treasurer
- James J. Abramczyk, Trustee
- Mike Luna, Trustee

Library Service Updates
Thank you for all your patience as we work through this challenging time. As of March 15, we have expanded library services and are open for patrons to come into the library again, no appointments required. We are complying with the latest MDHHS order, limiting to 50% or less of building capacity. Patrons are asked to stay no longer than 45 minutes, just a short visit to pick up what they need and head back out. We are calling this our ‘Grab & Go’ service. Patrons are required to wear masks as required by the MDHHS, respect social distancing, and use the available hand sanitizer frequently. Patrons may view the shelves of books and other materials when they visit, and staff are available to assist in safe ways as well. Computers and other equipment are also available.

Appointments are available for study rooms (individuals only), makerspace equipment, and exam proctoring only. As a reminder, current library hours are:

- Monday—Thursday: 9:30 am to 9 pm
- Friday & Saturday: 9:30 am to 5 pm

Curbside pickup is still available, with slightly shorter hours to allow staff to assist patrons both in the library and curbside:

- Monday—Thursday: 11 am to 2 pm and 5 pm to 7 pm
- Friday & Saturday: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
- Sunday: NO curbside

Self-checkout is available inside the library. Returns are accepted at our indoor book drop in addition to our outdoor book drops. Payments are accepted by our staff in the lobby (cash, credit cards, and checks accepted for fine and fee payments). We have shortened our quarantine period to 3 days for returned items. Meeting rooms are still NOT available. We are still NOT able to accept book donations at this time.

The Orion Center Branch library is open Monday through Friday to pick up materials or use computers from 10 am to 3 pm.

As with everything related to COVID-19, these plans are subject to change at any time. Please visit orionlibrary.org or call us at 248-693-3000 for the latest information.
SUMMER READING 2021
JUN 12—AUG 7

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program. Outdoor programs may be canceled, rescheduled, or moved to a virtual format depending on the weather and current MDHHS restrictions. For the latest program updates please check the library events calendar at orionlibrary.org/calendar.

Youth—Tails and Tales

This summer we are closing our computers and taking the summer reading program offline! Stop by the library any time after June 12 to pick up your 2021 Tails and Tales Passport. Earn stamps for completing library-related activities and enter to win fun prizes. A staff member will stamp your reading log after each challenge completed. SRP Passports can also be downloaded from our website, orionlibrary.org. Children and students ages 0 through 5th grade are invited to log activities through Saturday, August 7th.

Outside: Tales about Tails and Owls!
Sat, Jun 12 | 11 am
Kick off our summer reading program with a live animal show and stick around after the show for owl pellet dissection with our friends from Howell Nature Center!

Outside: Teen Escape Room
Sat, Jun 12 | 12:30 pm | Register online
Join us outside to see if you can escape the room in time. Bring your friends and phones and laugh your way through puzzles and riddles. Program outside in the Reading Garden.

Outside: Backyard Party—Tales Finale
Sat, Aug 7 | 11 am
Celebrate a summer of library fun with our end of summer party! Join us for oversized lawn games, a nature scavenger hunt, and raffle prize giveaway. Plus more surprising fun to be announced!

Teen

School is out! Teams and Zoom are done! This year we are moving away from digital and celebrating with an old fashioned game of bingo for the teen summer reading program. Simply, pick up a game log and welcome bag at the library starting Saturday, June 12th. The bingo card is made of reading challenges, win 3 squares and come back to the library for a stamp and a $5 gift card to a local Lake Orion business. Win at bingo and come back for a free book of your choice! All winning bingo cards returned to the library by August 7 will be entered into our grand prize drawing for $100 Amazon.com gift card.

Outside: Summer Reading Party—Teen Outdoor Movie
Fri, Aug 13 | 8 pm | Register online
Congratulations teens on finishing summer reading! Let’s celebrate with an outdoor movie in our Reading Garden. Movie will be PG or PG-13 and picked from the library catalog. Arrive at 8 pm with movie starting at 8:30 pm. Registration is limited based on current MDHHS guidelines at the time. Bring a blanket or camping chairs. Snacks are welcome, treat and drink will be provided.

Adult

Summer reading is returning to a paper format this year! So many people are suffering from digital burnout, that rather than tracking your reading online, you can pick up a reading log from the library and log your books throughout the summer. Record your books on the log, get stamps from staff members for challenges, and when you are done, turn it in for a gift card to a local business. Each completed challenge will enter you in a drawing for a $25 gift card. Completing your reading log will enter you into the grand prize drawing for a $100 Amazon gift card. Visit orionlibrary.org/summer-reading for more information.

Outside: Tails of Wildlife
Sat, Jun 12 | 2 pm
Listen to stories of local wildlife through a photo tour with naturalist Andrew Nowicki. We will be exploring different critters and how they use different adaptations to help them survive. After a short presentation, Andrew will lead a nature walk around the library and surrounding trails.

Orion Center Library Branch
Jun 14—Aug 6
Pick up a reading log and welcome bag at the Orion Center Branch library starting on June 14. Log your books throughout the summer and try the challenges to earn prizes! Return your completed reading log to the library by August 6 to be entered into a drawing for a $100 Amazon.com gift card grand prize.

Thanks to the Friends for sponsoring our Summer Reading program.
All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program. Outdoor programs may be canceled, rescheduled, or moved to a virtual format depending on the weather and current MDHHS restrictions. For the latest program updates please check the library events calendar at orionlibrary.org/calendar.

**Take and Make: Leftovers**
Sat, Jun 5 and Sat, Aug 28
Whether you are an adult, teen, or kid, we have a program for you! Starting at 9:30 am, kits from extra programs the library did throughout the summer will be available for you to pick up and enjoy.

**Outside: Community Road Rally**
Sat, Jun 19  |  11 am  |  Register online
Get out your thinking caps and put the pedal to the metal! Drive around Orion Township solving clues that will lead to a secret destination. See page 51 for more details.

**Outside: Community Art Project**
Thu, Jul 8  |  10 am
There is nothing better than creating art together! Join us for the kickoff of our summer community art project. Stop by and help us paint popsicle sticks that will become an amazing piece of art. If you can’t make it to the kickoff, stop by and pick up some sticks to paint at home. They do need to be painted the designated color. Return any sticks that you painted at home by July 15th.

**Take and Make: Pamper Your Pets**
Wed, Jul 21
Dog treats, feather wands, chew toys, and so much more! This take and make kit has a variety of fun activities for your whole family to enjoy, especially your pets!

**Outside: Tails and Tales Trivia**
Sat, Jul 31  |  2 pm
Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket for this outdoor trivia game. Teams of 2–5 will compete in several rounds of animal themed trivia. The winning team will receive 5 tickets to the Detroit Zoo.

**Outside: Family Movie**
Thu, Aug 19  |  8 pm  |  Register online
Grab a blanket or low lawn chair and meet up in the library reading gardens for a twilight family movie. Individual popcorn and movie theatre candy available. Movie selection TBD.

**Get Lit: Library Subscription Boxes**
Youth and teen patrons in 3rd–12th grade, how would you like a box of library magic picked just for you? Subscription boxes are coming to OTPL for the summer and will be filled with fun items for all to enjoy. Each box will contain a checked out library book, packaged snack, STEAM activity, and novelties pertaining to that month’s theme. Each box will have their own registration and pick up date every month as boxes are limited, and personalized just for you. Boxes can be picked up at the youth and adult reference desk. All boxes not picked up within a week will be forfeited to the waiting list.

**June: Rainbow Box**
Registration begins Tue, Jun 1
Pick up begins Tue, Jun 15

**July: Beach Box**
Registration begins Thu, Jul 1
Pick up begins Thu, Jul 15

**August: Back to School Box**
Registration begins Mon, Aug 2
Pick up begins Mon, Aug 16

Funding is provided in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan.

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

Summer 2021  |  Orion Living
The Neighborly Notes Pen Pal program was launched as a way to combat isolation during the COVID–19 pandemic and beyond. We will connect quarantined senior citizen neighbors with students through a traditional letter writing program. We hope that our Neighborly Notes program will be helpful to both seniors wanting to form a connection and along the way help a student practice their writing skills, and students who would like to brighten the day of an older neighbor. Our youngest pen pals can even send drawings, with a parent’s help!

Letter writing kits including paper, postage, and writing prompts will be available to participants, and students will have the opportunity to use time spent writing letters as volunteer time for their school. The Neighborly Notes Intergenerational Pen Pal Program will hopefully create lasting connections within the Orion community during these tumultuous times and beyond. Register online or by phone.

**Neighborly Notes Intergenerational Pen Pal Program**

Jun, Jul, Aug | Register by June 21

**Take and Make: Letter Writing Kit**

Mon, Jun 21 | Main Library and Orion Center Branch

The letter writing kits including paper, postage, and writing prompts can be picked up at the library by registered pen pals.

**50 Books in 52 Weeks program**

The Orion Township Public Library challenges adults to read 50 books in 52 weeks in 2021. This online program will run the entirety of 2021, and participants will have the opportunity to win fun prizes all year long, depending on how many reading challenges you complete.

All 50 reading challenges are different. You may be asked to read a book that has a one-word title, read a book recommended by a librarian, or read a book based on a true story. You can also listen to audiobooks to complete any of the 50 reading challenges throughout the year.

If you are a child or a teen, please look at the other reading programs we have for you on the youth and teen pages of this magazine.

For more information about this program and to register visit orionlibrary.org/50-books-in-52-weeks.

We look forward to seeing some great creations!

**Spellbinder Embossing Machine**

Our collection of makerspace equipment continues to grow thanks to the generosity of our community. We recently received a donation to purchase a Spellbinder Platinum Cutting and Embossing Machine. This machine is a great tool for scrap bookers, card makers, and anyone interested in paper craft. With a number of easy to use plates, you can give unique embossed textures and designs to paper, cardstock, leather, and more as well as cutting custom shapes. It makes a great compliment to our Cricut paper cutting machine. The Spellbinder can be used whenever the makerspace is open.

We look forward to seeing some great creations!

**ADULT SERVICES**

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program. Outdoor programs may be canceled, rescheduled, or moved to a virtual format depending on the weather and current MDHHS restrictions. For the latest program updates please check the library events calendar at orionlibrary.org/calendar.
Virtual: Michigan Works Assistance
Oakland County Michigan Works! Pontiac will assist you with upcoming workshops, youth and adult programs, resume ideas, job searches, interview skills, and much more. They can point you in the right direction for inquiries about local resources. Contact Beth Sheridan at esheridan@orionlibrary.org or 248-693-3000 x411 to set up your ZOOM appointment with a staff member from Michigan Works.

Call-In: Dial—a-Story: For Adults
Jun–Aug
Simply call us to listen to essays, short stories, or poetry read by library staff. Every week a new reading is posted so that you can listen anytime from anywhere that works for you! To access Dial—a-Story for Adults call 248–287–8028.

Virtual: Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group
Tuesdays | Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10
This monthly support group for individuals who care for those with Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementia is led by a trained facilitator and sponsored by the Michigan Alzheimer’s Association.

Outside: Orion Historical Society (OHS)
Mondays | Jun 14, Aug 9 | 7 pm
No July meeting
Come to an OHS meeting to learn about our township’s history and work on projects to preserve the past. Newcomers are always welcome! For the summer quarter, this group will meet outside in the library’s Reading Garden.

Virtual: 3-D Printed Succulent Planter
Thu, Jun 10 | Register online
Learn to make your own custom 3-D printed planter. Participants will design their object at home and submit it to the library to print and pick up. Instructions will be emailed to registered patrons.

Outside: Book Bunch Book Club
1 pm | Orion Center
Mon, Jun 9: The Authenticity Project by Clare Pooley
Wed, Jul 14: Don’t Look for Me by Wendy Walker
Wed, Aug 11: Call Your Daughter Home by Deb Spera

Outside: Thursday Afternoon Book Discussion
1:30 pm | No July meeting
Jun 17: Any title by Kristin Hannah
Aug 19: The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles

Outside: Monday Evening Book Discussion
7 pm | No August meeting
Mon, Jun 21: Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
Mon, Jul 19: The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Outside: Dine, Drink & Discuss
7 pm | No June meeting
Mon, Jul 26: Leave the World Behind by Rumaan Alam
Mon, Aug 23: The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V. E. Schwab

Outside: Cook the Book
Mon, Jun 7 | 7 pm
Trejo’s Tacos: Recipes and Stories from L.A. by Danny Trejo
Mon, Aug 8 | 7 pm
Earth to Table Every Day: Cooking with Good Ingredients Through the Seasons, or Earth to Table: Seasonal Recipes from an Organic Farm by Jeff Crump

You select and prepare a recipe from the cookbook chosen, and we meet to discuss recipes from that month’s cookbook. Please either put on hold or inter–loan your own copy of the cookbook for each meeting; call 248–693–3001 if you need assistance acquiring a cookbook.
Take and Make: Learn to Embroider with Creativebug
Wed, Jun 16
Follow along with a Creativebug video and learn the basics of embroidery along with a variety of stitches to create a display-worthy piece. The library’s subscription to Creativebug offers you access to thousands of online art and craft workshops. After this program, try something new on your own!

Outside: Yarn Bombing for Deaf/Blind Awareness for Adults & Teens
Sat, Jun 26 | 10 am–3 pm
Help decorate the outside of the library with yarn to raise awareness of our services for the blind and deaf community! During June 2021, Deaf/Blind Awareness is being celebrated all over the world with yarn bombing installations. Crochet, knit, or wrap your assigned area with colorful yarn; bring your own creations and yarn, or we will have lots of yarn available. When you arrive you will be assigned a place to wrap so that groups/families who arrive together or individuals can work in a socially distanced manner.

Take and Make: Amigurumi Animals
Sat, Jul 10
This kit includes all the supplies and instructions to make a kawaii amigurumi crochet animal.

Outside: Book Yak on a Kayak Book Discussion
Mon, Jul 26 | 6:30 pm
Register online
We are offering a one-of-a-kind book discussion; meet at the dock on Lake Sixteen to paddle and discuss the book *The River* by Peter Heller aboard kayaks or canoes! Bring your own paddle craft/life jacket. Please arrive by 6:15 pm; we will leave the dock promptly at 6:30 pm. Checkout or inter-loan a copy of *The River*; call 248–693–3001 if you need assistance acquiring a book. Game On Paddle Boarding will rent kayaks at a discounted rate of $20 and deliver them to Lake Sixteen; please contact them directly at 248–690–6241.

Take and Make: Loom Woven Bookmarks
Sat, Aug 14
With a miniature cardboard loom, learn to make a bright and colorful woven bookmark.

Virtual: Information Literacy Class
Mon, Aug 30 | 6 pm | Register online
Using your OTPL card, participants will access this self-paced course through LinkedIn Learning. Information literacy is the ability to discover and use various types of information. It’s an essential skill for navigating the information age. Librarian Elsa Loftis discusses different types of resources and explains how to evaluate their usefulness and trustworthiness. She also shows how to avoid plagiarism and copyright infringement, and accurately cite sources. A link will be emailed to participants on the day of the class.

Tech Help
Our IT staff is available to help you with any of your technology needs via phone, email or video chat. Eric can troubleshoot issues with your devices, make product and service recommendations, and teach you how to do specific tasks. Please contact him at 248–287–8019 or chayes@orionlibrary.org to schedule a 20-minute virtual meeting.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
OTPL Little Free Libraries
Our Little Libraries are spread all over the Orion community; on trails, at parks, and downtown Lake Orion. Little Libraries are stocked with books available for you to take and read; bring them back when you’re done or add some more great books to share with others.

Scavenger Hunt
On Saturday, June 12 we are sponsoring a Little Libraries Nocturnal Animals Scavenger Hunt. Bring the whole family to the library anytime between 9:30 am and 5 pm and pick up your instruction sheet. You have a week to look for clues about night-time creatures big and small at our Little Libraries. You may find surprises along the way and you can take a book from or add a book to our Little Libraries! Bring your completed form back to the library by Saturday, June 19 to receive a special surprise.

OTPL Bookbike
Watch for the OTPL bookbike on sidewalks, trails, and at community events as we bring the library outside our walls to where you are. Stop by our bookbike for books, information, giveaways, and to get your summer reading logs stamped. We hope to see you this summer as we pedal all over the Orion community!

We are proud to be one of 19 communities in the United States chosen to take part in the research project Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) at the Library via Co-Developed Programming and we are using the stipend awarded to participating libraries to purchase and install an electric assist on our OTPL Bookbike, enabling us to pedal it to more outdoor events!

Outside: English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)
Wednesdays | 10:30 am | No meeting July 7
ELL conversation group is open to all who wish to practice their English language skills in a relaxed and informal setting. The topics vary widely, and it is a great learning experience as well as an opportunity to meet people.

Home Delivery Program
If you or someone you know lives in Orion Township and is unable to visit the library (even short term) let us know. In the home delivery program you can request specific titles or let us know what you like and we can introduce you to new authors. Material is delivered on your schedule so we can bring a lot or a little and come only as frequently as you need. Call the Outreach department at 248-693-3000 x411 for more information.

Orion Center Library Branch
For a slower pace and a smaller venue, the Orion Center Branch caters especially to senior citizens and is located in the Orion Center at 1335 Joslyn Rd. Large print books, audiobooks, movies, put and take books, puzzles, and magazines are available for all to enjoy. There are also computers and printers available.

Libraries look to legislators for support
On Tuesday, April 20, the Michigan Library Association, along with the Michigan Association for Media in Education and the Michigan Academic Library Association, held its first Advocacy Day!

Director Karen Knox and three library board members participated in Zoom meetings with legislators to share stories about our library and ask for legislative support for libraries across the state of Michigan. Over 100 library supporters across the state participated in the event. ALL libraries need support: public, academic, and school libraries alike. During the pandemic, OTPL has had to pivot everything to be done differently, in order to keep staff and patrons safe. We have offered many new services that have been well-received by the community. From the state, public libraries receive a little funding in state aid, and a little more funding in penal fines. Most of our funding is from local taxes. This was a great opportunity to connect with our local legislators and share our needs and our successes during this unprecedented year.
JUST FOR TEENS

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program. Outdoor programs may be canceled, rescheduled, or moved to a virtual format depending on the weather and current MDHHS restrictions. For the latest program updates please check the library events calendar at orionlibrary.org/calendar.

Geek Club

Tuesdays | Jun 1, Jun 15, Jul 6, Aug 3, Aug 17
6:30–8 pm | No meeting July 20
Geek Club is a casual hang-out for teens who enjoy anything from anime, comics, video games, board and card games, D and D, crazy YouTube clips and more! Geek club will be in-person outside in the Reading Garden, weather permitting.

Take and Make: Bubble Tea
Sat, Jul 10
Ever wonder how to make bubble tea? Grab a take and make kit, which includes a simple recipe to make at home and enjoy in the sun!

Take and Make: Salt Dough
Paw Print Ornament
Sat, Jul 31
If the love of your life happens to be a 2 or 4 legged pet, cherish their memory with a paw print ornament. Dog, cat, bird, rabbit, hedgehog, goats, etc. all leave paw prints on our hearts, now we can hang their animal print in our home!

Teen Books Before— Challenges!

Do you like to read? Can you read 75 books? How about 100 Books? Join this multi-year, personal reading challenge and enjoy fun perks, such as random raffles, a grand prize upon completion, expert book recommendations from our Teen Librarian, and major bragging rights! Read below for more information.

75 Books Before High School
Challenging all 6–8th graders to read 75 BOOKS BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL! Sign up at any time, and read at your own pace. Middle school is an exciting time that comes with new responsibilities, and sometimes that can feel like a lot to handle. Taking some time for yourself by reading books that you enjoy can help keep things from becoming too overwhelming. With this program, there are no assigned books, no deadlines (other than finishing before you start high school!), and no reports to write. Read whatever you want, whenever you want! There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 37 books you receive a free book of your choice. For the courageous who complete all 75 books before you start high school, you win a grand prize High School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for high school. Please register by signing up at orionlibrary.org/teens/75-books.

100 Books Before Graduation
Challenging all high school students in grades 9–12 to read 100 BOOKS BEFORE GRADUATION! High school can be a busy time, and school work and activities can take over your life. However, reading books for fun (not just for classes) is a great way to slow down, escape real-life pressures, and recharge by stepping outside yourself for a bit. Read at your own pace and you will get there! There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 50 books you receive a free book of your choice. For the courageous who complete all 100 books before graduation, you win a grand prize After School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for your post high school years. Please register by signing up at orionlibrary.org/teens/100-books.

Teen Volunteer Hours

During the current pandemic of COVID-19, and with the library being closed, we know it has been hard for teens to access volunteer hours. We have a new opportunity for teens to earn some hours without even leaving their house!

Register for Neighborly Notes Intergenerational Pen Pal Program (see page 42), or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Lori for more information at lmorris@orionlibrary.org.

Teen Books Before— Challenges!

Do you like to read? Can you read 75 books? How about 100 Books? Join this multi-year, personal reading challenge and enjoy fun perks, such as random raffles, a grand prize upon completion, expert book recommendations from our Teen Librarian, and major bragging rights! Read below for more information.

75 Books Before High School
Challenging all 6–8th graders to read 75 BOOKS BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL! Sign up at any time, and read at your own pace. Middle school is an exciting time that comes with new responsibilities, and sometimes that can feel like a lot to handle. Taking some time for yourself by reading books that you enjoy can help keep things from becoming too overwhelming. With this program, there are no assigned books, no deadlines (other than finishing before you start high school!), and no reports to write. Read whatever you want, whenever you want! There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 37 books you receive a free book of your choice. For the courageous who complete all 75 books before you start high school, you win a grand prize High School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for high school. Please register by signing up at orionlibrary.org/teens/75-books.

100 Books Before Graduation
Challenging all high school students in grades 9–12 to read 100 BOOKS BEFORE GRADUATION! High school can be a busy time, and school work and activities can take over your life. However, reading books for fun (not just for classes) is a great way to slow down, escape real-life pressures, and recharge by stepping outside yourself for a bit. Read at your own pace and you will get there! There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 50 books you receive a free book of your choice. For the courageous who complete all 100 books before graduation, you win a grand prize After School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for your post high school years. Please register by signing up at orionlibrary.org/teens/100-books.

Teen Volunteer Hours

During the current pandemic of COVID-19, and with the library being closed, we know it has been hard for teens to access volunteer hours. We have a new opportunity for teens to earn some hours without even leaving their house!

Register for Neighborly Notes Intergenerational Pen Pal Program (see page 42), or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Lori for more information at lmorris@orionlibrary.org.
YOUTH SERVICES

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program. Outdoor programs may be canceled, rescheduled, or moved to a virtual format depending on the weather and current MDHHS restrictions. For the latest program updates please check the library events calendar at orionlibrary.org/calendar.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Outside: Little Library
Nocturnal Animal Scavenger Hunt
Jun 12—Jun 19
Pick up your instruction sheet at the library any time to start this fun scavenger hunt journey that will take you to all of our area Little Free Libraries. Complete in one week, find surprises at each stop, and take or add a book to our little libraries. Bring your completed form back to the library by Saturday, June 19 to receive a special surprise!

Outside: Neighborhoods of Stories
Jun, Jul, Aug | 10 am
This summer we continue to expand our partnership with Clarkston Independence Library for our park storytime series! Find and explore your surrounding area when we pop up in new and exciting nearby parks, entertaining the whole family with live book performances, storytelling, and silly dancing. Meet us out at the following parks:

Jun 18 | Children’s Park, Lake Orion
Jun 25 | Depot Park, Clarkston
Jul 16 | Baycourt Park, Clarkston
Jul 23 | Camp Agawam Beach, Lake Orion
Jul 30 | Friendship Park, Lake Orion
Aug 6 | Wint Nature Center @ Independence Oaks, Clarkston

Outside: Stuffed Animal Adoption Clinic
Mon, Jun 28 | 11 am
Stop by and adopt your very own stuffed companion. Pet carrier, collar, and certificate of adoption included.

Take and Make: Squishy Circuits
Mon, Jul 12
Make your own electrifying circuits using conductive and insulating play dough. This maker kit is great for exploring basic engineering concepts and sparking creativity!

Outside: Lifecycle of a Honeybee
Thu, Jul 15 | 6:30 pm
Bees in the D lead a presentation as we become members of a honeybee hive and learn about the different roles of each honeybee’s short life. Bee themed art and activities to follow presentation.

Outside: Kids Maker Night: Paper Circuits
Thu, Jul 29 | 6:30 pm
Learn the basics of electric circuitry with these creative art projects! Beginners welcome.

The Library Parade!

We love a parade, and the only thing better than watching a parade is being in a parade!

The library wants to give youth community members the unique opportunity to be in the best parade in town this summer: The Library Parade. Stop by the library to pick up a take and make kit that will include a box and a few other extras so that you can transform a simple box into a wearable parade float. The theme for the parade is summer and participants are encouraged to use anything you have at home to decorate the float to celebrate summer. Parade walkers are also welcome to decorate their bikes, wagons, or strollers to be a part of the best parade in town. Boxes will be available July 10th. The parade will take place one week later on July, 17th. Bring your finished floats, bikes, strollers, or wagons for a fun trip around the library at this one of a kind summer parade. Popsicles will be provided to all participants.

Take and Make: Parade Prep
Sat, Jul 10

Outside: Library Parade
Sat, Jul 17 | 10 am

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
Outside: Tails and Tales
Bilingual Storytime
Wed, Aug 4 | 10 am
Listen to stories from around the world as members from our ELL group regale us with folktales and fairy tales from their native countries.

BABY, TODDLER, AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Virtual: Little Lit
Mondays | Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9
10 am | Ages 0–5 | Register Online
A storytime for all ages! Children ages 0–5 and their families are invited to meet us on Zoom for stories, songs, and activities that promote the five staple early literacy practices: reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing!

Take and Make: Early Literacy Kit from Great Start Collaborative
Tue, Jun 15
Stop by and grab an early literacy kit from our partners, the Great Start Collaborative at Oakland Schools. Bags are full of activities, supplies, and tips for building literacy skills at home. Kits are for infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children.

Outside: Bubble Dance Party
Tue, Jun 22 | 10 am
Invite your friends to spread out and dance in the library gardens for a bubble filled party! Each participant will be given their own bubbles to laugh, dance, and move along to the music.

Take and Make: Storytime to Go
Wed, Jun 30
This kit includes a book, rhymes, songs, and activities so you can create a fun storytime at home!

Outside: Wagon Riders
Tue, Jul 20 | 10 am
Load up your wagon and head to the library for a walk down the Polly Ann Trail followed by a story under a tree in our reading garden. Strollers, bikes, and independent walkers welcome.

Outside: Animal Adventures
Thursdays | Jul 29, Aug 12 | 10 am
Ages 2–5 | limit 20
Children ages 2–5 and their families are invited to join us for a mini-storytime in our reading gardens followed by playtime with animal-themed activities.

Outside: Toddler Drive–In
Thu, Jun 17 | 10 am
Design the ride of your choice with the box and supplies provided. Spend some time creating your ride and then watch a short animated film to finish off the fun.

School Age Programs

Take and Make: Mermazing Crafts
Wed, Jun 23 | Gr K–5
Let’s go under the sea with fun crafts involving mermaids and their mermazing friends!

Outside: Dogman Party
Thu, Jun 24 | 2 pm
Calling all Supa Buddies and Baddies! Join us outside for a celebration of all things Dogman, the hit graphic novel series by Dav Pilkey.

Outside: T–Shirt Bags
Tue, Jun 29 | 2 pm
Bring a t-shirt that maybe doesn’t fit anymore and we will make it into a cool bag. If you can’t make it to the program, directions for a take and make t-shirt bag at home will be provided the following day.

Outside: Animal Art Collage
Tue, Jul 13 | 2 pm
Art and animals, it doesn’t get any better than that. Pick from a few animal silhouettes and then fill the outline with recycled magazine strips.

Outside: Pokémon Party
Sat, Jul 24 | 2 pm
Do you have what it takes to become a Pokémon trainer? Stop by outside to make your own Pokéballs, catch Pokémon, add them to your Pokédex, and test your knowledge with some Pokémon trivia.
Outside: Unicorns—
Break the Cage

Tue, Jul 27  |  2 pm
Join our friends from Talewise as we visit a city zoo looking for unicorns. We will create experiments, learn about animals, and explore the ever-mythical unicorn.

Virtual: 3D Keychain Design Class

Wed, Jul 28  |  2 pm  |  Register online
Register to receive a link with instructional videos to create your own 3D keychain. This class is a great introduction to using our new 3D printer. Once your design is submitted, you will be notified when it is ready to be picked up.

Take and Make: Pinwheel

Tue, Aug 3
Pick up your kit to create your very own pinwheel to enjoy for the rest of the summer.

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FRIENDS OF THE ORION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

248–693–3000 x470  •  friends@orionlibrary.org  •  orionlibrary.org/friends
Stay up to date on book sales and donation protocol at orionlibrary.org/friends.

Follow us!  •  Friends of Orion Township Library

For it is in giving that you receive!

By Jan Thomas

Four years ago, I attended my first Friends of the Orion Township Library board meeting looking for an opportunity to get involved in our community. I had e-mailed the Friends, and board member Carla Tousley reached out and met me for coffee. She invited me to my first board meeting and to the Passport to Spring fundraiser. While I was looking to give back, little did I know that this was just a first step. I would find there are no truer words than ... for it is in giving that you receive!

Purpose!

Reading and libraries have always been near and dear to my heart as my mother instilled in me at a young age the love of reading and the resources that are available at the library. The Friends organization has provided me with opportunities to volunteer at great events like our books sales, the gala, holiday basket auctions and to serve on the board as secretary, PR chair, vice president and president. It’s given me the opportunity to partner with others as we work together for a purpose—to serve as an ambassador and raise funds for key programming for our library.

Community!

My boyfriend Eric and I bought our house in Lake Orion in 2003; however, we didn’t know our community because our focus was on our careers. Each day we went to work, came home, and then got up the next morning to do it all over again. This routine went on for years. Getting involved in the Friends gave me the opportunity to get to know the library, other businesses, organizations and so many wonderful people. What a wonderful community we’ve found and people who we’ve come to know and love as we call Lake Orion our home!

Friendship!

From that first coffee, to the board meetings, the fundraisers and more, we as a board have collaborated in getting our work done. We’ve all gotten a lot done. We’ve had fun. And we’ve become FRIENDS. It is great to have FRIENDS, and it is great to be a FRIEND!

Thank you!

As I write this, it is bittersweet as I recall such wonderful times over the past four years, but also prepare for my final meeting on the board of the Friends. I am so thankful to so many: our library trustees; library director Karen Knox and our library staff; those businesses and individuals in our community that have partnered and supported the Friends and the library; our Friends members; our recent past presidents of Marty Wheeler, Pat Belanger, Diane Griffiths; our volunteers for events, book sales and our back room book sorters; and last but not least, our Friends board members and committee chairs Don Walker, Carla Tousley, Shae Smith, Bob Bambach, Mary Duenow, Michelle Jerome, Dale Bell. What a team we have made, and I am so excited for the members of the board to continue their leadership of such a wonderful organization that has given me so much—and most of all FRIENDSHIP!
FRIENDS OF THE ORION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Become a Friends Member!
Membership is also an easy way to support your local Friends group. If you are not a Friends member, please join by using our website or by filling out an application in the lobby of the library. Senior memberships are $5, individuals $10 and families $20.

The Friends Twice Told Tales Book Store is Open!
Great news! Our Friends of Orion Township Library Book Store in the lobby is open! Come browse the Twice Told Tales Book Store and see our selection of gently used books at bargain prices and pay at the front desk. We are so thankful for our volunteers and the book sorters are a fun-loving and committed group who do so much for the Friends and the library. Thank you for all you do!

Amazon Smile & Kroger Rewards
When you shop, remember you can designate the Friends of the Orion Township Library as your charity of choice with your Amazon Smile & Kroger Rewards accounts.

Donating Used Books
As of the time of this printing, we are unable to accept donations due to storage limitations. Be sure to check orionlibrary.org/friends for the latest update.

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
Don Walker, President
Michelle Jerome, Vice President
Carla Tousley, Treasurer
Shae Smith, Secretary
Dale Bell, Book Sale Chair
Mary Duenow, Fundraising Chair
Michelle Jerome, Membership Chair
Vacant, PR/Marketing Chair

Keep an eye out for a new addition to our outdoor areas around the back of the library! Robert Kaufman, from Boy Scout Troop #186, constructed and installed two bat houses as part of his Eagle Scout project. Bat houses reduce the mosquito population in the wooded area around our reading garden so visitors can enjoy the outdoor space. We are grateful for Robert and his fellow scouts who completed this wonderful project. It will make such a difference at the library!

Intern gains practical experience
We recently hosted student intern Khalida Samarina, who is working on her Library Services and Technology associates degree and certificate of achievement program from Oakland Community College in Auburn Hills. Khalida was required to complete a 90-hour Library Practicum that had her performing a variety of tasks within the library in a supervised setting. She was able to shadow staff in different departments and also contributed to projects within the IT and Support Services Department, learning more about what goes into the workings of the library. We are grateful for her assistance and wish Khalida all the best in her new career path!
Can you solve this puzzle?

XIFSF MJWJOH JT B WBDBUJPO!

Did you solve it? If so, gather your family, put your thinking caps on, and put the pedal to the metal! Road rallies are a fun opportunity to get out and explore, or even discover, our community. Solve 10 puzzles on the road to find the 10 mystery destinations all around Orion Township! Family car groups will earn points competing to see who can solve the most clues, find all the destinations, and complete some side missions along the way. Prizes will be given out to the team with the most points. So join in on this community-wide event to get out and about Orion Township in a fun, safe, and socially distanced way!

The Orion Community Road Rally is Saturday, June 19th starting at 11 am.

Please have Team Captains register their car groups by Sunday, June 13th at orionlibrary.org/calendar or by calling 248-693-3000.
Even for veteran teachers, the 2020-21 school year was beyond their imagination.

In the summer of 2020, as COVID-19 gathered steam, there were only problems and uncertainty on the horizon. Teachers did not know where they would teach, they did not know where the students would be, and they had no idea how they would have to adapt as a result of the unknown.

The only clear idea was that it would be different.

Fortunately for Lake Orion Community Schools, the outstanding teachers continue to shine, regardless of the circumstances.

In February and March, LOCS honored its Teachers of the Year at each level: Wendy Burns from Lake Orion High School, Zac Abeel from Waldon Middle School and Andrea Moede from Orion Oaks Elementary School.

Wendy Burns, Lake Orion High School, Science

When Wendy Burns began teaching in LOCS for the 2001-02 school year, she arrived with a plan.

The previous two years teaching in the small community of Bath, Michigan, allowed her to understand an environment where she could connect with a wide swath of students, not just those with a certain focus.

Her LOHS career has drawn on that experience. Working with the ninth-grade students, teaching the required science classes, has allowed her to embrace all of the students of differing abilities.

“I saw every student...I just wanted to show compassion,“ she recalled.

That compassion is what earned the recognition from her colleagues as the High School Teacher of the Year. Understanding there is a student beyond just the academics is what has aided students’ transition to high school.

“It’s important to allow time for those off-topic conversations that allow you a glimpse into the student’s life and, give them a chance to maybe share something about their own life,” Burns said. “You certainly can’t spend the whole hour doing that but it’s certainly worth taking time every once in awhile and letting the students have a little choice in what we talk about and doing something a little more fun and off topic. Then be able to jump back into what you need to do for the day.”

That became especially important when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and everyone shifted to remote teaching. Teenagers were isolated from their usual social interaction and Wendy made it a priority to create a connection.

She asked them three words when she opened class: ‘How are you?’ and reminded them to contact her in the chat box if she could help.

Most of the responses were just appreciation that someone actually cared to ask, but that was enough.

Wendy was overwhelmed when the award literally came her way, watching as the LOHS Administration slowly wandered through the halls during an online staff meeting to surprise the winner in the classroom.

A number of her Science Department colleagues shared their appreciation, including first-year teacher Haley Kornberger.

“Wendy eased my worries in the summertime, right after I got hired,” Kornberger said in the presentation. “She was such a warm, friendly person.
Immediately she reached out when I was hired. She constantly shared resources and allowed me to get my footing the first year.”

When she was awarded the honor by the staff, they reinforced why it was so appropriate.

“Class, that is the word that defines Wendy,” LOHS assistant principal Tony Pameri said during the ceremony. “Everything Wendy does is with integrity, with grace, with dignity. No one is more deserving.”

Those traits which led to the award, became a conversation topic that night with her parents, where she pointed out she doesn’t do anything unique.

“They said, ‘what you’re doing really matters,’” Burns recalled. “I said, ‘I see that now.’ Every day I come in and focus on the job I need to do and the students I need to follow up with or talk to a colleague about something that’s going on. That’s my usual to-do list so it doesn’t necessarily seem that special to me. So the words my colleagues said really hit me pretty deep.”

From those early days beginning her career, she is achieving her initial goals.

“My goal was to share a love of science with students and to get to know my students,” she said. “Whether they fall in love with science isn’t my ultimate goal, but I want them to have fun when they’re in my classroom.”

**Zac Abeel, Waldon Middle School, Social Studies**

Halfway around the world, Zac Abeel realized his passion for the education profession.

“When I was in college, I got a chance to live abroad for a year,” Abeel said. “I got a chance to travel to China and a couple other places. My only goal was I wanted to live somewhere not in America for awhile, and that’s where I got my first job in Cairo, Egypt. I was there for two years and I found out there were schools that would hire American teachers. Along the way when I was in college, I was getting a degree in education. I sort of fell into it and that was the way I could get paid and travel. From there I found that I liked interaction with kids.

“When I left Egypt and came home, it just seemed natural to keep on looking for jobs in education.”

Seeing education from a different culture allowed Abeel to broaden his horizons in and out of education. He learned different techniques and saw how the students’ interaction informed his teaching.

When he joined Lake Orion Community Schools in 2005, he hoped to push an evolution in education. He felt the standards of students seated at desks, memorizing facts and figures and sticking to the traditional methods limited learning. Over his career, flexibility has entered the public education realm, but Abeel always wants more.

That curiosity and drive is what has enabled him to connect so well with his students and colleagues.

When he was announced as the LOCS Middle School Teacher of the Year, Waldon social studies teacher Zac Abeel’s two years of experience teaching in Cairo, Egypt helped shape his approach to education.

Waldon Middle School principal Randy Groya shared a parent’s appreciation of Abeel.

“Zac pushed her student’s thinking beyond memorizing historical facts and dates by encouraging and showing him how to be a critical thinker,” Groya shared. “Mr. Abeel created a safe and encouraging space for her son to take risks and be creative.”

Finding that comfort level is a challenge for any teacher but, working with middle school students, Abeel is constantly looking for ways to connect.

When he finds the path, that’s what motivates him to experiment even more.

“I’m not sure what is good in the classroom,” he said. “I think the answer is probably different for any teacher—something that fits their personality and meets their students’ needs. But when I see a student take multiple variables that possibly do not relate and put them
together into something that is truly authentic and represents their voice, then I feel like I am getting closer to something that works in my classroom,” he said.

This past spring, the Battle of Thermopylae opened that door.

One of Abeel’s students was a devotee of the online Minecraft game so finding a connection between that world and the Ancient Greeks became an opportunity.

“I’ll just say, can you turn this into a Minecraft we can do as a class?” Abeel said. “He made a ledge and invited the entire class in and we spent 10 minutes fighting zombies in Minecraft. The kids gave him a standing ovation.

“To me, isn’t that what you’d want your own child to be able to show for themselves or represent themselves by? Anybody can memorize the battle or Thermopylae, who fought there, who died there. But for somebody to take it and put their own spin on it and invite others to experience it, I want more of that.”

That initiative is what entices and excited his colleagues as well.

Abeel is a passionate collaborator, creating OneNote lessons for his fellow teachers for this past school year and regularly supporting the other teachers.

His brain remains engaged. Whether it’s reading about progressive educational practices or current events, he challenges himself.

His weekly podcast with LOHS teacher Don McLaughlin, “The Best Paragraph I Read” has a growing following. For nearly an hour each week, they choose a topic, occasionally related to education but often jumping off current events, while avoiding political stances.

The thought-provoking conversation usually is between the pair but occasional guests from their orbit (school or home) pop in.

Abeel described the honor as “humbling” and shared his appreciation for his colleagues.

“I feel so blessed to work in this building,” he said. “I feel my two principals are very supportive of trying new ideas and giving people the freedom to do that. I feel very blessed to teach social studies with Corry Haddad who is an open-minded thinker. And Kearsten Manoulian the science teacher and Jacqui Moses and Jennifer Nicks as a team, I couldn’t be blessed to be around people who are more willing to say ‘just try it.’”

**Andrea Moede, Orion Oaks Elementary, Fifth Grade**

Teachers arrive at education from many different directions but few have made a left turn like Andrea Moede.

The Orion Oaks Elementary fifth-grade teacher, recognized this year as the LOCS Elementary Teacher of the Year, entered college at Michigan State University expecting to become a veterinarian.

While some may joke it’s not a big leap to an elementary classroom, Moede realized her passion for human children during her volunteer hours at an elementary school.

“Working with kids and having them learn how to read, was just so incredible that it made me decide I loved kids more than I loved animals,” she recalled.

“I knew that feeling of success, when somebody is learning something new. Especially if they struggle a little bit and you’re able to explain it in a way that makes sense to them and that they remember what you taught them, it’s one of the most incredible, joyful feelings that exists.

“I get to experience that every single day and get paid to do it. Which is like a miracle.”

Even after 20 years in LOCS, Moede retains that wonder. As part of an education family—her husband Matt is an LOCS middle school teacher and her mother is a former Waldon Middle School teacher—she sustains that passion.

Which leads to her self-education. LOCS continues to have a progressive mindset each year as the Teaching and Learning Department embraces evolving educational trends.

For many teachers, that means joining a committee to expand their individual education or study areas to help the district.

One committee.
For Moede, she has found her way onto nearly all of them.

The FAME (math) and the elementary furniture pilots. The summer book clubs and the NGSX (science). The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People/Leader in Me program and the Teaching through Phenomenon. The LOCS teacher mentoring program. The Dragon Diversity club.

“Sometimes other teachers will tease me: ‘You’re on this committee too?’” said Moede, who shares with others but also appreciates the support from the district’s instructional coaches. “I can’t say no to some things, because I know the value of every single thing that I’m able to have the time to participate in teaches me a new layer to improve. Every year I feel like I’m stronger than I was the year before.”

Each time she embraces an opportunity (growth mindset, inquiry-based learning, teaching through phenomenon, flexible grouping), she finds a way to incorporate it with her students.

Those tools have allowed her to adjust and adapt every day.

She’s learned not to make rigid lessons plans, but instead prepare to react and alter the path based on the students’ understanding. Called “hinge points,” it becomes a guide of which path she takes within each lesson.

“I loosely plan, I know my year-long curriculum but I know I’m going to have to make adjustments to tomorrow because I’m going to assess how much did my students understand today,” she said. “Tomorrow’s concepts build upon today.”

Feedback becomes crucial for all teachers and, with fifth graders, it’s not always direct. Often, a reaction provides that reminder that she’s making a difference.

“The kids are all silently reading and this young lady comes up to me and says, ‘I never really loved reading until now,’” Moede recalled. “(The student said) ‘I always kind of found myself in books that didn’t really interest me and I read them because I had to. But now I look forward to reading because I know that you’re going to help me find a book that I don’t want to put down because it’s totally what I’m interested in.’”

Moede was touched.

“Oh, I made a reader,” she thought. “I still think of the little boy I tutored in East Lansing and that joy of hooking a kid on reading.”

Orion Oaks Elementary colleague and fifth-grade team teacher Norman Wright explained that her mind is always on others.

“She is always mindful of the home-school connection,” Wright shared. “She is proactive in gathering evidence of student learning in projects, leadership binders, writing and work samples to display in the hallway and to share during conferences.”

While Moede points to her continuing education, her principal shares that her impact is innate.

“There’s not enough words to describe how amazing you are, what you do, the social-emotional, the kindness,” Orion Oaks principal Drew Towlerton said at the award ceremony. “You may have single-handedly changed this world for the better. At a time in our lives where we have seen some craziness, you have—just by being you—made this world a better place.”

Check out the summer offerings in the Spring/Summer issue of the Enrichment catalog, available online at lakeorionschools.org/departments/enrichment-services.
Community Spotlight: Dragon on the Lake

DRAGON REVELRY RETURNS

Our well-anticipated “normal” summer will end on a high note with the triumphant return of Dragon on the Lake (DOTL), held in various locations in Downtown Lake Orion from Friday, August 26 through Sunday, August 29. The annual Orion Art Center fundraiser was truncated last year due to COVID. But plans are underway for a bigger and better event in 2021, according to Julie Law, President of 360 Event Productions, who is managing the event.

The best of the DOTL activities from years past will return and some new features are in the works.

Lighted Boat Parade
Can your boat impress the judges to win cash prizes in the Boat Parade Friday night? Watch the lighted and decorated vessels wind around the lake from Green’s Park or enter yours into the competition.

Dragon Pub and Tiki Bar
Live entertainment awaits at the Dragon Pub each night. Three bands—Local Heroes, Sunset Blvd and Square Pegz—will rock downtown on Thursday, Friday and Saturday respectively. Relax with friends in the beachy Tiki Bar during the day and after the band sets have ended.

Family Fun
The Little Dragon Den, sponsored by Genisys Credit Union, welcomes families with live entertainment, a bounce house, face painting a more. New this year: watch a professional sand artist sculpt a huge sand dragon! Sand artists will teach kids to sculpt their own sand masterpieces on site.

Calling all Parrotheads
A new twist on the 5K run will delight Jimmy Buffet fans. The Parrothead Fun Run is Saturday morning. Runners are encouraged to dress in their favorite parrothead gear. A Buffet cover band will entertain participants at the Tiki Bar after the race.

Chalk Art
Artists are invited to wow us with their best chalk creations on a 4-by-8-foot slab of downtown concrete on Saturday and Sunday. Judges will select the most impressive pieces and award prizes on Sunday afternoon.

Dragon Boats
Paddles up for the signature Dragon Boat Races at Green’s Park on Sunday. A 41-foot dragon boat holds 20 paddlers working in unison to outpace their competitors for the coveted title. It’s a great team-building event and tons of fun for paddlers and spectators alike.

Dragon Village
In addition to all this fun, local businesses and craft vendors will be hand to share their wares. Shop local to support our small businesses. DOTL will be a weekend of fun for young and not-so-young as Lake Orion celebrates all things dragon. Of course, all activities will comply with whatever COVID restrictions are in place at the time. Visit dragononthelake.com for details about each of these events.

To register for the Fun Run, Boat Parade, Chalk Art Challenge and Dragon Boat Races, or for sponsor and vendor information, visit dragononthelake.com.
Please help us support one of Lake Orion’s most spectacular traditions!

**2021 Lake Orion Fireworks**

Saturday, June 26th at dusk

**Please Donate Now!**

Please visit our Go Fund Me page [gf.me/u/zpwfuz](gf.me/u/zpwfuz), scan the QR code, or mail checks to: LOFA, PO Box 161, Lake Orion MI 48362

The Lake Orion Fireworks Association is a 501C3 non-profit Organization Supported by all Volunteers. Donations are tax deductible

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Give us your best shot!

**Orion Living** is always on the lookout for great photos that depict life in Orion.

Earn notoriety and a photo credit by sharing your work, and help us tell Orion’s story!

Email [jbhatti@oriontownship.org](mailto:jbhatti@oriontownship.org) for submission guidelines and instructions.

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Designed For Boys & Girls Ages 4 - 14

**PLAY FLAG FOOTBALL THIS FALL!**
- Develop football fundamentals without the contact
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- Buddy requests are encouraged

**SEASON BEGINS SEPTEMBER 12TH**
- NFL FLAG reversible jersey & flags included
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**EARLY BIRD PRICING ENDS JULY 30TH**

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Our quarterly magazine combines publications from Orion Township, Parks & Recreation, Orion Township Public Library, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce and the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority and special features from Lake Orion Community Schools.

Orion comes alive!

An unprecedented season of comedy, magic and music awaits at the re-energized Wildwood Amphitheater and the Fire Bowl at Camp Agawam this summer. Artists Rob Stone and Kyle Palermino, of Family Tradition, are two of several acts lined up to perform. Visit Orion.Events for the complete line-up.