What’s Inside
Stay active this Fall with DDA events, Parks & Recreation and Orion Library classes
Helpful information to keep you safe and well
LOCS embraces Positivity Project
COVER: The Lake Orion High School Dragons kick off their 2022 season with a home game against Oak Park on September 1. Friday nights under the lights is the place to be this fall as the team prepares for a winning season.

Background photo by K Gedda Smith Images
Welcome to Orion Living

Welcome to Orion Living Magazine these past three years. As we start on our fourth year of publishing this community magazine, we welcome your feedback, suggestions, story ideas and support. It’s our goal to accurately depict life in Orion through words and photos.

This issue brings you more relevant content, with articles about the new concession stand at Miracle Field, new developments and Fall events and activities for all ages, hosted by the Township, Parks & Recreation, the Orion Library and Lake Orion DDA. Meet interesting people doing interesting things in our community and schools. Check out the Calendar of Events to see that Orion is hopping even as the weather cools and the leaves change.

Enjoy the beauty around you this season and take advantage of all that Orion has to offer. I look forward to seeing you around town or at one of our many great events.

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor

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Bring on sweater weather and enjoy the beauty of Fall

Photo by Lorene Strong

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Fall Maintenance Tips

Protect your home from winter water damage

During the fall months, there are several things homeowners can do to protect their homes from winter water damage.

Before the cold weather hits, be sure:

- Outside water faucets are opened, and inside the home, the line is closed.
- Locate and mark the main water valve for your home and make sure the adults in your household know where it is located. Water damage can be minimized if all adults know where to turn off the water in the event of an emergency.
- Consider insulating any pipes that are near outside walls, under the home (in crawl spaces), or in the attic.

If you have had problems with lines freezing in the past, inspect the lines before the winter hits. In addition to insulating the pipes, seal any gaps in the walls with caulk or other means. Check with your local hardware store for other effective ways of insulating and sealing gaps.

In the event that your pipes do freeze, remember that you should never thaw the pipes with an open flame. It is best to use a small portable heater or a hair dryer. Please make sure you are careful about electric shock around standing water!

If your home is going to be vacant for any prolonged period, you can contact our office and have the water shut off at the street to prevent potential damage from occurring within the home. If you plan on going out of town for any extended period, you may consider keeping your heat set to over 60°F. You may also want to consider draining the water from your lines inside your home and you can contact our office so we may turn the water off at the street.

During a winter storm, there is always the probability that you will lose power in your home. If the power will be off for a long period of time, turn the water off at the main shut-off valve in your home. Open faucets in all levels of your home to allow for expansion should any water left in the lines freeze.

If you notice anything unusual like unfrozen puddles or large pools of water, please contact the Orion Township Water and Sewer Department so that we can shut off the water at the road. If you have a water pipe that has broken in your home or on your property, you will have to contact an independent contractor to fix any damage that occurs within your property.

If a water or sewer emergency occurs:

Call 248–391–0304 Ext. 8500
(Orion Township)
Monday through Friday during Township hours
or 248–858–4911
(Oakland County Emergency Dispatch) during non–business hours

Annual water quality report

Every year the Charter Township of Orion is required by the Department of Environmental Quality (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.

The Township’s annual Water Quality Report can be viewed online at oriontownship.org/WaterQualityReport2021 or under the Department of Public Services section of Orion Township’s website.

If you are unable to view the report online and would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the Department of Public Services at 248–391–0304 ext. 8500.

Are you moving?

If you are moving out of Orion Township, call 248–391–0304 ext. 8500 to schedule a final water/sewer bill.

Have the following information available:

- Property address
- Date of closing
- New owner’s name
- Name and address, or email address, of title company

Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304
Water leaks in your home

If your home is connected to the Orion Township water supply, your water line is “metered” for accountability and billing purposes. A water leak in your line can be very costly because once the water has gone through the meter you must be charged for the usage.

If you suspect you have a leak due to a high than normal water bill, here are a few locations you can check before calling a plumber. Initially, check your water meter and write down the reading before you go to bed when you know there will be no water usage. In the morning, before water is used, check the meter again, and write down the number. If the reading has changed, you have a water leak somewhere in your home.

**Hot Water Tanks:** Check the connections at the top of your hot water tank and temperature relief valve for drips on the floor. You do not want to tamper with your pressure–temperature relief valve.

**Toilets:** Check the toilet for leaks by removing the top of the tank and listening very closely. If you hear any hissing at all, try to locate where it is coming from. If you locate the area where the leak is coming from, assess it and determine if you can fix it. If you can’t, then call a plumber.

If nothing is noticeable, add a couple of drops of food coloring to the tank (not the bowl). Wait several minutes and if you have coloring in the bowl, you have a leak in the flapper at the bottom of the tank that is allowing water to seep through. At this point, you can assess if you want to do the repair yourself, or call a plumber.

If you have more toilets, go ahead, and repeat the process with each toilet to make sure you don’t have more than one problem.

**Hose Bibs:** This will require you to locate all the hose bibs (hose bibs are the pipes that you hook your outside hoses to in case you were unsure!). Look for any obvious dripping, as the seals to the faucets can wear out over time. Every fall, be sure to turn off the water inside your home to your hose bibs to prevent them from freezing and cracking.

**Other Leaks:** Check the outside irrigation system for leaks. You may notice an area of your lawn that is greener than the other areas.

Check the shower head for leaks. It should be a fairly straightforward home repair if this is a source of leaking.

If you have a swimming pool, it is important to check to see if it has any leaks.

Recognize that in many cases a leak can be very hard to locate. Not all leaks outlined in this article can be located and if you’re not used to plumbing positioning, you may miss something easily. However, you may be able to find something, giving your plumber a starting point, which will save them time and that translates into savings for you.

How to read your water meter

One way that you can keep an eye on your water usage is to read your meter regularly. Most of the homes that are connected to the Township water supply will locate the meters in the basement.

As you will see in the picture, the meter head looks like a car odometer. The standard meters can be read by using the first four numbers on the left. These four numbers can be subtracted from your current bill to get the number of units.

The red triangle under the N in Neptune is a low flow detector. If this triangle is spinning, that will tell a resident that there is a small amount of water being used, which could be helpful in determining leaks in the home.

GFL yard waste

Yard Waste continues until December 15th. You may use brown bags, a purchased Orion Township rolling cart, or existing cans with a yard waste sticker provided by GFL. Compost stickers are available at Orion Township Hall in the Department of Public Services.

The Public Services Department is happy to answer general questions regarding GFL garbage collection. For specific GFL billing questions or missed garbage pick-ups, contact GFL directly at 248–204–4039.

Easy account access

You may have noticed a QR code has been added to your monthly water and/or sewer billing slip. By scanning the QR code, you can easily access your account, view your balance, and pay online.
Orion Township’s new polling locations

Starting in 2022, all precincts were moved from the Lake Orion Community Schools to other locations within Orion Township. See the list below for all polling locations or visit michigan.gov/sos to find your specific voting precinct. In April 2022, every voter should have received a new voter ID card with your polling location.

- Precinct 1: St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 715 N. Lapeer Road
- Precinct 2: The Village of Lake Orion, 21 E. Church Street
- Precinct 3: Lake Orion Church of Christ, 1080 Hemingway Road
- Precinct 4: Orion Township Public Library, 825 Joslyn Road
- Precinct 5: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1950 S. Baldwin Road
- Precinct 6: The River Church, 3920 S. Baldwin Road
- Precinct 7: The DPW Garage, 2685 Joslyn Court
- Precinct 8: The Orion Center, 1335 Joslyn Road
- Precinct 9: Lake Orion Baptist Church, 255 E. Scripps Road
- Precinct 10: St. Mary’s in the Hills Episcopal Church, 2512 Joslyn Court
- Precinct 11: The Orion Center, 1335 Joslyn Road
- Precinct 12: Lake Orion United Methodist Church, 140 E. Flint Street
- Precinct 13: Mount Zion Community House, 4005 S. Baldwin Road
- Precinct 14: King of Kings Lutheran Church, 1715 S. Lapeer Road
- Precinct 15: Orion Township Fire Station #2, 3801 Giddings Road

How to register to vote

In person:
- Orion Township Clerk’s office, Monday–Friday, 8:30 am–4:30 pm, at the Orion Township Municipal Complex, 2323 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion.
- Any Secretary of State’s office.

Mail–in:
- Voter registration forms are available at the Township Clerk’s office. By law, voters registering by mail for their first registration in Michigan must appear in person at a polling place the first time they vote.

Become an election worker!

This is an opportunity to perform a much–needed service—work at one of the polls during an election—and earn $200 or more per election! You must be registered to vote, and able to attend training before the Election. High school students 16 and up are also eligible. If interested, complete and return the State of Michigan Election Inspector Application. Visit oriontownship.org for more information.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact the Clerk’s office at 248–391–0304, ext. 1, with questions or concerns regarding elections and voter registration, or visit oriontownship.org for the latest announcements on elections in Orion Township. General information including voter registration, polling locations, and other voting information is available from the Secretary of State at michigan.gov/sos, Elections in Michigan. Look for the Michigan Voter Information Center for much more information.

General clerk’s office information

Township and Precinct Street Maps are available at Township Hall at a cost of $2.

Township meeting times: Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings begin at 7 pm. Meetings are cablecast on local Cable–TV Channel 20 (AT&T 99). Visit oriontownship.org for meeting dates.

From Clerk Penny Shults

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who assisted with the August 2, 2022 Election, we could not do what we do without your help. Heartfelt appreciation is extended to all our polling locations for providing outstanding community support by hosting a voting precinct. I’m hearing excellent reports about the warm hospitality extended to our voters!

The Clerk’s Office staff, the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, the Orion Township Fire Department, and our amazing workforce at Orion Township were all outstanding and worked diligently to ensure the election ran smoothly and efficiently. Much appreciation is also extended to our Board of Trustees for their continued support and to Election Commissioners, Michael Flood and Brian Birney for their assistance in ensuring the accuracy and proficiency of each election are held to the highest standard. In addition, I owe a debt of gratitude to all the outstanding Election Inspectors who ensured every vote was counted and each precinct ran with proficiency. These dedicated workers serve the voters and Orion Township with a unified purpose of ensuring voting rights are upheld to the highest standard.

Something wonderful happens when people come together and share a common goal and this election was marked by the unified effort put forth by everyone in our community.

Warmest Regards,

Penny S. Shults
Orion Township Clerk
What’s going there?

**Brown Road Hyatt House**

The 21,619 square foot, four–story hotel will be built on the north side of Brown Road as part of the new Grand Square of Orion development.

**Culvers**

Grand Square of Orion, located on Brown Road between Baldwin and Joslyn Roads, has started construction for three hotels and two restaurants. When this project was approved, one of the restaurants was Texas Roadhouse and the other restaurant was unknown. The second restaurant was recently named to be a Culvers restaurant with a drive–thru.

**KPMF USA, Inc.**

Located at 67 Kay Industrial Drive, this existing business is approved for an 84,295 square foot addition on the west side of their existing building, adjacent to Lapeer Road.

**MPD Welding**

The existing business located at 4200 S. Lapeer Road, between Brown and Silverbell Roads, is starting construction on a 7,200-square-foot manufacturing shop addition.

**Mattress Firm**

The 4,309 square foot Mattress Firm store located on Brown Road next to Tommy’s Car Wash is currently under construction.

**Natrabis (Society C)**

The 12,300 square–foot dispensary is located on Delta Court in the Liberty Tech development off Giddings Road.

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**Smoke Alarm Installation Program**

In 2020, the Orion Township Fire Department (OTFD) joined the MI Prevention Statewide Fire Safety Campaign to reduce the number of fire–related injuries, deaths, and property damage/loss in Michigan. To that end, the Fire Department is installing smoke alarms and educating residents on the best fire safety practices. The goal is to educate residents, increase awareness, and help prevent life and property loss.

The smoke alarm installation program is FREE for all Orion Township residents. The OTFD Prevention Division will conduct a free home safety inspection and install up to six smoke alarms throughout the residence. Homeowners will be educated about home fire safety, smoke alarm functions, and smoke alarm maintenance.

_To partake in this program, contact the OTFD at 248–391–0304, ext. 2000 or email fire@oriontownship.org._
Fire Prevention Week is October 9 through October 15

Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape.

The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) has chosen “Fire Won’t Wait. Plan Your Escape.” as this year’s theme for Fire Prevention Week. This campaign is designed to reinforce the critical importance of developing a home escape plan, making sure all household members are aware of this plan and practice it regularly. This year also signifies a huge milestone for Fire Prevention Week as they celebrate its 100th anniversary as the nation’s longest-running public health observance on record.

People most often feel the safest when they are at home, however, according to NFPA data, it’s where they are at the greatest risk. Nearly three-quarters (74 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home. When a home fire does occur, it’s more likely to be serious. Today’s homes burn faster and hotter than they used to, greatly shortening the amount of time people have to safely escape.

Key points

The NFPA’s key messages this year include:

- Make sure your home escape plan meets the needs of everyone in your household. This includes those with sensory and/or physical disabilities.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Ideally, you’d want all of your smoke alarms to be interconnected, so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows can be opened easily.
- Have an outside meeting place that is a safe distance from your home. Everyone should know where this is and be able to easily get there in an emergency.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in your household. Practice at least once during the day and at night.

A good habit to start (if you don’t already do this) is to keep bedroom doors closed. A closed door can be an effective barrier against deadly levels of carbon monoxide, and help slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire. A closed door may give you more time to respond to the smoke alarm. There can be a 900-degree Fahrenheit temperature difference or more between a room with an open door and one with a closed door. Make closing doors at night part of your bedtime routine.

For more tips, visit firepreventionweek.org and sparky.org.
Sparky® is a registered and ©2023 National Fire Protection Association.
Happy retirement, Kim Boesl!
We will miss you!

Orion Township would like to announce the retirement of our long-time Township employee Kim Boesl. Kim started back in 1988 and has served faithfully in the Treasurer’s Department for the past 34 years. Over the years, Kim has held various positions in the department and has worked hard to achieve her current position as Assistant to the Treasurer. Kim has been an integral part of our team and her knowledge and skills will be greatly missed. Kim is looking forward to spending her retirement visiting with her children and grandchildren as well as the rest of her family and friends.

Please join us in wishing Kim a very much deserved and happy retirement!

Bus Safety Rules for Motorists

Keeping our kids safe this school year

Bus stops and crossings can be hazardous, especially for young children. Anyone who can touch a bus with an outstretched arm is TOO CLOSE to the bus!

Safety tips for drivers

- When the YELLOW overhead lights are flashing, prepare to stop.
- Flashing RED lights on a school bus mean one thing—STOP—at least 20 feet from the school bus. Remain stopped until the flashing RED lights are turned off or the bus resumes traveling.
- When the YELLOW hazard lights are flashing, move with caution.
- Slow down in or near school and residential areas.
- Use extra care around parked cars and other objects that obstruct your view.
- Look for clues—such as safety patrols, crossing guards, bicycles, and playgrounds that indicate children might be in the area.
- Use additional caution in bad weather.
- Avoid distracted driving (cell phone use, eating, grooming, etc).

It is not necessary to stop for a school bus stopped on the other side of a divided highway where the road is separated by a barrier, such as a concrete or grass median, island, or other structure that separates the flow of traffic.

While the school bus is the safest way to travel to and from school, children still need to be careful as they get on and off the bus. The most dangerous area around the school bus is within a 10-foot radius on all sides.

Safety tips for students

- Arrive to the bus stop early.
- Always stay in sight of the bus driver. Children who cross in front of the school bus should stay at least 10 feet away from it and make sure the bus driver sees them.
- Don’t hurry off the bus, check traffic first. Wait until no cars are coming from either direction before they cross the street.
- Don’t go back to the bus after exiting.
- Use handrails when getting on and off the school bus. Secure any loose or hanging objects like straps or drawstrings.
- If a child drops something outside of the school bus, tell them to NEVER try to pick it up. They should always tell the driver and wait for instructions.
- Many children also walk or ride their bicycles to school. Remind children to use the sidewalk whenever possible (if there isn’t a sidewalk available, pedestrians should walk on the edge of the street facing traffic, and cyclists should ride in the same direction as traffic, and follow traffic signs and signals), use marked crosswalks and look both ways before crossing the street, never play, push, or shove others when you walk around traffic, and everyone should be watching the road and their surroundings, not their phones.

Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304
Step right up to Andrea Yatooma’s Home Plate Concession Stand

Brothers recognize their mother’s love for all children with a building named in her honor

The grand opening of the new concession stand at the Miracle Field was nothing short of spectacular. The event which was held on Saturday, June 18th, featured a triple-header of baseball games, local celebrities including Detroit Lion Great Lomas Brown, balloon artists, face painting, a 50/50 raffle, free food, a ceremony with a ribbon cutting, and more.

The North Oakland Miracle League Field opened in 2019 and is Easterseals Michigan’s second Miracle League Field. This adaptive baseball field provides children with behavioral and/or physical challenges an opportunity to play baseball as part of a team in an organized league, boost self-esteem, make new friends, and become more than an individual with a disability. The community had been fundraising ever since the opening of the field to build a state-of-the-art concession stand with fully accessible restrooms.

Greg and Chris Yatooma donated $100,000 to the project in honor of their Mom, Andrea.

“After visiting the Miracle Field in Orion Township and seeing the joy on the children’s faces, I immediately knew that I wanted to get involved,” said Greg Yatooma. “The addition of the concession stand is a way to improve the experience for players and families at the park, while also raising funds to further support the league and its mission.”

Who is Andrea?

At this point, you’re probably wondering, who is Andrea Yatooma? Andrea grew up in Warren, Michigan, fell in love with the area from a young age, and has been here ever since. Although she currently lives in the West Bloomfield area, Orion holds a special place in her heart. One of her favorite things to do is visit the Miracle Field and watch some baseball games.

Andrea loves having a big family. She raised four boys, and has 13 grandkids, four nieces, and 12 great nieces! Her husband was killed when the kids were fairly young, leaving her to raise them on her own, which was no small task. According to Greg, “She is a warrior.” She fought for them as a family and for them as individuals. She made sure to instill her strong
beliefs in them and raised them to be strong, independent, and kind individuals. Church was always very important to Andrea, one lesson she made sure to teach her kids was that prayer works. In her spare time, she enjoys studying the Bible and praying for people.

Greg and Chris opened The New Foster Care in 2016, a non-profit based out of Oakland County, with a focus on assisting young people with experience in foster care to positively change the trajectory of their lives and to positively impact the foster care system that serves them by advocating for innovative programming and policy and legislative reform. Andrea would always love on these kids like they were her own and pray with them and for them. Any kid that she encounters, she treats them like her own and that means so much to so many of them. She has always been a kind, caring, and compassionate person, with a desire to see others thrive.

Speechless
The family decided not to tell her in advance that the concession stand was dedicated in her honor. They knew she would be too humble to accept such a grand gesture. She thought she was going to the field that day to just watch some baseball and see the smiles on all the kids’ faces. When the name of the concession stand was revealed and she was called up for the ribbon cutting, to say she was surprised is an understatement. She was completely speechless. To top it all off, she even got to throw out the first pitch! Watching his mom be honored was truly special, “She’s the best. She raised me and my brothers, she prayed for us and led us down the right path. She deserves the world.” Said Greg.

The Andrea Yatooma Home Plate Concession Stand serves up ballpark classics like hot dogs, pizza, nachos, pretzels, ice cream, and more. All proceeds from sales go right back to the field. Former Miracle League players even work at the stand, learning essential job skills. The concession stand is open on weekends during games and tournaments at Friendship Park.
Avoiding food waste benefits your budget and our environment

With many of us living busy lives, most Americans are unaware of the impact of the amount of food that they throw out every day. Food waste has unfortunately become a habit: buying more food than we need, letting fruits and vegetables spoil at home, or taking larger portions than we can eat. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) states that one–third of all food produced is thrown out. In 2018, the EPA estimated that 81 percent—20.3 tons of households’ wasted food—ended up in landfills.

These bad habits put unnecessary strain on our natural resources and the environment. When food is wasted, it’s not just the food, but it’s also the labor, effort, investment, and resources like water, seeds and feed that go into producing it, not to mention the resources that go into transporting, processing, and packaging it. Huge quantities of food are also lost at the retail level.

It may appear that food is not the worst form of waste, due to its ability to break down; however, it’s the highest leading category of waste in municipal landfills (EPA). When food breaks down in a landfill, toxic greenhouse gases such as methane are emitted into the atmosphere.

Preventing our food from reaching the landfill is one of the easiest and most powerful actions you can take. It saves you money and lowers your carbon footprint by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and helps to conserve natural resources.

Some benefits of reducing food waste:

- Lower grocery bills
- Conservation of energy resources used to dispose of and eliminate food waste
- Reduction of harmful greenhouse gases into our atmosphere

It is important that we all do our part to prevent food waste. Here are some easy tips to add to your daily routine:

**Shop smart.** Make a grocery list and stick to it. Take a couple of shorter trips to the grocery store each week rather than one longer trip. Buying foods that are already in your home can become another source of waste.

**Store food correctly.** Improper food storage leads to food waste. Potatoes, tomatoes, garlic, cucumbers, and onions shouldn’t be refrigerated but stored at room temperature. Separating foods that produce ethylene gas from those that don’t reduces food spoilage. Ethylene promotes ripening in foods such as bananas, avocados, tomatoes, cantaloupes, peaches, pears, and green onions. Ethylene–sensitive produce includes potatoes, apples, leafy greens, berries, and peppers.

**Buy the ugly fruit and vegetables.** Don’t judge food by its appearance! Oddly shaped or bruised fruits and vegetables are often thrown away but taste the same. Mature fruits and soft or wilted vegetables make excellent additions to soups, smoothies, or baked dishes. Leftover vegetable scraps can be used to make soup stock. Stale bread can be used for toast or breadcrumbs.

**First in, first out.** Move older products to the front of your pantry or fridge and new ones to the back to ensure older products are used first.

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**Earn points for local deals**

Recyclebank rewards you for doing stuff you’re already doing. Sign up to earn points each week when you set out your recycling. Earn additional points for watching videos and reading articles with helpful recycling tips!

**Lake Orion Specific Rewards**

**313 Pizza Bar:** 15% Off any small or large pizza when you dine in

**Cookies and Cream by Sprout Bake:** Free chocolate chip cookie with purchase of a medium ice cream

**Expedition Soap Company:** Free 5oz bar of soap with $45 purchase, free organic lip balm with $15 purchase, free 6oz body butter with $75 purchase

**Eze Bikes:** $5 off any purchase including rental

**Gals and Ghouls:** $15 off one custom virtual or in–person 60 min 1–on–1
Compost. Instead of throwing away food scraps, compost them and turn them into energy for plants.

Extras and leftovers. Freezing foods can help preserve them for later use and help prevent spoiling, which extends their shelf life and reduces waste. Fruits and vegetables keep well when frozen, along with bread, meats, and even some prepared dishes. Freezing foods that people use less often, such as herbs are especially helpful.

Understand dates. Most foods come with a “sell by” or “use by” label. These dates help stores know when to rotate their stock but can be confusing for consumers. The FDA estimates that up to 20% of food waste comes from confusion over these dates. People assume these dates are expiration dates and throw out perfectly edible food. While these tags and labels may give a general idea of how fresh a product is, they are not hard and fast rules. The ultimate rule is when in doubt, it’s best to throw it out.

While the average consumer is not the greatest threat to the environment, it is still crucial that people take steps to reduce their environmental impact.

Drink your greens

Do you find your fruits and veggies going bad before you have a chance to eat them all? Many freeze well, or you can turn them into a delicious smoothie! Plus it helps you get in your daily serving of fruits and veggies.

Easy & Green: Ingredients: 1 medium ripe banana, 1 cup of fresh or frozen pineapple, 3 large handfuls of fresh spinach (washed), 1 cup plain Greek yogurt, 6 oz. water. Directions: Combine all of the ingredients into a blend and blend until smooth.

Enjoy!

Recipe courtesy of simplyrecipes.com/recipes/green_smoothie

Green Hippo Gifts: $5 off a $50 purchase

HCubed Candles: Free 8oz candle when you purchase a 16 oz candle

Lava Mountain Coffee: Free small Iced Coffee, $2 off bags of our Specialty Estate Colombian Coffee

Lo’s Beauty Bar & Med Spa: Complimentary Eyebrow Style with any $50 purchase, 10% off any service of $100 value or more

Lucky’s Natural Foods: Free Garden of Life 5 mg CBD with purchase of $100, Free natural lip balm with purchase of $25 or more, Free 4 oz sanitizer with purchase of $40 or more

Menchies Lake Orion: $2 off $10 or more cup(s) purchase, $3 off cake purchase

Mr. Brett’s Gourmet Snacks: Spend $15 or more and get a free 6oz bag of pretzels, free shipping

MyPic Photography: 50% off any Portrait Sitting Fee ($125 value)

Nutz About Chocolate: 1 Free truffle with $10 or more purchase

Oakland Sports Chiropractic: $5 off any service

Patch Boys of Lake Orion: 10% off a purchase

Pedal Boat Pub: $100 off a full boat reservation

Practically Perfect Vacations: Free Capture Your Moment Photo Session at Magic Kingdom

Spencer’s Apiaries: Free Lip Balm with a Honey purchase of $9 or more, Purchase $50, receive a $10 credit towards other products, Purchase $100, receive a $25 credit towards other products

Swirlz Frozen Custard and Sweets: $1 off medium milk shake, $3 off an ice cream (Soft Serve Cake)

The Wooden Tulip: $10 gift certificate

Tutor Doctor: Two free hours of tutoring or coaching

Surrounding Area Rewards

Carter Quality Flooring: 50% off professional hardwood floor deep cleaning

Funky Monkey Toys: 10% off an entire purchase

Ideal Escape Rooms: 10% off a booking

Kindermusik Clarkston/Kindermusik at Kids Energy Zone: One free visit

The Red Oak Refillery: Make a purchase of $10 and receive 1 of 5 offers for free: Free laundry soap, Free 4oz jar of oxygen powder, biodegradable natural lip balm, sample pack of 4 toilet bombs, 1 wool dryer ball

Woodchips Express: $5 off a regular order, $20 off a catering order

Sign up today at recyclebank.com or download the app to get started.
Meet your School Resource Officers

Deputy Jennifer Eriksen

Deputy Jennifer Eriksen admired her grandfather, a police officer in Italy, and dreamed of being one herself since she was four years old. Deputy Eriksen has been employed with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office for 20 years. She began her career as a part-time Marine Deputy and soon realized that part-time wasn’t enough. She enrolled in the Oakland Police Academy and in 2002 was hired full time by the Sheriff’s Office while she was still in the Police Academy. She has worked in corrections and patrol and is currently assigned as a School Resource Officer at Oakview, Scripps and Waldon Middle Schools.

Deputy Eriksen, a lifelong Michigan resident, lives in Orion with her husband (also a Deputy at the Sheriff’s Office), their two children, and two dogs, Winston and Bella. She enjoys spending time with her family and traveling. When they moved to Orion, the Eriksens knew they found their forever home with their love of the outdoors and the close-knit community—nothing else came close. She is thankful to be in a community that supports law enforcement.

Eriksen enjoys spending her days with all 1,500-plus of her “kids,” educating them and being a positive role model in their lives. She is entering her fifth year as a School Resource Officer and can’t imagine doing anything else. She loves that the students trust her, come to her for advice, and share problems they are experiencing. Her favorite part of the day is getting high-fives and fist pumps in the hallways and at lunchtime.

Deputy Eriksen recalls, “This past year I had an eighth grade student who would come to my office every morning to say, good morning. On the last day of school, he asked to have his picture taken with me, the school counselor, and the school behaviorist. He told each of us how important we were to him and then he saved the photo as his screensaver, stating that he ‘never wants to forget us’.”

Most issues Eriksen deals with are cell phone and social media-related, including threats, sending and receiving nude photos, and bullying. In recent years, vaping has become an issue in the schools as students aren’t aware of the health risks associated with vaping.

“Have conversations with your children and do cell phone checks,” Eriksen says. “Most parents don’t know that their children have multiple social media accounts—one their parents know about, and one specifically for their friends. Many also have a “for your eyes only” folder within their Snapchat accounts (see sidebar). Don’t be friends with strangers online! If you don’t know them face to face from schools, sports or church, then you should not be friends with them online.”

Deputy Lopez has been in law enforcement over 25 years, serving 14 years with the Pontiac Police Department and 11 with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office. Over the years he was a Field Training Officer, a Pursuit Termination Instructor, an Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor, a member of the peer support program, and he completed Basic Detective School. Lopez still desires to teach and sought it out through the different roles he has taken on training officers.

Deputy Claudio Lopez

Like many kids growing up, Deputy Claudio Lopez dreamed of being an astronaut. He initially went to college to become an elementary school teacher, but ultimately chose law enforcement. He wanted to do more to help his community and make a difference.

Born and raised in Michigan, Lopez only left to attend college in West Virginia but his heart called him back. Lopez enjoys bowling, working on cars and small engines, and construction. Recently he has found a new passion for learning to day trade stocks. His favorite thing about Orion is the people. Many times adults and students show their appreciation for the officers in our community when the media is not supportive.

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The opportunity to become a School Resource Officer gave him the best of both worlds. He has been in that role for six years.

What makes his day at school?

“When I see students say ‘Hi, Deputy Lopez’ or ‘Hey Lopez’,” Lopez comments. “My interactions with students are not always bad. Most are good, and students seem to say hi even if they haven’t had any interactions with me. It makes me feel that my reputation as being a good School Resource Officer trickles down.” Lopez said.

Many cases this past year involved social media: bullying, extortion, threats, and sending or receiving nude pictures.

“Be mindful of your child's social media platforms, and don’t be afraid to check them and who their friends are. In addition to Snapchat, Discord, and Instagram are also ones they use.

“Sometimes I have to enforce the law with students and that part is never fun,” Lopez said. “I make sure to tell the students that even though our interaction is for something bad, you are not a bad person. I don't like your behavior for what you did, but I still like you as a person. Treating the students with respect and fairness is important and I get to see the benefits of that by observing them as they grow throughout their high school years,” Lopez stated.

Lopez wants people to know that “sometimes while in uniform I might not have a smile on my face. It is not because I'm not happy. I'm taking in data with my eyes and surveying my surroundings. Usually, it just takes a ‘Hi Lopez’ and then I can't help but smile, and maybe look more approachable. I wear many hats as a School Resource Officer and I am always willing to help; don't be afraid to ask me.”

We are thankful that Deputies Eriksen and Lopez are in our schools each day to help promote a safe, supportive, and peaceful school environment.

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Snapchat: For Your Eyes Only

Our School Resource Officers want to make sure parents are aware of the dangers of Snapchat.

When mixed, smartphones and adolescents’ raging hormones can coalesce into an illegal cocktail. Minors often don’t realize “sexting” is against the law and they're subject to potential criminal charges. Sexting is sending sexually explicit messages, photos or videos via cell phone, computer, or any other digital device and are all felony charges in Michigan.

Many students store these photos in a “For Your Eyes Only” folder in their Snapchat app. The folder is password-protected so you may not know it exists. See if your child has this folder: Open their Snapchat app (yellow icon with a white ghost). You will see a live image ready to take a photo. To the left of the “take a picture button” (large circle at bottom of the screen) is an icon that looks like two playing cards. Press that icon to open the Memories, photos taken with the app.

Along the top of the photos are labels including My Eyes Only. If the phone pops up with a PIN keypad, you will need the code from your child. Expect standard answers when you ask for their PIN like they forgot or they never set it up. Once past the PIN, you will see the photos in that folder. However, you are still not seeing the private disappearing messages kids send back and forth to each other with Snapchat.

Although a sext may be intended for only one person's eyes, there is no way to control who sees it once your child hits send. Photos are shared many times and quickly become a viral phenomenon. Once public, there is no way to control the audience. As a result, a sexual predator may get a hold of the photos, putting your child at risk of being sexually exploited by people who claim to be someone they are not. Pedophiles lurk on Snapchat, Instagram and TikTok.

Inappropriate photos can ruin your child's reputation. Once these images are out there, they're there forever, resulting in humiliation and embarrassment that could lead to bullying, name-calling and more. These photos can surface years later to impact your child's future with college admission or employers.

Before posting or sending anything, be sure you would be comfortable with a family member, teacher, or police officer seeing it.

Be sure your child is aware to never take any nude or semi-nude photos of themselves or others. Stress the importance of never sharing or forwarding sexually explicit material. If your child receives a photo, immediately delete it and advise the sender to stop sending pornography.

“My professional opinion is that no child under 17 should have a social media account,” cautions Deputy Jennifer Eriksen. “If you chose to allow your child access, I strongly encourage you to monitor their accounts. I recommend protectyouneyes.com. It’s a great site for education and explains in detail all the apps kids are using today. It also gives step-by-step instructions for both Android and iPhone users on how to set up parental controls.”

Let’s work together to protect our children and their futures!

Deputy Jennifer Eriksen
Cheers to Fall Festivities!

An activity-filled autumn awaits you in Downtown Lake Orion

The fun and camaraderie don’t end when the summer days cool off. The Lake Orion DDA has several events planned to bring out you and your family and friends during the crisp and pleasant days of Fall. There is something for everyone to enjoy in Downtown Lake Orion. We hope to see you there.

Oktoberfest
Friday, September 9 and Saturday, September 10

Lake Orion’s Second Annual Oktoberfest will begin Friday, September 9 at a ticketed event beer-pairing dinner with DeutschTroit from 6 to 10 pm. Enjoy tasting a variety of Oktoberfest beers and authentic traditional fare accompanied by a live German-style band.

The main event starts Saturday, September 10 with live OktoberFest bands, food trucks from DeutschTroit, Ziffels and Your Food Dude. Enjoy a host of fun activities including Flickin’ Chicken, The Dachshund Dash, and Stein Holding Competition, featuring imported beers steins approved for traditional holding competitions and customized with the Oktoberfest logo. New this year, participants of all ages can enjoy the Oktoberfest Obstacle Course Challenge. How fast can you run while carrying your beer?
steins? The winner will be the person with the most liquid left in their stein at the end of the course. Oktoberfest activities will not be limited to the beer tent area. Take your lederhosen for a spin around downtown to enjoy a host of activities, while visiting our local businesses.

Oktoberfest serves as the DDA’s primary fundraiser and allows us to continue hosting the Halloween Extravaganza, Sing & Stroll Tree Lighting, #StrongerTogether Ice Fest, the LOLive! Concert Series and all the great events and promotions that you know and love. Get the family together and join us as we make this year’s event even better!

**OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT**

Friday, September 30 | 7:30–9:30 pm
Children’s Park

Grab your chairs and blankets and make your way over to Downtown Lake Orion for Outdoor Movie Night! This year’s film will be *Little Foot*. Grab a snowcone and see Children’s Park transformed into a winter wonderland.

**HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA**

Wednesday, October 19
5 –7 pm | Children’s Park

All the ghosts and ghouls will be out for the Halloween Extravaganza. For one night Children’s Park will become home to all things fun and spooky! Don your finest costume and join us for music and entertainment, while enjoying some cider and donuts! Be sure your young super heroes, vampires, and witches bring their candy bags for trick or treating with our downtown businesses!

**#STRONGLERTOGETHER WITCHES & WARLOCKS NIGHT**

Saturday, October 22 | 5–9 pm

Double–Double, Toil and Trouble. Get your brooms and cauldrons ready for a dual-community event. The #StrongerTogether series will cast a spell on you! Witches and Warlocks can fly between Lake Orion and Oxford on the extra spooky Downtown Trolley Express. Put on your best pointy hat, grab a social district drink and come out for a night of fun.

**SING & STROLL TREE LIGHTING**

Thursday, November 17
6–8 pm | Children’s Park

Make memories in Children’s Park by helping Santa and Mr. Claus ring in the Hometown Holidays with caroling, tree lighting and hot cocoa. Enjoy local performances and warm yourself at the firepits while roasting marshmallows.

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

Saturday, November 26, all day | Downtown Lake Orion

Shoppers can enter a county-wide raffle to win $1,000 from Oakland County just for shopping locally! You can also post photos of the “hidden gems” (local shops and restaurants) you love in Lake Orion to win more prizes.

**ORION LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Saturday, December 3 | 6 pm | Downtown LO

The Orion Area Parade Group presents their annual lighted Christmas Parade the first Saturday of December. Floats, bands and special guests will help usher in the holiday season amid the glow of festive holiday lights that line Downtown.

In addition to these events, come Downtown to enjoy the Downtown Trolley Express, which runs between Oxford and Lake Orion weekly. During Hometown Holidays in December, win prizes with our Passport Contest and take a Horse & Carriage ride through Downtown.

For details about these events, visit downtownlakeorion.org/events or facebook.com/LakeOrionDDA.
SPECIAL EVENTS

Fall Festival of Family Fun
Camp Agawam | Sat, Sep 24 | 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.

Blood Drive with Versiti Blood Center
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 22 | Thu, Dec 1 | 2–7 pm
Ages 17+
Every day, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan needs more than 560 blood products to meet hospital demand. What we collect will go back to help people in your community! The key to success is to fill all appointment slots. To schedule your appointment please sign up at donate.michigan.versiti.org.

Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show
Orion Center | Sat, Oct 1 | 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 an 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 jvezina@orion-township.org for details. Only hand made locally produced products will be considered.

ONTV Film Challenge/Festival
Write, shoot, and edit a 10 minute film in less than one week. The challenge kicks off October 20th at 6 pm at the ONTV Studio. It will end with a film festival of everyone’s creations at the Oxford Cinema 7 on October 26th at 7 pm. Prize money to the Top 3 Teams! For more information or to register, call 248-393-1060.

Boo Bash
Orion Center | Fri, Oct 14
5:30–7 pm or 7–8:30 pm
Ages 1–8 | $10R/$13NR
Join us for an evening of Halloween fun including cider and donuts, haywagon rides, trick-or-treat street, crafts, carnival games and much more! Preregistration is required, spaces are limited. Infants in carriers are free with registered siblings. Don’t forget your camera, costume, flashlight and a trick-or-treat bag for all of your goodies! Walgreens will be on site taking photos in front of a festive fall–themed background. All families will receive 1 free 4X6 print and will have the option of purchasing a photo package. Dress to impress! The family with the best costumes will win a prize.

Car Bingo Spooktacular
Orion Center Parking Lot | Wed, Oct 26 | 5:30–7 pm | Free
Spooky season is here! Get your dobbers ready for some Halloween fun in the Orion Center Parking Lot. All participants will receive a set of Bingo Cards and will mark their card when they hear the numbers over the radio. If you get a BINGO you’ll honk your horn and flash your lights and we will come out to give you a prize! Halloween costumes will be highly encouraged. Prizes will be awarded. There will be no gambling.

TR Halloween Dance
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 27 | 6–8 pm | Ages 12+ | $6R/$8NR
Individuals with disabilities are invited to an evening of music, dancing, and light refreshments, costumes are encouraged. Preregistration preferred, walk-ins are welcome. Chaperones are free.

Antique, Toy & Comic Expo
Orion Center | Sat, Nov 12 | 9 am–3 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Buy, sell or trade comic books, collectibles and memorabilia at our annual swap meet! Vendors must preregister to reserve a space, $12R/$15NR. Set up opens at 8 am.
PARKS & RECREATION

Game Day & Puzzle Swap
Orion Center | Thu, Nov 17
Noon–6 pm | Free Parking & Admission

Love games? How about free games? Game Day swap will have puzzles, books, DVDs and board games for anyone to swap and exchange. Event is free for anyone to participate.

Indoor Community Garage Sale
Orion Center | Fri, Nov 18
9 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission

Why drive from house to house dragging your kids in and out of the car, wasting valuable time and resources? Drive to one location and see it all. No entrance fee for shoppers—it’s FREE! Sellers must preregister, spaces are limited, $10R/$13NR Set up opens at 8 am.

Made in the Mitten Pop Up Market
Orion Center | Thu, Dec 8
3–7 pm | Free Parking & Admission

The holidays are right around the corner and so is the Made in the Mitten Pop Up Market in the Orion Center. Spend your money locally and buy handmade unique items for gift giving. Interested vendors can contact jvezina@oriontownship.org for details. Only hand made locally produced products will be considered.

Breakfast with the Grinch
Orion Center | Sat, Dec 10
10–11 am or 11:30 am–12:30 pm
Ages 1–8 | $14R/$16NR

The holiday season is here! Come to the Orion Center to enjoy breakfast with the Grinch. Participants will enjoy a delicious breakfast of green eggs and ham. Have your picture taken with the Grinch and sit back while you enjoy the story of How the Grinch Stole Christmas. Remember to bring your camera for a photo opportunity you don’t want to miss. Infants in carriers are free with registered participants. Walgreens will be onsite taking photos in front of a festive background. All families will receive 1 free 4X6 print and will have the option of purchasing a photo package.

Snow Dash 5K
Orion Center | Sun, Dec 18
9 am | $15

Dashing through the snow down the Polly Ann Trail for our 5th Annual Snow Dash 5K in Orion Township. Certified loop course starts and finishes at the Orion Center. Finisher medals for all participants.

orionsnowcation.com

Join us during the months of December, January and February for so much family fun you will forget it’s Winter and you’re not on vacation! We will have “Let’s Light Up Orion” light contest, Car Bingo, Duct Tape Sled Race, Snow Sculpture Contest, Sledding & Smores, Scavenger Hunt, Lego Building Contest and a few other surprises. So get ready because Winter will be here before you know it.

orionsnowcation.com
Pumpkin Carving Party
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 20
5–7:30 pm | Ages 1–10
$3R/$5NR
Still need to carve your jack-o'-lanterns? Save time and stress with our Pumpkin Carving Party! Come and make a mess at the Orion Center, while you carve away and we clean up the pumpkin goo! BYOP (Bring Your Own Pumpkin). All tools needed for this activity will be provided.

ONTV Classes
Classes held at ONTV Studio, call 248-393-1060 to register

ONTV Podcast Classes
ONTV Studio | Ages 13+
$25 R/NR
ONTV is offering classes providing instruction on how to record a podcast. Classes run 2–3 hours, can hold 1–4 people, and will meet at the ONTV Studio, located at 1349 Joslyn Rd. Call 248-393-1060 to schedule an appointment at your convenience.

10 Week Video Production Class
ONTV Studio | Mon, Sep 12–Nov 21 | 7–9 pm | Ages 13+
$55R/ NR
ONTV teaches you how to operate cameras, audio equipment, and be a director. Learn about green screens and basic editing.

Make & Take DIY Birdseed Ornament
Orion Center | Pick Up Mon, Dec 12
All Ages | $6R/$8NR
Pick up your kit at the Orion Center and learn how to make your own Birdseed Ornaments to hang outside this winter. Registration includes all ingredients and materials needed. Preregistration required.

Home Alone Training
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 20
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9–14
$17R/$20NR
Is your young teen staying home alone this fall? 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.

Pumpkin Party for Teens
Camp Agawam | Fri, Oct 21 | 6–8:30 pm | Ages 9–15
$10R/$12NR
Join us at Camp Agawam for a fun fall evening! Bring a pumpkin to decorate, enjoy s'mores and hot chocolate around a bonfire and hangout with your friends. All of the tools to carve or decorate your pumpkin will be provided, you just need to bring the pumpkin.

BINGO Night
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 14 | 6–8:30 pm | Ages 9–15 | $10R/$12NR
BINGO Night at the Orion Center! Join us for a fun filled night playing BINGO with your friends. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Cookie Decorating Evening
Orion Center | Mon, Dec 12 | 6–8:30 pm | Ages 9–15 | $10R/$12NR
Come out to the Orion Center and join us for some sugar cookie decorating while we enjoy a Christmas Classic! Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Training follows the American Red Cross Curriculum. Certificate is presented upon completion of the workshop. Handouts are included.

Babysitter Training
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 27
6–8:30 pm | Ages 11–14 | $20R/$23NR
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, Sep 17–Oct 22 | Nov 5–Dec 10
1:30–2:30 pm | Ages 7–Adult
$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, 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.

Cookie Decorating with Alison Elle—Mommy & Me
Friendship Park | Thu, Oct 13
5–6:30 pm | Ages 6–14 | $55R/$57NR

Learn the basics of decorating cookies with royal icing as you create 5 Halloween themed designs to take home. All materials provided; cookies are made in a home kitchen not inspected by the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development. Allergen info: contains wheat, dairy, egg and possible trace amounts of tree nuts and peanuts. You can add a second child for only $20, additional youth must be required age for the program.

Beginner Crochet
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 7 | 5:30–7 pm
Ages 13–Adult | $22R/$24NR

Make this adorable crochet project and learn how to crochet. All you need to bring is a size 5 crochet hook and your sense of adventure. No experience necessary. You will learn to chain, slip stitch and half double crochet. All other supplies included.

THE ARTIST’S APPRENTICE
Taught by Artist/Instructor Pamela Palmer, BFA.
A material fee will be payable to instructor on first day of class.
Siblings of any age are always welcome!

BOO! Art Workshop
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 27 | 4:30–6:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $20R/$22NR

BOOTIFUL artwork will be created in this fun Halloween workshop. Black cat silhouettes in sunsets, wax relief gossamer paintings, and ghostly Model Magic sculptures! A viewing of creations of our art work with Popsicle treats will be extended to families at the end of class. $10 Material fee.

Drawing 101
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 26–Oct 17 | 4:30–6 pm | Ages 7+ | $65R/$67NR

So you like to draw, but you want to get better at it? Let’s make that happen! Students will work on exercises involving negative space, shading, portraits, contour lines, and perspective. We will work primarily in graphite, and if time permits, students can add color with the medium of your choice. $20 material fee.

Just Dragons
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 20–Nov 17 | 4:30–6 pm | Ages 7+ | $65R/$67NR

DRAGON LOVERS unite! Come with us as we learn to draw these mystical creatures. Young artists will get creative with a self-drying clay project featuring a baby dragon of their design using sparkle paints to bring out the magic in our wee beasts! We will use bat wing photo references in our large scale drawings for the shimmery scaled wings and snake photos for the skin. $20 material fee. No class Oct. 27.

Jolly Holiday Art!
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 21–Dec 12 | 5–6:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $65R/$67NR

Let’s paint! Young art lovers will be introduced to four artists whose talents express beautiful artwork of the holiday season! They will choose an artist to emulate, creating a lovely painting in the process. Beginning with a chalk drawing, proceeding to acrylics on canvas, students will receive individual guidance along the way to help with their individual artwork. Artists to be explored: Norman Rockwell, an American painter and illustrator who created art idealizing ordinary life for the Saturday Evening Post. Wiggo Johansen, a Danish painter and part of the Skagen Painters, a group of Scandinavian artists who gathered in the village of the same name. Sulamith Wulfing, a German artist and illustrator depicting a realistic reflection of her world, she has seen the angels and elfin creatures of her paintings throughout her life. Carl Olof Larsson, a Swedish painter representative of the Arts and Crafts movement. $20 material fee.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
2022 ESPORTS LEAGUES & CAMPS

Come play some of the fastest growing games with your peers in the brand new esports leagues! If you are experienced or a beginner, this will still be a league for you!

With the partnership of XP League, we will be hosting in person leagues and camps. (Equipment will be provided). The programs will include practices with trained coaches, game days and custom jerseys! Follow our Facebook and website for more information.

Amazing Athletes
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 8–Oct 27 5–5:35 pm | Ages 3–6 | $128R/$138NR

Orion Center | Thu, Nov 3–Dec 22 5–5:35 pm | Ages 3–6 | $112R/$124NR

No Class Nov. 24

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. Drop-in rates will begin the first day of classes, $16R/$18NR.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Coffee With Chris
Municipal Complex
Fri, Sep 23 & Oct 28 9:30–10:30 am

Stop in the new municipal complex 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.

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Plant Based Eating
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 19–Oct 17 6:30–8 pm | Ages 12+ | $49R/$59NR

Have you been looking for a way to get more energy, lose weight, reduce food cravings, improve athletic performance and reduce your cholesterol? Plant Based Eating can do all this for you AND address common western diseases such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, autoimmune disease, some cancers and more. Your instructor is a health coach and certified in Plant Based Nutrition. This class will be a supportive and open environment where all questions are welcome! Recipes will be provided. Food will not be prepared or served during class. Couple discount $79R/$89NR

Cookie Decoration with Alison Elle
Friendship Park | Thu, Oct 20 6–8:30 pm | Ages 18+ | $50R/$52NR

Learn the basics of decorating cookies with royal icing as you create Halloween themed designs to take home. All materials provided; cookies are made in a home kitchen not inspected by the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development. Allergen info: contains wheat, dairy, egg and possible trace amounts of tree nuts and peanuts.

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming
Orion Center
Thu, Sep 15–Dec 8 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+ $10R/$11NR

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 class Nov 24. No drumming experience is necessary. Instructor Cindi Carter.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
Hatha Gentle Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 12–Oct 24
4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | $77R/$80NR
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 7–21
4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | $33R/$36NR
In this class you will learn the foundational poses of yoga and begin to experience all the wonderful benefits. Gentle stretches to increase flexibility and strength in the body. Breathing and relaxation techniques to calm the mind. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate: $13R/$14NR per night.

Hatha Open Yoga
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 15–Oct 20
10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | $66R/$69NR
Orion Center | Thu, Nov 3–17
10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | $33R/$36NR
Exploring yoga asanas in a slow and subtle way to increase awareness in the body. Breathing and meditation techniques to calm the mind. Open to beginning or returning students. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket to class. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate: $13R/$14NR

Hatha Continuing Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 12–Oct 24
6–7:15 pm | Ages 16+ | $77R/$80NR
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 7–21
6–7:15 pm | Ages 16+ | $33R/$36NR
In this yoga class we will review the foundational yoga poses learned in the gentle class and continue to explore some new postures and practices that include the quietness of yin yoga, where we will hold poses close to the earth for a couple of minutes. Come enjoy this practice to strengthen your body and calm your mind. Each class will include relaxation. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate: $13R/$14NR

Hatha Yoga Restorative/Yin
Orion Center | Mon, Dec 5 & 12
4:45–5:45 pm | 6–7 pm | Ages 16+ | $24R/$26NR
Orion Center | Thu, Dec 1 & 8
10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | $24R/$26NR
Take time to unwind by exploring supportive yoga with the help of blankets and props to reduce muscle tension and general fatigue. In the yin portion of class we will hold poses longer to allow the connective tissue to gently stretch. Bring 2–3 blankets to class. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga.

Zumba Gold
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 12–Oct 31
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $64R/$68NR
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 7–Dec 19
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $56R/$60NR
Choose in person or virtual classes! A Latin inspired cardio workout, incorporating dances such as merengue, salsa, cumbia, belly dancing and more! This class is different from regular Zumba in that it provides more verbal instruction to better learn the moves and is done at a slower pace. Great class for someone new to exercise or someone hesitant to try the regular Zumba. You will have so much fun dancing, you will forget you’re working out! It’s exercise in disguise! Instructor Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: $10R/$11NR

Zumba Gold Toning
Orion Center | Wed, Sep 14–Nov 2
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $64R/$68NR
Orion Center | Wed, Nov 9–Dec 21
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $56R/$60NR
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! Instructor Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: $10R/$11NR
**PARKS & RECREATION**

**MELT Method Class**
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 19–Oct 10
Nov 7–Nov 28 | 10:45–11:45 am
Ages 18+ | $48R/$52NR
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! Visit meltmethod.com for more information on this technique. Participants must be able to independently get on and off the floor. Roller and miniball kits will be available for purchase but not necessary to buy to participate in the class. Instructor Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: $15R/$16NR

**Beginner Tai Chi**
Orion Center | Tue, Oct 4–Nov 22
11 am–Noon | Ages 18+ | $80R/$84NR
Classes include warm–up and focused exercises, as well as learning the Wu Style form of sequenced postures. Tai Chi Chuan is a soft–style Chinese martial art. Its slow, repetitive, and circular movements open internal circulation to improve strength, agility, and balance. The forms gently move every muscle of the body through a complete and natural range of motion. Over time, students will see a reduction of stress with an increase of natural energy, coordination, and power of concentration. Instructor Michael Dwyer. Drop in rate: $11R/$12NR

**Pickleball Lessons**
Beginner | Ages 18+
Session 1 | Friendship Park
Wed & Fri, Sep 7 & 9 | 9–11 am
$40R/$42NR
Session 2 | Friendship Park
Mon & Wed, Sep 12 & 14 | 9–11 am
$40R/$42NR
Session 3 | Friendship Park
Tue & Thu, Sep 13 & 15 | 12–2 pm
$40R/$42NR
Session 4 | Friendship Park
Tue & Thu, Sep 20 & 22 | 4–6 pm
$40R/$42NR
Session 5 | Friendship Park
Mon & Wed, Sep 26 & 28 | 4–6 pm
$40R/$42NR
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.

**Outdoor Open Pickleball**
Friendship Park | Mon & Fri
Sep & Oct | 1–3 pm | Free
Love pickleball, but don't have anybody to play with? Register for Open Pickleball at Friendship Park and you'll have a partner to play with every week! Registration is required.

**ADULTS 50+**
Interested in participating in one of our Senior Services programs? Membership includes those that are 50 or better and can be Residents and Non–Residents. Membership is free! Stop by the Orion Center or call 248–391–0304 x3500 to register. Once registered you may sign up for any of the programs below. The Orion Center also has many resources available to community members. Call us if you are in need of help with meals delivered to your home (Meals on Wheels), medical equipment, caregiver support, dental, housing, and many other support groups. Also, pick up a monthly newsletter at Orion Center to stay up to date on all senior offerings or visit orionparks.com.

**ENRICHMENT**

**Medicare**
Annual enrollment period one–on–one Appointments | Free
Put your trust in a local, independent resource for everything Medicare! Schedule a 1 on 1 session with Chad Day, from the Michigan Retirement Agency. Appointments are 30–minutes, please call the Orion Center and let us know what day works best for you.

**Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM**
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248-391-0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
What’s New in Medicare for 2023
Orion Center  |  Wed, Oct 5  |  1 pm  |  Free
Orion Center  |  Mon, Oct 24  |  5:30 pm  |  Free
Don’t Be Sold, Be Informed—If you are aging into Medicare or would simply like to learn more about your options, The Michigan Retirement Agency is hosting an educational seminar at the Orion Center. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and schedule additional time with the presenter, because Medicare isn’t confusing right?!

Ask the Attorney
Orion Center  |  Mon, Oct 10 & Nov 28  |  1–2:30 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  |  Fri, Sep 23  |  Wed, Oct 12  |  Wed, Nov 9 2 pm  |  $5R/$7NR
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.

Lake Orion History Chats
Orion Center  |  Wed, Oct 12  |  1–2:30 pm  |  Free
Do you “remember when?” Or know, or want to hear some good stories about Lake Orion “back in the day”? Then join the Orion historical society for an afternoon of informal discussion and reminiscing and learning about our community.

AARP Driving Class
Orion Center  |  Thu & Fri, Oct 13 & Oct 14  |  9 am–1 pm  |  $20R/NR
AARP Driver Safety Class is a 2–day class that teaches valuable defensive driving skills and provides a refresher of the rules of the road. Learn proven safety strategies and tips for how to adapt one’s driving to compensate for physical and cognitive changes that may come with aging. AARP Members get a $5 discount, only available over the phone or walk in registration.

End of Summer Luau
Friendship Park
Thu, Sep 22  |  12 pm  |  $5R/$7NR
Come say goodbye to summer with us at beautiful Friendship Park! A picnic lunch and banjo music by Ernie May will be provided.

Euchre Tournament
Orion Center  |  Thu, Oct 6  |  1 pm  |  $3R/NR
No partner needed and all levels welcome! Beverage and light snacks will be provided. Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place!

HEALTH ENRICHMENT
Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital (APRH), a member of Ascension, is a non–profit Catholic health system. Our mission is to serve all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. We are dedicated to all that we serve, creating strong relationships with our community, our physicians, and our associates. APRH is established as an industry leader not only in providing high–quality healthcare but also as an organization that strives to improve the health of our community. Call the Orion Center to reserve your seat.

EVENTS
Fall Prevention: 3 Part Series
Orion Center  |  Sep 14, 21, 28  |  11 am  |  Free
Session 1: Balance Assessment
Session 2: Lecture on Physiological Changes of the Body as We Age
Session 3: Balance Focused Exercise Class

Flu Shot/Shingles
Orion Center  |  Mon, Oct 3  |  3:30–5:30 pm (10 min appointment)
Orion Center and Walgreens are teaming up together to offer Flu Shots (high dose will be available) by appointment only. Preregistration is required. All those registered must provide their insurance card prior to appointment. Pneumonia and Shingrix (shingles) shots will also be available for those interested. If you plan to get the Shingrix shot, please make sure you do not have anything major planned a couple days after receiving the shot.

New this year!
Ascension Providence Rochester and Rochester Academic Family Medicine will be available from 3–5 pm to answer any questions about flu shots, boosters, signs and symptoms and vaccines. Also, free blood pressure checks will be available.
**Fall Lunch**
Camp Agawam  |  Fri, Oct 7  |  12 pm  
$5R/$7NR

Crisp Fall air, beautiful fall leaves, and great company awaits you at our last outdoor lunch of the year. Have fun socializing with other members and eating some fall favorites, chili and cornbread!

**Pumpkin Carving and Fall Treats**
Orion Center  |  Thu, Oct 20  |  2 pm  
Free

Bring out your creative side with an afternoon carving a pumpkin and indulging in some yummy fall treats.

**Veterans Day Lunch**
Orion Center  |  Fri, Nov 11  |  12 pm  
Free

Veterans and one guest enjoy a free meal at the Orion Center! Live Entertainment, goodie bags, and Raffle prizes will also be part of this celebratory event.

**Thanksgiving Lunch**
Orion Center  |  Wed, Nov 16  |  12 pm  
$4R/$6NR

We are thankful for all of our members and want to say thank you! Enjoy a tasty Thanksgiving lunch provided by the OPC.

**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

**Field Trips**
Membership and registration required.

**Zehnder’s Show and Lunch**
Frankenmuth  |  Tue, Sep 13  |  Leave Orion Center at 10:30 am  
$40R/$80NR

Along with Zehnder’s famous Chicken Lunch, enjoy the greatest hits of the rock ‘n roll era highlighting every major hit by every major artist from 1955 to 1965 including Shake Rattle and Roll, Come Go with Me, Johnny B. Goode, All Shook Up and many more. Cost includes transportation, lunch, and entertainment.

**Parade Group Tour and Lunch**
Detroit  |  Wed, Oct 19  |  Leave Orion Center at 10 am  
$18R/$36NR

Come join us for this private tour of the Parade Company Studio. Check out the behind the scenes of Detroit’s longest and most beloved holiday tradition. See the larger than life floats and your favorite characters that make up America’s Thanksgiving Parade. After the Tour we will head over to Polish Village Cafe for a delicious old-fashioned Eastern European lunch. Cost includes tour and transportation only. Participants will pay for lunch on their own.

**Meadow Brook Holiday Walk**
Meadow Brook Mansion  |  Tue, Dec 6  |  Time TBD  
$20R/NR

Experience the wonder of our more than 50 magnificent trees, flickering fireplaces, and lights galore! Holiday Walk invites you to explore the 110 room estate from the Grand Ballroom to Candy Cane Cottage.

**Meadow Brook Winter Wonder Lights**
Meadow Brook Grounds  |  Tue, Dec 20  |  Time TBD  
$25R/NR

It will be a special evening of lights, music and magic where visitors can explore the National Historic Landmark at its most festive. Enjoy fun concessions such as glow-in-the-dark cotton candy and hot meals in our outdoor cafe. There will be seasonal and specialty drinks, bonfires and more!

**Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at**
O R I O N    P A R K S . C O M

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

1335 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion
The Orion Center is excited to announce that we have purchased all new exercise equipment for our 50 and over Exercise Room. This purchase includes all new cardio and strength equipment so you can ensure you will get a full body workout. If you have been waiting to join a gym, now is the time! Stop in to take a look at all we have to offer for only $6 a month for Orion residents!

**Your millage dollars at work**

The Exercise Room at the Orion Center provides an opportunity for those age 50+ 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.
Thank you to our Sponsors!

PARK PARTNER SPONSORS

ORION GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE & LAKE ORION YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE SPONSORS

for information on how to become a sponsor contact us at:
PARK PARTNER SPONSORS: JVEZINA@ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG
YOUTH LEAGUE SPONSORS: JHAYES@ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG
Working toward a brighter future

Township residents can enjoy these past and future projects funded through the Parks & Recreation Millage, American Rescue Plan Funds and various grants.

Past projects

- Baseball field renovations at park
- HVAC repairs and replacements
- Roof replacements at Friendship Park, Birch Grove Lodge and Alberici Lodge at Camp Agawam
- Solar panel installation at Friendship Park
- Replaced soccer goals at all parks
- Wildwood Amphitheater accessible pathway
- Outdoor exercise stations
- Kitchen appliance replacements at the Orion Center and Camp Agawam
- Friendship Park concessions and restrooms
- Audio visual upgrades
- Irrigation improvements
- Baseball field lighting at Friendship Park
- Security upgrades
- Civic Center Park playground replacement
- Septic field replacements and replacements at Camp Agawam
- Campground license
- Orion Center exercise equipment upgrades
- Green infrastructure projects, including tree plantings, rain gardens, LED light conversions etc.
- Orion Center Trailhead improvements
- LED billboard replacements
- Lighting and trust system at Wildwood Amphitheater
- Open air pavilion at Wildwood Amphitheater

Projects coming soon

- Two Pickleball courts and one tennis court at Friendship Park
- Adult Fitness Course at Civic Center Park
- Peterson Lodge renovation at Camp Agawam
- Multi-use trails at Friendship Park
- Wayfinding signage through parks
- Sand volleyball courts at Civic Center Park
- Road improvements for all parks
1  LOHS home football game, 7 pm
2  Homecoming Parade, Downtown LO
3  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
4  Roaming Readers Walking Club, Orion Library, 9 am
5  Labor Day
6  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall 7 pm
7  Township Offices, Orion Center closed for Labor Day
8  First Day of School for all LCOS students
9–10 Oktoberfest, Downtown LO
9  Senior Social Hour Orion Library, Orion Center Branch, 11 am
12  Orion Historical Society meeting, Orion Library, 7 pm
13  Roaming Readers Walking Club, Orion Library, 9 am
14  The Write Stuff Writer’s Workshop, Orion Library, 7 pm
15  Meditation Workshop, Orion Library, 7 pm
16  LOHS home football game, 7 pm
17  Free Disposal Day, Eagle Valley, 7 am–1 pm
19  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
20  Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group, Orion Library, 10:30 am
20–24 Friends of the Library Used Book Sale, Orion Library
21  OAYA Family Fun Fest, CERC, 6–8 pm
22  Blood Drive, Orion Center, 2–7 pm, preregistration requested, walk ins welcome
23  Coffee with Chris, Township Hall, 9:30 am
23  Sing Along Outdoor Movie, Orion Library, 7:30 pm
24  Fall Festival of Family Fun, Camp Agawam, 11 am–3 pm
26  Alzheimer’s Association Informational Series, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
29  All Ages Makerspace Night, Orion Library, 6 pm
30  Outdoor Movie Night, Children’s Park, 7:30–9:30 pm

1  LOHS home football game, 7 pm
3  Township Offices, Orion Center closed for Labor Day
5  Labor Day
6  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall 7 pm
6  First Day of School for all LCOS students
9–10 Oktoberfest, Downtown LO
9  Senior Social Hour Orion Library, Orion Center Branch, 11 am
12  Orion Historical Society meeting, Orion Library, 7 pm
13  Roaming Readers Walking Club, Orion Library, 9 am
13  High School Curriculum Night
14  The Write Stuff Writer’s Workshop, Orion Library, 7 pm
15  Meditation Workshop, Orion Library, 7 pm
15  Elementary & Middle School Curriculum Night
16  LOHS home football game, 7 pm
17  Free Disposal Day, Eagle Valley, 7 am–1 pm
19  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
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24  Fall Festival of Family Fun, Camp Agawam, 11 am–3 pm
26  Alzheimer’s Association Informational Series, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
29  All Ages Makerspace Night, Orion Library, 6 pm
30  Outdoor Movie Night, Children’s Park, 7:30–9:30 pm

1  Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show, Orion Center, 10 am–5 pm
2  Homecoming Parade, Downtown LO
3  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
3  Orion Historical Society meeting, Orion Library, 7 pm
4  Roaming Readers Walking Club, Orion Library, 9 am
4  High School Parent Teacher Conferences
6  Red Cross Blood Drive, Orion Library, 10:30 am–4:30 pm
7  LOHS Homecoming football game, 7 pm
10  Library closed to the public
12  Medicare Planning 101, Orion Library, 2 pm, Register online
14  Boo Bash, Orion Center, 5:30–7 pm or 7–8:30 pm Preregistration required
14  Senior Social Hour Orion Library Orion Center Branch, 11 am
15  Mom2Mom Sale, 8:30 am to 1 pm, CERC
17  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
18  Love LOcal Expo, Orion Center, 1–4 pm
19  Halloween Extravaganza, Downtown LO, 5–7 pm
19  English Language Learners Conversation Group, Orion Library, 10:30 am
20  North Oakland Genealogical Society meeting, Orion Library, 7–8:30 pm

Background photo by David Watts
Photo by Lee Smith
CALENDAR of EVENTS

November

1 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
3–4 High School Exams
3 Middle School Parent Teacher Conferences
5 Lake Orion Lions Club Annual Christmas for Everyone Dinner and Auction, Milosch Palace
8 Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group, Orion Library, 10:30 am
12 Antique, Toy & Comic Expo, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
17 Sing & Stroll Tree Lighting, Children's Park, 5–7 pm
17 Puzzle Swap, Orion Center, 12–6 pm
17 North Oakland Genealogical Society Meeting, Orion Library, 7–8:30 pm
18 Garage Sale, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
9 Middle School Parent Teacher Conferences
10 5th Grade Battle of the Books Kickoff, Orion Library, 5:30 & 7:30 pm
10 Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences
12 Antique, Toy & Comic Expo, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
26 Shop Small Saturday, Downtown LO, 10 am–2 pm
28 Alzheimer’s Association Informational Series, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
30 English Language Learners Conversation Group, Orion Library, 10:30 am
December
1 Blood Drive, Orion Center, 2–7 pm preregistration requested, walk-ins welcome
3 Orion Lighted Christmas Parade, Downtown LO, 6 pm
8 Pop-Up Market, Orion Center, 3–7 pm
10 Breakfast with the Grinch, Orion Center, 10–11 am or 11:30 am–12:30 pm, Preregistration required
11 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
23 Library closes at 5 pm
23–25 Thanksgiving Break: Township Offices, Orion Center, Library, Schools closed

Photo by Jim Newell

Photo by Lorene Strong

Photo by Kelly Comeau

21 LOHS home football game, 7 pm
22 Witches & Warlocks Night, Downtown LO, 5–9 pm
24 Alzheimer’s Association Informational Series, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
25 SAT/ACT Prep Class, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
28 Coffee with Chris, Township Hall, 9:30 am
28 Senior Social Hour, Orion Library Orion Center Branch, 11 am
29 Glow in the Dark Dance Party 11 am, all ages
31–Nov 19 Friends of the Library Holiday Silent Auction, Orion Library
31 Halloween Storytime, Orion Library, 10 am, Ages 0–5
31 Halloween
Ribbon cuttings are a community event

All are welcome to the party!

Ribbon cuttings are traditionally organized by Chambers of Commerce and held for the grand opening of a new business. They can also be used to signify other milestones or major events such as opening a new location or changing of ownership. Ribbon cuttings are arguably the most fun, joyful and entertaining events a Chamber has the honor of hosting.

Modern ribbon cuttings are borrowed from symbolic traditions of European weddings. In some French villages, brides-to-be will cut white ribbons stretched across the road in front of her house symbolizing her ability to pass through the obstacles of married life. The first known recorded ribbon cutting ceremony in the United States was held in 1898 in Union Parish, Louisiana, to celebrate the opening of a new railroad line.

Disney is famous not only for their theme parks and lovable movie characters, but they are also known for their unique and seemingly endless reasons to cut a ribbon with a massive pair of scissors and, of course, Mickey Mouse. Any way you look at it, a ribbon cutting ceremony should be a happy occasion shared with friends, family and community. It’s the sign of a new and hopeful beginning for the business and the community to share together!

The Chamber celebrated a whopping 14 ribbon cuttings in late spring and early summer this year. Often we coordinate with the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority for Grand Openings that happen within the Village, like we did for LIV Cannabis.

Multi-chamber ribbon cuttings are always fun because there are two ribbons to cut and twice the people showing up to cheer a business on. We teamed up with the Oxford Chamber for the Grand Opening for the new location of White Pine Coffee. We joined the Clarkston Chamber to celebrate the new partnership with the formerly-known Nuview Nutrition and Forum Health Clarkston. We doubled down on the combined ribbon cuttings when we partnered with the Waterford Chamber to cut a ribbon for two Chamber members at one event, the Red Oak Refillery and the Wooden Tulip Boutique.

Spring and summer are the perfect time to get outdoors and have a picnic or throw a party. In June, we were treated to a glorious outdoor ribbon cutting for Nosh n Posh Picnics at Friendship Park with cozy picnic settings and tablescapes.
If you’re thinking about having an outdoor party but don’t want the hassle of cooking yourself, Your Food Dude is the ultimate food truck for you. Find Your Food Dude everywhere from graduation parties to large-scale events at Wildwood Amphitheater right here in Orion! For those who do like to cook or bake, visit Cakes Dreamer for cake, cupcake and candy making supplies as well as hands-on cookie decorating classes.

It’s also a great time to think about home and garden maintenance. New local business Ace Handyman Services of North Oakland and Macomb Counties provides professional services for all your home needs like painting and drywalling. All Dry Services of Northern Metro Detroit are restoration and clean up experts for water damage and mold problems in your home or business. To keep your outdoor space free from annoying pests, Mosquito Shield offers seasonal control from mosquitoes and ticks. Hydro House Lake Orion’s knowledgeable staff will answer your questions about indoor and outdoor garden needs.
For your health and wellness, check out the new location of **Pushna Wellness** and join one of their yoga, spinning or boxing classes. At the **Water Store and Bakeshop** in Downtown Lake Orion you can fill containers with purified water and get fresh-baked goodies while supporting a business model that uplifts the autistic community. **David Rose, Companion Insurance Agent** is ready to help you protect you and your family’s future from life’s uncertainties with a variety of insurance coverage including life, home and auto.

A picture is worth a thousand words, but a video speaks volumes! Check out the Orion Neighborhood Television YouTube (OrionONTV) page to see all of our ribbon cutting videos including interviews with the business owners. You can find contact information for all of our members mentioned above on our website.

**Nonprofits, get ready to plan for 2023!**

Nonprofit leaders, do you have an actual fundraising calendar for the next year? We are hosting a seminar for nonprofits on **Tuesday, September 20** with special guest Angie Schmucker that will result in you walking away with a draft calendar for your organization.

- A documented calendar for an entire year can help you
- See what’s missing
- Plan lead time and resources
- Avoid conflicts in workload
- Avoid conflicts with other organizations
- And, most importantly, connect with your donors properly all year long.

Angie is a Certified Fundraising Executive who has 20 years of nonprofit experience in all types of roles. For the last three years, she has focused on helping non-profit organizations operate more effectively for growth and sustainability through her consulting business, Schmucker Advising Group. She loves working with local non-profits to make our entire community stronger.

**Chamber members must register in advance for this event. Go online or give us a call at the office.**
Impact Awards 2022

Nominations now open for outstanding businesses and individuals!

Every year since the first Impact Awards ceremony was held in 2009, the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce honors exceptional chamber members who are actively making a difference in Lake Orion. Do you know a business or individual who you believe makes Orion the best place to work, live and play? We want to hear from you!

Help us choose the 2022 winners in the following categories:

- **Business Person of the Year**
- **Entrepreneur of the Year**
- **Economic Impact**
- **Youth Impact Award**
- **Community Beautification and/or Preservation Award**

You can find full descriptions of the award criteria on our website.

Joe Zimmer exemplifies our Business Person of the Year award

In 2013, the Chamber’s Board of Directors selected Joe Zimmer, owner of Culver’s Lake Orion, as the Business Person of the Year. This award recognizes an outstanding professional who not only runs a successful local business but also reflects commitment to the local community through charitable giving and volunteer efforts. Honorees are members of the Chamber who make contributions to the long-term success of other local businesses and community organizations.

Since opening the wildly popular Culver’s Lake Orion location in 2008, Joe has generously given back to his community by throwing fundraisers for various local organizations, donating ButterBurgers to feed hungry event volunteers and even awarding substantial scholarships to his college-bound employees.

As one of our long-standing Chamber Ambassadors, Joe comes to nearly all the OACC breakfasts and luncheons, handing out coupons for free baskets of food for us to give away to attendees, and he is always willing to share nuggets of wisdom about how to run a business with superior customer service and employee satisfaction. You want to know how to run a successful, well-respected business in Orion while still having fun? Talk to Joe Zimmer!

Come to the LOve LOcal Expo

Join us on Saturday, October 8 for the LOve LOcal Expo at the Orion Center. We will have a large selection of retailers, eateries, nonprofit organizations and more for you to enjoy at this FREE community event!

LOve LOcal Expo

Saturday, October 8

Orion Center

1 PM - 4 PM

FREE TO ATTEND

Orion Center | 1335 Joslyn Rd., Lake Orion

A LARGE SELECTION OF RETAILERS, NONPROFITS, EATERIES AND MORE FOR YOU TO ENJOY!

Come to the LOve LOcal Expo

Join us on Saturday, October 8 for the LOve LOcal Expo at the Orion Center. We will have a large selection of retailers, eateries, nonprofit organizations and more for you to enjoy at this FREE community event!
Make lasting connections through networking

Networking is an essential part of growing a business or organization and the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce offers many opportunities for members to connect with their peers and to the community.

**GWLS give a hoot about the community!**

The idea for a networking group dedicated to women began with the Chamber’s strategic plan and kicked off in 2018 with a brainstorming session to come up with the core ideals and goals of the group. Out of that session came the plan to host a Women in Business Conference, the first of which was held in March 2019 at Canterbury Village. Orion Women Leaders (OWL) made its official debut in 2021. The purpose of OWL is to “strive for community outreach that appeals to all ages of women. We focus on mentorship that empowers professional confidence, philanthropy that supports and strengthens our community, and leadership that emboldens others to reach higher.”

From September through the end of 2022, the OWLs will focus on philanthropic endeavors. Members will focus on supporting the efforts of The Daisy Project, the Lake Orion Lions Club and the Lake Orion High School DECA program by donating their time, raising funds and collecting items needed to give back to those in need during the holiday season.

**Targeted networking groups build deeper connections**

The purpose of our networking groups is to provide opportunities for individuals, businesses and organizations to build meaningful relationships, increase business, share knowledge and experiences, and find solutions to specific problems or needs. We have several targeted networking groups including the OWLs, our Non Profit Networking Group and our newest Chamber Networking Groups.

Wayne Haney, owner of the Haney Farm Bureau Agency and Chamber Vice-President, has spearheaded our CNG program. The group goals are to build trusting personal and professional relationships that lead to professional referrals and business success. Members hold one another accountable for the services they offer and the professional handling of their cross referrals so they all may continue to grow and prosper. While referrals will be encouraged, contrary to other established national networking organizations, they will not be mandatory.

Wayne had this to say about the groups, “We have two active Chamber Networking Groups. These are free added value elements of our Chamber memberships that help our members grow positive relationships that lead to new customers, clients, and awareness about our businesses. These are FUN! They take about an hour a month and really help crystallize the richness of talent in the Orion Area Chamber.”

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*Give us a call at the Chamber office at 248-693-6300 if you are interested in being part of a CNG group and we will get you started!*
Our Elite, Premium and Signature Members

**ELITE MEMBERS**

**Ascension Providence Rochester**
Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital
1101 W. University Dr.
Rochester, MI 48307

**Haney Farm Bureau**
Haney Home Loans
92 Mill Street
Rochester, MI 48307

**Caliber Home Loans**
Capocore Professional Advisors
46 W. Shadbolt, Ste. A
Lake Orion, MI 48362

**Cookies & Cream**
Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake
20 Front Street
Lake Orion, MI 48362

**Moceri Companies**
Moceri Companies
3005 University Dr
Auburn Hills, MI 326

**Golling Buick GMC**
Golling Buick GMC
1491 S. Lapeer Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360

**Michigan United Credit Union**
Michigan United Credit Union
350 N. Park Blvd.
Lake Orion, MI 48362

**Moceri Companies**
Moceri Companies
3005 University Dr
Auburn Hills, MI 326

**Haney Farm Bureau**
Haney Farm Bureau
18 S Broadway, Ste. 100
Lake Orion, MI 48362

**The Hoffman Agency**
The Hoffman Agency
3079 S Baldwin, #222
Lake Orion, MI 48359

**PREMIER MEMBERS**

All Dry Services of Northern Metro Detroit
Beaumont Health
Buffalo Wild Wings
Closets by Design of Southeast MI
G’s Pizzeria
Genisys Credit Union
Legacy 925
Live Orion Entertainment
St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital
The Wooden Tulip Boutique
Zale Group

**SIGNATURE MEMBERS**

Decorate with Lights / Mosquito Shield
Flagstar Bank
Michigan Greens Keeper Inc.
Orion Oaks Dental
The Patch Boys of Lake Orion, Troy & Clinton Township
The Red Oak Refillery

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**2022 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Garrett Hoffman, President
*The Hoffman Agency*

Adrian Schirr, Secretary
*Nuview Nutrition*

Steve Wandrie, Treasurer
*Caliber Home Loans*

Angela DelPup, *Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital*

Theresa Doan, *Genisys Credit Union*

Wayne Haney, *Haney Farm Bureau*

Jimmy Johnson, *Graphic Takeover*

Bill Kokenos, *Golling Buick GMC, Orion Area Youth Assistance*

James Lopiccolo, *Capocore Professional Advisors*

Aaron Whatley, *Parks & Recreation Director, Orion Township*

Jennifer Whitteaker, *DTE Energy*

**CHAMBER STAFF**

Kim Urbanowski, Executive Director

Jillian Nolan, Director of Member Services

**LOCATION**

1335 Joslyn Road, Suite 1
Lake Orion, MI 48360

**HOURS**

Monday–Friday
9:00 am–4:00 pm

**CONTACT**

info@orionareachamber.com
248–693–6300

www.orionareachamber.com

**SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES**

Facebook: orionareachamber
Twitter: @orionchamber
Instagram: orionchamber
LinkedIn: Orion Area Chamber of Commerce

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the business community in the Orion Area.
From the Director

We’re looking forward to a fine free fall

We certainly had a fun summer here at the library! It was great to participate in so many community events and meet people from around the Orion area. One highlight for me was riding the Book Bike in the Memorial Day parade. We also had a blast at the Summer Reading Kickoff. We filled our parking lot that day, and I met what felt like all of our patrons, while I, along with a dedicated volunteer and one of our board members, served ice cream out of the Book Bike. Regrettably, we will not always be able to provide ice cream, but I promise that, whether here at the library or elsewhere in our community, it’s always worth stopping by to see what’s happening. While we had a wonderful summer, it is now time to look forward to fall.

One big change that you’ll notice this fall is the removal of fines. Being fine free means the library will no longer be charging overdue fines from library users, and we will be forgiving all past overdue fines. Our hope is that by removing fines, we’ll also remove a barrier that prevented some patrons from using our library. Visit our website, orionlibrary.org, to learn more about the library going fine free.

Crisp weather and beautiful scenery make fall a great time for sports and time spent outside. For those looking to embrace outdoor activity, take a look at reserving a Michigan Activity Pass from the library. The Michigan Activity Pass provides free or discounted admission to state parks, Metroparks, and museums around the area, and passes are free from the library.

For an equally large number of people, falling leaves signify going back to school and more time spent at home. This is an excellent time to remind learners of all ages that your library card is one of your most valuable resources. Do research, find information and news unavailable for free online in our databases, check out a Chromebook to get your work done, and download music for studying using the hoopla app.

For those that prefer to cozy up with a good book as the weather gets cooler, take a look at the new Beanstack app, which is a great way to track your reading and participate in our online reading challenges without having to pay a fee. The engaging, active library programming you’ve enjoyed all summer continues into the fall. Take a look at what we have coming for families and people of all ages in September, October, and November. Whatever the season, I know you’ll find something to interest you at the library.

See you soon!

Chase

General Info

Notary Services available
Notary Services by appointment only. Contact James at jpugh@orionlibrary.org or at 248–693–3000 x425.

Upcoming Library Closings
Labor Day: Sat–Mon, Sep 3–5
Staff In–Service Day: Mon, Oct 10
Thanksgiving: Wed, Nov 23 closing at 5, Thu–Fri, Nov 24–25

For a calendar of all library events please visit the Events tab at orionlibrary.org.

Department Numbers
Adult 248–693–3001
Outreach 248–693–3000 x411
Teen 248–693–3000 x414
Youth 248–693–3002

In the last year 19,240 reference questions were answered by OTPL librarians!
ADULT SERVICES
Registration for fall adult programs opens on August 29, 2022 at 9:30 am

The Write Stuff
Writer’s Workshop
Wednesdays | Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9 | 7 pm
Meet the second Wednesday of each month and connect with a group of like-minded writers to learn from each other, share ideas, and practice your writing skills.

Orion Historical Society (OHS)
Mondays | Sept 12, Oct 3, Nov 14 | 7 pm
Come to an OHS meeting to learn about our township’s history and work on projects to preserve the past. Newcomers are always welcome!

Michigan Works @ Your Library
Tuesdays | Oct 11, Nov 8
10 am–12:30 pm
Drop in and Oakland County Michigan Works will assist you with upcoming workshops, youth and adult programs, resume ideas, job searches, interview skills, and more. They can point you in the right direction for inquiries about local resources, Department of Health & Human Services, and much more.

Roaming Readers Walking Club
Tuesdays | Sept 13—Oct 25 | 9 am
Meet at the back of the library parking lot to walk the Polly Ann trail for 30 minutes and talk about books as you stroll! The informal discussion will be about books and authors. Enjoy the health benefits of a regular walking routine and socialize with fellow readers. Drop-in, no registration is necessary.

Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group
Tuesdays | Sep 20, Oct 11, Nov 8 10:30 am
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 Alzheimer’s Association Michigan Chapter. If you can’t make the meeting in person, see the event calendar on our website for a zoom link to join virtually.

North Oakland Genealogical Society
Thursdays | Sep 15, Oct 20, Nov 17 7 pm
Anyone with an interest in genealogy and family history research are encouraged to attend!

MAKERSPACE
All Ages Makerspace
Thurs, Sept 29 | 6 pm
Come play, experiment, and learn with a variety of creative technology projects for adults, teens, and children!

Glowforge Jewelry
Sat, Oct 29 | 1:30 pm & 3 pm | Register online
Learn to use the Glowforge laser cutter to make unique acrylic and wood jewelry.

Cricut Mugs
Sat, Nov 19 | 1:30 pm & 3 pm | Register online
Using our Cricut Explore cutting machine and Cricut Mug Press, print a custom design on a coffee mug. Perfect for holiday gifting!

Makerspace Office Hours
Thursdays | Sept 8, Oct 13, Nov 10 | 6 pm
Interested in learning about makerspace equipment? Have a question? Need some guidance or inspiration for your project? Drop in, meet with our makerspace librarian and start creating. Assistance will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.

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

Over 5,400 active cardholders saved over $5.8 million using the library in 2021!
Alzheimer’s Association Informational Series
Mondays | Sept 26, Oct 24, Nov 28 6:30 pm
This educational series focuses on individuals whose lives are touched by a loved one living with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia-related illness. Learn how to make simple lifestyle choices at any age to support brain health resilience; explore the tools available to buffer against the caregiving stresses of Alzheimer’s disease; and discover a new perspective on preparing and celebrating the holidays as seen through the eyes of dementia. All are welcome to attend any or all the sessions.

- Sept 26 | Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body—An Alzheimer’s Association sponsored program
- Oct 24 | Caregiver Stress
- Nov 28 | Handling the Holidays with Dementia

Meditation Workshop
Thur, Sept 15 | 7 pm
Experience Heartfulness Relaxation and Meditation, which, when practiced daily, helps restore balance in life, manage stress, better your health, and most importantly, lead you to inner calm and peace. An introduction to Heartfulness Relaxation and Meditation will be followed by a lesson in these techniques. Participants will be meditating in chairs, but those wishing to meditate while sitting on the floor may bring their own floor cushions.

DIY Beeswax Food Wraps
Wed, Sept 28 | 7 pm | Register online
Ditch the plastic bags by learning to make these easy and reusable beeswax food wraps.

Oat Soda: Beers of Fall
Mon, Oct 3 | 7 pm | Register online
October, a month that conjures up thoughts of changing leaves, cool nights sitting by a fire, and carving pumpkins. As the seasons change, so do our tastes, and no industry embraces seasonality quite like beer! Harvest Ales, Fresh Hop IPAs, Oktoberfest, Spiced Ales... and of course, PUMPKIN beers. Join us as at Oat Soda, 197 S Broadway, to learn about the Beers of Fall. The presentation does not require the purchase of alcohol, but should you wish to enjoy a beverage (21 or older, please), we will have them available for purchase. Snacks will be provided.

Medicare Planning 101
Wed, Oct 12 | 2 pm | Register online
An expert from the Strategic Planning Group of Lake Orion will address the ins and outs of Medicare. This presentation will help you find answers, troubleshoot problems, sort through options, and understand Medicare programs.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
Halloween Murder Mystery  
**Fri, Oct 14 | 6 pm | Register online**  
At this after-hours event, attendees will become a character in a Halloween-themed murder mystery and work together to figure out who-dunit! Refreshments will be provided. Costumes encouraged!

The Art of Herbal Tea  
**Tue, Oct 18 | 7 pm | Register online**  
Blend, brew, and enjoy an irresistible selection of herbal teas while Bevin Cohen, author, herbalist, seed saver, and owner of Small House Farm in Sanford, Michigan, shares his knowledge on the history and folklore of various herbal ingredients. Participants will also get to create a custom herbal tea to enjoy at home with a take and make activity.

Retro Gaming Day  
**Sat, Nov 12 | 1 pm | All Ages**  
In honor of International Games Month, come try retro board games and video games! Snacks will be provided.

Uses and Abuses of History in the Russia–Ukraine Conflict  
**Mon, Nov 14 | 7 pm**  
Professor Paul Kubicek discusses how history matters in the current conflict between Ukraine and Russia. Dr. Kubicek is a professor of Political Science and Director of the International Studies Program at Oakland University. In addition to his dissertation on Ukraine, he has taught at the country’s Lviv State University. Come prepared with questions and to get answers about this important current topic!

Holiday Appetizers  
**Tue, Nov 15 | 7 pm | Register online**  
Mary Spencer, owner of Taste: A Cook’s Place, demonstrates some delicious and easy new appetizer ideas just in time to prepare for the holidays. A sampling of the appetizers and recipes will be included.

Tool Collection  
For all of your DIY projects, the library is excited to announce our new tool collection! This is a collection of items you may not have lying around the house, like a radon detector, nail gun, tin snips, moisture meter, and so much more! This is an 18+ collection and each tool checks out for one week.

Maker Kits  
The Makerspace now offers circulating maker kits. Each kit contains tools and equipment that encourage learning through creative technology and experimentation. Learn to code with Ozobots, create interactive circuit projects with Snap Circuits, program a Raspberry Pi, or even check out a sewing machine. Come browse the kits, which are located in the Makerspace, and check out some of the other exciting equipment and programs!

Yard Games  
This summer, the library debuted a new collection: Outdoor Yard Games! Cardholders can now check out games like Yardzee and Bocce, as well as six others. Yard games can be checked out up to two at a time for up to two weeks. Stop by the library while the weather is still warm and grab something fun for your next backyard get together. Keep an eye on the collection for even more games in the near future.
Outreach

Orion Historical Society Historic Downtown Signs
If you have been to Downtown Lake Orion over the summer, you may have noticed the historic signs on some of our local buildings. These signs are a joint project between the Orion Historical Society (OHS) and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to showcase the history of our community from its early days as a small town and farming community through its heyday as a resort town and vacation destination at the turn of the century and concluding in the mid-1940s.

Each sign features a period photograph depicting the building or street scene along with a paragraph describing the history of the location. Thought-provoking facts are included to put things in perspective. The first set of signs can be seen at Ed’s Broadway Gifts, Hanson’s Running Shop, 313 Pizza, Fork and Pint, and Verwood Apartments.

OHS and the DDA are hoping to add additional signs in the coming years as we showcase more of the fascinating history of Lake Orion, where living is a vacation!

Home Delivery Services
If you or someone you know lives in Orion Township and is unable to physically visit the library, even short term, let us know. We offer delivery services for books, audiobooks, and music—give us specific titles or let us know what you like and we can introduce you to new authors. Material is delivered either by car or through our Books by Mail program, where your books are delivered and returned through the United States Postal Service.

Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP)
Mon, Oct 3  | 12:30 pm
Adults with special needs and their caregivers can join us for stories, songs, movement, and activities.

Conversation Group (ELL)
Wednesdays  | 10:30 am  | No meeting Sept 7 or Nov 23
The group is open to all who wish to practice their English language skills in a relaxed and informal setting. The topics vary widely, offering a great learning experience and an opportunity to meet new people.

Senior Social Hour @ the Orion Center Branch Library
Fridays  | Sep 9, 23, Oct 14, 28, Nov 11 11 am  | No meeting Nov 25
Join us each month on the second and fourth Friday to socialize with other active seniors. Each week features different topics or conversation prompts so participants can enjoy the company of others.

Orion Lakes—Library on the Road
This summer, thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan, we provided programming for the Orion Lakes residential community. The program ran for seven weeks and allowed us to reach families who don’t frequently use the library. Each week, we explored a different concept and reinforced what we learned through a hands-on activity. Participants received a book each week that allowed them to continue reading and learning at home. Participants ranged from preschoolers to adults. We all had fun learning together!

Recycle your e-waste!
Thanks to High Tech Recycling LLC, we have a tech recycling box in the library for patron use. We accept all sorts of items, like computers, monitors, phones, keyboards, and toner cartridges. Contact the library at 248–693–3000 if you have questions on what items can be accepted.

Orion Center Library Branch
Orion Center Library Branch is located in the basement of the Orion Center at 1335 Joslyn Road. Designed with seniors in mind, large print books, audiobooks, movies, put and take paperbacks, puzzles, and magazines are available for all. Computers as well as printer are available for patron use.
**JUST FOR TEENS**

**Teen Volunteer Hours**
Looking for volunteer hours for graduation, NHS, Key Club or Student Leadership? Orion Township Public Library has many opportunities to fulfill the hours, from helping with crafts to becoming a Book Buddy to a K–3rd grader. Please contact our Volunteer Engagement Specialist Lori Morris at Lmorris@orionlibrary.org for more information.

**Teen Tuesday**
Tuesdays | 6:30–8 pm | No meeting Oct 11
Teen Tuesday is a casual hang out for teens who enjoy anything from video games, board and card games, D&D, crafts, and more! If you’re looking for something to do with some friends, crash with us for a bit. Snacks always provided and new faces always welcome!

**Teen Outdoor Challenge**
Sat, Sep 17 | 2–3 pm | Register online
Join us outside by the Reading Garden for some outdoor games. We will experiment with friendly social media challenges and have some laughs with taste test challenge games.

**Teen Writers Group**
Tue, Oct 11 | 7–8 pm
Whether you write short stories, poetry, or fan fiction, join the Teen Writers Group, a casual meet-up for young aspiring writers to collaborate, share ideas, and receive feedback from one another.

**Spooky Graham Cracker House**
Sat, Oct 15 | 2–3 pm | Register online
Halloween just got more fun! Build your own haunted house using chocolate and graham crackers, then decorate it with all the candy we have available.

**SAT/ACT Prep Class**
Tue, Oct 25 | 6:30–8 pm
Parents and students, get ready for test day! If you plan on taking the SAT or ACT, let the Orion Library guide you with tips and techniques from Carson Academic Consultants. Karen Carson will provide strategies for improving test taking skills and reviewing required knowledge. This class is recommended for both students and parents to attend. Bring your questions, and Karen will provide answers!

**Coffee Cup Keychains**
Sat, Nov 19 | 2–3 pm
Register online
We all have our favorite drink, whether it’s from Starbucks, Tim Horton’s, or homemade. Now we can make our favorite coffee or blended treat into a keychain!

**About TeenTober**
Join OTPL as we salute teens during TeenTober!
TeenTober is a nationwide celebration hosted by libraries every October to recognize teens and their home libraries. We’re promoting year-round teen library services through the innovative ways these services help teens learn new skills and fuel their passions inside and outside the library. Here at OTPL, October is filled with many teen events from edible crafts to writing workshops to just hanging out playing video games in the Teen Room. TeenTober is here to promote these programs, share the pleasure of YA literature, and raise awareness of how much our libraries value teens! Please check the calendar for more information.
PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Sing Along Outdoor Movie
Fri, Sep 23 | 7:30 pm | All Ages
Pack up your lawn chairs, dust off your vocal chords, and join us for an outdoor sing along with the Madrigal family.

International Games Week Kickoff
Mon, Nov 7 | 6–8 pm | All Ages
Drop in to play an assortment of board games in the Youth area. From chess to Chutes and Ladders to Settlers of Catan, we have games for the whole family. You can even check some out to take home!

Hello Kitty Day
Tue, Nov 1 | 6:30 pm | All Ages
Celebrate everyone’s favorite young cat with fun Hello Kitty–themed activities!

Take and Make Thanksgiving Fun
Tue, Nov 22 | All Ages
Do you get bored sitting at the Thanksgiving table? Grab this fun kit to keep you busy during the holiday.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Bounce & Boogie
Saturdays | Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 5
11 am | All Ages
Learn fundamental motor skills to promote a healthy, active lifestyle with experts and fun activities.

Cardboard Kingdom
Sat, Sep 24 | 2 pm | All Ages
Have an afternoon of creative fun building a variety of cardboard challenges!

All about Trains!
Sat, Oct 22 | 11 am | All Ages
Put on your engineer hat and hop aboard the Library Express! Drive a model train, watch your favorite train videos, and take part in a host of train–themed activities.

BABY, TODDLER, AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Little Lit
Mon, Tues, & Wed, Sep 12–Nov 23
10 am & 11 am | Ages 0–5 | Limit 20
No Storytime the week of Nov 7
Children ages 0–5 and their caregivers are invited for stories, songs, and activities that promote the five staple early literacy practices: reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing!

SENSEsational Storytime
Fridays | Sep 16, Oct 14, Nov 11
11 am | Ages 0–5
A welcoming, interactive environment designed for children with special needs as well as sensory seeking kids.

Halloween Storytime
Mon, Oct 31 | 10 am | Ages 0–5
Join all of your favorite youth librarians in costume as they lead you in a Halloween–themed story time with music, dancing, stories, and fun. A costume parade through the library follows this merry not scary event!

1–2–3 Play with Me!
Parent Child Workshop
Wednesdays | Oct 12, 19, 26, Nov 2
6:30 pm OR Thursdays | Oct 13, 20, 27, Nov 3 | 10 am | Register online
Ages 1–3
Please note: Attendance at all sessions for which you register is expected
Spend time together at this parent child workshop, playing, experiencing art activities, and meeting new friends. Each week, a Community Resource Specialist will answer questions about their discipline. Topics include resources at the library, child development, speech and hearing, nutrition, and play and movement. Please select either Wednesday or Thursday to attend.

Halloween Storytime
Mon, Oct 31 | 10 am | Ages 0–5
Join all of your favorite youth librarians in costume as they lead you in a Halloween–themed story time with music, dancing, stories, and fun. A costume parade through the library follows this merry not scary event!

Save the date for our annual Winter Workshop scheduled for Saturday, December 10
SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

Phineas and Ferb Fun
Sat, Sep 10 | 2 pm
Grades K–5
I know what you’re gonna do today! You are going to enjoy some Phineas and Ferb–themed games, experiments, and Perry searching.

Book Buddies
Tue, Sep 20; Thu, Oct 20; Tue, Nov 15 | 6:30 pm
Register online
This NEW PROGRAM for Kindergarten through 3rd grade students pairs the younger kids with a teen reading buddy. Together, they’ll read aloud and sound out words, as the buddy assists with comprehension through stories, rhymes, and games. Teen reading buddies are supportive, enthusiastic listeners who can help your child practice reading here at the library.

ThinkLink 5
Mondays | 4:30–5:30 pm | Grade 5
Here’s another NEW PROGRAM, designed specifically for 5th grade students. Drop-in between 4:30–5:30 pm and enjoy a unique activity each month.

The Joys of Painting for Kids
Fri, Oct 7 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
Explore different techniques and textures while you create your very own artwork!

Monster Mash–Up
Sat, Oct 8 | 11 am | Grades K–5
Create your own monster crafts, experiments, and DIY toys. All things monster are encouraged!

5th Grade Battle of the Books Kickoff
Thu, Nov 10 | 5:30 pm & 7 pm | 5th Grade
Register for Battle of the Books 2022 and find out more information, including how to form teams, who can mentor, and new 2023 activities. Our 2023 featured author will be revealed as well!

Kindergarten Library Card Party
Sat, Nov 19 | 11 am
NEW PROGRAM designed just for Kindergarten students. Enjoy activities and crafts while learning about the resources available to you in the library.

ThinkLink Updates
With the new school year starting, we are excited to again offer and collaborate with the Lake Orion School District in our school partnership, ThinkLink. ThinkLink offers special library services to students and teachers in the Lake Orion area. Not only are all students offered registration for a public library card at Kindergarten enrollment, but we also offer teacher cards to Lake Orion area teachers, which allow them to check out books for an extended period of time without accruing late fees.

Earlier this year, OTPL added a dedicated School Outreach Librarian to our staff to work one–on–one with Lake Orion Schools. Kerry Roman comes to the library with more than 10 years of public library experience, along with a background in elementary education. Kerry plans on bringing some energetic and original programs created especially for schools and teachers this school year!

Storywalk
The Lake Orion Downtown Storywalk continues this fall with three new fun and exciting titles! Each month, new story pages are placed in the windows of downtown Lake Orion businesses. Take a stroll up and down Flint and Broadway to read along with the whole family. This partnership with the Lake Orion DDA is over two years strong, and continues to encourage an active learning lifestyle for Lake Orion families.

Many of our programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Orion Library

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
Volunteers fuel the Friends’ purpose

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
— Mahatma Gandhi

The pandemic has taken a toll on all of us in many ways. It has affected us personally, professionally, and certainly emotionally. The Friends of the Library, board members and volunteers have all had their lives turned upside down like all the citizens of Orion Township.

One light shining out of all this has been our beloved library. The library went through a change of leadership in January 2022, but programs and operations have not missed a beat. Director Chase McMunn has continued to support the Friends mission and is an active part of our board meetings and planning.

Orion residents support our book sales, which make up the largest share of our income, very strongly. Our September 2021 and May 2022 book sales both broke records, and the Twice–Told Tales store continues to thrive from your purchases. This income is needed for the Friends to fund the library.

Our biggest need is the result of our declining number of board members and volunteers. We are not alone in this dilemma. Many non–profits are in the same boat and face similar challenges. If possible, please give a few hours of your very valuable time to the Friends of the Orion Township Library. Your assistance allows us to assist the library. Fundraising dollars are returned to the library as grants twice per year, allowing Orion families to participate in many programs free of charge.

Board positions involve a monthly meeting, assistance with public relations, and nominal time during fundraising events. Committee work and book sale support roles are also available. The Friends of the Orion Township Library may just be your avenue to giving back to this wonderful cause! Let us know what your talents are and how you can help. Email us at friends@orionlibrary.org.

Holiday Silent Auction

The Friends announce their annual Holiday Silent Auction at the Orion Township Public Library from Monday, October 31 through Saturday, November 19, 2022. Baskets, each paired with a book, will be displayed in the Friends Reading Room with bid sheets throughout the three–week silent auction.

“Our holiday silent auction is a key fundraiser that helps the Friends support library programs,” says Don Walker, President. “It’s a perfect way for library patrons to start holiday shopping and help us raise critical funds for the library at the same time.”

Winning bidders will be contacted by phone and may pay with cash, check, or credit card at the library service desk beginning at 4 pm on Saturday, November 19 once bidding closes. Baskets must be claimed no later than Friday, December 9.

“We presented more than 55 baskets for bidding at our 2021 holiday auction,” said Walker. “We are so thankful for our local businesses, patrons and Friends who so generously give and partner with us to help us help the library.”

Would you like to donate an item or service?

We are seeking 60 donations for our 2022 basket auction. If you have an item, basket, or service to donate to the Friends Holiday Silent Auction, please contact the Friends at 248-693-3000 ext. 470 or email friends@orionlibrary.org. Donations should be delivered to the library by Friday, October 14.
Farewell, Mary Duenow
The Friends recently said farewell to Mary Duenow, our Fundraising Chair and silent auction extraordinaire. In July, Mary said goodbye to her Lake Orion home and friends before relocating to Columbus, Ohio to be near family. She will be missed as a Friend, having been actively involved leading our fundraising activities for more than eight years. We thank Mary for being a Friend and sharing her time and talent in Orion.

Amazon Smile & Kroger Rewards are your Friends
Designate the Friends of the Orion Township Library as your favorite charity for Amazon Smile and Kroger Rewards. It’s a great way to support the library through your everyday shopping! The Friends receive nearly $1,000 per year from these partner programs and we’d like to grow this amount with your support.

About the Friends
The Friends are a 501(c)3 non-profit 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 FALL USED BOOK SALE
The Friends Fall Gently Used Book Sale will be held at the library on Tuesday, Sep 20 through Saturday, Sep 24, 2022.

Tue, Sep 20
10 AM–8:30 PM
Friends of the Library Member Day & Teacher Day
(Membership will be available for purchase at the door)
Open to the Public
4:30–8:30 pm

Wed, Sep 21 & Thu, Sep 22
10 AM–8:30 PM
Open to the Public

Fri, Sep 23
10 AM–4:30 PM
Open to the Public
1/2 off books day

Sat, Sep 24
9:30 AM–1:30 PM
Open to the Public
$5 bag day
(Fill a bag supplied by the Friends for $5)

We're fine with no fines
On September 6, 2022, Orion Township Public Library joins other Oakland County libraries and those across the state and nation which have gone fine free. From that day forward, OTPL patrons will no longer be charged late fines on a majority of overdue items, and patrons will receive amnesty on previous late fees in most cases.

Once general late fees are eliminated, patrons will still be responsible for returning items on time and paying for lost and damaged materials. Rather than assessing late fees, automatic renewals will occur on eligible items and gentle reminders will be sent for those overdue. Patrons will be billed for damaged items and those overdue by 30 days. Materials obtained through interlibrary loan will still be subject to fines as outlined by MeLCat.

“Our mission is to serve and engage a thriving community of lifelong learners” said OTPL Library Director Chase McMunn. “To fully engage with the community we serve, we need to remove barriers to access—and late fees are barriers. Fines tend to impact lower income patrons and families with children, two groups at the center of library services and programs. Lake Orion thrives when everyone has access to the materials they need.”
Quality local content that’s fun and informative

Orion Neighborhood Television (ONTV) is excited to promote a full slate of classes, local programs, and our annual Wildwood Film Festival. Our quality local content is informative, entertaining, fun for all ages, and has a unique Lake Orion flavor.

**News & Information**

ONTV’s award winning local news coverage is just one source for hyper local stories. Step *Inside The Dragon* for news and information about the Lake Orion Community Schools. Interested in community events and organizations? Tune in to *Orion Today* and *ONTV Quick Hits* to help plan your local weekend adventures. Want to dig deeper into our Township Government? *Orion Update* is the show for you with interviews and features about the operations of Orion Township government. Are you looking to work with or join a community service group? *Orion Outreach* is here to promote our local non-profits, and service organizations.

So you’re not a news and Information junkie? Don’t worry. We’ve got you covered!

**Sports & Entertainment**

Did you miss the big game? *Game of the Week* is here to get you caught up on Dragon athletics. Care to learn more about high school sports throughout Oakland County? *OAA Now* brings you the latest news from around the Oakland Activities Association. *From the Sidelines* comes to you weekly with news and commentary on the NFL and NBA.

Do you want to share your son or daughter’s band or choir performance? ONTV and LOHS Dragon Broadcasting record all Lake Orion High School concerts in full.

So many locally produced programs for Lake Orion residents to choose from. All just a click away at *OrionONTV.org*.

*Ian Locke, Executive Director, ONTV*

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**Find us on your favorite streaming service**

**Social Media:** Follow and subscribe: YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. Search OrionONTV.

**ONTV Website:** OrionONTV.org hosts links to all of our programming: 24/7 channel live streams, Video On-demand, and programming guides.

**Streaming Services:** ROKU, AppleTV, and Amazon Fire host ONTV live streams and our Video On-demand. Add the “Cablecast” channel to your lineup to watch!

**Cable TV:** AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and Comcast/Xfinity Channels 10 (Public Access), 20 (Government Access) and 22 (Educational Access).
Fall Highlights

**Fall Dragon Sports**: Tune in Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays at 7 pm for *Game of the Week*, or subscribe to our YouTube channel and Facebook page when new games are posted.

**ONTV Wildwood Film Challenge and Festival**: Write, shoot, and edit a 10 minute film in less than one week! See your film on the Big Screen. Win cash prizes for the top three films, and have fun with your friends. Team entry fees. Cash prizes for top three films. Public welcome.

- Tuesday, October 18 from 7–9 pm—Short Film Workshop for Beginners (Free)
- Thursday, October 20 at 7 pm—Film Challenge Kickoff, ONTV Studios ($25 to enter)
- Tuesday, October 25 at 6 pm—Film submission deadline and judging
- Wednesday, October 26 at 7 pm—Wildwood Film Festival screening at Oxford 7 Theater

**Basic Video Production Class: Studio and Field Production**: Get certified to use the ONTV studios and have fun with others! This 10–week class will teach the basics of how a studio production is made. Learn how to operate an audio mixer, studio camera, field cameras, and edit video. Class runs Monday, September 12 through Monday, November 21 from 7–9 pm. Space is limited. Call for more information: 248–393–1060 or visit OrionONTV.org.

**ONTV Podcast Classes**: ONTV offers classes providing instruction on how to record a podcast. Classes run 2 to 3 hours, can hold 1 to 4 people, and will meet at the ONTV Studio. Call 248–393–1060 to schedule an appointment at your convenience.

In other news

**Ideas and Insights NEW!**
The show is produced and hosted by Dr. Badrinath Rao, Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian Studies at Kettering University. In the eight–episode series, Dr. Rao remotely interviews authors and professors from all over the world to discuss topics about some of the most pressing issues of our time. Scan the QR code to watch.

**Orion Today NEW!**
Tune in LIVE every other Tuesday at 1 pm on ONTV’s Facebook page, Comcast Channel 10, and live–streamed at OrionONTV.org to see interviews and features about Lake Orion events and activities. Follow us on Facebook to get alerts. Did we mention that it’s LIVE! Scan the QR code to watch.

**Our Phone App is here!**
Tune directly into ONTV programming from your phone. Access our Video On–demand selections and programming on our three channels with one click! Download the Cablecast phone App today and search for Orion Neighborhood Television! Scan the QR code to download the app.
Positivity Project

Lessons in character build positive relationships

Lake Orion Community Schools has always identified with its green and white colors.

So it only makes sense that the district schools continue to embrace the similar styled Positivity Project and the enormous impact the program can have on the district’s students.

The empowerment to build positive relationships is the cornerstone of the program’s #OtherPeopleMatter philosophy, using 24 character strengths to help build a school’s culture by allowing the students and staff to lean on each other.

This fall, LOCS will expand the program within the district’s borders with five more schools—Stadium Drive Elementary, Blanche Sims Elementary, Orion Oaks Elementary, Paint Creek Elementary and Pine Tree Center—joining the schools that are already deeply invested in the program and seeing the results each day.

Beginning with Carpenter Elementary in the fall of 2017 and followed by Learning Options High School, Oakview Middle School and Webber Elementary, the program’s roots will now reach even farther with the Dragons.

“There will now be consistency among the elementary buildings that they will all be P2 partner schools,” said Gretchen Hynes, who was an elementary teacher at Carpenter when the program began and is now the principal at Stadium Drive. “As the elementaries come together and adopt this program, we’re moving (students) forward into life with common traits and the language as they move into secondary level.”

History

When Carpenter Elementary began implementing the Positivity Project within the school in the fall of 2017, it was a big step with an uncertain future.

Principal Adam Weldon saw the opportunity with the founders Jeff Bryan and Mike Erwin and became one of the early adopters of the program in Michigan.

The 24 character strengths fit perfectly with a weekly school calendar and Weldon understood what it would mean to his school community.

The Positivity Project was only two years old at that time, having been transformed to a school setting from its original intended use for sports teams.

“It was a lot of word of mouth,” Bryan said when he visited Carpenter in the fall of 2017. “It went from one school in Syracuse, to 33 schools (in 2016) and now we’re in 180 schools nationwide.”

That growth seemed rapid at the time but now, by 2021 that seemed quaint with over 750 schools nationwide and growing.

“We provide schools with a playbook on how to implement it and provide the resources and then hand it over to the schools,” Bryan said. “They’re making it their own and doing so many cool creative things that really bring it to life.”
When it began at Carpenter, Weldon embraced it early on, introducing it to his staff, which became an early bonding experience for them.

Webber Elementary followed two years later and, when introducing it to her staff, principal Jennifer Goethals split them into teams and sent the staff members into the community on a scavenger hunt.

They returned with tangible proof of the character traits within the Orion community and presented to their fellow staff members.

That opportunity to embrace the traits as a staff prior to the school year allowed the teachers to feel comfortable bringing it into their classrooms.

Implementing the program

The P2 model is relatively simple at its core.

Building positive relationships helps self-awareness and self-confidence and allows everyone to understand and appreciate others.

The “consistent exposure to character strengths vocabulary and concepts” feeds into an “enhanced classroom and school-wide culture.”

The 24 traits feed off six sub-groups: courage, humanity, transcendence, temperance, justice, and wisdom/knowledge. While those may seem high level for students, some of the base traits (curiosity, integrity, kindness, humor, humility/modesty, forgiveness and fairness) are easily processed by the elementary students.

The flexibility of the program to adapt to each grade level allows an elementary school of six different grades to tailor the school trait each week to the lessons of that age group.

“The daily teaching, not skipping, not trying to teach it all in one day,” said Carpenter teacher Teresa West. “We know that practice with anything you need to do a little bit each day. That’s the most important thing, especially with the first year having them learn the lessons that are there so that in the future they can start integrating it into their classroom community—or it becomes their classroom community and into the other content areas.

“It’s not something extra.”

There is little for teachers to create themselves to work the plans into their school day.

“I think what the Positivity Project has done really well over the years since they started this is provide educators with the resources to teach a lesson as short as five minutes, sometimes it can go 15 minutes without requiring the teacher to do anything extra,” Hynes said. “It’s video links, videos of books being read to a list of resources. It’s minimal extra work the teachers have to do.”

One of the goals of all K–12 education is to have each school year build on the previous year for the students as they ascend to the next grade.

While the past few years have created a challenge for students academically following disjointed schedules due to the COVID–19 pandemic, the P2 concepts are life traits that translate into their lives beyond the school day or the school walls.

By the time they were in their final year in the school, they knew the language well enough that it informed their actions in the meetings and working on the projects as the P2 student leadership team.

In West’s fifth-grade class, the character traits became part of the classroom community, as part of the students’ jobs and integrating it into the curricular areas.

They spent their careers in the schools embracing the concepts, by looking for the traits when reading books and analyzing themes.

Some students would even take the lessons home with them, showing their parents the skills. Those traits are shared in the letter families receive each fall explaining the program and the psychology of it, influencing their child’s development.

“Being a good human being is important...We’re building relationships with kids and those relationships center on character traits and being able to identify their behavior and the behavior in others.”

Gretchen Hynes, Principal Stadium Elementary School
“Being a good human being is important,” Hynes said. “We’re building relationships with kids and those relationships center on character traits and being able to identify their behavior and the behavior in others. It has definitely carried over into the academics and behavior in the building.”

P2 has expanded in the years since Carpenter was the LOCS guinea pig. Initially, the lessons were banded across grade levels (K–2 and 3–5), with each band looking essentially the same, despite the significant developmental differences in that grade range.

As P2 expanded to include a curriculum team, there are now lessons for each grade level (K–12). Five lessons, one for each day, are provided for each trait, along with supplementary lessons to enhance each one.

“I’m very impressed with what they’ve added,” Hynes said.

Each teacher is able to assess the lessons each week and mix and match what works for them and their students.

“It’s not only changing our kids, it’s changing us as professionals,” West said.

“Things have changed for me. My traits that were strengths five years ago are not my strengths anymore. You’re constantly reflecting on everything you do.”

As the teachers become more comfortable, so do the students.

By the end of the school year, West was empowering students to teach the lessons to their classmates.

“When they take ownership, it’s more meaningful,” she said. “Then when you have guest teachers (substitutes), they know how to bring it up and how to run it.”

Next steps

Each of the elementaries stepping into the P2 world this fall previously had culture-based programs within their schools, which were effective and rooted in a longer history.

But, as they’ve seen the success of P2 in the other LOCS buildings, the opportunity to align was worth pursuing.

“(Previously,) we felt we were focusing on six pillars of character where we weren’t getting into the more detailed and intricate characters and traits that our kids need to have,” Paint Creek principal Lauren Smith said. “Being responsible and respectful are one thing, but being able to have empathy for others or being able to show love and compassion, those are things we feel the P2 program is going to be able to bring for our kids.”

New Lake Orion High School principal

Dr. Dan Haas takes the helm

Entering the 2022–23 school year, Lake Orion Community Schools introduced a new Lake Orion High School principal, Dr. Dan Haas.

When previous principal Steve Hawley left the job to address health concerns, Dr. Haas was a natural fit to become the permanent principal at LOHS.

His 25 years in administration, primarily guiding Scripps Middle School as its principal, connects him to LOHS and Lake Orion Community Schools, understanding the nuances and opportunities available to students.

He joined the LOHS community this summer with an welcome message.

“I would like to officially introduce myself and share some personal information as I begin my role as the Lake Orion High School principal. Personally, I have three children who are all Dragons. My oldest was a 2021 graduate, I have an incoming senior, and a 7th grader. My wife of 25 years and I are thankful that our children are part of LOCS and are proud of our school system.

“Professionally, I received my bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan and have been in education for 26 years. I have been a member of the Lake Orion Community Schools since the fall of 1997. The last 16 years, I was blessed with being the principal at Scripps Middle School. During my career, I have earned multiple degrees from Oakland University; the last being a doctorate in 2020. I am someone who believes in education being a means to bettering yourself and those you serve. Over the past 25 years, I have also developed an intense dedication to Lake Orion and believe wholeheartedly in the school district and community.

“I am thankful that my career path allows me to serve the students and families at Lake Orion High School. I look forward to working alongside the outstanding students and staff of LOHS. I believe Lake Orion is a destination district and community. I look forward to doing my part to continue to foster that as the principal at LOHS.

“Go Dragons and Protect the Thunder!”
In June, small LOCS staff groups from each of the onboarding schools attended a training session to become familiar with the broad concepts of P2 and how to bring it to their full staffs in August.

During the summer, Hynes organized additional collaboration to help the rollout.

“We’re just really excited to get it going,” Smith said. “We know it’s the right thing to do for kids and our school community.”

Finding the right program is always a challenge for administrators and teachers because there are such a diverse group of personalities and learning styles within each classroom.

But P2 is so expansive and detailed that it’s one that works well for LOCS.

“This isn’t a fix, this is a tool,” Hynes said. “Since all the elementaries across the district are collaborating together and implementing together, I’m hoping to see the vocabulary across all the classrooms in the district.”

In the curriculum. In the behavior. In the consistency. The program is a step forward for LOCS.

**Scripps welcomes new Principal too**

Scripps Middle School introduced David McKay as the new principal for the 2022-23 school year.

Mr. McKay is a lifelong Dragon, having graduated from LOHS and working as a teacher and assistant principal in the district.

“My positive experiences as a student and educator make me a dedicated Dragon!” Mr. McKay told families. “Each day I do all that I can to work with staff and families to ensure students have a great learning experience!”

**Bond Update**

During the summer of 2022, the Lake Orion Community Schools made significant progress on the bond projects, approved by the community in the November 2018 vote.

- At Stadium Drive Elementary, the new STEM lab and renovated media center were the focus, along with a restructured parking lot and traffic flow improvements.
- At Scripps Middle School, a new elevator was being installed, the shot put and discus areas were reconstructed to serve both LOHS and the middle school teams. Inside the building, the classrooms received new flooring. On the outside, work on the new secure entrance and office space moved forward with the expected completion date in January 2023.
- Construction continued all summer on the site of the new Blanche Sims Elementary school (behind the current school) and is still on track to open with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
- Digital signs were scheduled to be installed outside of the three middle schools and Pine Tree Center in the summer.
- All new furniture in the secondary buildings (following the new classroom furniture in elementaries in 2021).
- Interactive flat panel screens at the three middle schools, Paint Creek Elementary and Stadium Drive Elementary.

Sign up for Fall Enrichment programs at lakeorionschools.org/departments/enrichment-services.
Orion Area Youth Assistance (OAYA) is a unique intergovernmental collaboration in Lake Orion offering support services and family and youth programming for students in the Lake Orion Community School District. OAYA is a partnership between Orion Township, the Village of Lake Orion, Lake Orion Community Schools, and the Oakland County Circuit Court Family Division. Started in 1963, OAYA has been working on its mission “to strengthen youth and families and reduce the incidence of delinquency, neglect, and abuse through community involvement” with low-cost casework services as well as community prevention based programming.

OAYA provides confidential, short-term, family-centered counseling, casework, and referral services to youth and families who reside within the Lake Orion Community School District. Referrals are made to OAYA for a variety of prevention reasons ranging from changing family situations, struggles with emotional health/regulation, behavioral concerns, as well as diversion referrals. In 2020–2021, OAYA received 104 new referrals and 51 information and referral cases.

In addition to services provided to referred students, OAYA offers programs for the community at large, designed to strengthen family bonds and support students as they overcome whatever challenges they might face. OAYA is proud to provide camp and enrichment scholarships each year, an annual Youth Recognition program to honor special students in Lake Orion, a holiday mart for preschoolers to shop for their families, hygiene closets at the high school and middle school, an annual free Family Fun Night, and various educational programs for students and their families.

Scholarships still available
OAYA believes that helping students participate in enrichment outside of the school day provides benefits that support our mission. Therefore, our program helps families in Lake Orion pay for summer camps and extra-curricular activities for students. Scholarship funds are offered to help cover the costs of summer camps as well as any type of youth enrichment activities throughout the school year. Scholarship funds are awarded to qualifying families on a first-come/first-served basis until funds are exhausted for the year. Qualifying students can apply for one summer camp scholarship and one enrichment scholarship per year. For 2022, we have additional scholarship money available since many families were unable to participate in the past two years due to Covid restrictions.

Family Fun Night
OAYA is excited to renew our partnership with Lake Orion Community Schools Enrichment Services to provide a FREE family fun night on September 21 from 6–8 pm at the CERC building. There will be free food, activities, and photo opportunities for families. Past years’ activities have included a bounce house, petting zoo, fire trucks, police cars, pictures with the LO Dragon mascot and other characters. OAYA is excited to be able to bring this event back after a two year break.

Volunteers always welcome
OAYA is excited to be restarting some programs that had to be paused due to Covid and has received some grant funding for some new programs, so we are looking for new volunteers to join both the Board of Directors as well as the Planning Committees.

For information about the OAYA and a link to the scholarship application, volunteer application, or updates for upcoming events, visit lakeorionyouthassistance.com or email oaya@lok12.org.
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PROFESSIONAL & AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS!
We’re looking for your best Winter shots!

Do you have great photos of Orion people doing fun Orion things in winter? Submit your best shots to us by October 1 for possible use in our Winter 2022 issue of Orion Living Magazine! You will get a photo credit if we use your image.

Email jbhatti@oriontownship.org for submission guidelines and instructions.

Sweet!
It’s a Kids in Candyland Christmas!

Join us for our annual Orion Lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3 at 6 pm in Downtown Lake Orion

Presented by the Orion Area Parade Group and our generous sponsors

Follow us on Facebook for details
Facebook/OrionLightedParade
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Proceeds from this event funds the Lake Orion Lions Club Christmas Basket program that benefits Lake Orion families.
Please contact us to donate an auction item: 248-561-3203

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—Henry’s Mom

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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.

Learn Podcasting.
Local realtor Tracy Woodrum hosts a podcast called Tea with Tracy through OrionONTV. Do you have a podcasting side gig in your future? Check out the ONTV offerings on page 49, plus all the other learning opportunities in the Parks & Rec and Library sections.

Photo by Tracy Marsh