

ORION LIVING

Issue 12 | *Spring 2022* | Charter Township of Orion, Michigan

What's Inside

New Township Municipal Complex is open for business

Fresh spring offerings from the Orion Library, Parks & Recreation

The Food Trucks are coming!

Tech-savvy kids drive LOCS Robotics program

GO WHERE THERE IS
NO PATH AND LEAVE
A trail

YOUR QUARTERLY
guide
TO LIFE IN ORION

Photo by: K. Gedda Smith Images



Orion Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Useful Numbers

EMERGENCIES

911

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH POLICE/FIRE/EMS

248-858-4911

LAKE ORION POLICE DEPARTMENT (VILLAGE)

248-693-8321

ORION TOWNSHIP (INCLUDING FIRE DEPARTMENT)

248-391-0304

WATER OR SEWER EMERGENCIES AFTER-HOURS

248-858-4911

ORION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

248-693-6300

ORION TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

248-693-3000

LAKE ORION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

248-693-5400

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)

248-693-9742

VILLAGE OF LAKE ORION

248-693-8391

ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY

877-858-4804

LAKE ORION POST OFFICE

248-693-3253

ONTV

248-393-1060

COVER: The 8.9 mile long Paint Creek Trail winds through Orion Township and the Village of Lake Orions and into Rochester. Sierra takes her dog Ruby for an after-school stroll along the trail near Clarkston Road.

Background photo by Nancy Bennett

TIME TO *explore* ALL ORION HAS TO OFFER

The snow has started to melt, the birds are chirping a cheerful tune, and pops of colors are beginning to bloom. Welcome Spring! It's time to enjoy the sun, the trails, and the pleasant hum of nature as we awaken from our winter slumber.

After months spent snuggled up under layers of blankets, I hope you'll join me in exploring all of the wonderful things our town has to offer. Maybe I'll see you on one of the many trails and safety paths throughout the Township, at the Memorial Day Run/Walk, at

the Food Truck Festival hosted by the Chamber, at the Spring Concert Series, Fandom Fest, or a workshop hosted by the Library, or at the Dragon Dash 5K, Orion Green Up, or an art & craft show hosted by Parks & Recreation.

We are all settled into the new Municipal Complex on Joslyn Road. This state-of-the-art complex provides facilities for community use and operations of the Township, with most spaces designed to be multi-purpose. If you haven't stopped by already, I encourage you to do so.

Since Spring is known for new beginnings, this is the perfect opportunity to try out a new program and attend an event that you've been thinking about. I hope you enjoy this edition of *Orion Living Magazine*. See you around town!

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor



ORION LIVING

Orion Living is a quarterly magazine produced for the residents and businesses of Lake Orion, Michigan by the Charter Township of Orion.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chris Barnett, *Orion Township*

Jenny Bhatti, *Orion Township*

Becky Bolin, *Orion Township Public Library*

Noelle Champagne,
Orion Area Chamber of Commerce

Theresa Fiorani, *Canoe Circle Graphics*

Molly LaLone, *Lake Orion DDA*

Mark Snyder, *Lake Orion Community Schools*

Jennifer Vezina,
Orion Township Parks & Recreation

Aaron Whatley,
Orion Township Parks & Recreation

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Contact Jenny Bhatti at Orion Township for rates, sizes and deadlines.

248-391-0304, x1003 or
jbhatti@oriontownship.org

Graphic Design by *Canoe Circle Graphics*

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Office official

The Township opens the doors to its new state-of-the-art municipal complex

The need

In 2019, following over 20 years of studies and evaluating the needs of the Township, Trustees voted to move forward with the construction of a new Municipal Complex to replace the existing Township Hall built in 1974, later expanded in 1996 and totaled approximately 20,000 square feet. While the building had served the Township well for over 40 years, it was beginning to show its age through continued water infiltration and mold build-up within the lower level, roof damage, and porch and exterior stair deterioration. In addition to that, the aging electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems required costly repairs, there was a lack of adequate space for growing staff and storage needs, ADA and Energy Code compliance issues, and security concerns.

A comprehensive cost analysis was completed by a team of professional

architects, engineers, and construction managers comparing three options: repair the existing building, repair and expand the existing building, or complete new construction. Ultimately it was determined new construction was the ideal solution.

The project

The designs for new construction placed a modern, state-of-the-art 43,637 square foot Township Hall and 8,820 square foot Sheriff Substation on 14 acres of 76 acres of undeveloped land on Joslyn Road, just north of the existing building site. The remaining 62 acres of natural woodlands and wetlands would be preserved for recreation, creating a new trailhead to the Polly Ann Trail and activating the area for future recreation space. The former Township Hall is scheduled for demolition in early 2022, with plans to transform the site into additional active recreation space within Civic Center Park.

The schedule

While the project benefited from the global pandemic when it came to low-interest rates, the construction project did feel the pandemic's impact on the supply chain and availability within the workforce. These issues, coupled with an incredibly wet construction season, created a unique project for the team to coordinate. The project team worked together to substitute several equal materials on more than one occasion and flexibly managed contractor schedules while maintaining the project budget and schedule. With original estimated completion dates of the middle of October 2021, Township staff officially moved over and took occupancy of the new building on November 29, 2021—only one month behind schedule.

The buildings

Township Officials were pleased to continue sharing property with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff Substation is now in its own separate building, directly next to Township Hall, and is a tremendous enhancement in working conditions for the Deputies assigned to Orion Township. The substation includes a professional lobby and conference room, separate detective and patrol unit working areas, a dedicated briefing and training room, modern interview rooms, upgraded



locker rooms to sufficiently meet the needs of all the Deputies, and secured parking.

Township Hall now meets the needs of current staff and has additional space for future growth. A new state-of-the-art Board room features multiple projection screens for presentations, easy viewing from any angle, and fixed seating for a much more comfortable experience. There is sufficient meeting space for enhanced employee collaboration, as well as for meetings with outside consultants and partners.

“Our new space provides an open floor concept, perfect for team collaborations, says Water & Sewer Division employee Kristine Gordon. “We now have plenty of sunlight, storage, and room to grow. We are thankful for such a beautiful and functional building!”

The public now has two ways to enter the building instead of the three from the former building, and the front counter layout allows residents to find a department more easily. Public seating and conference rooms are available as spaces to complete paperwork or discuss issues with the Township.



The 43,000 square foot state-of-the-art Township Hall and 8,800 square foot Sheriff Substation at 2323 Joslyn Road were completed in November 2021 and replace the 20,000 square foot building that originally housed the Township since 1974. Employees love the sunlit offices and roomy workspaces.

Also along the main corridor is a Community Art Gallery which will feature a rotating display of artwork from students at Lake Orion Community Schools. Make sure to stop by and admire their hard work. The Dragon Community Room is a dedicated space that can be rented through Parks & Recreation for community events such as homeowner association meetings, local business strategic planning meetings, birthday parties, baby showers, and other celebrations.

The Community Art Wall will feature student artwork from each of Lake Orion's schools. The well-lit and spacious hallways make finding your way around the building easy and accessible to all.



Photo by Ajit Makhecha



The ribbon is cut and operations begin in the Township's new home

On February 1, Orion Township celebrated its new Municipal Complex with an Open House.

Festivities included behind the scenes tours, a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and a Taste of Orion.

Attendees were able to go on a guided tour through Township Hall and the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Substation. The Township Hall tour focused on the openness of the new facility that allows for better collaboration between each department, the flex spaces designed for future growth and for Parks & Recreation and Fire Administration to work from, and the walls of windows that showcase the beautiful Polly Ann Trail.

The Substation tour focused on the new and upgraded features, from proper locker rooms for all Deputies, secured lobby and interview rooms, to the sally port and a gated parking lot. Between the two buildings is an arch (*repurposed from the High School*) that reads 'Dragon Country', which marks the new trailhead to the Polly Ann Trail.

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony featured special guests, including some former Citizens of the Month and former Trustee John Steimel. Lt. Bob Loken's family accepted

a posthumous Citizen of the Month award on his behalf.

After much anticipation, the Board of Trustees, Township Directors, and Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard, among others, formally cut the ceremonial ribbon. Even K9 Deputy Max was there to help and officially welcome everyone to the new building.

A Taste of Orion in The Dragon Community Room showcased delicious foods

Retired Lt. Dan Toth, Trustees Julia Dalrymple and Brian Birney, Treasurer Donni Steele, Clerk Penny Shults, Supervisor Chris Barnett, Public Services Director Jeff Stout and Trustee Mike Flood were among several officials who cut the ribbon to officially open the new Municipal Complex. At right, Supervisor Barnett expresses his pride about the new facility with the attendees.

from around Township. Special thanks to Ignite Tavern, Cookies & Cream, Palazzo Di Bocce, Bad Brad's, G's Pizzeria, Old Detroit Bar & Grille and 313 Pizza Bar for donating food for the occasion.

The event was 20 years in the making, from the first discussions about a new facility to the official ribbon cutting.

"We did it!," said Orion Township Supervisor Chris Barnett. "And by we, I'm referring to the amazing team of township staff, consultants, and our construction team. We built a new building that has been needed for nearly two decades. We finally have a home for our dedicated deputies of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office that is fit for the work they do," Chris said.

"We finished it on time and on budget, and we did it in the middle of a global pandemic! I'm so proud of the work our team has done. And the best news of all, through creative revenue streams we were able to build our entire facility without raising taxes even by one penny," Chris said.

"As an employee of the Township for going on eight years, I must say this building is amazing," said Planning & Zoning employee Lynn Harrison, "from all the latest technology to all the little touches such as the beautiful photos of the Township that adorn the walls. We



Sheriff K9 Max steals the show from Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard and Trustee Kim Urbanowski. Above, Chief of Staff Sam Timko and Trustee Julia Dalrymple welcome residents and guests to the Ribbon Cutting.



were truly cramped and out of space in the old building with conference rooms being turned into offices and no room left in the archives to store the ever-flowing stream of documents.

“The transition from the old building to the new went extremely well and we were ready to do business within a day. My office space is roomy and efficient, and I can’t wait to have lunch outside on the deck with my coworkers!” she said. “I am truly proud to say that I work at the new Orion Township Municipal Offices.”

Chris added, “If you missed our open house, I hope you’ll come visit us soon. This facility is your facility!”



Auger Klein Aller architect Scott Reynolds was part of an entire team of experts who designed and built the 43,000 square foot Township Hall and 8,800 Sheriff Substation.

Photos by Lee Smith



Renowned Tigers pitcher found a ‘hole’ new career in Orion

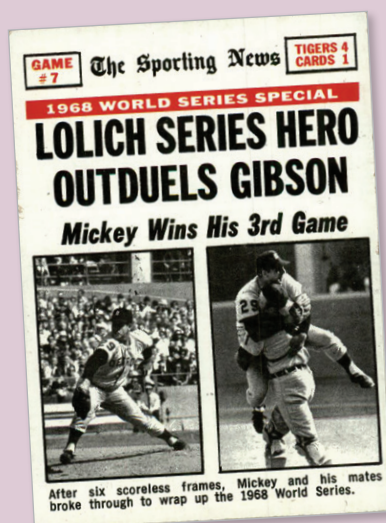
It’s springtime in Lake Orion! Time to get back out onto the many trails we have to watch the blooms and take in the fresh air.

Another sign of Spring is the much anticipated opening day of Detroit Tigers baseball.

Let’s flash back to the 1968 World Series between the Detroit Tigers and St. Louis Cardinals.

A young Tigers pitcher by the name of Mickey Lolich became a hero when he won three World Series games, including a Game Seven performance leading the Tigers to the title. He threw more than 200 innings in 12 consecutive seasons. He even had four seasons where he threw more than 300 innings!

What does a famous Detroit pitcher do after baseball? Well for Mickey, he invested in a doughnut shop in Rochester and then moved the business to Lake Orion!



“Mickey Lolich’s Donut & Pastry Shop” was located at 575 North Lapeer Road next door to the Orion Post Office. The building is now home to Snap Taco. He ran the business from 1983 until the late 1990s with his wife and three teenage daughters until he officially retired.

During his doughnut years he signed thousands of boxes for people. Fans would frequent his place to sit, have a doughnut and want him to share stories of the playing days. When customers asked for him, Mickey said it’s like cooking at home, you can’t come out and talk for five minutes when things are exploding in the kitchen.

“I don’t do anything ... I finally found something I’m good at,” Lolich told *MLive* after retiring from the doughnut-making business. “I tried making donuts but they all had holes in them. Now, I watch the grass grow.”

Lolich’s unbroken records are 2,679 strikeouts, 39 shutouts, 459 games started, 329 home runs allowed, and 10,000 doughnuts made!

By Orion Living Contributor Jimmy Johnson.

Jimmy owns Graphic Takeover and shares Orion history at WhereLivingisaVacation.com and at [facebook.com/WhereLivingisaVacation](https://www.facebook.com/WhereLivingisaVacation).

Images courtesy of Pinterest and Beckett

What's going there?

Esys

Located on the north side of Brown Road between Joslyn and Giddings, this new development consists of a 267,500 square foot manufacturing/office building on just over 26 acres.



Dutton Park

This development consists of two developments, each a two-story retail/office building. The first building is at the corner of Interpark Drive and

Dutton Road and is approximately 20,000 square feet. The second building, located slightly east of the first, is at the corner of Dutton and Bald Mountain Roads and is approximately 10,000 square feet.



Update: Meijer

Demolition of the former Kmart has begun. Once completed, this stand-alone building will be a 90,000 square foot Meijer grocery store with a drive-through pharmacy. The size of this Meijer will be considerably smaller than a typical Meijer Supercenter and will concentrate on food offerings.

Increasing water system reliability

The Holland Street water main extension began the first week of November 2021 and wrapped up about a month later. With this project, the Township was able to loop two parts of the water system to increase reliability for the area. We thank the residents along Holland and Semloh for their patience during this project.



2022 Phragmite Program

Orion is being invaded!

We are! And we need for your help! The population of an invasive, non-native plant species known as Phragmites is increasing and threatening the ecological health of our marshes and wetlands. Phragmites are a perennial that can grow up to 15 feet and create tall, dense strands. The invasive species can replace native plants, deny fish and wildlife nutrients and space, block access to the water for swimming, fishing, and other recreation endeavors, spoil shoreline views, and pose a fire hazard due to dry plant materials.

The presence of Phragmites on residential lots can also affect property values. Phragmites can drive out competing vegetation in two ways.

Their sheer height and density can deprive other plants of sunlight, and the chemicals they produce when decaying reduce the germination of competing seeds.

In 2013, Orion Township started to treat Phragmites on Township-owned properties and continues to take a proactive approach to invasive species control. We have adopted Ordinance No. 151—Phragmite Control and are focused on educating residents and

new developers on this important issue. As part of our on-going control program, the Township holds an EGLE permit for the herbicide application which saves you from having to go through the process of pulling the permit yourself. This herbicide treatment usually occurs before the first frost of the year, around September or October, with the follow up cutting during the winter, around February.

Please consider joining Orion Township in our fight to protect and preserve our woodlands, wetlands, marshes and neighborhoods now and for generations to come!

Contact Orion Township Department of Public Services at 248-391-0304 ext. 8503 to receive the Phragmites Program Application Packet and reserve your spot for a free estimate to treat Phragmites on your property.

Say goodbye to hazardous waste

Free Disposal Day at Eagle Valley

Waste Management offers two Free Disposal Days to Orion residents. This year's Disposal Days are **Saturday, June 11** and **Saturday, September 17** from 7 am to 1 pm. Construction debris from small home improvement projects is allowed. *This is NOT an Oakland County NoHaz event.*

These items are not accepted at Free Disposal Days: yard waste, whole tires, white goods that contain (or once contained) freon, household hazardous waste, e-waste, and commercial construction debris. For details, visit **WM.com** or call 248-391-0990.

Oakland County NoHaz Collection Events

NoHaz events are a safe, reliable, and environmentally responsible way to dispose of household hazardous waste—the substances in your home harmful to humans and the environment if not disposed of properly. In 2021, 656,867 pounds of household hazardous waste was collected between 15 Oakland County communities. Over 4,000 participants safely disposed of waste, averaging 149 pounds per participant. Of the participants, just over 30 percent were from Orion.

*Visit **NoHaz.com** for the 2022 Collection dates and information on events, registration, alternative disposal options, and a list of materials that are accepted at collection events.*

NOTA serves transit-dependent residents

You have probably seen NOTA (*North Oakland Transportation Authority*) buses driving in the community and maybe even picking people up, but do you know what exactly it is that they do?

NOTA is a transportation service servicing seniors, disabled, and low-income residents. They operate in Orion, Oxford, and Addison Townships, and the Villages of Orion, Oxford, and Leonard. They operate 16 routes Monday through Friday. They operate two routes for local services only on Saturdays and Sundays. They have 22 vehicles, of which 21 are wheelchair-equipped.

Since its establishment in 2001, NOTA has played a crucial role in providing essential transportation services in the communities it serves. Time and again, they have proved their resilience by adapting to different circumstances and maintaining their service level to the community.

Residents who use this service are transit-dependent individuals who need help getting to medical appointments, grocery shopping, community events, and work. Without NOTA, many riders would not be able to leave their homes or live an independent life. Fares are just \$1 for all one-way rides to Orion, Oxford, and Addison Township, and just \$2 for all other one-way rides within the service area.

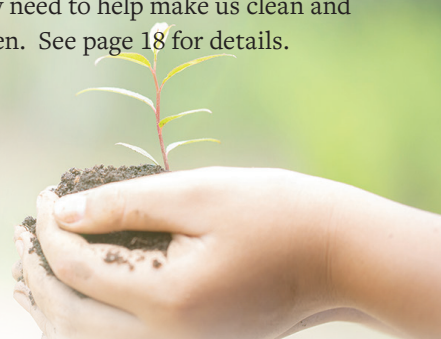
*To apply, you must be a resident of Orion, Oxford, or Addison Townships and be at least 60 years or older, disabled, or low income. Registration is required to use the service. You can find an online application at **ridenota.org** or call 248-693-7100 for more information.*

Invest in our planet this Earth Day

Earth Day 2022 is **Friday, April 22**. The 52-year-old event was formed in 1970 to bring the environmental concerns of the 50s and 60s to light. The movement continues to address issues that affect the health of the planet, including climate change, clean energy and sustainability.

Arbor Day began in the 1870s in Nebraska as a way to encourage the planting of trees. The Arbor Day foundation says “The simple act of planting a tree represents a belief that the tree will grow to provide us with clean air and water, cooling shade, habitat for wildlife, healthier communities, and endless natural beauty — all for a better tomorrow.”

Orion celebrates Earth Day and Arbor Day with the Township's Green Up event, this year held on April 23 at Camp Agawam. You can make a difference in your community and help make Orion Township a little greener. The Township will provide the trash bags; you bring gloves, shovels, rakes and anything you may need to help make us clean and green. See page 18 for details.



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

Memorial Day 2022

Honoring those who sacrificed

Thank you to the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice. It's easy to think of the unofficial start of summer as Memorial Day, which generally translates to BBQs, family gatherings, beach days, and an extra day off work and school. But it's important to remember what Memorial Day is really about. It's about the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and honoring them.

There are many things you can do to pay your respects to our fallen heroes this Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.

Fly a flag. It's a simple way to show your love for your country. Please note that it is important to follow proper etiquette and guidelines when flying a flag.

Visit a cemetery. There is a prayer and Memorial Service at 9 am at Eastlawn Cemetery on Orion Road.

Attend a ceremony. The American Legion hosts a Wreath Ceremony at 10 am on the Paint Creek Bridge in Children's Park. The Orion Veterans Memorial hosts their Memorial Day Ceremony at 1 pm at the Memorial located on M-24 and Heights Road.

Wear a poppy. Pinning the symbolic red flower to your jacket is a simple yet powerful way to commemorate the sacrifices that have been made.

Volunteer. Pick an organization that is veteran-focused and lend a hand.

Support local Veteran-owned businesses. These past couple of years have taught us the imperativeness of supporting local. Why not take it up a notch and support those who have made countless sacrifices to protect us, our loved ones, our community, and the nation?

Enjoy a National Memorial Day concert at home. Each year, PBS honors our brave men and women by hosting a "National Memorial Day Concert". The televised celebration features star-studded performances, documentary footage, and heartfelt readings that honor military personnel and their families at home. Watch this year's concert on Sunday, **May 29** at 8 pm. The concert will stream live on their website and will remain available online for two weeks following the live broadcast.

Take a moment of silence. The National Moment of Remembrance, established by Congress in 2000, is a minute-long pause meant to raise awareness of and commemorate those who served. This takes place at 3 pm.

Please check with local organizations to confirm times and that the event is still happening.

May we never forget that freedom isn't free.



Go for a run to support the Orion Veterans Memorial

Join us in your red, white, and blue on **Monday, May 30** for the 6th Annual Orion Veterans Memorial Day Run/Walk. Choose from a 5K Run/Walk and a 5 Mile Run along the Paint Creek Trail. This year's event will start and finish on Anderson Street, adjacent to the Children's Park parking lot.

Each participant will receive an event dog tag at the finish line. Virtual category is also available for anyone wishing to support the event, but not able to or not wanting to be in person. Event proceeds support the long-term sustainability of the Orion Veteran's Memorial.

For registration information, visit OrionTownship.org/MemorialDayRun.

Photo by Lee Smith

Cross-Connection: Keeping our public water system safe

Our Water & Sewer Division is responsible for providing safe drinking water to Orion residents and businesses. Various federal, state and local laws require the Township to verify that cross connections on private plumbing systems do not pose a contamination risk to the public water system. A cross-connection is any arrangement of piping on a plumbing system that could allow a backflow of contaminants into the public drinking water supply. Backflow occurs when a reversal of the normal flow of water occurs. This could happen due to a

drop in water pressure from a water main break or other failures, or when a plumbing fixture such as a boiler or pump generates more pressure than the public water supply and pushes the water back to the public drinking water supply system.

Backflow Devices are installed on water lines to prevent backflows from occurring. A new state mandate requires all testable backflow devices

on residential homes be tested every three years. If your home is due for testing in 2022, you will receive a notification letter from Orion Township.

Only Licensed Plumbing Contractors can test, repair, and install Backflow Assemblies. If a new backflow device is being installed or a repair is needed, a plumbing permit must be applied for through the Building Department.

Find out more at oriontownship.org/departments/public_services/cross_connection.php

Heed the mandatory summer watering restrictions

A mandatory watering restriction is in effect from May through September for all properties with an automatic sprinkling system that is connected to Orion Township water.

These restrictions apply:

Monday through Saturday: Watering may only be done between midnight and 5 am.

Sunday: Watering may be done at any time.

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

If you are connected to Orion Township water but do not have an automatic sprinkling system—meaning you water your lawn from a hose—water your

lawn between 10 am and 4 pm, Monday through Saturday.

Abiding by the watering restrictions is important for our community.

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

Orion Township randomly inspects for compliance of the watering restrictions. Notices of violations are sent out to residents who are observed watering outside of the designated times. If continued

noncompliance of the ordinance is observed, residents could receive a ticket, and a judge could order penalties in the amount of \$500.

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

Pay or view your bill online

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.

If a water or sewer emergency occurs

Call Orion Township
Monday through Friday
during Township hours
248-391-0304
Ext. 8505

or call Oakland County
Emergency Dispatch during
non-business hours
248-858-4911

Recycle this, not that

Yes

Recyclable materials permitted in your curbside bin include:

- Glass bottles and jars
- Office paper, mixed paper, magazines, and flattened cardboard
- Plastic bottles and containers
- Non-waxed coated cartons
- Aluminum and steel cans

No

Often non-recyclable items make their way into the curbside recycling bin. These items include:

- Wax coated cartons
- Paper coffee cups
- Food residue
- Plastic bags and film packaging
- Styrofoam
- Bulky plastic items such as milk crates and outdoor play equipment
- Clothing and fabrics
- Batteries
- Personal hygiene items

Many drop-off centers take materials such as fabrics, Styrofoam, plastic bags, and batteries. Contact your nearest drop-off center for more information.



What happens to my plastic water bottle when it is recycled?

Most disposable water bottles are made of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), which is marked with resin identification code #1. Other common items made from PET include household cleaning products and food packaging. The material produced when PET is recycled is called recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET).

After the bottles are collected from curbside recycling bins or drop-off sites, they are sorted at a material recovery facility (MRF) and sent to a reclaiming facility. The plastic is then washed, ground, and formed into rPET pellets. These pellets are finally sent to manufacturing plants, where they will be made into new plastic products.

While some recycled plastic bottles will indeed be turned into new PET beverage bottles, there are numerous other materials and products composed of



Recyclebank®

rPET. For example, materials commonly found in clothing, such as polyester fabric, fiberfill, and fleece, can all be made from rPET. Other products composed of rPET include packaging, strapping, carpeting, car parts, mattresses and sleeping bags, insulation, furniture, and recycling bins (coming full circle!).

The production of new PET uses up non-renewable raw material (i.e. petroleum), so reducing overall use of PET is the ideal way to help the environment. While we reduce, we can also recycle the bottles that we do produce. Recycling plastic bottles helps conserve natural resources while assisting in the production of diverse, new, and useful products!

This article is courtesy of Recyclebank.com. Sign up for an account to start earning points for your recycling efforts and learn more about the recycling process. The site is full of interesting articles about recycling and you can also earn points just for reading them. Points can be redeemed at participating local businesses.



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

Orion is a triathlete's training paradise

One day we'll all wake up, and our bodies will no longer be able to do what our minds believe is possible. Fortunately, this day can be delayed for quite some time as our minds can be one of the most limiting enemies we have.

I was interested in pushing myself in a physical endurance sport in a way I've never been challenged before. Last year, I registered for the Michigan Ironman 70.3 and the Detroit Free Press Full Marathon.

The Ironman 70.3 is a triathlon consisting of a 1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike ride, and 13.1-mile run. And I have come to the conclusion that Orion Township is a triathlon training paradise. I had no prior experience with triathlons. My previous swimming experience was swimming boat-to-boat on Dollar Bay, and I had never truly cycled before unless you count a casual stroll down the Paint Creek Trail.

So many great options

Finding areas to train in Orion was extremely easy. Lake Orion High School has an Olympic size pool with early, open swim times at an unbeatable price—wildly less expensive than area fitness centers that offer a pool. In addition, there are several public lakes where you can get real-life training comparable to an actual triathlon swim if you go in the morning. It's essential to practice your transitions, just as you would in a race.

There are two distinct locations in the Township that offer plenty of saddle time to practice your cycling skills.

The Paint Creek and Polly Ann Trails are jewels in the Township and are a phenomenal training ground for cycling. Intended for mountain or gravel bikes, road bikes with thicker tires fly overtop of the well-maintained trails. The gravel creates more resistance on your tire, so even though times might be slower than the road, you're training harder, resulting in faster road times.

These trails are equally beneficial for the run portion of a triathlon. Training for the 13.1-mile run, also known as a half-marathon, is easily accomplished on those trails.

It's important to remember that cross-training is essential for engaging your various muscle groups needed in triathlons. Backcountry hiking and hill running offer an unmatched advantage to training compared to flat surfaces. Bald Mountain North & South, Camp Agawam, and Orion Oaks County Park, all of which are located in the Township, offer multiple trails with varying degrees of difficulty. There are over 70-miles of safety paths throughout the Township, allowing you to carve your own creative route.

For the days where mother nature was relentless, making cycling too treacherous, swimming too choppy, and running too muddy, I found myself at the gym. There is no shortage of fitness centers in Orion to fit your training needs. Located in the Village, Hanson's Running Shop and Main Street Bicycles have experts in both running and cycling, which makes getting the right gear simple.

The benefits of Orion living

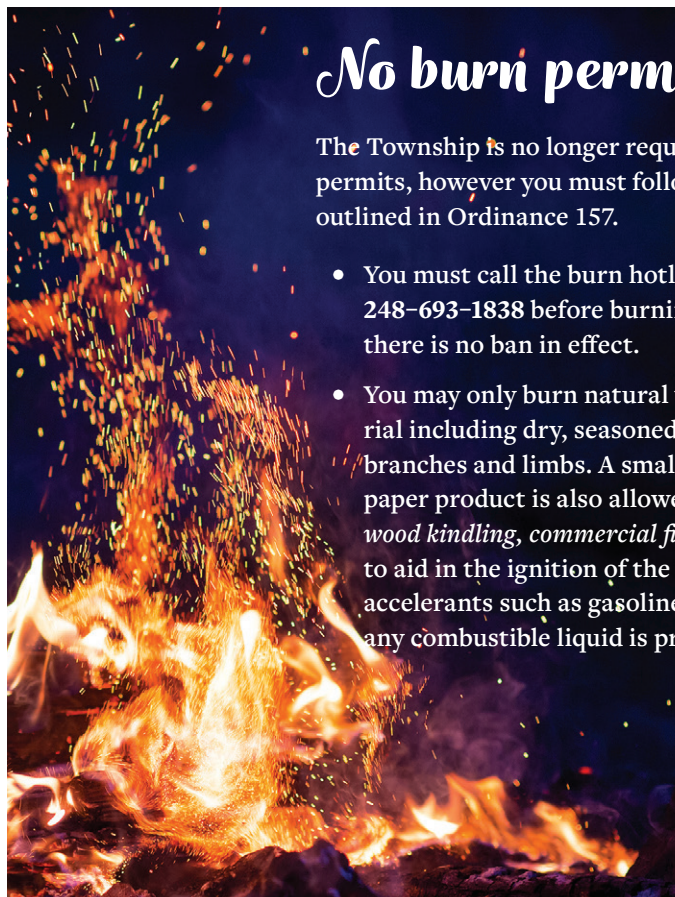
The realization is that training for something intense, like an Ironman, can all be accomplished right here in the Township. It's one of the things I value most about living in Orion. For the price of free, I can wake up, swim on Lake Orion, cycle on the Polly Ann Trail, and go for a run on the Paint Creek Trail. With so many different options, it's easy to change your training and pick a different lake, a different trail, and a different route.

I encourage everyone to get outside and see the value offered within the 36 square miles of the Township. Find an activity to challenge yourself physically, whether it's an Ironman or one of many 5K run/walks that happen throughout the year. Get out and get active. The investment you make now will pay off in the long run.

*Chris Hagan, Lieutenant
Orion Township Fire Department*

Orion Township Firefighters Eric Schwalbe and Lt. Chris Hagen are Ironman competitors who find the conditions in Orion Township perfect for training for this grueling event.





No burn permits needed but rules do apply

The Township is no longer requiring burn permits, however you must follow the rules outlined in Ordinance 157.

- You must call the burn hotline at 248-693-1838 before burning to ensure there is no ban in effect.
- You may only burn natural wood material including dry, seasoned tree trunks, branches and limbs. A small amount of paper product is also allowed (*cardboard, wood kindling, commercial fire starters*) to aid in the ignition of the flame. Using accelerants such as gasoline, kerosene or any combustible liquid is prohibited.
- Recreational fires (*three feet or less in diameter*) must be 25 feet from any structure, combustible materials and lot lines.
- Bonfires must be 50 feet from any structure, combustible materials and lot lines.
- Fires in Portable Outdoor Fireplaces must be 15 feet from any structure, combustible material and lot lines.
- Winds must be below 10 mph.
- You must have means of extinguishment nearby (*fire extinguisher, hose, or a shovel with dirt/sand*).

If you are not compliant with the Township Ordinance 157, the Fire Department has the authority to issue a township or municipal civil infraction ticket at their discretion. Tickets may range from \$65 to \$500.

What to know about the 2022 GFL collection program

2022 GFL billing rates*

Single Family Homes	Quarterly: \$55.29 Annual cost: \$221.16
Mobile Homes	Quarterly: \$49.47 Annual cost: \$197.88
Apartments & Condos	Quarterly: \$46.56 Annual cost: \$186.24

*Discounts are available (up to a cumulative 5%): Seniors (65 & older): 5%. Veterans: 5%. Annual Pre-Pay: 3%. Electronic Payment: 3%.

A 3-month "snowbird" service suspension discount is available at a maximum of \$30 per year when service is not required.

Annual Pre-Pay and Electronic Payment forms are available at gflusa.com/billing-options or by calling GFL directly at 248-204-4039. Senior & veteran discount forms can be submitted to Orion Township by visiting Township Hall or the Orion Center. Be sure to bring proof of age or military service with you.

Yard waste

Yard Waste pick-up begins on April 1. You may use brown bags, a purchased Orion Township rolling cart, or existing cans with a yard waste sticker provided by GFL.

Bulk items

Bulk items are free, require no call ahead, and will be picked up on your regular pick-up day. Bulk items are: fixtures and furniture, storm doors and windows, bicycles, bed frames, exercise equipment, grills, metal, lawnmowers, shelving, furnaces, toilets, wheelbarrows, tubs, ladders, sinks, carpets and pads, railroad ties and fence posts or fences (*not exceeding 3x4 feet in dimension*), small quantities of building debris resulting from repairs or remodeling personally done by the home occupant (*placed at the curb properly tied or bundled in lengths not more than five feet*), water heaters, water softeners, water tanks, washer and dryer, stove, air conditioner, refrigerators and freezers.

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

Real estate trends

Looking back while looking ahead

While the market has been on an upward trend over the past decade, there is no question that the past couple of years have been extremely strong for the real estate industry. Even in the midst of a worldwide pandemic there were many buyers and sellers with confidence in the market and decided it was time to make a move. This productive market has not only led to incredible numbers in housing but also the greatest increase in newly licensed agents. In an article published by *Crain's Detroit Business* in November 2021, it was stated that 80% of the licensed agents have held their licenses for 12 months or less. That is a staggering number.

For now, let's focus on the housing numbers and look at where we started at the beginning of 2021 and where we ended up. The numbers shared are based on all single-family home sales within the Lake Orion school district.

Tighter inventory at year end

In January 2021 we started off the year similar to the entire year of 2020, with an average days on market of 43. As we moved through the year and inventory became tighter the days on market fell consistently and we ended December with an average of 23 days on market. While these numbers may seem higher than most buyers' experience, they encompass the entire Lake Orion market. These numbers reflect from the updated and move-in ready homes to those that needed a considerable amount of love, throughout the entire Lake Orion school district.

Increased price per square foot

Not only did we see homes coming off the market as fast as they came on, but we saw the average price per square foot consistently increase. The average price per square foot for January 2021

was \$164—already up from the start of 2020 at \$154 per square foot—and then continued to rise finishing 2021 at an average of \$187 per square foot. Again, these numbers include starter homes to larger waterfront homes. If you were to take a closer look at specific segments you would see greater changes. For example, the waterfront homes on Lake Orion jumped to an average of \$300 to \$400 per square foot with a unique few even reaching \$500 to \$600.

So sellers were achieving great returns on their homes, which may lead some to believe that this would flood the market with potential sellers and increase inventory. However, the opposite was true.

Supply plummets

The supply of homes available in Lake Orion plummeted over the course of the past two years. At the start of 2020 there was a 3.6 months supply of homes on the market, falling to 2.3 at the start of 2021. By the end of 2021 the supply was only 1.1 months supply, over two-thirds lower than a mere 23 months earlier. There were many reasons for

this drop in supply, including potential sellers refinancing instead of listing their homes as interest rates hit historic lows and deciding not to sell due to personal feelings on the uncertainties with the market and employment.

Some individuals have been waiting to enter the real estate market thinking eventually the market is going to drop. However, it comes down to the basic economic principle of supply and demand. As long as the supply is lower than the demand and the barrier to enter the market is lower for buyers (low-interest rates), we will see the real estate market remain strong.

Another strong year ahead

All indicators from economic and real estate experts project 2022 to be another strong year for the real estate market. As of the end of January 2022, interest rates are where they were pre-pandemic and once again we are feeling that "spring is early" as the market is moving swiftly and there is no shortage of buyers. If you've considered making a move, there is no time better than the present!

By Orion Living Contributor Tracy Woodrum. Tracy is an Associate Broker/Realtor with DOBI Real Estate and the host of "Tea With Tracy" on Facebook (Tracy Woodrum Realtor), Instagram (@realtortracy24) and ONTV.



DECORATIVE METAL CANOPY
CAST STONE PANEL SYSTEM
COLOR MATCHED COPING
DECORATIVE PRECAST PANELS
METAL WRAPPED IMPLIED BALCONY
UTILITY BRICK - BRICKTECH



WEST ELEVATION Introducing West Village

Exciting plans to refurbish the Ehman Center property breathes new life into historic site

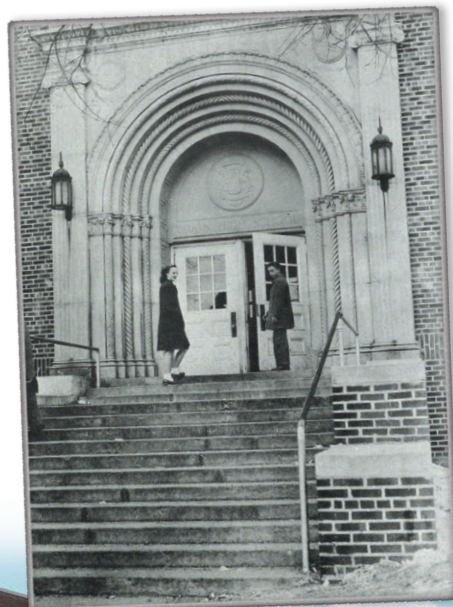
After years of sitting vacant, the old Elizabeth Street School known as The Ehman Center will again serve a vital purpose in the Village of Lake Orion.

West Construction Services has purchased the property and received approval to develop the land and renovate the existing school structure. Known as the West Village Project, the complex will include 89 housing units in a sleek, modern four-story building built where the playground used to be.

The Elizabeth Street School structure will be adapted for re-use, as it has been a treasured community building since 1927. The slate chalkboards and built-in cabinets will remain.

Additionally, the developers will improve the adjacent parking lot and public bus stop on Elizabeth Street with

new landscaping, lighting, paving and striping. They will enhance the Lapeer Street streetscape with resurfaced curb and gutters, on-street parking, sidewalks, street trees and wayfinding signage, upgrade the water retention



systems for neighboring properties and remove blight and graffiti. A historic marker will be installed at the Elizabeth Street School as well.

The school gym will be converted to an events venue called The Courts at West Village. The developers will make 12 dates available annually for the venue to be used by the Village of Lake Orion and the Lake Orion DDA for public events.

Meeting the need

The demand for additional rental housing is borne out by statistics showing that in the Lake Orion area, households are projected to grow .6 percent, or by 400 units, in the next five years. This is double Oakland County's expected growth. This housing will appeal to local employees, customers and contributing members of our community. It also offers Lake Orion's senior population to "age in place."

The Elizabeth Street School welcomed over 500 students per year through their doors, as depicted in this yearbook photo from 1945.



NORTH ELEVATION



A historic hill

The Ehman Center property at Elizabeth and Lapeer Streets was the highest point in the village and sat at the extreme northwest corner of the historic district. A school was built on the site in 1868, and subsequently replaced with the current structure in 1927. The Elizabeth Street School was designed to hold five hundred students, although additions in 1934 and 1940 increased the capacity of the school as student enrollment grew. The Elizabeth Street School housed kindergarten through twelfth grades until 1950.

West Construction Services has a history of preserving historic buildings. In 2018, they received the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation of the Flagstar Strand Theatre in Pontiac. They converted the old Sears Department store in Downtown Pontiac to Lafayette Place Lofts, the first mixed-use development in the state designed to meet LEED for Homes Platinum Standards as established by the U.S. Green Building Council in the LEED Green Building Rating System.

Construction of the West Village Project is slated to begin this year, with completion in late 2023.

Architects renderings show the proposed new look of The West Village Project, coming to downtown Lake Orion later this year.



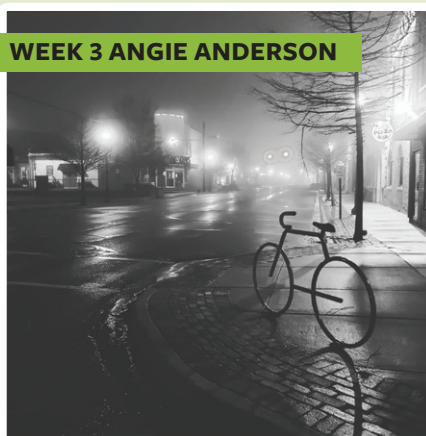
Blight has plagued the Ehman Center for years. A renovation and the additional structure and improvements will be a welcomed change for the corner of Lapeer and Elizabeth Streets.

Local Lens Photography & Art Contest

Congratulations to the winners of our Local Lens contest! The winners were judged each week by The Orion Art Center. They win a \$50 Downtown Dollar Gift Certificate and a framed copy of their art work. Seventy-one pieces were submitted during the month by 12 different artists.



WEEK 1 D&A IMAGING



WEEK 3 ANGIE ANDERSON



WEEK 2 JEN MORENO



WEEK 4 TIM PAYNE

SPECIAL EVENTS

TR Spring Dance

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 17 | 6–8 pm
Ages 13+ | \$6R/\$8NR

Special needs and individuals with disabilities are invited to an evening of music, dancing, and light refreshments with DJ David Dazzle Do Time. Preregistration preferred, walk-ins are welcome. Chaperones are free.

Bunny Bop

Orion Center | Sat, Apr 9
9:30–10:30 am | 11 am–12 pm
12:30–1:30 pm | Ages 1–8 | \$9R/\$12NR



Spring is in the air! Hop on over for a photo visit with a special bunny, craft projects and egg hunt with toys and candy stuffed eggs and a few other surprises. Bring your own basket for

filling with candy and prizes. Youth will be broken down by age for equal opportunity hunting for all. Preregistration required, spaces are limited! Children in carriers and adults with registered participants are free.

**Flashlight Egg Hunt**

Camp Agawam | Thu, Apr 14
8–8:45 pm | Ages 9–15 | \$9R/\$12NR

Don't let those older kids miss out on all the fun! Egg hunt will be held outdoors at Camp Agawam, Fort Pontiac. Dress for the weather, the event is held rain or shine. Preregistration required, spaces are limited!

Dragon Dash 5K

Orion Center | Sun, May 15 | 9 am
\$15

Whether you run or walk, join us for the Annual Dragon Dash! This 5K certified course beginning and ending at the Orion Center and following the Polly Ann Trail south toward Civic Center Park will kick off your training season. All runners will receive an award crossing the finish line. All levels of runners and walkers are invited, from beginner to competitive. Shirts can be purchased for an additional fee.

**Orion Green Up**

Camp Agawam | Sat, Apr 23
9 am–1 pm | Free

Celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day with us, make a difference in your community and help make Orion Township a little greener. We provide the trash bags; you bring gloves, shovels, rakes, etc., anything you may need to help make us clean and green. For more information check out Greener Orion on Facebook.

Mother's Day Marketplace Art & Craft Show

Orion Center | Sat, Apr 30
10 am–4 pm

Looking for locally made, unique and one of a kind crafters and local artists to join us for the Mother's Day Market at the Orion Center. Only locally handcrafted items will be considered, a limited number of vendors and products will be accepted. Contact jvezina@oriontownship.org for additional information.

**Community Garage Sale**

Orion Center Parking Lot | Sat, Jun 4
9 am–3 pm | \$12R/\$15NR

Shop from 40+ families with one of a kind household and personal items, tools, clothing, toys, everything including the kitchen sink, all at bargain prices. FREE parking & admission.

Antique, Toy & Comic Expo

Orion Center | Sat, Jun 4 | 9 am–3 pm
\$12R/\$15NR

Buy, sell or trade comic books, collectibles, antiques and memorabilia

at the Expo! Vendor setup opens at 8 am. FREE parking & admission.

**Game Day Swap**

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 17
9 am–5 pm | Free

Game Day Swap will have puzzles, books, DVDs and board games for anyone to swap. Event is free for anyone to participate. Registration is not necessary.



Concerts in the Park at Wildwood

Wildwood Amphitheater

Tue, Jun 21–Aug 9 | 7–8:30 pm

Free

No matter what your taste in music you'll be sure to find a performance to enjoy. Grab your lawn chairs and a blanket, gather up your family and friends, and join us for an evening of FREE music on the hill at Wildwood Amphitheater. Sit back, relax, and enjoy. FREE parking & admission, concessions available.



Summer Sizzle

Orion Center | Thu, Jun 23

6–8 pm | Free

Kick off your summer with a mini family staycation right here in Orion Township. Your kids will love the carnival games, face painting, bounce house, balloons, grilled hot dogs, and much more without breaking the bank to get there! All of this fun is free for everyone, a staycation that SIZZLES! FREE parking & admission.

Slow Row LO

Join an informal social group of kayakers on area lakes. Each participant is required to provide their own craft, PFD and any user fees to gain access to boat launch. Visit SlowRowLO on Facebook for event dates, details and exact location.

YOUTH ENRICHMENT

THE ARTIST'S APPRENTICE

Taught by Artist/Instructor Pamela Palmer BFA



Monday is My Drawing Class

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 4–May 2

5–6:30 pm | Ages 7+ | \$74R/\$76NR

What does it take to become an artist who is fantastic at drawing? PASSION! If your child is constantly sketching, the passion has already begun! It's time to feed that fire with practice of various techniques, individual instruction, time to concentrate, the making of mistakes, and growth in abilities. Students will work on value to add depth, stippling to add interest with hatching and cross-hatching to add texture to their drawings. In this 5-week series students will gain confidence as they see their skills improve. Graphite, colored pencils and light washes of watercolors will be implemented in our nature focused drawings. (*Siblings are always welcome!*) \$20 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.



Fashion Extravaganza

Orion Center | Thu, May 5–26

5:30–7 pm | Ages 7+ | \$60R/\$62NR

Interested in fashion? Let's hit the runway with a fashion flash! Students will explore various aspects of fashion, and will design outfits in numerous sketches using ink washes and graphite. Other projects include paper cut, using white on black card paper, as well, creating faerie gowns from nature elements. This is a great opportunity to utilize that creative mind of yours. So let's start making those gorgeous garments! (*Siblings are always welcome!*) \$20 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.

Cute Anime Animals

Orion Center | Mon, May 9–Jun 6

4:30–6 pm | Ages 7+

\$60R/\$62NR | No Class May 30

They're cute, they're fun and they're packed with personality! Let's get to work drawing our favorite kawaii animal characters. We'll try our hand at the adorable Cerberus with his cutie-pie lion cub features and white feathered wings; the fire dragon Charmander with his lizard-like body and his fiery personality; and everybody's best friend Totoro, a sort of owl bunny with his lookalike little woodland companions. Let's not forget our electric buddy Pikachu and the sweet pea cat demon Kirara! Our young artists will be working with graphite and chalk pastels with guided instructions. \$20 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.

Kid's Colorful Art Camp

Orion Center | Mon, Jun 20–24

9 am–12 pm | Ages 7+ | \$200R/\$205NR

Do we love color? Yes we do! Let's get our ROY-G-BIV colors and attempt the challenging task of learning how to paint a rainbow, one that looks real as it is seen in nature. Kids will work on landscapes and colorful animals like rainbow fish, chameleons, peacocks, iridescent beetle bugs, and fancy roosters. Colored pencils will be used, including shimmer colors, chalk pastels and paint. Experimental practices will be utilized like melted crayons! Please bring a snack, a water bottle, and wear clothes that are not precious. Messy children alert! \$50 material fee payable to the instructor on first day.

Home Alone Training

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 4
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9+ | \$17R/\$20NR

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

Handouts are included.

Babysitter Training

Orion Center | Thu, Apr 7
6–8:30 pm | Ages 11–14
\$20R/\$23NR

Instructor Merry Lewis 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, Mar 5–Apr 9 | Apr 23–May 28
1:30–2:30 pm | Ages 7+
\$150R/\$160NR

Each lesson consists of basic grooming, riding and horse care for beginner riders in the English Saddle style with Times Square Riding Academy, 4835 Oakwood Road in 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 Decoration with Alison Elle—Mommy & Me

Friendship Park | Tue, Apr 5 | 5–6 pm
Ages 6–14 | \$55R/\$57NR

Learn the basics of decorating cookies with royal icing as you create five Spring-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.



Castles and Kingdoms

Friendship Park Meeting Room | Sat, Mar 26 | 9:30 am–12:30 pm | Ages 5–10
\$32R/\$37NR

In Snapology's Castles and Kingdoms program, students will have the opportunity to use LEGO® bricks to design their medieval fantasies. Builds will focus on wizards and witches and the medieval castles they might have lived and worked in. Students will also build their understanding of some of the unique elements that made the medieval time period such a fascinating point in human history.



Creature Creator Robotics

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Sat, May 7 | 9:30 am–12:30 pm
Ages 7–12 | \$32R/\$37NR

In Snapology's Creature Creator Robotics class, your animal lover will create their own animal inspired robotic models out of LEGO® bricks. Students will learn about sensors, simple machines, and programming as they build a dolphin and a firefly. Your child is sure to have a wild time as they build, learn, and play.

Spring leagues still enrolling!

Deadline to register is March 14th (late fee will be applied). For more information about spring and/or fall leagues, visit orionparks.com or call 248-391-0304 x3500.



Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at

ORIONPARKS.COM

or call 248-391-0304, ext. 3500

YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

Amazing Athletes Spring Break & Summer Camp

Friendship Park | Mon–Thu
Mar 28–31 | Jun 13–16 | Jul 11–14
Aug 1–4 | 1–1:45 pm | Ages 3–6
\$64R/\$74NR

Amazing Athletes Camps are the premier developmental physical fitness camps empowering children aged 3 to 6 years old to reach developmental milestones at an individual pace.

Through our structured active play, Amazing Athletes advance 6 key areas of Motor–Development.

During our 45 minute daily, one-week camps, children learn the importance of patience, teamwork, and self-confidence in a non-competitive, learning-based environment that fosters a love of healthy living. Their excitement for structured physical activity promotes advancements and advantages that keep children on the path to personal well-being. Our fun, active camps encourage kids to explore and develop a variety of athletic skills through the introduction of 10 different sports. Coaches break the fundamentals of each sport-based skill down into simple steps based on each child's age and ability.

Go Wild! Youth Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jun 13–16
Jul 11–14 | 10 am–12:30 pm | Ages 4–7
\$47R/\$49NR

Does your little camper love to get dirty in the great outdoors? Join us at Camp Agawam for hands-on, Growing Up Wild, nature investigation! Use all five senses to explore animal habits, recycling for a cleaner environment, animal tracks and become aware that Wildlife is Everywhere! Registration opens May 1.

Play It Safe Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jun 27–30
10 am–12:30 pm | Ages 4–7
\$45R/\$48NR

I hear...and I forget, I see...and I remember, I do...and I understand. Learn by doing with daily hands-on activities and guest speakers, including many of the following topics: stranger danger, bus safety, bike safety, 911, health and nutrition. Registration opens May 1.

Youth Sports Camp

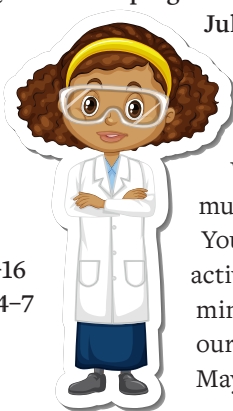
Civic Center Park | Mon–Thu,
Jul 18–21 | 10 am–12:30 pm
Ages 4–7 | \$45R/\$48NR

Basketball, soccer, hockey and t-ball too! Is your little camper becoming interested in sports? Not sure which sport is right for them? Come and join us for Youth Sports Camp, each day they will learn different basic sport skills. Preregistration required. Beginner level. Registration opens May 1.

Young Scientist Youth Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jun 20–23
Jul 25–28 | 10 am–12:30 pm
Ages 4–7 | \$47R/\$49NR

How are tornadoes formed? What is a fossil? What makes electricity? So much more to discover in our Young Scientist camp. Daily activities to stretch young minds and to make a mess in our space. Registration opens May 1.



Horseback Riding Camp

Times Square Riding Academy
Mon–Fri, TBA | 9 am–4 pm
Ages 7+ | \$250

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



Junior Golf Camp

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon–Thu, Jun 20–23 | Jun 27–Jun 30
Jul 11–14 | Jul 18–21 | 9:30 am–1 pm
Ages 7–15 | \$215R/\$220NR

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



SNAPOLOGY SUMMER CAMPS

*Full Day Option: Camp & Creative Play will occur from 9 am–4 pm. Pick-up can occur as late as 5 pm.
Children should bring a packed lunch for each day.*

Junior Scientist— All About Animals AM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jun 20–24 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 4–6 | \$152R/\$162NR

Do you know what mammal is the largest on Earth? Or how a caterpillar becomes a butterfly? Did you know that reptiles are the oldest creatures on the planet? Jr. Scientists: All About Animals invites your little zoologists to analyze the differences between vertebrate and invertebrate, construct their way through the butterfly and frog life cycle, build reptiles, and examine the differences and similarities between insects and arachnids using Kid K'NEX® pieces. Your child will be too busy exploring the animal world to realize that they are gaining critical social, motor, and developmental skills. Friday, June 24 will be held at the Orion Center.

Kinderbots PM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jun 20–24 | 1–4 pm
Ages 4–6 | \$169R/\$179NR

This program will excite any new robotics builder! Each day will develop a student's understanding of mechanical robotics building and programming. Students will learn about various simple machines, such as pulleys, wheels and axles, and levers. Students will also learn new programming skills using drag-and-drop LEGO® Education Software that is easy to use and engaging for all! Whether creating a robotic windmill, a robo pup, or a race car, little learners are sure to have fun building, learning, and playing! Friday, June 24 will be held at the Orion Center.

Space Wars Robotics AM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 11–15 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 6–12 | \$169R/\$179NR

Snapology is bringing the excitement of Star Wars to the world of robotics. Come on an adventure building and programming functional robots using LEGO® bricks in this super-fun program. Learn about space, space travel and, of course, Star Wars®. Children will discover that

some of their favorite characters and spaceships can be brought to life!

SuperStructures PM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 11–15 | 1–4 pm
Ages 6–12 | \$152R/\$162NR

Does your builder enjoy designing beautiful buildings or functional spaces for their LEGO® mini-figures? All buildings, from the Empire State Building to the house next door, started as an idea in

WWW.ORIONPARKS.COM



ORION
PARKS

Dragon Community Room Rental Information



ORION TOWNSHIP HALL
2323 JOSLYN RD
LAKE ORION 48360

INFORMATION

RATES-

WEEKDAY HOURLY-
\$75R/\$100NR
WEEKEND HOURLY-
\$100R/\$150NR

OCCUPANCY- 50 PEOPLE

AMENITIES-

TABLES & CHAIRS
KITCHENETTE
GAS FIREPLACE
SCREEN & PROJECTOR

TO RENT CALL 248.391.0304 X3500 OR EMAIL PARKSREC@ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG



an architect's head. Students will learn how to take an idea from their head and turn it into a building in the real world. They will be guided through the building process, from creating a floor plan to disaster-proofing the structure, so that they will be able to create the next best thing in LEGO® architecture!



Mining and Building— Advanced AM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 25–29 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 7–14 | \$169R/\$179NR

Travel to the Nether with Snapology—but watch out for those Creepers! Come join us as we bring Minecraft™ to life using LEGO® bricks. Create your own world, including houses, potions, and your very own LEGO® versions of the Nether.

Animation Studio PM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Jul 25–29 | 1–4 pm
Ages 7–14 | \$169R/\$179NR

Who doesn't love an action-packed animation movie that brings our favorite toys to life? In Snapology's Animation Studio program, students get to do more than just enjoy those movies, they get to create them! In this technical program, children will work in teams to learn the fundamentals of stop motion animation and develop their own animated movie starring some of their favorite LEGO® mini-figures! Students will go through the entire movie making process with their filming partner, from plot development and set design to detailed visual and audio editing. The best part, their

movie will move beyond the classroom and be uploaded to Snapology's YouTube channel so they can share their film with friends and family for years to come!

Castles and Kingdoms AM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 1–5 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 5–10 | \$152R/\$162NR

Who wouldn't want to escape and play in the world of magic, fairy tales, and royalty? In Snapology's Castles, Kingdoms, and Wizards program, students will have the opportunity to use LEGO® bricks to design their medieval fantasies while also bringing the real history to life! Yes, your student will do more than just build with LEGO® bricks, they will build their historical understanding of the unique elements that make the medieval time period such a fascinating point in human history.

Snapology Ninjas PM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 1–5 | 1–4 pm | Ages 5–10
\$152R/\$142NR

Every kid wished they could be a ninja at some point in their life. While they are taking part in Snapology's LEGO® Ninjas class they get to experience what it is like to be a Ninjago® warrior. The students will build many of the things that they see on TV and in the LEGO® sets like a battle stadium, dragons, and a dojo. They will also get an introduction into the world of Origami, the ancient art of paper folding. When the class is over they will be certified LEGO® Ninja Warriors.

Advance Engineering AM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 8–12 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 9–14 | \$169R/\$179NR

Students will build complex LEGO® models that use simple machines and technical bricks. Children will use engineering and physics concepts as they work in teams under guided instruction

to build a different model each class. Students will learn about diverse engineering, physics, geometry, and trigonometry concepts in this program.

SumoBots PM Camp

Friendship Park Meeting Room
Mon–Fri, Aug 8–12 | 1–4 pm
Ages 9–14 | \$169R/\$179NR

SumoBots offers students a unique way to build, program, test, and compete using the LEGO® Mindstorms EV3 kit. Sumo is a form of full contact wrestling, where the objective is to force the opponent outside of the circular ring or into touching the ground with any body part other than the soles of their feet. The same goal can be applied to SumoBots! Through a series of programming challenges and lessons of engineering and design, students will work with their partner or small team to develop a strong sumo bot that is ready for competition.



ONTV Kids Video Camp

ONTV Studio | Mon–Fri, Jun 13–17
1–4 pm | Ages 10–12 | \$145

During this week-long camp students will meet at the ONTV Studio daily to learn television production, filmmaking and more. The group will produce a program that will air on local cable TV. Camp includes T-Shirt, Pizza Party and DVD. Classes held at ONTV Studio, call 248-393-1060 to register, deadline to register is June 6.



YOUTH FITNESS

Kiddie Kickers

Friendship Park, Soccer Field #1 | Wed, May 4–Jun 8
6–7 pm | Ages 3–4 or 5–6 | \$57R/\$60NR



Youth soccer is a great way to encourage an active lifestyle while enhancing your child's social and physical development. This program offers a fun and safe atmosphere for learning the basics of soccer, and incorporates fun activities and non-competitive scrimmages that promote sports-

manship and teamwork. We are looking for parent volunteers to coach under the guidance of an experienced instructor. Lesson plans will be prepared weekly to work on basic skills, followed by scrimmages. Participants are encouraged to bring a size 3 soccer ball. Soccer balls are available for purchase at the time of registration for \$12 (*limit of 1 per registered participant*). Rain date scheduled for June 15 if needed.

Youth Golf Lessons

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jul 25–Aug 29
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 7–15 | \$120R/\$125NR

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

Amazing Athletes

Friendship Park | Mon, Mar 14–Apr 25 | 5–5:35 pm
Ages 3–6 | \$96R/\$106NR | No Class Mar 28

Friendship Park | Wed, Mar 16–Apr 27 | 5–5:35 pm
Ages 3–6 | \$96R/\$106NR | No Class Mar 30

Friendship Park | Tue, May 3–Jun 28 | 6–6:35 pm
Ages 3–6 | \$144R/\$154NR

Friendship Park | Wed, May 4–Jun 29 | 5–5:35 pm
Ages 3–6 | \$144R/\$154NR

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.

Junior Tennis Lessons— Beginner

Jesse Decker Park | Sat, May 7–28 | 10–11 am
Ages 8–12 | \$12R/\$15NR

Develop the basic technical skills of tennis within your child including fundamental balance, movement, hand-eye coordination, stroke development and live ball play through supportive instruction and games. With over 30 years of instruction and a love for the game, James Depaoli will share his knowledge with you and your young player. Parents will work together with their child to reinforce good learning skills for a life-long. Lessons are held at Jesse Decker Park, 4100 N. Squirrel Rd. Participants need to bring a racquet, water bottle and wear lightweight comfortable clothing.

Junior Tennis Lessons— Advanced

Jesse Decker Park | Sat, May 7–28 | 11 am–12 pm
Ages 13–16 | \$12R/\$15NR

Learn and further develop through advanced drills and skills training on stroke production, court positioning, court movement, cardio training, winning tactics developing an all-court game. With over 30 years of instruction and a love for the game, James Depaoli will share his knowledge with you and your young player. Parents will work together with their child to reinforce good learning skills for a life-long. Lessons are held at Jesse Decker Park, 4100 N. Squirrel Rd. Participants need to bring a racquet, water bottle and wear lightweight comfortable clothing.

Kid Fit

Orion Center | Thu, May 5–26 | 4:45–5:45 pm
Ages 5–12 | \$26R/29NR

This class is designed to keep our kids moving and strong all while having fun! Games will be the focus with exercise included. Please provide a mat for your children. Instructor Dawn Stema. Drop in rate: \$8R/\$9NR



Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at

ORIONPARKS.COM

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

LEAGUES

FALL YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Aug 8–Oct 15 | \$20 Multi-Child Discount | Registration begins May 1
\$30 Late Fee after Jul 11
Registration Deadline Jul 18
League schedules finalized in July

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL)

\$90R/\$100NR | Civic Center Park

The Fall season will consist of two nights during the week. Late fee may be waived up to one week after deadline, call Jesse Hayes at 248-391-0304 x3506. Fee includes a jersey, hat, and socks.

8U Clinic Division | Coach Pitch

10U Intermediate Division | Player Pitch

14U Junior Division | Player Pitch

Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)

\$90R/\$100NR per player

The Fall season will consist of one night during the week and Saturday mornings. Fee includes a jersey, hat, and socks.

Tee Ball | Ages 4–6

Clinic | Machine Pitch | Ages 6–8

Junior | Player Pitch | Ages 9–10

Intermediate | Player Pitch | Ages 11–12

Senior | Player Pitch | Ages 13–15

Uniforms will be available to try on upon request during Orion Center business hours.

LOYBL Umpire Program

Spring & Fall seasons | Ages 14+ | \$10

Classroom Training | Orion Center TBD

On-Field Training | Friendship Park TBD

Are you interested in becoming a paid baseball umpire? LOYBL is seeking new and returning umpires for the 2022 Spring & Fall seasons. A \$10 registration fee will get you an umpire shirt, hat, indicator, use of umpiring equipment, on-field training, and online certification. Game fees start at \$30 per game! We will provide everything you need to get out on the field and start making calls and money!

TR Hawk Softball

Friendship & Civic Center Park

Tue & Thu, Apr–Aug | 6–8:30 pm

Ages 13+ | \$35R/\$38NR

TR Hawk softball league is for persons with developmental disabilities, with or without physical impairments is for all ability levels. Practices will be played at Friendship Park, games will be played at Civic Center Park and neighboring communities. Come on out and join the fun! Go Hawks! Late registration is accepted but team shirts are not guaranteed.

Volunteer Coaches Needed!

Visit orionparks.com for more information about our youth baseball, softball and soccer leagues.

YOUTH SOCCER

Orion/Oxford Soccer League (OOSL)

Register online at orionparks.com

Aug 9–Oct 16 | \$95R/\$105NR per player | \$35 Jersey if new player or replacement needed | Registration begins May 1 | \$30 Late Fee after Jul 11
Registration Deadline Jul 18
League schedules finalized in July

Any child born between Jan 1, 2008 and Dec 31, 2018 is eligible and encouraged to play soccer in the OOSL Fall 2022 season. The season will consist of one practice during the week with games on Saturdays (*weekday games if necessary based on number of teams in division*).

U-4 | Coed | 2018

U-5 | Coed | 2017

U-6 | Coed | 2016

U-8 | Coed or Girls | 2015 & 2014

U-10 | Coed or Girls | 2012 & 2013

U-12 | Coed or Girls | 2011 & 2010

U-14 | Coed or Girls | 2009 & 2008

SUPPORT ORION RECREATION! Sponsor a Youth Athletics Team

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

\$300/team or \$250/2+ teams (either league)

Call or email Jesse Hayes at 248-391-0304 x3506 or jhayes@oriontownship.org for more information.



Spring Youth Leagues are still enrolling! Late fee may apply. Deadline to register Mar 14. Visit orionparks.com for details.



Junior Golf League

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Tue, Jun 14–Aug 23 | 1–3:30 pm
Ages 10–15 | \$135R/\$140NR

The Mulberry Hills Junior Golf League is designed for both boys and girls, with some prior playing experience and a firm understanding of the game, not for beginners. All participants will play nine holes each week on a semi-competitive basis. All scores and handicaps will be calculated to maintain a level playing field. The league includes on-course supervision, a hot dog & pop, games, contests, awards and prizes each week. No league on Jul 5. Must have own clubs and equipment.

2022 Fortnite League

Coed Rec League | Virtual
Fri, Apr 15– May 27 | Ages 8–12, 13–18
\$5R/\$7NR

Come play one of the fastest growing games with your peers in the brand new esports league! If you are experienced or a beginner, this will still be a league for you! This is a virtual Fortnite league so you must own a system and the game. (*Fortnite is free to download*). Put your skills to the test and play against friends and people in your community.



ADULT LEAGUES

2022 Adult Summer Softball League

Men's Rec League | Friendship Park
Tue, May 10–Jul 5 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

Coed Rec League | Friendship Park
Wed, May 11–Jul 6 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

\$315/Team | \$20/Non-Resident Player

Refundable Forfeit Deposit: \$100
Umpire Fees: \$20/Team/Game

Open Registration begins Apr 1
Manager's Meeting May 2 | 7 pm
Zoom

2022 Adult Fall Softball League

Men's Rec League | Civic Center Park
Tue, Jul 26–Sep 20 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

Coed Rec League | Civic Center Park
Wed, Jul 27–Sep 23 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

\$315/Team | \$20/Non-Resident Player

Refundable Forfeit Deposit: \$100
Umpire Fees: \$20/Team/Game

Open Registration begins Jun 21
Manager's Meeting Jul 18 | 7 pm
Zoom

2022 Adult Spring Cornhole League

Coed Rec League | Orion Center
Mon, May 9–Jul 11 | 6:30–8:30 pm
Ages 18+

\$80R Team/\$90NR Team

Nothing better to kick off the start of summer with some friendly cornhole. Sign up your backyard team and show us your talent. Bring your own cornhole bags. Playoffs will be held the last week of the season. Teams of 2, one registration per team.

Adult Golf Leagues

2022 Men's Golf League
Mulberry Hills Golf Club
Thu, May 5–Sep 15 | 4:45 pm
\$400/person

To register contact Joe Leopold,
248-760-6631 or joeleopold01@gmail.com.

MTGA Mixed Couples League
Mulberry Hills Golf Club
Thu, May 5–Sep 1 | \$60/team

To register contact Nicole Miscovich
at 248-860-4221 or nicole.miscovich82@gmail.com.



ADULT FITNESS AND WELLNESS

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 3–May 26 | 6:30–7:30 pm

Ages 16+ | \$10R/\$11NR per class

Japanese drumming uses big drums, big sticks and big moves. Combine the Taiko drumming style with high energy music and cardio and you have a really fun workout that reduces stress and is good for your mind, body, and soul. No drumming experience is necessary. No class April 14. Instructor: Cindi Carter



Zumba Gold

Orion Center/Virtual | Mon, Mar 21–May 23
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | \$80R/\$85NR

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

Hatha Gentle Yoga

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 7–28 | Apr 4–25
4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | \$44R/\$47NR

Orion Center | Mon, May 2–23 | 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: \$12R/\$13NR per night.

Hatha Continuing Yoga

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 7–28 | Apr 4–25
6–7:15 pm | Ages 16+ | \$44R/\$47NR

Orion Center | Mon, May 2–23 | 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. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate: \$12R/\$13NR No class May 16.

Hatha Open Yoga

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 10–31 | 10–11:20 am
16+ | \$44R/\$47NR

Orion Center | Thu, Apr 14–28 | May 5–26
10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | \$33R/\$36NR

Open to beginning or returning students. Exploring yoga asanas, breathing and relaxation techniques to help to calm the mind and strengthen the body. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate: \$12R /\$13NR No class May 12.

Zumba Gold Toning

Orion Center/Virtual | Wed, Mar 23–May 25
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | \$80R/\$85NR

Choose in person or virtual classes! Zumba Gold Toning blends the Zumba party you love at a slower pace with a redefining total body workout using Zumba Toning Sticks (*1 lbs. weights recommended, no more than 3 lbs.*) to shake up those muscles! Walk in ready to have a blast and tone up, leave exhilarated and empowered! Just want to dance without using the weights? No problem! Come to class for the same Zumba fun without using the weights and enjoy the party! Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: \$10R/\$11NR



MELT Away Your Pain

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 28 | 10:45–11:45 am
Ages 18+ | \$15R/\$16NR | Intro class

Orion Center | Wed, Apr 13–May 4 | 10:45 am–11:45 pm
Ages 18+ | \$48R/\$50NR

MELT is a simple self-treatment technique that reduces pain, improves performance, and decreases the “stuck” stress caused by repetitive movement of everyday life, helping with back & neck pain, arthritis, headaches, tension and stress, alignment, and posture! You will learn how to use small balls for your hands and feet and a soft body roller for your back and lower body. MELT improves all over body movement, and makes you feel more vibrant and youthful! (Participants must be able to independently get on and off the floor). Roller and mini ball kits will be available for purchase but not necessary to buy to participate in the class. Visit meltmethod.com for more information. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: \$15R/\$16NR

Heartfulness Meditation Program— Learn to Meditate

Virtual | Tue, Mar 8–29 | 7–8 pm | Ages 13+ | Free

The Heartfulness Meditation Program offers a simple set of relaxation and meditation exercises, which when practiced daily, help restore balance in life, manage stress, better your health, and most of all will lead you to inner calm and peace. Class is free, but registration is required.

Adult Golf Lessons

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jun 6–Jul 18
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 18+ | \$145R/\$150NR

Group lessons create a comfortable and affordable instructional environment for the new or intermediate golfer. Group sessions have a minimum of six participants and a maximum of ten. Review and improve existing skills, introduce variations of the golf swing, shot techniques and implement aspects of golf course management. Students will be approached as if they have some experience and some grasp of golfing fundamentals. Participants in group lessons will be able to play Mulberry Hills Golf Club at a discounted rate during specified times throughout the season. No class Monday, July 4.



Women's Only Learn & Play

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jun 6–Aug 29
5–5:30 pm | \$265R/\$270NR

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jun 6–Aug 29
6–6:30 pm | \$265R/\$270NR

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Thu, Jun 9–Sep 1
5:30–6 pm | \$265R/\$270NR

Ladies, learn to play golf in a relaxed outdoor environment from golf instructor Tony Frias. Each week includes a 30-minute group lesson covering putting, pitching and chipping instruction, full swing instruction with irons and wood. Nine holes of golf also included weekly. Build personal and business relationships and get exercise in the great outdoors. Join individually or with a group of friends or co-workers. Space is limited to 14 players. Any weeks rained out will extend the program by one week. No class July 4, 5 or 7.

Pickleball Lessons—Beginner

Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Apr 12 & 14 | 9 am–11 am
\$40R/\$42NR

Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Apr 18 & 20 | 4–6 pm
\$40R/\$42NR

Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Apr 26 & 28 | 9–11 am
\$40R/\$42NR

Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, May 3 & 5 | 9–11 am
\$40R/\$42NR

These beginner lessons will introduce you to the basic rules, proper grip, shots, scoring, and play of pickleball. Paddles and balls will be provided. Bring your own if you have one. Please note player minimum is 4, if that minimum is not met the lesson will be canceled.

Pickleball Lessons—Intermediate

Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Apr 12 & 14 | 4–6 pm
\$40R/\$42NR

Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Apr 18 & 20 | 9–11 am
\$40R/\$42NR

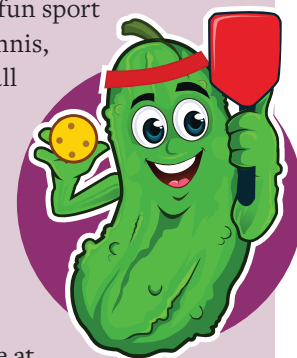
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Apr 26 & 28 | 5–7 pm
\$40R/\$42NR

Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, May 9 & 11 | 5–7 pm
\$40R/\$42NR

Develop and improve your pickleball skills through drills and game situations. Learn advanced playing strategies to give you the edge over your opponents. Previous experience necessary. Please note player minimum is 4, if that minimum is not met the lesson will be canceled.

What is Pickleball?

According to USA Pickleball, it is a fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Pickleball can be played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court and a slightly modified tennis net. It is played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes, is played as doubles or singles and can be enjoyed by all ages and skill levels. Why not give it a try? Find out more at usapickleball.org.



ADULT ENRICHMENT



Community Garden Plots

Friendship Park | May–Oct | \$25R/\$30NR

Community gardens promote environmental stewardship and sustainable living, all while providing healthful and affordable fruits and vegetables! Get your 4 x 8 Garden Plot at Friendship Park today! Registration will open to returning gardeners on March 1. Registration for unclaimed plots will be open to everyone beginning April 1. Two plot maximum per household. Garden plots not planted by the first week

in June are assumed abandoned and will be offered to a new gardener. Wheelchair accessible plots are available. Call 248–391–0304, x3500 or come to the Orion Center for more information.

Coffee With Chris

Township Hall | Fri, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27 | 9:30–10:30 am

Stop in 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.



Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at

ORIONPARKS.COM

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500



American
Heart
Association®

CPR CLASSES

HeartSaver CPR/AED

Fire Station #2 | TBD | 5–9 pm
Ages 12+ | \$40

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

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

HeartSaver CPR/AED/ First Aid

Fire Station #2 | TBD
10 am–5 pm | Ages 12+ | \$50

Class is held the third Saturday of every other month. Class will cover CPR/AED/First Aid/Choking for all age groups.



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 | Ages 13+ | Mon, Mar 21–May 23 | 7–9 pm | \$55R/NR

Do you want to make a TV show? ONTV teaches you how to operate cameras, audio equipment, and be a director. Learn about green screens and basic editing.



ADULTS 50+

Interested in participating in one of our Senior Services programs? Become a member at the Orion Center for 50+ Orion Township Residents and Non-Residents. Membership to the Orion Center is free. Stop by **1335 Joslyn Rd.** 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 different resources available to community members. Call us today if you are in need of help in topics including: 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 or Township Hall to stay up to date on all senior offerings or visit orionparks.com.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Bunny Lunch

Orion Center | Thu, Apr 14 | 12 pm
\$4R/\$6NR

Hippity Hoppity Easter's on its way! Enjoy an Easter Lunch, games, and friends at the Orion Center. Menu: ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll, and carrot cake. Membership and registration is required.

Cinco De Mayo Fiesta

Orion Center | Thu, May 5 | 12 pm
\$5R/\$7NR

Come join us for a fiesta! Enjoy some music and an authentic Mexican lunch. Thank you to our sponsor: Independence Village Waterstone. Membership and registration is required.



ENRICHMENT

Financial and Medicare Counseling Services

Orion Center | appointment based
Free

MRA can help with Medicare enrollment and plan reviews, Life Insurance policy reviews and provide unbiased annuity support. Schedule a one-on-one session with Chad Day from The Michigan Retirement Agency, Don't Be Sold, Be Informed. Appointments are 30 minutes. Please call the Orion Center to let us know what day works best for you.

Ask the Attorney

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 7, Apr 18, Jun 6 | 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 | 2 pm

Spring DIY Cards | Thu, Apr 14
\$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 Chat

Orion Center | Wed, Apr 20 | 1 pm
Free

Do you remember what Orion was like during the Fabulous Fifties? Or want to find out from someone who does? What did people do for fun? Where did they hang out? What did they wear? What music did they listen to? Join the Orion Historical Society for another History Chat to share memories of Orion "Back in the Day"!

HEALTH
ENRICHMENT

with Ascension Providence
Rochester

Starting this Spring the Orion Center is excited to welcome Ascension Providence Rochester as a member of our family. Take a look at the classes below that will be taught by Ascension care teams from all different departments. All classes are free, but we do ask that you register in advance if possible.

Sleep Essentials

Orion Center | Wed, Mar 23
10-11 am

Taught by Michael Middleton,
R.PSG.T, RST Registered
Polysomnographic Technologist

Robotic Knee Surgery

Orion Center | Thu, Apr 7
5-6 pm

Taught by Dr. Jeffrey DeClaire, MD
& Kevin Schaeffer

Colorectal Health Part 1

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 11
5:30-6:30 pm

Taught by Dr. Jasneet Bhullar, MD



SILVER SNEAKERS

Circuit

Orion Center | Every Mon | 10–11 am
\$3R/NR per class

*Free for Silver Sneakers Members

Combine fun with fitness to increase your cardiovascular and muscular endurance power with a standing circuit workout. A chair is used for standing support, stretching and relaxation exercises. Instructor: Becki Doyle

Classic

Orion Center | Every Wed and Fri
10–11 am | \$3R/NR per class

*Free for Silver Sneakers Members

Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activities for daily living. A chair is available if needed for seating or standing support. Instructor: Becki Doyle (Wed)/Cheryl Sussman (Fri)

EXERCISE ROOM AT THE ORION CENTER

Orion Center | \$6R/\$12NR Monthly

NEW HOURS: Mon & Thu 8:30 am–7 pm
Tue, Wed, Fri 8:30 am–4 pm

The Exercise Room at the Orion Center provides an opportunity for seniors 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. Equipment available for use: 4 treadmills, 1 elliptical, 3 recumbent bikes, 1 rowing machine, 2 PhysioSteps (recumbent crosstrainer), Curves Resistance Machines

CLUBS

Free membership and registration required.

K4 Knit/Crochet

Mon | 12:30–3:30 pm

Chinese Mahjong

Mon | 12–3:30 pm

Ham Radio

Mon & Thu
6–8:45 pm

Bingo

Tue | 10 & 12:45 pm

Painting

Tue | 10 am–12 pm

Spanish Club

Virtual | Tue & Thur
3:30 pm

Hand and Foot/ Cards

Wed | 12:30–3:30 pm

Orion Center Library Book Club

Wed, 2nd of the
month | 1–2 pm
Ages 30+

Walking Club

Wed & Fri | 10 am

Orion Center Band

Thu | 10:30–11:30 am

Euchre

Thu | 1–4 pm

Movies

Fri, 2nd and 4th of the
month | 1–3 pm

Quilting

Fri | 9 am–12 pm

American Mahjong

Fri | 10:30 am

You must bring your own 2022 Official Standard Hands and Rules card.



MARCH

1-31 #Stronger Together Shopping Passport for Lake Orion and Oxford

3 Warming Hubs, 6-8 pm, *Downtown LO*

3 Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm, *Township Hall*

10 Festival Warming Hubs, 6-8 pm, *Downtown LO*

10 High School and Middle School Choir Pre-Festival Concert, 7 pm, *LOHS*

13 LOHS Art Show & Art Club Auction, 4 pm, *LOHS*

14 Registration Opens for Spring Youth Sport Leagues

17 Warming Hubs, 6-8 pm, *Downtown LO*

17 St. Patrick's Day

17 Game Day & Puzzle Swap, 9 am-5 pm, *Orion Center*

17 Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm, *Township Hall*

17 TR Spring Dance, 6-8 pm, *Orion Center*, registration required

22 Oakview, Scripps and Waldon Sweet Sounds Concert, 7 pm, *Scripps Middle School*

24 Warming Hubs, 6-8 pm, *Downtown LO*

28-Apr 1 Spring Break, schools closed

31 Warming Hubs, 6-8 pm, *Downtown LO*



Photo by Jenny Bhatti



Photo by Nancy Bennett

APRIL

1 Adult Summer Softball Open Registration

7 Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm, *Township Hall*

9 Bunny Bop, times vary, *Orion Center*, registration required

14 Flashlight Egg Hunt, 8 pm, *Camp Agawam*, registration required

17 Easter Sunday

21 Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm, *Township Hall*

22 Earth Day

23 Orion Green Up, 9 am-1 pm, *Camp Agawam*

28-30 #Stronger Together Artist Showcase, *Downtown Lake Orion and Downtown Oxford*

28-30 LOHS Spring Musical, *LOHS*

29 Arbor Day

30-May 1 Mother's Day Marketplace Art & Craft Show, 10 am-5 pm, *Orion Center*

Background Photo by Matt Pfeiffer

MAY

1 Registration
Opens for Fall Youth
Sports Leagues

5 Board of Trustees
Meeting, 7 pm,
Township Hall

8 Mother's Day

16 Dragon Dash,
9 am, *Orion Center*

17 LOHS Band
Concert, 7 pm, *LOHS*

18 LOHS Choir
Concert, 7 pm, *LOHS*

19–20 Seussical
Jr. Musical, 7 pm,
*Oakview Middle
School*

19 Board of
Trustees Meeting,
7 pm, *Township Hall*

20–22 Lake Orion
Flower & Art Fair,
Downtown LO

24 Senior
Academic and Honor
Awards Ceremony,
6:30 pm, *LOHS*



Photo by Lee Smith

25 Scripps Choir
Spring Concert, 7 pm,
LOHS

30 Memorial Day,
Schools closed

30 6th Annual
Orion Veterans
Memorial 5K
Run/Walk, 9 am,
Downtown LO

30 Memorial Day
Wreath Ceremony,
10 am, *Children's
Park*

June 3 Orion
Chamber's Food
Truck Festival,
4:30–8:30 pm, *Orion
Center*



Photo courtesy of Orion Art Center

Street eats, good beats & local treats at the Food Truck Festival

Mark your calendars, the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to bring back their exceptionally popular Food Truck Festival for a second year. Kick off your summer with fun for the whole family!

This year's event is presented by Genisys Credit Union and will take place on Friday, June 3rd, 2022 from 4:30 to 8:30 pm at the Orion Center. The festival will be a night of delicious food, live

entertainment, a kids zone and local vendors.

Last year this incredible community event was attended by more than 2,000 people. We

The event is both free to attend and offers ample free parking.

had eight food trucks, local business information booths, a beer tent featuring Homegrown Brewing Company, and live music by The Lyons.

Food trucks, live music, a Beer Garden, kids' activities and local vendors! All the makings for a fun night out in Lake Orion. The Chamber looks forward to seeing the community enjoy this festival.

Follow us on Facebook @orionareachamber or visit orionareachamber.com to keep up-to-date with the event details as we add them.



Jake Asbury State Farm. Yes, it's Jake from State Farm! New insurance agency Jake Asbury State Farm is located in the Shops on Waldon Pond (Kroger) plaza. The products offered range from auto insurance, homeowner's insurance, renter's insurance, life insurance, health insurance, and financial services. The Chamber helped celebrate the opening of the agency with a ribbon cutting. Jake can be reached at **248-636-1644** or jake@asburysf.com. The website is asburysf.com.





Chamber introduces 2022 Board of Directors

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce our 2022 Board of Directors. Effective leadership in any Chamber of Commerce begins with a focused and invested Board of Directors.

Members serving on the Board of the OACC are elected by the Member investors and come from a variety of professional backgrounds. The 2022 Board is comprised of 11 Directors who attend monthly meetings and continue to develop the overall vision for the Chamber. In addition, they have created a new strategic plan that was implemented in 2021.

Our 2022 Board of Directors is:

- President Garrett Hoffman, The Hoffman Agency

- Vice President Kathy Birney, The Birney Directive
- Secretary Adrian Schirr, Nuview Nutrition

- Treasurer Steve Wandrie, Caliber Home Loans
- Angela DelPup, Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital
- Theresa Doan, Genisys Credit Union
- Wayne Haney, Haney Farm Bureau
- Bill Kokenos, Golling Buick GMC, Orion Area Youth Assistance and the Orion Area Parade Group
- James Lopiccolo, Capocore Professional Advisors
- Allison McClintick, Realtor/Coach
- Aaron Whatley, Orion Township Parks & Recreation



New Members

mid-Oct 2021 to mid-Jan 2022

SIGNATURE MEMBERS

Decorate with Lights/Mosquito Shield
The Patch Boys of Lake Orion,
Troy and Clinton Township

BUSINESS BASIC MEMBERS

Health Plan / Medicare Choices
Real Estate One—Kim Truelove
of the Linda Rea Team
Monarch Pediatrics
Monark Grove Clarkston
Frameless Shower Doors
Oakland County Michigan Works! Troy
MI Remodelers LLC
LouLou's Boutique
Dart Bank
Liberty Mutual Insurance
Orion Grill



LouLou's Boutique. A new, chic boutique has opened up on Baldwin Road in the plaza next to Thai Fix. There you will find unique, trendy and affordable woman's clothing & accessories! The boutique also has an online store which offers Fast & Free Shipping. The Chamber helped owner Loni Crowe to celebrate the opening of her new store with a ribbon cutting. The store is at 3759 S. Baldwin Rd. Call the store at 248-376-1118 or visit shoploulousboutique.com.

*For a complete list of all our
Chamber members go to
orionareachamber.com/list*

Our Elite, Premium and Signature Members

ELITE MEMBERS



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



CALIBER
HOME LOANS

Caliber Home Loans
92 Mill Street
Rochester, MI 48307



Capocore Professional
Advisors
46 W. Shadbolt, Ste. A
Lake Orion, MI 48362



Counelis Agency—
Farm Bureau Insurance
14 S. Washington St.
Oxford, MI 48371



Culver's of Lake Orion
4963 Interpark Drive N.
Lake Orion, MI 48359



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



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



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



Paint Creek Country
Club
2375 Stanton Road
Lake Orion, MI 48362



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

PREMIER MEMBERS

Beaumont Health
Buffalo Wild Wings
Closets by Design of
Southeast MI
Genisys Credit Union
Legacy 925
Orion.Events
Reliance Financial
Group, Inc.—Michael
Halker
St. Joseph Mercy
Oakland Hospital
The Wooden Tulip
Boutique
Zale Group

SIGNATURE MEMBERS

Decorate with Lights /
Mosquito Shield
Flagstar Bank
G's Pizzeria
Lake Orion Vision
Michigan Greens
Keeper Inc.
Orion Oaks Dental
T-Mobile
The Patch Boys of Lake
Orion, Troy & Clinton
Township
The Red Oak
Refillery

Orion Area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2022 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Garrett Hoffman, President
The Hoffman Agency
Kathy Birney, Vice President
The Birney Directive
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*
Bill Kokenos, *Golling Buick GMC,
Orion Area Youth Assistance,
Orion Area Parade Group*
James Lopiccolo,
Capocore Professional Advisors
Allison McClintick,
Allison McClintick Realtor/Coach
Aaron Whatley, *Parks & Recreation
Director, Orion Township*

CHAMBER STAFF

Noelle Champagne, *Executive Director*
Jillian Nolan,
Director of Member Services
Melissa Griffith, *Office Manager*

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.*

Find out more about how being a Chamber
member can help your business grow
and thrive in challenging times at
orionareachamber.com.



The importance of media literacy

ONTV has served the residents of Lake Orion for over thirty years. This service is not only in the form of recording community events, producing an award winning newscast, or televising live government meetings. No, it's much more than that.



The wider mission of ONTV is to help educate Lake Orion residents of all ages in the techniques of how media is created. Having this knowledge might seem trivial because we've all been consuming media since we were born! We're experts by now right? Well, not really.

We are all experts at consuming media actively and passively. We are not experts in how, and why all the media

we take in looks and sounds the way it does. Why did you see a certain message on TV, but not online? Why are some messages vague in detail, but boisterous in their presentation? Is this really factual news or is this entertainment draped in a news wrapper?

Understanding how media is created gives viewers power. Every second streamed, every word spoken, every text and graphic shown, has been selected by design. There are no accidents! Knowing this allows viewers to see through the noise presented to them. This active viewing is called "Media Literacy".

Being Media Literate is as important in 2022 as being able to read and write. We all carry around mini computers in our pockets that give us access to anything on the internet. In turn, this also gives media creators, and advertisers a direct pathway to each of us without asking if we want to receive their content!

Messages are all around us that have been created by professionals that know how to get our attention. Isn't it me that you learn how to "read" the media we are bombarded with?

Classes with a purpose

ONTV has taught video classes to Lake Orion residents since its creation. Residents learn the basics of video and television production from behind and in front of the camera. They also learn how video editing works. Once our classes conclude we often hear, "I watch TV in a totally different way now! It's not magic anymore."



Students who take part in the ONTV Kids Video Camp get hands-on exposure to all aspects of our studios. They work together as a team to create video projects in a fun and active environment. To the Video Campers, they are just having fun operating portable cameras, performing skits that they write and produce. All the while learning how media is created. They are becoming media literate!

Classes at ONTV are ongoing and our annual Kids Video Camp is now enrolling for summer 2022. Video Camp runs the first full week after school gets out—June 13th through June 17th. Call ONTV today to reserve your spot at 248-393-1060.

Community groups are welcome! If you have a church group, or just a bunch of friends looking for something different to do together, sign up for ONTV's Basic



Studio Production Class. For \$55 you get a 10 week course on Monday night from 7 to 9 pm. You learn the basics of how to make a TV show, run a studio camera, mix sound, and act as a TV host. You also learn to use our field equipment which can then be checked out free of charge. Use the ONTV field equipment to make a documentary, shoot footage of nature, cover a news story, or record an oral history of a loved one. The ONTV staff are here to help you every step of the way.

All of our classes, camps, and workshops are designed for the beginner in mind. They are fun and engaging for all ages.

Take control of your media intake. Learn how it's made and teach others how to be "Media Literate".

Ian Locke, Executive Director, ONTV



How to watch ONTV programming

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, Apple-TV, 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*).

Phone App: Download the Cablecast App to access all of ONTV's programming on your mobile phone. Visit the Apple App Store, or the Google Play Store to download FREE.

Did you know?

Anyone with a social media account can post information as news without citing sources?

The Kids Video Camp Show: Channel Surfing has won multiple national, and regional awards!

ONTV News and Notes



The ONTV staff loves to cook and we've recorded several how-to cooking videos sharing our favorite recipes! If you have a favorite recipe and would like to join us in our TV Kitchen to record your cooking talents, call us at 248-393-1060, or email us at ONTV@orionontv.org.

ONTV has launched a new series called "Ideas & Insights" with Professor Badrinath Rao. *Ideas and Insights* provides a rich, analytical look at some of the most pressing issues of our times. With interviews from scholars

across the globe, the goal is to promote a dialog about the common good and forge a consensus on what we owe each other as fellow human beings. Visit OrionONTV.org for air times on Comcast and AT&T U-verse.

Thank you to all who took the ONTV survey! You've helped us better understand how Lake Orion residents watch ONTV programming! You will help ONTV better deliver your community programming where you want to watch it! Congratulations to those who won the \$100 Visa gift cards!



Welcome to our new Director, Chase McMunn!

Chase McMunn is a Michigan native who grew up in Jackson. He previously served as Assistant Director for the County of San Luis Obispo Library in California, where he has served since 2015. Prior to the County of San Luis Obispo Library, he served as a Community Library Manager of Topanga and Malibu Libraries for the County of Los Angeles Library from 2011 to 2014. He also served as a Teen Services Librarian and Adult Services Librarian at the East Los Angeles Library and La Crescenta Library, respectively from 2008 to 2011. He received his Master of Library and Information Science from UCLA in 2008, and his BA in History from University of Michigan in 2004.

Chase moved to the area with his wife, two kids, dog and cat. He enjoys hiking and being outdoors, and is an avid photographer. He is very happy to be back home in Michigan, though he looks forward to the weather warming up a little bit.

Department Numbers

Adult	248-693-3001
Outreach	248-693-3000 x411
Teen	248-693-3000 x414
Youth	248-693-3002



Hold Lockers

This winter we added 24/7 hold lockers to the library vestibule. This new service will allow the library to better serve our patrons on their schedule. It also offers a contactless/self-service option as a replacement for our curbside pickup. When picking up items, patrons simply scan their library card, follow the prompts on the screen, and collect their items from the locker. Not every library item is available for 24/7 locker pickup; patrons can pick up books, audiobooks, DVDs, music, and video games. For some of

our larger items, patrons can pick those up inside the library on our self-service hold shelf. If you haven't already, stop by and try out our new hold lockers!

New Library App

We are excited to announce the launch of our new mobile app! You will be able to search our collection by keywords or scanning a book's bar code using your camera, store digital copies of your family's library cards, manage everyone's checkouts and holds, find links to our various digital services and premium online resources and more. You will even be able to skip the lines and check out items right from our stacks! The Orion Township Public Library app is available for Android and iOS devices and can be downloaded at innovativemobile.net/OrionTownshipPublicLibrary or by searching 'Orion Township Public Library' in your app store.



Library Wishlist

Check out our library Wishlist at orionlibrary.org/library-wishlist! This web page lists some of the many things that the library would like to purchase, but they are beyond the scope of our budget. If any of the items on the list are of interest to you, perhaps you could donate to the cause. Donating is easy and can be done right online.



Library Blood Drive

Wed, Mar 30

10:30 am-4:30 pm

Be a Lifesaver! Donate Blood at the Orion Library. Appointments encouraged

at redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: orionlibrary.org.

General Federation of Women's Clubs—Lake Orion

Do you like to have fun? Do you like to volunteer in your community? Come join the GFWC! For more info, contact Renee at 248-701-8821.



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

Easter: Fri, Apr 15, Sat, Apr 16, Sun, Apr 17

Mother's Day: Sun, May 8

Memorial Day: Sat, May 28, Sun, May 29, Mon, May 30

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



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

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

SPRING CONCERT SERIES

Are you looking for a fun Sunday afternoon activity? Join us for our Spring Sunday Concert Series, featuring a variety of family-friendly music groups. We will have one concert per month at 2 pm for the months of March, April, and May.



Gratitude Steel Band

Sun, Mar 13 | 2 pm

Join Gratitude Steel Band as part of our Spring Sunday Concert series! While bringing steel pans into the audience for viewing, they also give a little history to mix in with the fun!

Boogie Woogie Kid

Sun, Apr 24 | 2 pm

The whole family is invited to this kid friendly concert starring Matthew Ball, The Boogie Woogie Kid, performing New Orleans and Swing Era favorites from the 20s, 30s and 40s.



Ukulele Kings

Sun, May 1 | 2pm

The Ukulele Kings are an all-ukulele trio featuring clever originals and select covers you never would have expected to hear on the ukulele. All members of the combo are veterans of the Greater Lansing music scene; songwriters and ukulele players Ben Hassenger and Patrick Malloy have played together for years. Bring the whole family for a fun and entertaining afternoon!



Save the Date

Summer Reading Kickoff

Sat, June 11 | 11 am–2 pm

Look for more details coming soon for the whole family to enjoy!

Join the Library 'VIP'

Every year, the American Library Association celebrates National Library Week honoring libraries and library workers across the nation. This year, show your library appreciation and be the envy of the neighborhood as a library VIP! Come into the Library beginning March 14 and pick up a 'Very Important Patron' lawn sign. Then proudly display the sign in your front yard or window for the month of April. If we see your sign, you could win prizes! Prizes will be given out each week in April.



FANDOM FEST

Sat, May 7 | All Day

Fandom Fest is returning this year for a day of comics, gaming, anime, and more! This year will feature a variety of take and make craft kits for all ages, escape rooms, free comics, and more!

Take and Make Craft Kits

Dice Bath Bombs, Recycled Manga Keepsake Boxes, and Baby Yoda Origami Bookmarks.

Escape Rooms

Work with a group to solve a variety of nerdy riddles and puzzles. Escape rooms will begin promptly on the hour from 11 am until 2 pm. Registration required.



Free Comic Book Day

Libraries, book stores, and comic shops around the world promote Free Comic Book Day on the first Saturday of May each year. Pick up a free comic from our table in the lobby and join the celebration!

Fandom Bounce & Boogie

11 am

A music and movement-based program just for ages 0–5! Join us as we dance, groove, jump, and move to our favorite songs and rhymes featuring your favorite fandom!



ADULT SERVICES

MAKERSPACE

Cricut Tote Bags

Sat, Mar 12 | 2 & 3:30 pm

Register online

Design a custom tote bag with heat transfer vinyl on our Cricut cutting machine.



Glowforge Painted Tiles

Sat, May 21 | 2 and 3:30 pm | Register online

Learn to laser engrave and paint colorful ceramic tiles.



Makerspace Office Hours

Thursdays | Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5 | 6 pm

Interested in learning about makerspace equipment? Have a question? Need some

guidance or inspiration for your project? Drop in and meet with our makerspace librarian and start creating. Assistance will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.



The Good Roads Movement in Michigan, 1888 to 1926

Mon, Mar 14 | 6:30 pm

Historian Jim Craft will explain why the United States had one of the worst road systems of any developed country in the world in the 1800's. The presentation will focus on Michigan, covering: Why were roads so bad, what caused change, and what were the steps taken to build an effective road system in America and Michigan?

North Oakland Genealogical Society

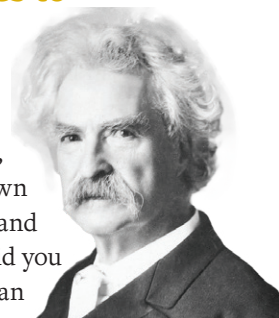
Thursdays | Mar 17, Apr 21, and May 19 | 7 pm

Anyone with an interest in genealogy and family history research is encouraged to attend!

Mark Twain Comes to Michigan

Wed, Mar 23 | 7 pm

Mark Twain, the well-known author, humorist, and lecturer, is best known for writing Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, but did you know he came to Michigan in 1895 as part of his World Tour? His popular lectures and story-telling left his audiences laughing, but his life also had its share of pain and tragedy. Join the Orion Historical Society and the Orion Township Library for this lecture and multi-media production by Dave and Al Eicher and learn about Twain's visit to our state as well as his amazing life story.



Michigan Works @ Your Library

Tuesdays | Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10
9:30 am-12:30pm

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.

Virtual: Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Tuesdays | Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10
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. See the event calendar on our website for a zoom link to join virtually.

Writer's Workshop

Wednesdays | Mar 9, Apr 13, and May 11 | 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

Mondays | Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9
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!



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**

Navigating the Healthcare System as We Age

Tue, Apr 19 | 6:30 pm

Join Vicki Klanke RN, a Nurse Consultant/Educator, as she discusses today's complicated healthcare system in relation to the aging process which is physical, emotional, and social. Topics discussed will include Patient's Bill of Rights, finding a primary doctor, insurance coverage, becoming your own advocate, medication management, access to community resources, and understanding the difference between independent, assisted, and memory care communities.



Wine Tasting at Wine Social Wine Bar

Wed, Apr 27 | 7 pm

Register online

Join us at local wine bar, Wine Social, to learn about and taste different wines during this fun and educational program! Complementary tastings will be provided during the wine tasting with Wine Social's very own sommelier; whether you enjoy a nice red or white there will sure to be something you fancy! Wine will be available to purchase and enjoy by the glass or bottle during the program; snacks will be provided



by the library. Wine Social is located at 135 South Broadway, Lake Orion. Participants must be over 21.

Teas, Tinctures, and Oils with Small House Farms

Thurs, Apr 28 | 7 pm

Bevin Cohen is an author, herbalist, seed saver and owner of Small House Farm in Michigan.

He offers workshops and lectures across the country on the benefits of living closer to the land through seeds, herbs, and locally grown food. He is the author of four books, including *Saving Our Seeds*, *The Artisan Herbalist* and his highly anticipated new book, *The Complete Guide to Seed & Nut Oils*.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

New members are always welcome to our book discussions!

Monday Book Discussion

Mondays | 7 pm

Mar 21: *The Loneliest Polar Bear* by Kale Williams

Apr 18: *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

May 16: *The Last Thing He*

Told Me by Laura Dave



Thursday Book Discussion

Thursdays | 1:30 pm

Mar 17: *The Doctors Blackwell* by Janice Nimura

Apr 21: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman

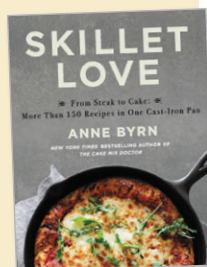
May 19: *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

Cook the Book

Mon, Apr 4 | 7 pm

Skillet Love by Anne Byrn

You select and prepare a recipe from the cookbook chosen, and we meet to sample and discuss recipes from that month's cookbook! Please either put on hold or inter-library loan your own copy of the cookbook for each meeting; call 248-693-3001 if you need assistance acquiring a cookbook.



Book Bunch Book Club

Wednesdays | 1 pm

Mar 9: *Musical Chairs* by Amy Poeppel

Apr 13: *The Jane Austen Society* by Natalie Jenner

May 11: *Before She Disappeared* by Lisa Gardner



Electric Cars: Past, Present, and Future

Mon, May 2 | 7 pm

Join Russell Dore, automotive history presenter, as he discusses the history of electric vehicles, what caused the recent resurgence of the electric car, and the plans the major automotive companies have for increasing the presence of electric vehicles in the future. Find out how the Detroit area is contributing heavily to this growth.



OUTREACH

OTPL Little Free Libraries

Our Little Libraries are located throughout the Orion community on trails, at parks, and downtown Lake Orion. They are stocked with books available for you to take and read or add books to share with others. Now that the weather is warming up, come check them out! Little Libraries provide a great way to grab a quick book to read when you can't make it all the way to the library, and are fun opportunities for children to discover books! A patron recently donated a Little Library which we installed in Atwater Park, which brings the total number of little libraries that we stock and maintain to twelve. Individuals and families can volunteer to "adopt a Little Library"; call our volunteer Coordinator at 248-693-3000 x435 to help. A list of Little Library locations can be found at orionlibrary.org/locations.



OTPL Bookbike

For the last few years staff members have pedaled our Bookbike to parks, parades, community events and on the numerous bike trails in our township. The purchase of our Bookbike was made possible by a generous donation from a patron! We answer questions, talk about upcoming programs, register patrons for library cards and give away books, treats, and library swag. Our Bookbike has been a great opportunity to bring the Orion Township Public Library outside our walls and market our library to the public. Now that the weather is warming up, look for us when you are out and about, and stop by and say hello!



Orion Center Library Branch

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

English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)

Wednesdays | 10:30 am

The group is open to all who wish to practice their English language skills in a relaxed and informal setting. The topics vary widely, and it is a great learning experience as well as an opportunity to meet people.



Senior Social Hour @ the Orion Center Branch Library

Fridays | Mar 4 & 18, April 1 & 15, May 6 & 20 | 11 am

Join us the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month for a chance to get out and socialize. Each week will feature a different topic or conversation prompt so that participants can enjoy the company of other seniors!

Senior Moments Activity Hour @ the Orion Center Branch Library

Wednesdays | Mar 23, Apr 27, May 25 | 1:30 pm

Join this fun group for some trivia, games, and fellowship at the Orion Center Branch Library. Any senior is welcome to this entertaining, casual program the 4th Wednesday of every month.

Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP)

Mon, May 2 | 12:30 pm

Adults with special needs and their caregivers can join us for stories, songs, movement and activities.

Home Delivery Services and Books by Mail

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 deliver books to homebound patrons either through the Postal Service via our Books by Mail program, or by car.

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. Call 248-693-3000 ext 411 to sign up for homebound delivery.



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

JUST FOR TEENS

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program.

Teen Tuesday

Tuesdays | 6:30–8 pm

Teen Tuesday is a casual hang-out for teens who enjoy anything from anime, comics, 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!!

Think Link After School

Mondays | Mar 7, Apr 11 | 3–5 pm

LOCS 6th–8th graders can register with their school and receive a special bus pass to come to the library select Mondays after school. Students can socialize, study, use the library, and

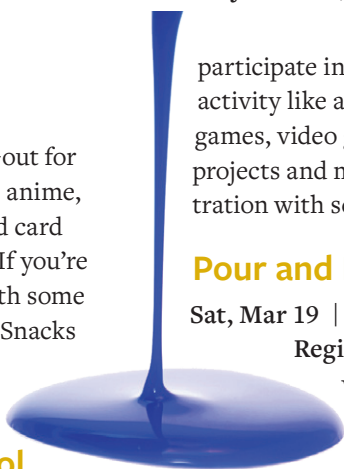
participate in the day's planned activity like art projects, board games, video games, makerspace projects and more! Special registration with school required.

Pour and Paint

Sat, Mar 19 | 2–3:30 pm

Register online

Whether you are a budding artist, or need a more step by step approach, join OTPL as we learn how to paint acrylic canvas paintings with a step by step painting tutorial!



Take and Make: Fantastic Beasts Book Nook

Sat, Apr 9

In honor of Fantastic Beasts 3 releasing this month, make your own wizarding world book nook. A crafty creation that lives among the novels on your shelf.

Zen Gardens

Sat, May 14 | 2–3 pm | Register online

Learn how to make your very own tabletop Zen garden. DIY gardens are made from sand, rocks and other simple materials.



TEEN NEWS

75 Books Before High School

Challenging all 6–8th graders to read 75 BOOKS BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL! Sign up at any time, and read at your own pace. With this program, there are no assigned books, no deadlines (other than finishing before you start high school!), and no reports to write. Read whatever you want, whenever you want! There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 37 books you receive a free book of your choice. For

the courageous who complete all 75 books before you start high school, you win a grand prize High School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for high school. Please register by signing up on our website orionlibrary.org/teens/75-books/.

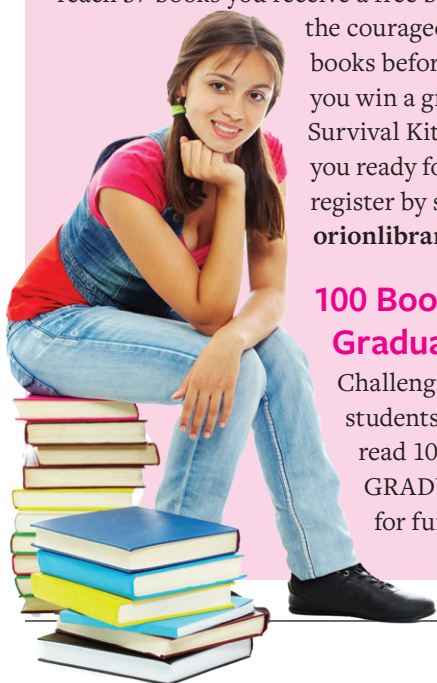
100 Books Before Graduation

Challenging all high school students in grades 9–12 to read 100 BOOKS BEFORE GRADUATION! Reading books for fun (not just for classes)

is a great way to slow down, escape real-life pressures, and recharge by stepping outside yourself for a bit. There will be random raffles for books logged to receive a local business gift card, and when you reach 50 books you receive a free book of your choice. For the courageous who complete all 100 books before graduation, you win a grand prize After School Survival Kit, full of supplies to get you ready for your post high school years. Please register by signing up on our website orionlibrary.org/teens/100-books/.

Gaming at the Library

The Playstation 5 and Xbox Series X will soon be available to use in the teen room. Currently we have the Xbox One, Playstation 4, and the Nintendo Switch systems to enjoy in the teen room. You can pick a game, close the door, and play with others while you scream at the television screen with your friends. For those of you who have been lucky enough to have an Xbox Series X or Playstation 5 at home, we have a growing collection of games for you to check out and take home! Especially with the increase in price of the new games, why not try them out first by checking them out from the library. Both the youth and adult departments have Playstation 5 and Xbox Series X games, so come in and check them out, you are sure to find a game you will love!



YOUTH SERVICES

If schools are closed due to inclement weather, youth library programs are canceled.

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program.

Reading Challenges All Year Long

You are invited to join our online reading programs, 1000 Books before Kindergarten and 500 Books by 5th year round: a continuously great way to keep track of reading all year long. Children and parents are invited to read 1000 or 500 books and pick up prizes along the way. For our early literacy program, 1000 Books, pre-kindergarten patrons can earn prizes for each 100 books read with parents or on their own. For our elementary school program, 500 Books, students are invited to pick up prizes for each 50 books completed. These programs encourage the importance of reading for pleasure alongside reading for education. Studies show reading for pleasure has a positive impact on learning, including larger vocabulary, self-confidence, comprehension, and deeper understanding of the multicultural wide world.

BABY, TODDLER, AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

SENSEsational Storytime

Fridays | Mar 4, Apr 8, May 6 | 11 am
All Ages

A welcoming, interactive environment designed for children with special needs and sensory seeking kids.

Bounce and Boogie

Saturdays | Mar 5, Apr 9, May 7
11 am | Ages 0-5

A music and movement-based program just for ages 0-5! Join us as we dance, groove, jump, and move to our favorite songs and rhymes! May 7th is a special Fandom Fest edition!

Take and Make: The Day the Crayons Quit

Thu, Mar 10
Ages 3-5

Download the story from the library's Cloud Library app. Read it together and enjoy some at home activities for ages 3-5 to enhance the story.

Take and Make: What's the Weather?

Wed, Mar 16 | Ages 3-5

Explore different types of weather with this fun take and make for ages 3-5!

Little Lit

Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays
April 4—May 25 | 10 am & 11 am
Ages 0-5 | Limit 20

Children ages 0-5 and their families are invited for stories, songs, and activities that promote the five staple early literacy practices: reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing!

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Downtown Storywalk

April & May | Downtown Lake Orion
Our partner program with Lake Orion DDA continues this spring with another installment of the Lake Orion Storywalk®. Take a walk through downtown to read the spring surprise title in April and May, and visit new participating businesses along the way!

Fandom Fest

Sat, May 7 | All Day
Fandom Fest is returning this year for a day of comics, gaming, anime, and more! This year will feature a variety of take and make craft kits for all ages, escape rooms, free comics, and more! See page 39 for more details.

Crafternoon Fun

Fri, May 13 | 2 pm | All Ages
Stop by the library for a fun crafternoon with projects of all varieties.



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

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Money Expo

Fri, Apr 1 | 2 pm
All Ages

Visit our Expo to earn tokens to spend at our special library gift shop! We will host money related games and activities for kids of all ages where participants will learn simple and age appropriate money concepts.



Take and Make: Disguise a Bunny

Sat, Apr 2 | All Ages

This bunny is tired of being asked about Easter and just wants a break! Create a fun disguise for the bunny and send it to youth@orionlibrary.org. We will have our bunny experts pick a winner for the best disguise. Winners will be notified by email.



Take and Make: Create with your Crew

Thu, Apr 14
All Ages

Work as a team to create a beautiful birch tree painting.



Little Lit Special: One for the Money!

Mon, Apr 4 | 10 am & 11 am

Two for the dough! This special money related storytime is brought to our youngest patrons for Michigan Smart Money Month! All attendees will leave with a new money related picture book.

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

Doggone Readers

Mondays | March 14, April 16, May 18
6:30 pm | Grades K-5 | Register online

The dogs are back! Visit with Jasper, Henry, or our other surprise therapy dog to practice your reading skills to a silent listener—the dog! Readers can collect stamps for a free book.



Dragon's Den

Mon, Mar 28 | 2 pm
Grades K-5

Adventure awaits in the dragon's den! Join us for a fun afternoon of dragon-themed activities.

Hack that Painting

Tue, Mar 29 | 2 pm | Grades 3-5
Register online

Add your own creative spin to these already prepared canvases. Do you think this landscape painting needs some aliens? You take these generic pieces and make them into a new masterpiece. A big thank you to the Orion Art Center for donating canvases.



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

The 2022 5th grade Battle of the Books competition culminates with a competition and victory party held March 19 and 21. With nearly 150 local 5th graders participating, we are expecting a great crowd. Joining us for the victory party, Michigan author Kelly Baptist will speak with the fifth graders and their parents. Baptist is the author of one of our chosen battle titles, *Isaiah Dunn is My Hero*. Students were tasked with reading 9 books, forming teams, participating in online video challenges, and finally meeting in a trivia style competition. Battle of the Books is a great way to encourage the love of reading, keeping it fun and interactive for students. If your student is interested in Battle of the Books in the coming years, visit the library for more information.

Battle Events

Virtual: Final All Team Meetup

Thu, Mar 17 | 6:30 pm | Registration requested

Meet one last time before the Battle competition to go over book topics, themes, and hold a mock battle. Students will also have the opportunity to win prizes.

Battle of the Books Competition

Sat, Mar 19 | 10 am | Waldon Middle School

Students participating in Battle will gather for this team competition held at Waldon Middle School.

Victory Party

Mon, Mar 21 | 6:30 pm | Waldon Middle School

Students participating in both Battle of the Books and Write On: Short Story Competition and their families are invited to attend the Battle Victory party. All Battle teams will be recognized and Battle author Kelly Baptist will reveal the winning short story.

Maker Space Chia Pets

Wednesday &
Thursday

March 30 & 31

10 am | Grades 3-5

Register online

Learn to use our 3-D printing software and make your own chia planter.



Take and Make: Bugs & Butterflies

Sat, Apr 23 | Grades K-5

Learn about bugs and butterflies with these fun art and science activities for grades K-5.

Take and Make: Break-In Bags

Sat, May 21 | Grades 3-5

Use your detective and puzzle solving skills to break into this goodie bag. Clues are geared for older students in grades 3-5.



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



FRIENDS OF THE ORION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

248-693-3000 x470 • friends@orionlibrary.org • orionlibrary.org/friends

Book sales and donation protocol at orionlibrary.org/friends. Follow us: [f/Friends of Orion Township Library](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Orion-Township-Library)

Getting by with a little help from the Friends

Did you know? Public libraries in Michigan are generally funded through three primary sources of revenue: millages, penal fines, and state aid.

The Orion Township Public Library receives approximately 94% of its operating budget from property taxes, and the remaining six percent from state aid, penal and library fines, donations, service fees and miscellaneous income. As a result of ongoing fundraising efforts by the Friends, the library's budget is enhanced to support our community needs. The Friends contribute to the annual budget by donating on average \$20,000 per year for programming and program supplies.

Below we share examples of how that money is utilized by library departments and how you can help support our mission:

Youth Programs

The youth services department hosts numerous activities and programs each month, most of which are sponsored by the Friends. Take and Make kits have been extremely popular lately, as are the youth programs led by staff. For many years, the fifth grade Battle of the Books competition has been popular with Lake Orion school students, including the finale party. The annual Haunted House and various Halloween activities are also offered with high attendance.

Teen Programs

The Friends provide the majority of funding for Teen programs. The 2021 Teen Summer Reading party & movie night were a lot of fun for the teen participants. Teen Tuesday and Think Link After School offer snacks and fun activities. Take and Make kits are also appreciated by our teens, and recent offerings included comic book magnets and theme food projects.

Adult Programs

The Adult Services Department is also creating unique programming for adults as a result of Friends funding: author visits, writing workshops, the winter workshop, and yarn wall hangings to name a few.

Family Programs

During the past quarter, 100% of programs funds were provided by the Friends. Take and Make family kits were offered as fun and focused projects with holiday flair. A magic show was also offered in January. Seasonal celebrations and workshops are also offered. Watch this magazine for details. We also support summer reading programs for all ages, enjoyed annually by more than 1,000 patrons.

Special Gifts

Occasionally the library approaches the Friends for assistance with special projects or unique needs. Over the past several years, in addition to programming funds, we have provided funds to paint the updated meeting room, as well as purchase a new coffee machine for staff, electronics and furniture for the teen space, and new office chairs.



Spring Used Book Sale

Tue, May 17

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, May 18 &

Thu, May 19

10 AM-8:30 PM

Open to the Public

Fri, May 20

10 AM-4:30 PM

Open to the Public
1/2 off books day

Sat, May 21

9:30 AM-1:30 PM

Open to the Public
\$5 bag day
*(fill a bag supplied by
the Friends for \$5)*



You can help raise programming funds

Make a donation

Donations accepted by mail, on our website, or at the customer service desk. Additionally, you can designate the

Friends through your employers' annual campaign, like United Way, or through their online giving portal. Funds received, unless specifically designated, will be gifted to the library during the next grant cycle.

Designate the Friends for Amazon Smile & Kroger Rewards

Designate the Friends of the Orion Township Library as your designated charity for Amazon Smile and Kroger Rewards. It's a great way to support the library through your everyday shopping!

Become a Friends member

Join the Friends of the Library! Senior memberships are \$5, individuals \$10 and families \$20. Stop by the service desk at the library or visit our website to join. Memberships are good for one year.

Shop the Book Store & Book Sale

Proceeds from the book store, open daily in the lobby, and book sales held three times per year are the Friends number one funding source. Pick up a great read at a reduced price during your next visit to the library.

Get involved: Be a Friends volunteer

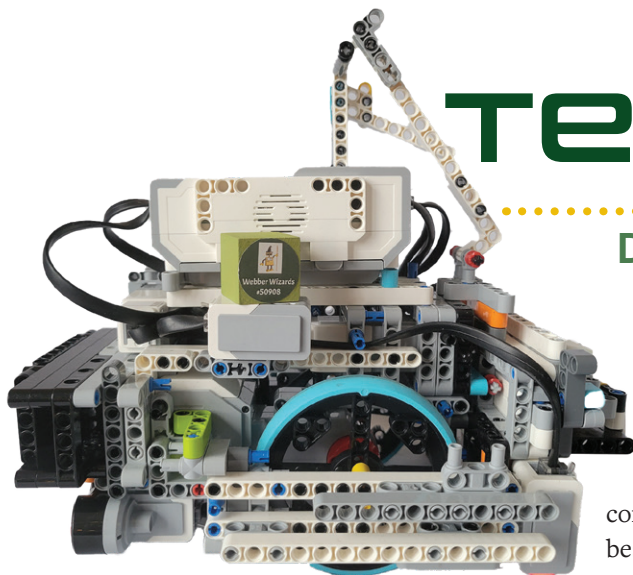
We can only continue our important work, raising funds and advocating for the library, with the support of volunteers in our community. Have a few hours to spare? Get involved with the Friends of the Library this year! For more information about available opportunities contact the Friends via email at friends@orionlibrary.org.

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.

TECHNO-KIDS

District-wide Robotics program fuels problem-solving, team building, and lifelong skills.



When Bruce and Leigh Ann Stone moved their family to Lake Orion from overseas in 2013, one of their primary goals was to find a way to ease their children into the community.

Looking for a school connection, a family friend approached them about starting an elementary robotics team. The Stones quickly realized this could be a path for all of their children to embrace.

Their youngest child, Lindsay, was a Pine Tree Elementary third grader at the time and the other family helped get the team started.

“They coached us on the different parts of it,” Bruce Stone recalls. “We did it with them for a few years and then we continued. As those kids aged out, we moved up to the next level.”

At the time, it was focused on Lego robotics and the team featured students from the elementary and middle school levels from across the Lake Orion Community Schools district.

“It was kind of the perfect storm,” Stone, a GM engineer, said of his family’s embrace of robotics.

Looking back, it all seems so quaint.

There was a Lake Orion High School robotics team (Team 302) that was successful and competitive but primarily focused on that level, still growing in its skills.

Now, eight years later, LOHS has a thriving team competing with the state’s best teams in its winter/spring season, broken down into sub teams which all work on part of the projects. All three middle schools have their own teams, independent and competitive. Plus, there are 24 more elementary teams within LOCS, split into upper and lower elementary groups to focus on the appropriate skills for that level.

Entering the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics world—founded by inventor Dean Kamen in 1989—has opened countless doors for LOCS students across the district. The various levels: FIRST Robotics in high schools, FIRST Tech Challenge in middle school and

FIRST LEGO League Challenge, Explore and Discover at the elementary level, provide appropriate learning and competition opportunities.

“We are finally a Kindergarten through 12th grade program,” said LOHS assistant principal Rosa Everitt, who guides the district’s robotics teams and processes. “But we couldn’t do it if it wasn’t for our parents who volunteer, and become a coach and take that time for our students.”

That is the path where robotics diverges from the rest of the LOCS afterschool activities and athletics. While those are guided by staff members or outside individuals employed by LOCS in their coaching role, robotics is primarily coached and directed by parent mentors.



"I like it, because then I can bring the conversations home to my parents and say 'this is what I did,' and they'll know exactly what I'm talking about," said Lindsay Stone, whose mother Leigh Ann is the team's driving force for public relations and marketing. "It's a lot of fun to talk strategy with them and talk about, 'I don't like this game piece. Or I think this would be really good.' I like coming home and talking about it because I really like this program."

In a generation where technology is often cited as steering students away from their parents, robotics may be working the opposite way, bringing families together and finding common ground.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

From the time Alex Kaiser was a small child in day care, he and his two close friends bonded over Legos.

In a previous generation, that was just creativity that existed in its own space.

Now, as Alex grew through elementary



school and attended a summer robotics camp, there was a possibility to expand those skills into a school-related activity.

"The reason why we went into robotics was I like to build with Legos and I thought it would be cool and I was doing it with my two other friends," Alex said.

Parents found a common group and kicked off a team for Carpenter Elementary.

The Carpenter upper elementary team in the FIRST Lego League Challenge had a bit of a head start. Alex's father, Ed, coached a high school robotics team in Indianapolis for a year soon after leaving college. That team's success, reaching the national tournament, resonated with Ed even as the years passed and he started a family.

With Alex's interest, Ed was glad to dive into the elementary level and help coach, along with another parent. Eight students have worked together on the team and enjoyed learning and participating.

"One thing I told the kids at the beginning was building the robot and running the robot is only part of FIRST," Ed Kaiser said.

The upper elementary level program features multiple different sections:

- The robot: Students build and program a robot, run it on a course with four 2 ½ minute attempts to complete as many of the 18 different missions they select.
- The innovation project: This year's

focus was shipping and cargo. They identify a problem and work on engineering a solution.

- The judging room: The students present their robot design and innovation project, followed by a question-and-answer session, enhancing their public speaking skills. Each student participates and the group is evaluated on the FIRST core values: impact, creativity, inclusion, teamwork, discovery, fun.

Christine Russell, who started as a mentor of a FIRST Lego League Explorer program at Webber Elementary, was inspired when an email to all district parents (from Leigh Ann Stone) was looking for team leaders.

"Leigh Ann said, 'A parent can do this,' and she was right," Russell said. "I learned a lot. That's how I started."

Her younger boys, Cole and Nolan, enjoy the opportunity to connect with their friends as the team builds.

The trial and error is part of the appeal and as they work on block coding, they had to explore and figure out how the robot worked.

"When they accomplish a mission with the robot, these kids cheer like crazy," Christine Russell said.

Now that robotics has spread so far within LOCS the teams are able to see students from other elementary schools at events and make those connections also.





“It was exciting not only to cheer our team on but to cheer on everyone from Lake Orion,” she said. “We feel like we’re all one big team and that feels different than a few years ago when there were less teams that were forming. When we go to things like parades and community events together, getting to share with parents who are doing some of the same work that we’re doing is really fun.”

MIDDLE SCHOOL

When Nick Colwell, the Scripps Middle School teacher mentor, started the middle school program six years ago, he wasn’t sure about how any of the robotics programs worked.

“Parents are involved and a lot of the kids’ parents are engineers and in technology,” Colwell said. “We definitely need that. They guide the kids and work really well with the kids.”

The parent role at the middle school is more of a guidance than hands-on as they allow the students to figure out the engineering concepts, teaching the JavaScript coding, and a summer Java camp is available for a week.

“As long as they are learning, I think they’re successful, whether they’re succeeding in competition or not,” Colwell said. “A lot of these kids will find out this is something they want to do for a living, something related to technology.

“This is a sport like no other, a competition like no other in that they want

to see each other (opposing teams) succeed. There is one solo winner in the competition and they’re encouraged to help each other along the way.”

Vikram Patil is now an eighth-grade student at Scripps Middle School, but when he arrived as a sixth grader from Webber he realized middle school robotics (*FIRST Tech Challenge*) was more intense.

“It was a big jump going from the simple, it was the LEGO League, so we had a lot of things done for us,” he said. “I remember jumping to this level and thinking, this is real, we’re building a real robot.”

Part of the step up is the creation as the students were creating their own parts for their robots.

“My dad works an engineering job and he had experience, so he would teach me how to use tools to make new parts,” said Charlie Cairo, also a Scripps eighth grader.

Lake Orion High School allows the students (with their parents/adults) access to machine shop tools, such as grinders and band saws.

The teams use a special plastic that’s bendable for guards for the robots and metal for the primary pieces.

They solve the problems by putting them into a matrix to evaluate the different

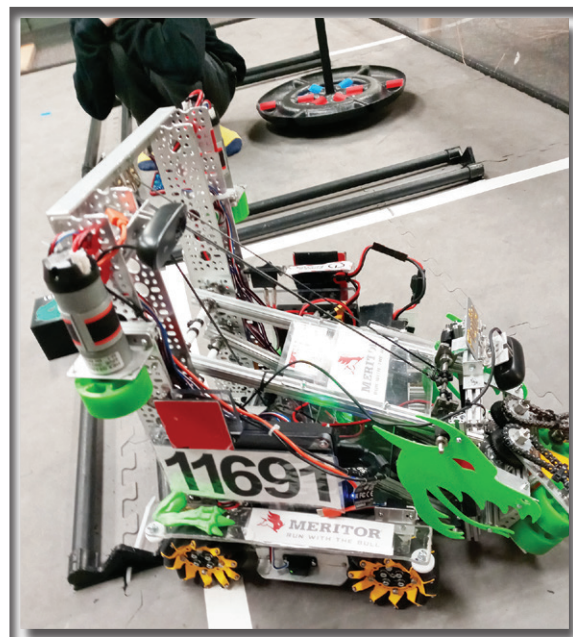
ideas and using the engineering ideas to determine the best option.

The team meets weekly in the summer to learn more coding and define individual skills. When the school year begins, the game is revealed to middle school teams globally and they create a timeline about when and how they want their robot assembled.

Groups are created with sub-assembly categories (*arm, intake, etc.*) and then when they’re put in charts with the options, the team uses the engineering principles and processes to select the best designs.

This year’s game is called “Freight Frenzy” and the goal is to move different freight (moving whiffle balls and boxes.) Each robot has to deliver them to a shopping hub by going through obstacles along the way.

“The first year was a different challenge and I had no idea what I was doing,”



Cairo said. “Now I actually get excited when I see a new challenge, thinking what is our design going to look like, how are we going to achieve this.”

The robots from each school and district can vary widely. Scripps uses a four-bar

to lift their freight while Oakview and Waldon use an elevator for theirs.

“...The gracious professionalism. The community service that they do. Teaching kids, not just in our district but outside of our district about STEM. Just the passion of these kids has been amazing...”

**Rosa Everitt,
LOHS Assistant Principal**

At each competition, the teams are paired with other schools' teams, so having a robot that complements the other team is important as well.

The collegial nature of the competitions remains vibrant. If, for example, another school doesn't have an autonomous robot (self-driven), the Scripps students will help them code one part of the partnership.

Part of the learning process also includes seeking out sponsors to help pay for the team costs. Given the nature of the work, local businesses are often glad to support the efforts.

“We connect to each other,” said Ben Andrews, also an eighth-grade student at Scripps. “We all have interest in robotics, so we have a lot in common.”

HIGH SCHOOL

Like many of the popular sports and activities at LOHS, simply making the team/cast is a process. The high school program starts with the first-year program in the fall.

There's so much interest, the numbers have to be kept at a certain level, so students in their first year in the program (mostly freshman but upperclass students also) apply and enter an interview process with the adult mentors.

“How much time are you going to dedicate?” Everitt said. “What are your past experiences? What pathways are you looking to get into? The mentors on the team actually see, is this kid a good fit? is this someone who is going to take this seriously?”

“You have to take robotics serious, not because it's robotics, but because we're

working with machines, we're working with electrical. The way a kid sells themselves is critical. This is an interview, this can lead to scholarships for some kids and it has here at Lake Orion.”

The first-year program creates the foundation, building robots, learning the process, finding the area that fits the new team member's skills.

“I got started with robotics in middle school,” said LOHS senior Jackson Benn, whose experience on the Scripps team showed the possibilities with travel to Battle Creek for a state-level competition and eventually to Iowa for the North Super Regional. “In high school, you can dive more into the technical aspects of what you do.”

The varsity program of 9th–12th graders runs like a machine.

Split into sub teams within the larger team (CAD, fabrication, controls, business, STEM outreach, fundraising, sponsorship, systems monitors, etc.,) students find the appropriate area and bring it all together for the full team competition season, which began in January.

“The sub teams really allow us to divide and conquer all the of the areas of our team,” said Benn. “Before COVID, we had upwards of 50 members. We had so many students who wanted to be part of this process and part of this learning and increase their capacity to work in an engineering field. So all of this energy could be diverted into applicable uses.”

All which can flow into the year-round experience.

Beginning in January, the team works on the build season for six weeks, followed by the competition season into April, then the offseason projects.



Last summer, that was working on Spitfire, the t-shirt shooter used at football games and other events, and working on improving a wheelchair for a community resident who needed mobility assistance. They built new tables, built new CNC and 3-D printer equipment, and reorganized the shop.

They also support Blessings In a Backpack (food for students in need at school), running summer robotics camps, and tutoring other LOHS students who could use support in classes.



“These are all the skills we learned building the robot but we can apply them outside of competition,” Benn said.

In the fall, the varsity students mentor the first-year students each fall, which culminates with a mini-season of the first-year team vs. the varsity.

“FIRST is one big community but it’s also about expanding that community,” said LOHS senior Anthony Ply. “We’re just helping the robotics community to grow.”

This level builds towards the next level as the students look to colleges and universities.

Benn and Ply noted Kettering University was attractive for many of those reasons, focusing on robotics opportunities and Ply sees his future there as well, as the CAD team skills they’re working on now can spill into an electrical engineering future.

“When we talk about FIRST robotics, Lake Orion High School takes every

piece that makes FIRST FIRST, they do it and they do it well,” Everitt said. “The gracious professionalism. The community service that they do. Teaching kids, not just in our district but outside of our district about STEM. Just the passion of these kids has been amazing. You have those kids who want to build and program and design and the basketball court might not be for them. What’s so cool about this robotics team is they support everyone.”

LOOKING FORWARD

With 225 students across the district on 28 teams, robotics is the district’s most consistent non-curriculum activity from first through 12th grades.

Each elementary and middle school team is capped at a certain number, but there’s enough interest from students (and parent mentors) that the passion ripples through the grades.

COVID dealt the programs a blow in 2020–21, but the program found ways to stay afloat through virtual opportunities and now is blossoming again this year with students able to meet in person.

Reaching beyond the competition is the lingering impact of robotics.

It becomes a connection piece for the students into the rest of their lives.

“They call it co-opertition and gracious professionalism,” Leigh Ann Stone said of teams’ responsibility to help their competing teams when there are problems. “Those are trademark words in FIRST robotics. It’s to bring on the best competition possible.

“In the end, they all become friends, all the students from all the teams become friends. They end up finding each other at college and have that in common.

“It becomes a very large network as they move forward not only in their high school, their college and at work.”

The present and the future, another example of LOCS elite community of students and families.

The Spring/Summer Enrichment Catalog will be mailed to homes and available March 1 at lakeorionschools.org/departments/enrichment-services.



A blooming good time



The Orion Art Center presents the 21st Annual Flower & Art Fair in Downtown Lake Orion from Friday, May 20 to Sunday, May 22.

The Fair kicks off Friday evening with a historical scavenger hunt and adult beverage tasting.

A variety of local vendors will display their wares on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm. Shop for flowers, plants, and decorative elements for your lawns and homes. Local businesses will display landscaping and home improvements ideas.

The Orion Art Center will be hosting on-site DIY projects, art kits, free kids craft, and demonstrations to provide a glimpse into what offerings we provide.



Adults can stick around each evening for live music and cocktails in the beer garden.

"The Orion Art Center is proud to continue this downtown event," said Orion

Art Center board

Treasurer Julie Sugg. "The proceeds will enable the OAC to continue to execute its mission to bring art and creative programming to the community. Not only is art fun to make and explore, it can have a soothing effect on the soul."



*Interested in being a vendor at the Flower & Art Fair?
Email the Orion Art Center at info@orionartcenter.org.*



MICHIGAN LAKE ORION

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PART OF AN NFL FLAG TEAM!**

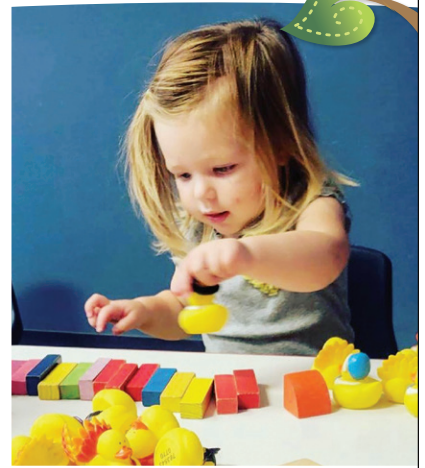
**NFL FLAG is coming to
Lake Orion this Spring
and we want you!**

**We offer our program to
boys and girls ages 4-14!
The Spring season will
run from April to June!**

**GAMES/PRACTICES PLAYED
AT LAKE ORION HIGH SCHOOL**

MichiganYouthFlagFootball.com

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- Sick pay
- Holiday pay
- Paid week off between Christmas and New Year

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Recommends First Orthodontic Exam by Age 7.

Early detection of orthodontic issues may prevent more serious problems and may make treatment shorter or less complex. It is also important to find a specialist who has the right mix of experience, knowledge and leading edge technology to detect and treat your child.

Although, most children will not need orthodontic treatment. Why not give your child the best opportunity for a happy, healthy, beautiful smile!

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CANTERBURY VILLAGE 2022 EVENTS



MARCH 12-13



MARCH 12



MARCH 17



MARCH 19-20 | APRIL 23-24
APRIL 30-MAY 1



APRIL 9-10



APRIL 16-17



APRIL 30



MAY 7-8 | 14-15



MAY 13-14



MAY 19-22, 27-29



MAY 21



JUNE 4-5 | SEPTEMBER 17-18



JUNE 11-12



JUNE 16-19



JUNE 25-26



JULY 1-4



JULY 9-10



JULY 9-10



JULY 16-17 | 23-24



JULY 30-31



AUGUST 6-7



AUGUST 5-7



AUGUST 13-14



AUGUST 20-21



AUGUST 27-28



SEPTEMBER 10-11



SEPTEMBER 24-25



SEPTEMBER 30 | OCTOBER 1-2 | 7-8
14-15 | 21-13 | 28-30



OCTOBER 6-9 | 14-16
21-23 | 28-30



NOVEMBER 5-6



NOVEMBER 12-13



NOVEMBER 19



NOVEMBER 19-20 | 25-27
DECEMBER 3-4 | 17-18 | 23



NOVEMBER 23 | 25-27
DEC 2-4 | 9-11 | 16-18 | 22-23



DECEMBER 3-4



DECEMBER 9-10



DECEMBER 10-11



DECEMBER 31



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- Time spent with friends!

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Thursday, March 24th, 6 to 8 pm (In Person)

Wednesday, April 13th, 6 to 7 pm (Virtual)

Join either open house, and be entered in a raffle for a **Family Fun Night Basket with Tickets to the Zoo!** A winner will be drawn for each open house.



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ORION LIVING

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.

Charter Township of Orion
2323 Joslyn Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360



Take a trail ride. The Lake Orion Cycling Team masters the Paint Creek Trail but the beauty and serenity of a relaxing bike ride or walk is available to all, thanks to the abundant access to nature in our Township.

Photo by K Gedda Smith Images