What’s Inside

Miracle Field brings enhancements, welcomes players and fans

Summer programs at Parks & Recreation, Orion Library

Music, fireworks, fairs and festivals usher in an Orion summer

LOCS strategizes for the future

Life is simple. Just add water
COVER: Memories made on the lake last a lifetime. Lake Orion provides summer fun of all kinds for lakefront residents and those coming from surrounding communities. Tubing around Lake Orion brings smiles to Alan Garbacik and his niece Ava and nephew Logan.

Background photo by Lorene Strong
Summer has been calling my name for months now. Do you know what that means? It means that baseball is back at the Miracle Field.

I am looking forward to spending my Saturdays at the field, announcing the games. And this year it’s even more special because the concession will be open for the season! Not only will former players be working at the concession stand, but there is also...actually, go check out the article about the field on page 4 before I give all the spoilers here.

Summer also means concerts in the parks. Join me at Children’s Park, Wildwood Amphitheater, and Camp Agawam for a wide range of shows from The Young Fables and The Arcadian Wild to tributes to Bon Jovi and Journey. See pages 16 and 35 for concert schedules.

The Orion Community Road Rally returns on June 18th! See Page 36 for details.

I hope you’ll join me at the field, at a show, in one of our parks, or on a trail this summer. Our community has so many great natural resources, so get outdoors and take advantage of this beautiful weather we’re having.

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor
The Miracle League

Hope, determination, a display of human spirit...and baseball!

Opening Day. When those two little words are put together, everyone knows what that means—baseball is back! And that is music to our ears!

For baseball fans, Opening Day is nothing short of a national holiday. It’s that special of a day, especially for the kids who play for the Miracle League of North Oakland.

This is no ordinary youth baseball league though. If you were to hear that the athletes are physically and cognitively challenged, you might call it touching. If you were to see them play, you would call it a miracle! The Miracle League is hope, determination, and a display of human spirit that is unequaled, and of course, there’s baseball. There is something extra special that happens as each child takes to home plate while their “walk–up” music is played—it’s like they’re at the World Series with everyone cheering for them.

“The Miracle League has shown my sons Brayden and Brennan that no matter what, they can and are part of a team,” says Sarah Ferguson. “Without Miracle League, my boys would have a chance to play sports! Miracle League is more than just a league, it’s a family.”

Opening Day for the 2022 season begins on Saturday, June 14 at 11 am. Games take place each Saturday through August 20 at 11 am and 12:30 pm for the non–competitive leagues and at 2 pm, for the K–Friends adult league. All games take place at the Miracle Field at Friendship Park, located at the corner of Baldwin and Clarkston Roads.

Both youth and adult teams play a 10–game schedule. The field itself is pretty spectacular and cost over a million dollars to build. It looks slightly different from a standard baseball field and that’s because of the surfacing. The firm rubber surface looks like a baseball field and allows children in walkers and wheelchairs to move with ease. There are no trip hazards as the bases are built into the field as part of the rubber surfacing.

For parents and players alike, this field means everything to them. “The Miracle League means fun and acceptance,” says Maggie Woloszyk, mother of all–star player Kylie. “There are no limitations, zero awkwardness, and all–around pride for everything this league provides.”

The buddy system

Each player has a “buddy” that assists them each game. This can be fellow classmates, family members, business leaders, college students, or anyone who wishes to volunteer their time to give a child the gift of baseball, whether it’s for one day, or the entire season. Buddies assist players with hitting the ball and “running” the bases. If you’re interested in becoming a buddy visit MichiganMiracle.org for more information.

The point of the game is less about baseball and more about fun! The benefits gained by everyone involved are tremendous. The child’s self–esteem grows, they make friends, become less isolated, and “just become a regular kid, not a kid with a disability.”
“What I love about our league is the opportunity it provides children with disabilities, EasterSeals Miracle League Director Steve Peck says. “When our first field was opened in 2004, children with special needs had no organized baseball leagues they could participate in. Today, over 400 play every summer at our field in Southfield, and we are prepared to serve hundreds more here in Orion Township. We may look like a typical baseball league to some, but we’re much more than that,” he says. “We are a community. A family if you will. Our field provides a safe environment for families to sit back and enjoy watching their All-Star play, while the kids have the time of their lives.”

Facility enhancements

We are excited to announce the opening of the new concession stand this season. The new concession stand will serve the Miracle Field as well as other athletes playing sports at Friendship Park. The building will feature a covered eating area as well as public restrooms.

The concession stand is an important part of the league. Revenue generated will help maintain the field. The new concession stand will provide a full stadium menu of great food and drinks, similar to Comerica Park. From ballpark franks and nachos to healthy wrap sandwiches, smoothies, and everything in between. You will also receive top-notch service from some former players who will operate the concession stand alongside volunteers.

A much needed, accessible restroom will feature a state-of-the-art $8,000 changing table. Now families will have an easy way to get their loved one from their wheelchair onto a table that then powers the table up to a comfortable changing level.

We are beyond excited for another season of Miracle League baseball and we hope you’ll join us—in the stands cheering on the players or as a volunteer buddy, either way you’ll have the best time!

For more information about Miracle League of Michigan leagues, sponsorship and volunteer opportunities and how to donate, visit MichiganMiracle.org.
NoHaz Collection Events

**A responsible way to dispose of hazardous household waste**

Household hazardous waste (HHW) are substances in your home that can be harmful to humans and the environment if not disposed of properly. Both Township and Village residents have access to free household hazardous waste disposal through Oakland County’s NoHaz program.

Acceptable materials include, but are not limited to, household paints: latex and oil-based, stains, pesticides, pool chemicals, computers, televisions, cables, aerosols, batteries, motor oil, gasoline, needles/syringes, inhalers, and much more.

**How to participate**

- Preregister at NoHaz.com (registration opens approximately 3 weeks before the event)
- Separate household hazardous waste in your vehicle into three types: 1: Paint 2: Electronics 3: All other HHW
- Bring only acceptable HHW items. Liquids must be in leakproof five-gallon containers or smaller
- Present your driver's license (or other proof of residency) and your digital registration ticket
- Remain in your vehicle and follow signage/volunteer instructions

**Upcoming NoHaz Events**

- Saturday, June 4 at Oxford Middle School, 1420 Lakeville Road, Oxford
- Saturday, July 23 at Kensington Church, 4640 S. Lapeer Road, Orion Township

For a comprehensive list of acceptable and unacceptable items please visit NoHaz.com.

**Fire boats to the rescue**

When you look at Orion Township on a map, what is the first thing you notice? Is it all the green space? How about all the lakes? It’s no surprise if you guessed either of those as they make up a large portion of the Township.

The Township has a total area of 36 square miles, of which over 7 percent is water! We are known for our lakes; 42 of them are over five acres in size. We even have a few islands, which are beautiful but present some unique challenges for our first responders, along with many homes adjacent to our lakes. Some streets are very narrow, and some homes are not accessible by road. In the event of an emergency, how are first responders able to get access to the equipment they need? In some instances, they have had to borrow a homeowner's boat, which isn't ideal and not always possible on some of our smaller lakes.

**Mountain Substation**

A new electric substation is approved to be constructed on a 3.7 acre parcel on Bald Mountain Road, north of Ajax Paving on Dutton Road.

**Mattress Firm**

A 4,400 square foot Mattress Firm retail store is being constructed on Brown Road, between Baldwin and Joslyn, just west of the Tommy’s Car Wash.
Lifesavers

Oakland County Sheriff’s Office recognizes two of its heroes

Oakland County Deputies Paul-Michael Nault and Garrett Buiting are being nominated for a Lifesaving Citation award from the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office for their heroism earlier this year.

The Deputies were dispatched to the area of Heights and Odanah for a welfare check on a 36-year-old male who was walking down the road in freezing temperatures without proper attire on. When Deputies arrived, they noticed footprints leading out onto the lake and what appeared to be a human silhouette in the distance. It was difficult to see onto the lake due to the amount of heavy wind and snowfall at the time.

Deputies Nault and Buiting proceeded to Park Island to get a better visual of the individual. He appeared to be about a quarter-mile offshore near the center of the lake. It was apparent that the man was confused; he also appeared to be spinning in circles. The Deputies began yelling and shining their lights to garner the attention of the individual. It worked! He began running in the direction of the Deputies waving his arms before falling on the ice. He remained laying on the frozen lake, unable to move or respond to the Deputies.

Deputies Nault and Buiting, unsure if the man had fallen through the ice, then equipped themselves with life vests from their patrol vehicles, along with some rope. Due to the freezing temperatures and concern for the individual’s well-being, they made the decision to proceed out onto the lake. Upon reaching him, he reached out towards the Deputies and was asking for help. Due to the extreme weather conditions and fragile state of the individual, he was unable to stand without being lifted by the Deputies. While attempting to walk back to the shoreline, he continued to collapse on the ice. The Deputies quickly proceeded to place him onto a rescue blanket and were able to pull him to shore.

Once back on shore, the individual was placed on a stretcher by the Orion Township Fire Department and placed into an ambulance where he received life-saving care. If it weren’t for the quick actions of Deputy Nault and Deputy Buiting, the individual likely would not have survived this incident.

We are thankful for Deputy Nault and Deputy Buiting and their exemplary service to the community.

The Fire Department recognized the need to have their own boat, one that is cross-functional and can handle both fire and rescue incidents. After much research, the Fire Department opted for a hard side boat equipped with a fire pump and water rescue equipment for any emergency on the larger lakes such as Lake Orion and Voorheis Lake.

The RescueONE boat has several unique features including a retractable dive platform for effective and safe victim extraction and a portable fire pump. The pump allows firefighters to pump water directly from the lake. The Fire Department also purchased an inflatable, soft side boat, allowing firefighters access to many of our smaller lakes and ponds in the event of an emergency.

Having these boats enables the Fire Department to have shorter response times and increased effectiveness and efficiency, while affording greater safety to the firefighters. Both boats are very versatile and affordable, providing the first purpose-built boats that the Department has ever purchased, at a cost of less than $75,000. They will serve the community for the foreseeable future.

Photos courtesy of rescueoneboats.us
The tax bill cometh

Summer Township and Village tax bills will be sent out July 1 and are payable through September 14 without interest. Beginning September 15, add one percent interest to the unpaid balance for the Summer/Village bill and an additional three percent penalty for the Village bill only. An additional one percent interest will be added on the first of each month thereafter for remaining balances.

Many ways to pay

You have a few options when it comes time to pay the tax bill. Mail it to our new offices at 2323 Joslyn Rd, pay through your personal online banking site, pay at the local branches of Oxford Bank and Genisys Credit Union, or pay online via credit/debit card or e-check (both with additional fees.) Find the link to online payment at oriontownship.org.

You may also pay in person at the Treasurer’s office by cash or check or you can pay by credit/debit card with an additional fee. We also have two conveniently located drop boxes available. The first is a drive–up box across from the main entrance by the flag poles and the other is in the vestibule of the Community Development entrance.

Visit oriontownship.org or refer to the tax bill itself for detailed information regarding your bill and how to pay.

Controlling invasive phragmites

Phragmites australis, also known as common reed, is a perennial, wetland grass that can grow to 15 feet in height.

While Phragmites australis is native to Michigan, an invasive, non–native, variety of phragmites is becoming widespread and is threatening the ecological health of wetlands.

Did you know there’s a difference between native and invasive Phragmites? The graphic will help you spot the differences.

Invasive phragmites create tall, dense stands which can degrade wetlands by crowding out native plants and animals, blocking shoreline views, reducing access for swimming, fishing, and hunting, and can create fire hazards from dry plant material.

Invasive Phragmites can be controlled using an integrated pest management approach which includes herbicide treatment, followed up by a mechanical removal (such as cutting or mowing), and annual maintenance.

Orion Township currently has a phragmites control program and holds a permit for application. Herbicide treatment for phragmites usually occurs before the first frost of the year, in September or October.

Image Source: Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Native</th>
<th>Invasive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stem color</td>
<td>Stem nodes are shiny and reddish-purple</td>
<td>Stem nodes are tan-green, dull and rigid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf color</td>
<td>Lighter, yellow-green</td>
<td>Dark blue-green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhizome</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>White to light yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth habit</td>
<td>Co-occurs with other plants</td>
<td>Tend towards mature, dense, monotypic stands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Leaf sheaths fall off during the winter, leaving bare stems standing in the spring</td>
<td>Leaf sheaths do not fall off, litter from the previous year has remnant leaves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Learn more at oriontownship.org or call 248–391–0304
Work for the Township

If you're awesome and want to work for an amazing organization, keep reading! Orion Township is hiring, and we have openings in several different departments. We are seeking motivated individuals of differing skill sets. No prior government experience is necessary. Applicants must have a desire to serve our residents and provide a world-class experience. Think: how can I make paying taxes fun and exciting? If you have experience in accounting, administration, firefighting, parks & recreation, or are just looking to get your career started, check out our current openings at OrionTownship.org/jobs. Complete your application today and join the Orion Township Family! The people and benefits can’t be beat!

Orion Real Estate

/Back to the basics

The real estate market has been anything but typical the past couple of years. While some may think that homes are selling themselves, there is still a considerable amount of preparation that goes into getting a home ‘market ready’. A home that is prepared vs a home that is just ‘thrown’ on the market can make the difference in how quickly the home sells, which also affects the sale price that is achieved.

Even in this market when inventory is low and homes are selling at a fast pace, having an experienced real estate agent, who excels in fielding the flood of calls, questions and showing requests, negotiating the best offer or best offers and working through inspection issues, is a key component in how quickly the home sells, which also affects the sale price that is achieved.

Declutter your home. You've heard this from every organization expert and interior designer and there is a good reason that ‘less is more’! Reducing the ‘stuff’ that is throughout your home can have a major impact on the look and feel of your home. Most buyers make an emotional decision when choosing a home and you want your listing to ‘feel’ good to potential buyers. Pay close attention to countertops and inside closets and cabinets. Flat surfaces that are clear feel more spacious than those that are filled. But don’t go hiding all of those items from your countertops in the pantry, cabinets and closets. You may think hiding things away from plain sight gets the job done, but buyers will open those closed off spaces and if they are overloaded it will appear as though there is a lack of space or storage. Another great reason to declutter prior to moving is that you will have less to pack and move. If you take inventory of what you really love and need for your next home, you can lighten your load before you go.

Make repairs. When a buyer walks through your home, that squeaky door or running toilet may have been an annoyance that you have learned to live with, but a potential buyer will likely not be as tolerant. As potential buyers walk through homes, they are creating a mental list of what they feel needs to be done to the home. While some of these small repairs may not cost an exorbitant amount of money, the cost to repair in the buyer's mind tends to be greater than the actual cost. Sometimes when the list of to-do's gets too long a buyer may not want to bother with a home that needs ‘too much work’. Eliminating these potential drawbacks will make your home more appealing to a greater number of buyers.

Clean! This may seem like common sense but a good deep cleaning goes a long way. A clean home looks and feels better. Remember that as a buyer walks through your home they are not just looking at the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, but also how the home ‘feels’. Give your home that fresh, clean feel!

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.
Protect yourself from West Nile Virus

Stop by Township Hall or the Orion Center to pick up free larvicide and/or personal insect repellent to help prevent West Nile Virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes most commonly spread West Nile Virus to people and other animals by biting them.

Since 2013 Orion Township has participated in the Oakland County West Nile Virus Prevention Program. This program allows for reimbursement from Oakland County for larvicides and personal insect repellent distributed to Orion residents at no cost to them.

Don’t get bit

The most effective way to prevent infection from West Nile virus is to prevent mosquito bites. While mosquitoes can bite any time of day, it’s wise to limit your exposure during dusk and dawn—prime feeding times. Keep mosquitoes away from exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks. Tuck shirts into pants and pants into socks to cover gaps in your clothing. Wear lighter-colored clothing. Thicker fabrics and looser fits offer more protection than thin clothing that fits tightly. Stay indoors when possible. Use mosquito repellents when necessary and follow label directions. In addition to that, you can replace your outdoor lights with yellow “bug” lights, which tend to attract fewer mosquitoes than ordinary lights.

Keep mosquitoes away

Reducing breeding grounds for mosquitoes is another way to prevent West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses in our community. Larvicides, used in retention ponds and catch basins, and draining areas of standing water can help reduce mosquito populations and are applied to areas where mosquitoes lay eggs. Larvicide is a type of insecticide used to control mosquitoes indoors and outdoors around your home. They work by killing mosquito larvae before they can grow into adults. Be sure to dump out any standing water near your home. Mosquitoes can breed in just 14 days in a minute amount of water in an old flower pot, a rain gutter, birdbath, patio furniture, etc.

Do what you can to prevent mosquito bites and be sure to stop by Township Hall and the Orion Center for free mosquito repellent and larvicide dunks.

Know the buzz

The pictures below are examples of where mosquitoes can breed. Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by removing standing water in and around your home, business, or facility. Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water.

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

Joke of the Day: What runs but never walks? WATER!

Pay 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.

Annual water quality report
Every year the Orion Township is required by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to publish a Water Quality Report. This report details the results of contaminant testing that is performed at the Lake Huron Treatment Plant, which is the source of the water that Orion Township receives.

Beginning July 1, the annual Water Quality Report can be viewed at oriontownship.org/WaterQualityReport2021 or under the Department of Public Services section of Orion Township’s website. If you are unable to view the report online and would like it mailed to you, call 248-391–0304 ext. 8500.

Filling a pool?
Every summer our department receives phone calls from residents who want to fill a pool with water from their hose, wondering about the cost.

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

Water usage is billed in units. One unit of water is equal to 748 gallons of water. Using a per–unit rate of $3.54, a 10,000–gallon pool would equate to 13.36 units of water or $47.30. Keep in mind, that this amount would be in addition to your normal water usage. We hope this information is helpful when deciding to fill a pool using a hose.

Mandatory summer watering restrictions
Each May through September, a mandatory watering restriction has been adopted for everyone connected to Orion Township water with an automatic sprinkling system.

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 during between 5 and 10 am Monday through Saturday. If the restrictions for Monday through Saturday are not followed, then your water service could be discontinued.

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

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

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

Please make sure your sprinklers are set for the designated times. We appreciate everyone’s help and cooperation in following the mandatory watering restrictions.
The results are in. Residents love Orion Township!

The 2021 Community Survey was conducted between September and December 2021 with 1,138 residents responding. The Township has conducted a community survey biennially since 2017. The survey results are used to guide decision-making and gauge satisfaction with Orion Township services and overall quality of life.

Satisfaction with services
Overall, residents are satisfied with Township services, being most satisfied with the quality of:

- Police and Fire Rescue services (90% satisfaction)
- Parks & Recreation programs and facilities (88% satisfaction)
- Landscaping in parks and public places (80% satisfaction)
- Customer service from Township employees (80% satisfaction)

Residents want Township leaders to put emphasis on the following in the next two years:

- Maintenance of streets, sidewalks and infrastructure (68%)
- Preparing for the future (55%)
- Overall flow of traffic (55%)

Their top three most important capital improvements projects were roadway pavement improvements (82%), stormwater and drainage improvements (60%), and more pedestrian-friendly streets, paths and trails (58%). While not all of these are directly under the Township's control, the high emphasis placed on these projects by the community reinforces the Township's continued need and move toward enhanced partnerships with regional and state-level agencies including the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), the Southeast Michigan Council of Government (SEMCOG), State legislatures, and non-profit organizations. The Township actively pursues various grant opportunities through these agencies to support roadway, trail, and stormwater improvement projects (among many others) to fund or supplement existing resources for these highly desired improvements.

Ratings of Orion Township
All 10 questions regarding living in Orion Township received more than 60 percent excellent or good ratings. The top four areas were:

- A place to live (95%)
- Overall quality of life (91%)
- A place to raise and educate children (90%)
- A place for play and leisure (89%)

Why do people live in Orion? The top reasons are location (54%), parks, lakes and trails (53%), the school system (46%), and safe community/reputation of community (45%). Seventy-five percent plan to stay Orion Township over the next two to five years.

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Make your voice heard
The need for resident input in Township decision-making cannot be emphasized enough. You can make your opinions heard: attend a public Township Board meeting, join a Township Board, Committee, or Commission, attend public open houses, complete Township surveys, volunteer, and vote.

Thank you to all those who completed the 2021 and prior year surveys. Your opinions matter and we truly appreciate the time you took to make them known. The next community survey is planned for the fall of 2023.

Full survey results are available at oriontownship.org.
Summers in Michigan are great but summer celebrations in Lake Orion on a boat were even better!

Did you know Orion used to have boat parades even up until 1994? These boat parades called “Venetian Parades” are still popular in some cities around Michigan. These parades started as early as the 1930s. Owners would decorate their boats and line up around the lake. Onlookers would line the shores to check out these meticulously decorated boats. Below is an excerpt from the Orion Weekly newspaper dated August 16, 1940:

**Venetian Parade a Midsummer Favorite**

A carnival that costs precious little money, takes very little time and is plenty of fun is the Venetian Parade which is Lake Orion’s most frolicsome event every summer. Scheduled for tomorrow, August 17, at 4pm and sponsored by the Park Island Amusement Company, the affair will be directed by Mrs. Marion Reddy.

The procession will consist of row boats, canoes, speed boats, rafts, gondolas, sail boats or any conceivable float, decorated to please the entrant’s imagination, and everybody is to be in costume. Anyone is eligible to enter. Everyone on the committee is requested to wear costumes as well as those in the parade.

Names may still be submitted and they will be added to the list which has been posted.

Those who have already entered are Ewalds, Edith Cummings, Maxine Biggs, Jeanne Widrig, Jane Weimeister, Frances Sims, Mary Jeane Miller, Frank Hawthorne, Gladys VanWagoner, Dick Stevens, R. Guile, Wilfred Burde, Pauline Radnetter, Mrs. William Heldt, John Frizzle, Bud Fowler, Arthur Cotcher, Charlie Maston, Mirth Killian, John Ellison, Marvin Lamphier, Gareys, Cherry Moffett, marbge DeRoo, Jean Brumm, Jean Moffett, Bob Lehew, Gordon Hazelton, and Frank Bauroth.

Lake Orion had summer celebrations in downtown as well. The photo below is from a 4th of July celebration in the early 1940s. Check out the businesses along the north side of West Flint Street: From right to left: Atlantic & Pacific A&P, now Green Hippo Gifts, Murray’s Department Store, Orion State Bank, Allen Furniture Store, Barney’s Restaurant, and Dr. Watson’s Medical Center.

There was never a dull moment during the summer months of Lake Orion, “Where Living is a Vacation”.

*By Orion Living Contributor Jimmy Johnson. Jimmy owns Graphic Takeover and shares Orion history at WhereLivingisaVacation.com and at facebook.com/WhereLivingisaVacation.*

Photos courtesy of Ingram Collection and the Lake Orion Library
Contact your elected officials

Engaging your elected officials is a powerful step you can take to make your voice heard. It is still one of the most important civic duties we can perform outside of voting. Your voice matters, even past your vote. After elections, official set priorities and work on creating policies that impact your daily life. You want them to know what is important to you and your community because every piece of legislation starts as an idea and that idea had to come from somewhere. Here is contact information for your local, state, and federal officials.

**FEDERAL OFFICIALS**

US Senator Gary Peters  
peters.senate.gov  
202-224–6221 (DC office)  
248-608–8040 (Michigan office)

US Senator Debbie Stabenow  
stabenow.senate.gov  
202-224–4822 (DC office)  
313- 961–4330 (Michigan office)

Representative Elissa Slotkin  
slotkin.house.gov  
202-225–4872 (DC office)  
517-993–0510 (Michigan office)

**STATE OFFICIALS**

Governor Gretchen Whitmer  
michigan.gov/gov  
517-373–3400

Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist  
michigan.gov/ltgov  
517-373–6800

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson  
michigan.gov/sos  
888-767–6424

Attorney General Dana Nessel  
michigan.gov/ag  
517-335–7622

State Senator Rosemary Bayer,  
District 12  
senrbayer@senate.michigan.gov  
517-373–2417  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, MI 48909–7536

State Rep. John Reilly, District 46  
johnreilly@house.mi.gov  
517-373–1798  
P.O. Box 30014  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909–7514

County Executive David Coulter  
248-858–0480  
Executive Office Bldg, Bldg #41 West  
2100 Pontiac Lake Rd  
Waterford, MI 48328

Clerk/Reg of Deeds Lisa Brown  
248-858–0561  
County Service Center, Bldg #12 East  
1200 N Telegraph Rd  
Pontiac, MI 48341

Treasurer Robert Wittenberg  
248-858–0611  
County Service Center, Bldg #12 East  
1200 N Telegraph Rd  
Pontiac, MI 48341

Board of Commissioner  
Michael Gingell  
248-858–0100  
1200 N Telegraph Rd  
Pontiac, MI 48341

The 2022 State of the Township held on May 4 (May the Force be with you) took on a Star Wars theme to highlight all the great news from 2021 and announce new programs and projects coming to the Township in 2022 and beyond. All this information is too good to only share once, so we’re including a summary of the presentation here. The full presentation is available to view on the Township’s YouTube channel.

The People of Orion Have Spoken

2021 Community Survey results and third-party market researchers continue to rank Orion at the top of their lists! Read the article on page 12 to see how your neighbors feel about living in Orion Township and the quality of services they receive. The survey data shows that residents are very satisfied with the quality of life in the community and with Orion as a place to live, and a place to raise and educate children.

These feelings are validated with results from Niche, which annually ranks the Best Places to Live by completing a comprehensive assessment of the overall livability of an area—analyzing key livability factors including quality of local schools, crime rates, housing trends, employment statistics, and access to amenities. Orion Township receives passing grades across the board, only stumbling when it comes to weather, but hey, that’s Michigan!
WE’RE CHARGED UP FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

The highlight of the presentation was the GM investment of $4 Billion in the Orion Assembly Plant—essentially doubling the Township’s total property values. This investment will add two additional shifts with more than 2,300 new jobs—increasing operations from one shift per day to 24-hour operation. Representatives from UAW Local 5960 and Orion Plant Director Communications Lead were in attendance. GM, We won’t let you down!

Additionally, the Township has again received a 5-star Honored Community ranking in the annual eCities study conducted by researchers at iLabs, University of Michigan–Dearborn’s Center for Innovation Research. This recognition highlights our success and effort in contributing to Michigan’s entrepreneurial growth. Researchers analyzed five-year changes in property values, community assets, and tax rates, which can demonstrate the growth, investments, and cost of doing business within the community.

COMING SOON TO A PARK NEAR YOU

Your Orion Parks millage dollars are creating awesome places for outdoor recreation. A few amenities coming in the next two years include:

- Three sand volleyball courts and an outdoor rec field (winter ice rink) on the site of old Township Hall at Civic Center Park (2022–2023)
- New Ninja–Warrior style Fitness Park at Civic Center Park (2022)
- Sheardy Pavilion renovation at Civic Center Park (2023)
- Tennis & Pickleball Courts at Friendship Park (2022)
- Camp Agawam Bicycle Camp (2022)
- Camp Agawam Beach expansion (2023–2024)
- Safe Routes to School trail additions and enhancements (finishing in 2022)
- Municipal Complex Trail Head to Polly Ann Trail (2022)

THERE WHEN YOU NEED US

Orion Township was recognized as the safest Michigan city with a population under 40,000. In 2021 Lt. Ofiara replaced Lt. Toth as the new Orion Township Substation Commander. The substation responded to more than 54 calls per day and participated in community and school–related events throughout 2021.

Orion Township Fire Department responded to 3,580 calls for service in 2021 (19% Fire and 81% EMS), transitioned to Advanced Life Support service in June 2021, and welcomed eight new Firefighter/Paramedics. This year the Fire Department will receive a new fire truck, an ambulance, and two fire boats, ensuring enhanced response times and capabilities from one end of the Township to the other, even on water!

RESPONSIBLE STEWARDS OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS

Lastly, but not least, Supervisor Chris Barnett and Treasurer Donni Steele show again how seriously the Township takes its role as the steward of taxpayer dollars. The Frugal Index highlights how thrifty the Township is with saving and spending tax dollars, showing us the cost per person to provide all Township services. At $427 per person, the Township is the most frugal community compared to its peers. By comparison, Oxford Township operates at $545 per person; Waterford Township at $685 per person; Lake Orion at $709 per person, and the City of Auburn Hills at $1,572 per person. This is achieved by the responsible spending of Township departments, and the benefit of receiving hundreds of thousands of grant dollars each year—$657,716 in grants were awarded in 2021!

WE CAN’T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

It is because of great people like you that the Township is able to achieve everything it has—from your volunteerism, participation in community events, sharing of ideas and opinions, and much more. Orion Township residents make Orion Township the community at the front, the community that is there for each other, the community to call home.
Downtown Lake Orion will be the place to be this summer as 20 Front Street brings nationally touring artists to the outdoor stage in Children’s Park for LOLive! Music Series. Concerts will take place weekly on Wednesdays, plus first Fridays, this July and August.

“Lake Orion is becoming nationally known as a live music destination, not only for Southeast Michigan, but also the entire Midwest as artists travel to share their artistic gifts with a community that has a reputation for supporting live music,” says Allan Goetz, owner of 20 Front Street.

Through a partnership with 20 Front Street, an intimate acoustic music venue, the Lake Orion DDA is building on the momentum of last season to schedule this tremendous 2022 season of diverse musicians.

“I am excited to see the response of downtown visitors when these nationally touring artists perform for us in Children’s Park,” says Molly LaLone, the Executive Director of the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority. “I hope music lovers from all over our region come to enjoy this summer’s LOLive! Music Series.”

Here is a look at some of the LOLive! acts to enjoy in July and August in Children’s Park:

**July 6: The Young Fables**
The Young Fables (TYF) are the promising Modern Traditional Country™ duo comprised of SHURE Microphone endorsed vocalist Laurel Wright and Gretsch endorsed guitarist Wesley Lunsford. The team became well known after having been selected by Shania Twain to appear on USA’s showcase television series *Real Country*.

**July 13: AJ Lee & Blue Summit**
led by singer, songwriter, and mandolinist, AJ Lee, the band is comprised of artists Sullivan Tuttle and Scott Gates on steel stringed acoustic guitars, AJ on mandolin, Jan Purat on fiddle, and Chad Bowen on upright bass. This bluegrass band has performed all over the world, but finds home in California’s Bay Area. AJ Lee & Blue Summit Draws from influences such as country, soul, swing, rock, and jam music.

**July 20: The Arcadian Wild**
Led by songwriters Isaac Horn and Lincoln Mick, and with the support of Erik Coveney on bass and Bailey Warren on fiddle, The Arcadian Wild blends the traditional with the contemporary in order to create a unique acoustic sound. Their latest project, Principium EP debuted at #3 on the Billboard Bluegrass Chart.
**July 27: GoldenOak**

This Maine–based band has built a steady and growing fan base with their indie folk soul sound perfected by siblings Zak and Lena Kendall. GoldenOak is rounded out by up–right bassist Mike Knowles and Drummer Jackson Cromwell.

**August 5: Jobe Fortner and Matt Bell**

Matthew Austin Bell relocated to Nashville from the bluegrass state of Kentucky to pursue his love for music. A full–time entertainer and songwriter, the music that Matt Bell creates is authentic and genuine. From the mountains of Dahlonega, Georgia, singer/songwriter Jobe Fortner’s musical roots run deep with gospel bluegrass and southern rock. Fortner has opened for Frankie Ballard, Riley Green, Toby Keith, Cadillac Three, Whiskey Myers, Cody Johnson, The Steel Woods and Luke Combs. Bell and Fortner are touring together this summer.

**August 3: The Brevet**

The Brevet is comprised of frontman and songwriter Aric Chase Damm, drummer David Aguiar, guitarist John Kingsley, and bassist Julian Johnson. The band’s albums have been featured in a wide variety of shows in addition to nine million streams on Spotify.

**August 10: Conor and the Wild Hunt**

Conor & The Wild Hunt animates soulful original songs with fresh perspectives on Americana, Folk, and pop traditions. The band consists of professional and committed multi–instrumentalist musicians working together to create immersive musical experiences.

**August 31: Matt Hires**

Matt Hires is a young up and coming American songwriter from Tampa, FL. Hires’ own engaging pop sensibility is influenced by Bob Dylan, Tom Petty, Wilco and Jason Isbell.

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**What does the DDA do for Downtown?**

**Events**
- LOLive! Music Concerts, Back-to-School Movie Night, Oktoberfest, Halloween Extravaganza, Hometown Holidays Sing & Stroll and Carriage Rides, #StrongerTogether IceFest and events with Oxford, The Downtown Trolley Express

**Promotions**
- Shopping Passport contest, Downtown Dollars, Shop Small Saturday, #StrongerTogether Restaurant Week and promotions with Oxford, Social District, decorative window painting

**Design**
- Holiday lights, façade program, hanging flower pots, Flint Street Alleyway

**Infrastructure**
- Parking lots, Paint Creek Trail connection, new playgrounds at Green’s and

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...and more!
SPECIAL EVENTS

**Community Garage Sale**
Orion Center  
Sat, Jun 4 | Sat, Aug 27  
9 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Shop from 40+ families with one-of-a-kind household and personal items, tools, clothing, toys, everything including the kitchen sink, all outdoors, all at bargain prices. Vendor spaces $12R/$15NR

**Antique, Toy & Comic Expo**
Orion Center  | Sat, Jun 4 | Sat, Aug 27  | 9 am–3 pm  | Free Parking & Admission
Buy, sell or trade comic books, collectibles, antiques and memorabilia indoors at the Expo! Vendor setup opens at 8 am. Vendor tables $12R/$15NR

**Community Shred–it Event**
Orion Center  | Sat, Jun 4  | 11 am–1 pm  | Free Parking & Admission
Shred your confidential household paper documents, not intended for business purposes. Collection will be outdoors, at the Shred–it truck. Participants are responsible for bringing documents to drop off site. Assistance with unloading is not available.

**Concerts in the Park at Wildwood**
Wildwood Amphitheater  | Tue, Jun 14–Aug 10  | 7–8:30 pm  | Free Parking & Admission
No matter what your taste in music you'll be sure to find a performance to enjoy. Grab your lawn chairs and a blanket, gather up your family and friends, and join us for an evening of music on the hill. Sit back, relax, and enjoy. Great food & drink options will be available. Gates open at 6:30 pm.

**Summer Sizzle**
Orion Center  | Thu, Jun 23  | 6–8 pm  | Free Parking & Admission
Kick off your summer with a mini family staycation right here in Orion Township. Your kids will love the carnival games, face painting, bounce house, balloons, grilled hot dogs, and much more without breaking the bank to get there! All of this fun is free for everyone, a staycation that SIZZLES!

**Slow Row LO**
Metamora-Hadley Rec Area  | Sat, May 21  | 12 pm
Lake Sixteen  | Sat, Jun 11  | 12 pm
Lake Orion  | Tue, Jun 21  | 6 pm
Lake Orion  | Tue, Jul 19  | 6 pm
Bruin Lake, Hell, MI  | Sat, Jul 30  | 10 am
Lake Nepessing  | Sat, Aug 13  | 1 pm
Lakeville Lake  | Thu, Aug 25  | 6 pm
Cass Lake  | Sat, Sep 10  | 12 pm
Squaw Lake  | Wed, Sep 14  | 6 pm
Independence Oaks  | Sat, Oct 1  | 12 pm
Holly Rec Area  | Sat, Oct 15  | 12 pm
Join an informal social group of kayakers on area lakes. Each participant is required to provide their own craft, PFD and any user fees to gain access to boat launch. Visit SlowRowLO on Facebook for event dates, details and exact location. Parking permits/passes may be required for some locations.

**Summer Break Car Bingo**
Orion Center  | Thu, Jul 21  | 1 pm  | Free Parking & Admission
Need something to do over Summer? Join us for some safe fun in the Orion Center Parking Lot playing Car Bingo! All participants will receive a set of bingo cards and a marker to mark their card when they hear the numbers on the radio. If you get a BINGO you’ll honk your horn and flash your lights and we will come out and give you a prize!
Big Rig Gig
Friendship Park | Fri, Aug 5
5–9 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Big kids, little kids, and kids at heart, load up the family for an unforgettable experience. Experience dozens of trucks, tractors, diggers, dozers, buckets and back loaders first hand. Load up the entire family, come early, stay late. Event runs at Friendship Park, on the corner of Baldwin & Clarkston Rds.

Game & Puzzle Swap
Orion Center | Thu, Aug 11 | 12–6 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Do you love games and need some new ones? Join us for the Game & Puzzle Swap and exchange your puzzles, books, DVDs and board games.

Dragon Trails Family Bike Rides
Orion Center | Sat, Jun 11, 25, Jul 9, 23, Aug 13 | 10 am | Free
Join us for a family friendly slow roll bike ride for all ages. Route will start and end at the Orion Center and follow the paths and trails for approximately 10–15 miles at a speed based on the group. Tag–a–longs & trailers welcome. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is requested but not required. For safety the group will cross roads together, no headphones or earbuds, and helmets are required. Dress for the weather and bring a refillable water bottle.

Fall Festival of Family Fun
Camp Agawam
Sat, Sep 24 | 11 am–3 pm
Free Parking & Admission
Come out to beautiful Camp Agawam for a day filled with fall activities for the entire family including crafts, petting farm, hay wagon rides, carnival games, and more! Parking and admission is free, more details to come.

Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show
Orion Center | Sat, Oct 1 | 10 am–5 pm
Free Parking & Admission
#BuyNearBy and Shop Local! Start your holiday shopping early with one of a kind, unique arts and craft show featuring distinctive and classic Made in Michigan products, made by Michiganders for Michiganders! Find exclusive holiday, birthday or just because gifts for yourself and your friends & family! Vendors will be throughout the Orion Center with everything from one-of-a-kind, hand–made jewelry, clothing and home décor. Interested vendors can contact Jennifer Vezina at jvezina@oriontownship.org or 248-391-0304 Ext 3503 for details. Only hand made locally produced products will be considered.

Coming soon to Civic Center Park
Ninja Warrior Course!
Coming this fall to Civic Center Park! A fun fitness course for teens and adults. Practice to become the next ninja warrior! #MillageDollarsAtWork.

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

**Cookie Decoration with Alison Elle—Mommy & Me**
Friendship Park | Tue, Jul 19
5–6:30 pm | Ages 6–14 | $55R/$57NR
Learn the basics of decorating with royal icing as you create five summery cookie designs to take home. All materials provided. Both registered participant and their accompanying adult will have a set of cookies to decorate. 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. Attendance is limited to registered participants and their parent or guardian.

**Home Alone Training**
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 14 | 10–11 am
Ages 9+ | $17R/$19NR
Is your young teen staying home alone this summer? Prepare yourself and your child for this new adventure with Home Alone Training. Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills your child will need to be home alone safely. Includes walking home, key responsibility, securing the house, answering the phone, safe choices, and emergency procedures. Training follows the American Red Cross Curriculum. Certificate is presented upon completion of the workshop. Handouts are included.

**Babysitter Training**
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 14
11:30–2 pm | Ages 11–14 | $20R/$22NR
Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills needed to start your own babysitting business—basics such as meeting the family, setting appointments, age appropriate activities and safety instruction. Handouts are included. Certificate presented upon completion of the workshop. Program incorporates the American Red Cross guide and video into the curriculum. Suggested prerequisite class: Home Alone Training.

**Horseback Riding Lessons**
Times Square Riding Academy
Sat, Jun 11–Jul 16 | Jul 30–Sep 3
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, 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.

**Snapology: Madrigal Magic Workshop**
Municipal Complex, Dragon Community Rm | Sat, Jun 11
9:30 am–12:30 pm | Ages 5–12 | $32R/$37NR
In this workshop, students will get the opportunity to creatively explore the major themes and events of the movie Encanto! They will get to build something that represents themselves and a magical power, design their own bedroom, embrace what makes them special, and be as creative and collaborative as possible.

**Self-Care Bath Soak ‘n Scrub Series**
Friendship Park | Wed, Jun 15, 29, Jul 13, 20, 27, Aug 3 | 6–7:30 pm
Ages 12+ | $100R/$106NR
Take time just for YOU or focus on a gift for a loved one! Soaking salts like Dead Sea Salt have a variety of important minerals with many potential benefits for our bodies. Dried herb selections add beauty and life to your bath, while essential oils smell amazing and add even more potential healing benefits. The exfoliating and rejuvenating benefits of using a sugar scrub are numerous. Sugar is a humectant that retains moisture to ensure skin is hydrated and adding nourishing oils leaves skin smooth, soft, and supple. Price includes 1/2 pint jar of bath soak blend and 1/4 pint jar of sugar scrub per class. Upgrades in jar size are available at the time of the class. An additional $8 material fee is due the night of each class. Please register in advance for the series or whichever classes you want to experience ($24R/$26NR per class). Deadline to register for the entire course is June 11. Registration for separate classes deadline the Sunday prior to each class. Instructor Cory Thompson.

**Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM or call 248-391-0304, ext. 3500**
**TEEN NIGHTS OUT**

**Tie–Dye Night**
Civic Center Park, Sheardy Pavilion | Wed, Jun 15 | 6–7 pm
Ages 9+ | $5R/$8NR
We provide the dye, bags, and rubber bands, all you need to bring is something to tie–dye and your creativity!

**National Hot Dog Day**
Civic Center Park, Sheardy Pavilion | Wed, Jul 20 | 5–7 pm
Ages 9+ | $5R/$8NR
Join us as we celebrate National Hot Dog Day at Civic Center Park by roasting hot dogs over a fire and topping them with all different kinds of condiments at our Hot Dog Bar!

**Game Night**
Camp Agawam, Hitchcock Pavilion | Thu, Aug 11 | 6–8 pm
Ages 9+ | $5R/$8NR
Cornhole, Giant Jenga, and more fun yard games, a bonfire with marshmallows for roasting and other snacks. Come, hang out with your friends, and enjoy a summer evening! *(Date subject to change, due to weather)*

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**THE ARTIST’S APPRENTICE**

**Manga Painting Workshop**
Orion Center | Mon, Aug 22 | 6–8 pm | Ages 7+ | $20R/$22NR
Bring your bright ideas, your favorite wide eyed character, and get ready to paint up a whirl of fun! A whimsical picture in the Japanese cartooning style will be the object of our creativity on this day. References will be on hand with instructions on how to draw in the manga style, so first timers, don’t worry, be happy! Our young anime enthusiasts will utilize chalk to develop an underdrawing of a character on canvas. We will then graduate to our acrylic renditions, with individual guidance given along the way to help your characters POP! Sign up soon, limited openings will not last long! $10 material fee due to the instructor at class.

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**YOUTH FITNESS**

**Kiddie Kickers**
Friendship Park, Soccer Field #1
Wed, Jul 20–Aug 24 | 6–7 pm
Ages 3–4 or 5–6 | $57R/$60NR
Youth soccer is a great way to encourage an active lifestyle while enhancing your child's social and physical development. This program offers a fun and safe atmosphere for learning the basics of soccer, and incorporates fun activities and non–competitive scrimmages that promote sportsmanship and teamwork. Participants are encouraged to bring a size 3 soccer ball. Soccer balls are available for purchase at the time of registration for $12 *(limit of 1 per registered participant)*. Rain date scheduled for Aug 31 if needed.

**Amazing Athletes**
Friendship Park | Wed, Jul 6–Aug 24
6–6:35 pm | Ages 3–6 | $128R/$138NR
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 8–Oct 27
5–5:35 pm | Ages 3–6 | $128R/$138NR
Orion Center | Thu, Nov 3–Dec 22
5–5:35 pm | Ages 3–6 | $112R/$124NR
No Class Nov. 24
Our action–packed curriculum is endorsed by Early Childhood Expert, Bonnie Bruce who reviews each element of our program to ensure our Amazing Athletes get every possible advantage. Our programs show kids just how much fun fitness can be! During our 35 minute weekly classes, children learn the importance of patience, teamwork, and self–confidence in a non–competitive, learning–based environment that fosters a love of healthy living. Their excitement for structured physical activity promotes advancements and advantages that keep children on the path to personal well–being. Drop–in rates will begin the first day of classes, $16R/$18NR.

**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.
STAND UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP)

Intro to Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP) Clinic
Camp Agawam | Sun, Jun 12
1–2:30 pm | 3–4:30 pm | Ages 8–18
$35R/$38NR
Participants will learn the basics of Stand Up Paddleboarding including the best methods to balance, paddle, navigate, and re-board. SUP Safety will also be addressed. Participants will partake in a fun navigational course, and other fun SUP games! Clinic includes the use of SUP, paddle, life jacket, instruction, water portraits and digital downloads, snacks and prizes.

Intro to SUP and SUPYoga Parent & Child
Camp Agawam | Sun, Jul 10
3–4:30 pm | Ages 8+ | $35R/$38NR
Participants will be led through a fun yoga session on a SUP in shallow water. Class includes the use of SUP, paddle, life jacket, instruction, water portraits and digital downloads. Hosted by Game On Paddleboarding, instructor Jessica Dues with Pushna Wellness, Portraits by K Gedda Smith Images. Participants need to bring a towel, bathing suit, shoes that can get wet, water bottle, snack. No experience necessary. 45 minutes of yoga and 45 minutes of SUP.

End of Summer SUP Games Challenge
Camp Agawam | Sun, Aug 7
1–2:30 pm | 3–4:30 pm | Ages 8–18
$35R/$38NR
Join the fun and come out for a day of obstacle courses (in and out of the water), jumping contests, SUP racing and other fun! Class includes the use of SUP, paddle, life jacket, instruction, water portraits and digital downloads. Hosted by Game On Paddleboarding, instructor Jessica Dues, Portraits by K Gedda Smith Images. Participants need to bring a towel, bathing suit, shoes that can get wet, water bottle, snack. No experience necessary.

Intro to SUP and SUPYoga Kids Only
Camp Agawam | Sun, Jul 10
1–2:30 pm | Ages 8–18 | $45R/$48NR
Participants will be led through a fun yoga session on a SUP in shallow water. Class includes the use of SUP, paddle, life jacket, instruction, water portraits and digital downloads, snacks and prizes. Hosted by Game On Paddleboarding, instructor Jessica Dues with Pushna Wellness, Portraits by K Gedda Smith Images. Participants need to bring towel, bathing suit, shoes that can get wet, water bottle, snack. No experience necessary. 45 minutes of yoga and 45 minutes of SUP.

Junior Tennis Lessons—Beginner
Jesse Decker Park | Sat, Jun 4–25
10–11 am | 11–12 pm | 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 life-long. Participants need to bring a racquet, water bottle and wear lightweight comfortable clothing.

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

**Amazing Athletes Summer Camp**
Friendship Park | Mon–Thu | 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.

**S.T.E.A.M. Art Camp**
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, Jun 27–Jul 1 | 9 am–12 pm
Ages 7+ | $150R/$155NR

Let’s get to it! If your child loves art and you value the ideas that S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) has to offer, sign your child up for this exploration camp today! We will be constructing our own Geodesic Dome and learning about capillary action with a soap and liquid watercolor experiment as well as tessellation projects. We will also be putting a colorful paint pour project into motion with zentangles! This is a week of exploration and fine art fun your child won’t want to miss! Oil with watercolor painting, playdough button sculpture along with other experiments, like turning milk into plastic and exploding snowmen are on the list to explore! $60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.

**Camp Fashion Week!**
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, Jul 11–15 | 1:30–4:30 pm
Ages 7+ | $150R/$155NR

Future fashion designers let’s get to work! In this wonder–filled week we will use everything within reach to compose beautiful costumes of a theatrical nature. We have many projects inline including gorgeous glue drop gowns, frocks festooned with feathers, fun rubber band and button bonnets; pencil shaving gowns; map–made skirts; mosaic foam fashions and cut–out costumes. There will be many drawing opportunities, guidance along the way, and encouragement for students to let their imaginations run wild! Please bring a water bottle, snack, and wear clothes that are not precious. $60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.

**Kids’ Sculpture Camp**
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, Aug 1–5 | 1:30–4:30 pm
Ages 7+ | $150R/$155NR

Let’s spend these sunny afternoons creating splendid sculptures! We will be making clay pottery with cut outs and dragonfly and butterfly pieces utilizing self–drying clay. Exploration of paper sculpture including quilling elements will make for interesting results. Our favorite puppy, kitten, bunny or mouse will be manifested in the form of papier mâché animals. These along with other fabrications culminate in a “Viewing of Creations” of our students’ artwork that will be extended to families on the last day of camp. Limited spaces, sign up soon! Please bring a water bottle, snack, and wear clothes that are not precious, messy camp alert! $60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.

**Kid’s Colorful Art Camp**
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, 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 be working 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 the first day.

**THE ARTIST’S APPRENTICE**

*Taught by Artist/Instructor Pamela Palmer BFA*

**Kid’s Sculpture Camp**
Orion Center | Mon–Fri, Aug 1–5 | 1:30–4:30 pm
Ages 7+ | $150R/$155NR

Let’s spend these sunny afternoons creating splendid sculptures! We will be making clay pottery with cut outs and dragonfly and butterfly pieces utilizing self–drying clay. Exploration of paper sculpture including quilling elements will make for interesting results. Our favorite puppy, kitten, bunny or mouse will be manifested in the form of papier mâché animals. These along with other fabrications culminate in a “Viewing of Creations” of our students’ artwork that will be extended to families on the last day of camp. Limited spaces, sign up soon! Please bring a water bottle, snack, and wear clothes that are not precious, messy camp alert! $60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.
International Kids Baking Summer Camp
Camp Agawam
Mon–Fri, Aug 8–12
9 am–12 pm | Ages 8+
$150R/$158NR

Does your child love to bake? Try new techniques and recipes in a comfortable environment with us. Children will learn to bake a variety of summer treats including cookies, muffins and fruit pastries and basic conversions commonly used in baking. Child should bring their own hand-held mixer, 8-inch cake pan, mixing bowl, spatula, and large plate for transporting the dessert. Be sure all items are labeled with last name. Classes will have an educational component to enrich your child’s multicultural knowledge. A $30 material fee, payable to the instructor, due at the first class.

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 robotics builder! Each day will develop a student’s understanding of mechanical robotics building and programming. Students will learn about simple machines, such as pulleys, wheels and axles, and levers. Students will also learn programming skills using drag-and-drop LEGO® Education Software. Whether creating a robotic windmill, a robo pup, or a race car, little learners will 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 brings 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 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.

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.

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 stopmotion 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 & Kingdoms AM Camp
Friendship Park Meeting Room | Mon–Fri, Aug 1–5
9 am–12 pm | Ages 5–10 | $152R/$162NR
Escape and play in the world of magic, fairy tales, and royalty! Students will use LEGO® bricks to design their medieval fantasies while bringing the real history to life! Your student will do more than build with LEGO® bricks; they will build their 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 wishes they were a ninja at some point in their life. In Snapology’s Ninjas class, they will experience what it is like to be a Ninjago® warrior. Students will build things they see on TV and in the LEGO® sets, including 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. 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.

Junior Golf Camp
Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon–Thu, Jun 20–23
Jun 27–30 | 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. Camps begin with the fundamentals of the golf grip, stance, posture, arm 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!

Go Wild! Youth Camp
Camp Agawam | Mon–Thu, Jun 27–30 | 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!

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.

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.
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
8U Clinic Div | Coach Pitch
10U Intermediate Div | Player Pitch
14U Junior Div | Player Pitch
The Fall season will consist of two nights during the week. Fee includes a jersey, hat, and socks.

Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)
$90R/$100NR per player
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
The Fall season will consist of one night during the week and Saturday mornings. Fee includes a jersey, hat, and socks.
Uniforms will be available to try on upon request during Orion Center business hours.

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.

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!

YOUTH SOCCER
Orion/Oxford Soccer League (OOSL)
Online registration available at orionparks.com
Aug 8–Oct 15 | $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
U–4 | Coed | 2019
U–5 | Coed | 2018
U–6 | Coed | 2017
U–8 | Coed or Girls | 2016 & 2015
U–10 | Coed or Girls | 2013 & 2014
U–12 | Coed or Girls | 2012 & 2011
U–14 | Coed or Girls | 2010 & 2009
Any child born between Jan 1, 2009 and Dec 31, 2019 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).

2022 Fortnite League
Coed Rec League | Virtual
Season 2 Fri, Aug 5– Sept 23
Season 3 Fri, Oct 21– Dec 9
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.

Volunteer Coaches Needed!
Visit orionparks.com for more information about our Youth Baseball, Softball and Soccer Leagues.
**ADULT LEAGUES**

**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 21 | 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 13
Manager’s Meeting Jul 19 | 7 pm
Zoom

**2022 Adult Fall Cornhole League**
Coed Rec League | Orion Center
Mon, Aug 8–Oct 3 | 6:30–8:30 pm
Ages 18+
$80R Team/$90NR Team

Nothing better to wind down 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 FITNESS AND WELLNESS**

**TaikoFit Cardio Drumming**
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 2–Sep 8 | 6:30–7:30 pm
Ages 16+ | Drop in fee: $10R/$11NR if space permits
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 Jun 30. Instructor: Cindi Carter

**Hatha Gentle Yoga**
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 6–20 | Jul 11–25 | Aug 1–22 | 4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+
$33R/$35NR | Drop in fee: $13R/$14NR if space permits
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 yogamat, strap and firm blanket. No class Aug 8. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga.

**Hatha Continuing Yoga**
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 6–20 | Jul 11–25 | Aug 1–22 | 6–7:15 pm | Ages 16+
$33R/$35NR | Drop in fee: $13R/$14NR if space permits
In this yoga class we will review the foundational yoga poses learned in the gentle class and continue to explore new postures. Come enjoy this practice to strengthen your body and calm your mind. Each class will include relaxation and meditation. Please bring a yogamat, strap and firm blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. No class Aug 8. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga.

**Hatha Open Yoga**
Orion Center | Thu, Jun 2–23 | 10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | $44R/$47NR
Orion Center | Thu, Jul 7–28 | Aug 4–18 | 10–11:20 am | Ages 16+
$33R/$35NR | Drop in fee: $13R/$14NR if space permits
Exploring yoga asanas, breathing and relaxation techniques. Open to beginning or returning students. Please bring a yogamat and strap to class. Instructor: Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga.

**Zumba Gold**
Orion Center | Mon, Jun 6–Aug 22 | 9:30–10:30 am
Ages 40+ | $80R/$85NR | Drop in fee: $10R/$11NR if space permits
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! No class Jun 13 & Jul 4
Instructor: Cyndy DuVal.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORION PARKS.COM or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
Zumba Gold Toning
Orion Center | Wed, Jun 8–Aug 17 | 9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+ | $88R/$93NR | Drop in fee: $10R/$11NR if space permits
Zumba Gold Toning blends the Zumba party you love at a slower pace with a redefining total body workout using Zumba Toning Sticks (1 lbs. weights recommended, no more than 3 lbs.) to shake up those muscles! Walk in ready to have a blast and tone up, leave exhilarated and empowered! Just want to dance without using the weights? No problem! Come to class for the same Zumba fun without using the weights and enjoy the party! Instructor: Cyndy DuVal.

MELT Your Pain Away
Orion Center | Wed, Jun 22–Jul 17 | Jul 27–Aug 17 | 10:45–11:30 am | Ages 18+ | $48R/$50NR | Drop in fee: $15R/$16NR if space permits
MELT is a simple compression technique that uses a soft body roller and balls for the hands and feet to address the connective tissue in order to get out of and stay out of pain. It helps with back & neck pain, arthritis, headaches, tension and stress, and alignment and posture. MELT improves all over body movement, and makes you feel more vibrant and youthful! (must be able to independently get on and off the floor). Roller and mini ball kits will be available for purchase but not necessary to buy to participate in the class. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal.

Pickleball Lessons—Beginner
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.
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Jun 7 & 9 | 10 am–12 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jul 11 & 13 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Aug 9 & 11 | 10–12 pm | $40R/$42NR

Pickleball Lessons—Intermediate
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.
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jun 6 & 8 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Mon & Wed, Jul 11 & 13 | 10 am–12 pm | $40R/$42NR
Jesse Decker Park | Tue & Thu, Aug 9 & 11 | 6–8 pm | $40R/$42NR

Adult Golf Lessons
Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jun 6–Jul 18 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 18+ | $145R/$150NR
Group lessons are designed to create a comfortable and affordable instructional environment for the new or intermediate golfer. Group sessions will 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.

Spin & Boxing Fitness Classes
Pushna Wellness | Mon–Sun | am & pm | Ages 10+ | $125 (10 class package)
Pushna Wellness offers spin, boxing and other fitness classes with access to sauna and showers for package holders. Get an hour of fun physical movement in! Each class is different! Gloves & mats available to borrow, can bring your own. All levels welcome, no experience required. Find additional information at pushnawellness.com or by calling 989–327–4688. Located at 1290/1292 S. Lapeer Rd. Boxing requires hand wraps, available for purchase or bring your own.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
Stop by the Municipal Complex for an informal meeting with Supervisor Barnett. Feel free to come with questions or join in on the discussion. Topics will include current events in the Township and other matters of interest. If you have a request that may take some research, submit it in advance to barnett@oriontownship.org or schedule an appointment. No registration is necessary, discussion is held virtually when necessary.

**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 the Orion Center or call 248–391–0304 x3500 to register. Once registered you may sign up for any of the programs below. The Orion Center also has many 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 through orionparks.com.

**ENRICHMENT**

**Financial and Medicare Counseling Services**

Orion Center | Mon–Fri | 9 am–4 pm | 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, Jun 6, Jul 18, Aug 29 | 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.

**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.

**Let’s Craft!**

Orion Center | Wed, Jun 29, Jul 13, Jul 27, Aug 17, and Aug 31 | 2 pm |

$5R/$7NR

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

**Ascension Providence Rochester**

**Health Enrichment**

with Ascension Providence Rochester

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

**Stroke Prevention**

Orion Center | Thu, Jun 9 | 5:30–6:30 pm | Free

Taught By: Dr. Steven Hardy

**Dermatology**

Orion Center | Thu, Jun 16 | 5:30–6:30 pm | Free

Taught By: Dr. Buatti, DO

**Colorectal Health Part 2**

Orion Center | Mon, Jul 18 | 5:30–6:30 pm | Free

Taught By: Dr. Jasneet Bhullar, MD
3 Food Truck Festival, Orion Center, 4:30–8:30 pm
4 Garage Sale, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
4 Antique Toy & Comic Expo, Orion Center, 9 am–3 pm
4 Shred–it, Orion Center, 11 am–1 pm
4 Oakland County NoHaz event, Oxford Middle School, 1420 Lakeville Road
6 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
9 LOHS Graduation, Pine Knob Music Theatre
11 Family Bike Ride, Orion Center, 10 am
11 Summer Reading Kickoff, Orion Library, 11 am–1 pm
13 Adult Softball Fall League registration opens
14 Miracle League Opening Day, Friendship Park, 11 am
14 Concert in the Park: North Oakland Concert Band, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm
17 OTPL Garage Sale, Orion Library, 10 am–2 pm
17 #StrongerTogether Ladies Luau Night, Downtown LO, 5–9 pm
18 Community Road Rally, Orion Library, 11 am
20 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
21 LOEF 15th Annual Golf FORE Kids, Devil’s Ridge Golf Club, 7:30 am
21 Concert in the Park: LOHS Band, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm
23 Summer Sizzle, Orion Center, 6–8 pm
23–26 LO Lions Club Jubilee, Downtown Lake Orion
23–July 4 Lake Orion’s American Summer, loamericansummer.com
24 Coffee with Chris, Township Hall, 9:30 am
25 Family Bike Ride, Orion Center, 10 am
25 LO Lions Club Jubilee Fireworks, weather permitting
27–July 3 Lake Orion’s American Summer Restaurant Week
28 Concert in the Park: Shattered, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm
30 Lake Orion’s American Summer Pub Crawl
AUGUST

2 Concert in the Park: Cast Iron Cornbread, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm

3 LOLive! Concert: The Brevet, Children’s Park, 6–8:30 pm

4 Orion Area Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, Orion Center, 8:30–10 am

5 Big Rig Gig, Friendship Park, 5–9 pm

5 LOLive! Concert: Jobe Fortner and Matt Bell, Children’s Park, 6–8:30 pm

9 Concert in the Park: Dig A Phony, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm

10 LOLive! Concert: Conor and the Wild Hunt, 6–8:30 pm

11 Game & Puzzle Swap, Orion Center, 12–7 pm

13 Family Bike Ride, Orion Center, 10 am

13 Summer Reading Finale Magic Show, Orion Library, 11 am

15 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm

17 LOLive! Concert, Children’s Park, 6–8:30 pm

22 Coffee with Chris, Township Hall, 9:30 am

23 Family Bike Ride, Orion Center, 10 am

23 Oakland County NoHaz Event, Kensington Church, 4640 S. Lapeer, Orion

26 Concert in the Park: Persuasion, Wildwood, 7–8:30 pm

27 LOLive! Concert: Golden Oak, Children’s Park, 6–8:30 pm

29–31 Tommystock, Camp Agawam

26 Coffee with Chris, Township Hall, 9:30 am

31 LOLive! Concert: Matt Hires, Children’s Park, 6–8:30 pm

31 Orion Area Chamber Women in Business Conference, Location TBD, 11 am–1 pm

Sep 5 Labor Day. Township Offices and Orion Center closed

9–10 Lake Orion DDA’s Oktoberfest, Downtown Lake Orion

Photo by Nancy Bennett

Background photo by Nancy Bennett
SPECIAL EVENTS

Picnic at the Park
Camp Agawam | Wed, Jun 22 | 12 pm
$5R/$7NR

Friendship Park | Tue, Jul 19 | 12 pm
$5R/$7NR

Civic Center | Thu, Aug 25 | 12 pm
$5R/$7NR

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

Bocce Ball Day
Orion Center | Fri, Jul 8 | 1 pm
$3R/$5NR

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

Tigers Lunch and Tailgate
Orion Center | Thu, Aug 11 | 1 pm
$3R/$5NR

Join us for some baseball appetizers, hot dogs, drinks and desserts at 1 pm with the game starting at 1:10 pm.

End of Summer Luau
Friendship Park | Thu, Sep 22 | 12 pm
$5R/$7NR

Come say goodbye to summer with us at the Orion Center! Lunch and music will be provided.

FIELD TRIPS

Jimmy John’s Baseball Game
Jimmy John’s Field | Thu, Jul 28 | 6 pm | $10R/$20NR

Enjoy a night at the Jimmy John’s Stadium in Utica. Cost includes transportation, ticket and hot dog/soda meal. Bus leaves the Orion Center at 6 pm, the game starts at 7:05 pm.

Belle Isle Aquarium and Conservatory Tour
Belle Isle | Mon, Aug 29 | 9:30 am
$20R/$30NR

Join us as we drive down to Belle Isle and enjoy one of Detroit’s crown jewels. The trips will start at the oldest aquarium in the country, Belle Isle Aquarium. The history is rich and the aquarium is full of many different fish and other organisms. After the aquarium we will head over to the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory which features a collection of exotic plants and is one of the most visited and recognizable historic structures on the isle and one of the oldest in the United States. We will end the trip with a cold lunch overlooking the Detroit River. Bus leaves the Orion Center at 9:30 am.

CLUBS

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.
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, Jun 6–Aug 16 | 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.

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 & 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 | 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 those age 50+ to enhance their health and wellness. You must have a current membership to use this room. Interested in an Exercise Room Membership? Please call 248–391–0304 x3500 and a staff member will guide you through the registration process.

Instructor Profile
Exercise can be fun for all abilities
Cheryl Sussman has been teaching fitness classes for over 23 years. The past four years she has been one of our Silver Sneakers instructors for adults 50 and over. Cheryl enjoys sharing her knowledge of fitness with her students. She enjoys making exercise fun and enjoyable for everyone, regardless of their current physical abilities or limitations. With exercise, seniors can gain cardiovascular health and flexibility, along with great socialization in a relaxed group environment.

Call the Orion Center at 248-391-0304 x3500 to learn more about Silver Sneakers and ask if your insurance covers this benefit. Insurance covered participants are free; non-insurance participants pay $3 per class.
**Wildwood Summer Concert Series**

A partnership between Orion Parks & Recreation and Orion.Events.

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<td><strong>Thursday, June 9</strong></td>
<td>Jimmy McCarty’s Mystery Train wsg Pat Smillie</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, June 10</strong></td>
<td>JOVI (Bon Jovi Tribute) wsg Journey</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, June 11</strong></td>
<td>Parrots of the Caribbean (Jimmy Buffett Tribute)</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, June 14</strong></td>
<td>North Oakland Concert Band</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, June 16</strong></td>
<td>Rock Harley as Johnny Cash</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, June 17</strong></td>
<td>Rockstar (Tribute to Rock’s Greatest)</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, June 18</strong></td>
<td>Red Not Chili Peppers (RHCP Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 21</strong></td>
<td>Lake Orion High School Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, June 23</strong></td>
<td>PazMan Supersession (blues)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 28</strong></td>
<td>Shattered (Rolling Stones Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, June 30</strong></td>
<td>American Ride (Toby Keith Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 5</strong></td>
<td>Air National Guard Band of the Midwest</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, July 7</strong></td>
<td>Thornetta Davis, Motor City’s Queen of the Blues</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, July 8</strong></td>
<td>King of Pop (Michael Jackson Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, July 9</strong></td>
<td>Purple Madness (Prince Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 12</strong></td>
<td>The Look (Motor City Rock Legends)</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, July 14</strong></td>
<td>Country TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, July 15</strong></td>
<td>Barb Payton’s Led Zeppelin Experience</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, July 16</strong></td>
<td>FAME Monster (Madonna, Lady Gaga Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 19</strong></td>
<td>Byron in Motion/Legends (Vegas Style Revue)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, July 21</strong></td>
<td>Papa Kiszka &amp; the Voortex Blues Band</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, July 22</strong></td>
<td>Teddy Petty &amp; The Refugees (Tom Petty Tribute)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, July 23</strong></td>
<td>Nivrana (Nirvana Tribute)</td>
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**Tuesday, July 26**
Persuasion (Straight-up Party)

**Thursday, July 28**
Jill Jack wsg The Steve Taylor Trio

**Friday–Sunday, July 29–31**
Tommystock at Camp Agawam

**Tuesday, August 2**
Cast Iron Cornbread (Pop, Rock & Blues)

**Thursday, August 4**
At Last: A Salute to Etta James

**Friday, August 5**
Rock Never Stops: Def Leppard, Poison, Ratt

**Tuesday, August 9**
Dig A Phony (Beatles Tribute)

**Thursday, August 11**
Queens of Country Music+

**Friday, August 12**
Boy Band Review

**Thursday, August 18**
The Reefermen (Blues, Rock & Funk)

**Friday, August 19**
Rockstar: Tribute to Rock’s Greatest

*Tuesday concerts are free admission*

*Thursday and weekend concert tickets are available at Orion.Events. Shows are $10 and $20. See website for details.*
Can you unscramble this phrase?

Hint: Lake Orion Schools’ favorite hashtag.

#ANSKWAAE0YLORLI#

Back by popular demand! Gather your family, put your thinking caps on, and put the petal to the metal as you get out and explore, or even discover, our community. Solve puzzles on the road to find the mystery destinations all around Orion Township! Family car groups will earn points competing to solve the most clues, find all the destinations, and complete side missions along the way. Prizes will be given out to the team with the most points. Join in on this community-wide event to get out and about Orion Township in a fun way!

The Orion Community Road Rally is Saturday, June 18th starting at 11 am.

Please have Team Captains register their car groups by Sunday, June 12th at orionlibrary.org/calendar or by calling 248-693-3000.
Business is blooming in Orion

Several Chamber members celebrate openings and milestones with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

**Firestone Complete Auto Care**

Firestone Complete Auto Care does just about anything and everything. From a new set of tires to an oil change, alignment to brakes, they’re the complete auto repair package that’s committed to helping keep your car running newer longer. Firestone is located at 25 Indianwood Road. Learn about services or book online at firestonecompleteautocare.com or call 947-333-1015.

**Graphic Takeover**

Graphic Takeover are the “Brains Behind YOUR Brand.” With 16-plus years of battle tested experience in graphic design, print services, and branded merchandise, Graphic Takeover can create memorable experiences for your company, event and promotion. The Chamber celebrate the opening of their new storefront 948 S. Baldwin Road. Contact Graphic Takeover at 248-894-4464, jimmy@graphictakeover.com or GraphicTakeover.com.

Would your business like a ribbon cutting ceremony?

Ribbon-cuttings are an exciting and fun way to welcome new Chamber members, announce a Grand Opening or celebrate a business milestone.

When you schedule a ribbon-cutting with the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce, you can count on us to help you organize and execute a great event. To promote your ribbon-cutting, we announce it in our e-newsletters and create an event on our Facebook page. Our Board of Directors and Ambassadors will be there to help you celebrate as you cut the green ribbon with our big red scissors. A picture from your event will be featured in the upcoming issue of *Orion Living* Magazine.

Contact the Orion Area Chamber at 248-693-6300 to find out about membership and ribbon-cuttings or visit orionareachamber.com
Mathnasium of Lake Orion

Mathnasium is your neighborhood math–only learning center that teaches kids math the way that makes sense to them. Mathnasium offers customized in–person and live, face–to–face online math tutoring to help kids learn math through lessons and tutorials for grades K–12. The Chamber celebrated the opening of the new franchise at 572 N. Lapeer Road. Contact Mathnasium at 248-690–9627 or mathnasium.com.

MSB Studio Fitness

Anne Marie Gealy has been a Group Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer for over 20 years, dedicated to helping people achieve their fitness goals. Steve Gealy founded Main Street Bicycles 26 years ago. Together they have created an amazing combination of indoor/outdoor group fitness classes along with years of cycling experience. MSB Studio Fitness is located above Main Street Bicycles at 102 S. Broadway. Contact them at 313-520–0201 or visit msbstudiofitness.com for more information on classes and schedules.

Patch Boys

The Patch Boys is one of the most–trusted drywall repair companies in the United States. They've built that reputation by specializing in the smaller wall and ceiling repairs that homeowners want and need, completing those projects with top–quality results, and always providing excellent customer service along the way. For services visit thepatchboys.com/lake-orion/ or call 248-455–3999.

Orion Grill

Orion Grill is a new, full–service family restaurant serving Orion Township and the surrounding community. It’s located in the growing Baldwin Corridor at 3667 Baldwin Road. This family-owned and operated restaurant serves three delicious meals a day. Stop by to check out their offerings or call 248–391–8303 for more information.

See you at our Food Truck Festival on Friday, June 3!
Our Elite, Premium and Signature Members

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

Caliber Home Loans
92 Mill Street
Rochester, MI 48307

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

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

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

ROCKET Mortgage
748 King Circle
Lake Orion, MI 48362

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

Culver’s
Lake Orion, MI 48359

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

Haney Farm Bureau
528 S. Main St.
Lake Orion, MI 48360

Caliber Home Loans
92 Mill Street
Rochester, MI 48307

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

ROCKET Mortgage
748 King Circle
Lake Orion, MI 48362

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

Culver’s
Lake Orion, MI 48359

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

Find out more about how being a Chamber member can help your business grow and thrive in challenging times at orionareachamber.com.
Two nights of fireworks gives Orion a lot to ooh and ahh about

As we return to a summer of less restrictions and more normalcy, Orion is lucky to have two groups regaling us with fireworks to honor our country’s independence.

Enjoy the Lake Orion Lions Club’s Jubilee Fireworks starting at dusk on Saturday, June 25. The annual show returns as part of the Lion Club annual Jubilee carnival in downtown Lake Orion that runs from June 23 to 26. The fireworks are sponsored by Converting Alternatives with support from the carnival company, Skerbeck Entertainment and the Lake Orion Fireworks Foundation.

To usher in the second night of fireworks, the Lions Club sponsors Flare Night, scheduled for Friday, July 1. Residents from around the lake purchase flares (available at Wonder Cleaners and Ed’s Broadway Costumes & Gifts) to light up the lake. The proceeds from flare sales helps fund Lions Club activities and charities.

The Lake Orion Fireworks Foundation (LOFF) blasts off their fireworks on Saturday, July 2 from the east side of Lake Orion, their usual location. Formally the Lake Orion Fireworks Association (LOFA), the Foundation is now a 501(c)3 organization, so donations are tax-deductible. Headed up by President Dave Welch, Treasurer Bob Krefski, Secretary Rose Stolk and Directors Greg Rogers and Matt Gates, the LOFF is working on all the details to present another great show to the community. Longtime president Carl Cyrowski retired from the board in 2021.

To meet rising inflation and the cost increases for putting on a fireworks show, the LOFF has established a GoFundMe account to raise funds from businesses and residents who want to support their efforts. Their goal is to raise $40,000 in 2022. Their past GoFundMe fundraisers have been successful so LOFF is hopeful donors will meet the challenge this year. The LOFF is operated by volunteers and the fireworks are 100 percent privately funded.

“Every little bit helps us put on a great show,” says Director Greg Rogers.

Celebrate freedom and summer with these two spectacular events, and many others that our happening in our beautiful town this year!

Follow the Lions Club at facebook.com/LakeOrionLions.
Follow LOFF at facebook.com/LakeOrionFireworksFoundation.
Scan the QR code to donate to the LOFF.

Photo by Lee Smith
From the Director
It’s a pleasure to join the Lake Orion community

First, let me say what a pleasure it has been to join the Orion Township Public Library and the Orion community! Over the last several months I have had the opportunity to meet many of you, and I look forward to meeting many more in the years to come. Through events like the Battle of the Books, library storytimes, and other events I have seen a community that embraces its library, supports lifelong learning, and is actively engaged in community life. If you have a chance, I would love it if you stopped by the library and said hello.

While it is impossible to predict the future, we are currently fully open, and offering a full-range of programming for all ages. If you’ve missed browsing for books on the shelf, sitting in a chair and reading, or using the library’s computers, feel free to come in and see what’s happening. I encourage you to take a look at our event calendar at orionlibrary.org for all the latest news. We are especially thrilled to be bringing back our big Summer Reading kickoff on June 11, and we hope to see the whole family there for the first time in three years!

As I write this we are getting a new roof at the library. Our 30-year-old roof was showing some signs of wear and letting some water through in places, exactly what you don’t need a roof to be doing. Our new roof will go a long way in allowing us to create comfortable spaces inside for you to enjoy. By the time you read this it should be completed, and we can look at what other ways we can continue to improve the library space.

If you, like many others over the last couple years, have discovered the ease and simplicity of our downloadable ebooks, audiobooks, movies, and music, don’t worry, we will continue to offer you plenty of options on the digital front. In fact, you should check out our new mobile app, you can find it on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. With the app you can search the catalog, check events, and even check out library books using your phone.

So however you enjoy using the library I want to thank each and every one of you for being a library patron and supporter. We are here to meet your information and recreational needs and support a strong reading culture in the community. I look forward to having a great summer with you!

Chase

General Info

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

Upcoming Library Closings
4th of July: Sat, Jul 2, Mon, Jul 4

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

Hold Lockers

Our hold lockers are now available for use 24/7! They also offer a contactless/self-service option as a replacement for our curb-side 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!

Department Numbers

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

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

The library has recently debuted a new reading tracker app available to all OTPL patrons. Beanstack allows youth and teens to participate in ongoing reading challenges, like 1000 Books before Kindergarten through 100 Books by Graduation. Adults can also rate and keep track of books they read, sharing their progress with friends and family. Beanstack will also be used for the return of other adult reading challenges, like our popular 52 Books in 50 Weeks. We are excited to offer this innovative reading tracker to patrons. Simply download the Beanstack app and choose Orion Township Public Library to get started today!

New Podcast at OTPL

Staff at the library will be working with ONTV this summer to produce a brand new book-centric podcast called “We Blame Our Shelves". Topics will range anywhere from reviews of new titles, trends in publishing, to just plain talking about books we love. Keep your eye on our website and social media this summer to catch the first episode!

Library Blood Drive

Wed June 15
10:30 am–4:30 pm
Be a Lifesaver! Donate Blood @ the Orion Library.
Appointments encouraged at redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: orionlibrary.

OTPL Garage Sale

Fri, Jun 17 | 10 am–2 pm
Save the date for the OTPL Garage Sale! We have been doing some deep cleaning here at the library, and are ready to share our finds with you. Some items to sell are children’s toys, tools, a brand new backyard fire pit, holiday décor, lots of pictures and frames, silver, and so much more. Please stop by to see if we have a treasure for you!

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.

New Bee Hotels at OTPL

Take a look at our newest addition to the library courtesy of Boy Scout Noah Johnson from Troop 128! Noah designed and constructed two Bee Hotels for his Eagle Scout project, which will provide a nesting place for certain types of native endangered bees. One is located in the back reading garden and the other is along the trail that leads from the library parking lot to the Polly Ann Trail. Thank you for your beautiful contribution to our library Noah!

Director Meet and Greet

If you haven’t had an opportunity to stop by the library to meet our new director, here is your chance! Chase will be available for a meet and greet taking place during our Summer Reading Kickoff party on June 11 from 11 am to 1 pm. Stop by to our outdoor party to say hello, mingle, and hobnob to learn more about our new leader!

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.

Many of our programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Orion Library
# Programs for All Ages

## Summer Reading

### Oceans of Possibilities

#### Adult Summer Reading

Our annual summer reading program kicks off this year on June 11! Adults and seniors can pick up a reading tracker from the library, record your books, collect stamps for library challenges, and turn it in to receive a $5 gift card to a Lake Orion business. You can also complete library related challenge activities to be entered into raffles for additional prizes. Anyone who completes the reading goal will also be entered into a raffle for the grand prize of a Kobo eReader!

#### Teen Summer Reading

School is out for summer! YAY! Whether you studied in person or virtually, you made it, and now it’s time to relax. Grab a book and sit in the sun, by the pool, or at the beach, but don’t forget to sign up for Teen Summer Reading and earn prizes for all the relaxing you have planned for the summer. Good ole’ fashioned bingo is back for the teen summer reading program thanks to last year’s popularity. Prizes included $5 gift cards to local Lake Orion businesses and a free book of your choice! All winning bingo cards returned to the library by August 13 will be entered into our grand prize drawing for a $100 Amazon gift card.

#### Youth Summer Reading

This summer we are closing out computers and taking the summer reading program offline! Stop by the library any time starting June 11 to pick up your 2022 Oceans of Possibilities Summer Reading Boarding Pass. Earn stamps for completing library-related activities and enter to win fun prizes. A staff member will stamp your reading log after each book or challenge completed. SRP Boarding Passes can also be downloaded from our website, orionlibrary.org. Children and students ages 0 through 5th grade are invited to log activities through Saturday, August 13th.

### Summer Reading Kickoff Party

**Sat, Jun 11 | 11 am**

Celebrate the start of summer with the library. Youth, teen, and adults can pick up their summer reading trackers starting at kickoff. This outdoor party includes a bounce house, climbing wall, balloon animals, snacks, face painting, and more!

### Wildlife in Oakland County

**Thu, Jun 16 | 7 pm**

Join naturalists from Oakland County Parks and learn some little known facts about nature in our community.

### Orion Community Road Rally

**Sat, Jun 18 | 11 am–2 pm (ish)**

Back by popular demand! Get out your thinking caps and put the pedal to the metal! Drive around Orion Township solving clues that will lead to a secret destination. See page 35 for more info.

### Giant Outdoor Games

**Sat, Jul 30 | 11 am | All Ages**

Enjoy some quality time with the whole family playing a variety of oversized outdoor games.

### Outdoor Family Movie

**Thu, Aug 18 | 8 pm | All Ages**

Grab a blanket, camping chairs, and your family and attend this outdoor evening movie in our reading gardens. Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase to support the Friends of the Library. Movie selection TBD.

### Board Game Night

**Thur, Aug 25 | 6:30 pm**

Join us at the library to play some of the latest and greatest board games. Use one of our games, or feel free to bring your own!
**Downtown Storywalk®**

OTPL continues the Downtown Lake Orion Storywalk® in partnership with Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority. Take a stroll through downtown and catch a wave this summer with both classic and new titles in June, July, and August. June will take families and visitors inside a large whale, while July will bring readers to a jam-packed goldfish bowl. Finish off the summer by going on an adventure with Puff the Magic Dragon. Follow along with the map and explore new downtown stores each month. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg–Hubbard Library.

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**ADULT SERVICES**

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

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**BOOK DISCUSSION**

New members are always welcome to our book discussion groups!

**Book Bunch**

Wednesdays | 1 pm

June 8: *Harry's Trees* by Jon Cohen

August 10: *We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker

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**Monday Book Discussion**

Mondays | 7pm

July 18: *The Lager Queen of Minnesota*, by J. Ryan Stradal


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**Thursday Afternoon Book Club**

Thursdays | 1:30 pm

June 21: Any title by Colleen Hoover

July 21: *Beautiful World, Where are You* by Sally Rooney

August 18: *Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison

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**Cook the Book**

Mondays | 7 pm

You select and prepare a recipe from the cookbook chosen, and we meet to sample and discuss recipes from that month’s cookbook! Call [248-693-3001](tel:248-693-3001) if you need assistance acquiring a cookbook.

Mon, June 6: *Bring it!: Tried and True Recipes for Potlucks* by Ali Rosen, or your go-to potluck recipe.

Mon, Aug 8: *How to Grill Vegetables* by Steven Raichlen. We will have a grill available to use, or grill at home if you choose.

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**Junk Journals**

Sat, Jun 4 2 pm

Use envelopes and cardstock to make a journal to store paper junk or even as a reading tracker with prizes.

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**Glowforge Bird Houses**

Sat, Jul 9 | 2 pm and 3:30 pm

Learn to use our Glowforge laser cutter to create and decorate a wooden bird house.

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**Makerspace Office Hours**

Thurs, Jun 9, Jul 14, Aug 11 | 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.

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**Call 248-693-3000**

Sign up for Library Programs at [orionlibrary.org/calendar](http://orionlibrary.org/calendar) or call [248-693-3000](tel:248-693-3000)
Write Stuff Writers Group
Every second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, the Write Stuff Writers Group meets for one hour to discuss all things writing. Whether you write for kids, adults, fiction, nonfiction, cookbooks, self-help books, memoirs, music, plays, film, television, etc., stop by for conversations and critiques. The vision of this group is to be flexible to meet your needs. If you want to share your work, give or take critiques, or listen and converse on the creative process, it is up to you. Past members include Carolann Moore and B, David Warner; check out their work when you get the chance. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Book Yak on a Kayak Book Discussion
Mon, Jul 25 | 6:30 pm
Register online
We are offering a one-of-a-kind book discussion—meet at the dock on Lake Sixteen to paddle and discuss the book The River by Peter Heller aboard kayaks or canoes! Bring your own paddle craft/life jacket. Please arrive by 6:15 pm; we will leave the dock promptly at 6:30. Checkout or inter-loan a copy of The River; call 248-693-3001 if you need assistance acquiring a book. Game On Paddle Boarding will rent kayaks at a discounted rate of $20 and deliver them to Lake Sixteen; please contact them directly at least one week ahead of time at 248-690-6241.

The Write Stuff Writers Workshop
Wed, Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10 | 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.

Michigan Works @ Your Library
Tuesdays | Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9
9:30 am–12:30 pm
Drop in and Oakland County Michigan Works will assist you with upcoming workshops, youth and adult programs, resume ideas, job searches, interview skills, and more. They can point you in the right direction for inquiries about local resources, Department of Health & Human Services and much more.

Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group
Tuesdays | Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9
10:30 am
This monthly support group for individuals who care for those with Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementia is led by a trained facilitator and sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association Michigan Chapter. If you can’t make the meeting in person, see the event calendar on our website for a zoom link to join virtually.

Estate Planning
Wed, Jun 8 | 2 pm | Register online
Do I really have enough assets to bother planning for? Where are all my important papers? Will it be difficult for my spouse or children to access my assets? What is probate? Join local retirement specialist Oliver Lee to learn more about estate planning and get the answers to these and many more questions.

Take and Make: Embroidery Hoop Wall Organizer
Wed, Jul 20
Using fabric scraps and an embroidery hoop, take home this kit to make a colorful wall organizer.

Outdoor Yoga @ Your Library
Tuesdays | Aug 9, 16, and 23 | 6:30 pm
Drop in and enjoy yoga outside in the beautiful natural setting behind our building. A yoga instructor from Pushna Wellness, a local yoga and fitness studio, will be leading as you relax and enjoy the stillness, breath, and movement of yoga. Please bring a towel or yoga mat. In case of rain, the class will be held indoors.
OUTREACH

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 Rd. Large print books, audiobooks, movies, put and take paperbacks, puzzles, and magazines are available for all. There are also computers and a printer available.

Geri–Fit Exercise Program for Seniors
Tuesdays | Jun 21–Aug 16 | 10:30 am | Register online
No meeting July 5
Have fun with others while exercising in a chair with weights. Following videos and coached by a trained coach, Geri–Fit classes combine strength and balance training to rebuild strength that’s been lost through the aging process. Registration required for the first session only, which signs you up for the whole series.

English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)
Wednesdays | 10:30 am
No meeting July 6
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 | Jun 3 and 17, Jul 1 and 15, Aug 5 and 19 | 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 of conversation prompt so that participants can enjoy the company of other seniors!

OTPL Bookbike
Watch for us on trails and at parks and community events as we bring the library outside our walls this summer! Stop by the Bookbike for books, information, giveaways, and to get your summer reading logs stamped. The Bookbike will be visiting many LOCS elementary schools during their lunch recesses before school lets out this summer; visit our events calendar for more Bookbike stops. We hope to see you this summer as we pedal around the Orion community!

Home Delivery Services
If you or someone you know lives in Orion Township and is unable to physically visit the library, even short term, let us know. We offer delivery services for books, audiobooks and music—give us specific titles or let us know what you like and we can introduce you to new authors. Material is delivered either by car or through our Books by Mail program, where your books are delivered and returned through the United States Postal Service. Outreach patron Louise has enjoyed our home delivery services since 2012 when a health situation prevented her from visiting the library regularly.

“One of the greatest benefits for those who are homebound is the personal connection and wonderful communication you get with the home delivery service,” Louise says.

Louise loves the variety of books she receives, and is very happy that staff is able to place specific requests for her. As an avid reader, over the years Louise has donated many of her own books to the Friends of the Orion Library.

“Donating to the library is a great way for me to give back to this program that has been so wonderful for me,” she says.

When asked if Louise felt all libraries should offer home delivery service she responded, “Yes, it would mean so much to homebound people, especially seniors. The visit helps break up the day, encourages reading and meaningful conversation, and not just about books!” she says. “Ever since I joined the program in 2012, I have had nothing but kind and thoughtful Outreach delivery staff that I consider my friends.”

Material is delivered on your schedule so we can bring a lot or a little and come only as frequently as you need. For more information, please contact Outreach Services Coordinator, Beth Sheridan at 248–693–3000 x411 or esheridan@orionlibrary.org.
JUST FOR TEENS

Teen Tuesday
Tuesdays | 6:30–8 pm
No meeting Aug 23
Teen Tuesday is a casual hangout 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!

Teen Summer Reading Party
Fri, Aug 12 | 5–8 pm | Register online
This year we are going all out! Join our carnival themed summer reading party complete with inflatables bungee run, basketball, Velcro wall, and jousting. Cool down by making your own snow cone with a choice of fun flavors! Pizza and drinks will also be provided. Bring a friend and see who wins the personal competition of jousting, or compete for tricks sticking to the Velcro wall. It’s a good time to be a rambunctious teen at OTPL! This program is for 6–12 grades.

Live Streaming Workshop
Thu, Aug 18 | 1–3 pm
Register online
Join ONTV as they teach live streaming and video recording with OBS (a free to use software). This program will be popular for those who like to stream as they play video games.

3D Beach Art
Sat, Jun 25 | 2–3 pm
Register online
No time for the beach? Bring the beach to yourself with 3D canvas art including paint, sand and shells.

Ice Cream Party
Fri, Jul 15 | 2–3 pm | Register online
Did you know Sunday July, 17 is National Ice Cream Day? We are celebrating Friday with make your own sundaes. Choose all your favorite toppings for the most over the top sundae you can make!

Intro to Filming Workshop
Wed, Jul 20 | 1–3 pm
Register online
Join ONTV as they teach how to use camera equipment (including smartphones) to film your own videos

NEW YA SUMMER READS 2022

Graphic Novel: Heartstopper Series 1–4 by Alice Oseman
If you have not gotten your hands on this amazing GN yet, run to the library where it’s waiting for you to devour! Why is it perfect for summer? It’s light, refreshing and simple, just the way summer is supposed to feel!

Mystery: The Drowning Summer by Christine Lynn Herman
Six summers ago Evelyn summoned a ghost to clear her father of his murder charges, noting to never summon a spirit again. However, she was most definitely lying! This is a summary read with a witchy murder mystery!

Realistic Fiction: If You Change Your Mind by Robby Weber
Harry want to be a Hollywood screenwriter. And the first step to achieve his goals is to spend his summer free of distractions and finish his script for college admissions. Love is only found in the movies anyway, or is it? Harry soon realizes summer doesn’t always follow a script!

Fantasy: Twin Crowns by Catherine Doyle and Katherine Webber
Twin princesses separated at birth, one raised to be a princess, the other kidnapped and raised to steal the crown and avenge the parent’s murders. This high stakes fantasy is also a rom-com, be prepared to laugh the rays away while soaking up the sun!!
FAMILY PROGRAMS

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

- **Jun 17** Sashabaw Plains, Clarkston
- **Jun 24** Children’s Park, Lake Orion
- **Jul 8** Baycourt Park, Clarkston
- **Jul 15** Location TBD, Lake Orion
- **Jul 22** Wint Nature Center @ Independence Oaks, Clarkston
- **Jul 29** Friendship Park Community Gardens, Lake Orion

**Minions Mania**
Tue, Jun 28
2 pm | All Ages
Get ready for the upcoming Minion movie with this program. Silly mayhem, dancing, and minion themed fun will be ready for all.

**Glow Games**
Sat, Jul 9 | 11 am–1 pm | All Ages
Join in for indoor glowing fun adventure as we host Glow Games from Oakland County Parks. Play glow-in-the-dark golf and other fun, glowing games!

**Creatures: Oh My! with Dan the Creature Man**
Wed, Jul 27 | 2 pm | All Ages
Meet ten of the friendliest and most interesting and colorful animals up close and personal during this creature feature with Dan the Creature Man.

**Create with your Crew—Selfie Art Wall**
Sat, Aug 6 | 11 am | All Ages
Working together as a crew and a library community we are going to create a selfie art project on our artist walls in the library.

**Summer Reading Finale with Baffling Bill**
Sat, Aug 13 | 11 am | All Ages
Enjoy an outstanding magic show outside with Baffling Bill to celebrate a summer of reading! Summer Reading showcase prize raffle will begin promptly after the show.

**Birds and Blooms Storytime**
Mon, Jun 13
10 am & 11 am
Ages 0–5
Start the summer off right with stories, songs, rhymes, and a craft about birds and blooms.

**Over in the Ocean**
Mon, Jun 27 | 10 am & 11 am
Ages 0–5
Join us for stories, songs, rhymes, and activities about fish, whales, and other ocean animals.

**Bounce & Boogie LIVE**
Wed, Jun 29 | 11 am | All Ages
Join Music at the Blissful for this fun-filled family concert full of movement, live music, and dancing!

**Bubbles and Splash**
Mon, Jul 11 | 11 am | Ages 0–5
Lots of outdoor bubble and water fun for our youngest patrons!

**Pick Up STEAM—Underwater**
Thu, Jul 14 | 11 am | Ages 3–5
Pick up STEAM is a preschool friendly science, math, and learning session. There will be experiments, fun, crafts, and math all centered on underwater creatures and science.
SENSEsational Storytime—Water Tables
Thu, Jul 21 | 11 am | Ages 0–5
A welcoming, interactive environment designed for children with special needs and sensory seeking kids featuring water tables and water activities.

Over in the Ocean: Polar Animals
Mon, Jul 25 | 10 am & 11 am
Ages 0–5
Join us for stories, songs, rhymes, and activities about polar bears, penguins, and other polar animals.

Character Storytime Week
Mon–Wed | Aug 8–10 | 10 am & 11 am
Ages 0–5
It’s a special week of storytimes about your favorite characters!
Monday: Elephant & Piggie and Friends
Tuesday: Batman and Friends
Wednesday: Disney friends

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

Doggone Readers
Mondays | Jun 20, Jul 18, Aug 15
6:30 pm | Grades K–5 | Register online
Visit with Jasper, Henry, or our other surprise therapy dogs to practice your reading skills to a silent listener—the dog! Readers can collect stamps for a free book. Registration is required.

Shark Fun—Doo doo doo doo
Tue, Jun 14 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
Do you enjoy these creatures of the ocean? Come and learn about sharks and enjoy a variety of shark themed activities, including a Baby Shark dance break.

Save Our Oceans
Tue, Jun 21 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
Explore how pollution and changing climates affect ocean habitats, and learn ways that you can help save them.

LEGO STEM Challenge
Thursdays | Jun 23 & Aug 4
6:30 pm | Grades K–5
Choose a STEM Challenge Card, make a plan, and see what you can build with LEGO bricks.

Narwhal and Jelly Party
Sat, Jul 16
2 pm | Grades K–5
Narwhal and Jelly love parties! Celebrate Ben Clanton’s Narwhal and Jelly graphic novel series with friends, awesome activities, and maybe even waffles!

How Do They Do That?
Tue, Jul 19 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
Have you ever wondered how polar bears and penguins stay warm and dry? Come see how these and other ocean animals adapt to live in their environment.

3D Print Harry Potter Wands
Tue, Jul 26 | 11 am, 2 pm, & 3 pm
Grades 3–5 | Register online
Come to the library to learn how to use Tinkercad to create your own Harry Potter wand. Wand designs will be submitted for printing and you will be notified when your wand is ready for pick up. Registration is required.

Water Games
Tue, Aug 2 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
We’re playing a smorgasbord of outdoor water-themed games featuring water balloons, kiddie pools, and more! Don’t forget your towel!

Sea of Creativity
Thu, Aug 11 | 2 pm | Grades K–5
Bring your creativity for a fun afternoon of ocean-themed crafts.

Battle of the Books Congratulations!
Orion Township Public Library would like to congratulate the winning team of 5th Grade Battle of the Books 2022—the Record Breakers: Eleanor Green, Vida Hutchings, Addison Kross, Sydney Ostertag, and Katie Smith! 124 fifth grade students from Lake Orion community participated in the 37th annual Battle of the Books on Saturday, March 19, at Waldon Middle School. Students formed teams in December and spent the next several months reading nine preselected books, meeting with teammates, and preparing for the battle. This year’s battle consisted of 45 questions, with teams receiving points for the correct title and author. The winning team answered 43 of the 45 questions correctly, and received a bonus point for having perfect spelling.
A Victory Party was held on Monday, March 21, where the winners were announced. Prizes were also awarded for 2nd and 3rd place, best costumes, best team spirit, and best team name. We were also pleased to have Kelly Baptist, a Michigan resident and author of one of the battle books, attend the victory party. She spoke to the students about writing, hosted a Q & A, and signed copies of her book. Congratulations to all the participants!
Help the Friends help the Library

“There is no possession more valuable than a good and faithful friend.”—Socrates

Looking for active volunteers

The Friends are always looking for help on our committees, board of directors, and with events. It’s a great way to serve in the community, meet new people, pitch in and have fun. If you, your family or service groups have an interest, reach out to the Friends at friends@orionlibrary.org.

The Friends need active help. You may ask “If I volunteer, what will I be required to do?” The Friends will put your talents to use and we don’t require you to do anything that might make you uncomfortable. Here are some ways to volunteer:

- Work at the book sales including cash register, loading, unloading, baggers, and floor help.
- Sort donation books. We have dedicated volunteers who do this but they can use more helping hands.
- Wrap baskets for our annual holiday basket silent auction. Prep baskets, set up, and take down the auction.
- Donate to book sales and the annual basket auction.
- Have a talent with Facebook posts or journalism? Would you like to be involved with public relations for the Friends? We especially need your help!

Designate your Amazon Smile and Kroger Rewards to the Friends

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

Friends funds support Library Maker Space

Friends provide all funding for library programming, including those that take place in the innovative library Maker Space. This area is filled with state-of-the-art equipment—a Glowforge laser cutter, a Cricut machine, Spellbinder, sewing machine, digitization equipment, and even a button maker!

Friends funds are used for supplies and materials needed to run classes in the library Maker Space. Makerspace equipment is free to use on your own, but materials are only free during library classes. This summer, funds will purchase wood for the Glowforge bird house program in July and paper, vinyl and infusible ink for the Cricut custom mug program in August. The Friends also provides materials for 3D printed Harry Potter Wands in July.

With volunteer help and donations, the Friends contribute an average $20,000 annually to the library, making many of the wonderful programs the library offers possible.

Thank you Goodwill Industries

The Oxford Goodwill retail store selected the Friends as their round-up partner in January and February. Shoppers rounded-up their purchases and the donations were shared with the Friends. Goodwill Industries has served southeastern Michigan for 62 years. Donations will be gifted to the library for programming in our next grant cycle.
LOCS Strategic Plan

Mapping Out a Strategic Future

More than three years ago, in December of 2018, the Lake Orion Community Schools Board of Education began discussing developing a new strategic plan.

The seismic, $160 million Bond proposal had just passed a month earlier, setting an exciting course for the next generation of LOCS learning through updated, modern facility improvements.

The buildings were the most visible piece and placed the focus on the next major step: strategic planning.

After preliminary discussions, the Board decided to postpone the process until a Superintendent search was completed. The COVID–19 pandemic also delayed the planning process until it was revived midway through 2021.

“The strategic planning process is key to any successful organization,” said Board of Education President Jim Weidman, who has spent 20 years as a trustee on the LOCS Board. “Years ago, we developed a strategic plan that we had been reviewing and updating in recent years. The purpose of revisiting the strategic plan is to do a complete refresh on the district’s long–term plan based on changing conditions in education and focusing on new opportunities for students and families in our updated plan.”

The goal of the strategic plan is to refine the focus for the district’s leadership team as decisions are made for the students and staff. Having a defined plan allows leadership to develop objectives aligned with the goals created in the plan.

“It has different values for different members of our organization,” said LOCS Superintendent Ben Kirby. “If you don’t have a map, you’re never going to know if you’re getting to the goals you want to achieve.”

After months of work by community stakeholders and the LOCS Administration, the new plan was developed for implementation this spring and summer.

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Education’s initial role was to select an outside organization to drive the process.

After a presentation from the Michigan Association of School Boards, Debbie
Stair and her team were selected.

“I’m a firm believer in strategic planning,” Stair, the assistant director for leadership development at MASB, told the LOCS Board at the July 21, 2022, meeting. “It’s about figuring out where you want to be in the future and then putting a plan in place to get there.”

She explained that the vision of where a district seeks to land is accomplished by setting district goals.

The goals end up being the combination of the Board’s key work and goals, as well as the Superintendent’s performance standards and goals. Those both feed into the district staff standards and goals.

Process

The process began with stakeholder input, including face-to-face input sessions, which were held in conjunction with an online survey for community members to offer input. Staff members, the LOCS Administration Leadership Team, as well as high school and middle school student groups, also offered their feedback on the district’s status.

An educational data audit was conducted to compile the key information as well.

That led to a stakeholder group of community members, staff, LOCS administrators and Board of Education members, who met for a day-long retreat at the Orion Township Hall on February 5, 2022.

With a balance of participants from each group, the goal was to gather different perspectives as the district impacts each one in a unique manner.

- The Board of Education trustees receive regular updates at their meetings about the ongoing processes and achievements within the district and focus on the broad picture.
- The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents conduct the day-to-day operations of their categories (academics, human resources, operation and business and finance.)
- The Directors and Supervisors focus on their topics (Transportation, Special Education, Finance, Community Programs/Enrichment Services, Curriculum, Communications.)
- Building administrators implement the district processes, guide their staff members and oversee the daily environment.
- Teachers and support staff work directly with the students each day.
- Families observe the growth and development of their individual students.
- Community members, including Orion Township and Lake Orion Village leaders assess the impact and interaction of the district and their constituents.

Weidman noted that all these voices were critical to the district creating and implementing a plan that works for all groups.

Feeding off the input received from the various stakeholders, the day featured large-group discussions about the key issues in the district and goals.

There was a focus on what is working now, what is in process, and what can be longer-range areas for the district moving forward.

These focuses allowed the group to understand the evolving nature of education within the district and the topics that formerly were a priority versus those which draw more attention in the current environment.

In the small-group tasks, groups defined the vision, mission and overall big-picture goals.

Guided by Stair and the MASB team, the approximately 40 attendees offered suggestions and gained insight into the district processes.

It was an educational experience for all to gain insight and work in a group with diverse perspectives.

“I enjoy participating and knowing
what’s going on with the school and the district behind the scenes,” said Beth Kempkens, who has two elementary-aged children in LOCS. “I wanted to participate and see how all of that (strategic planning) works, the visions and missions as everything is happening and also have a say in developing that. That was really special.”

Those thoughts were brought to a workgroup of LOCS administrators a few weeks later who took the larger ideas and began to sketch out an extended plan, with three objectives in each category and benchmarks for each of the five years of the plan.

Greater emphasis was placed on the first year objectives with detailed plan developed in each goal area.

The results of that initial workshop fed into the next steps and allowed the other groups to take ownership in the process.

“It was reinforced through this process and helped me that I’m seeing the right things and I think the path forward is really well-outlined to emphasize what I’ve always known was there,” Kempkens said.

Outcomes

A significant focus in the work groups was to center around the word Dragons and the idea that everyone associated with the schools (staff, students, parents, community members) considered themselves Dragons.

The belief statements center around five topics:

- Collaboration between all groups
- Creating a safe and equitable environment with respect
- Cultivating potential
- Character development
- Dynamic and innovative approach to education

The mission focuses on empowering everyone to achieve excellence. And the vision is about empowering everyone to experience joy and success.

As the strategic plan moves toward implementation, it will focus on five areas.

- **Academics and Program:** Increase opportunities and flexibility
- **Communications and Community Engagement:** Enhance district communications and increase community engagement
- **Learning environment and culture:** Provide a learning environment where all students and staff feel safe, supported, honored and respected
- **Personnel/Leadership:** Attract, retain and value exceptional staff
- **Operations:** Maintain and enhance operations and facilities

Each of these areas is defined with specific tasks, having an identified leader and steps to take in the first year to achieve the desired result.

The district has created an implementation team, which will meet regularly to review the adherence to the plan and the leadership team will also review to make sure its decisions align with the result.

There will be an annual review to create the following year’s goals in each area.

Teachers of the Year

Lake Orion Community Schools honored its 2022–23 teachers of the year in February, with one individual from each level representing the district at the Oakland Schools level.

**High School: Stephen Bodiya.** A math teacher for the past 10 years at Lake Orion High School, he has a unique ability to serve all students in various ways.

“One of the most impressive things about Steve is the flexibility he seamlessly executes within his personal teaching style,” LOHS district math coach Brent Cubitt said in Bodiya’s nomination.

“Every day Steve teaches an Algebra 1 Math Lab to some of our most challenged math students through a balance of explanation and encouragement. Steve can immediately pivot his approach to instruct AP Calculus to some of our best mathematical
and set the benchmarks for each term to ensure process is continuing towards those goals.

LOCS will be transparent with the plan as well, creating documents and sharing with the community the goals and focuses of the district.

As strategic planning has evolved over the past few decades in school districts, sharing common explanations of the plans has become a focus.

One of the missions for Kirby in his two years guiding LOCS is finding consistency across the district. With 13 schools (six elementary, three middle, two high schools, a special education center and an early childhood building,) there are a variety of different student groups and ages. But the cohesiveness is important to moving forward as one and providing each student with a similar, yet individualized, experience.

“It’s about focus and all of our Dragons deserve an outstanding education and that does allow us to provide consistency across the district,” Kirby said. “When you have multiple buildings at the same grade span, it is important that all children get the same education and that it’s a high-level education.”

Weidman’s experience through multiple strategic planning processes in LOCS affords him some perspective on the value of the work and the result.

“We will come out of the process with a great long-term plan that will reflect the desires of the community and enhance educational opportunities for students and families in Lake Orion,” he said.

Minds by setting high expectations and challenging their mental boundaries. Additionally, the strong personal connections that Steve makes with individual students across all of his classes, despite their varying levels of performance or mathematical ability, truly sets Steve apart.”

**Middle School: Dakotah Cooper.**
A music teacher for the past 11 years throughout LOCS, including the past two years at Waldon Middle School, he has made personal connections with students.

“Mr. Cooper is known for the positive culture he builds within his classroom,” Waldon Middle School principal Randy Groya shared in Cooper’s nomination. “Multiple students have expressed how safe, valued, and important they feel in his class. Mr. Cooper centers his lessons around building student confidence, and frequently has students listen back to the music they play, in order to point out growth.”

**Elementary School: Lorie Van Arsdale.** An elementary teacher in LOCS for 24 years, she has spent the past 20 years teaching Kindergarten, providing students with a comfortable transition into their elementary school experience.

“She is masterful at engaging all learners,” Orion Oaks Elementary principal Jillian Knapp expressed in Van Arsdale’s nomination. “She does this with a calm presence, that only SHE can pull off. She intricately knows the differences in her learners, and how they can be reached. She understands their interests, takes the time to get to know them, develops the relationships, which is how she maintains their engagement. She makes them feel valued. She does this not only with the student, but with the family.”

LOCS also selected one individual as the district’s Support Staff Person of the Year.

**Staff Associate: Anthony Taormina.**
Spending the past eight years in LOCS and the past five at Scripps Middle School, Taormina has overcome his personal challenges and created a bond with the students in his position.

“Anthony is a wonderful advocate and role model for students with special needs,” shared Heather Schott, a Scripps Middle School teacher who nominated Taormina. “Anthony is autistic and is always proud to share his experiences and successes. His empathy for children who might struggle is evident in the many connections he makes with all students. He is truly the best role model and a true Lake Orion hero.

“Students refer to Anthony as a ‘ray of sunshine’ and ‘the best lunch man ever’. He is always excited to be at work and finds way to connect with students and they all look up to him. He would do anything to help anyone and prides himself on being a mentor to the students.”
LOHS International Student Program

Host an exchange student this fall

The world has become a global society, more so in the 21st Century than any time in history, and Lake Orion has become a destination for international students to study and learn about American culture.

Before the pandemic, Lake Orion High School welcomed 40+ exchange students each year. The program started about seven years ago with only a handful of students.

“They are great kids,” said Michele Novak, a LOHS guidance counselor and international student program coordinator. “If you ask them why they study abroad, they say they just want to experience the American Dream, even if it’s for one year.”

Lake Orion Community Schools has partnered with Student Management Group (SMG), an F–1 exchange student company. Students are on an F1 visa, which means they are in the US for educational purposes, with strict guidelines for school attendance and grades.

“They’re here only for education. They can’t work, they can’t obtain a driver’s license. They can play sports and be involved (in school activities) and all of them do get involved.”

Students can transfer their credits from their home country and seniors take the senior requirements and can earn a diploma from Lake Orion.

The international students bring so much diversity to Lake Orion.

“Our kids are excited to meet them. And all of them get involved in sports, National Honor Society, Key Club. They get involved in Cultural Outreach,” she said. “They love to play American football. Most of them have never played before, but they still love it. Our coaches love to get them integrated into sports.”

A push for host families

“This is where we can’t do it alone,” Novak said. “Right now we have kids waiting because they can’t receive their visa unless they get approval here. They’re waiting to see if someone will pick them up (and be a host family).”

Novak understands that at first people might be a skeptical about inviting someone they’ve never met into their home.

“Our family has hosted four students from three different countries and the experience is amazing,” she said. “We even went to their homes to visit them.”

The international students stay for the school year, arriving about a week before school begins and leaving within a week after school ends.

Students aren’t assigned. Host families look at profiles and choose students. Host families receive a $400 monthly stipend to offset the cost of hosting.

The international students come with their own spending money, cell phones, health insurance.

“The only thing they’re really looking for is a home and a host family,” Novak said. “Not just a home, but a family. We get kids that were part of this program three, four, five years ago and they still come back to America. They still come back to Lake Orion and say hello to everybody,” Novak said.

“They become a Dragon. They really do, and it’s so fun to see.”

For more information about the program and/or hosting an international student, contact Michele Novak at 248-431-3098 or michele.novak@lok12.org.
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summer camp
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Explore 2D and 3D art in a variety of mediums, and expand your creative knowledge through one of our 2022 summer camps! Students of any skill level are welcomed to explore their creative side, and learn something new, with our team of passionate instructors from our community.

Teens DIY Creativity Camp (13+)
- June 20, 21, and 22 from
- 10am–12pm
- $175

Kids Animal Camp (7+)
- July 5, 6, 7, and 8
- 9am–12pm
- $170

Art Journaling Summer Camp (11+)
- July 11, 12, and 13
- 1pm–3pm
- $125

Kids Clay Camp (7-10)
- July 19, 20, and 21
- 9am–11am
- $150

Kids Clay Camp (11-14)
- July 19, 20, and 21
- 12:30pm–3:30pm
- $150

Where The Wild Things Are Kids Camp (7+)
- August 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12
- 9am-12pm
- $170

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The American Orthodontic Association Recommends First Orthodontic Exam by Age 7

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Ages 7 and up
July 19th thru 22nd

Ballerina/B-boy
Ages 3 thru 6
Aug 9th and 11th

Join us this summer for our dance camps! A week that will not only challenge you in dance but also inspire you. Master level teachers will provide instruction in cutting edge choreography and technique. Each student will receive a T-shirt and the event will culminate in a showcase for family and friends to enjoy.

Fall Registration Open House

Free registration for new families with this ad

Friday, August 19th
5:30PM - 7:30PM

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Kids Night!

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 pm (weather dependent)

FREE STEAM & STEM activities provided by Challenge Island and the Orion Art Center

20 Front Street, lower level
Downtown Lake Orion

Cookies & Cream
Sprout Bake

Kids Night!

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 pm (weather dependent)

FREE STEAM & STEM activities provided by Challenge Island and the Orion Art Center

Moms! Bring your children to Kids Night to receive their special ice cream spoon!

Bring the spoon each time you attend Kids Night to receive a FREE healthy cookie or muffin!
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- Carpenter
- Orion Oaks
- Paint Creek
- Stadium

Contact Heartfelt Impressions for details!
Miracles on the field.

When the 2022 season opens at Miracle Field at Friendship Park on June 14, a new concession stand and accessible public restrooms will welcome players, coaches and fans. The Miracle League provides children with disabilities an opportunity to play baseball as a team member in an organized league.