

ORION LIVING

Issue 16 | *Spring 2023* | Charter Township of Orion, Michigan

IN IT
FOR THE
Long
Run

What's Inside

Spring home maintenance
and safety info

Classes, camps, courses and
cameraderie at the Library
and Orion Parks & Rec

Activities abound for warm
weather enthusiasts

Meet Township and Chamber
members who make a
difference

A program to ensure
teachers' professional growth

YOUR QUARTERLY
guide
TO LIFE IN ORION

Photo by Lee Smith



Useful Numbers

EMERGENCIES

911

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH
POLICE/FIRE/EMS

248-858-4911

LAKE ORION POLICE
DEPARTMENT (VILLAGE)

248-693-8321

ORION TOWNSHIP
(INCLUDING FIRE DEPARTMENT)

248-391-0304

WATER OR SEWER EMERGENCIES
AFTER-HOURS

248-858-4911

ORION AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

248-693-6300

ORION TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY

248-693-3000

LAKE ORION COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

248-693-5400

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY (DDA)

248-693-9742

VILLAGE OF LAKE ORION

248-693-8391

ROAD COMMISSION FOR
OAKLAND COUNTY

877-858-4804

LAKE ORION POST OFFICE

248-693-3253

ONTV

248-393-1060

COVER: The Memorial Day 5K Run/Walk is held every Memorial Day to support the Orion Veteran's Memorial. The race runs through Downtown Lake Orion and along the Paint Creek Trail.

Background photo by K Gedda Smith Images

A FRESH SEASON OF possibilities AWAITS



It's a new year and all of us at *Orion Living Magazine* are excited to share in the new opportunities and experiences that this year has to offer.

I am excited to share all of these with you at the 2023 State of the Township Address, happening Wednesday, March 22 at 9 am. Be sure to follow the Township's Facebook page for more information.

In this edition of *Orion Living Magazine* you'll read about local history, Township updates, the latest happenings with Parks & Recreation, the Orion Township Public Library, and the Downtown Development Authority, as well as the amazing things the schools are doing.

We continually strive to improve this magazine and make it the best resource for information, entertainment, and inspiration. Our team is dedicated to providing you, our readers, with the most comprehensive view of all things Orion. We thank your for being a loyal reader of *Orion Living Magazine*.

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor



ORION LIVING

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

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

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Graphic Design by *Canoe Circle Graphics*

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New Township Treasurer Kim Urbanowski

A township treasure

The role of treasurer is an important one with significant responsibility. As a treasurer, it's essential to be organized, detail-oriented, and have excellent communication skills to ensure that their duties are carried out efficiently. After the comprehensive application process, Kim Urbanowski was appointed the Township's newest Treasurer.

Urbanowski was born in Lincoln Park, Michigan but didn't stay there long. Her dad was in the Navy and his position required them to move around quite a bit. Over the years, Kim and her family lived in California, Washington, Hawaii, Ohio, North Carolina, and Tennessee.



If you ask her which state is her favorite, there's no doubt she's picking Michigan—Orion Township, to be specific. Kim's family moved back to

Michigan permanently when she was a sophomore in high school and she has been a resident of Orion Township since the mid-1990s.

When asked, Kim said, "Camp Agawam is my favorite thing about Orion! It's the perfect spot to have a party, especially if you rent Alberici Lodge. The beach at Tommy's Lake is a hidden gem," she continued. "My family spent a lot of time there in 2020, getting lost in the trees and enjoying the fresh air. My stepson even camps there with his Boy Scout troop."

While growing up, Urbanowski's career aspirations changed depending on where she was living at the time. While living in North Carolina in Junior High, she wanted to go to college close to Myrtle Beach and study Marine Biology. When her family moved back to Michigan, she wanted to study journalism. "I started going to Red Wings games and was able to sit in the press box on occasion, thanks to a neighbor who was an NHL statistician," Kim recalled. "Interacting with sports writers made me want to pursue a degree in communication and go into journalism."



Shortly after high school Kim went into the military. When asked about her time in the service, she responded with a laugh, "No, because it's top secret, and I don't want to put you in danger."

While in the military, Kim met her husband, Lee Smith. They were both on the same base, going to school to become certified Aviation Electronics Technicians. They do have a



bit of an unconventional family history in that they've been married to each other twice. The first time was for two years in the 90s. They ended up rekindling their relationship in 2010 and have been remarried since 2016. They have five children in their blended family ranging from 12 to 29 years. They also share their home with two dogs, a 13-year-old mixed breed named Danny and a 10-year-old green cheek conure named Murphy.

In her spare time, Kim loves to cook. During the pandemic, she hosted regular Friday night Facebook Live cooking "shows" to entertain her family and friends.

"I owned a business in Orion from 2007 to 2009 called Urban Gourmet, a high-end food market," Kim said.

In her spare time, Kim enjoys traveling.

"Doesn't matter if the destination is near or far away; I have always enjoyed getting in a car or on a plane and taking off somewhere new," she says.

Before becoming Treasurer, Kim was the Executive Director for the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce (OACC). Prior to that, she was the Communication Manager/Finance Coordinator for the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities. She has been very community focused since she arrived in Orion, getting involved wherever she could. Most recently, she became a member of the Planning Commission in July 2020, was elected as a Trustee for the Orion Township Board of Trustees in November 2020, and served as Deputy Treasurer for the Orion Community Cable Commission in January 2021. Many of the skills needed to do the

job correlate directly with her past experiences, making her well-suited for the position.

Kim was attending college for a degree in communications when she put that on hold to pursue the full-time director position with the OACC. With only two classes left to finish her degree, Oakland University offered her a small grant to entice her to return to school. After all those years, she was finally able to complete her Bachelor's Degree in Communications in 2021.

"My position at the OACC afforded me the opportunity to work with the Township team on cool projects that I'm proud of, like the KaBOOM! Playground at Camp Agawam and the Orion Living Magazine," Urbanowski said. "As a Trustee, I learned even more about how our Township operates, which I found fascinating. When I realized there may be an opportunity to fill the Treasurer's position, I started researching the statutory requirements, taking treasury-related webinars through the Michigan Townships Association, and just asking a lot of questions."

One of her favorite things is the Citizen of the Month presentation at Township Board Meetings.

"Every single one of those moments is wonderful to see," Urbanowski said.

Kim is looking forward to getting to know the people she works with better, as well as continuing to build relationships with residents and businesses throughout the community.

We are excited to have Urbanowski as our new Treasurer and ask that you join us in congratulating her as she embarks upon her new role and responsibilities. Be sure to stop by and introduce yourself when visiting Township Hall.

What's going there?

Wally Edgar Chevrolet

Located at 3805 S. Lapeer Rd., this project consists of an expansion of the parking lot for vehicle inventory, an approximately 3,800 square foot addition to the existing dealership, as well the construction of an approximately 2,500 square foot new building. The expansion and new construction will be for oil changes and tire rotation, storage, and a car wash for the dealership vehicles.

ALWAYS ASSUME ALL DOWNED LINES ARE LIVE

Downed power lines can be **deadly**. Always assume a downed power line is **live** and avoid approaching them or anything near them.

Use Precaution

- Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 feet** away. Even more in wet conditions.
- Never drive over** downed power lines or anything in contact with them.
- Never try to move** a downed power line.
- If you see a downed power line, **call 911**.

If a vehicle contacts a **power line** or **utility pole**...

STAY AWAY AND CALL 911

- Consider **all lines** to be live and dangerous.
- Stay in place or inside your vehicle unless you see **fire** or **smoke**.
- Warn others to stay at least **35 feet** away.
- Tell others** not to approach vehicle, downed lines, or anything that may be in contact with downed lines.
- Call 911**.

In the Event of Fire or Smoke

- Do not touch** the ground and vehicle at the same time.
- Jump from the vehicle with your feet together.**
- Shuffle away**, avoid lifting your feet.

Please share this free content to save lives

ESFI.org | www.facebook.com/ESFI.org | www.twitter.com/ESFIdotorg | www.youtube.com/ESFIdotorg



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

Know the dangers of carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas that can be deadly. Carbon monoxide is created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time. Taking the proper safety precautions is essential for avoiding carbon monoxide poisoning.

Here are some tips to help you stay safe:

- **Install a CO detector.** Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height. This device alerts you when dangerous levels of carbon monoxide are present in your home. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes, or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home; when one sounds, they all sound.
- **Test your CO alarms** at least once a month. Replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions. Replace the batteries at least once a year. If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- **If the CO alarm sounds,** and it's not the batteries, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone in the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.
- **Be aware of the symptoms** of CO poisoning: headache, dizziness, nausea, and confusion. If you experience any of these, immediately leave the area and get fresh air.
- **Keep fuel-burning appliances properly maintained.** Clean and inspect any fuel-burning appliances, —fireplaces, furnaces, and water heaters—on a regular basis. Have a certified technician inspect them at least once a year.
- **Never leave your car running** in an enclosed space, such as a garage. The exhaust from the car contains carbon monoxide, and if it builds up in an enclosed area, it can be dangerous. If you need to warm or cool a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it and make sure the exhaust pipe is not obstructed.
- **Use a generator in a well-ventilated** location outdoors away from windows, doors, and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO—only use them outside.

Follow these tips to keep you and your family safe from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Honoring our fallen heroes

Memorial Day has been celebrated since the Civil War. It is a day when families and friends gather to remember and honor the fallen heroes. Flags are flown at half-mast, parades are held, and people gather to share stories of the heroes and to pay their respects. It is also a day of reflection, as we reflect on the selflessness and courage of those who gave their lives in service of their country.

Let us never forget the courage and sacrifice of our brave men and women in uniform, and let us honor their memory on this important day.

Join us for the **7th Annual Orion Veterans Memorial Day Run/Walk**. This Memorial Day tradition starts and finishes on Anderson Street, adjacent to Children's Park parking lot. Participants will receive an event dog tag at the finish line. Proceeds benefit the long-term sustainability of the Orion Veteran's Memorial.

Visit OrionTownship.org/MemorialDayRun for event details.

Photo by Lee Smith



Are you moving?

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

Have the following information available:

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



ADDRESS MARKER PROGRAM

Address Markers, \$15
Call Orion Township Fire Department, 248-391-0304 ext. 2000



VISIBLE ADDRESS SIGNS MAKE IT EASIER FOR EMERGENCY CREWS TO LOCATE YOU. THESE ADDRESS MARKERS ENSURE THAT:



Numerals are at least 3 inches tall and visible from both directions

The sign surface is reflective with contrasting color

The address marker is located on the same side of the road as the house

Financial Outlook

Putting market declines in perspective

When stock prices begin falling dramatically, it can appear that your only option is to sell to limit losses. But we disagree—if you're a long-term investor, the difference between success and failure may be determined by your actions during a stock market decline.

Long-term investors will likely experience numerous market declines through the years. Consider the following table:

| S&P 500 stock index declines | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Dip (5% or more) | Moderate correction (10% or more) | Severe correction (15% or more) | Bear market (20% or more) |
| Number of occurrences | 319 | 99 | 45 | 26 |
| Mean number of occurrences per year | 3.4 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Mean number of days | 35 | 100 | 186 | 289 |
| Mean decline (%) | 10.8 | 19.5 | 28.2 | 35.6 |

Source: Ned Davis Research, 1/3/1928-1/18/2022.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The S&P 500 Stock Index is unmanaged and is not meant to depict an actual investment. Copyright © 2022 Ned Davis Research, Inc. All rights reserved. Further distribution prohibited without prior permission.

Market declines can test the nerves of even the most patient investors. If you own a diversified mix of quality investments, resist the temptation to sell or make changes based on short-term events.

The next time the market has a hiccup, take a deep breath and remember this advice:

- Market declines are normal, frequent and not a reason to sell quality investments.
- Market declines begin and end without warning.
- Market declines provide an opportunity to buy quality investments at lower prices.*
- Market declines return investments to their rightful owners—those who understand why they own what they own.

**Investing in stocks involves risk. You may receive more or less than your original investment when you sell your shares.*

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor Grant Fodor, AAMSTM, Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Sheriff's Marine Patrol and Water Rescue Unit

Deputy Hughes patrols our waterways

The Sheriff's Marine Patrol and Water Rescue Unit is charged with the responsibility of patrolling the lakes of Oakland County. The Unit is prepared for ready-response to the 450-plus lakes in the County. The Marine Unit fleet has 23 patrol boats, two rapid-response boats, one hovercraft, six all-terrain vehicles, and four snowmobiles. Those of you who have been out on Lake Orion have probably seen or spoken with Oakland County Sheriff's Office Deputy William Hughes who patrols our lakes, but who is the man behind the badge? Keep reading to find out.

Deputy Hughes has had an interest in law enforcement since he was a child when he would watch in awe as his father got dressed in his uniform each day. His father was a Command Sargent for the St. Clair Shores Police Department. Deputy Hughes began his law enforcement career in 1995, starting as a Reserve Deputy and then becoming employed as a Marine Deputy in 2004. With dual careers, Deputy Hughes is also currently employed as an Engineering Executive at Stellantis and has been since 1984 with responsibility for Advance Engineering (North America). His education includes a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Masters in Management/Finance, and, a two-year Law Enforcement degree. Other interests include a past in Tae Kwon Do karate (*4th degree black belt / Instructor*).

"I recall my first day in Tae Kwon Do, where my father dropped me off at the Dojo," Hughes says, "and told me he'd be back to pick me up in two hours. That night I told him I was never going back! About 20 years later, I was testing for my 4th degree Black Belt as a Master Instructor."

Deputy Hughes, a lifelong resident of Michigan, now lives on Lake Orion with his dog Bella.

"It was a lifelong dream of mine to own a home on Lake Orion. This lake community, especially my neighbors, are just fun, amazing, empathetic people."

A cooperative effort

Deputy Hughes works year-round including extensive training, road patrols, education classes, and lake patrols on Lake Orion in the spring through the end of summer under the leadership of Sgt. Burwell.

"We work closely with the Village of Lake Orion Police Department and Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement agencies (DNR)," Hughes says. "It's important that we all work closely together on safety issues, coordinating events, and backing each other up in times of need. Sgt. Burwell has made some

amazing changes in the Marine unit in the last couple of years which has improved our overall efficiency and ability to respond quickly."

On the lake, Deputy Hughes deals with a number of issues daily, from Personal Watercraft operator's license (*Boaters Safety Certificate*) to more serious issues like driving under the influence and careless/reckless operation.

Safety first

"Our primary focus is education and safety. We always focus on safety first," Hughes says. "I'm constantly scanning the lake for safety violations such as wrong-direction, operating too close to shore, and other safety-related issues that stand out."

"Not all, but the majority of issues on the lake pertain to Personal Watercraft (PWC)," Hughes continues. "Often times on a typical summer day, a PWC



operator is going in the wrong direction, operating too fast in a slow-no-wake area, or is too close to shore. This leads to a traffic stop and interview for credentials and knowledge of marine state laws.

“A person operating a PWC must have a Boaters Safety Certificate (BSC) if they are born after December 1978,” Hughes explains. “Most people don’t know the law. At times, I’ll provide a solid education for them to get a certification of operation or issue a citation with follow-up in court to ensure proper credentials have been obtained. Another common issue with PWC’s are owners allowing a friend or family member to operate without the BSC. This happens frequently during parties and celebrations on the lake. In these cases, the owner (*or person allowing the operation*), can be cited along with an education and a reminder of the danger in doing so.”

Learn the basics

The Oakland County Sheriff’s Office typically does a Boaters Safety class on the lake in the early summer for residents and friends. All age groups are highly encouraged to get the education, even those born before the required date (December 1978).

“Age is not a factor; we all can learn more about safety,” Hughes says. “I love to see parents taking the course with their kids and setting that example for them.”

Know your buoys













Another issue on Lake Orion has been the use and placement of illegal buoys. It’s important that residents know that a person shall not place a beacon or buoy, other than a mooring buoy (*white with a*

blue stripe), in the waters of this state except as authorized by a permit issued by the DNR. The DNR may issue a permit for the placing of buoys or beacons in the waters of this state to mark obstruction to navigation, to designate bathing areas, to designate vessel anchorages, or for any other purpose if it will promote safety or navigation. Legal buoys include Mooring buoys (*white with a blue stripe*), where one per homeowner is allowed without a permit.


“In one case on Lake Orion, I recall a homeowner using floating gas propane tanks to mark their designated swim area. Obviously, a danger and risk to public safety,” Hughes stated.

Not all patrols are education and citation based. Deputy Hughes recalled a situation regarding a swan.

“I was dispatched to Swan Bay where a swan had a fishing hook lodged in its mouth and was whaling from side to side. At that time, the DNR was unable to come out to respond,” Hughes recalls. “There were about 8-10 young kids on the shore crying due to the extreme distress the swan was in. I found the end of the fishing line and was able to tug on the line gently for about 20 minutes until it became dislodged. As the kids cheered and clapped, I realized I had learned a valuable lesson that day—as a Deputy, our scope of responsibility changes quickly with the environment.”

| Information and Regulatory Marks | | |
|---|--|---|
| These orange-and-white Aids are used to alert vessel operators to various warnings and regulations. | | |
| Symbol | Meaning | Examples |
|  | Danger A diamond shape alerts boaters to hazards |   |
|  | Restricted Operations Marks with a circle indicate areas with regulated operations |   |
|  | Exclusion A diamond shape with a cross means boats are prohibited from the area |   |
|  | Information Marks with a square provide helpful information such as directions, distances, and locations |   |

Characteristics

- White with an orange horizontal band at both top and bottom.
- Black text within or around an orange square, circle, or diamond; or black text outside a diamond with an orange cross.
- May be buoys or beacons.
- If lit, the light will be white and may have any light rhythm except quick flashing, flashing (2), or Morse code "A."
- The chart symbol for this type of buoy is:  W Or

U.S. Aids to Navigation System www.uscgboating.org

While on patrol, Deputy Hughes encourages boaters to stop and say ‘Hi’ to him.

“It’s important we know each other and build a network of community and trust. If you see an unsafe act, it is your obligation to report it. You may save a life. Report it,” he encourages. “Flag me down or call the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office. It’s a large lake, and I can only be in one place at a time. I encourage residents to monitor the lake with me.”

We are thankful to have Deputy Hughes patrolling Lake Orion to help promote a safe, supportive, and peaceful environment.

Follow these summer watering restrictions

Each year from May through September, a mandatory watering restriction applies to residents connected to Orion Township water who have an automatic sprinkling system.

Monday through Saturday: Water only between the midnight and 5 am.

Sunday: Watering may be done at any time.

No watering may not be done between 5 and 10 am, Monday through Saturday. If these restrictions are not followed, your water service could be discontinued.

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

Blue dots mark curb boxes

Why is there a blue dot on my lawn? Annually, the DPS crew locates curb boxes—a vertical cast iron sleeve, accessible from the public right-of-way, housing the shutoff valve for a property’s water service line.

Once located, the curb box is marked with a blue dot and marked on a GPS mapping system. The DPS crew also checks that the curb box valve is operational. If an emergency occurs, the curb box can be located quickly and water can be turned off immediately.

Recyclebank Rewards Program *Lake Orion-specific rewards*

Earn points and rewards for doing what you already do—recycling! Earn extra points by reading articles about other sustainable actions you can incorporate into your daily life.

Ace Hardware

\$7 off a \$35 purchase
One free 5-pack of yard bags with a purchase of any Scotts fertilizer or grass seed

One free knife sharpening for a 2/12-12" non-serrated knife

Cookies and Cream by Sprout Bake

Free chocolate chip cookie with purchase of a medium ice cream

Expedition Soap Company

Free 5oz bar of soap with \$75 purchase
Free Organic Lip Balm with \$15 purchase
Free 3 oz Body Butter with \$50 purchase

Eze Bikes

\$5 off any purchase including rental

Gals and Ghouls

\$15 off one custom virtual or in-person 60 min 1-on-1

Green Hippo Gifts

\$5 off a \$50 purchase

HCubed Candles

Free 8 oz candle when you purchase a 16 oz candle

Lava Mountain Coffee

Free small Iced Coffee
\$2 off bags of our Specialty Estate Colombian Coffee

Lo's Beauty Bar & Med Spa

Complimentary Eyebrow Style with any \$50 purchase
10% off any service of \$100 value or more

Lucky's Natural Foods

Free Garden of Life 5mg CBD with \$100 purchase

Free natural lip balm with \$25 purchase

Free 4 oz sanitizer with \$49 purchase

Menchie's Lake Orion

\$2 off \$10 or more cups purchase
\$3 off cake purchase

Mr. Brett's Gourmet Snacks

Spend \$15 or more and get a free 6 oz bag of pretzels
Free Shipping

MyPic Photography

50% off any Portrait Sitting Fee (\$125 Value)

Nutz About Chocolate

1 Free truffle with \$10 or more purchase

Orange Theory

Receive a free trial class and if you join our membership program, receive a free Heart-rate monitor (*Valued at \$125*)

Patch Boys of Lake Orion

10% off a purchase

Pedal Boat Pub

\$100 off a full boat reservation

Practically Perfect Vacations

FREE Capture Your Moment photo session at Magic Kingdom

The Wooden Tulip

\$10 gift certificate

Swirlz Frozen Custard and Sweets

\$1 off medium Milk Shake

\$3 off an Ice Cream (*Soft Serve Cake*)

Oakland Sports Chiropractic

\$5 off any service

Spencer's Apiaries

Free Lip Balm with a Honey purchase of \$9 or more

Purchase \$50, receive a \$10 credit towards other products

Purchase \$100, receive a \$25 credit towards other products

The 313 Pizza Bar

15% Off any small or large pizza when you dine in

Tutor Doctor

Two free hours of tutoring or coaching

To set up a Recyclebank account or to redeem your rewards, visit recyclebank.com



Lake Orion History

"Bald" or "Ball" Mountain?

Bald Mountain State Recreation Area is one of our area's largest and most historic parks. The area features several picnic areas, lakes for fishing, a beach, hiking and biking trails, hunting areas and much more. In addition, this park has some of the steepest hills and rugged terrain in southeastern Michigan!

Bald Mountain wasn't always a park though. Prior to its inception in 1947, the land was part of the original Decker Settlement dating back to the 1820s. The area was named after Jesse Decker, who settled here from upstate New York. This settlement was a bustling commercial center with a sawmill, tavern, post office, general store, blacksmith shop, school and cemetery.

Bald Mountain was originally named Ball Mountain since the hill was owned by a farmer with the last name of Ball. Eventually the top of the hill became barren and evolved into the name we all know today, Bald Mountain.

Ball Mountain had a tavern in the 1830s as well, including a 979.6-foot well, both pictured above.

Stagecoaches regularly ran through the township in the mid 1800s. One of the regular stops was the Inn on Bald Mountain. People would rest and dine before passing through the Toll Gate just north of the Inn.

Some archaeologists believe there are ancient Hopewell Indian Burial Mounds near Bald Mountain as well. They buried many artifacts with the dead. The Hopewell Indians are best known for these earth

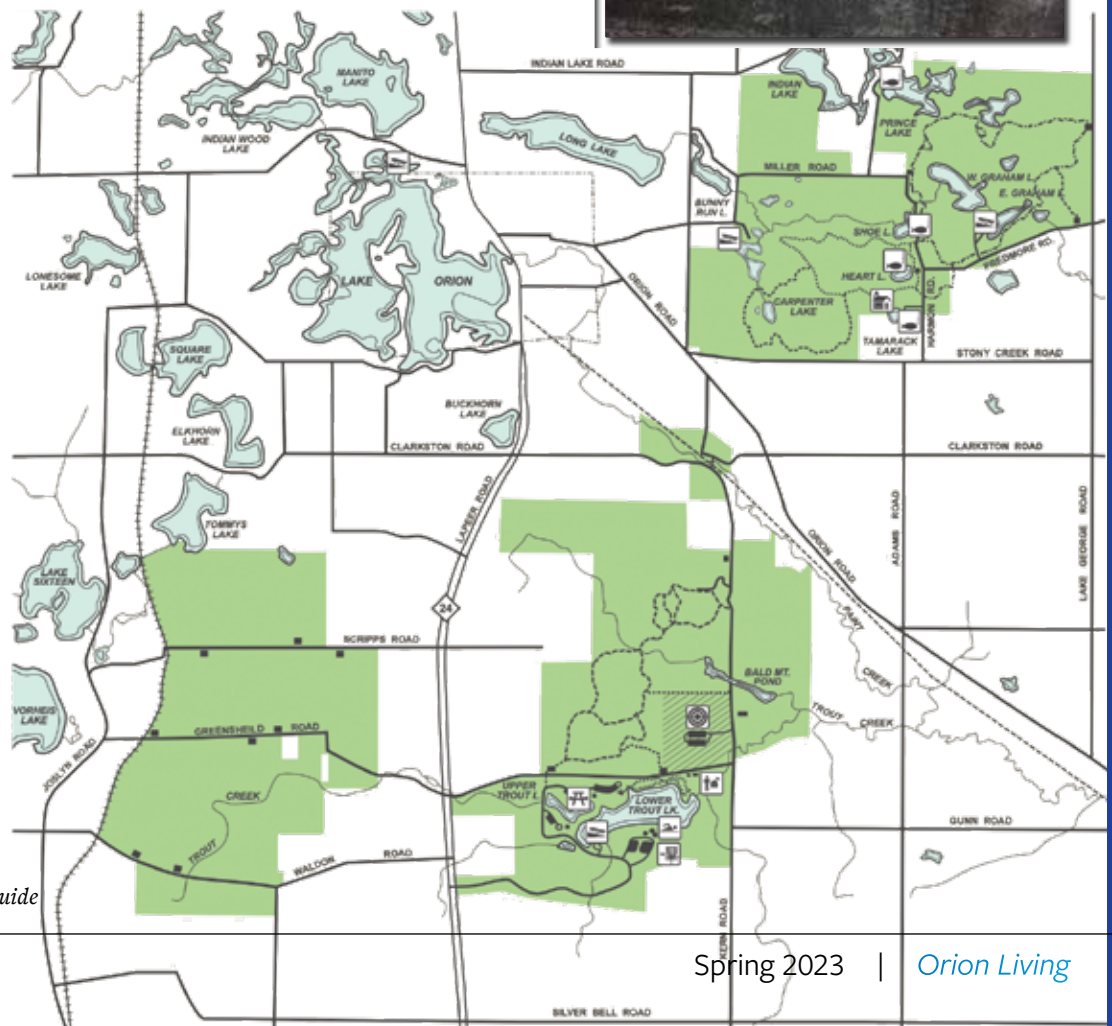
mounds they built for the deceased bodies of important tribal members.

The park has grown from its original 2,400 acres in 1947 to 4,637 acres today. This park is a scenic wonderland—there are great views every season of the year. Over the years, the Detroit Audubon Society, the Detroit Naturalists Society, the Warren Astronomy Club and others have frequented Bald Mountain. If you haven't ventured through this treasured piece of Lake Orion history, this spring may be a great time to do so!

By Orion Living Contributor Jimmy Johnson.
Jimmy owns Graphic Takeover and shares Orion history at
WhereLivingisVacation.com and at
[Facebook.com/WhereLivingisVacation](https://www.facebook.com/WhereLivingisVacation).



Photos courtesy of Maurice Cole



Map courtesy of Shore Line Visitors Guide

What to do about invasive species

Phragmites

Phragmites australis, also known as common reed, is one of the world's most pervasive invasive species. It's an aggressive, fast-growing plant that has spread across many ecosystems and habitats, displacing native vegetation, and disrupting the balance of the local environment. The plant has adapted to a wide range of environments and can grow almost anywhere, from wetlands to dryland areas. It has a shallow root system that allows it to spread quickly, and its stems can reach up to 10 feet high. Additionally, its extensive rhizomes can spread and reproduce rapidly.

The impacts of Phragmites are far-reaching. It can disrupt the functioning of ecosystems by reducing available habitat for native species. It can also reduce water quality by increasing sedimentation, reducing oxygen levels,

and introducing pollutants. Phragmites can be a fire hazard in dry areas and can impede navigation in waterways.

The most effective way to manage Phragmites is with a proactive approach: regularly monitoring the area for signs of the plant and implementing preventive measures like introducing native plant species to reduce the spread of the invader. Mechanical removal, herbicide applications, and biological control can be also employed.

The Township 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. To learn more about treatment options, contact the Department of Public Services at **248-391-0304, ext. 8500**.

Oriental Bittersweet Vines

Oriental bittersweet vines are an invasive species that can cause considerable damage to native plant life and ecosystems. These vines can grow quickly and spread to cover large areas, blocking sunlight from reaching native plants and trees and reducing the available habitats for native wildlife. In some areas, the vines are even known to grow up the sides of buildings and structures, damaging them in the process. It is important to be aware of the potential of bitter-sweet vines to spread quickly, as they can be difficult to

control or eradicate once they become established. To prevent them from becoming an issue in your area, remove any bittersweet vines that you find, as well as any fruits they produce, as they can help the vines spread further. If you are unsure of how to identify or remove bittersweet vines, seek professional advice.



Garlic Mustard

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is an invasive plant species that is native to Europe and Asia. It was likely introduced to North America in the 1800s as a culinary herb and has since spread throughout much of the United States and Canada. Garlic mustard is a biennial plant that grows in moist, shaded areas and is also tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions. It is highly competitive, out-competing native plant species, and can quickly take over an area. This can reduce the biodiversity of an area and can cause problems for native wildlife that rely on the native vegetation.

Some of the methods used to control garlic mustard include hand-pulling or digging, mowing, and the application of herbicides. It is important to be aware of any local regulations when attempting to control garlic mustard or any other invasive species. Additionally, it is important to dispose of garlic mustard in a responsible way, as it can easily spread to other areas if not handled properly.

Check the Polly Ann Trail and Paint Creek Trail Facebook pages as they often look for volunteers to help with removing bittersweet vines and garlic mustard from the trails.



Get your spring yard waste ready for pickup

Yard Waste pick up begins April 1 and may be placed at the curb on your regular collection day. You may use brown bags, a purchased Orion Township rolling cart, or existing cans marked with a “yard waste” or “compost” sticker. Additional compost stickers are available at the Department of Public Services counter at Township Hall or at the Orion Center.



There is no limit to how much yard waste may be set out each week. Yard waste includes the following items: lawn debris, grass clippings, weeds, leaves, small twigs, prunings, shrub clippings (*tied and bundled*), vegetable garden, kitchen waste materials and fruit, old potting soil, Halloween pumpkins, dirt incidental to minor plantings or edging of lawns, brush, tree branches and logs (*less than three inches in diameter and less than four feet long*) tied or secured with string or twine in bundles less than 18 inches in diameter, tree trimmings, small shrubs and bushes with direct removal from root systems.

Easy account access

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



Time to test your backflow?

Orion Township's Cross Connection Control Program was approved by the State of Michigan in 1991. Since then, commercial properties and subdivision irrigation accounts have had routine inspections of backflow devices and annual reports are submitted to the township on testable devices. However, a new Michigan Department

of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) mandate requires all testable backflow devices on residential homes be tested every three years.

A typical testable backflow device you will find on a residential property will be a Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB) installed on a lawn irrigation line. This device will be on the outside of the home and designed to prevent pesticides or herbicides from entering the water system.

Orion Township requires all testable backflow devices in residential properties be tested every three years. If your residence is required to test in 2023, you will receive a notification letter from the Township.

Only Licensed Plumbing Contractors can test, repair, and install Backflow Assemblies pursuant to State of Michigan Law—Public Act 733 (State Plumbing Act) of 2002. The plumbing contractors must be ASSE 5110 certified through the State of Michigan.

If a new backflow device is being installed, or a repair is needed, a plumbing permit must be applied for through the Building Department.

We appreciate everyone help and cooperation abiding with the MDEQ mandate. The Township and all residents share in the responsibility of protecting the water supply, and together we can ensure we have the safest possible water supply system.

A list of ASSE certified testers is available at oriontownship.org under the Department of Public Services tab.

If a water or sewer emergency occurs:

Call
248-391-0304 Ext. 8500
(Orion Township)
Monday through Friday
during Township hours

or

248-858-4911
(Oakland County
Emergency Dispatch)
during non-business hours



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

Park passes: what's the difference?

The **Oakland County Annual Vehicle Permit** is required at eight of the 14 Oakland County Parks. You can purchase a permit online at oakgov.com/parks or in person at the Orion Center and Township Hall. Permits are \$30 for Oakland County residents and free for senior citizens ages 62+ who are Oakland County residents, individuals with permanent disabilities, active and retired military, and veterans.



Oakland County also offers the **Parks Perks Pass** for \$64, which provides access to the eight Oakland County Parks, as well as 13 Metroparks.



The **Recreation Passport** is your key to accessing state parks and recreation areas, boating access sites, state forest campgrounds, thousands of miles of trails, and other outdoor spaces. The state's parks and recreation system is largely self-supporting. Funds derived from the Recreation Passport go back

into maintaining and improving the outdoor spaces we all love, and protecting natural resources for the next generation.



When purchased at the time of license plate registration renewal through the Secretary of State, annual vehicle passes are \$12. The pass will be indicated by a "P" on the license plate tab. If purchased at a state park, the passes are \$17. The Recreation Passport cannot be purchased online.

Township parks (yes, that includes *Camp Agawam*) do not need vehicle passes/permits to enter.

NEW TO THE AREA? REGISTER TO VOTE TODAY!



IN PERSON

PHOTO ID REQUIRED

ONLINE

MVIC.SOS.STATE.MI.US

ORION TOWNSHIP
CLERK'S OFFICE
248-391-0304
EXT. 4006 OR 4008

2323 Joslyn Road | 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

2023 GFL rates

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Single Family Homes | Monthly: \$19.01 Quarterly: \$57.03 Annual cost: \$228.12 |
| Mobile Homes | Monthly: \$17.04 Quarterly: \$51.12 Annual cost: \$204.48 |
| Apartments & Condos | Monthly: \$15.98 Quarterly: \$47.94 Annual cost: \$191.76 |

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

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

If you have specific GFL billing questions or missed garbage pick-ups, please contact GFL directly at 248-204-4039.



What is sewer jetting?

Sewer systems need to be cleaned regularly using high-pressure water.

Starting in March, our DPS crew will visit neighborhoods to complete sewer jetting. If jetting is occurring in your neighborhood, you will see a Sewer Jetting sign placed at the entrances to your neighborhood. During this time, it is advised to keep all toilet lids down. When jetting is completed, the sign will be removed.

The Township continues jetting various areas around the township through October.

Orion named "Tree City USA"

A thriving urban forest offers many advantages to local communities.

- Trees help absorb sounds of traffic in urban areas by 40%.
- Neighborhoods with trees are seven to nine degrees cooler than those without.
- Trees reduce energy costs up to 25% by shading buildings and protecting them from winter winds.
- Homes with trees ten to have higher property values.
- Green space plays a major role in improving mental and physical health.

- Planting and maintaining trees absorbs carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, mitigating the effects of climate change.

Orion Township is proud to be recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers, and committed citizens in communities like Orion Township make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, Chief Executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

Join us on Friday, April 21 from 5 to 7 pm at Camp Agawam as we clean up the Township and plant a tree in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day.



Orion Township's Adaptive Baseball Field for Children with Special Needs is Registering for Our 2023 Summer Season!

All games played at Miracle Field located in Friendship Park

Visit MichiganMiracle.org to learn more.
Facebook.com/NorthOaklandMiracle



WHAT'S UP DOWNTOWN?

Warmer weather and a variety of activities give you plenty of reasons to venture to Downtown Lake Orion

Month of April: It's a Treasure Hunt! Join Lake Orion and Oxford for some **#StrongerTogether Letterboxing** fun! Letterboxing is a public activity that melds treasure hunting with journal stamping. Once a letterbox is found, inside you will find a unique stamp and a logbook. Finders get to stamp the logbook with their own stamp, showing they found the treasure and then also use the found stamp to memorialize the hunt in their own journal. Letterboxes can be found in shops and around both towns for the entire month. The clues are found online at **Atlasquest.com** when you type in "Lake Orion, MI" or "Oxford, MI" in the location search box.

May 19–21: The Orion Art Center's **Flower & Art Fair** is back! Join us in Downtown Lake Orion for flowers, crafts, music and more.



May 29: Enjoy the **Orion Veterans Memorial Day 5K** through Lake Orion, offering a 5K and a longer 5 mile option this year. Both runs will start and end in Downtown Lake Orion. The different routes offer a great tour of Lake Orion neighborhoods, trails, and sights.

June 3: Celebrate Paint Creek Trail's 40th year on National Trails Day at the **Paint Creek Junction's Ribbon Cutting**.

June 16: It's a **Summer Celebration!** Join Oxford and Lake Orion for a family-friendly event commemorating the end of the school year and the beginning of summer fun.

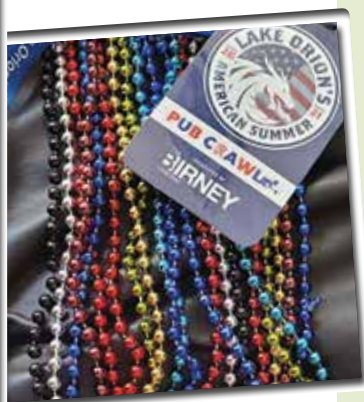
June 22–25: The **Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee** will be back in Downtown Lake Orion. Enjoy traditional carnival rides, a downtown scavenger hunt, and live music at the beer tent (*Friday and Saturday only*) during this charitable fundraiser.

June 26–July 2: Join in the fun with the **Lake Orion's American Summer Restaurant Week**. Restaurants throughout downtown and Orion Township will offer specials!



Photo by Lee Smith





New events coming your way soon

The Lake Orion DDA is excited to bring you two new kinds of events in the coming months!

Distrix App Scavenger Hunt. The scavenger hunt will follow clues from the Apptivity. The Apptivity will trigger more clues to follow and provide fun for the entire family.

Trolley Events. As part of the #StrongerTogether campaign, the Lake Orion DDA is partnering with Oxford's DDA to offer a variety of ticketed trolley events.

Lake Orion and Oxford DDA's are both always on the lookout for new ways to highlight our fabulous communities and to give community members more ways to join in on the fun. We would love to hear your ideas! Please send suggestions for events or activities to events@downtownlakeorion.org.

June 29: The **Lake Orion's American Summer Pub Crawl.**

Your ticket will get you shuttle services to all the participating restaurant and dining venues.

Find out more about these upcoming festivities and more under the Events tab at downtownlakeorion.org.

DOWNTOWN LIGHTING GOES DARK SKY COMPLIANT

Dark Sky Compliance is a designation given to outdoor lighting fixtures that meets specific requirements to minimize light pollution, light trespass, glare and offensive light sources. Fixtures that meet these requirements earn the IDA Fixture Seal of Approval. The IDA is the International Dark-Sky Association and is the voice for light pollution. They educate designers, manufacturers, committees and the public about controlling light pollution.

Downtown Lake Orion recently audited their outdoor lighting and made changes to meet the Dark Sky Compliance requirements.

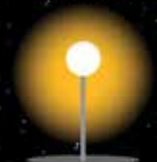
With the testing and research by the Design Committee, the DDA was able to retrofit existing lampposts with compliant lightbulbs. The light cast between the lampposts was increased by 50 percent and the overall glare was

reduced by using the softer warm bulb. So when you walk downtown at night, it is easier to see where you are going but also possible to see the stars in the sky. It will feel safer without feeling like you are walking through a brightly lit parking lot. The committee was able to complete this project \$30,000 under the budget of \$75,000.

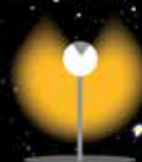
The DDA thanks the following for

the support, experience, expertise and dedication to this project: DTE Energy Managers Joe Monsur and Caile Richards, current DTE Energy Manager; Richard Helm, Project Manager of Helm Electric, Village of Lake Orion, DDA Board and especially Design Committee volunteers who set up the initial testing, decided upon the specifications, and performed follow up tests.

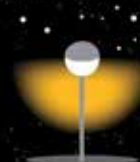
LIMITING LIGHT POLLUTION



UNSHIELDED



CAPPED



PARTIALLY SHIELDED



FULLY SHIELDED

Outdoor lighting fixtures that are not properly shielded and directed to reduce glare contribute to both skyglow and light trespass—unwanted light that makes its way onto neighboring properties.

Partially or fully shielded lighting fixtures reduced light pollution and glare while continuing to brighten a desired area.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Puzzle & Game Day Swap

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 16
9 am–6 pm | Free

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



St. Patrick's Day TR Dance

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 16 | 6–8 pm | Ages 13+
\$6R/\$8NR

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us! Special needs and individuals with disabilities are invited to an evening of music, dancing, and light refreshments with DJ David Dazzle Do Time. Preregistration preferred, walk-ins are welcome. Chaperones are free.



Bunny Bop

Orion Center | Sat, Mar 18 | 9:30–10:15 am
10:30–11:15 am | 11:30–12:15 pm | Ages 1–8 | \$12R/\$14NR

Spring is in the air! Hop on over for a photo visit with a special bunny, craft project and egg hunt. Remember to bring your basket, youth will be broken down by age for the egg hunt.

Preregistration required, spaces are limited. Children in carriers and adults with registered participants are free.

Spring Break Car Bingo

Orion Center Parking Lot | Wed, Mar 29
1–2:30 pm | All Ages | Free

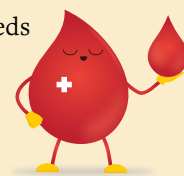
Staycation fun in the Orion Center Parking Lot! All Participants will receive a set of Bingo Cards upon arriving. As you hear your numbers over the radio use a marker to mark those numbers on your card. If you get a BINGO you'll honk your horn to let the callers know and walk up to the Orion Center to get your prize!



Blood Drive with Versiti Blood Center

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 30 | 12:30–5 pm | Ages 17+ | Free

Every day, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan needs more than 560 blood products to meet hospital demand. What we collect will go back to help people in your community! Schedule your appointment at donate.michigan.versiti.org.



Flashlight Egg Hunt

Camp Agawam | Thu, Apr 6 | 8–9 pm | Ages 9–15
\$10R/\$12NR

Don't let those older kids miss out on all the fun! Join us for our annual Flashlight Egg Hunt at Camp Agawam, Fort Pontiac. This isn't your typical egg hunt! Dress for the weather, event is held rain or shine and don't forget your flashlight! Parents are welcome to stay, watch all the fun and enjoy the campfire and hot cocoa.

Orion Green Up

Camp Agawam | Fri, Apr 21 | 5–7 pm | Free

Celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day with us, make a difference in your community and help make Orion Township a little greener. Come to Camp Agawam to grab your trash bags and enjoy a BBQ and tree-planting ceremony on Friday. We provide the trash bags- you bring gloves, shovels, rakes, etc., anything you may need

to help make us clean and green. Take the weekend to clean up your location. We will pick up the full bags. Scan the QR Code to sign up and see all of the locations that need a little love.



Mother's Day Market Art & Craft Show

Orion Center | Sat, May 6 | 10 am–4 pm | Free

BuyNearBy and Shop Local! Start your Mother's Day 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 Mother's Day gifts for all the mom's in your life!

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@](mailto:jvezina@oriontownship.org)

oriontownship.org or 248-391-0304

Ext 3503 for details. Only hand made products will be considered.



Motherhood Matters Health & Wellness Expo

Orion Center | Thu, May 11 | 5:30–7:30 pm | Free

Motherhood is one of the greatest experiences, but also one of the hardest—it takes a village to answer all the questions you may have. Come enjoy a night at the Orion Center while we discuss hot topics, including car seat safety, choking, safe sleep, breastfeeding, and postpartum care. After the discussion, enjoy a chair massage, receive info from vendors, and free food! Childcare will be provided for ages 2 and up. Thank you to Ascension of Rochester for providing the speakers.

Orion Township Safety Path & Trail Cycle Challenge

Orion Township | May 15–Sep 15 | \$20R/\$25NR

Improve your health and discover new safety paths and trails in our community to enjoy. Record your own miles and trips, post photos on social media with **#OTPathTrailCycleChallenge**. Start with a small distance loop and gradually work toward a larger goal. Shirt awards will be given accordingly, 40 miles and 4 loops Bronze, 62 miles and 7 loops Silver, 84 miles and 10 loops Gold. Participants will receive a shirt for participating. All completed miles must be submitted on or before Sep 15.



Dragon Dash 5K

Orion Center
Sun, May 21 | 9 am
\$15/\$20 race day

Whether you run or walk, join us for the Annual Dragon Dash! This 5K certified course beginning and ending

at the Orion Center and following the Polly Ann Trail south toward Civic Center Park will kick off your training season. All runners will receive an award crossing the finish line. All levels of runners and walkers are invited, from beginner to competitive.

Community Garage Sale

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

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



Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at

ORIONPARKS.COM

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION

Antique, Toy & Comic Expo

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

Buy, sell or trade comic books, collectibles, antiques and memorabilia at the Expo! Vendor setup opens at 8 am. Free parking & admission.

Concerts in the Park at Wildwood

Wildwood | Tue, Jun 13–Aug 22 | 7–8:30 pm | Free

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

Summer Sizzle

Orion Center | Thu, Jun 22
6–8 pm | Free

Kick off your summer with a mini family staycation right in Orion. 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! This fun is free for everyone, a staycation that sizzles! Free parking & admission.



Mountain Bicycling

With the explosive growth in Mountain Bicycling, the township is excited to partner with certified bike instructors eager to introduce riders to their Mountain bikes safely on the newest trail at Friendship Park. Lessons will be available from late spring through fall. Watch for the official township opening event this spring For more information on the lessons, visit to mimtb instructors.wixsite.com/website and see our Park Feature article on page 31.



Slow Row LO

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



YOUTH ENRICHMENT



THE ARTIST'S APPRENTICE

*Taught by Artist/Instructor Pamela Palmer BFA.
Siblings of any age are welcome.*

Middle School St. Paddy's Ink Art!

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 16 | 6:15–8:15 pm | Ages 7+ | \$20R/\$22NR

We will use inks on watercolor paper, quilling papers (a scrolling paper sculpture bit of joy), and if time permits, we will have fun with Model Magic modeling clay making leprechauns! \$20 material fee payable to instructor at the start of class.

Bunny Art Workshop

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 23 | 5–7 pm | Ages 7+ | \$20R/\$22NR

Kids will work in different mediums, including graphite, markers, watercolor, and felt, as they are introduced to artists such as Beatrix Potter with her legendary Peter Rabbit and contemporary artists like the colorist painter Nikolay Radkov. We will finish with bold Kawaii images and may have time for some Easter egg creativity! \$10 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.

Watercolor 101

Orion Center | Thu, Apr 6–27 | 4:30–6 pm | Ages 7+ | \$65R/\$67NR

We love all of the effects that can be made with just a few techniques. Kids will learn where to use the crystal effects of sea salt, the 'blooms' of wet-on-wet application and experiment with color overlays. This nature-based series gives your child knowledge to use when they venture off into the world with their own painting ideas. Class size limited! \$20 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.

More Art Please!

Orion Center | Mon, May 1–22 | 4:30–6 pm | Ages 7+ | \$65R/\$67NR

Young artists will be exploring four weeks of all things art! We will take paint brushes in hand to engage the contemporary works Zuzana Borysek from Slovakia who works in a truly interesting style we will try to emulate. Students will work with various drawing projects and Manga cartoons! Art principles will be explored, including value, perspective, color theory and composition. Each week we will pursue a new avenue in art with painting, multi-media, drawing and clay sculpture. Class size limited! Siblings of any age are welcome. \$20 material fee payable to instructor on first day of class.

**Home Alone Training**

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 24
6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9+ | \$17R/\$20NR

Is your young teen staying home alone this fall? Instructor Merry Lewis presents the skills your child will need to be home alone safely. Includes walking home, key responsibility, securing the house, answering the phone, safe choices, and emergency procedures. Training follows the American Red Cross Curriculum. Certificate is presented upon completion of the workshop. Handouts are included.

Babysitter Training

Orion Center | Mon, May 1
6–8:30 pm | Ages 11–14 | \$20R/\$23NR

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

Horseback Riding Lessons

Times Square Riding Academy
Sat, Apr 22–May 27 | 1:30–2:30 pm
Ages 7+ | \$150R/\$160NR

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. Riders are required to wear long pants and hard sole shoes with one-inch heel. Looking for that special time with your child? Take lessons together. A maximum of five riders per class. Participants MUST CALL Paula at 248–431–0940 before attending the first class to confirm availability. Additional lesson times are available Mon–Fri evenings and Sat and Sun afternoons.

SUMMER CAMP



International Kids Baking Series

Camp Agawam | Sat, Mar 11, 18
2-4 pm | Ages 8+ | \$35R/\$37NR
drop in only

Teach your child the love of cooking desserts! Each child should bring their own hand held mixer, 8-inch cake pan, mixing bowl, spatula, baking sheet and large plate for transporting the dessert. An additional \$10 material fee is due to the instructor the night of each class. Instructor Paula Kotrba and Luminita Murphy.

Mar 11 No Bake Dessert

Mar 18 Bake Off Competition

Celebrate with Miss Margee

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 13, Apr 3,
May 8, Jun 5 | 10-11:15 am
Ages 5 & under | \$10R/\$11NR
drop in only, limited availability

Come celebrate the seasons with Miss Margee. We will make a special craft, sing songs and play! This is a parent child class. Miss Margee has over 20 years of experience teaching classes in Lake Orion and Oxford. We are excited to offer her new class series. Supply fee \$2 paid directly to instructor for each class attending.

Scholarships available through Orion Area Youth Assistance!

Enrichment scholarships of up to \$100 are available to students who demonstrate a need for financial assistance to participate in extracurricular activities and/or summer camp. These scholarships are available once per calendar year per student and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, based on financial and special circumstances, until all funds have been exhausted. To apply visit lakeorionyouthassistance.com/skill-building-scholarships or contact oaya@lok12.org.

Amazing Athletes Spring & Summer Break Camps

Friendship Park | Mon-Thu, Mar 27-30 | 1-1:45 pm | Ages 3-6 | \$64R/\$74NR

Friendship Park | Mon-Thu, Jun 12-15 | 2-2:45 pm | Ages 3-6 | \$64R/\$74NR

Friendship Park | Mon-Thu, Jul 10-13 | 2-2:45 pm | Ages 3-6 | \$64R/\$74NR

Friendship Park | Mon-Thu, Aug 7-10 | 2-2:45 pm | Ages 3-6 | \$64R/\$74NR



The premier developmental physical fitness camps empowering children 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. Children learn the importance of patience, teamwork, and self-confidence in a non-competitive, learning-based environment that fosters a love of healthy living. Our camps encourage kids to explore and develop 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.

Amazing Athletes P.E. Camp

Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Rd, Independence Twp
Mon-Thu, Mar 27-30 | 2:15-3 pm | Ages 7-12 | \$136R/\$146NR

A game-based sports program designed to engage older children in active wellness through advanced physical fitness challenges and interactive sports lessons. Our coaches work with each child to help them strive for their personal best. Each class engages athletes in non-competitive, sport-specific training for focused development. Athletes work in pairs to develop teamwork, motor skills, and patience. Amazing Athletes P.E. promotes skill-based learning and non-competitive play so that each athlete has the confidence to learn and engage. Children engage in introductory partner-based skill activities which help to advance teamwork. Our strength training activity is always done in pairs. Our fitness challenge relay at the end of class is also always done as a team. We provide our athletes with as many opportunities as possible to develop teamwork, friendships, and advance their social skills in addition to the athletic and academic advancements of the program.



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

Go Wild! Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon-Thu, TBD
10 am-12:30 pm | Ages 4-7
\$48R/\$52NR

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

Play It Safe Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon-Thu, TBD
10 am-12:30 pm | Ages 4-7
\$46R/\$50NR

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

Sports Camp

Civic Center Park | Mon-Thu, TBD
10 am-12:30 pm | Ages 4-7
\$46R/\$50NR

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

Young Scientist Camp

Camp Agawam | Mon-Thu, TBD
10 am-12:30 pm | Ages 4-7
\$48R/\$52NR

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



Kids' Sculpture Camp

Orion Center | Mon-Fri, Jun 19-23
1:30-4:30 pm | Ages 7+
\$160R/\$165NR

We will make a clay architectural structure, i.e. teepee, faeries house, or mouse café with added bits of embellishment here and there, each to show your artist's individual flair! Exploration of paper sculpture including quilling elements will make for interesting results. We will learn how to construct three dimensional, artsy birds out of sawdust and found objects. These, along with other fabrications, will culminate in a "Viewing of Creations" of our students' artwork that will be extended to families on the last day of camp. Don't miss this fun experience! 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.

Kids' Colorful Art Camp

Orion Center | Mon-Fri, Jul 10-14
9 am-12 pm | Ages 7+ | \$160R/\$165NR

Do we love color? Yes we do! Isn't there something splendid about a prism?! We will be learning about the fracturing of light in a fun outdoor activity. Let's get out our ROY-G-BIV (*red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet*) 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, paper quilling and paint. Let's add some of the most brilliant rainbow anime characters as well! Experimental practices will be utilized like beautiful ink applications. You will be impressed with our colorful art that will be presented in a Gallery Show following class on the final day! \$60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.

Drawing 101 Kids' Summer Camp

Orion Center | Mon-Fri, Aug 7-11
9 am-12 pm | Ages 7+ | \$160R/\$165NR

Students will work on exercises involving negative space, value shading, portraits, contour lines, and perspective. We will introduce two or three projects daily with outdoor plein air experiences as well! These basics will help to build concrete grounds for an understanding of how to improve your artwork. We will work primarily in graphite, and if time permits, students can add color with the medium of their choice. A Gallery Show of our students' artwork will be extended to families following class on the final day! \$60 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day.



Junior Golf Camp

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon-Thu, Jun 19-22 | Jun 26-Jun 29
Jul 10-13 | Jul 17-20 | 9:30 am-1 pm
Ages 7-15 | \$215R/\$220NR

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



ONTV Kids Video Camp

ONTV Studio | Mon–Fri, Jun 19–23
1–4 pm | Ages 10–12 | \$145

During this week-long camp students will meet at the ONTV Studio daily to learn television production, filmmaking and more. The group will produce a program that will air on local cable TV. Camp includes t-shirt, pizza party and DVD. Classes held at ONTV Studio. Call 248–393–1060 to register. Deadline to register is June 8.



Chess Camp with Chess Wizards

Camp Agawam

Mon–Fri, Jun 26–30
9 am–3 pm | Ages 6–13
\$492R/\$500NR

Join us this summer for tons of challenging chess lessons, exciting games and cool prizes. You'll improve your chess skills, meet new friends and work out your most powerful muscle—your brain! Our clubs include fun team chess games (*like bughouse*), recess time, snacks, tournaments and puzzles. Each participant receives a Chess Wizard t-shirt, trophy and puzzle folder. Unleash your brain power and spend some of your summer with Chess Wizards! Half day option also available.

YOUTH FITNESS



Kiddie Kickers

Friendship Park, Soccer Field #1 | Wed, May 3–Jun 7
6–7 pm | Ages 3–4 or 5–6 | \$60R/\$63NR

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. We are looking for parent volunteers to coach under the guidance of an experienced instructor. Lesson plans will be prepared weekly to work on basic skills, followed by scrimmages. Participants are encouraged to bring a size 3 soccer ball. Soccer balls are available for purchase at the time of registration for \$13 (*limit of 1 per registered participant*). Rain date scheduled for June 14 if needed.

Youth Golf Lessons

Mulberry Hills Golf Course | Mon, Jul 17–Aug 28 | 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. No class Jul 24.

Amazing TOTS

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 6–Apr 24
4:30–4:55 pm | Ages 18 months–2.5
\$120R/\$130NR

Amazing Tots is a guided, discovery-based program helping children 18 months to 2.5 years engage in structured physical activities tailored specifically to toddlers. Amazing Tots uses age-appropriate developmental milestones and works with each individual toddler based on his or her attention span and physical abilities. During each 20–25 minute weekly class, toddlers learn about one of four sports through our discovery lessons. Our classes also balance a combination of structured physical challenges and organized physical exploration activities specifically designed with little ones in mind. We know that a healthy body and mind go hand in hand. For this reason, we incorporate important reading and developmental properties into our physical activities, combining fitness, learning, and fun all in one! Imaginative Fitness Activities include Color Recognition, Shape Classification, Letter Identification, and Action Vocabulary Experiences (*Over, Under, Around, etc*). Research shows that when you link letters, words, sounds, and more to a physical movement, you keep your body active and boost your brain power with better concentration and recall. Amazing Tots gain physical and academic advantages that prepare them to excel in preschool and beyond. Following the love of healthy lifestyle instilled in this program, our toddlers gain skills and tools that can last a lifetime.



Register for Parks &
Recreation Programs at

ORION
PARKS.COM

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

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Amazing Athletes

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 6–Apr 24 | 5:15–5:45 pm
Ages 3–6 | \$128R/\$138NR

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! 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.

Amazing Athletes Sports Discovery

Lacrosse, Football, Soccer

Friendship Park | Mon, May 1–Jun 26 | 5–5:45 pm
Ages 4–6 | \$128R/\$138NR | No Class 5/29

Friendship Park | Mon, May 1–Jun 26 | 6–7 pm
Ages 7–10 | \$136R/\$146NR | No Class 5/29

Track, Baseball, Basketball

Civic Center Park | Mon, Jul 10–Aug 28 | 5–5:45 pm
Ages 4–6 | \$128R/\$138NR

Civic Center Park | Mon, Jul 10–Aug 28 | 6–7 pm
Ages 7–10 | \$136R/\$146NR

A game-based sports program designed to engage older children in active wellness through advanced physical fitness challenges and interactive sports lessons. Sports Discovery Clinics are centered around three major sports across an 8 week season: Instruction, Skill Development, Scrimmage Play.

Two weeks per sport, Weeks 7 & 8 are dedicated to game play of the three sports. Children between the ages of 4–6 and 7–10 display a wide range of physical abilities and strengths. Our coaches work with each child to help them strive for their personal best. Each class engages athletes in non-competitive, sport-specific training for focused development. Athletes work in pairs to develop teamwork, motor skills, and patience. Our strength training activity is always done in pairs. Our fitness challenge relay at the end of class is also always done as a team. We provide our athletes with as many opportunities as possible to develop teamwork, friendships, and advance their social skills in addition to the athletic and academic advancements of the program.



LEAGUES

FALL YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Aug 7–Oct 14 | \$20 Multi-Child Discount
Registration begins May 1 | \$30 Late Fee after Jul 10
Registration deadline Jul 17 | League schedules finalized in July

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL)

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

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

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

Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)

\$90R/\$100NR per player

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

Tee Ball | Ages 4–6
Clinic | Machine Pitch | Ages 6–8
Junior | Player Pitch | Ages 9–10
Intermediate | Player Pitch | Ages 11–12
Senior | Player Pitch | Ages 13–15
Uniforms will be available to try on upon request during Orion Center business hours.

LOYBL Umpire Program

Spring & Fall seasons | Ages 14+ | \$10
Classroom Training | Orion Center | TBD
On-Field Training | Friendship Park | TBD

Are you interested in becoming a paid baseball umpire? LOYBL is seeking new and returning umpires for the 2023 Spring & Fall seasons. A \$10 registration fee will get you an umpire shirt, hat, indicator, use of umpiring equipment, on-field training, and online certification. Game fees start at \$30 per game! We will provide everything you need to get out on the field and start making calls and money!

SUPPORT ORION RECREATION! Youth Athletics Team Sponsor

Orion Girls Softball League (OGSL) and/or
Lake Orion Youth Baseball League (LOYBL)
\$300/team or \$250/2+ teams
(either league)

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

TR Hawk Softball

Friendship & Civic Center Park
Tue & Thu, Apr–Aug | 6–8:30 pm
Ages 13+ | \$35R/\$38NR

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

YOUTH SOCCER

Orion/Oxford Soccer League (OOSL)

Online registration at orionparks.com

Aug 7–Oct 21 | \$95R/\$105NR per player
\$35 Jersey if new player or replacement needed | Registration begins May 1
\$30 Late Fee after Jul 10 | Registration Deadline Jul 17 | League schedules finalized in July

Any child born between Jan 1, 2010 and Dec 31, 2020 is eligible and encouraged to play soccer in the OOSL Fall 2023 season. The season will consist of one practice during the week with games on Saturdays (*weekday games if necessary based on number of teams in division*).

U-4 | Coed | 2020
U-5 | Coed | 2019
U-6 | Coed | 2018
U-8 | Coed or Girls | 2017 & 2016
U-10 | Coed or Girls | 2015 & 2014
U-12 | Coed or Girls | 2013 & 2012
U-14 | Coed or Girls | 2011 & 2010

OOSL Soccer Referee

Civic Center & Friendship Park
Ages 14+

Be an OOSL soccer referee! All games are on Saturdays starting at 9 am. Pay varies based on the age division. All experience levels welcome! Contact Tyler Carpenter, tcarpenter@orion-township.org, for more information.

Volunteer Coaches Needed!

Visit orionparks.com for more information about our Youth Leagues.

Junior Golf League

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Tue, Jun 13–Aug 22 | 1–3:30 pm
Ages 10–15 | \$135R/\$140NR

The Mulberry Hills Junior Golf League is designed for both boys and girls, with some prior playing experience and a firm understanding of the game, not for beginners. All participants will play nine holes each week on a semi-competitive basis. All scores and handicaps will be calculated to maintain a level playing field. The league includes on-course supervision, a hot dog & pop, games, contests, awards and prizes each week. No league on Jul 4. Must have own clubs and equipment.

Esports League

Orion Center | Spring Season Feb 27–May 7 | Summer Season May 30–Aug 6
\$250R/NR

Play some of the fastest growing games with your peers in the brand new esports leagues! If you are experienced or a beginner, this will still be a league for you! With the partnership of XP League, we will be hosting in person leagues and camps. Equipment will be provided. The programs will include practices with trained coaches, game days and custom jerseys! Follow our Facebook and website for more information.

Spring Youth Leagues are still enrolling!

Late fee may apply. Deadline to register Mar 13. Visit orionparks.com for more info.

ADULT LEAGUES

Adult Summer Softball League

Men's Rec League | Friendship Park
Tue, May 9–Jul 11 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

Coed Rec League | Friendship Park
Wed, May 10–Jul 12 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

\$315/Team | \$20/Non-Resident Player
Refundable Forfeit Deposit: \$100
Umpire Fees: \$20/Team/Game

Open Registration begins Apr 3
Manager's Meeting May 1 | 7 pm
Virtual

Adult Fall Softball League

Men's Rec League | Civic Center Park
Tue, Aug 1–Sep 26 | 6:20–9:50 pm
Ages 18+

Coed Rec League | Civic Center Park
Wed, Aug 2–Sep 25 | 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 20
Manager's Meeting Jul 24 | 7 pm | Zoom

Adult Cornhole League

Spring | Orion Center
Mon, May 15–Jul 17 | 6–8:30 pm
Ages 18+ | \$80R Team/\$90NR Team

Fall | Orion Center
Mon, Jul 31–Sep 25 | 6–8:30 pm
Ages 18+ | \$80R Team/\$90NR Team

Nothing better to kick off the start of summer than with some friendly cornhole. Sign up your backyard team and show us your skills. Bring your own cornhole bags. Playoffs will be held the last week of the season. Each week you will play 3 teams. Each game is best 2 of 3 matches. Teams of 2, one registration per team.



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or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

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ADULT FITNESS & WELLNESS

Modern Women's Self-Defense Seminar

Dragon Community Room | Fri, Mar 3 | 6-7:30 pm
Ages 13+ | \$25R/\$27NR

Discover your inner warrior! Please join us for an informative seminar to give you techniques to protect yourself from danger. Chief instructor of the Metro Michigan Shotokan Karate school, Andrea Moon (*4th Degree Black Belt*) will teach you a variety of effective techniques to defend yourself. Participants will work with partners as attacker and defender to learn a variety of self-defense techniques. At the completion of the seminar, you will receive a written hand-out that includes a review of everything covered during the session. With these instructions, you will be able to review and practice the exercises. Please wear loose fitting clothing, no jewelry, hair tied back. We will work in bare feet in order to stay safe when practicing foot/leg techniques. Class is held at the Municipal Complex, 2323 Joslyn Rd.

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 9
6:30-7:30 pm | Ages 16+
Free

Orion Center
Thu, Mar 16-Jun 1
6:30-7:30 pm | Ages 16+
\$10R/\$11NR drop in only

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 Apr 6. Instructor: Cindi Carter

Hatha Gentle Yoga

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 13-Apr 10 | 4:45-5:45 pm
Ages 16+ | \$55R/\$58NR

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 17-May 8 | 4:45-5:45 pm
Ages 16+ | \$44R/\$46NR

In this class you will learn the foundational poses of yoga and begin to experience all the wonderful benefits. Gentle stretches to increase flexibility and strength in the body. Breathing and relaxation techniques to calm the mind. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate: \$13R/\$14NR per night.

Hatha Yin/Yang Yoga

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 13-Apr 10 | 6-7:15 pm
Ages 16+ | \$55R/\$58NR

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 17-May 8 | 6-7:15 pm
Ages 16+ | \$44R/\$46NR

In this series, we will explore the Yang practice of movement balanced by the stillness of a Yin practice. We will be integrating Yin and Yang styles which help to develop mobility in the body and yet create a deeper sense of body awareness through the quietness of a Yin practice. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate: \$13R/\$14NR

Hatha Open Yoga

Orion Center | Thu, Mar 9-Apr 6 | Apr 13-May 11
10-11:20 am | Ages 16+ | \$55R/\$58NR

Exploring yoga asanas in a slow and subtle way to increase awareness in the body. Breathing and meditation techniques to calm the mind. Open to beginning or returning students. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket to class. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate: \$13R/\$14NR

Zumba Gold

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 21-Apr 24 | 9:30-10:30 am
Ages 40+ | \$80R/\$85NR

Orion Center | Mon, May 1-22 | 9:30-10:30 am
Ages 40+ | \$35R/\$38NR

A Latin inspired cardio workout, incorporating dances such as merengue, salsa, cumbia, belly dancing and more! This class is different from regular Zumba in that it provides more verbal instruction to better learn the moves and is done at a slower pace. Great class for someone new to exercise or someone hesitant to try the regular Zumba. You will have so much fun dancing, you will forget you're working out! It's exercise in disguise! Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: \$11R/\$12NR



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or call 248-391-0304, ext. 3500
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Zumba Gold Toning

Orion Center | Wed, Mar 23–Apr 26
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+
\$80R/\$85NR

Orion Center | Wed, May 3–24
9:30–10:30 am | Ages 40+
\$35R/\$38NR

Zumba Gold Toning blends the Zumba party you love at a slower pace with a redefining total body workout using Zumba Toning Sticks (*1 lbs. weights recommended, no more than 3 lbs.*) to shake up those muscles! Walk in ready to have a blast and tone up, leave exhilarated and empowered! Just want to dance without using the weights? No problem! Come to class for the same Zumba fun without using the weights and enjoy the party! Instructor: Cyndy DuVal. Drop in rate: \$11R/\$12NR



Tai Chi Continuing

Orion Center | Tue, Mar 7–Apr 11
Apr 18–May 23 | 10–11 am | Ages 18+
\$60R/\$64NR

Continue class is for students who have learned the 12-posture forms. Classes include warm-up and focused exercises, as well as learning the Wu Style form of sequenced postures. Tai Chi Chuan is a soft-style Chinese martial art. Its slow, repetitive, and circular movements open internal circulation to improve strength, agility, and balance. The forms gently move every muscle of the body through a complete and natural range of motion. Over time, students will see a reduction of stress with an increase of natural energy, coordination, and power of concentration. Instructor Michael Dwyer. Drop in rate: \$11R/\$12NR



Tai Chi Beginner

Orion Center | Tue, Mar 7–Apr 11
Apr 18–May 23 | 11 am– Noon
Ages 18+ | \$60R/\$64NR

Classes include warm-up and focused exercises and learning the Wu Style form of sequenced postures. Tai Chi Chuan is a soft-style Chinese martial art. Its slow, repetitive, and circular movements open internal circulation to improve strength, agility, and balance. The forms gently move every muscle of the body through a complete and natural range of motion. Over time, students will see a reduction of stress with an increase of natural energy, coordination, and power of concentration. Instructor Michael Dwyer. Drop in rate: \$11R/\$12NR

Heartfulness Meditation Program—Learn to Meditate

Friendship Park | Tue, Apr 4–25
7–8 pm | Ages 13+ | Free

A simple set of relaxation and meditation exercises, which when practiced daily, help restore balance in life, manage stress, better your health, and lead you to inner calm and peace. Class is free, but registration is required as spaces are limited.

Plant Based Eating

Orion Center | Mon, Mar 20–Apr 17
6:30–8 pm | Ages 12+ | \$49R/\$59NR

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

Adult Golf Lessons

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon, Jun 5–Jul 10 | 6:30–7:30 pm
Ages 18+ | \$145R/\$150NR

Group lessons create a comfortable and affordable instructional environment for the new or intermediate golfer. Sessions have a minimum of six participants and a maximum of ten. Review and improve existing skills, introduce variations of the golf swing, shot techniques and implement aspects of golf course management. Students approached as if they have some experience and some grasp of golfing fundamentals. Participants will be able to play Mulberry Hills Golf Club at a discounted rate during specified times throughout the season.

Women's Only Learn & Play

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon, Jun 5–Aug 28 | 5–5:30 pm
Ages 16+ | \$265R/\$270NR

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Mon, Jun 5–Aug 28 | 6–6:30 pm
Ages 16+ | \$265R/\$270NR

Mulberry Hills Golf Course
Thu, Jun 8–Aug 31 | 5:30–6 pm
Ages 16+ | \$265R/\$270NR

Ladies, learn to golf in a relaxed environment from instructor Tony Frias. Group lessons cover putting, pitching and chipping, full swing with irons and wood. Nine holes of golf also included weekly. Build relationships and get exercise in the great outdoors. Join individually or with a group of friends or co-workers. Space is limited to 14 players. Any weeks rained out will extend the program by one week. No class Jul 4, 24, 25 or 27.



Pickleball Lessons—Beginner

Friendship Park | Ages 18+ | \$45R/\$47NR

Session 1: Mon & Wed | Apr 17 & 19 | 9–11 am

Session 2: Tue & Thu | Apr 18 & 20 | 12–2 pm

Session 3: Mon & Wed | Apr 24 & 26 | 12–2 pm

Session 4: Tue & Thu | Apr 25 & 27 | 4–6 pm

Session 5: Tue & Thu | May 2 & 4 | 9–11 am

Session 6: Mon & Wed | May 8 & 10 | 4–6 pm

Session 7: Tue & Thu | May 9 & 11 | 4–6 pm

Session 8: Mon & Wed | May 15 & 17 | 9–11 am

Session 9: Tue & Thu | May 23 & 25 | 12–2 pm

Session 10: Tue & Wed | May 30 & 31 | 5–7 pm

Session 11: Mon & Wed | Jun 5 & 7 | 12–2 pm

Session 12: Mon & Wed | Jun 12 & 13 | 9–11 am

Session 13: Tue & Thu | Jun 13 & 15 | 9–11 am

Session 14: Tue & Thu | Jun 20 & 22 | 6–8 pm

Session 15: Mon & Wed | Jun 26 & 28 | 2–4 pm



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

Pickleball Lessons—Intermediate

Friendship Park | Ages 18+ | \$45R/\$47NR

Session 1: Mon & Wed | May 1 & 3 | 9–11 am

Session 2: Tue & Thu | May 16 & 18 | 5–7 pm

Session 3: Mon & Wed | May 22 & 24 | 5–7 pm

Session 4: Tue & Thu | Jun 6 & 8 | 5–7 pm

Session 5: Mon & Wed | Jun 19 & 21 | 12–2 pm

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

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Community Garden Plots

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

Community gardens promote environmental stewardship and sustainable living, all while providing healthful and affordable fruits and vegetables! Get your 4 x 8 Garden Plot at Friendship Park today! Registration will open to returning gardeners on Mar 1. Registration for unclaimed plots will be open to everyone beginning Apr 1—two plots maximum per household. Garden plots not planted by the first week in Jun are assumed abandoned and will be offered to a new gardener. Wheelchair accessible plots are available. Call 248–391–0304, x3500 or come to the Orion Center for more information.



Penny Pendant with Ariel Inspired

Orion Center | Thu, Jun 1

6–8 pm | Ages 12+

\$38R/\$41NR

You will take home a wearable reversible pendant designed by you. Program includes learning to 3 wire weave, bending and anchoring, creating a bail and scrolling. All materials are included, wire and beads and use of tools. You will walk out with a beautiful wearable pendant as a gift to yourself or a friend!



Coffee With Chris

Township Hall | Fri, Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26 | 9:30–10:30 am

Stop in for an informal meeting with Supervisor Chris Barnett. Feel free to come with questions or join in on the discussion. Topics include current events in the Township and other matters of interest. If you have a request that may take some research, submit it in advance to cbarnett@oriontownship.org or schedule an appointment. Township Hall is located at 2323 Joslyn Road.



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ORIONPARKS.COM

or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500

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ONTV CLASSES

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

ONTV Podcast Classes

ONTV Studio | Ages 13+
\$25R/NR

ONTV is offering classes providing instruction on how to record a podcast. Classes run 2-3 hours, can hold 1-4 people, and will meet at the ONTV Studio, located at **1349 Joslyn Rd.** Call **248-393-1060** to schedule an appointment at your convenience.

10 Week Video Production Class

ONTV Studio | Ages 13+
Mon, Mar 20-May 22 | 7-9 pm
\$55R/NR

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

ADULTS 50+

Interested in participating in one of our Senior Services programs? Become a member at the Orion Center for 50+ Orion Township Residents and Non-Residents. Membership to the Orion Center is free. Stop by **1335 Joslyn Rd.** or call **248-391-0304 x3500** to register. Once registered you may sign up for any of the programs below. The Orion Center also has many different resources available to community members. Call us today if you are in need of help in topics including: meals delivered to your home (*Meals on Wheels*), medical equipment, caregiver support, dental, housing, and many other support groups. Also, pick up a monthly newsletter at Orion Center to stay up to date on all senior offerings through **orionparks.com**.

SPECIAL EVENTS 50+

St. Patrick's Day Lunch

Orion Center | Fri, Mar 17
12-1:30 pm | \$6R/\$8NR

May the luck of the Irish be with you! Join us for a festive meal and entertainment while we celebrate this popular Irish holiday. Membership and registration is required.

Bunny Lunch

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

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

Cinco De Mayo Fiesta

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

Come join us for a fiesta! Enjoy some music and an authentic Mexican lunch. Membership and registration is required.



CLUBS 50+

Membership and registration required.

K4 Knit/Crochet

Mon | 12:30-3:30 pm

Chinese Mahjong

Mon | 12:30-3:30 pm

Ham Radio

Mon & Thu | 6-8:45 pm

Bingo

Tue | 10 & 12:45 pm | Please bring nickels

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+

Ukulele and More

Wed & Fri | 11 am

Orion Center Band

Thu | 10:30-11:30 am

Euchre

Thu | 1-4 pm | \$2 Drop-in Fee + Dimes

Movies

Fri | 1-3 pm

Quilting

Fri | 9 am-12 pm
Thu | 2nd of the month | 1-4 pm

Walking Club

Fri | 10 am

American Mahjong

Fri | 10:30 am-3:30 pm | You must bring your own 2023 Official Standard Hands and Rules card

MARCH

1 Basic Tech Help for Seniors, *Orion Center*, 10:30 am–12:30 pm

1–31 Downtown Lake Orion #StrongerTogether Shopping Passport

1–3 Downtown Lake Orion & Oxford #StrongerTogether Restaurant Week (starts Feb 24)

2 High School Parent/Teacher Conferences

4 Teen Escape Room, *Orion Library*, 2 pm, registration required

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

7–9 Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences

8 Orion Chamber's 4th Annual Women in Business Conference, *Paint Creek Country Club*, 11:30 am–1:30 pm

8 The Write Stuff Writer's Workshop, *Orion Library*, 7 pm

10 Senior Social Hour, *Orion Library Orion Center Branch*, 11 am–12 pm

12 Daylight Savings Time begins

13 Youth League Spring registration deadline, *Orion Center*

14 Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group, *Orion Library*, 10:30 am

16 Puzzle & Game Day Swap, *Orion Center*, 9 am–6 pm



Photo by Nancy Bennett

16 Half Day Middle/Elementary

16 Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences

17 St. Patrick's Day

18 Art of Storytelling Opening Reception, *Orion Art Center*, 6 pm

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

22 Mushroom Foraging Tips & Safety, *Orion Library*, 7 pm

24 Coffee with Chris, *Township Hall*, 9:30 am

27 Fire and Ice with Mad Science, *Orion Library*, 2 pm

27–31 No School, Spring Break

29 Red Cross Blood Drive, *Orion Library*, 10:30 am–4:30 pm

30 Blood Drive, *Orion Center*, 12:30–5 pm

31 Upcycled Can Planters, *Orion Library*, 2 pm



Photo by Lisa Thierry

APRIL

1 April Fool's Day

1 Family Battle of the Book Kickoff, *Orion Library*, all day

1–30 Downtown Lake Orion #StrongerTogether Letterboxing Scavenger Hunt

2 Palm Sunday

3 Adult League Summer Softball registration opens, *Orion Center*

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

4 Cook the Book, *Orion Library*, 7 pm

5–6 Half Days, High School

7 Township offices, all schools closed for Good Friday

8 Sons of the American Legion Easter Egg Hunt, *Children's Park*, 11 am

7–9 Orion Library closed for Easter Holiday

9 Easter Sunday

10 Orion Historical Society Meeting, *Orion Library*, 7 pm

13 National Poetry Month Celebration with Dr. Katie Hartsock, *Orion Library*, 6:30 pm

15 Dungeons & Dragons Party, *Orion Library*, 12–4:30 pm

17 Township Board Meeting canceled

19 When Hollywood Went to War, *Orion Library*, 7 pm

20 High Five Day

21–22 Eid-Al-Fitr, begins at Sundown



Photo Courtesy of Lake Orion DDA

MAY

21 Orion Green Up, Camp Agawam, 5-7 pm

22 Super Mario Gaming Fun, Orion Library, 2-4 pm

23 Talk Like Shakespeare Day

26 Basic Tech Help for Seniors, Orion Library Orion Center Branch, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

26 Audubon Day

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

29 Family Battle of the Books, Orion Library, 11 am, registration required

1 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm

1 Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP), Orion Library, 12:30 pm

1 Youth Fall Leagues registration opens, Orion Center

2 Intergenerational Storytime, Orion Library, 11 am

4 Orion Chamber Small Business Appreciation Walk & Networking Mixer, 4-6 pm

4 May the Fourth Be With You!

5 Cinco de Mayo

5 Revenge of the Fifth

6 Mother's Day Market Art & Craft Show, Orion Center, 10 am-4 pm

6 Fandom Fest 2023, Orion Library, all day

8 Maximize your Membership Benefits Member Orientation, Orion Chamber Office, 4:30-6 pm

8 Orion Historical Society Meeting, Orion Library, 7 pm

9 National Teacher Day

11 Motherhood Matters Health & Wellness Expo, Orion Center, 5:30-7:30 pm

11 High School Parent/Teacher Conferences

12 The Joys of Art for Kids: Drawing, Orion Library, 2 pm, registration required

12 Half Day, Elementary/Middle School

15 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm

16-20 Friends of the Orion Library Gently Used Book Sale, Orion Library, times vary

19-21 Orion Art Center Art & Flower Fair, Downtown Lake Orion

21 Dragon Dash 5K, Orion Center, 9 am

24 English Language Learners Conversation Group, Orion Library, 10:30 am

25-26 High School Senior Exams

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

27-29 Orion Library closed for Memorial Day Holiday

29 Memorial Day

29 Orion Veterans Memorial Day Race, Downtown Lake Orion, 9 am

29 Orion Township offices, schools closed for Memorial Day Holiday

30-June 17 This Lead is Killing Us Exhibit, Orion Library

31 Basic Tech Help for Seniors, Orion Library Orion Center Branch, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

June 3 Community Garage Sale, Orion Center, 9 am-3 pm

June 3 Antique, Toy & Comic Expo, Orion Center, 9 am-3 pm

Background photo by Matt Pfeiffer

ENRICHMENT 50+

Financial and Medicare Counseling Services

Orion Center | appointment based | Free

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

Ask the Attorney

Orion Center | Mon, Apr 3, May 15, Jun 26 | 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.

WELLNESS 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.



Wellness Center Hours

Ask a nurse/physician, check your blood pressure, check your weight. Physician available every Monday 9 am-12 pm. Nurse available every Thursday from 12:30-4 pm.

Pain Management

Orion Center | Wed, Mar 22 | 11:15 am-12:15 pm | Free

Many people deal with pain on a daily basis. It takes the right medical professional to listen, examine and personalize treatment. The goal of pain management is to allow an individual to participate in the activities they need to, and the activities they want to. Improving function regardless of the diagnosis is something Dr. Achtman strives to achieve.

Health and Wellness Fair

Orion Center | Tue, Jun 13 | 10am-1 pm | Free

Ascension Providence Rochester will be available for free health screenings, blood pressure checks and ABI testing. We will have many vendors available for services and other products available to assist you with your health. Join us as we present our local assisted living facilities, estate planning, home safety, transportation, hearing, eye care, guardian care and many more senior health and wellness services.

Let's Craft Together!

Orion Center | Carrot Sign | Wed, Mar 22 | 2 pm
\$5R/\$7NR

Orion Center | Spring DIY Cards | Fri, Mar 31 | 1:30 pm
\$5R/\$7NR

Orion Center | Crushed Tin Cans | Thu, May 25 | 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.

Genealogy Class "Where are the early dead of Detroit"

Orion Center | Fri, Mar 24 | 1:30 pm | Free

A historical review of the early cemeteries (1700-1890) of Detroit and what happened to them, and the people who are

buried there. Where were they located and why were burials relocated to new cemeteries? What happened to the tombstones? Also, a discussion of where to find death or burial records for the years before civil registration in 1867.

AARP Smart Driving Course

Orion Center | Mon, May 22 and
Tue, May 23 | \$25R/NR

A two-day class that teaches valuable defensive driving skills and provides a refresher of the rules of the road. Learn proven safety strategies and tips for how to adapt one's driving to compensate for physical and cognitive changes that may come with aging. AARP Members get a \$5 discount, only available over the phone or walk in registration. A light lunch will be provided.

TRIPS

Soaring Eagle Casino

Thu, Apr 20 | Leave Orion Center at
8:30 am, return back at 4:30 pm
\$37R/NR

Trip includes round trip motor coach transportation to Mount Pleasant, MI, four hours of gaming at Soaring Eagle Casino, and participants receive \$20 in free play, \$10 in food credit, and \$10 Bingo Bucks!



Ford House Tour and Lunch

Tue, May 16 | Leave Orion Center at 9 am, return back at 3 pm
\$52R/\$72NR

Located in Grosse Pointe Shores, the impeccably designed Main Residence was Edsel and Eleanor Ford's dream house: a warm, welcoming place for family. The rooms feel intimate and comfortable. It isn't just a house—it's a home. After touring the home the group will receive a guided tour of the grounds and see the lovely spring landscaping. Lastly, we will enjoy a buffet lunch and the ability to stroll through the gift shop. Please note this trip is considered strenuous because of the amount of walking.

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 50+

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.

Park Feature: Mountain Bike Trail at Friendship Park

A new experience for local trail riders

Acorn Loop (Family/ Skills):

Colored white on the overview map, this .75-mile loop is envisioned as an introductory mountain bike experience. Within the loop, users would encounter various small technical trail features (TTF) on which to repeatedly practice skills, essentially loops within the main loop, with space for small groups to observe and coach riders. The trail tread is wide and areas surrounding TTFs would be clear of stumps, rocks, and other hazards. The trail tread is sloped, with bermed turns, to counteract forces pushing users off the tread. Some climbing is to be expected but grades are less than 10%, and most of the trail is gently sloping.



Peak Loop: Intermediate in difficulty, the .8-mile Peak Loop, colored orange, is designed to be the next step up from the Acorn Loop. Starting clockwise at the hiking trail crossing, this segment trends upwards on highly featured hillsides, topping out on the northern side of the large hill. From the top, the trail descends through a series of switchbacks to a stream crossing before looping back to the south and up to the peak again. This loop features some strenuous climbing with some larger technical trail features—drops, step ups, step downs, and tabletops—on flatter sections.



Friendship Park is located at 3380 W. Clarkston Road, Lake Orion.

The Trail was designed and built by a local company.



Message from the Chamber President/CEO

The Chamber Leadership Team

is deeply dedicated to our business community and we pride ourselves on providing resources, connections, and advocacy while creatively promoting our community and business members. Together we are a catalyst for business growth, a convener of leaders and influencers, and a champion for a stronger community.

This year we are excited to offer a diverse and valuable menu of programming. We are thrilled to offer several new events to enhance our popular annual signature events such as our highly acclaimed Women in Business Conference, Golf Outing Fundraiser, and Impact Awards Luncheon.

Upcoming Signature Events

March 8, 11:30 am–2 pm

4th Annual Women in Business Conference in Celebration of International Women's Day 2023

April 21, 8:30–10 am

New! Inaugural Good Morning Orion Legislative Breakfast

May 4, 1–4 pm

New! Small Business Appreciation Walk in collaboration with the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority in celebration of Small Business Week

May 4, 4–6 pm

Networking Mixer in celebration of Small Business Week, members only.

May 8, 4:30–6 pm

Maximize Your Membership Benefits Member Orientation

New in 2023

- Coming soon: we will be sporting a fresh new website featuring enhanced member listings
- Small Business Appreciation Walks (3). Chamber Leadership Team delivering sweet treats to local businesses
- Good Morning Orion Legislative Breakfast (*Spring and Fall*) featuring State and Federal Leaders
- State of the Community Fall Luncheon featuring Local and Regional Leaders
- Chamber Food Truck Festival will be in partnership with Orion Parks Big Rig Gig in August

We are also thrilled to introduce our new President's Circle Membership level which includes an all-inclusive opportunity to bundle multiple sponsorships, membership investment, and marketing opportunities into one custom designed package to meet the needs of each individual business. Many thanks to Caliber Home Loans, Genisys Credit Union, Haney Farm Bureau Insurance, Michigan United Credit Union, and Orion Township/Orion Parks for being among the first Chamber members to invest in our President's Circle.

Please contact me if you would like more information about our events, programs, or membership. My door is always open and I'm happy to help in any possible way!

Fondly,

Joyce Donaldson, IOM
President & CEO
Orion Area Chamber of Commerce



2023 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wayne Haney, Chairman of the Board
Haney Farm Bureau

Jimmy Johnson, Vice-Chairman
Graphic Takeover

Steve Wandrie, Treasurer
Steve Wandrie Caliber Home Loans

Adrian Schirr, Secretary
Forum Health Clarkston

Garrett Hoffman, Immediate Past Chair
Your Food Dude

Angela DelPup, *Ascension Providence
Rochester Hospital*

Theresa Doan, *Genisys Credit Union*

Bill Kokenos, *Golling Buick GMC
Orion Area Parade Group*

Nicki North, *Hershey Insurance*

Aaron Whatley
Orion Township Parks & Recreation

Jennifer Whitteaker
DTE Energy

CHAMBER STAFF

Joyce Donaldson, IOM
President and Chief Executive Officer
joyce@orionareachamber.com

Jillian Nolan
Operations Manager
jillian@orionareachamber.com

CONTACT

248-693-6300

www.orionareachamber.com

LOCATION

1335 Joslyn Road, Suite 1
Lake Orion, MI 48360

HOURS

Monday–Friday
9:00 am–4:00 pm

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES

Facebook: orionareachamber

Instagram: orionchamber

LinkedIn: Orion Area
Chamber of Commerce

MISSION

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

Orion Women Leaders

Outreach, inspiration and mentorship

The Chamber's Orion Women Leaders focus is to support and inspire each other through community outreach, leadership, mentorship, and philanthropy. Comprised of enthusiastic professional business women, they aim to uplift and encourage their peers so that they can achieve their individual professional and personal goals.

The Orion Area Women Leaders will meet approximately eight times this year with creative and inspiring programming such as The Women in Business Conference in celebration of International Women's Day on March 8. The afternoon will feature three inspirational keynote speakers, delicious lunch, and friendly camaraderie while celebrating International Women's Day together.

Many Thanks to our Steering Committee Members: Christa Andrews, Practically Perfect Vacations; Jenny Bhatti, Orion Township; Alaina Campbell, Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake; Melisa Counelis,



Melisa Counelis Farm Bureau Insurance; Joyce Donaldson, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce; Anne Marie Gealy, MSB Studio Fitness; Jennifer Kangeter, Michigan United Credit Union; Dawn

Neely, Seniors Helping Seniors; Jillian Nolan, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce; Nicki North, Hershey Insurance; Cory Thompson, The Red Oak Refillery.

For more information on the Orion Women Leaders meeting schedule, the Women in Business Conference, or how to get involved, please visit orionareachamber.com or call Jillian at the Chamber Office at 248-693-6300.

Save the Date: March 8th—Women in Business Conference in celebration of International Women's Day

About the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce

The Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to creating a healthy local economy and building a strong environment for economic growth and stability. In ongoing efforts to achieve this lofty goal, we represent business to government, coordinate educational forums, host networking events, advocate for business-friendly legislation, and promote community.

The Chamber is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization, funded through chamber membership investments, sponsors, and fundraisers. We are a passionate team of 11 volunteer

Board of Directors, two paid staffers, and 300+ enthusiastic members that generously share their time, talents, and treasures. Together we are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in the Orion area and are proud to offer an energetic and sunny environment in which businesses can joyfully flourish!



For more information on the Chamber and how we can help, please contact Joyce Donaldson, President and CEO at 248-693-6300 or joyce@orionareachamber.com.

Chamber Member Restaurant & Eatery Guide

Alibi Express

786 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-693-2999
alibipizza.com

Anita's Kitchen

45 W Flint, Lake Orion
248-929-8914
anitaskitchen.com/
ak-lake-orion

Avocado Mexican Grill

1188 S Lapeer, Orion Twp
248-690-9755
avocado-mexicangrill.com

Bad Brads BBQ

3437 S Baldwin, Lake Orion
248-977-5910
badbradsbbq.com

Bitter Tom's Distillery

120 S Broadway, Lake Orion
248-690-9535
Bittertomsdistillery.com

Buffalo Wild Wings

770 N. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-814-8600
buffalowildwings.com

Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake

20 Front, Lake Orion
248-475-2256
cookiesandcreamlo.com

Culvers of Lake Orion

4963 Interpark Drive N
Lake Orion
248-276-2222
culvers.com/restaurants/
lake-orion

Domino's

979 S Lapeer, Oxford
248-628-3202
dominos.com

Fork n' Pint

51 N Broadway, Lake Orion
248-845-4476
forknpint.com

G's Pizzeria

2775 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-393-0000
gpsizzeria.com

HomeGrown Brewing Co

28 N Washington, Oxford
248-800-4244
homegrownbrewco.com

Italia Gardens

1076 S. Lapeer, Oxford
248-628-4112
italiagardensoxford.com

Jet's Pizza

1091 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-814-7559
jetspizza.com

Lakes Village Stop & Mediterranean Station

415 S Broadway, Lake Orion
248-693-4565
facebook.com/
mediterraneanstation

Lava Mountain Coffee Co.

1472 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-690-7595
lavamountaincoffee.com

Nothing Bundt Cakes

3074 Walton Blvd
Rochester Hills
248-963-0060
nothingbundtcakes.com/
bakery/mi/rochester-hills

Oat Soda Lake Orion

197 S Broadway, Lake Orion
248-558-2900
oatsodalakeorion.com

Old Detroit Bar & Grill

741 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-814-8109
olddetroitburgerbar.com

Orion Grill

3667 S Baldwin, Lake Orion
248-391-8303
facebook.com/OrionGrill

Palazzo di Bocce

4291 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-371-9987
palazzodibocce.com

Rainforest Cafe

4310 Baldwin, Auburn Hills
248-333-0280
rainforestcafe.com

Swirlz Lake Orion

1035 S Baldwin, Lake Orion
248-391-2222
facebook.com/Swirlz-Frozen-
Custard-180-782-268639033/

The 313 Pizza Bar

37 E. Flint, Lake Orion
248-690-9362
313pizza-bar.com

Tim Hortons Lake Orion

740 S. Lapeer, Lake Orion
248-693-8954
locations.timhortons.com/mi/
lake-orion/740-s-lapeer-rd

White Pine Coffee Roasters

33 Pleasant, Oxford
248-221-5136
whitepinecoffee.com

Wine Social

135 S Broadway, Lake Orion
248-783-7111
wine-social.com

Yates Cider Mill at Canterbury Village

2375 Joslyn Ct, Lake Orion
248-481-9203
yatescidermill.com/
canterbury

A warm welcome to our newest Chamber members

(mid-October through January)

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Anita's Kitchen | Mr Zeros Quarter Cafe |
| Avocado Mexican Grill | Oakland Corners Realty, LLC |
| Birch & Bind Home Accents, LLC | PNC Bank |
| Brinker Veterinary Hospital (Premier member) | Rainforest Café |
| Domino's | Red Lantern Dog Training |
| Dort Financial Credit Union | Still Waters Osteopathy Lake Orion |
| Eagle Creek Academy (Signature member) | The Entrepreneur's Source |
| Fortified Construction LLC | The Terraces at Lake Orion |
| Jennifer Gernaey, Bankers Life | Top Job Cleaning Services |
| Mattress Firm | Z Plumberz (Premier member) |



Our Sponsors

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE



ELITE MEMBERS



PREMIER MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Brinker Veterinary Hospital | Kerri Sorenson National Realty Centers |
| Buffalo Wild Wings | St. Joseph Mercy Oakland |
| Closets by Design | Z Plumberz |
| Corewell Health | Zale Group |
| G's Pizzeria | |

Maximize Your Membership Member Orientation: Bad Dog Woodshop, Ron Smith; CGC Water Treatment Kinetico, Aidan McCarthy; Dort Financial Credit Union, Shona Durocher-Patel; Graphic Takeover, Jimmy Johnson; Haney Farm Bureau, Wayne Haney; Kamunikate, Courtney Conley; Keri Sorenson Real Estate Team, Teri Sorenson; Mattress Firm, Bill Pirtle; Mr. Zeros Quarter Café, Scott Tarach; Orion Area Chamber, Joyce Donaldson; Oxford Bank, Chris Stoll; Rainforest Café, Christina Schafer; Reliance Financial Group, Inc., Michael Halker; Still Waters Osteopathy Lake Orion, Ryan Christensen; The Entrepreneur's Source, Steve Ebben; The Red Oak Refillery, Cory Thompson; The Terraces at Lake Orion, Dana Beaman; Verdant Landscape Consulting LLC, Kurt Pieper.



From the Director

Spring brings change

Spring is a time of change, and you might notice a few modifications happening at the Orion Township Public Library in 2023. This year, the library is working on its next big strategic plan, which will guide OTPL in making important decisions for the next few years. A large part of that blueprint will involve hearing from community members. If you haven't already provided feedback, please look for our survey or the opportunity to participate in an OTPL focus group so you can add your voice to the discussion of future library services.

You may also notice some changes within both our collections and the library's governance.

The ways people use the library are always changing, and our goal is to continue to accommodate those evolving needs. As the year progresses, some things will move around, while others will be removed permanently. Our hope is that these adjustments will help patrons use the library in ways that fits their needs, as we highlight new collections and remove some of those that are less used.

By the time this issue of *Orion Living* reaches you, we will have welcomed a new trustee. Our long-serving member, Mike Luna, announced his resignation from the board in November 2022, so that he could dedicate more time to his family business. We thank Mike for his many years of service and wish him the best. As I write this, I don't yet know who will be taking the open seat, but I look forward to working with whoever is willing to give their time to help further the library's mission to serve and engage a thriving community of lifelong learners.

If you have any questions or feedback for me, please know that you can contact me directly by calling me at 248-693-3000 x430, or by email at cmcmunn@orionlibrary.org. You may also leave a comment card in the lobby if you wish. We love to hear what you have to say!

CHASE



Celebrate Earth Day every day by recycling e-waste at OTPL

When High-Tech Recycling began in 2011, the founders never dreamed of a move from a 400-square-foot garage to a 10,000-square-foot facility that processes thousands of pieces of electronic waste yearly.

A sizable amount of those items comes from OTPL patrons, who regularly utilize the box outside our Makerspace to drop off everything from toner cartridges and cell phones to plasma TVs and laptops. Thanks to everyone who has helped keep these items out of landfills!

While light bulbs, speakers in wooden cabinets, projection and CRT TVs, and alkaline and Ni-Cd batteries aren't accepted, many e-waste items can be. To confirm what can be recycled, please call 248-975-7206.

General Info



Notary Services available

Notary services are provided at no charge for patrons at OTPL, but an appointment is necessary. Please call 248-693-3000 to make your appointment.

Upcoming Library Closings

Easter: Friday, Apr 7–Sun, Apr 9

Mother's Day: Sun, May 14

Memorial Day: Sat, May 27–Sun, May 29

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

Department Numbers

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



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

ADULT SERVICES

Registration for programs will open one month prior to the program date.

Orion Historical Society (OHS)

Mondays | Mar 13, Apr 10, May 8



7 pm

Come to an OHS meeting to learn about our township's history and work on projects to preserve the past.

Newcomers always welcome!

North Oakland Genealogical Society

Thursdays | Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18
7 pm

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

The Write Stuff Writer's Workshop

Wednesdays | Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10
7 pm

Connect with a group of like-minded writers on the second Wednesday of each month to learn from each other, share ideas, and practice your writing skills.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Tuesdays | Mar 14, Apr 11, May 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 cannot make the meeting in person, see the event calendar on our website for a Zoom link to join virtually.



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

MAKERSPACE

Cricut Vinyl Decals

Sat, Mar 11 | 2 pm and 3:30 pm
Register online

Create custom vinyl decals using the Cricut cutting machine.

All Ages Makerspace

Sat, Apr 1 | 2 pm

Come play, experiment, and learn with a variety of creative technology projects for adults, teens, and kids!

Glowforge Layered Bowls

Sat, May 20 | 2 pm and 3:30 pm
Register online

Learn to use the Glowforge laser cutter while making a layered wooden bowl.

Makerspace Office Hours

Thursdays: Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11
6:30 pm

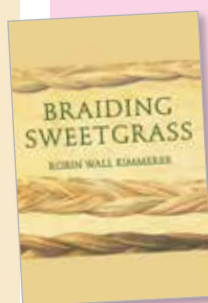
Interested in learning about Makerspace equipment? Have a question? Need some guidance or inspiration for your project? Meet with our Makerspace librarian and start creating! Assistance will be available on a first come, first served basis.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Dine, Drink, & Discuss

Join us at Opa Food & Spirits,
600 S Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion, for
this monthly book discussion.

Mondays | 7 pm



Mar 27: *The Friend* by Sigrid Nunez

Apr 17: *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

May 15: *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict

Book Bunch @ Orion Center

Wednesdays | 1 pm

Mar 8: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

Apr 12: *Educated* by Tara Westover

May 10: *The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton Lee Stewart

Thursday Afternoon Book Club

Thursdays | 1:30 pm

Mar 16: *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel

Apr 20: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

May 18: *Other Birds* by Sarah Addison Allen



Cook the Book

Tues, Apr 4 | 7 pm

Meals from the Mitten by Gina Ferwerda



Prepare a recipe from the cookbook chosen, then meet to sample and discuss recipes from that month's selection! Call 248-693-3001 if you need assistance acquiring a cookbook.



Spice of the Month

Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1
9:30 am

Mark your calendars! Stop by to pick up a kit with a spice sample, information about the herb/seasoning, and a new recipe to try on the first Mondays of March, April, and May. Take and Make kits are available on a first come, first served basis at 9:30 am in the library lobby.

Tech Help at OTPL

Do you have general tech issues or want to learn how something works? Schedule a tech help session with an OTPL staff member! We provide stress-free troubleshooting with basic-to-intermediate

needs such as mobile device assistance or learning how to use the library's digital platforms like Libby, hoopla,

and Kanopy. Book an appointment at orionlibrary.org/tech-help.

The Art of Storytelling: Gallery Opening

Join us at Orion Art Center,
115 S. Anderson St., Lake Orion
Sat, Mar 18 | 6 pm

The Art of Storytelling exhibition begins with a gallery opening at the Orion Art Center. Local artists display their work based on *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia in a juried art contest.

Oat Soda: Distilling in Michigan, Past & Present

Join us at Oat Soda,
197 S. Broadway St., Lake Orion

Mon, Mar 20 | 7 pm
Register online

Michigan is well-known for its wine and craft beer, but its spirits have remained one of our state's best kept secrets. Join us at Oat Soda to learn the history of Michigan distilling, from early European settlers to prohibitionists to the current resurgence in Mitten State liquor-making. Michigan spirits are gaining acclaim, whether vodka, rum, gin, whiskey, brandy—all locally made and worth trying! The presentation does not require the purchase of alcohol, but should you wish to enjoy a drink, a select menu of craft cocktails will be available to purchase. Snacks will be provided.

Mushroom Foraging

Wed, Mar 22 | 7 pm

OTPL is excited to welcome long-time forager Lorenzo Lo Piccolo for a fascinating look into the world of mushrooms. Learn mushroom and fungi terms and facts, foraging safety, etiquette, and tips as well as the elements of fungi identification.



National Poetry Month with Katie Hartsock

Thur, Apr 13 | 6:30 pm

Celebrate both National Poetry Month and the release of *Wolf Trees*, the latest book from Michigan author and poet Dr. Katie Hartsock.

When Hollywood Went to War

Wed, Apr 19 | 7 pm

Join the Orion Historical Society and the Orion Township Public Library to learn about the real-life stories of nearly 90 celebrities who served in the U.S. military during World War II.

Roaming Readers Walking Club

Weds, May 3–May 31 | 9 am

Meet at the back of the library parking lot to walk the Polly Ann Trail for 30 minutes for an informal chat about books and authors as you stroll. Enjoy the health benefits of a regular walking routine and socialize with fellow readers. No registration is necessary for this drop-in program.

Fandom Fest

Sat, May 6 | All Day

Enter a world of geeky activities for all ages! See online calendar for details and updates.



Porcelain Nature Pendant Class at Moose Tree Nature Preserve

Join us at Orion Art Center's
Moose Tree Pottery Studio,
3191 W. Clarkston Rd.,

Lake Orion | Tues, May 9
7 pm | Register online

Create a porcelain pendant imprinted with your selection of a flower, leaf, or seashell—the choice is yours!—as you learn from nature lover and potter Leigh Ann Charpie. Pendants will be designed and glazed the evening of the class, and you will pick up your fired pendant within 14 days. Please bring your piece of nature to the workshop.



This Lead Is Killing Us: A History of Citizens Fighting Lead Poisoning in Their Communities Exhibit

May 8–June 17

This traveling exhibition, developed by the National Library of Medicine, explores the story of citizen action taken against environmental danger. On view at any time the library is open, this exhibit investigates not only localized efforts but national movements to understand the impact of lead on community health.

OUTREACH

Home Delivery Services

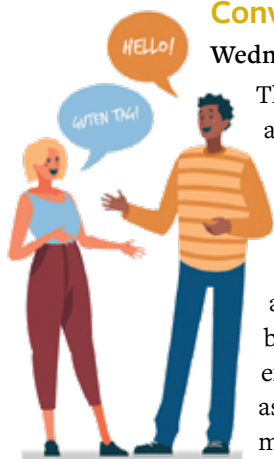
If you or someone you know is unable to physically visit the library, even for a brief time, let us know. We offer delivery services for books, audiobooks, and music—give us specific titles or let us know what you like, and we can introduce you to new favorites! Material is delivered either by car or through our Books by Mail program.



English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)

Wednesdays | 10:30 am | No meeting Mar 29

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



Intergenerational Storytimes

Tuesdays | May 2 and May 30 | 11 am

Intergenerational storytimes welcome parents and children ages 0-5, field trips from senior facilities, and any seniors that want to join us, encouraging social interaction between generations. Librarians will read stories, sing songs, and provide a snack, crafts, and social time for all attendees. Intergenerational programs come with many benefits for seniors, including decreased loneliness, delayed mental decline, and new connections, along with increasing the amount of smiling and conversation among all involved!



Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP)

Mon, May 1 | 12:30 pm

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

Orion Center Branch

For a slower pace and a smaller venue, the Orion Center Branch caters specifically to seniors. Located in the Orion Center, 1335 Joslyn Rd., this small but mighty space features large print books, audiobooks, movies, put and take paperbacks, puzzles, and magazines for all. Computers and a printer are also available.

Going, going, gone—CDs depart OTPL

Musicians in all genres recognize the universality of departing. Singer-songwriter and *American Idol* winner Phillip Phillips sang, “I’ll love you long after you’re gone and long after you’re gone, gone, gone,” while country star Luke Combs lamented, “Like the changing of the seasons, good things they come and then they go.”

Beginning in late February 2023, CDs will become a thing of the past at OTPL. Circulation of the format has been steadily declining as the availability of music across all categories increased on streaming services such as hoopla, which patrons may access at no cost using their library card. A recent search on hoopla found almost 75,000 albums available in categories from country to pop—far, far more than OTPL or several much larger libraries could hold in their collections.

“Although we know some patrons will be disappointed with our decision, being able to offer hundreds of thousands of titles across the musical spectrum is something that’s impossible with our current CD collection, in terms of both space and cost,” said Kathleen Kwiatkowski, Head of Adult Services. “After researching the depth and breadth of what hoopla offers, I found that moving to a streaming format will allow our patrons immediate access to music from all eras and genres which was not the case with traditional CDs.”

As the collection is phased out, patrons will be able to purchase the CDs through the Friends of Orion Township’s Twice Told Tales Book Store beginning on Monday, February 20. CDs will still be available through MeLCat and librarians will be happy to help with using hoopla at the Adult Reference Desk.



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

Basic Tech Help for Seniors @ the Orion Center Branch

Wednesdays | 10:30 am—12:30 pm | By appointment

Make an appointment at the Orion Center Branch Library by calling 248-693-6840. Whether you bring your device or use our computers, our Branch Associate Kurt can troubleshoot basic technology questions and needs. No grandchild needed!

Senior Social Hour @ the Orion Center Branch

Fridays | Mar 10 and 24, Apr 14 and 28, May 12 and 26
11 am

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of most months for a chance to get out and socialize. Each week will feature a different topic so that participants can enjoy the company of other seniors!

2023 Adult Battle of the Books

Make sure to circle Thursday, August 10, 2023, on your calendars because that's the start of our Adult Battle of the Books!

Battle of the Books is a book-related competition where teams are quizzed on a variety of books to test their knowledge and win prizes. Sign-up opens on June 1, 2023. Competition titles include:

Fiction: *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

Nonfiction: *Dark Side of the Mitten: Crimes of Power & Powerful Criminals in Michigan's Past & Present* by Tom Carr

Graphic Novel: *This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki, Illustrated by Jillian Tamaki

Young Adult: *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley

Check the Summer issue of *Orion Living* for more information.



This Lead Is Killing Us: A History of Citizens Fighting Lead Poisoning in Their Communities Exhibit

May 8—Jun 17

Developed by the National Library of Medicine, this timely exhibition examines how community members have confronted lead industries, housing authorities, and elected officials to protect individual and collective health against the dangers of lead poisoning.

Lead exposure can cause neurological problems and sometimes even death, yet this metal has been pervasive in many aspects of American life for over a century. Historically, mining, battery manufacturing, smelting, and enameling industries included lead in their production processes, and manufacturers added lead to household paints and gasoline, endangering the health of workers and families while polluting the environment.

Using a variety of sources, such as news articles, photographs, and advertisements, *This Lead is Killing Us* provides insight into how and when lead impacted human health in the last 200 years.



50 Books in 52 Weeks

Track your reading by completing specific challenges and activities to win badges and entries into prize drawings all year long. Visit orionlibrary.org for more information and to sign up.



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

New Makerspace equipment

Our Makerspace continues to grow in 2023, with the addition of a Brother ColAura sticker printer to the photo scanning station! This printer creates 2-inch full color stickers with an easy-to-use app. Additionally, thanks to a generous patron donation, we now have a Cricut Heat Press. Coupled with the Cricut cutting machine, it is used to apply iron-on transfers and infusible ink for a variety of projects.



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

Intergenerational Storytimes

American society has become increasingly "generationally segregated," a phenomenon that libraries are trying to address by presenting programs aimed at bringing generations together. We have planned two story times that are open to field trips from senior living facilities and any senior who wants to join us!

A joint project by our Outreach and Youth Services departments, these special intergenerational storytimes on May 2 and May 30 at 11 am will welcome caregivers and children ages 0-5 along with seniors, encouraging social interaction between generations.

"Many of our senior residents are faced with families that live far away, and this is a way to enrich the lives of everyone all around," noted Ashley Lehman, OTPL Head of Youth Services. "Our younger attendees will benefit from the wisdom and experience of our older neighbors."

Librarians will read stories, sing songs, and provide crafts, snacks, and social time for all attendees. As Beth Sheridan, Outreach Coordinator, pointed out, "Because libraries are neighborhood hubs, hosting these special storytimes lends itself to one of OTPL's core objectives: engaging a community of lifelong learners. Friendship knows no age limit, so it's our pleasure to provide a place for people at all life stages to commingle."

75 Books Before High School

A reading challenge for 6-8th graders with no deadline other than finishing before you start high school. Sign up at orionlibrary.org/teens/75-books.

100 Books Before Graduation

Designed for 9-12 graders, this challenge lets you read for fun while earning raffle entries for books you log. Sign up at orionlibrary.org/teens-100-books.

JUST FOR TEENS

Teen programming supplies based on a first-come first-served basis for patrons in attendance.



Teen Tuesday

Tuesdays | 6:30-8 pm

Teen Tuesday is a casual hang out for teens who enjoy anything from video games, board and card games, D&D, crafts and more! If you're looking for something to do with some friends, crash with us for a bit. Snacks always provided and new faces always welcome!

Teen Escape Room

Sat, Mar 4 | 2-3 pm | [Register online](#)

Teens who love puzzles and riddles will search, gather, and work together to escape the room.

Teen Writers Group

Tue, Apr 11 | 7-8 pm

Whether you write short stories, poetry, or nonfiction, join the teen writers group to implement writing practices to perfect your passion, as you collaborate with other young writers to share ideas and receive feedback from one another.



Dungeons and Dragons Party

Sat, Apr 15 | 12-4:30 pm

Who's going to watch the new D&D movie, *Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*? In honor of the new release, bring your fellow D&D campaign to OTPL for an afternoon of role-playing. Snacks and drinks provided. This program is for teens who want a place to play D&D; please note that we are not starting a new campaign. Doors will be open from 12-4:30 pm for your convenience.

Kam Komiks: Comic Book and Manga Workshop

Sat, May 6 | 2-4 pm

Comic book and hip hop artist Kamron Reynolds (aka Kool Ade Kam) will help teens with a comic book drawing lesson during which the younger artists will learn tips on creating a character, character action, and how to sequence stories. The workshop ends with creating your own mini comic book and a live performance from Kool Ade Kam!



Visit the OTPL Teen Room after March 1 and you'll see a welcomed addition: our new PS5! Access to the console is on a first come, first served basis, and a library card is not needed to check out controllers while playing in the library. Games, of which we have PLENTY, do need to be checked out, so stop in for some gaming fun when you're here!

YOUTH SERVICES

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

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Fandom Fest

Sat, May 6

If a full day of geeky activities for all ages sounds like fun, join us for Fandom Fest! See online calendar for details and updates.



FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Battle of the Books

Sat, Apr 29 | 11 am | All Ages

Register online

What is better than reading together as a family? Reading and competing together! Join us for our first-ever Family Battle of the Books. You will have one month to read five books. A Kahoot trivia quiz will test your knowledge and recall. Enjoy family time in a new way as you read and quiz each other to prepare. Family shirts/outfits/spirit wear are strongly encouraged. Book titles will be revealed on April 1.



BABY, TODDLER, AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Bounce and Boogie

Saturdays | Mar 4, Apr 1, May 20
11 am | All Ages

Learn physical literacy and fundamental motor skills to promote a healthy, active, lifestyle with experts and fun activities.

SENSEsational Storytime

Fridays | Mar 10, Apr 14, May 26
11 am | All ages

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



SPRING BREAK WEEK

If your family is sticking around town for Spring Break, join us at the library for some STEAM-related fun for all ages. Kicking off a week of STEAM, warm and chill with Mad Science, test your taste buds and your knowledge regarding a favorite starchy treat, and have fun with recyclable materials!



Fire and Ice Show with Mad Science

Mon, Mar 27 | 2 pm | All ages

This spectacular family show thrills audiences with impressive science experiments including foggy dry ice storms, floating beach balls, and bubbly showers!

Potato Chip Challenge

Tue, Mar 28 | 2 pm | Grades PreK-5

Put your palate to the test in our taste test challenge, build, create, and learn about the origin of this delicious, favorite snack.



Bins, Bags, and Bottles

Wed, Mar 29 | 10 am or 11 am | Grades PreK-2 | Register online



Visit the library to explore and create sensory fun with bins, bags, and bottles.

Upcycled Can Planters

Fri, Mar 31 | 2 pm | Grades K-5

Decorate tin cans and turn them into homes for house plants! Leave with a newly propagated plant to begin growing your own.

Little Lit

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays

Mar 6-Mar 22, April 3-April 26

10 am, 11 am | Ages 0-5 | Limit 20

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

Intergenerational Storytimes

Tuesdays | May 2, May 30 | All ages

Parents and children ages 0-5, field trips from senior facilities, and any seniors are invited to join encouraging social interaction between generations! Librarians will read stories, sing songs, and provide a snack, an art activity, and social time for all attendees.

Mark your calendars! Summer Reading Kickoff is Saturday, June 10. Free Family Fun in the OTPL backyard!

PARENTS

1, 2, 3 Play with Me! Parent Child Workshop

Wednesdays | May 3, 10, 24, 31
6:30 pm OR

Thursdays | May 4, 11, 25, Jun 1
10 am | Ages 1-3 | Register online

Spend time together at this parent-child workshop. Have time to play, experience art activities, and meet new friends.

Each week a Community Resource Specialist will be available to answer questions about their specialty. Topics include library resources, child development, speech and hearing, nutrition, and play and movement. Please select either Wednesday or Thursday to attend.



Book Buddies

Thu, Mar 16 & Tue, Apr 18 | 6:30 pm
Grades K-2 | Register online

Kids will be paired with a teen reading buddy to practice reading aloud, help sound out words, and assist with comprehension through stories, rhymes, and games. Teen reading buddies are supportive, enthusiastic listeners who can help your child practice reading here at the library.

Space Explorers

Sat, Mar 18 | 2 pm | Grades K-5

Celebrate the anniversary of the first space walk with out of this world space-themed activities. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the Orion Township Library.



Super Mario Gaming Fun

Sat, Apr 22 | 2 pm
Grades K-5

Mario has a new movie so let's celebrate with a game day. Come and enjoy old Mario games, crafts, and fun.

The Joys of Art for Kids: Drawing

Fri, May 12 | 2 pm | Grades K-5
Register online

Explore different techniques and materials while you create your very own masterpieces. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the Orion Township Library.



Tell us what you want

Have you got an INCREDIBLE IDEA for a Youth program? Did you attend an event in the last few years and would like to see it come back to OTPL? Did a children's performer impress you so much you'd like to see them here at the library? If so, we'd love to talk to you!

As our director said in his quarterly column, the library is always open to getting feedback from our patrons, since your wants and needs help us make choices that impact the kinds of services we provide, as well as collections and equipment we offer. Your voice matters here at OTPL, so send your thoughts, feelings, and even a well-constructed haiku or two to us at cmcmunn@orionlibrary.org.

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS



Perler Bead Fun

Wed, Mar 8 | 6:30 pm
Grades 3-5

Pick from an array of designs to create your own Perler bead project, including turning it into a magnet!

Doggone Readers

Mondays

Mar 13, Apr 10,
May 8 | 6:30 pm

Grades K-5
Register online

Visit with Jasper, Henry, Merlen, Crush, or Woody to practice your reading skills to a silent but eager listener—one of our certified therapy dogs! Readers can collect stamps for a free book. Attendees will be assigned a 15-minute timeslot upon arrival.



ThinkLink 5

Mondays | 4:30 pm-5:30 pm
Grade 5 | Register online

Just for 5th grade students. Come anytime between 4:30-5:30 pm and enjoy a different activity each month.

March 20: All things cookies! Activities and games that are all about cookies.

April 24: Do you like Jenga, Connect 4, and Uno? You'll like these and other games even more when they are GIANT!

3D Dragon Egg Design

Sat, Mar 25 | 11 am, 2 pm, 3 pm
Grades 3 and up | Register online

Learn to use Tinkercad to create your own dragon egg design. Once you submit your design, we will print it out, and then notify you when it is ready to be picked up.



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

500/1000 Books

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

Flower Fair Storytime

Sat, May 20 | 11 am | All ages

Stop by the Four Corners in downtown Lake Orion during the annual Flower Fair for an all ages storytime! Our Youth Librarians will offer seasonally appropriate stories, songs, and activities for caregivers and kids.

Love OTPL? Show off your VIP sign!

Since 1958, the American Library Association (ALA) has celebrated libraries and library workers during National Library Week, happening this year from April 23 through April 29. 2023's theme is "There's More to the Story," which blends perfectly with our recognition

of our VIPs, OTPL's Very Important Patrons, whose stories are such a big part of our library!

In 2022, we asked you to show your OTPL appreciation by displaying a VIP lawn sign, which not only showed your support of the library, it clearly made our patrons the envy of all of their neighbors. We had so much fun last year, we're doing it again in 2023.

Starting Monday, March

13, stop in to pick up your sign, then display it throughout all of April, whether in your yard or window. If we see your sign—and we'll be looking!—you could win a very important prize during each week in April. Still have last year's VIP sign? No need to pick up another! Put that up and you'll be eligible as well.



Friends Used Book Sale

The Friends Spring Gently Used Book Sale will be held at the library on Tuesday, May 16 through Saturday, May 20, 2023.

Tuesday, May 16

10 AM–8:30 PM

**Friends of the Library Member Day
& Teacher Day**

*(Membership will be available
for purchase at the door)*

Open to the Public 4:30–8:30 pm

Wednesday, May 17 &

Thursday, May 18

10 AM–8:30 PM

Open to the Public

Friday, May 19

10 AM–4:30 PM

Open to the Public

1/2 off Books Day

Saturday, May 20

9:30 AM–1:30 PM

Open to the Public

\$5 Bag Day

*(Fill a bag supplied by
the Friends for \$5)*

Orion Township Public Library

825 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION



FRIENDS OF THE ORION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

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

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

Our Holiday Basket Auction was a success

The Friends of the Orion Township Library would like to thank all the donors, volunteers, and silent auction bidders that made the 2022 Friends Annual Holiday Basket Auction a success. Our annual auction took place from October 31 to November 19 in the Friends Reading Room at the library. The auction featured 55 baskets and items on which to bid. More than 300 bids were placed, which raised \$4,525. Auction items included an autographed Detroit Lions football, a garage door package, entertainment packages, home décor and candles, restaurant gift cards, and massage certificates. The money raised from the auction will be gifted to the library to fund future programming such as Battle of the Books, adult and children workshops, summer reading, and more.

The Friends would like to extend a huge thank you to the following businesses for their generous donations to the 2022 Friends Holiday Basket Auction:

- Aesthetic Theory Medspa
- Berkshire Hathaway-Anita Beaman
- Costco
- Detroit Lions
- Folgers
- Johnny Black's Public House
- LaVida Massage
- Lucky's Natural Foods
- Muffler Man
- Northern Wholesale Flooring
- ONTV
- Optimum Chiropractic Wellness & Massage
- Palazzo di Bocce
- Pioneer Door Company
- Thai Fix
- Waste Management

Additionally, donations were received from patrons, board members, and library staff. If you or your business would be interested in donating an item for the 2023 Friends Annual Holiday Basket Auction, please email the Friends at friends@orionlibrary.org. Donations are accepted beginning in late-September.

About the Friends

The Friends are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that was started in 1985 “to promote public support of the Orion Township Public Library and the library in the community, to promote reading, literacy and lifelong learning, and to maintain an association of persons interested in the library.” Friends act in cooperation with the library board and staff, serving as a liaison between the community and library. All money raised by the Friends, except for minimal administrative costs such as postage and printing, is donated directly to the library in the way of program funding, material purchases and monetary contributions.

Be a Friends Volunteer

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

Support us in 2023

Make a Donation. Donations accepted by mail, on our website, or at the customer service desk. Additionally, you can designate the Friends through your employers' annual campaign, like United Way, or through their online giving portal. Funds received, unless specifically designated, will be gifted to the library during the next grant cycle.

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

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

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

Try something different and fun

As the winter months fade and spring starts to show its telltale signs of renewal, we are reminded that new beginnings are exciting and emotionally enriching.



All of us at ONTV look forward to spring when we make time to say “thank you” to all of our volunteers, and supporters. Celebrating their contributions to ONTV confirms that the mission of this community media center is thriving.

The lifeblood of ONTV is our community volunteers. They at one point decided to try something new and enriching. Making the call to sign up for one of our media classes have set them on a path to making social connections, learning how media is created, and having an outlet to express their points of view.

The hands-on learning environment at ONTV is designed to be fun, social,

and for all ages. After all, ONTV is not just about making connections through media, but also individually with each other, in an open and interpersonal way.

We encourage Orion residents to reach out to ONTV and experience a learning opportunity like no other in our community. Classes and workshops are held throughout the year, and can be one-on-one, or scheduled as a group with friends.



Kids, careers, and support

ONTV has been hosting our Kids Video Camp for close to two decades. This week-long learning experience focuses on teamwork, creativity, and media literacy. Kids who understand how to create media will understand how to decode the media messages they are constantly bombarded with. The Kids Video Campers will produce, crew, and host their own program. They will also learn how to operate the ONTV studio and field equipment. Seats are limited so call today for more information.

Get the ONTV phone app!



Download and search Orion Neighborhood Television.



Classes and Workshops



ONTV Kids Video Camp

ONTV Studio | Mon-Fri, Jun 19-23 | 1-4 pm | Ages 10-12
\$145

Call to reserve your seat. T-Shirt and Pizza Party included.

ONTV Podcasting Classes

2-3 hours for one session, we work with your schedule
Ages 13+ | \$25

10 Week Video Production Class

ONTV Studio | Ages 13+
Mon, Mar 20-May 22 | 7-9 pm

Interns! Interns! Interns!

ONTV has interns! ONTV's mission isn't just to teach our residents. We also look to train the next generation of media professionals. Interns at ONTV work side-by-side staff to hone their editing, shooting, and media creation skills. Past ONTV interns are working throughout the country as news anchors, reporters, communications specialists, and free-lance technicians. Careers have been launched right here at ONTV! Our internship application can be found at **OrionONTV.org**.

ONTV works hand in hand with the Orion Community Cable Communications Commission (OCCCC) to support the Lake Orion High School broadcasting program. Offering technical support, equipment grants, and co-op opportunities to students, ONTV is a reliable support system for hundreds of students in the Lake Orion Schools.



If you are interested in learning more about ONTV and our services to the Orion community, stop by the studio at 1349 Joslyn Rd at the Orion Center. We're open to the public for individual and group tours during regular business hours.

We can't wait to meet you and share a fun learning experience.

Ian J. Locke
Executive Director, ONTV



Watch ONTV!

Comcast Channel 10,20,22

ATT Uverse Channel 99

ROKU, Fire-TV, Apple TV

Lives Stream at OrionONTV.org

YouTube, Facebook, Twitter



Instructional coaches lead the way

The Teaching and Learning Department ensures that teachers continue to grow professionally.

As public education expands with more specialized content and more opportunities for students to excel, Lake Orion Community Schools is leading the way.

Implementing instructional coaches in the core subjects, LOCS has shown the value of supporting teachers' growth.

The philosophy stems from the core beliefs of the head of the Teaching and Learning Department, LOCS Assistant Superintendent Heidi Mercer.

"One of the most important roles of the Teaching and Learning Department is to support teachers and those in the trenches daily with students and the other core belief of we never stop learning and can always do better," she said. "Our curriculum, instructional practices, etc. must evolve as our students continue to evolve. Continuing to learn and grow, striving to be your best and knowing you are supported is part of the foundation for a happy person/employee and a sense of value and contribution.

"Teachers do not have the time in their day to keep up on the latest changes in curriculum, most recent best instructional practices, and latest research in their content area."

The coaches' role is to provide professional development for teachers, including to support and grow teachers professionally, to increase student achievement, student engagement and ensure current best practices.

"Coaching is essential for the kind of growth we need to see in schools," Mercer said. "Real learning occurs in real life when people work hard to solve real-life challenges. Workshops, books, and webinars can provide us with an overview of ideas, but we only adopt and internalize these ideas when we apply them to our professional practice in real time. Coaches help with each aspect of this kind of learning by partnering with teachers to establish a clear picture of reality, set student focused goals and

learn, adapt, and integrate teaching practices that help teachers and students achieve their goals."

In the beginning

At the start, over 10 years ago, nothing was certain.

But, organically, the plan for institutional coaching unfolded.

Kate DiMeo was a classroom teacher in the district and was well known for her skills in reading and writing with students.

The process came to her naturally and she was glad to share with her colleagues. Teachers kept approaching her with requests and finally she approached Mercer with the question of how to handle the interest.

In a one-person academics department, Mercer's plate was full with the larger scope of the curriculum and planning details.

She asked DiMeo to pursue a different path where DiMeo would step away from being a teacher and become a full-time instructional coach.



It was a trend-setting approach in the area and a potential experiment for one year to see how instructional coaching would work.

While supporting teachers and providing them with job-embedded professional development was the simple part, there was some curiosity about how the offer would be received.

DiMeo was flooded with requests to pop into classes to help and support the teachers.

“This was de-privatizing teaching,” DiMeo said. “Then we started doing these things called teacher labs, where we would go into a teacher’s classroom, we’d take a dozen teachers with us. We would watch a teacher teach, and we would debrief.”

They examined the teacher’s instructional moves.

Teachers soon found out that the debrief was almost as important as the one-on-one coaching. The teacher labs were less about critiquing the teacher and his/her classroom and more about takeaways that allowed them to process their own experience.

Instantly, the benefits were apparent.

The debrief stirred conversations and opened eyes to the circumstances that other teachers face.

That realization created a feeling of collegiality that was achieved as a byproduct of the education.

Enthusiastic yes

As a fifth-grade teacher at the time, Andrea Moede was thrilled to have the instructional coaching support.

“It’s just marvelous how much you can learn working alongside a coach,” said Moede, who remained a fifth-grade teacher at Orion Oaks Elementary until the fall of 2022 when she shifted into becoming an instructional coach. “Because you can see in action and with



that person, self-reflection on how your lesson went, and how you could take it to the next level, thinking about student engagement and pacing of your lesson.”

The students became the greatest beneficiaries of instructional coaching. More informed teachers in their practices, methods and creative paths of sharing the lessons resulted in more informed students and that emerged in the testing results.

The state-mandated M-Step testing scores rose in those ELA categories (DiMeo’s focus area) and spurred Mercer to look into expanding the program with more staffing for coaching.

While that required support from other administrative departments—Human Resources for hiring, Business and Finance to fund the positions, and Teaching and Learning on the best way to deploy them—LOCS continued to establish itself as a leader in the field.

And the enthusiasm from the staff for their own growth showed the buy-in to the administration.

Expansion era

The instructional coaching continued to grow.

Mercer and DiMeo found a math coach from outside the district and the reach continued to expand, much of it by word of mouth.

“It exponentially grows,” DiMeo said.

She would meet with 12 teachers and they would share their experience with 12 more.

As the years passed, Oakland Schools—the county’s intermediate school district, which unifies the 28 districts—began





asking LOCS administrators questions and sharing those best practices with other districts.

That spilled into the state of Michigan, which began creating guidelines for school district instructional coaches.

As the coaching program expanded in LOCS, finding the right fit for each coach was a priority as well.

Brent Cubitt works as a district secondary-level math coach, but also teaches a class each day.

That allows him to connect with teachers as a coach and a colleague.

He actively pushes into classes for a two-to-three-week span, using a co-teaching model.

Teachers will plan together, teach together and then reflect after the lessons.

Another support area that benefits the teachers is providing research on current best practices. “My idea is just to bring in some instructional strategies that maybe it’s best practices that they might not have seen before,” Cubitt said. “I try to make their life easier by doing some of the teacher tasks, but also on the back end, it’s trying to make a better experience for a student, the intent is to support them and support the students at the same time.”

While many teachers are eager to evolve and stay engaged with the latest trends, their workload does not allow them the time to dive deep into those areas.

That’s where the coaches, like Cubitt, enter.

Now that Oakland Schools has embraced the coaching model in recent years and trying to offer support, some academic subjects have monthly meetings where those best practices are shared with instructional coaches.

“I can bring that back to teachers in the district and help them implement it in their classrooms,” Cubitt said.

LOCS became unusual in another progressive path during the 2018-19

school year by embracing the nationwide focus on STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) and the Board of Education endorsed the addition of three STEM-specific elementary coaches.

As the years have evolved, staff have gained more resources with the additions of STEM labs at the elementary schools, broadening the STEM opportunities for students, providing them with a strong foundation to move to the secondary level.

January Stafford, who shifted from a middle school science classroom teacher to an elementary STEM coach for the 2022-23 school year, chose the path after spending years attending formative assessment workshops and



understanding she could teach teachers and students, passing along her knowledge.

“We filmed ourselves teaching and used that to give feedback to become better educators. I was inspired by that process,” Stafford said.

Andrea Moede followed a similar path and applied for an in-district coaching opportunity for this year.

The changes to Moede’s teaching lifestyle were dramatic.

After essentially never leaving the classroom all day each day, except for walking the class to a special (phys ed, art, etc.), now she bounces around the district wherever she has planned events with teachers, meeting during their prep periods and lunch times, co-teaching as the previous coaches did with her.

The elementary ELA coaching program is now scheduled, with three sessions with a teacher, where they will watch Moede teach, will plan together, co-teach and reflect on instructional practices. Moede also takes teachers to observe other teachers teach and reflect and discuss what they saw and experienced.

Several districts have continued to send staff groups to learn from the LOCS approach.

Parent University

As the instructional coaching ranks have grown within LOCS, finding ways to utilize them best has become the mission of elementary curriculum director Kerri Anderson.

When she transitioned to this role from working as a principal, she guided the creation of teaching another group: parents.

LOCS initially offered a weekend session in 2014 and received positive attendance with nearly 30 parents. Parents wanted to understand how they could support their student’s learning at home and

2022-23 Parent University Sessions

- Early Literacy Make and Take
- Number Sense Is Caught, Not Taught
- Word Study for Older Elementary Students
- Why Is Math Different for My Child, Than It Was for Me?
- Supporting Your Middle and High School Writers
- Is My Child On the Right Math Track?
- Stem for Elementary Students
- Navigating Your Child’s Feeling of Stress, Anxiety and Depression
- Supporting Your Upper Elementary Writer
- My Child Can Read—Now What?
- Safety
- Kindergarten Readiness

comprehend how certain aspects and subjects in education have changed since their years as K-12 students.

A wide variety of topics are now offered by LOCS throughout the school year (see box) for parents of students in all grades and subjects. The biggest initial lesson was to move the sessions to evenings.

Throughout the evolution, there have been various shifts, such as text message reminders and tips if desired by parents on a subject, and the move to virtual sessions during the COVID-19

pandemic so learning could continue at home.

Having the coaches lead the sessions offers significantly more credibility to the sessions.

“They have the expertise to share with parents,” Anderson said. “They have the big picture of the district, and what the district philosophies are in each of the content areas.”

By placing the in-person events in different LOCS buildings, parents are also able to see the bond improvements and understand areas of LOCS beyond their student’s building. Parent University engages the families in their student’s education. What began as an experiment is now a staple in the district.

The instructional coaching model and its extension through Parent University highlights the Teaching and Learning Department’s philosophies.

Anderson said the goal was to provide teachers with the curriculum materials as well as the professional development, a process assisted through instructional coaching and teacher labs while engaging and supporting parents through Parent University.

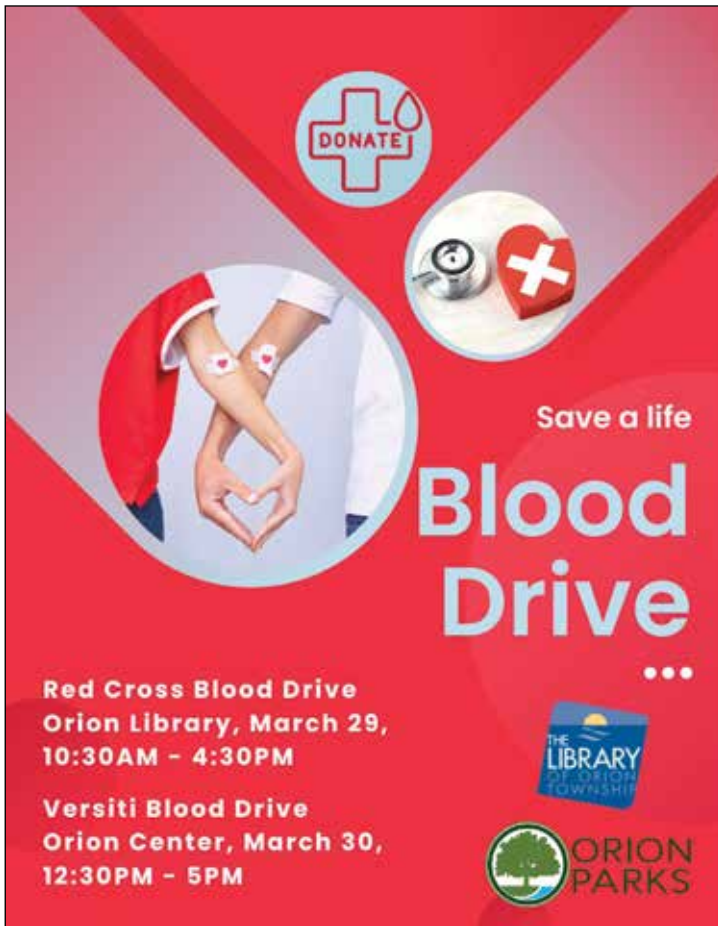
Moving forward

As the Teaching and Learning Department has grown in the past decade, now with two curriculum directors under Mercer, the coaching group has followed as well with three ELA-specific coaches, three in math, and three in science and one in student support services.

The philosophy of the Teaching and Learning Department is to ensure that all teachers continue to grow professionally.



Sign up for Spring & Summer Enrichment programs at lakeorionschools.org/departments/enrichment-services.



Save a life

Blood Drive

Red Cross Blood Drive
Orion Library, March 29,
10:30AM - 4:30PM

Versiti Blood Drive
Orion Center, March 30,
12:30PM - 5PM

THE LIBRARY OF ORION TOWNSHIP

ORION PARKS



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Letterboxing!

Letterboxing is a public activity that melds treasure hunting with journal stamping. Throughout the month of April, clues will be hidden around Downtown Lake Orion and Downtown Oxford.

For details and instructions on how to participate, go to **AtlasQuest.com** and start your hunt!

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www.OrionTownship.org/MemorialDayRun

North Oakland Community Coalition

Prioritizing the health of our youth

Did you know Orion Township is home to a coalition that supports youth and families in our community? The North Oakland Community Coalition is a non-profit organization with an office located in Lake Orion Community School's CERC building. Our primary mission is to promote mental and physical health for all, free of alcohol and substance misuse, through educational programs, collaborative partnerships, and endless faith in community spirit.

How do we do that? We work to unite our entire community—from individuals to organizations—in conversations that prioritize the health of our youth. As you can imagine, we don't do it alone! Our coalition is more than our staff or our Board of Directors; it is everyone who shares our desire for a community that values the health and wellbeing of all.

It's All About Connection

With the overwhelming amount of time people spend on computer screens and social media these days, it is important that we work together as a community to remain intentional about connection with others. One of the best ways to support one another is to prioritize togetherness; spend time with the people you care about, and care enough to speak up when you notice someone may be in need of emotional support.

But this is not always an easy thing to do. In fact, telling someone you are concerned for their mental health and safety can be very intimidating! To help you feel prepared to help others in need, NOCC offers two initiatives.

In January, we began offering QPR Suicide Prevention Trainings. This 90-minute training helps guide you through a Question, Persuade, Refer process to help someone who may be experiencing suicidal thoughts. These trainings are offered throughout the community and can be brought to any business, group, school or faith-based organization.

We also educate our community about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. The FCC designated this 3-digit number as the new nationwide number for mental health and substance use related crisis last July. This number can be used by the individual in need of support or by anyone who is helping them access care. We have been working with students



and community members to make 988 a number known by all. Please share this information with everyone you know!

The NOCC is YOUR coalition. We would love to have you involved; whether as a participant in our activities, a volunteer, a financial contributor to our work, or simply helping us share our messages with others. You have the power to make a difference in our community!



Visit noccmi.org, join the newsletter, and follow NOCC socials to learn more about the programs, trainings, and campaigns run throughout the year.



Lake Orion Horseshoe Club

Making a pitch for new members

Pitching is a great way to enjoy the great outdoors, get exercise, and meet new friends.

The history of the horseshoe game dates back to the ancient Greeks, who are credited with inventing the basic concept of the game. The game was further developed by the Romans and was later played in the Middle Ages. The modern version of the game was brought to the United States by European settlers in the 19th century and was popularized by President Benjamin Harrison. In the 20th century, the game gained in popularity and is now played around the world.

The objective of the game is to throw horseshoes at a stake in the ground and try to get them to encircle the stake. The closer you are to the stake, the more points you get. Horseshoe is a great game for all ages and can be played indoors or outdoors. It's a fun way to spend time with

friends and family, and it's a fun way

to challenge yourself and improve your aim. Whether you're playing for fun or as part of a competition, horseshoe is a great game that's sure to provide hours of entertainment.

The Lake Orion Horseshoe Club is sanctioned by the Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association (MHPA) and is one of 11 sister clubs within the state. Collectively, these clubs hold statewide weekend tournaments throughout the year. The Lake Orion Horseshoe Club started in the Bunny Rub subdivision in the late 1950s. The founders obtained approval from the Village in the early 1960s to develop the land east of Children's Park. The members began the task of preparing the grounds and constructing the 15 regulation horseshoe courts according to standards set forth by the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA). For over 62 years, the club has acted as the sole caretaker for the courts, making them available to the entire community. The club promotes sportsmanship amongst its members while also promoting the art of horseshoe pitching.

The Lake Orion Horseshoe Club is looking for new members!

Scoring is on a handicap system, so everyone can compete.

Play in a 15-week season, beginning May 2, 2023 for only \$40, which includes an award ceremony at the end of the season. No horseshoes? No problem, the club has several sets available for you to try out. A sign up, meet and greet is happening on Tuesday, April 25 at 7 pm.

Pitching is a great way to enjoy the great outdoors, get exercise, and meet new friends. Whether you're new to the sport or a regular, stop by and check it out!

For more information about the April 25 Meet-and-Greet or about the Club, visit LakeOrionHorseshoeClub.com or

Facebook.com/LakeOrionHorseshoeClub, or contact club President Ron Price at 248-909-4946.



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

Charter Township of Orion
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Cornhole has become a favored sport of young and old alike. Formal leagues and competitions have arisen, and friendly games break out in yards and on beaches throughout Orion. See page 25 for Orion Parks' Cornhole league information.

Photos by Nancy Bennett