Autumn Days Are Here Again

Your Quarterly Guide to Life in Orion
**Useful Numbers**

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<td><strong>ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY</strong></td>
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**Cover:** There is no shortage of fun activities lined up in Orion this fall. Friends Ella C., Adam B., and Ava C. conquer a hay bale at an Orion farm.

*Background photo by Mike Greffenberg*
All the trappings of a perfect fall are right here in Orion Township. Want to experience the glorious colors of autumn? Take a walk or a bike ride through the Paint Creek Trail, Orion Oaks Park, Camp Agawam, Bald Mountain or any of the myriad trails and parks in the Township. Want to get together with a group of friends over a warm cup of pumpkin spice latte? Abeantogo, Lava Mountain and our many coffee shops and cafes are ready to serve you that tasty fall favorite. Is apple cider and a fresh cinnamon donut your idea of fall bliss? Yates Cider Mill Store at Canterbury Village has got you covered. Are the kids up for some Halloween fun? Check out the host of family-friendly activities that Orion Parks & Recreation, the Orion Township Public Library and the Lake Orion DDA have lined up for this fall. Cheer on the Dragons at one of the home football games on a crisp fall night under the lights at Dragon Stadium. Load up the car for the Community Road Rally on September 30. Craft shows? We’ve got them. Pub crawls? Yessirree. Witches Night for the lovely ladies of our community? We’ve got that too. Clubs, classes, field trips, outdoor movies, luncheons, speakers, exhibits, fitness, trivia, book sales... whew! So much to do and so little time!

The following pages of Orion Living celebrate all the activities for the young, the seasoned and the in-betweens of Orion to usher in the Autumn months. It is my hope that you find your way to connect with the community that wants to offer so much to keep you active, healthy and engaged.

All the best to Orion’s finest for a beautiful autumn season.

Chris Barnett
Orion Township Supervisor
Welcome, Deputy Tederington

A watchful eye on our community

The Oakland County Sheriff’s Office — Orion Substation welcomes a new addition to their team. Deputy Tory Tederington, a lifelong Michigan resident, has joined the substation, bringing with him a passion for law enforcement and a dedication to serving the community. He is the Department’s Traffic Safety Officer, which is a new position with a special focus on heavy truck and weight enforcement.

Drawn to law enforcement

As a child, Deputy Tederington initially had an interest in medical school. However, growing up in a public safety-oriented family, with his father being a now retired battalion chief for the Detroit Fire Department and his younger brother serving as a firefighter and paramedic at Plymouth Township Fire Department, he was drawn to the field of public services.

During his undergraduate years, Deputy Tederington found the law enforcement studies curriculum intriguing and decided to pursue a career in this field. He began taking related courses and discovered his true calling. Since then, he has dedicated himself to public service and protecting the community.

Rewarded for outstanding work

Deputy Tederington’s commitment and exemplary service have not gone unnoticed. He has received several awards and commendations for his outstanding work. Some of his notable accomplishments include the Sheriff’s Distinguished Unit Citation for his contributions to the Drone Unit in May 2023, Lyon Township Fire Department Lifesaving Award in December 2022, and the Sheriff’s Distinguished Unit Citation for his work in the Motor Unit and as a Field Training Officer in May 2022 and 2019, respectively.

Additionally, Deputy Tederington was recognized with the Sheriff’s Special Commendation in May 2022 for his actions during the tragic incident at Oxford High School. His dedication to duty and bravery in the face of adversity were also acknowledged with the Sheriff’s Disaster Bar Citation for his service during the COVID–19 pandemic in the same year.

A sense of purpose

Returning to Orion Township holds special meaning for Deputy Tederington. Having worked here previously in 2017, he appreciates the vibrant community and the variety of events and activities that are always happening. When asked about his favorite thing about Orion, Deputy Tederington responded, “I really enjoy the summertime. Orion Township has a wonderful blend of suburban life and lake life that makes it a wonderful place to spend the summer.”

When asked about his favorite part of the day, Deputy Tederington expressed his love for being out and about, patrolling the town and ensuring its safety. He enjoys the sense of purpose that comes from keeping a watchful eye on the happenings in the community.

While serving as a traffic safety officer, Deputy Tederington has had numerous interactions with residents and businesses, particularly during traffic accidents.

“With one of my primary responsibilities being traffic safety, I respond to a lot of traffic crashes,” he said. “When you are able to bring calm into the chaos and help people, many of whom are experiencing one of the worst days of their lives, through the incident, it can be very rewarding.”

Being able to make a positive difference during these challenging moments is something that he cherishes.

Moreover, he aspires to become trained and certified as a Traffic Crash Reconstructionist, a role that involves meticulous investigation and analysis of vehicular accidents. He has taken some classes toward certification, but still has a few to complete.
**An explorer at heart**

Outside of his law enforcement duties, Deputy Tederington enjoys traveling and has been fortunate enough to explore a significant part of the Caribbean and some parts of Asia.

“My next big trip, I’d like to visit Antarctica,” said Deputy Tederington, a place he’s been wanting to visit for a while.

As Deputy Tederington settles into his role at the Orion Township Substation, he welcomes any questions or discussions regarding traffic safety or commercial motor vehicle operation. Educating motorists about traffic safety and preventing violations is an integral part of his position, and he is always eager to engage with the community on these matters.

Orion Township is delighted to have Deputy Tory Tederington join the substation. His dedication, experience, and commitment to public safety make him a valuable asset to the community. With his presence, the residents of Orion Township can rest assured that their safety and well-being are in capable hands.

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**What’s going there?**

**Ponds of Orion**

Located on the south side of Clarkston Road, between M–24 and Bald Mountain Road, this 44-unit townhome development contains 10 buildings with a clubhouse and outdoor pool.

**Pearl of Orion**

This development, just at the initial start of construction, contains five 4-story buildings with 208 upper floor apartments and first story retail. It contains two entries, one off of Brown Road, with the entrance just to the east of Checkers and the second at 4738 Joslyn Rd.

**Culver’s Restaurant**

The new restaurant with a drive-through will be located on Brown Road, east of Menard’s near the new Grand Square Hotel.

**Waldon Reserve**

Eighteen single-family homes will be built on an 11.86-acre site located on the south side of Waldon Road, west of Lapeer, east of Giddings and just west of Waldon Ridge.

**Wally Edgar Chevrolet**

The dealership, located at 3805 S. Lapeer Rd., is expanding their parking lot for vehicle inventory, adding a 3,800 square foot addition to the dealership and adding a new 2,500 square foot building to their site.

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For information on all current Orion Township projects, locate the Current Development link under the Community tab at oriontownship.org.

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Learn more at ORIONTOWNSHIP.ORG or call 248–391–0304
Embrace fall and sustainability

As the vibrant colors of summer begin to fade and the crisp autumn breeze fills the air, it’s an opportune time for people to embrace eco-friendly practices and make a positive impact on the environment. The fall season is the perfect time to adopt sustainable habits that not only benefit the planet but can also contribute to energy and cost savings.

**Weatherproof your home**
Now is the perfect time to prepare your home for the colder months by weatherproofing. Seal any air leaks around windows, doors, and vents to prevent heat from escaping and cold drafts from entering. Caulking, weatherstripping, and adding insulation to your home can greatly impact your heating requirements, decrease energy consumption, and help decrease your carbon footprint.

**Capture Rainwater**
With the increase in rainfall during autumn, consider installing rain barrels or a rainwater harvesting system. Collecting rainwater can provide an eco-friendly water source for your garden. Utilizing rainwater for irrigation helps conserve water and reduces strain on local water sources.

**Fall’s natural fertilizer**
Autumn provides an abundance of organic materials, such as fallen leaves, grass clippings, and vegetable scraps. Start a compost pile or use a compost bin to convert this organic matter into nutrient-rich compost. Composting not only reduces landfill waste but also provides an excellent natural fertilizer to your garden and flower beds.

**Optimize your systems**
Optimize your heating and cooling system to operate efficiently throughout fall and winter by changing out your filter. Clean or replace air filters regularly to improve indoor air quality and energy efficiency.

**Energy-Efficient Lighting**
As the days grow shorter, it becomes essential to consider energy-efficient lighting options. Switch to LED bulbs, which consume significantly less energy and last much longer than traditional incandescent bulbs. Additionally, take advantage of natural daylight by opening curtains and blinds during the day to reduce the need for artificial lighting.

**Landscaping**
Fall is an excellent time to revamp your landscaping practices with sustainability in mind. Instead of using chemical pesticides and fertilizers, opt for organic alternatives. Plant native species that are well-suited for Michigan’s climate, as they require less water and maintenance. Consider creating a wildlife garden by incorporating bird feeders, nesting boxes, and pollinator-friendly plants to help support local ecosystems.

By incorporating these eco-friendly practices into your fall routine, you can actively contribute to a greener and more sustainable future. From composting organic waste to weatherproofing your home, and embracing energy-efficient lighting, small changes can make a big difference. Let this season of change inspire you to make some small (yet impactful) environmentally conscious changes around your home.

Become an Election Inspector

The Orion Township Clerk’s Office is seeking Election Inspectors for the 2024 elections. This is a great opportunity to serve the Orion community and to learn first-hand how elections are administered.

You must be a registered voter in the state of Michigan to hold this position. You will be provided mandatory pre-election training. Your duties on Election Day include:

- Assisting in opening and closing the precinct.
- Assisting voters throughout the voting process by checking their identification, verifying that the voter is registered to vote and is in the correct precinct.
- Assigning/issuing a ballot to the voter.

Election inspectors can expect to work from approximately 6 am to 10 pm on election day and are paid $200 per election day.

To apply, download a job application packet at OrionTownship.org/departments/township_clerk, located under the Elections & Voter Information link. Or pick up a packet at the Clerk's office at 2323 Joslyn Road. Return your completed application to the Orion Township Clerk’s Office by November 30th. Call the Clerk’s office at 248-391-0304 with questions.
Why controlled burns are beneficial

Controlled burns are a common practice used by land managers to reduce the risk of wildfires and promote healthy ecosystems. These burns involve deliberately setting fires under controlled conditions, such as during periods of low wind and high humidity.

Controlled burns are done a few times a year in Orion Oaks Park by Oakland County Parks; one will likely be done this fall.

One of the main benefits of controlled burns is that they can help reduce the buildup of fuel, such as dead leaves and branches, which can contribute to larger and more destructive wildfires. In addition, these burns can help to promote the growth of new vegetation and improve the overall health of the ecosystem.

However, controlled burns must be carefully planned and executed to ensure that they do not get out of control and become wildfires themselves. This requires a team of trained professionals who understand the science of fire behavior and how to safely manage it.

Despite the benefits of controlled burns, some people may be concerned about the smoke and other impacts on air quality. This is why it is important for land managers to communicate with nearby communities and take steps to minimize any negative effects.

Overall, controlled burns are an important tool for managing landscapes and reducing the risk of wildfires. With careful planning and execution, they can help to promote healthy ecosystems and protect communities from the devastating effects of wildfires.
Homeowner advice from your Water & Sewer Department

Maintain safe systems as the weather cools

Prevent winter water damage

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

Before cold weather hits, be sure that:

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

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

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

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

If your home will be vacant for a prolonged period of time, contact the Water & Sewer Department to have the water shut off at the street to prevent damage from occurring within the home. If you will be out of town for an extended period, consider keeping your heat over

SAVE OUR SEWER SYSTEM FROM “FLUSHABLE” WIPE

“Flushable” wipes are a growing hazard to public health, causing sewer backups and overflows. These so-called “flushable” wipes are not biodegradable!

THEY CLOG OUR PIPES

Don’t flush wipes or other items that can clog pipes in your home, the sewer system, pump stations and equipment at the Water Resources Recovery Facility (WRRF). Clogged pipes can lead to overflowing toilets and basement sewer backups. When this happens, you’ll need to call a plumber to clear the blockage.

NEVER Flush

Baby wipes or cleaning wipes
Tampons and sanitary products
Condoms
Tissues
Paper towels
Dental floss
Cotton balls and swabs
Cat litter
Prescription drugs
Over-the-counter medicines
Cigarette butts

STICK TO THE 3 Ps

Only three things go in your toilet: pee, poo and (toilet) paper! If you really want to use wipes, throw them in the garbage, not your toilet.

A COSTLY MAINTENANCE MESS

“Flushable” wipes wreak havoc in sewer systems across the region. In 2018, workers in Macomb County removed a 19-ton, 100-foot fatberg, a deposit of fat and grease, mixed with wipes. The process cost about $100,000.
60°F. You may also drain the water from your lines inside your home and you can contact us so we may turn the water off at the street.

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

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

To flush or not to flush?
Flushable wipes? Not to flush! Even though the packaging clearly states they are environmentally safe and dissolve in water, manufacturers don’t state how long they take to dissolve in water. The fact is they don’t dissolve as quickly as most would think and cause many issues in the sanitary sewer mains and associated pump stations. Unlike normal toilet paper that decomposes quickly, flushable wipes are more cloth–like than tissue–like and end up clogging the sewer mains and pumps. In Orion Township, we have had several instances where our sewer lift station pumps were plugged with flushable wipes. Not only does this cause strain on the sewer pumps, it also could lead to a sewer main backup. They can clog residential sewer lines, which can result in a homeowner having to hire a plumber to unplug the line. Municipalities across the country have expressed their opposition to flushable wipes and asked their communities not to flush them down the toilet. We are in agreement. Please do not put flushable wipes down the toilet!

Unused Medication? Not to flush! The majority of residents in Orion Township probably have old prescriptions in their homes and the most common way of disposing of them was to flush them down a drain or toilet. In recent years information has surfaced showing that the wastewater treatment plants cannot always remove the high concentrations of metals, chemicals and/or organic substances found in medications. Ultimately, trace amounts of these medications can end up in our water supply and although research has shown that the amounts detected are way too low to have any impact on human health, there are several alternatives to flushing them down the toilet.

- Ask your pharmacy if they have a drug take back program.
- The Oakland County Sheriff’s Department has a program called “Operation Medicine Cabinet.” The Orion substation is a drop–off location for this program. They collect unused, unneeded, or expired medications.

Thank you for helping keep our sewer mains flowing!

New Oakland County park passes available in October

Even as summer winds down and we are looking towards cooler temps, there is still plenty of fun to be found at Oakland County parks, especially Orion Oaks and the Dog Park right here in Orion!


Voters approved the 2020 OCPR Millage Replacement and Increase which makes vehicle permits free for seniors (age 62+) who are Oakland County residents plus all active–duty military, veterans and individuals with permanent disabilities. These passes are good through 2029!

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

Easy account access
You may have noticed a QR code on your monthly water and/or sewer billing slip. Scan the QR code for easy access to your account to view your balance and to pay online.
A catalyst for change and inspiration

America in Bloom advisors’ two–day tour of Orion provided positive feedback, insights and guidance toward future community enhancements

Orion Township recently had the privilege of hosting two seasoned America in Bloom advisors for a two–day visit. This opportunity allowed the Township to showcase the beauty of our community and receive valuable suggestions to further enhance it.

During their stay, Jack Clasen, America in Bloom President, and Karin Rindal, explored various locations that represent the essence of Orion Township, notably our parks and trails, the Orion Township Public Library, downtown area, and local businesses. The experience was enlightening for both the advisors and the residents/business owners we met with, fostering a sense of pride and commitment to continually improving the Township’s aesthetic appeal.

This is the Township’s second year participating in this program. The Township was chosen to receive the Community Vitality Award during last year’s symposium. In addition to that, the Township was awarded a $25,000 grant from CN, in partnership with America in Bloom. The grant allowed us to transform the existing brush and overgrowth at the Brown and Joslyn Roads gateway to enhanced landscaping with native, low–maintenance evergreens and floral plants. Additionally, a gateway sign that is reflective of the community’s brand and image was installed earlier this year. This year’s symposium is scheduled to take place at the end of September/beginning of October.

What is America in Bloom?

America in Bloom promotes nationwide beautification through education and community involvement by encouraging the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancements.

AIB envisions communities across the country as welcoming and vibrant places to live, work, and play benefiting from colorful plants and trees; enjoying clean environments; celebrating heritage; and planting pride through volunteerism.

Exploring Orion’s Natural Gems

Jack and Karin had the chance to immerse themselves in Orion’s stunning natural landscapes. Their tour included visits to Orion Oaks County Park, Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, Friendship Park, and the Paint Creek and Polly Ann Trails, picturesque destinations that exemplify our community’s charm and beauty. These locations provided a unique opportunity for the advisors to witness the harmony between nature and community members.

Orion Oaks, known for its lush green space and serene view of Lake Sixteen, left a lasting impression on the advisors. Bald Mountain, with its diverse hiking trails and breathtaking views, showcased the park’s natural resources and numerous amenities. Friendship Park highlighted the Township’s commitment to inclusion with the Let Them Play playground and show-stopping Miracle Field. Additionally, the advisors commended the efforts that have been made to protect our rich history with the preservation of Porritt Barn and Howarth School.
Discovering Downtown

Jack and Karin explored Lake Orion’s vibrant downtown area. They observed the flourishing businesses that contribute to not only economic growth, but also to the unique experiences both residents and visitors can partake in. The advisors also toured Lake Orion United Methodist Church, which recently celebrated 150 years! Downtown Lake Orion encapsulates the spirit of community and entrepreneurship.

Engaging with the Community

As part of their tour, Jack and Karin had numerous opportunities to engage with community members. These interactions proved invaluable, as they allowed them to gain insight into their vision for not only their house and neighborhood, but also the community as a whole. The advisors felt the immense sense of pride and ownership amongst community members.

The visit with the America in Bloom Advisors proved to be a catalyst for positive change and inspiration. Their insightful suggestions and recommendations will guide the Township as we embark on further initiatives to beautify and enhance our community by preserving our natural assets, enhancing our parks and events, and continuing to encourage community engagement. We are solidifying Orion Township’s standing as a captivating and vibrant place to live, work, and play.

With their wisdom and experience, Jack and Karin, left an incredible mark on our journey toward a more picturesque and sustainable future. By embracing their recommendations, we aim to continuously enhance Orion Township’s allure, strengthening our collective vision to create a place that reflects the pride and beauty we all see in our community.

Property taxes due September 14

Summer and Village tax bills are payable through September 14 without interest. Payment options include:

- Mail with return coupon to 2323 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, MI 48360. Make checks payable to Charter Township of Orion.
- Pay through your online banking site. Set up a separate payee for tax payments to: Charter Township of Orion, 2323 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, MI 48360. Use your parcel ID number for the account number. Allow two weeks for delivery of the bank check to our office. Do not use the Water/Sewer payee account number or P.O. Box payment address for your tax payment.
- Pay at local bank branches of Oxford Bank or Genisys Credit Union.
- Pay in person at the Treasurer’s office, 2323 Joslyn Road, by cash, check or credit/debit card. A 2.8% convenience fee applies to credit/debit cards only.
- Drop payment in the drive-up box at 2323 Joslyn Road across from the main entrance by the flag poles.
- Pay online with a credit card. A 2.8% convenience fee applies to credit/debit card payments and an $0.85 fee for e-checks.
- Pay via phone at 855–649–2637 with a credit card (2.8% convenience fee applies). This 24/7 automated system prompts you to enter all applicable information including property ID number.

Keep an eye out for Winter taxes, which will be mailed out by December 1 and are payable through February 14, 2024.
Let’s take a stroll back in time to the mid-1830s. Lake Canandaigua became Lake Orion and the community grew. Children started to attend the one- and two-room schoolhouses scattered throughout Orion, placed within a two-mile walking distance for most of the residents.

School days typically ran from 9 am to 4 pm. Some students arrived early in the winter months to feed the stove so the building would be warm. Older students may be responsible for carrying wood for the stove, bringing water and other assigned tasks. Younger children would help by cleaning the chalkboard, along with other age-appropriate duties.

Lake Orion’s first public school was built in 1844 on the northeast corner of Church and Anderson Streets. The first teacher there was a man named Dolby. The building, pictured above, is now a private residence.

The Wilson Rural School sat on the northwest corner of Waldon and Joslyn Roads. Mildred E. Gingell is pictured above in front of this school. Her teacher, Whitney Hames, took the photo in 1916.

We cannot forget the Howarth School, built in 1859. John Howarth provided the land off Silverbell Road. It operated as a school until 1955 and later served as home to the Howarth United Methodist Church. The building—saved and carefully relocated inside Friendship Park—is in the process of being repaired by the Orion Historical Society and the Lake Orion Sunrise Rotary Club. The goal is to return it to a one-room schoolhouse for educational purposes and other uses.

The first school to serve the area with grades one through 12 was built in 1893 at the corner of Elizabeth and Lapeer Streets. It was considered one of the finest schools in the state. Charles Linabury was principal, and enrollment was around 139 students in 1895. At the time this four-story school with its bell tower was high above the city skyline. It was later demolished and a new school was built in 1927 as part of the Works Progress Administration project by Franklin D. Roosevelt to help provide jobs. This building, formerly known as the Ehman Center, still sits today with development plans that include incorporating its many historical elements.

The original Lake Orion Dragons logo was designed by student Patricia Olsen in 1945. In 1947, Reuben Barclay and Joe Dore painted it in the middle of the gymnasium basketball court. The logo has since been carefully removed and is preserved proudly on the gym wall of Lake Orion High School Field House.

Do you have memories of Lake Orion Schools? Share them with WhereLivingisaVacation by direct messaging their Facebook page, @WhereLivingisaVacation.

Distracted driving can cost you

Stay focused. New Michigan law carries steep fines for being inattentive on the road

Michigan’s distracted driving law is the biggest update to laws governing what you can and can’t do in your car. This law, which went into effect June 30, is designed to promote road safety and reduce traffic accidents caused by distracted driving. The legislation came in response to the alarming rise in accidents attributed to drivers using smartphones, navigation systems, and other gadgets.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, driver inattention is the leading factor in most crashes and near-crashes.

There are three main types of distraction while driving: Visual—taking your eyes off the road; Manual—taking your hands off the wheel; and Cognitive—taking your mind off the drive. Texting is the most alarming distraction because it involves all three types of distraction.

The new law prohibits using handheld electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle. Drivers cannot hold a mobile phone, tablet, or any other electronic communication device while driving, regardless of whether they are making calls, texting, browsing the internet, or engaging in any other form of electronic communication beyond a single touch. This includes times when you are stopped at a traffic light or stuck in traffic.

However, drivers can use their smartphones or other electronic devices using hands-free technology, such as Bluetooth headsets or voice-activated controls, which allow for safer and more focused driving. The other exception is if you see a crash or have an emergency, you can use your cell phone to call 911 to report it or seek help.

Michigan lawmakers have introduced strict penalties to discourage drivers from infringing on the law. First-time offenders could face fines of $100 and/or 16 hours of community service. Second or subsequent violations would result in a $250 fine and/or 24 hours of community service. Drivers with three violations within a 3-year period must complete a driving-improvement course along with the fine and/or community service. If a traffic crash occurs and the at-fault driver was holding or manually using a mobile device while operating the vehicle, any civil fines will be doubled.

As with any significant legislative change, the success of this law will depend not only on its enforcement but also on public cooperation and responsible behavior. Adopting safe driving habits and being aware of the potential consequences of distracted driving can go a long way in ensuring the success of this law and, more importantly, in preventing unnecessary tragedies on Michigan’s roads.

Don’t drive distracted

- Use your phone’s Do Not Disturb feature or an app to silence calls and texts while driving.
- Put your phone in the glove box, backseat, or trunk to curb the temptation to look at it.
- Avoid eating, drinking, and smoking while driving.
- Never attempt to read while driving, including a map.
- Do not drive when you are angry or upset.
- Keep music at a reasonable level, and avoid using headphones or earbuds.
- Pull over to a safe spot and park if you need to make or take a call.
- Do not drive with a pet on your lap.
- Ask a passenger to help navigate, change the music, or monitor your texts.
- Do not daydream when you are behind the wheel.
- If you are overly tired, do not drive.

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

Fall 2023 | Orion Living
From frightful to festive

The DDA’s Fall events lineup offers something for residents of all ages

**Sep 9: Trolley Oktoberfest Pub Crawl**
This will be one of our #StrongerTogether events that we put on with Oxford. The trolley will take people between Lake Orion and Oxford where the restaurants and stores will be having special events that are Oktoberfest themed.

**Sep 29: Outdoor Movie Night, 7:30 pm**
There will be a character meet & greet with Mario, Princess Peach and possibly Luigi (still in the works) from 6:45–7:15 pm before the show, so come early! Back to School Movie Night will be held in Children’s Park. The movie begins at dusk. Bring your chairs and blankets and get cozy! Your Food Dude will be there with their food truck. This year we will be showing *Super Mario Bros.*

**Sep 16: Zombie Walk, 8pm**
Zombie Walk begins at 8 pm in front of Ed’s Broadway Gift and Costume, 2 S Broadway, with zombie masses ambling through downtown Lake Orion and pre–arranged locations. Anyone who needs help with the zombie makeup should arrive at Ed’s Broadway Gifts & Costume at 6 pm. Proceeds from the participation and/or poker run donations benefit the Orion Lighted Christmas Parade.

**Oct 18: Halloween Extravaganza, 5–7 pm**
Trick or Treating Downtown is just around the corner! All the ghosts and ghouls will be out in Children’s Park. Our spooky sponsors and local businesses will be handing out candy to Trick or Treaters and cider and donuts will be provided. Bring the whole family to enjoy this event and our festive decorations. A DJ will provide music while our stilt walker strolls around for pictures. There is no need to register for this FREE event! So grab your costumes and candy bags and join us in our annual graveyard smash. Thank you to our Grand Sponsor Michigan United Credit Union.

Thank you to our Presenting sponsor Your Food Dude, Grand Sponsor Michigan United Credit Union and event sponsors Cookies & Cream, Fork ‘n Pint and Haney Farm Bureau.
Oct 20: Witches Night
Calling all Witches! Grab your broom, cauldron, and hat for shopping, dining, drinking, raffles, contests, street performers, pop-up vendors, psychics, tarot readers, and dancing in the moonlight!

Nov 16: Sing & Stroll Tree Lighting
The evening starts with performances by Broadway Dance Company and the Lake Orion High School Choir and Dance Teams followed by the Tree Lighting, then Carolers. Santa & Mrs. Claus will be there strolling along for photo ops! Grab a complimentary cup of cocoa and roast marshmallows over an open fire manned by our favorite Boy Scouts! Afterwards, ride the horse and carriage while the carolers stroll through Downtown. Thank you to our sponsors! Cookies & Cream, Broadway Embroidery, Fork n’ Pint, Haney Farm Bureau, Your Food Dude, Decorate with Lights.

Nov 25: Shop Small Saturday
Shop Small, Shop Local! Check in at the DDA table on Broadway and Flint to receive SWAG, shopping guide, shopping passport and some hot cocoa.

Shop Oakland
Introducing Shop Oakland, a new e-commerce platform dedicated to serving mainstreets across Oakland County. Participating towns including Lake Orion, Oxford, Franklin, Highland, Holly, Oak Park, Ortonville, Rochester, and South Lyon. When you visit shopocmainstreets.com you will be directed to the homepage of Shop Oakland, where your ultimate Oakland County shopping experience awaits.

Shop Oakland offers a comprehensive online shopping destination, providing everything you need at your fingertips. Whether you wish to explore the latest arrivals or search for a specific store or item, our platform ensures a seamless browsing and purchasing experience. With the convenience of 24/7 shopping, you can make purchases at any hour, catering to hectic schedules or those who prefer online shopping. The best part is, by choosing Shop Oakland, you are actively supporting small businesses throughout Oakland County.

The launch of this website not only benefits local shoppers but also presents new opportunities for businesses in the area. By embracing e-commerce, smaller establishments can compete in the digital marketplace while preserving their distinctive charm and character.

FAQS ABOUT THE LUMBERYARD SITE PROJECT

What did the community tell us they want?
- When we sought community input about the project in Oct. 2022, we learned that there was a desire for dedicated event space, additional parking, more green space, and a farmer’s market. We are excited about offering these amenities and more as part of our Lumberyard Site Project.

Why should the DDA helm this project?
- Your DDA members know Lake Orion’s character, respect its history, and have crafted a multi-faced plan that increases the quality of our Village’s lifelong term. The same kind of commitment and dedication to our Village can’t be matched with a private developer.

How will this be funded?
- The DDA has requested support from the Village of Lake Orion Council for a $5 million dollar bond. This will NOT raise your taxes. We will also use private and public partners for funding.

Who is this project for?
- YOU! Whether you’re a business owner, resident, or visitor, a vibrant and welcoming downtown benefits everyone!
SPECIAL EVENTS

**Fall Festival of Family Fun**
Camp Agawam | Sat, Sep 23
11 am–3 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Come out to beautiful Camp Agawam for a day filled with fall activities for the entire family including crafts, petting farm, hay wagon rides, carnival games, and more! Parking and admission is free, more details to come.

**Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show**
Orion Center | Sat, Oct 7 | 10 am–4 pm
Free Parking & Admission
#BuyNearBy and Shop Local! Start your holiday shopping early with unique handmade arts and crafts featuring distinctive and classic Made in Michigan products, made by Michiganders for Michiganders! Find an exclusive holiday, birthday or just because gift for yourself, your friends and family! Vendors will be throughout the Orion Center with everything from one-of-a-kind handmade jewelry, clothing and home décor. Interested vendors can contact Jennifer Vezina at jvezina@oriontownship.org or 248–391–0304 Ext 3503 for details. Only handmade locally produced products will be considered.

**Movie Night in the Park**
Civic Center Park | Fri, Oct 20 | 7 pm | Free
Join us at Civic Center Park for a movie night in the park! We will be watching a Halloween movie on the big screen outside courtesy of Oakland County Parks and Recreation. If you want to carve a pumpkin before the movie begins all of the craving tools will be available for you, just BYOP (bring your own pumpkin).

**Car Bingo Spooktacular**
Orion Center Parking Lot | Wed, Oct 25 | 5:30–7 pm | Free
Spooky season is here! Get your dobbers ready for Halloween fun in the Orion Center Parking Lot. Participants will receive a set of Bingo Cards and will mark their card when they hear the numbers over the radio. If you get a BINGO, honk your horn and flash your lights and we will come give you a prize! Halloween costumes will be highly encouraged. Prizes will be awarded. There will be no gambling.

**Game & Puzzle Swap**
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 19
9 am–6 pm | Free Parking & Admission
Do you love games and need some new ones? Join us for the Game & Puzzle Swap and exchange your puzzles, books, DVDs and board games.

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

**Blood Drive with Versiti Blood Center**
Orion Center | Thu, Nov 30 | 12–5:30 pm
Ages 17+
Every day Versiti Blood Center of Michigan needs more than 560 blood products to meet hospital demand. What we collect will go back to help people in your community! The key to success is to fill all appointment slots. Schedule your appointment at donate.michigan.versiti.org.

**Cookies with Claus**
Orion Center | Fri, Dec 8
5–7 pm | Ages 1–8
$14R/$16NR
Come out the to the Orion Center and decorate some holiday cookies! While you’re here visit with Santa Claus himself! Write a letter to Santa and you will receive a response mailed to your house.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at ORIONPARKS.COM
or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
Breakfast with the Grinch
Orion Center | Sat, Dec 9
10–11 am or 11:30 am–12:30 pm
Ages 1–8 | $14R/$16NR
The holiday season is here! Come have breakfast with the Grinch. Participants will enjoy a delicious breakfast of green eggs and ham. Have your picture taken with the Grinch and sit back while you enjoy the story of How the Grinch Stole Christmas. Bring your camera for a photo opportunity you don’t want to miss. Infants in carriers are free with registered participants. Walgreens will be onsite taking photos in front of a festive background. Families will receive one free 4X6 print and with the option to purchase a photo package.

Made in the Mitten Pop Up Market
Orion Center
Wed, Dec 6 | 3–7 pm
Free Parking & Admission
The holidays are around the corner and so is the Made in the Mitten Pop Up Market. Spend your money locally and buy handmade unique items for gift giving. Interested vendors can contact jvezina@oriontownship.org for details. Only handmade locally produced products will be considered.

Snow Dash 5K
Orion Center | Sun, Dec 17 | 9 am | $15
Dash through the snow down the Polly Ann Trail for our 6th Annual Snow Dash 5K. Certified loop course starts and finishes at the Orion Center. Finisher medals for all participants. Course Map: mapmyrun.com/routes/view/531-020-4157. Register at runsignup.com, in person at the Orion Center or by calling 248-391-0304 x3500.

Halloween House Tour
Mon, Oct 1–Oct 23 | Free
Show off your spooky or themed Halloween decor and add it to our map so residents can come and see your dedication with family and friends. Register online to get instructions on how to submit addresses and pictures to be added.

YOUTH & TEEN ENRICHMENT

Home Alone Training
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 6 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9+ | $17R/$20NR
Is your young teen staying home alone this summer? Prepare yourself and your child for this new adventure with Home Alone Training. Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills your child will need to be home alone safely, including 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 included.

Babysitter Training
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 13 | 6–8:30 pm | Ages 11–14 | $20R/$23NR
Instructor Merry Lowis presents the skills needed to start your own babysitting business—basics such as meeting the family, setting appointments, age appropriate activities and safety instruction. Handouts 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, Oct 7–Nov 11
1:30–2:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $225R/$235NR
Give your child the experience they have been dreaming of. Each lesson consists of basic grooming, riding and horse care for beginner riders in the English Saddle style with Times Square Riding Academy, 4835 Oakwood Road, Ortonville. Riders are required to wear long pants and hard sole shoes with 1 inch heel. Looking for that special time with your child? Take lessons together. A maximum of 5 riders per class, classes fill quickly. Register early for a rewarding and unforgettable experience. Participants MUST CALL before attending the first class by calling Paula at 248-431-0940 to confirm availability. Additional lesson times are available Mon–Fri evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons.
Draw & Get Drawn! Caricature Workshop
Friendship Park | Wed, Oct 11
6–8 pm | Ages 7–12 | $20R/$23NR
Is your child ready to learn to sketch cartoon faces quickly? Artist Andrew Sigman breaks down the process, making it fun and easy. Before class begins, he will do a souvenir drawing of each participant. Next, there will be a short class showing how to visualize the face in a simplified way, what is needed to capture a person's likeness, and tips so one can make fast decisions. The remainder of time will be spent putting this new knowledge into practice, with participants drawing as many caricatures as they can with supportive and helpful critiques. Kids will leave with increased knowledge about drawing, a caricature of themselves, and the caricatures they created on cardstock and in plastic sleeves. All material will be provided. Instructor: Andrew Sigman

Pumpkin Carving & Movie Night
Orion Center | Mon, Oct 16
5:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9–15 | $3R/$5NR
Still need to carve your jack-o-lanterns? Save time and stress with our Pumpkin Carving Party! Come make a mess. While you carve away, we clean up the pumpkin goo! BYOP (Bring Your Own Pumpkin). While we carve our pumpkins enjoy a Halloween movie! All tools needed for this activity will be provided.

Cookie Decorating Evening
Orion Center | Mon, Dec 11
5:30–7:30 pm | Ages 9–15 | $8R/$10NR
Come out and join us for some sugar cookie decorating while we enjoy a Christmas classic! Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Take & Make DIY Birdseed Ornament
Orion Center | Pick Up Mon, Dec 11
All Ages | $6R/$8NR
Pick up your kit at the Orion Center and learn how to make your own Birdseed Ornaments to hang outside this winter. Registration includes all ingredients and materials needed. Preregistration required.

Star Lab
Orion Center | Thu, Dec 28
11 am–12 pm | 12:30–1:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $2R/$3NR
StarLab is a portable, inflatable planetarium that brings the wonder of the current night sky indoors as it is projected on the inside of the dome. Spaces limited, preregistration required. Walk-ins are welcome if space permits.

Movie Day
Orion Center | Wed, Jan 3
10 am–2 pm | Ages 7+ | $2R/$3NR
Bring your kiddos to the Orion Center for Movie Day. Doors open at 10 am and all kids need to be picked up at 2 pm. Movie schedule to be released and subject to change. Wear comfortable clothes, bring snacks, water bottle, a blanket and/or pillow. Pizza included and will be available after 12:30 pm. Preregistration requested.

Bubble Basics Workshops
Friendship Park | Sat, Sep 30
9 am–11 am | Ages 5+ | $40R/$42NR
In this two-hour Make & Take Workshop, you will learn bubble science. Use cool tools to make bubbles. Make bubble toys to take home. Learn bubble tricks to impress friends and family!

Hands-On Bubble Play
Friendship Park | Sat, Sep 30
12–1 pm | All Ages | $20R/$22NR
Guests get to make their own bubbles outside for a full hour! We provide bubble solutions and a wide range of bubble wands for everyone to make truly amazing bubbles! We show how to make great bubbles and give out bubble tips and secrets! We will also make lots of bubbles to chase and pop as well as bubbles for all to admire! There will be a special area for toddlers and handheld babies to enjoy bubbles in a safe zone! Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Giant Bubble Workshop
Friendship Park | Sat, Sep 30 | 2–5 pm
Ages 7+ | $60R/$62NR
In this 3 hour Make & Take Workshop, you will learn more bubble science, (if you took the 1st workshop). Learn about Giant Bubbles. Make your own bubble wand and make your own giant bubble mix to take home and impress friends and family!
THE ARTIST’S APPRENTICE

Taught by Artist/Instructor Pamela Palmer, BFA

Jolly Holiday Art! Fa La La Let’s Draw!

Orion Center | Mon, Nov 27–Dec 18
5–6:30 pm | Ages 7+ | $65R/$67NR

Young art lovers will be introduced to artists whose talents express beautiful artwork of the holiday season! They will choose an artist to emulate, creating a lovely drawing in the process. Beginning with a simple chalk drawing, proceeding to large chalk pastel, students will receive individual guidance to help with their individual artwork. A snow scene of colorful Christmas trees, lit with bright bulbs, Santa Claus with a toy bag in tow or a beautiful Hanukkah menorah all glowing with warmth on a winter’s night. Kids will have plenty of ideas to choose from, including festive animals! Siblings welcome. $20 material fee payable to the instructor on the first day of class.

MINDS IN MOTIONS

6–IN–1 Space Fleet Robot

Friendship Park | Tue, Oct 17–Nov 28
4:30–5:30 pm | Ages 7–11
$125R/$130NR

Build and take home your very own Solar Space Fleet Robot! The Solar Space Fleet Kit is an innovative solar powered science kit that can transform into six different lunar modules. Using your own mini solar panel, watch as direct sunlight brings the kits to life! Come and create six different working models including a Space Station, Space Rover, Space Explorer, Astronaut, Space Shuttle, and Space Dog. Watch as it moves around and speeds up or slows down depending on the intensity of light as you learn, experiment, and have fun with solar power! Each complete model can also be powered by your very own mini rechargeable battery. Come join in this super fun solar space adventure! No class Oct. 31.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Mon, Oct 2–Mon, Oct 30 | Free

Do you have an amazing Pumpkin that you want to show off? Is it spooky, themed, or just amazing? Submit your pictures to us and we will display them, with the winner earning a prize! You have all month to submit your prized pumpkin design.

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1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION

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1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
Parent and Child Class
with Miss Margee &
Miss Lauren
Orion Center
Mon, Sep 11, 25,
Oct 9, 23, Nov 6, 20,
Dec 4, 18
$80R/$85NR
Miss Margee and
Miss Lauren bring
their love for children into these fun,
interactive, and educational classes for
parents/caregivers and children. They
have many years of experience offering
children's programs in the community.
Material fee of $8 per child is payable to
the instructor at first class.

Terrific Toddlers | Ages 1–2 | 9–10 am
Parents and children will enjoy spending
quality time together in these toddler
classes, participating in free play, crafts,
circle time and weekly themed activities.

Preschool Pals | Ages 3–5
10:15–11:15 am
This parent and child class follows the
same format as Terrific Toddlers with an
emphasis preschool appropriate activity.

Amazing Athletes Sports Discovery—Pickleball
Friendship Park | Sat, Sep 9–30 | 10–10:45 am | Ages 7–10 | $64R/$74NR
Friendship Park | Mon, Sep 11–Oct 30 | 5:50–6:35 pm | Ages 7–10
$128R/$138NR
This game–based sports program engages older children in active wellness
through advanced physical fitness challenges and interactive sports lessons.
Clinics are centered around a major sport across an 8–week season.

Instruction—Skill Development—Scrimmage Play: Children between 7 and 10
display a range of physical abilities and strengths. Coaches work with each child to
help them strive for their personal best. Each 45–minute class engages athletes in
non–competitive, sport–specific training for focused development. Athletes work
in pairs to develop teamwork, motor skills, and patience. We provide our athletes
with opportunities to develop teamwork, friendships, and advance their social
skills in addition to the athletic and academic advancements of the program.

Orion Area Youth
Assistance Enrichment
Scholarships available
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
Friendship Park | Mon, Sep 11–Oct 30
5–5:35 pm | Ages 2.5–6
$128R/$138NR
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 6–Dec 18
5:40–6:15 pm | Ages 2.5–6
$112R/$122NR
Our programs show kids 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.

Amazing TOTS
Orion Center | Mon, Nov 6–Dec 12 | 5–5:25 pm | Ages 18 months–2.5
$112R/$122NR
This guided, discovery–based program helps children engage in structured
physical activities tailored to toddlers. Amazing Tots uses age–appropriate develop-
mental milestones and works with each toddler based on his or her attention
span and physical abilities. Toddlers learn about one of four sports through our
discovery lessons. Classes balance structured physical challenges and organized
physical exploration activities designed with little ones in mind. We incorporate
important reading and developmental properties into our physical activities, combi-
ning 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). Amazing Tots gain physical and academic
advantages that prepare them to excel in preschool and beyond.
ADULT FITNESS & WELLNESS

TaikoFit Cardio Drumming
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 14 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+ | Free
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 21– Dec 7 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+ | $10R/$11NR drop in only, space permitting
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 Nov 23. Instructor: Cindi Carter

Hatha Open Yoga
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 14 | 10–11:15 am | Ages 16+ | Free
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 21–Nov 16 | 10–11:20 am | Ages 16+ | $99R/$105NR
Exploring yoga poses in a slow and subtle way to create openness in the body and calmness in the mind. Breathing and meditation techniques. Please bring a yoga mat, strap and firm blanket to class. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate $13R/$14NR space permitting.

Hatha Gentle Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 11 | 4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | Free
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 18–Nov 20 | 4:45–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | $110R/$116NR
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 space permitting.

Hatha Continuing Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 11 | 6–7 pm | Ages 16+ | Free
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 18–Nov 20 | 6–7:20 pm | Ages 16+ | $110R/$116NR
In this yoga class we will review the foundational yoga poses learned in the gentle class and continue to explore asanas and practices including yin yoga, where we will hold poses close to the earth for a couple of minutes. Come enjoy this practice to strengthen your body and calm your mind. Each class will include relaxation. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop-in rate $13R/$14NR space permitting.

Hatha Restorative/Yin Yoga
Orion Center | Mon, Dec 4 & 11 | 6–7:15 pm | Ages 16+ | $26R/$28NR
Orion Center | Thu, Dec 7 & 14 | 10–11:15 am | Ages 16+ | $26R/$28NR
Take time to unwind by exploring yoga in a supportive way with the help of blankets and props to reduce muscle tension and general fatigue. In the yin portion of class we will hold poses longer to allow the connective tissue to gently stretch. Bring 2–3 blankets to class. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate $13R/$14NR space permitting.

Hatha Yoga Chakra Series
Orion Center | Mon, Dec 4 & 11 | 4:30–5:45 pm | Ages 16+ | $26R/$28NR
In this 2-week series we will learn about the chakras (energy centers) in the body. The term chakra comes from the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit which means “spinning wheel of energy.” We will get more acquainted with the chakras through discussion, visualization and a yoga practice to open the flow of subtle energy in the body. Bring a yoga mat and blanket. Instructor Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate $13R/$14NR space permitting.

Hatha Yoga Meditation Series
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 28–Oct 19 | 11:30 am–12:10 pm | Ages 16+ | $36R/$40NR
In this 4-week class series we explore Mindfulness of the breath, body scan and Metta–Loving Kindness meditation. Chairs will be available for all but feel free to bring bolster or blanket if you prefer to sit on the floor. Taught by Suzanne Albert of Heartfelt Yoga. Drop in rate $13R/$14NR space permitting.

Spaces are limited for free classes. Registration is required. Register by calling the Orion Center at 248–391–0304 x3500 or visit orionparks.com.
Zumba Gold
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 11–Oct 30 | 9:30–10:30 am
Ages 40+ | $68R/$72NR
Mon, Nov 6–Dec 18 | $60R/$63NR
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 space permitting.

Zumba Gold Toning
Orion Center | Wed, Sep 13–Nov 1 | 9:30–10:30 am
Ages 40+ | $68R/$72NR
Wed, Nov 8–Dec 20 | $60R/$63NR
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 space permitting.

Intro to the Melt Method of Pain Relief
Orion Center | Wed, Sep 13 | 10:45 am–12 pm
Ages 18+ | $18R/$20NR
MELT is a simple compression technique that uses a soft body roller and balls for the hands and feet to address the connective tissue in order to get out of and stay out of pain. It helps with back and neck pain, arthritis, headaches, tension, stress, alignment and posture. MELT improves all over body movement, and makes you feel more vibrant and youthful! (must be able to independently get on and off the floor). Visit melt-method.com for information on this technique. Roller and mini ball kits will be available for purchase but not necessary to buy to participate in the class. Instructor: Cyndy DuVal

Tai Chi Continuing
Orion Center | Tue, Sep 12–Oct 17 | Oct 31–Dec 5
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 $12R/$13NR space permitting.

Tai Chi Beginner
Orion Center
Tue, Sep 12–Oct 17
Oct 31–Dec 5 | 11 am–Noon
Ages 18+ | $60R/$64NR
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 $12R/$13NR space permitting.
Outdoor Open Pickleball
Friendship Park | Every Mon–Fri | 10 am–12 pm | Free
Love to play pickleball, but don’t have anybody to play with? Register to play Open Pickleball at Friendship Park and you’ll always have a partner to play with every week! Registration is required.

Learn to Play
Friendship Park
Tue & Thu, Sep 5–21
1–3 pm | Free
Looking to learn the popular sport that all your friends keep talking about? Sign up for a very casual and social atmosphere while learning the game of pickleball. Beginner level only. If you have your own paddle please bring it.

Modern Women’s Self–Defense Seminar
Dragon Community Room | Sat, Oct 7
10–11:30 am | Ages 13+ | $25R/$27NR
Discover your inner warrior! 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 handout that reviews 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.

Heartfulness Meditation
Friendship Park | Tue, Oct 3–24
7–8 pm | Ages 13+ | Free
The Heartfulness Meditation Program offers a simple set of relaxation and meditation exercises, which when practiced daily, help restore balance in life, manage stress, better your health, and most of all will lead you to inner calm and peace. Each class covers the conceptual framework and practical meditation and relaxation sessions. As classes progress, we add other techniques to help you go into a deep meditative state, faster. Participants will be meditating in chairs. Those wishing to meditate while sitting on the floor may bring their own floor cushions. The entire program will be conducted by certified Heartfulness trainers, who have been meditating and training for several years. Class is free, but registration is required.

Instructor Highlight: Michael Dwyer
Michael Dwyer teaches beginner and continuing levels of Tai Chi at the Orion Center. He has also been teaching his own classes since 2018. Dwyer, a freelance writer by trade, started learning Wu Style Tai Chi Chuan in 1998. He studied under Sifu (teacher) John Marchewitz, a disciple of Grandmaster Eddie Wu Kwong Yu, the gatekeeper of the Wu style. Dwyer learned the traditional 108–posture form and began teaching as an assistant to Marchewitz in 2005. His personal training continues with sabre, spear, and advanced forms.

Orion Community Road Rally
Do you love riddles and good family fun? Be part of the Orion Community Road Rally on Saturday, September 30, starting at 11 am at the Orion Township Public Library. Get your team together and join in on the fun! See page 50 for details and deadlines.
**ADULT ENRICHMENT**

**Plant Based Eating Class**  
Orion Center | Mon, Sep 11–Oct 9 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

**Social Serenity**  
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 28 | Nov 16 11 am–12:30 pm | Ages 50+ | $50R/$54  
Fun, informational, (including scientific evidence) workshop for staying vibrant. What are you going to do with a retiring spouse? Or what if you retire soon? What will you do with your time? (You cannot whisk him/her away with a magic wand or banish to Siberia.) Cars need re–tire–ing. Not Humans. This time is an opportunity to reimagine life. To choose things YOU want. This presentation will give you ideas, and jump start your imagination in practical and fun ways. Taught by Peggy Barry Bartz, renaissance woman, entrepreneur and never–retiring–from life human being!

**Improv & Comedy Class for Adults**  
Orion Center  
Mon, Sep 18, Oct 2, 23, Nov 6, 20 6:30–8 pm | Ages 18+ | $100R/$106NR  
Description: Calling all “Whose Line” wannabees! Come tickle your funny bone in this evening improv comedy class! Improv acting is great for boosting your confidence, public speaking skills, and, of course, your ability to make others laugh! This class will cover the basic rules of improv acting, focusing on 1–2 improv rules each week. You will also get to practice the rules of improv and hone your skills through the use of improv acting games. Instructor Megan Timberlake

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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.

**Field Production Class**  
ONTV Studio | Oct 16–Nov 13 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR  
You will be introduced to the Canon XA11 professional camcorder and all its accessories, including light, microphones, headphones, and a tripod. Weeks 1 & 2 will focus on news–style shooting and interviews. Weeks 3 & 4 will focus on filmmaking. The final week will cover music videos and other experimental forms of video production.

**Studio Production Class**  
ONTV Studio | Sep 11–Oct 9 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR  
You will learn about all the crew positions and equipment necessary to produce a program in the studio. During 10–minute mock productions, you will rotate into crew positions such as Director, Audio, Graphics, Camera, Floor Manager, Host, and Guest. The class will plan a final project that will be recorded in Week 5 and air as a real TV program.

**Non–Linear Editing**  
ONTV Studio | Nov 20–Dec 4 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR  
You will be introduced to the CS6 version of Adobe Premiere Pro. In Week 1 you will learn about importing video, transitions, audio, titles & graphics, and exporting video. In Week 2 you will learn about advanced editing techniques such as color correction, green key effects, slow/fast motion, keyframing, and other special effects. The final week will include an introduction to Davinci Resolve, which is a sophisticated editing software that is free to download and use.
Playwriting for Adults
Friendship Park | Wed, Sep 27, Oct 25, Nov 8, 29 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Ages 16+ $75R/$79

Have you ever wanted to explore the art of playwriting? With this four week course, you can do just that. Whether writing smaller skits or multi scene plays, this class will break down the basics so that you’ll be writing in no time. Extra time has been allotted between each class session to allow participants to work on their skits and/or plays. Instructor Megan Timberlake

Township Talks
Township Hall | Fri, Sep 22, Oct 20 9:30–10:30 am | Free

Stop by Township Hall for an informal meeting with a member of Township staff. Feel free to come with questions or join in on the discussion. Topics will include current events in the Township and other matters of interest.

American Heart Association CPR Classes
HeartSaver CPR/AED
Fire Station #2 | TBD | 5–9 pm | Ages 12+ | $40
Fire Station #2 | TBD | 10 am–2 pm | Ages 12+ | $40
Class will cover CPR/AED/Choking for all age groups.

HeartSaver CPR/AED/First Aid
Fire Station #2 | TBD | 10 am–5 pm | Ages 12+ | $50
Class is held the third Saturday of every other month. Class will cover CPR/AED/First Aid/Choking for all age groups.

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

End of Summer Luau
Friendship Park Pavilion | Fri, Sep 15 12 pm | $6R/$8NR
Come say goodbye to summer with us! Lunch and music will be provided.

Euchre Tournament & Lunch
Orion Center | Thu, Sep 28 12 pm Lunch & 1 pm Tournament $3R/NR (paid at door) for tournament | $3R/NR for lunch | Quarters if Euchred
No partner needed and all levels welcome! Beverage and lunch will be provided prior to the tournament for an additional fee. Tournament Set Up: All scores will be individual and partners will change each game. Prizes will be awarded!

Pumpkin Carving and Fall Treats
Orion Center | Thu, Oct 19 2 pm | Free
Bring out your creative side with an afternoon carving a pumpkin and indulging in some yummy fall treats.

Veterans Day Lunch
Orion Center | Fri, Nov 10 12 pm | Free
Veterans and a guest enjoy a free meal at the Orion Center! Live entertainment, goodie bags, and raffle prizes will also be part of this celebratory event.

Thanksgiving Lunch
Orion Center | Wed, Nov 15 | 12 pm $4R/$6NR
We are thankful for all of our members and want to say thank you! Enjoy a tasty Thanksgiving lunch provided by the OPC.

Register for Parks & Recreation Programs at orionparks.com or call 248–391–0304, ext. 3500
1335 JOSLYN ROAD, LAKE ORION
CALENDAR of EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

1–Nov 5  The Way We Worked Traveling Exhibit, Orion Library
2–4 Labor Day: Township offices, Library closed
5  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
5  First day of school for all LOCS students; half day–Elementary and Middle, full day–High School
8  Dragon Football vs. Oxford, Dragon Stadium
9  DDA Trolley Oktoberfest Pub Crawl, Downtown LO

2  Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
2  Unions in Michigan: Then & Now, Orion Library, 7 pm
5  LOHS Parent/Teacher Conferences
7  Evergreen Cemetery Historical Tour, 4–8 pm
11 The Office Trivia Night, Orion Library, 7 pm
12 LOHS Curriculum Night
14 Middle School Curriculum Night
15 Dragon Football vs. West Bloomfield, Dragon Stadium
16 Zombie Walk Pub Crawl to benefit Orion Lighted Christmas Parade, Downtown LO, 8 pm
16 LO Palooza to benefit The Daisy Project—Michigan, Wildwood Amphitheater
18 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
19–23 Friends of the Orion Library Fall Book Sale, Orion Library

Photo by Colleen Gagnon

OCTOBER

7 Made in the Mitten Art & Craft Show, Orion Center, 10 am–4 pm
7 First Teen Advisory Board Meeting, Orion Library, 11 am
8 Evergreen Cemetery Historical Tour, 4–8 pm
8 Community Homecoming Parade, Downtown LO, 3:30 pm
13 Boo Bash, Orion Center, 5:30–7 pm, registration required
13 Elementary/Middle Half Day
13 Dragon Homecoming Football vs. Farmington, Dragon Stadium
14 Middle School Curriculum Night
15 Dragon Football vs. West Bloomfield, Dragon Stadium
16 Pumpkin Carving & Movie Night, Orion Center, 5:30–7:30 pm, registration required
16 Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm
18 Halloween Extravaganza, Downtown LO, 5–7 pm
18 Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes, Orion Library, 7 pm
19 Puzzle & Game Swap, Orion Center, 9 am–6 pm
20 Lake Orion & Oxford DDAs’ Witches Night, Downtown LO, 4–11 pm
20 Movie Night in the Park, Civic Center Park, 7 pm, Free
24, 25 Spooky Stroll, Orion Library, 7 pm

22 Township Talks, Township Hall, 9:30 am
22 Dragon Football vs. Stoney Creek, Dragon Stadium
23 Fall Festival of Family Fun, Camp Agawam, 11 am–3 pm
25 Honey and Bees with Spencer’s Apiaries, Orion Library, 6:30 pm
29 DDA Outdoor Movie Night, Childrens’ Park, 7:30 pm, Character Meet & Greet 6:45–7:15 pm
30 Orion Community Road Rally, starts at Orion Library, 11 am
### NOVEMBER

**2** High School half day  
**2** Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences  
**3** High School half day  
**4** Lake Orion Lions Club Christmas for Everyone fundraiser, Milosch Palace dealership  
**6** Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm  
**7** Pop-up Library & Tech Help, ABeanToGo Coffee, 10 am–12 pm  
**8** Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences  
**9** Cookies with Claus, Orion Center, 5–7 pm, registration required  
**10** 5th Grade Battle of the Books Kickoff, Orion Library, 5:30 & 7 pm  
**15** Intro to ChatGPT, Orion Library, 7 pm  
**16** DDA Sing & Stroll and Tree Lighting, Downtown LO, 5–7 pm  
**20** Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm  
**22** Library closes at 5 pm  
**22-24** Thanksgiving Break, schools closed  
**23** Thanksgiving Day  
**23–24** Library closed  
**25** Shop Small Saturday, Downtown LO, 10 am–9 pm  
**30** Blood Drive, Orion Center, 12:30–5 pm

**December 2**  
Orion Lighted Christmas Parade, Downtown LO, 6 pm

**December 4**  
Board of Trustees Meeting, Township Hall, 7 pm

**December 6**  
Made in the Mitten Pop-Up Market, Orion Center, 3–7 pm

**December 9**  
Breakfast with the Grinch, Orion Center, registration required

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Photo courtesy Orion Township Parks & Recreation

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Photo courtesy Lake Orion DDA

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Background photo by Lorene Strong
**FIELD TRIPS**

**Genitti’s Hole–In–The–Wall Theater and Lunch**
Northville  |  Tue, Oct 24  |  Leaving Orion Center at 10:30 am  
Arrive back at Orion Center at 3:30 pm  |  $60R/$80NR
Enjoy a seven-course family-style Italian dinner guaranteed to delight. After the lunch members will be entertained by an interactive comedy murder mystery!

**Firekeepers Casino**
Battle Creek  |  Thu, Nov 16  
Leaving Orion Center at 8:30 am  
Arrive back at the Orion Center at 5:30 pm  |  $45R/NR
Trip includes: round trip motor coach transportation to Battle Creek, MI, 4 hours of gaming at Firekeepers Casino, $25 on player’s club card and $5 in food!

**ENRICHMENT CLASSES**

**Financial and Medicare Counseling Services**
Orion Center  |  Mon–Fri  |  9 am–4 pm  
Free
MRA can help with Medicare enrollment and plan reviews, Life Insurance policy reviews and provide unbiased annuity support. Schedule a one-on-one session with Chad Day from The Michigan Retirement Agency, Don’t Be Sold, Be Informed. Appointments are 30 minutes. Please call the Orion Center to let us know what day works best for you.

**What’s New in Medicare for 2024**
Orion Center  |  Tue, Oct 3  |  1 pm  
Free
Don’t Be Sold, Be Informed—If you are aging into Medicare or would simply like to learn more about your options, The Michigan Retirement Agency is hosting an educational seminar at the Orion Center. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and schedule additional time with the presenter, because Medicare isn’t confusing right?!

**Let’s Craft!**
Orion Center  |  Wed, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 6  |  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.
HEALTH & 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 Friday from 9 am–12 pm

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

Matter of Balance
Orion Center | Tue & Thu | Oct 3–26 | 10 am–12 pm | Free
Matter of Balance (MOB) is specifically designed to reduce the fear of falling and improve activity levels among older adults. The program includes eight two–hour classes and enables participants to reduce the fear of falling by learning to view falls as controllable, setting goals for increasing activity levels, making small changes to reduce fall risks at home, and exercise to increase strength and balance. Additional topics include home safety, assertiveness, developing positive strategies for change, reducing barriers to exercise, identifying physical risk factors for falls, personal action planners, recognizing misconceptions about falls, and moving from self–defeating to self–motivating thoughts.

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

Challenge yourself at Fitcore Extreme

Are you ready to push the limits of your athleticism? Get ready for an adrenaline-fuelled experience at Orion's newest addition to Civic Center Park, the Fitcore Outdoor Fitness Course!

The course offers a wide variety of obstacles strategically designed to engage both body and mind. You'll leap from one step to the next on Quintuple Steps, then move on to test your grip strength on Ledge Hanger. You'll stretch your skills as you traverse between two walls for Spiderwalk. There's no backing out of Jump Hang—will you choose to go below or pull yourself up and go over the top? You'll then have to carefully navigate across the Wheel Bridge, which is no easy task as each wheel spins the moment you grab it. It's time to finally finish the course with the tap of a bell at the top of the Rope Climb.

With each obstacle mastered, individuals will gain confidence, strength, and a renewed sense of achievement. Do you have what it takes to conquer the course?

Whether you're an experienced athlete or a fitness novice, this course offers an inclusive environment, encouraging individuals to strive for personal improvement while fostering a sense of community and camaraderie.

“We are thrilled to introduce this incredible outdoor fitness course to our community,” said Orion Township Supervisor Chris Barnett. “It not only promotes physical wellness but also fosters a spirit of determination and perseverance. We invite residents and visitors alike to embrace this new challenge and discover the joy of testing their limits while enjoying the beauty of Orion's natural surroundings.”

Check out Fitcore Extreme at Civic Center Park, 2525 Joslyn Road. It is designed for ages 13 and up.
Chamber Restaurant & Eatery Guide

Alibi Express
786 S Lapeer, LO
248-693-2999
alibipizza.com

Anita’s Kitchen
45 W Flint, LO
248-929-8914
anitaskitchen.com/ak-lake-orion

Avocado Mexican Grill
1188 S Lapeer, LO
248-690-9755
avocado-mexicangrill.com

Bad Brads BBQ
3437 S Baldwin, LO
248-977-5910
badbradsbbq.com

Bitter Tom’s Distillery
120 S Broadway, LO
248-690-9535
bittertomsdistillery.com

Buffalo Wild Wings
770 N Lapeer, LO
248-814-8600
buffalowildwings.com

Cookies & Cream by Sprout Bake
20 Front, LO
248-475-2256
cookiesandcreamlo.com

Culver’s of Lake Orion
4963 Interpark Drive N, LO
248-276-2222
culvers.com/restaurants/lake-orion

Culver’s Brown Road
4979 Grand Ave, LO
248-292-3663
culvers.com/restaurants/orion-twp-brown-rd

Domino’s
979 S Lapeer, OX
248-628-3202
dominos.com

Fork n’ Pint
51 N Broadway, LO
248-845-4476
forknpint.com

G’s Pizzeria
2775 S Lapeer, LO
248-393-0000
gspizzeria.com

HomeGrown Brewing Company
28 N Washington, OX
248-800-4244
homegrownbrewco.com

Italia Gardens
1076 S. Lapeer, OX
248-628-4112
italiagardensoxford.com

Jet’s Pizza
1091 S. Lapeer, LO
248-814-7559
jetspizza.com

Lakes Village Stop & Mediterranean Station
415 S Broadway, LO
248-693-4565
facebook.com/mediterraneanstation

Lava Mountain Coffee Co.
1472 S. Lapeer, LO
248-690-7595
lavamountaincoffee.com

McDonalds
435 S. Broadway, LO
248-929-8085
mcdonalds.com

Nothing Bundt Cakes
3074 Walton Blvd, RH
248-963-0060
nothingbundtcakes.com/bakery/mi/rochester-hills

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

Old Detroit Bar & Grill
741 S. Lapeer, LO
248-814-8109
olddetroitbarandgrill.com

Palazzo di Bocce
4291 S. Lapeer, LO
248-371-9987
palazzodibocce.com

Rainforest Cafe
4310 Baldwin, AH
248-333-0280
rainforestcafe.com

Standard & Co. Cafe
3800 S. Baldwin #100, LO
248-977-4212
standardcoffeecom

Swirlz Lake Orion
1035 S Baldwin, LO
248-391-2222
swirlzlakeorion.com

The 313 Pizza Bar
37 E. Flint, LO
248-690-9362
313pizza-bar.com

Tim Hortons Lake Orion
740 S. Lapeer, LO
248-693-8954
locations.timhortons.com/en/locations-list/mi/lake-orion/

White Pine Coffee Roasters
33 Pleasant, OX
248-221-5136
whitepinecoffee.com

Wine Social
135 S Broadway, LO
248-783-7111
winesocial.com

Yates Cider Mill at Canterbury Village
2375 Joslyn Ct, LO
248-481-9203
yatescidermill.com/canterbury

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

ORION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ORION AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

32 Orion Living | Fall 2023
Business is Flourishing in Orion Township! We are thrilled to help showcase new businesses by coordinating Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies. Chamber Staff, Board Members, and Ambassadors are always eager to welcome new businesses and we encourage Elected Officials and Orion Community Residents to join the festivities. Recently, we cut ribbons and celebrated (from top to bottom) Spresser Ogden PLLC Law Firm, Macaroni Kid Lake Orion, Rochester Hills, Oxford; Mattress Firm, and new ownership at Brinker Veterinary Hospital.

New Members
May 18 through August 1, 2023

Amy Dunlap Team—Powered by EXP Realty
Cory Lewber Coaching, LLC
Culver’s Brown Road
EverydayC
Elite Imaging Systems
McDonald’s
NES Plumbing, Heating and Cooling
Orion Oaks Assisted Living and Memory Care
Orthopedic Specialists of Oakland County
Standard & Co. Cafe
Tri-County Gift Basket Co.

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 friendly environment in which businesses can joyfully flourish!

For information on the Chamber contact Joyce Donaldson, President and CEO at 248–693–6300 or joyce@orionareachamber.com.
The Road Rally is back!

Join us Saturday, September 30, at 11 am for our 3rd Annual Orion Community Road Rally! Don’t know what a Road Rally is? Think TV’s Amazing Race, but instead of touring the globe your car group solves puzzles and performs side missions to find mystery destinations throughout Orion Township. We are pleased to partner with Orion Parks & Rec, the Township Offices, Orion Art Center, Lake Orion Community Schools, Lake Orion DDA, ONTV, and multiple local businesses to bring this fun, all-ages, program to you. See page 50 for more details.

Reading Challenges for all ages, all year round!

Our Find Your Voice Summer Reading Challenge has come and gone, and we want to thank and congratulate all of this year’s participants. But, did you know that we have similar reading challenges for all age groups, even beyond summer? All you have to do is pick your challenge, read books, and win prizes!

**Adults**—Track your reading with 50 Books in 52 Weeks. Don’t worry, you don’t have to read 50 books to earn prizes. Simply complete specific challenges and activities to win badges and entries into prize drawings all year long!

**Teens**—Middle school students can sign up for 75 Books Before High School, and high school students can sign up for 100 Books Before Graduation. The best part is even books you have to read for school count towards your challenge!

**Youth**—Start their love of reading early with 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. Does your little one love for you to read the same book over and over again? Each time you read it, that counts toward their challenge!

**Youth—K**—5th Graders can sign up for 500 Books by 5th, a fun way to keep them engaged with their reading as they develop their literacy skills throughout elementary school.

You can register for all these programs on our website at orionlibrary.org. Look for “Ongoing Reading Challenges.”

Youth Department receives grant

In the fall of 2022, we received an Improving Access to Information grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan that allowed us to upgrade our early learning computers. The upgrade allowed access to more games that appeal to a wider age audience. This proved helpful as our iPads were unavailable for older kids. Another great improvement with these new computers was the addition of one computer that offered content in both English and Spanish. This feature has allowed us to build awareness of our growing world language collection. The circulation of our world language collection has increased from 22.5 checkouts per month to over 35 checkouts per month. We are grateful to be able to provide this great resource to the Orion Township community. If you have not tried these new computers, please stop in and play a game.

Save the Date!

Our annual fun for all ages Winter Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, December 16. Look for more information in the winter issue of Orion Living Magazine.

Department Numbers

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<td>Outreach</td>
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<td>Youth</td>
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Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
ADULT SERVICES

Program registration opens one month prior to the program date.

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 or by calling 248–693–3000 x540.

Thursday Afternoon Book Club
Thursdays | 1:30 pm
Sep 21: Savage Feast by Boris Fishman
Oct 19: The Daughter of Doctor Moreau by Silvia Moreno-Garcia
Nov 16: The Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley

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

Orion Historical Society (OHS)
Mondays: Sep 18, Oct 16, Nov 20 | 7 pm
Come to an OHS meeting to learn about our township's history and work on projects to preserve the past. Newcomers are always welcome!

The Write Stuff Writer’s Workshop
Wednesdays: Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8 | 7 pm
Meet the second Wednesday of each month and connect with a group of like-minded writers to learn from each other, share ideas, and practice your writing skills.

North Oakland Genealogical Society (NOGS)
Thursdays: Sep 21, Oct 19, Nov 16 | 7 pm
Anyone with an interest in genealogy and family history research is encouraged to attend!

Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group
Tuesdays: Sep 12, Oct 10, Nov 14 | 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.

MAKERSPACE

Register online for all Makerspace programs

Plaster Pour and Paint
Sat, Sep 30 | 2 pm and 3:30 pm
Kids, teens, and adults are welcome at this makerspace event! Create a custom mold with the Mayku Formbox, pour your fast drying plaster, then paint and decorate your piece!

Cricut Trick-or-Treat Bags
Sat, Oct 21 | 2 pm and 3:30 pm | Tue, Oct 24 | 6 pm
Using the Cricut and Heat Press, design a Trick or Treat bag, just in time for Halloween!

Embroidered Tea Towels
Sat, Nov 18 | 2 pm | Tues, Nov 21 | 6 pm
Learn to use our Brother embroidery machine by monogramming a tea towel for your kitchen. See online calendar for available timeslots.

Makerspace Office Hours
Thur, Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9 | 6 pm
Interested in learning about makerspace equipment? Have a question? Need some guidance or inspiration for your project? Drop in and meet with our makerspace librarian and start creating. Assistance will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.
Empower Your Body: Yoga Blended Fitness

Wednesdays | 6:30 pm
A fun series of yoga blended fitness classes with Pushna Wellness, outside in our beautiful Reading Garden behind the library. Drop-in to any or all three classes.

Sep 13: Power Yoga: Strengthening yoga poses, holding and flowing to challenge the mind and body.

Sep 20: Flex & Flow: Light resistance bands and body toning mixed with a yoga flow to strengthen and stretch the body.

Sep 27: BOYO (no boxing bag or experience required): Boxing moves incorporated in a flow with yoga and stretching to empower and have fun while also experiencing mindfulness and stretching.

Oakland Literacy Council Information Night

Tue, Sep 26 | 6:30 pm
Learn about Oakland Literacy Council’s efforts to help adults achieve their personal and professional goals by lifting their reading, speaking, math, and digital literacy skills through a partnership with trained volunteer tutors. Find out how you can get involved in your community. It’s never too late to lift literacy levels!

Cook the Book

Tues, Oct 3 | 7 pm
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.

Oct 3: Half Baked Harvest Every Day by Tieghan Gerard

The Way We Worked Traveling Exhibition

Aug 12–Nov 5 | Open library hours
The exhibition explores the places Americans worked, from farms to factories and mines to restaurants, as well as in homes. It examines not only the effects of technology and automation, but also how workers striving for better working conditions, wages, and hours changed America’s work history.

*The Way We Worked, an exhibition created by the National Archives, is adapted for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and made possible with the generous support of the United States Congress.

The Office Trivia Night

Mon, Sep 11 | 7 pm | Register online
Are you a fan of NBC’s The Office? Teams of up to five are invited to compete for the title of “Assistant to the Regional Trivia Manager” at The Office trivia night. Prizes will be awarded to the winners!

Unions in Michigan: Then and Now

Mon, Oct 2 | 7 pm
Join us for this panel discussion: Carly Hammond has been active in contemporary union organizing campaigns in Michigan and will speak about what workers want, the role of unions in helping workers achieve their ends, and obstacles faced by workers and unions. Daniel Clark is a labor historian who will provide historical context for unionization in Michigan.

Oakland County and Michigan: A Current and Projected Labor Market Profile

Tues, Oct 24 | 7 pm
Evan Linskey, Research Manager at the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics, will provide an overview of the Oakland County and statewide labor markets. Job seekers, employers, school administrators, and anyone interested in the local economy will learn about the current and projected labor force, occupation, and industry trends based on the most recent statistics available.

Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes

Wed, Oct 18 | 7 pm
The library is excited to welcome Andrew Kercher, professional historian for an engaging history of shipwrecks on the Great Lakes from territory to frontier state to modern times.

Pop–up Library & Tech Help at ABeanToGo Coffee

Tue, Nov 7 | 10 am–12 pm
Drop in to ABeanToGo Coffee at 6 W. Flint St; bring your device and/or questions for our Tech and Outreach librarians to help. We will be giving away books, information, library swag and more!

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
Sugar Cookie Decorating Class
Wed, Nov 8 | 7 pm | Register online
The library is excited to welcome Cakes Dreamer for a hands-on cookie decorating class! Learn the fundamentals of cookie decorating like outlining, flooding, wet on wet and more.
This class is great for beginning cookie enthusiasts or those who want to learn how to decorate sugar cookies. All tools and supplies provided.

International Games Week—Magic the Gathering
Sat, Nov 11 | 12 pm
Whether you're a new player wanting to learn to play Magic the Gathering, or a veteran, come join others for casual play. Check the library calendar for times and registration for information.

Intro to ChatGPT
Wed, Nov 15 | 7 pm
Learn more about ChatGPT and generative AI with a demonstration and discussion with Troy, the Tech Librarian.

80s and 90s Trivia
Thur, Nov 30 | 6:30 pm
What is Madonna’s full name? Which video game console was the first to feature online play? How many days did the OJ Simpson trial last? If you know the answers to any of these questions, this trivia is right for you! Join OTPL Librarians at Ignite Tavern, 1065 Baldwin Rd., in teams of 2-5 people for an evening of totally tubular trivia!

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.

Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP)
Mon, Oct 2 | 12:30 pm
Adults with special needs and their caregivers can join us for stories, songs, movement, and activities.

English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)
Wednesdays | 10:30 am | No meeting Sept 6, Oct 18, or Nov 22
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 a great learning experience and an opportunity to meet people.

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.

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: Sept 8 and 22, Oct 13 and 27, and Nov 10 | 11 am
Join us 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!

Book Bunch @ Orion Center
Wednesdays | 1 pm
Sept 13: Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
Oct 11: Daisy Jones and the Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid
Nov 8: The Library Book by Susan Orleans

Many of our programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Orion Library
JUST FOR TEENS

Teen Tuesday
Tue, Sep 5, 19, Oct, 3, 17, Nov, 7, 21
6:30–8 pm
Teen Tuesday is a casual hang out for teens who enjoy hanging out with friends, or just enjoy the quiet of playing on their phone. We will offer video games, board and card games, D&D, crafts and more! If you are looking for something to do with some friends, crash with us for a bit. Snacks always provided and new faces always welcome!

DIY Zombie Barbie
Sat, Sep 30
12 pm
Eager to scare your friends this holiday season? Create a ghoulish zombie barbie just in time for Halloween. Supplies based on a first come first serve basis for patrons in attendance.

Teen Advisory Board
Sat, Oct 7, Nov 4 | 11 am
We are bringing back our Teen Advisory Board (TAB) for teens who strive for the growth of the community through teen participation. Through meetings, library, and community activities, the TAB’s goal is to make sure every teen in the community’s voice is heard. 8th–12th graders, please join our monthly meeting to learn more about TAB. You can even achieve volunteer hours for your time. No registration required.

Fall Learning Workshops
Tuesdays | 7 pm
It’s back to school, which means back to homework, report cards, tests, and conferences. This fall we are planning monthly learning workshops presented in partnership with the Huntington Learning Center of Clarkston, and with the guidance of long–time teacher Rob Osterman. There are four workshops centered around different themes from study skills, homework, and the new digital SAT that starts in 2024, which is scheduled for December. Workshops are for parents and students alike.

Sep 12: The Road to a Good Report Card
Nov 14: Study Skills for Success—Top 10 Tips

DIY Haunted Apothecary Jars
Wed, Oct 11 | 7 pm
Make your own spooky apothecary jar to fill with your custom potions, brews, and poisons. This program is for adults and teens eager to decorate for Halloween!

International Games Week
Sat, Nov 11 | Register online
Celebrate International Games Week with escape rooms followed by Magic the Gathering. Whether you are a new player wanting to learn to play Magic the Gathering, or a veteran, come join others for casual play. Check the library calendar for times and registration of escape rooms.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
Honey and Bees with Spencer’s Apiaries
Mon, Sep 25 | 6:30 pm | Families
A local Lake Orion professional beekeeper and business owner of Spencer’s Apiaries will be coming to talk about the importance of bees and how honey is made. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to sit outside. This program is geared towards older elementary school kids.

Spooky Stroll
Tue, Oct 24 & Wed, Oct 25 | 7 pm | All Ages
Grab a flashlight and take a delightfully spooky stroll through our woods. This stroll will have a scavenger hunt element and other fun fall frights. Spook level will be friendly for elementary age and up.

Pumpkin Painting
Sat, Oct 28 | 2 pm | All Ages | Register online
Come paint a pumpkin! We will supply the pumpkins, décor, and paint. Get inspired by the season and be creative designing your pumpkin!

Family Name that Tune Trivia
Sat, Oct 14 | 2pm | All Ages
Test your knowledge of timeless music with our family music trivia. Each family will need at least one smart device to participate. Family team costumes are strongly encouraged.

Lego Builders: Monsters
Mon, Oct 30 | 6:30 pm | All Ages
Junior architects are invited to join us for building fun with LEGO bricks. The challenge is to create your own monster. Creations will be displayed through the month of November.

Little Lit
Mon, Tue, & Wed, Sep 5–Nov 29 | 10 am & 11 am
Ages 0–5 | Limit 20 | No program on Sep 18-20, Oct 9, Oct 30–Nov 1, Nov 14
Children ages 0–5 and their families are invited for stories, songs, and activities that promote the five staple early literacy practices: reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing!

Preschool STEAM: Apples
Fri, Sep 8 | 11 am | Ages 3–5
Calling all little scientists to explore different STEAM activities related to apples.

Busy Baby
Thu, Sep 21, Fri, Oct. 20, Sat, Nov 18 | 11 am | Infants
This is a meetup for infants 0–12 months old and their caregivers. Come play together and meet new friends. Best suited for non-walkers.

Bounce & Boogie
Saturdays | Sep 9, Oct 21, Nov 11 | 11 am | Ages 0–5
A music and movement–based program just for ages 0–5! Join us as we dance, groove, jump, and move to our favorite songs and rhymes, promoting gross motor skills alongside early literacy!

SENSEsational Storytime
Fridays | Oct 13, Nov 10 | 11 am | Ages 3–7
A welcoming, interactive environment designed for children with special needs and sensory seeking kids.

Halloween Storytime and Parade
Tue, Oct 31 | 10 am | Ages 0–5
Join all of your favorite youth librarians in costume as they lead you in a Halloween themed storytime with music, dancing, stories, and fun. A costume parade through the library follows this fun filled event!
Cookie Monster’s Birthday Party
Thu, Nov 2 | 11 am | Ages 2–5
C is for Cookie! Celebrate Cookie Monster’s birthday with stories, songs, activities, and cookies, of course!

Intergenerational Storytime @ Pomeroy Senior Living
Tue, Nov 14 | 10:30 am | Ages 0–5 | Register online
We welcome caregivers and children ages 0–5 to join senior residents for a storytime, encouraging social interaction between generations. Librarians will read stories, sing songs, and provide a snack, craft, and social time for all attendees. Intergenerational programs come with many benefits for both children and seniors, including decreased loneliness, delayed mental decline, and new connections, along with increasing the amount of smiling and conversation among all involved!

Special Dino Storytime
Tue, Nov 21 | 11 am | Ages 0–5
It is DINOvember and we want to celebrate our prehistoric friends. Join us for stories, rhymes, and activities all about dinosaurs.

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

Doggone Readers
Mondays | Sep 11, Oct 16, Nov 13 | 6:30 pm | Grades K–5
Register online
Visit with Jasper, Henry, Crush, Merlen, or Woody to practice your reading skills to a silent listener—the dog! Readers can collect stamps for a free book.

3D Print Bubble Wands
Sat, Sep 16 | 11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm | Grades 3–8 | Register online
Back by popular demand, another 3D print class. This time design your own bubble wand. Are you tired of a typical circle wand? Come and create your own one-of-a-kind bubble maker.

If You Give a Kid a Book Club
Wednesdays | Sep 27, Oct 25, Nov 15 | 1 pm | Grades K–2
Not your average storytime! We will get together to read from an early reader or picture book series. We will read, discuss, and do activities based on the books. Books in the series will be available to check out after the meeting to continue the reading fun. No pre-reading is required.

Rather Be Reading Book Club
Wednesdays | 2 pm | Grades 3–5
If you would rather be reading, then join us for this new book club. Titles for the meetings are listed below. Read the title ahead of the meeting date and then we will gather to discuss and enjoy activities based on the book.

Sep 27—Candy Bomber by Michael Tunnell
Oct 25—Harriet the Invincible by Ursula Vernon
Nov 15—El Deafo by Cece Bell

Reverse Book Club
Wednesdays | Oct 4, Nov 1 | 6 pm | Grades 3–5
Register online
You didn’t read the book? No problem! This is a book club in reverse. We will have activities based on a book and read the first chapter together. You have the rest of the month to read the rest of the book. Books will be available for checkout the night of the meeting.

Book Buddies
Tuesdays | Oct 10, Nov 14 | 6 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.

The Joys of Art for Kids: Painting
Fri, Oct 13 | 2 pm
Grades K–5
Register online
Explore different techniques and materials while you create your very own masterpieces.

5th Grade Battle of the Books Kickoff
Thu, Nov 9 | 5:30 pm & 7 pm | 5th Grade
Register for Battle of the Books 2024 and find out more information including how to form teams, who can mentor, new 2024 activities, and more. Our 2024 featured author will also be revealed!

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248–693–3000
Dino Day  
Fri, Nov 10 | 2 pm | Grades K–5  
Celebrate DINovember with this fun interactive program. Activities, experiments, and crafts all centered around our enormously fun friend, the dinosaur.

Trolls Party  
Sat, Nov 18 | 2 pm | Grades K–5  
Trolls has a new movie, so let’s celebrate! Come and enjoy Trolls themed music, crafts, and fun.

Let’s Eat Dirt!  
Sat, Nov 25 | 2 pm | Grades K–5  
Let’s eat dirt in honor of national parfait day. Create your own delicious dirt mix to enjoy. Worms included!

Kindergarten Library Card Party  
Sat, Oct 21 | 2 pm | Grade K  
Designed just for kindergarten students. Come enjoy activities and crafts and learn a little about the resources available to you in the library.

The Library depends on the success of the Friends

Join today and make a difference!

Did you know that you can shop at the Friends bookstore any time you stop in the library? Our “Twice Told Tales” Gently Used Book Store located in the library lobby always has books available! The books have been generously donated and sorted by the Friends.

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Blu-ray / Game</td>
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Did you visit the library’s summer reading program or participate? Perhaps, you attended another program or took advantage of a Take and Make kit!

All of these programs (supplies, prizes!) and much more are generously funded through the Friends of the Library.

Here is a small sampling of Friends-funded items:

- Summer Reading Program—prizes, kickoff party, balloons, the ice cream  
- Memoir Writing  
- Sushi Candy

- Rainbow Art  
- Under the Sea  
- DIY Stickers and Buttons  
- Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes  
- Crochet for Beginners  
- Zen Stone Stacking  
- DIY Baby Sensory Hoop  
- Summer Storywalk  
- Porcelain Nature Pendant Class  
- Lunar New Year Crafts  
- T-shirts for all library staff

- Take and Make program supplies  
- Battle of the Books supplies and prizes

If you want to make a difference in your community, joining the Friends is a perfect place to start! We are always looking for volunteers to help with book sales and we welcome any new members!

Membership is $10 for an individual and $5 for seniors. Check out orionlibrary.org/friends for more info.

Follow us: /Friends of Orion Township Library

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.

FRIENDS OF THE ORION LIBRARY  
Gently Used Book Sale  
Tuesday, September 19  
10 AM–8:30 PM  
Friends of the Library Member Day & Teacher Day  
(Membership available for purchase at the door)  
Open to the Public 4:30–8:30 pm

Wednesday, September 20 & Thursday, September 21  
10 AM–8:30 PM  
Open to the Public

Friday, September 22  
10 AM–4:30 PM  
Open to the Public Half Off Books Day

Saturday, September 23  
9:30 AM–1:30 PM  
Open to the Public  
$5 Bag Day  
(Fill a bag supplied by the Friends for $5)
OTT, or Over-The-Top services, refer to content distribution platforms that deliver audio, video, and other media content over the internet, bypassing traditional cable providers. These services have gained significant popularity in recent years due to their convenience, flexibility, and vast content libraries. You no doubt subscribe to at least one OTT service. Anyone hear of Amazon Prime?

With the expansion of OTT and the accelerated “cord cutting” of cable TV subscribers, community TV is at risk of losing its place in our weekly viewing habits, and directly puts funding for ONTV at risk as well.

**OTT and ONTV**

ONTV has taken steps to provide residents with quick access to our local programming on familiar OTT distribution services ROKU, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV. If you have a smart TV with these resources already loaded, quickly add ONTV’s custom streaming channel to your lineup by searching for “Orion Neighborhood TV”. Just load the ONTV channel and see all of your favorite local programs.

The ONTV channel is free to view and is updated weekly with new programs, government meetings, and community news. The ONTV channel also has 24/7 live streams of our Public, Education, and Government Access show lineups.

**Funding decline**

As mentioned earlier, with cable TV cord cutting comes revenue loss for ONTV. Five percent of all local cable TV profits, are, by law, required to be sent back to our community. These funds are what keep ONTV’s studio up and running. When cable TV subscriptions fall, ONTV’s funding also falls. OTT services currently DO NOT pay the five percent fee cable TV providers do.

US households in 2022 averaged $69 per month on streaming services. (April 3, 2023, Broadbandtvnews.com). This equals $3.45 per month ($41/yr.) in lost revenue for ONTV. If OTT services were to pay the five percent fee cable providers are required to pay, community TV in Lake Orion would be preserved for decades to come.

We want to reassure all of our viewers, underwriters, and advocates, that ONTV intends to be a leader in preserving your access to media resources to express your first amendment rights. While we continue this advocacy, we welcome you to load the ONTV streaming channel on your ROKU, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV devices. Sit back and enjoy Dragon Football, local concerts, and our award winning ONTV news coverage.

If you would like to work with ONTV to preserve community television, give us a call at 248-393-1060 or you can donate directly to ONTV at Orionontv.org. ONTV is a 501c3 charitable organization.

Ian J. Locke
Executive Director, ONTV
Get your career in gear! Be an Intern at ONTV

- Hands-on Training
- Real World Projects
- Build Your Resume Reel

College and recent graduates can apply at OrionONTV.org

Fall 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.

Studio Production Class
ONTV Studio | Sep 11–Oct 9 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR
You will learn about all the crew positions and equipment necessary to produce a program in the studio. During 10-minute mock productions, you will rotate into crew positions such as Director, Audio, Graphics, Camera, Floor Manager, Host, and Guest. The class will plan a final project that will be recorded in Week 5 and air as a real TV program.

Field Production Class
ONTV Studio | Oct 16–Nov 13 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR
You will be introduced to the Canon XA11 professional camcorder and all its accessories, including light, microphones, headphones, and a tripod. Weeks 1 & 2 will focus on news-style shooting and interviews. Weeks 3 & 4 will focus on filmmaking. The final week will cover music videos and other experimental forms of video production.

Non–Linear Editing
ONTV Studio | Nov 20–Dec 4 | Ages 13+ | $55R/NR
You will be introduced to the CS6 version of Adobe Premiere Pro. In Week 1 you will learn about importing video, transitions, audio, titles & graphics, and exporting video. In Week 2 you will learn about advanced editing techniques such as color correction, green key effects, slow/fast motion, keyframing, and other special effects. The final week will include an introduction to Davinci Resolve, which is a sophisticated editing software that is free to download and use.

Fall programming highlights

Sep 8: Dragon Football vs Oxford
Oct 3–11: ONTV Wildwood Film Festival:
  - Oct 3, 7 pm: Short Film Boot Camp
  - Oct 5, 6 pm: Film Challenge Kickoff in Studio
  - Oct 10, 6 pm: Deadline/Judging
  - Oct 11, 7 pm: Wildwood Film Festival
Visit Orionontv.org for more to register your team!

Load the ONTV Channel

ROKU
APPLE TV
Fire TV
Search Orion ONTV!
Enrichment Services

Learning is FUNdamental

When the directors of the Lake Orion Community Schools Community Education department first heard about pickleball in the mid-2010s, their plans shifted into action.

It was a growing sport in Florida so Ben Gerdeman and Lori McGraw, the leadership of the LOCS program, decided to embrace the opportunity and go all in.

They ordered all the gear necessary to stage what would be the hot new game.

“We probably had a group of 10 and then they just faded away,” McGraw recalled.

In the world of community activities and planning, trying to find the most appealing trend is critical to drawing participants.

They were just about a decade ahead of their time.

“Now it’s just blown up, exploded,” said McGraw, now the supervisor of LOCS’ Enrichment Services department.

“Everybody wants to play pickleball.”

Every age participant plays pickleball and the department has done everything possible to lean into the moment for this sport.

They’re limited only by the availability of the gym.

During the school year, the gym was filled five days/nights a week with rabid players bringing equipment and having teams and familiar faces.

It has become so consistent that the regulars know when the others don’t show up or must miss a session.

“They would do it 24/7 if we would let them,” McGraw said with a smile.

Her position as the Enrichment Services Supervisor runs concurrently on two tracks: the community enrichment programs, which run from toddlers to seasoned adults, and the summer camps, which are under that banner, but their own massive operation.

Since she joined the department, the mission has remained focused.

“Our goal was to provide something for everyone,” McGraw said. “From babies to older people.”

Growth Mindset

The Community Education program (as it was called for years) has moved around the district during its extended lifespan.

According to the district’s historical record, the program launched in 1980 by Dr. LeRoy Mabery, with a focus on classes that educated the community, including adult education for high school completion courses and GED opportunities. The initial location was the old Proper School building on Baldwin Road before shifting to the Ehman Center (the original Lake Orion High School that became Elizabeth Street Elementary.)

Orion Township did not have a Parks and Recreation department at that time, so Mabery created those opportunities under the LOCS Community Education Department to serve the community residents as well as the students.
Programming was highlighted on “Super Saturdays.”

For Sally Peterson, who worked the first few years of the Community Education portion and shifted to the recreation programs in 1986, it was an ideal job.

Her role was creating and establishing the programming and promotion that became a staple of the program—the mailed brochure, hiring instructors, planning the extremely popular Daddy/Daughter and Mother/Son dances.

Eventually the summer day camps slid over from child care to Community Education and were branded with the “Camp Wanna Have Fun” name that continues to this day.

Peterson’s impact was immense as she was involved with the program as an employee or director from 1981–2012.

“I loved working there,” she said recently. “It was a fun job.”

The recreation portion of the program took a great leap in 1998, when the new Lake Orion High School opened, freeing many of the rooms in the old high school—the newly rebranded Community Education Resource Center.

“We gained the gym, the wrestling room became the kids dance room,” Peterson said. “The old music/band room we did gymnastics back there.

“I was able to do that because of the facility we were able to go in to.”

Later in her tenure, she saw Lori McGraw at a bank and, knowing her from McGraw’s previous tenure working at LOHS, hired her as the department secretary in 2008.

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**A sampling of classes**

*Register at lakeorion.ce.eleyo.com or call 248–693–5436, ext. 1*

**Preschool**
- Dance
- Mommy and Me Sports
- Miss Margee’s Terrific Toddlers/Family Fun/
- Preschool Pals

**Youth**
- Dance
- Gymnastics
- Babysitting
- Bucket Drumming
- Improv Theatre
- Pokemon
- Self Defense for Girls and Women
- Theatre
- Hip Hop
- Basketball
- Baton
- Cheer
- Football
- Karate

**Day Camps**
- Soccer
- Trail Bike Riding
- Tennis

**Aquatics**
- Parent/Toddler
- Preschool

**Adults**
- Masters Swim Sundays
- Learn to swim
- Lifeguard
- Painting
- Dance—Ballet, Tap, Ballroom, Country Western
- Cookie decorating
- Puppy Training
- Piano
- Voice over
- Self Defense
- Basketball
- Pickleball
- Volleyball

**Health and Fitness**
- Zumba
- Yoga
- Pilates
At that point, there was consistency in programming but little variance. One year rolled into the next with few changes.

When Ben Gerdeman took over after Peterson departed, he and McGraw began searching for new programs and to eliminate the redundancy of multiple programs on the same topic.

Obtaining feedback from participants and trying to implement their suggestions became a key component of the process. The intent was to feature programs that filled a void for them.

The challenge was finding experts to teach those classes.

Fortunately, the department was easy to find.

“Usually people would approach us,” McGraw said. “We would put it in the brochure in a little blurb: ‘Do you have a special talent you would like to share with the community?’”

The combination of word of mouth, referrals and county community education meetings began to fill to quarterly catalog of classes.

LOCS is one of the leaders in sharing ideas with others, but creativity for specific summer camps—the Rata2ee cooking camp and the Little Medic camp—were shared by other districts.

The department’s three–times–a–year catalog features sections for preschool, youth, aquatics, adult, health and fitness and camps, depending on the season.

Sent to every home in the district area, thousands are reached with the various programs that run as early as 9 a.m. and conclude as late at 10 p.m.

The array of classes provide a bevy of opportunities for community residents to stay physically and mentally active.

The adult education component was removed and LOCS stopped offering that as an option so, in 2019, the department’s name was changed to “Enrichment Services” to more accurately reflect the mission.

**Wanna Have Fun?**

While the enrichment programs run all year round and have great engagement with more than 8,000 registrations throughout the year, the summer camps feature about 5–600 campers over the course of the summer and require far more planning.

There are nearly 30 individual weekly specialty camps for kids—ranging from tennis and soccer, volleyball and gymnastics, there’s also theatre and princess/unicorn, cooking, band, art and robotics.

But Camp Wanna Have Fun remains the daily summer destination for 255 elementary students (the camp fills each year) and Camp ExpLOrion for the middle school students.

The elementary camp has grown significantly over the past 10 years, from five groups of students now to nine groups.

“We’ve grown exponentially since then,” said LOHS grad R.J. Key, the camp director this summer. “We’ve kept the same principles having fun and providing the same services to the kids each year.”

They’ve added a dedicated crafts staff member this year and can have a camp that size because of the size of the CERC facility with its multiple open rooms, the large gym and the LOHS pool which is only a short walk from the CERC building.

Having multiple field trips throughout the summer creates some diversity in programming and Key has tried to infuse some creative options.

This past summer they planned to visit Belle Isle and took a riverboat tour, the Oakland County 4–H Fair, roller skating and a Lapeer County waterpark.
The Wanna Have Fun camp has flexibility for families so they can choose any or all 11 weeks or even choose specific days that suit their families' schedules. And, with the advance planning and notice about the varying themes each week—science, art, water and Disney are a few—it allows families to make the best decision for their students.

Coordinating the camp begins in November/December between getting it ready for the community brochure, hiring staff and identifying the spaces and plans.

Other camps in the area have struggled to find staff and some not even run this year because of that challenge.

But the LOCS camps keep rolling along as the staff return year after year.

Key is a great example, having started volunteering in 2014 before he entered high school and continuing every summer (10 years now) as he works to become a teacher.

“They say it’s the best job they’ve ever had,” McGraw said. “Because it’s so fun. We want our camp counselors to get involved. We want them to be big kids and play with the kids. We try to introduce the kids to a lot of different things... If the counselors show that they are enjoying it, the kids follow and end up trying new activities.”

The middle school Camp ExplOrion has a different focus with more mature activities and is camper-driven with choices each day. Yet it still is appealing enough to have return visitors.

There are a lot of outside activities and sports in ExplOrion, allowing them ownership and flexibility.

The attention on the students’ well-being is even reaching beyond the programming this year with a social worker on the staff and additional supports.

**Enriching Experience**

All the operations run from a small staff.

McGraw and assistant Angela Fox oversee the entire department throughout the year from creation of the programs to promotion to execution.

“I always say that Angela’s working in the present and I’m working on the future,” McGraw said.

This year, adding Key as a camp director has allowed McGraw some flexibility for administrative duties but there’s always something happening.

For a program that brings in its own funding to pay for all its expenses, including staff, there is significant achievement.

Plus the bonus of creating opportunities and an outlet for community members all year of all ages.

They’ve evolved with technology, allowing online registration for those who are willing and now can use the LOCS digital flyer program to reach out with individual program opportunities.

“It’s still education, but it’s more enriching your life,” McGraw said.

Year after year, thousands would attest to that.

Sign up for Fall Enrichment programs at lakeorionschools.org/departments/enrichment–services.
Save A Life Station helps protect Orion families from the unfortunate realities of our times

The Orion Township Public Library is continually growing the number of resources available to our community. One of them can be found right outside the main doors!

The library is now home to one of the new 110 Save a Life Stations that are being placed throughout Oakland County. These stations, made available by the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities, contain doses of nasal Narcan, a medication that instantly reverses the effects of an active opioid overdose.

Opioid overdose is a risk

While Orion Township remains one of the safest communities in our state, opioid overdose is a risk to which everyone is vulnerable.

Did you know that an opioid dependence can form after just five days of use? That means that the common medications prescribed for wisdom tooth extractions and sports injuries are substances that we need to take very seriously. In addition, there is now an alarming number of tainted medications and other consumables circulating through the county that contain synthetic opioids such as fentanyl.

Having Narcan on hand can save the life of someone who has been struggling with dependence for years, a person who has been prescribed pain medication by their doctor for the very first time, or a senior family member who accidentally took too much of their medicine. In every scenario, these lives matter, and Narcan can help.

Help is free 24/7

Community members are encouraged to stop by the Save a Life Station to pick up a box of Narcan and other resources such as fentanyl test strips, instructional guides, and Deterra disposal bags. All items are free to the public and are available 24 hours a day. The station will be restocked weekly. It is important to know that the items contained in this box pose no risk to the public. If Narcan happens to be administered to a person who is not in active opioid overdose it is of no danger to them.

Community partners agree that the Save a Life Station is a wonderful way to protect every household from the risk of accidental overdose.

On July 27th, organization leaders came together in support of this effort as the station was placed at the library. Joining the library that day were Orion Township Supervisor Chris Barnett, Treasurer Kim Urbanowski, and representatives from the Sheriff’s Substation, Lake Orion Police Department, Orion Township Fire Department, Lake Orion Community Schools, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce, members of the North Oakland Community Coalition, and many media partners.

If you have further questions about substance prevention and harm reduction efforts in Orion Township, or to see a list of additional prevention products and services offered free of charge to the Orion community, visit noccmi.org.
Do you have great photos of Orion people doing fun Orion things in winter? Submit your best shots to us by October 1 for possible use in our Winter 2023 issue of Orion Living Magazine! You will get a photo credit if we use your image.

Email jbhatti@oriontownship.org for submission guidelines and instructions.
Can you solve this riddle?

In 1894
I was 80 feet long (or more!)
I scared everyone in town,
Except Mrs. Vincent Brown,
She walloped me with her boat’s oar.
Who am I?

Gather your team and solve riddles and puzzles on the road to find mystery destinations all around Orion Township! Team car groups will earn points competing to solve the most clues, find all the destinations, and complete side missions along the way. Prizes will be given out to the teams with the most points. Join in on this community-wide event to get out and about Orion Township in a fun way!

The Orion Community Road Rally
is Saturday, September 30th
starting at 11 am.

Please have Team Captains register their
car groups by Sunday, September 24th
at orionlibrary.org/calendar
or by calling 248-693-3000.
Preschool Classes
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The American Association of Orthodontists Recommends the First Orthodontic Visit by Age 7
Early detection of emerging orthodontic needs is important in the development stage of children. Early orthodontic intervention helps correct your child’s teeth to prevent more serious problems.

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248-625-0880
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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.

Leave it to autumn.
Raking leaves is an unavoidable necessity of autumn in our heavily-wooded township, but two-year-old Jack T. doesn’t mind helping his mom with the task at their Keatington home.