

The Youth Informer

Orange Youth Services is recognized as the central agency for the development, implementation and coordination of programs and services for the youth of the Town of Orange.

Recent Youth Services Activities Highlight Various Programs

Youth Services has provided various program offerings to youth incorporating a variety of activities and events. The programming encompasses areas of tutoring, babysitting, artist colonies, Job Bank, Home Alone classes, an e-Parenting series, the K-6 Children of Orange Library Art Exhibit, as well as an Incoming 7th grade Super Raffle Bingo Spot Shop and orientation event and more. The newsletter highlights some of these activities.



A recent babysitting class with instructor Mickey Reid.

Babysitting Courses Help Students to Learn the Basics of Child Caring

Youth Services holds regular babysitting classes for Orange youth between the ages of 12-14 years. The courses are held during the December and April school vacation periods. Parents need to pre-register their child for the course. The course instruction is provided by Youth Services as well a First Aid certification portion which is provided by Mickey Reid, instructor. There is a minimal cost for the program. The course materials cover a wide range of information how to address the child's needs, safety measures, pre-visits, medical concerns, and emergency first aid techniques.



Artist Colony students shown with art instructor Graham Dale for the Drawing class. Watercolors class was conducted by Audrey Galer.

Artist Colony Classes Teach Students the Finer Points of Art

Two Artist Colony classes are held yearly during students' vacations. One class gives instruction for Watercolors and another for Drawing. The course, which is detailed and works with students collectively as well as on a one-to-one basis, is provided for Middle school students who want to improve their artistic abilities and create a work of art in the process. There is no cost for the classes. All materials, lunch, and professional instruction are provided. Class size is limited to 12 students per class.



The Annual K-6 Children of Orange Art Exhibit Artists Pose For Photo

Annual K-6 Children of Orange Art Exhibit Highlights Case Library Exhibit Room with Fine Art

The Annual Children of Orange K-6 Art Exhibit was held recently at Case Library honoring the art work of Orange youth in each of the Orange Elementary Schools. Students selected by their teachers created a work of art that would hang in the Case Library Exhibit room for a month period. A reception was held and parents and family came to come see the art as well as enjoy a variety of food and refreshments donated by the parents. The exhibit was presented by the Art in the Library Committee, Youth Services, and the Orange Board of Education. Youth Services wishes to sincerely thank Audrey Galer; Lynn McMullen, Superintendent of Schools; Colleen Murray, Director of Curricula and Development; and Orange Elementary teachers Erin Garney, Matt Stevens, and John Kaluzynski.



Pictured with a recent group of Peck Place students, Home Alone instructors included Officer James Kosh and Orange Deputy Fire Marshall James Vincent.

Home Alone Classes Held For Elementary Schools Sixth-Grade Class Students

Youth Services, in conjunction with the Orange Fire Marshall's Office and Orange Police Department, recently held Home Alone courses for 25 sixth-grade students at each of the Elementary schools. The course covered how to handle various Home Alone issues such as fire prevention, safety measures, house security, safekeeping of keys and passwords, visitors, and more.



The Living History Club 's Jim Abate and Lou Raccuia met with Amity High School student Karli Peraza for two sessions of eyewitness history accounts.

Living History Club Teaches Students First-Hand Accounts of Historical Events

The Living History Club utilizes the knowledge and in many instances, first-hand experiences, of senior citizens who lived through or knew acquaintances/family members that may have actually partook of modern historical events and timelines to talk with students in regard actual experiences. Examples of subject matter could encompass the Great Depression and recessions, World War 2, Korea, Vietnam, the rise of computers, what home life was like half century ago, economic times, entertainment and advent of television, world events, what school systems were like, the landscape and environs of Orange and surrounding towns, political elections, songs of the day, latest fashions...The Living History Club would interchange questions and ideas, give personal observations, answer school-related questions as an opportunity for students to speak with those who were at these events.

Youth Services/Anti Defamation League Presented Parenting Programs on Bullying; Bridges on Social Media Concerns

Orange Youth Services and The Anti-Defamation League – offered an e-Parenting session on Bullying at the High Plains Community Center in April. Also, a program on Social Media concerns was provided by Bridges in May. As part of an E-Parenting series funding provided by SDE Enhancement Grant, the program was entitled “*What Do We Want for Our Children*”. There was also a parent question and answer session to allow for personal strategies. The program was filmed by OGAT. Admission was free and snacks and refreshments provided. The programs addressed many concerns including strategies for dealing with bullying, peer bonding, utilizing school personnel for assistance, how to monitor your child’s internet, being a resource and overseer of peer influences. Two more e-Parenting sessions will be provided during the coming year.

Area Residents Need Jobs Help? Youth Services Job Bank Can Assist

The Orange Youth Services Job Bank provides a service of pre-screened students, ages 13-16, who can be employed by area residents to do a large variety of jobs such as yard work, garden help, attics/basements, raking, snow shoveling, small painting, party helper, tutoring, clerical assistance, mother's helper...and more. The program provides area residents with a Job Bank student/parent connection to assist with a successful jobs match. For further information, please call John Ulatowski, Orange Youth Services Coordinator, at 203-891-4785.