

## *Youth Services Newsletter – Spring-Summer 2015*

### **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 Intergenerational Tutoring, babysitting courses, artist colonies courses, Job Bank, Home Alone classes, an e-Parenting series, the K-6 Children of Orange Library Art Exhibit, an interactive Living History Club, as well as an Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade Super Raffle Bingo Spot Shop and orientation event, Youth Advisory additions and more. The newsletter highlights some of these activities.

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Pictured is a recent babysitting class. Instructor was 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. Space is limited.



*Artist Colony students shown with art instructor 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. Classes are held during December and April vacations.

### **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.



*Incoming seventh grade students enjoyed a Super Raffle Bingo and orientation to Youth Services events last year*

### ***Super Raffle Bingo, Pizza Party, and Orientation Event To Be Held For Incoming Seventh Grade Students During Summer Vacation***

Youth Services will again have its *Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Super Gift Card Raffle Bingo, Pizza Party and Orientation* on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:45 pm at the High Plains Community Center's Cafeteria. Students will receive pizza, Bingo prize raffle gift cards, and a Youth Services programs orientation. Parent chaperones welcomed. The event is made possible by a grant .

### **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 economic 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 Dances Offered to Orange 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students**

Youth Services offers Orange 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students dances that provide a safe, socialization opportunity at the High Plains Community Center during various time of the school year. Provided are DJ, food, refreshments and raffle prizes.



*Some K-6 Children of Orange Art Exhibit Artists Pose.*

### **Annual K-6 Children of Orange Art Exhibit Highlights Case Library**

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 hung in the Case Library Exhibit room for April. A reception was held and parents/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 Michael Nast, Superintendent of Schools; Colleen Murray, Director of Curricula and Development; Orange Elementary teachers John Kaluzynski, Jennifer Russo, and Erin Garney; Principals Michael Gray, Eric Carbone, and Denise Arterbery; Meryl Farber and staff.



*Pictured above are the current members of the Youth Services student Advisory Board members (left to right) Lauren Campos, Martin Gnidula, Erin McCormack, Emilie Steinbrick, and Rachel Marcus.*

### **Tutoring for Intergenerational Tutoring Program – One-To-One Learning**

Orange Youth Services and Senior Services have combined to offer Orange students, grades 3-12, tutorial/homework help. Subjects being tutored are the following: Language Arts, Reading/comp., Writing skills, Math, and History. The group meets every Thursday from 3 to 5 pm at the Case Memorial Library. Tutoring time choices are in two sessions: 3:30 to 4:15 pm & 4:15 to 5:00 pm. Tutors work one-to-one with their students. There is presently a waiting list. The program has been very successful in providing an atmosphere of learning and has, in many cases, raised the grade levels of students.

### **Home Alone Classes Held For Elementary Schools Sixth-Grade 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. Instructors were James Vincent, Deputy Fire Marshall and Michael Kosh, Orange Police DARE Officer.

### **Youth Services Volunteer Program Assists High School Students**

Youth Services has assisted many Orange High School Students with opportunities to accumulate their quota of High School volunteering hours. Students have had opportunities through dances, summer prize raffle bingo/orientation, local Town events and more to participate with assisting the Town and organizations who may have specific needs for volunteer assistance.

*(Information on the above listed programs can be obtained by contacting John Ulatowski, Youth Services Coordinator, at [julatowski@orange-ct.gov](mailto:julatowski@orange-ct.gov) or phone at 203-891-4785 Monday- Friday.)*

