

december 2023

what's

vibrant

orange city, iowa



sinterklaas dag

Children aged pre-kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to be at Stadscentrum at 10:30 AM on Saturday, December 2. Follow Sinterklaas and Piet in a parade to the city hall where they will learn the history of Sinterklaas through a puppet show and many carnival games. The activities will conclude at 11:45 AM with singing a song to Sinterklaas and receiving a Dutch chocolate treat.

For more information, go to:

www.dutchheritageboosters.com or www.facebook.com/dutchheritageboosters

books at the museum returns in january

In January, the Dutch American Heritage Museum will resume its winter series, Books at the Museum, led by Drs. Keith Fynaardt and James Schaap. This three-month program focuses on different regional authors. Books at the Museum meets at the DAHM from 7-8:30 p.m. discussing the following books on the listed evenings.

Tuesday, January 30 | Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm during the Great Depression by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

In 2007 The New York Times Book Review called Little Heathens “one of the ten best books of the year,” and with good reason: readers loved it. It’s a depression-era saga that doesn’t turn away from the darkness, but triumphs in the bright light of childhood innocence on an old farm in Iowa.

Tuesday, February 27 | My ‘Antonia by Willa Cather

Cather, Nebraska’s premiere novelist, went to New York to discover the treasure of her childhood in small-town farm country. My ‘Antonia is a bold and beloved tribute to a daughter of hard times, who grows through the problems she encounters to become a lively, loving human being.

Tuesday, March 26 | Country People by Ruth Suckow

Ruth Suckow spent her childhood in Hawarden and Le Mars, then grew up to become one of America’s favorite novelists in the mid-20th century. Country People is her very first novel, a study of generations of an immigrant German family, from the homestead to town to city.

Registration is \$50 and is due by January 15. Please complete the registration form at: <https://tinyurl.com/598n98a8>, or scan the QR code:

For questions, please contact DAHM at:

dutchamericanheritagemuseum@gmail.com

the city offices are closed december 25 & january 1

For OC utility emergencies, please call **707-5000**.



winter fun on ice

Winter fun right here in Orange City: grab your friends and lace up your skates!

The City is happy to offer a chance to enjoy movement and community this winter at our local ice rink.

Vets Park will transform a 100-foot area into a frosty playground where residents can enjoy skating and hockey! To ensure your comfort, we’ve provided an on-site warming shed where you can take a break from the brisk chill.

This will be available from late December through February and is free to use.

holiday crafting workshop

The Orange City Public Library is hosting a variety of Holiday Crafting Workshops:

K-2nd Grade: (Adult Helper Required)
Monday, November 27 or December 11, 3:45-4:45 pm

3rd-4th Grade: Monday, December 4 or 18, 3:45-4:45 pm

5th-12th Grade: Thursday, December 7, 3:45-4:45 pm

These events will take the place of our previous Festive Family Fun one day event.

Registration is required! Register at: orangecitylibrary.org







look local first

The Orange City Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with many in the local business community, has announced it will promote local shopping this holiday season with their Look local first - Orange City program.



Our community continues to grow. We need you to do your part to help us continue to thrive. Orange City is filled with local small businesses that are run by our neighbors and friends. Our local entrepreneurs are following their passion, enriching your community, and are the lifeblood of a sustainable local economy. When you support their businesses, you enjoy the benefits of a local face, a personal experience, and friendly smile.

Looking local first has many benefits:

-  *KEEPING DOLLARS IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY - locally owned businesses recycle a much larger share of their revenue back into the local economy, enriching the whole community.*
-  *COMMUNITY WELL-BEING - locally owned businesses build strong communities by sustaining vibrant town centers, linking neighbors in a web of economic and social relationships, and contributing to local causes.*
-  *ENTREPRENEURSHIP - Entrepreneurship fuels America's economic innovation and prosperity, and serves as a key means for families to move out of low-wage jobs and into the middle class.*
-  *PRODUCT DIVERSITY - A multitude of small businesses, each selecting products based not on a national sales plan, but on their own interests and the needs of their local customers, guarantees a much broader range of product choices.*

We have an opportunity to support these business owners that we continuously ask for donations to support our children’s causes, church group trips, and general fundraising campaigns. We must be even more aware and diligent to support those closest to us in any way we can. These small business owners need us now more than ever! If we do not support them, we will lose them.

The Orange City Chamber is encouraging a mindset of thinking locally first. We challenge you to look locally first for your next purchase, any purchase, and if you don't see it offered somewhere, ask a local small business owner if they can get the item you are looking for...chances are they can and would be happy to help you!

keep your sidewalks clear

Orange City property owners are encouraged to keep their walkways cleared this winter, especially when you are out of town. When removing snow, never push or blow snow from the property, sidewalk, or driveway into the street.

Property owners are responsible for keeping their public sidewalks clear of snow and ice within 10 hours of accumulation. The City inspects uncleared sidewalks on a complaint basis, and if sidewalks remain uncleared upon inspection, the City will clear the snow and ice at the owner’s expense.

To report an uncleared sidewalk, please contact City Hall at 707-4885 and provide the address of the property.



youth basketball skills sign-up begins december 8

Program consists of six weekly sessions. The first three sessions teach basic skills and some fun games. The final three sessions introduce the game of “4-on-4” for the 1st and 2nd grade girls & boys, and “5 on 5” for the 3rd and 4th grade girls & boys.

- Programs start the week of January 8 and end the week of February 12.
- All sessions will take place at City Hall Gym.
- Fee: \$30 per participant. \$35 after Monday, January 8.
- Register online at: [orangecityiowa.com/details/youth-basketball-skills/](https://www.orangecityiowa.com/details/youth-basketball-skills/)
- for more information you can contact Noah at 707-4885 or prdir@orangecityiowa.com
- Weather cancellations will be communicated through email.

share your story

Have you moved to Orange City in the past few years? We would love to hear why you chose our vibrant community to call home! Use the QR code or follow the link to share your story!

[vibrant.orangecityiowa.com/you/why-orange-city](https://www.vibrant.orangecityiowa.com/you/why-orange-city)



seasonal parking

Be advised! From Oct. 15 - April 1, the City of Orange City does not permit on-street parking between 2:00 am – 6:00 am.

