UA INSIGHT

MARCH | APRIL 2021

The Community Center Question:

Your Vote Counts on or Before May 4!



BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON, UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS & UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

City of Upper Arlington
CityINSIGHT
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The Community Center Question: Your Vote Counts on or Before May 4!

Over the years, the City has considered the community center issue on several occasions. Residents desire for such a facility resurfaced through the 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan study process, with 81% of residents in a survey supporting a feasibility study for a multi-generational indoor recreation facility. In response, City Council formed the Community Center Feasibility Task Force in the summer of 2019 to lead a study on the issue.

An extensive 18-month study process ensued that focused on community engagement, transparency and financial analysis. On December 16, 2020, the Task Force shared its findings and recommendations with City Council, with its final report following early in January.

In response to the Task Force's conclusion that it is feasible for the City to construct, operate and maintain a community center, on January 19 Council approved legislation to bring the proposed Upper Arlington Community Center issue to a vote of the people on May 4, 2021, and to authorize various funding mechanisms that will enable the City to construct a community center without any increase in City income or property taxes.

The Task Force Recommendations

The Task Force recommendations include:

- It is feasible for the City to construct, operate and maintain a community center.
- The facility should include program space for seniors and replace the current Senior Center.
- It should be more than a recreational facility, serving as a central gathering place for the whole community.
- The former Macy's site at Kingsdale is the preferred location.
- The construction cost of approximately $54 million can be funded without an increase in taxes by using a combination of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds, excess City reserves, office lease revenues, hotel/motel taxes and private donations.
- A business model should be pursued based on competitive market rate memberships and usage fees, with a goal of achieving a minimum cost recovery level of 85%.
- Membership and usage fees should be tiered, with options to accommodate senior residents and the operating budget should include a scholarship fund to assist residents facing financial barriers to participation.
- Existing Senior Center and Recreation program funds should be redirected to support the community center.
- The community center business model should include significant annual contributions to a fund for future capital expenditures, such as maintenance and equipment replacement.

About the Proposed Community Center

The Facilities

The building program developed through the Task Force process proposes

a seven-story building. Floors 1-5 would be dedicated to the community center programming, floors 6 & 7 would be set aside for professional office use.

While the final programming would be determined with the project design process, in general the community center facilities would include:

- **Level 1** - entry/lobby, indoor pool, multi-purpose event/party space, locker rooms
- **Level 2** - fitness/exercise spaces
- **Level 3** - 3 gymnasiums (1 multi-purpose), adventure play, teen space, child watch
- **Level 4** - Walking/running track overlooking gymnasiums
- **Level 5** - Senior program, shared classrooms, event hall/meeting space, outdoor multi-purpose terrace

Construction Financials

The budgeted construction cost of $54 million includes 23% for contingencies and inflation. This cost would be covered using:

- $40 million long-term debt
- $5.4 million in private funds raised through the Upper Arlington Community Foundation
- $8.8-$9 million in City reserves

The debt service for this investment would be approximately $2.3 million per year. This would be repaid using:

- $1.59 million in annual TIF revenues generated by the Kingsdale development
- $500,000 annual hotel/motel revenues from the hotels on Lane Avenue
- The remaining $210,000 would be covered by rent and income tax revenues generated by the office spaces on floors 6 & 7

The Office Space

The two floors of rentable office space would total approximately 50,000-60,000 square feet. After issuing a request for proposals concentrated on health care providers, the City has identified a preferred partner to lease at least half of this space and to augment services within the community center. Negotiations are in process to finalize terms and prepare a formal agreement with this entity.

Any remaining leasable space will be highly marketable, since the Kingsdale site is surrounded by amenities, including direct access to the community center.

Operations Financials

The community center business model has been developed based on patronage and pricing structures for comparable facilities in other communities. Some of the keys to success include:

- A focus on spaces that can be used for multiple purposes
- Incorporating senior programming as part of a larger community facility
- Achieving staffing and operations efficiencies by bringing programs within one location
- Providing a combination of memberships, drop-in fees, programming and facility rentals.

A Base-case pro-forma model projects full cost recovery, based on the proposed programming, a 3% market capture for memberships and 70% program capacity. Under this model, the current $530,000 subsidy that supports Parks & Recreation programming would no longer be needed.

A Stress Test pro-forma projects a cost recovery model of approximately 75%. This exercise was undertaken to account for potential down years (recession, pandemic, etc.) and assumes reductions of 33% in memberships, 50% reduction in daily admission fees, a 20% reduction in program capacity and @ 50% reduction in rentals. Under this model, the subsidy necessary to support operations would increase the current subsidy by approximately $250,000.

May 4 Ballot Language

Should the City of Upper Arlington build a new community center on the site of the old Lazarus/Macy's store at Kingsdale Shopping Center, using various City revenue streams but in no case from an increase in City income or property tax, as authorized by legislation of City Council, including Ordinance No. 1-2021, Ordinance No. 2-2021, and Ordinance No. 3-2021?

***YES,** the City should build the community center*
***NO,** the City should not build the community center*

YES Or NO?

Below is a summary of what a YES vote or a NO vote would mean for this issue and the community.

- **YES -** A community center at Kingsdale funded with existing revenue streams and revenue generated by Continental Real Estate's Kingsdale project. UA Schools receive the current Senior Center site, are guaranteed their current $123,000 annual revenue from the Macy's site, plus $50,000 per year and the value of any additional millage added in subsequent school levies,
- **NO -** The Macy's site will be fully redeveloped by Continental. The community center will likely be replaced by a nine-story building that includes seven stories of multi-family housing. UA Schools receive an additional $30-$40 per average UA home ($400,000) annually.

We encourage you to become informed on this important community issue, so that when you complete your absentee ballot or head to the voting booth on May 4, your questions have been answered in full. Visit ***upperarlingtonoh.gov*** for details, watch for more information from the City in the coming weeks, and be sure to let us know if you need more information, by emailing us at ***city.manager@uaoh.net***.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Steve Schoeny



As we put the last 12 months behind us, it is time to start thinking about the future. Despite all that has happened, we are strong financially, and we have some big opportunities in front of us.

Our Financial Outlook

When we entered the pandemic, the City's finances were high on our list of worries. We slowed spending, canceled programs that could not function under health guidelines and adjusted just about everything else.

I am pleased to report that thanks to some luck, a good long-term development strategy and wise financial stewardship, the City actually improved its financial position in 2020. On February 8, Finance Director Brent Lewis shared year-end highlights with City Council. Not surprisingly, some operating revenues were lower than originally projected – such as fees for Parks & Recreation programming. However, this was more than made up by an increase in income tax revenues, which came in over 3% higher than projections, and property tax revenues, which were more than 1.5% higher than projected.

In normal years, we typically spend below our budgeted obligations in the 1-2% range. As we entered into the strange and uncertain pandemic landscape last spring, we made a conscious effort to tighten our belts and carefully consider the merits of budgeted expenditures before proceeding with projects. Our conservative approach for the year, combined with our ability to put more than $3.5 million in Coronavirus Relief monies to good use, resulted in cumulative savings of $6.8 million, or 17% of our operating budget.

This translates to the City having one of the healthiest General Fund balances in its history, with our unrestricted fund balance - monies over and above our 30% operating reserve, or "rainy day fund" – increasing by more than $7 million to $12.5 million.

Business is Booming

Despite the pandemic – or perhaps because of it – our Community Development Department recorded its second highest year for construction value taking place in our community.

Over 3,500 permits were issued, with a total value of $128 million. Of this, more than $80 million was for residential work - home renovations, additions and some new homes. Clearly, spending more time at home has prompted many people to think about making their living spaces more modern and inviting.

Looking ahead to this year, while I don't think we'll quite see the record breaking level of investment that occurred in 2019 - which topped $407 million thanks to the School projects and Lane II mixed-used development – it's going to be high, as two notable commercial projects begin.

After several years of planning, site preparation for the Arlington Gateway redevelopment project has begun. Valued at more than $100 million, it will include a mix of office, retail/restaurant space, apartments and structured parking. Much of the project site was annexed into UA in 2005 to expand the City's commercial tax base, and in readiness for redevelopment.

Due to its location in the vibrant Lane Avenue commercial district and with direct access to OSU's West Campus and SR 315, we anticipate the 139,000 square feet of office space will be filled with high quality, mid-to-large-office uses. Current revenue projections indicate that the City will benefit by approximately $500,000 per year in new income taxes as a result.

Redevelopment of the majority of the former Macy's site at Kingsdale is on track to begin within the next few months, with Continental Real Estate expected to bring its Final Development Plan for the first phase of its project to the Board of Zoning and Planning in March. Valued at more than $60 million for the senior housing and apartment buildings, the vote in May will decide whether Continental goes forward with their third phase, a nine-story building with two stories of office and seven stories of housing, or the City builds a new community center.

Ready for What's Next

We are doing a series of mailings and other events to educate our voters prior to the May 4 election. You should look for information in your mailbox early March. We are also working to schedule more group information sessions. With continued pandemic gathering restrictions, we are still figuring out the most effective way to do that.

We will be making heavy use of our Facebook and Twitter accounts to share information, and we will have a schedule of events at ***upperarlingtonoh.gov.***

If you have questions or if you have a group that you would like for me or one of my team to talk with, please email me, at ***city.manager@uaoh.net***. And, when I say a "group," it doesn't have to be a formal group. If you and eight or nine friends want to do a Zoom meeting, we will work with you to figure it out.

This is an incredibly complex project, and if you have questions, I want to make sure that we have an opportunity to answer them with you so that you can make an informed decision when you cast your ballot by mail or on May 4.

Recycling Expanded to Include More Plastic Containers

Public Works Division **614-583-5350**



We are pleased to report that the Rumpke Recycling facility has recently expanded its program to include a wide variety of plastic tubs such as:

- Butter, cottage cheese and sour cream tubs
- Fruit, pudding and applesauce cups
- All yogurt containers

These items should be rinsed clean before being put in your recycling cart. Lids and labels can be left on but the foil tops that sometimes come on yogurt containers should be removed. Items that remain on the 'no-no' list include disposable plastic cups, as well as plastic take-out containers and clamshells (like those used for fruit & berries). Visit ***www.rumpke.com*** for a full list of accepted items and tips on how to recycle items properly.

Food Waste Composting Program Expanded

Public Works Division **614-583-5350**

The City's food waste composting program now features three locations, making it more convenient for residents to join in our efforts to divert food scraps from the landfill and put them to good use as compost. Just collect your food scraps in a lidded container of your choice, then bring it to one of the drop-off locations, where you will find clearly marked, lime-green containers:

- **Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road** – at the south end of the building by the Police entrance
- **Amelita Mirolo Barn, 4395 Carriage Lane** – next to the front plaza and building entrance
- **Fancyburg Park, 3375 Kioka Avenue** – in the parking lot off Kioka Avenue

Program Rules:

- Food waste ONLY
- DO NOT use plastic bags! BPI Certified compostable liners ONLY
- Please DO NOT overfill the containers
- Close the lids on the green bins when finished

UA Part of SWACO Study on Food Waste Diversion Activities

www.savemorethanfood.org

Did you know that nearly one million pounds of food is sent to the landfill every single day by residents and businesses in central Ohio? When food goes to waste, so does the time, money, and resources that went into producing and distributing it, not to mention the opportunities we miss to help those in need in our community. By working together, we can make changes that improve our community and stop valuable resources from going to waste.

Researchers at The Ohio State University are working with the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) and the City of UA to test the effectiveness of various food waste diversion education materials and activities. These outreach materials share tools, tips, tricks and opportunities to connect with local resources to reduce food waste at home, saving money, resources, and meals for hungry neighbors. This study is focused on documenting behaviors related to food waste and learning how central Ohioans can best conserve resources, meals, and money by reducing food waste. Insights from this study in UA will inform future food waste reduction outreach efforts across the region and beyond.

City of Upper Arlington SWACO FROM WASTE TO RESOURCES THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Can You Help?

Would you be willing to tell us a little about the food that gets discarded in your home during a typical week by monitoring it and responding to two short surveys?

The study involves an initial five-minute survey with instructions on how to monitor the types and quantities of food being discarded in your home over the following week. At the end of the week, you'll receive a follow up 15-minute survey to report the food discarded. Respondents must be 18 years or older and should be responsible for at least half of the food preparation duties taking place in your home. All data and information about your household will be kept private.

To get started, using the camera feature on your smart phone, scan the QR code or type ***'go.osu.edu/UAFood'*** into your Internet browser on your phone or computer.

Park Projects

Oxford Park Playground Replacement



Oxford Park will be receiving a new playground in 2021. Starting in March, the design process will seek initial input from park neighbors through surveys for both adults and children to identify general themes. Feedback will be used by the selected playground vendor to develop three design options to be shared with the community via a second round of engagement activities. Once a preferred design is finalized, removal of the existing equipment is expected to begin in July, with installation of the new playground complete by late fall. Watch for updates and how to participate in upcoming e-newsletters and on the City's social media platforms.

Park Naturalized Areas Management Plan



The City's Parks & Forestry Division is in the midst of developing a management plan for the naturalized areas within our parks. These areas include woodlands, wetlands and prairielands.

Resident feedback obtained for the 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan indicated a desire for more natural park trails and nature education programs. In response, the division is working to improve and expand naturalized areas across the park system.

Two notable projects are in process this spring, with more on the horizon:

- **Miller Park** - with help from Friends of Upper Arlington Parks, the naturalized park area at Miller has been cleared of invasive plants, in preparation for a substantial planting of native trees and shrubs. The area will also have new amenities added, including benches and nature play components built from salvaged timber.
- **Burbank Park** - as a once-thriving stand of Ash trees died off as a result of the Emerald Ash Borer, the area between Stonehaven and the Burbank parking lot has become overgrown with invasives. This dense growth will be cleared and converted to a combination of turf and pollinator habitat, with a mulched footpath.

Details of the management plan are featured as a special projects page on the Parks & Recreation section of our website. In addition to featuring upcoming improvements on this page, ***Ready for a Change?*** signs will be posted at the parks as a heads up to residents before any work begins.

UA History Trail

uahistorytrail.com

The recently completed Veterans Plaza upgrades at Mallway Park represent one of the first locations in UA to be marked with a UA History Trail bronze marker. The second is a replacement educational marker that accompanies a refurbished Ohio Historical Marker at the grave site of Bill Moose in Wyandot Park.

The idea was conceived several years ago by the Centennial planning committee. Today, the UA History Trail program has been made possible with Council support and in partnership with the Upper Arlington Historical Society.



The History Trail's smartphone-friendly website includes complementary information about the historically significant signs that can be found across our community. In the coming months, as the program expands and bronze markers are installed, these sites will be added to the History Trail interactive map and afforded their own resource page.

Once the program has expanded to incorporate existing sites, a longer-term goal is to begin seeking nominations from the community for prospective new sites, similar to the Wall of Honor Program that today features tributes to more than 30 notable past UA residents.

Land Acquisition at Fancyburg Park

In late November of 2020, City Council authorized the purchase of a private residence nestled in the southeast corner of Fancyburg Park. This property was the last remaining site within the Fancyburg Park block to be privately owned.

Thanks to the cooperation of the home's former owner, Anne Evelyn Handley, the City was able to purchase the property at a reduced price in order to be able to expand the park. As part of this agreement, as plans for renovating this quadrant of the park get underway, they will include naming a future shelterhouse at the park after Mrs. Handley's

FROM CHAMBERS | *Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions*

City Powered by Renewable Energy

One of the priorities identified by City Council in the 2021-22 budget, is for the City to embrace environmentally- and sustainability-appropriate practices, with a goal of achieving zero-waste, zero-pollution and zero-emissions by 2030.

A significant step toward that goal was realized at the start of this year, when the City signed a three-year contract with Constellation Energy, a subsidiary of Exelon Corp., to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to match 100% of its energy supply. Under this contract, 100% of the City's annual electricity supply will be sourced from various wind energy facilities across the country, helping to support the operation and development of facilities that generate clean, renewable energy.



2021 CITY COUNCIL (from left): President Brendan King, John Kulewicz, Vice President Kip Greenhill, Michele Hoyle, Michaela Burriss, Jim Lynch, Brian Close

Due to favorable electric rates, the City will save approximately $5,000 per year throughout the life of the contract, with plans to use these excess funds to further sustainability goals and education in our community.

"Utilizing 100 percent renewable energy for our organization is vitally important for our environment and our community," said City Manager Steve Schoeny. "It continues our goal of being a regional leader in sustainability, and it will result in cleaner air, support energy security and will even help us attract new businesses and residents."

Upper Arlington is a platinum-rated member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's sustainable2050 program, which seeks to advance sustainability efforts in the region.



At the start of the first Council Meeting for 2021, Brendan King was sworn into office for a one-year term as President of Council, with Kip Greenhill sworn in as Vice President.



One of many memorable floats built in front of the Handley property for the River Ridge neighborhood.

late husband – Carlyle Handley. Mr. Handley was a much beloved member of the River Ridge neighborhood. A local football coach and Cub Scout volunteer, he was perhaps best known for inviting his neighbors over each year to help build their annual Fourth of July Parade float entry. Mr. Handley's winning efforts for his neighborhood became the stuff of legend, and he was honored by UACA as its Grand Marshal in the 2005 parade.

Park improvement plans are still several years out but will focus on the area that includes the old shuffleboard courts, shelter, playground and the newly purchased property.

Northam Park Drainage Plan & Phase I Improvements

A key component identified in the 2020 Northam Park Schematic Design Study was the need to improve drainage. This study will develop a master drainage plan for the overall park, and detailed design for Phase I of improvements, which are scheduled to be bid by the end of the year. Addressing the drainage issues will allow the Parks & Recreation Department to complete the Northam Park Vision Plan with phasing and budgeting details. It is hoped that both the drainage plan and completed vision plan will be shared with the community by early summer.

Thompson & Fancyburg Parks Tennis Update

The tennis courts at Fancyburg and Thompson parks will be used by the UA Schools for practice this spring, while their courts are temporarily out of service. **Typical hours:** M-F, 3:30-5 pm, from mid-march through mid-May. The courts will be available for public use during this timeframe on a limited basis (away matches), with availability posted on the City's website.

Police Safety Updates



In early February, Police Chief Steve Farmer and several of his colleagues held a Zoom meeting to discuss some safety concerns and share tips with residents, following several incidents in the community that involved firearms. With more than 200 residents tuning in, the presentation was also recorded and can be found on the City's YouTube channel or the Police webpage.

Watch for additional video safety presentations in the coming months that go into greater detail on specific safety topics.

Citizen Camera Partnership

The increase of home security video devices has helped the Police Division identify and prosecute several incidents. Recognizing the value of these technologies in preventing and solving criminal activity, the division has launched the Citizen Camera Partnership, an opt-in program designed to build a database of properties with video cameras.

By registering, residents and businesses are simply letting UA Police know that cameras are in use on their property, with Police only requesting access to video footage following a crime or other notable safety incident in the immediate area. The database is secure, with registered participants' information kept private and confidential.

Visit the Police section of the City's website for additional details and to register.

Virtual 2021 State of the City Address & 2020 Community Awards

The impacts of COVID-19 have reached into every aspect of our daily lives, and plans for our annual State of the City Address were no exception. Recognizing that this was not a time for gathering as a community, we put together a video that captures highlights and accomplishments from the past year. It can be found under the City Manager's Office page of our website - enjoy!

In true UA fashion, many individuals and groups helped their fellow community members during a challenging time. We are proud to share details of our 2020 Community Award recipients:

Business – Front Runner, W. Lane Ave.
Front runner was recognized for helping many residents enjoy the limited number of safe recreational activities available in a crazy year. Their crew hosted safe gatherings and held a shoe giveaway in support of local health care workers.

Community Enrichment – Veterans Committee & Upper Arlington Historical Society
The committee worked closely with the City to develop plans for recognizing Veterans, and was instrumental in securing a $200,000 grant from the State of Ohio, and completing fundraising months ahead of schedule. With help from the UA Historical Society a series of interpretative panels were developed, sharing stories of service of several Upper Arlington Veterans.
Congratulations to our other nominees: Nancy Weir; Nathan Swords; Bishop Lord & Libby Hall; Upper Arlington Civic Association Directors; Community Center Feasibility Task Force; Tom Collins & Mike Haddow / Northam Park Tennis; UA Caravan – Paula Koontz Gilmour

Community Safety – Gina Rancitelli
Gina transitioned from a role as Tremont's Health Aide to the COVID-19 Lead



Nurse for the UA School District, serving as the single point of contact for the administration, medical advisory council, the school nurse team, and families. This is an overwhelming task for one individual and Gina handles it with professionalism and grace, fielding calls and emails seven days a week, typically 14+ hours a day. She works tirelessly keeping parents, staff and administrators informed about the most up-to-date COVID-19 protocols.
Congratulations to our other nominees: UA COIVD-19 Senior Outreach; Shannon Guy & Nancy Schwartz

Youth – Markel Davis
A senior at UAHS, Markel is one the most service-minded, action-oriented individuals. Last spring, he started serving lunch for various police departments because restaurants were refusing to serve them, raising the funds to pay for the food as well as doing the onsite cooking. In the summer, he planned and executed a candlelight vigil for fallen police officers in Greater Columbus. In October, on hearing the Columbus FOP had lost their annual Shop with a Cop sponsor, he committed to raising funds to support this event. In mid-December, 100 Columbus City Schools children were able to go holiday shopping with a police officer. Not only did Markel raise $10,000 so 100 kids could shop, he got IHOP to donate breakfast and Coughlin Cars of London to help transport the children.
Congratulations to our other nominees: Sarah Renner; Art Take Over – Led by Natalie Harrison; Connor and Kasey Kreps; Inaya Hussain

CITY STREETS

The 2021 road construction season will be another busy one, as our Engineering Division oversees efforts to reduce a backlog of necessary work as part of year eight of the City's, first 10-year Capital Improvement Program. Read on for a summary of this year's projects.

Northwest Blvd Storm Drainage

Estimated cost $2.84M

Stormwater improvements between Barrington & North Star.

McCoy Road Phase I

Estimated cost $2.4M

Between Woodbridge & Kenny, project includes pedestrian safety improvements on north side of the street, including curb bumpouts, dedicated parking for Thompson Park & replacement of the sidewalk along the park with an 8' shared-use path. Street resurfacing, and spot curb/gutter repairs are also included. This project also includes a waterline replacement between Kenny & Mountview, and between Oxford & Clairmont.

Street Reconstruction

Estimated cost $1.9M

Complete roadway reconstruction, replacement of all curb/gutter, driveway improvements and ancillary improvements as necessary, such as storm sewer enhancements:

- Chester Road - between Wilshire & Northam
- Guilford Road - between Coventry & Northwest
- Northwest Blvd - between Elmwood & Barrington
- Somerford Road - between Zollinger & Ridgecliff
- Vassar Place - between Northam & Harlton

Street Maintenance

Estimated cost $986,000

Road resurfacing and spot curb/gutter repairs are scheduled for sections of the following streets:

- Bayford Court
- Beecham Court
- Bristol Road
- Burbank Court
- Chevy Chase Avenue
- Clairmont Road
- Grenoble Road
- Lear Road
- London Drive
- Longeaton Drive
- Mackenzie Drive
- Mountview Road
- North Devon Road
- North Parkway Drive
- Oxford Alley
- Waltham Road

Brandon Road Improvements

Estimated cost $700,000

Road widening, new perpendicular parking on east side of road, expansion of existing sidewalk to 8'.

Sustainable Sewer Solutions

Estimated cost $1.2M

Rehabilitation of sanitary sewers in the area bounded by Johnston Road, Bickley Place, Anson Street/Donna Drive, and Surrey Hill Place.

Sidewalk Maintenance Program

Repair work in the area bounded by Zollinger Road, Tremont Road, Lane Avenue/Northwest Bldv, and North Star Road. Property owners receive notice of necessary repairs for which they are responsible unless damage is from the roots of City-owned trees or utility manholes. Residents may choose to make repairs directly or as part of the City's contract, which can realize cost savings.

Full project details - including an interactive GIS Story Map can be found under the ***Construction Updates*** page, at **upperarlingtonoh.gov**. As construction season gets underway, we also share project updates via our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Older Adult Assessment

UPPER ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON AGING

The Upper Arlington Commission on Aging is conducting an Older Adult Community Assessment and Report, and is seeking participation from UA residents aged 65 & older.

The assessment includes a random-sample mailed survey as well as other opportunities to participate in discussions or focus groups. Residents selected to participate in the survey will receive a mailed package from The Commission and ETC Institute at the end of February/beginning of March. The survey can be completed on paper or online.

Assessment results will directly inform the Commission in its efforts to facilitate improvements for housing, transportation, social participation, and more. Feedback on a number of topics will help the Commission better understand how to work with residents and other entities to help make our community an even better place to age.

Questions? Concerns? Ideas? Call the Commission, at 614-583-5326.

CityINSIGHT
BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

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NewsBITES

CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Public Meetings

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE 614-583-5030

A full list of public meetings can be found on our **Events** calendar, at upperarlingtonoh.gov. Highlights of upcoming Council agendas are shared on Facebook, with meetings live-streamed. Follow @CityofUA for updates!

City e-News

Get timely service news and special project updates from the City by e-mail:

- ***City Insight*** - weekly e-news on City services, special projects & events
- ***Activity Link*** - monthly programming updates from Parks & Recreation
- ***Arts Link*** - monthly art updates
- ***Sentinel*** - monthly program updates from the Senior Center

Visit the **Connect** section of our website, at upperarlingtonoh.gov, to register.

Summer Seasonal Staff

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300
agency.governmentjobs.com/uaoh/

UA Parks & Recreation is seeking the many seasonal employees needed for a successful summer of youth camps, days at the pool, tennis programs & more! Opportunities exist for teens, college students & teachers looking to fill their summers with rewarding experiences, plus adults & recent retirees looking to support their community. Positions include:

- Pools management, office support, lifeguards
- Summer camp directors & leaders
- Parks maintenance
- Tennis support positions
- Rental facility support positions

Applications are available at governmentjobs.com/careers/uaoh.

Spring/Summer Activity Guide

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300



The Spring/Summer Activity Guide is your guide to the events, programs and recreational opportunities offered by the Parks & Recreation Department. Watch for your copy of the guide in the mail in early March, or view the online version at parks.uaoh.net. Registration begins March 10.

Summer Day Camp Update

June 7-August 13
PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300

After successfully offering a modified version of summer camp in 2020, UA Parks & Recreation is readying its plans for this coming summer. With the COVID-19 vaccine now being administered staff anticipates changes to the state's operating guidelines for camps and other activities. As a result, the department is waiting to finalize camp details. The best way to stay informed on this and other programming is to register for the department's Activity Link e-newsletter or watch for updates on social media.

2021 Pool Operations & Swim Lessons

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300

UA Parks & Recreation's goal is to open all three outdoor pools this summer. A decision will be made in April on the operating structure and hours, based on where things stand with the pandemic - this could entail the use of a reservation/time block approach similar to last year or return to the traditional full-day structure. Either way, it will be possible to purchase season passes this year. For timely updates, make sure you are registered to receive the department's Activity Link e-newsletter or follow the department on social media.

2020 Income Tax Filings

Deadline: Thursday, April 15
ritaohio.com/Individuals/Home/File

In UA, all residents aged 18 years and over must file an annual income tax return with the City, regardless of whether any tax is due. The City uses the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) for the processing of UA income taxes. RITA's MyAccount platform allows taxpayers to electronically file their taxes, update their accounts, send and receive secure messages, make payments and more, at www.ritaohio.com. RITA will NOT be offering any in-person assistance this tax season and they encourage the use of online filing and payments as much as possible.

The City's Finance Department will accept information and documents. They can be mailed or placed in the City's dropbox in the Kenny Road parking lot of the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide
www.aarp.org

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides virtual and in-person tax assistance free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over the age of 50 or have low-to-moderate income. For additional details and to use the Tax-Aide locator, visit aarp.org and type Tax-Aide into the search bar.

Building Permit Reminder

DEVELOPMENT 614-583-5070

If you have plans to remodel part of your home, our Community Development Department can help with an important first step: checking to see if your project requires a permit. The permitting and inspection process allows our staff to ensure that new and remodeled buildings meet State and City minimum building codes and standards. This not only ensures that your project is safe but starting a project without a permit could result in a "stop work" order, additional fees and in some cases a need to remove the work already completed and start from scratch.

Examples of projects that require a permit include:

- Constructing a deck
- Finishing or altering a basement
- If framing is removed/added to a kitchen/bathroom or the layout is altered
- If non-load-bearing walls and/or soffits are removed, altered or added
- Adding a porch or covered entry
- Building a fence or replacing an existing fence
- If roof decking, exterior sheeting or framing is replaced, along with shingles or siding
- If an exterior wall and/or header framing is altered during window replacement

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery®

Sunday, March 14

To kick off Daylight Savings Time, clocks "spring forward" at 2 am, Sunday morning. The Fire Division reminds you this is a good time to change the batteries in your home's smoke alarms. To stay safe, replacing batteries in all smoke alarms should be done at least once a year. In addition, smoke alarms should be tested once a month and if an alarm chirps, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.

Statewide Tornado Drill

9:50 am, Wednesday, March 24

www.ready.ohio.gov

As part of Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security will participate in the annual statewide tornado drill. This is a timely reminder of how important it is to have an emergency plan–both at home and at work–and to practice it.

Fire Hydrant Flushing

April 26-May 7

FIRE DIVISION 614-583-5100

Fire hydrant flushing will occur weekdays, April 26-May 7. This is part of an annual fire hydrant maintenance program that keeps hydrants in operable condition.

Most residents will notice no difference in their water supply, but a few could experience water discoloration after flushing has taken place. Refrain from doing laundry on the day hydrants are flushed in your area. Before resuming laundering, partially fill washers on the cold setting until the water runs clear Run a sample of water into a transparent container to check for settling or discoloration. Once the water is clear, the washer can be spun out to drain the tub for a normal laundry load. Turn on all faucets and allow water to run until it appears clear. Some may experience staining of clothes despite these notices. Clothes should be kept damp or wet to prevent the stains from setting. "Rust removers" or "rust fighters" are carried among cleaning products at grocery and hardware stores.

Visit the ***Fire Prevention*** page on our website to view this year's schedule and map.

Senior Center Update

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300

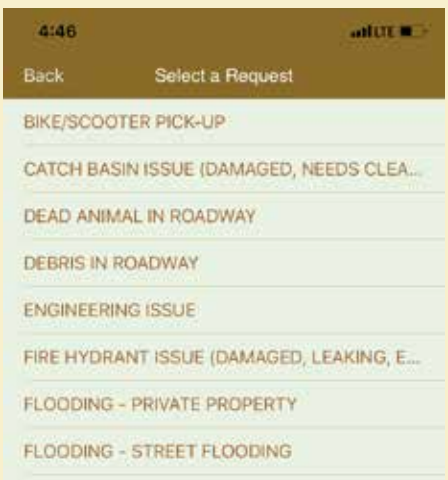
UA Parks & Recreation continues to evaluate the feasibility of safely opening the Senior Center during the pandemic. The team has identified some important indicators that need to be reached in order to resume onsite services:

- Vaccinations will be an important part of the safety plan. While the vaccine is available for older adults, it will also be important for Senior Center Staff to have the opportunity to be vaccinated before reopening.
- The decision to open the Senior Center will, in part, be based on Franklin County's alert level staying at or below a Level 2 Public Emergency (orange alert).
- It is essential that the facility and staff are prepared to resume onsite services in accordance with all Ohio Department of Health operational guidelines.

The department appreciates your patience, and we hope to be able to serve you in person soon!

UA Click2Fix

Visit the AppleApp or GooglePlay store and search **UA Click2Fix** to download our new smartphone reporting app. Residents can use the app to submit requests or notify the City of issues such as potholes, streetlight outages, damaged street trees, etc. You can also view the construction update map and contact staff using the app's Directory. Call Public Service at 614-583-5350 if you have any questions.



Schools INSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

MARCH | APRIL 2021



Strategic Plan Update

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, Upper Arlington Schools has remained focused on the priorities in the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. Approved by the Board of Education in August 2019, the strategic plan identifies a focused set of recommendations that support the district's mission - to challenge and support every student, every step of the way.

"Everything we do remains rooted in our strategic plan," Superintendent Paul Imhoff, Ed.D. said. "We are proud of the progress we have made since we launched our strategic plan in the fall of 2019, and we know there is still a significant amount of work to do as we strive to provide the highest quality of education and best experiences possible for each and every one of our students."

The 2019-2024 Strategic Plan identifies two strategic priorities - whole learning and student and staff well-being - with continuous improvement serving as the foundational element of the plan. The Quality Profile, the district's accountability report, provides the community with an annual update on our progress.

Whole Learning

This priority area focuses on building on our district's long-running philosophy of educating the whole child in order to make it a daily reality.

With this in mind, Upper Arlington Schools will be launching a new all-day kindergarten program beginning this fall with the Golden Bears Class of 2034. The Board of Education has been planning for this for the past few years - with the goal of launching all-day kindergarten as soon as the construction projects at the elementary schools are completed in August 2021.

"The Board of Education strongly believes in all-day kindergarten," Imhoff said, "and they believe it will better meet the needs of our developing learners so they are able to learn and grow academically, socially and emotionally."

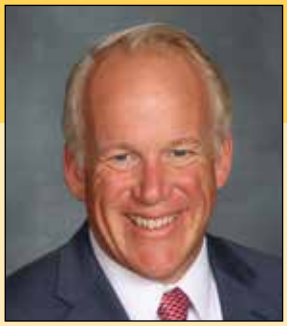
Student and Staff Well-being

Upper Arlington Schools believes well-being is critical to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment where students and staff can thrive. The district's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is a crucial part of this.

"We are at the beginning of this journey and our work on all aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion," Imhoff said. "There is still a tremendous amount of work to do to ensure that every member of our school community feels welcomed, valued, supported and embraced."

Part of this work will involve looking closely at the K-12 curriculum. As an initial step, all five elementary schools are implementing an expanded third-grade local history curriculum that spans 1800 to the present and includes the significant contributions of Pleasant Litchford and other individuals to Perry Township before it became Upper Arlington. The history curriculum update is the result of the work of a team of local volunteers, including local authors Diane Kelly Runyon and Kim Shoemaker Starr, whose book, *Secrets Under the Parking Lot*, delved into the story of Pleasant

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13



SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Paul Imhoff, Ed.D.

All-in Learning is Our Goal this Spring

It's hard to believe that we are coming to the end of winter and heading into spring!

As the month of February comes to a close, I want to acknowledge Black History Month and our celebration of the significant contributions of Black Americans to our country. In Upper Arlington Schools, we are committed to keeping our focus on diversity, equity and inclusion at the forefront of all we do both now and in the future. You can read more about this commitment in the Strategic Plan update in this issue.

Today, I want to share an update about our schools and the situation with COVID-19. There has been much to be hopeful about in 2021.

We were excited to welcome our school-based students back to school in an enhanced hybrid learning model in January after winter break. This learning model provides for more teacher-guided learning and support for our students each week while also maintaining the health and safety precautions we've had in place. We also have approximately 800 students learning in our UA Online Academy, our entirely digital learning option for this school year.

As we've been saying all year, the Board of Education is committed to having students back in school, five days a week, as soon as it's safe to do so. The experts on our district's Medical Advisory Team have suggested that a return to all-in is a possibility this spring - and they do believe there is reason to be hopeful that there will be a significant decline in cases yet this spring.

Beginning at the end of January, we began sharing with families the possibility of welcoming our school-based pathway students for all-in learning in March. That is the Board of Education's goal – and I want to emphasize that. Our medical advisors do feel it is realistic to work toward making this happen safely if we see improvement on a variety of illness factors.

A transition to all-in learning won't be a return to "normal" in our schools. Students and staff will continue to follow health and safety precautions during the school day - such as wearing masks and frequent handwashing. One thing that will have to change is physical distancing - which will be significantly reduced in an all-in model. Our team has advised that it is extremely important that we maintain an increased level of physical distancing during lunch.

As you know, the situation with COVID-19 is constantly changing. We will be sharing updates about our progress toward this goal on our website, www.uaschools.org.

We continue to be grateful for the flexibility and support that our families have shown amid all the challenges and changes this school year. We remain steadfast in our commitment to provide the best experiences possible for our students throughout this pandemic.

Paul Imhoff, Ed.D. is superintendent of Upper Arlington Schools. You can follow him on Twitter @imhoffpaul.

Litchford and the Litchford family cemetery site adjacent to the current Upper Arlington High School building.

The district is also continuing to work with descendants of Pleasant Litchford and other community volunteers to determine the next steps for honoring the history of the Litchford family cemetery site.

Continuous Improvement

The foundational element of the strategic plan is continuous improvement - and this applies to every facet of the district, from teaching and learning to finances.

Amid the pandemic and economic crisis in the summer of 2020, the Board of Education called on the district to creatively seek out cost savings and dip into the budget reserve. So far, the district has achieved approximately $4.6 million in cost savings, primarily through a three-year hiring freeze on new positions, with the exception of all-day kindergarten and the new executive director of diversity, equity and inclusion.

"We are committed to being a responsible steward of our residents' investment in our schools," Treasurer/CFO Andrew Geistfeld said. "Going forward, we will continue to seek out efficiencies that preserve the overall student experience while also responsibly planning for growing enrollment in the coming years."

To view our Quality Profile and learn more about our strategic priorities, visit www.uaschools.org/qualityprofile.aspx.

New UAHS, Elementary Projects on Schedule, on Budget - With Big Milestones Ahead

As construction continues on schedule and on budget in the first phase of the facilities master plan, Upper Arlington Schools will be marking significant milestones in the coming months in preparation for the completion of the final three projects.

The new Upper Arlington High School, the new Windermere Elementary School and the renovation project at Barrington Elementary School are on schedule to open to students for the start of the 2021-2022 school year in August. Last August, the new addition at Barrington, the new Greensview and Wickliffe, and the addition/renovation project at Tremont opened to students.

After the current school year comes to an end on May 27, the district will be moving quickly to begin demolition of the old Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School building and decommission the existing Upper Arlington High School building, which has been in operation since 1956.

"Generations and generations of Upper Arlington graduates have passed through the halls of the current high school, and it's so important that we honor the history of this building," Superintendent Paul Imhoff, Ed.D. said. "We want to provide everyone in the community an opportunity to look back and walk with us through these halls in the safest way possible."



The new Upper Arlington High School

This spring, the district will be sharing a virtual tour of the existing UAHS building before demolition work on the current high school building is expected to begin in early June. The virtual tour will be available at www.uaschools.org/facilities.

A virtual tour of the old Wickliffe was filmed in the spring of 2020, before it became the temporary home of Windermere students and staff for this school year. The Wickliffe tour and virtual tours of the old Greensview and Windermere are available on the district website.

"Although we aren't able to host big open houses right now, we still look forward to bringing in our entire community to see the amazing new learning spaces inside our elementary schools and the new high school," Imhoff said.

This summer, additional archaeological work on the high school site will also be done to continue the district's research of the Pleasant Litchford family cemetery site adjacent to the existing school building. The district is also continuing to work with descendants of Pleasant Litchford and community volunteers to determine the next steps for honoring the history of the cemetery site.

In the 1800s, Mr. Litchford was a master blacksmith who had been enslaved in Virginia. After buying his own freedom and settling in the area that is



The new Windermere Elementary School

now Upper Arlington, he built a successful business and purchased the land that is now home to the high school as well as Northam Park and Tremont Elementary School. Among Mr. Litchford's many contributions to the area were establishing a school for African-American children and being a founding member of the historic Second Baptist Church, which provided an important voice in the anti-slavery movement.

In late August last year, an archaeological team found one fully intact grave with a complete set of remains, along with two partially exhumed graves and three fully exhumed graves. The upcoming archaeological work will look at new areas beneath and adjacent to the existing building.

During the 2021-2022 school year, work will continue on the UAHS site as crews continue to develop the site, construct new athletic fields and possibly create a formal memorial near the site of the Litchford family cemetery. This summer, work will also continue on the Wickliffe site to develop an additional playground and outdoor learning space for students to enjoy along with the existing "castle" playground.

For more photos and information about the Upper Arlington Schools facilities master plan, please visit www.uaschools.org/facilities.



The renovation project at Barrington Elementary School

UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

2021 Upper Arlington Board of Education



From Left: Lori Trent, Jenny McKenna, President Scott McKenzie, Vice President Carol Mohr and Nancy Drees

At the January 12, 2021, organizational meeting, the Board of Education selected Scott McKenzie as president and Carol Mohr as vice president for 2021. McKenzie, who served as vice president for 2020, succeeds Nancy Drees as president.

Thanks to a partnership with the City of Upper Arlington, Board of Education meetings take place in the Council Chamber of the City's Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road. In general, the meetings begin at 6 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Some exceptions apply, and last-minute scheduling changes are possible. In the event that the COVID-19 pandemic necessitates the Board of Education conducting a regular meeting via video-conferencing, a live feed of the regular meeting will be available on the Upper Arlington Schools YouTube account. Please refer to www.uaschools.org for the most up-to-date information.

Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, March 9, 6 pm – virtual or to be determined
- Tuesday, April 13, 6 pm – virtual or to be determined
- Tuesday, May 11, 6 pm – virtual or to be determined

SchoolsINSIGHT
BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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www.twitter.com/imhoffpaul

BITES From the Apple

SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

UAHS graduates invited to claim their photo prints

The Upper Arlington Alumni Association is helping Upper Arlington High School reconnect with the winners of the annual photo contest with their original artwork.

The photo contest has been celebrating budding photographers at the high school since 2000. If you, your graduate, or someone you know was a proud winner and has a photo hanging in the hallways of the current high school building, please complete an online form - available under District News at www.uaschools.org - to make arrangements to pick up your photo from the school. If you have questions, please contact Scott Wittenburg at swittenburg@uaschools.org.

While the photo prints will not be moved to the new building, they have been digitized to preserve the history of this contest. The UAHS Art Department hopes to return as many photos as possible to their original photographers. Don't miss this opportunity to claim your artwork!



UA Schools Teacher Informed New Dyslexia Law

A team of educators - including Upper Arlington Schools instructional leader Andrea Rowson - helped craft a new law



that outlines the components of dyslexia screening of students and dyslexia training for teachers.

Signed into law on January 9 by Governor Mike DeWine, House Bill 436 was developed by the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) of Central Ohio and the IDA Northern Ohio chapter. Assisting in the process were representatives, including Rowson, from several school districts that have addressed the needs of students with dyslexia.

Mike McGovern, president of IDA Central Ohio, praised Rowson for always finding time to work with him through the two-year legislative process.

Under the new law, dyslexia screenings will be initially required for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 for the 2022-2023 school year. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, and every year thereafter, students will be screened only once between their kindergarten and first grade year. The new law also requires that any student who shows the markers of dyslexia based on the screening results be monitored for progress by the school.

This is consistent with the programs and interventions put in place under the leadership of Dr. Kevin Gorman over the past several years in the Upper Arlington Schools Student Services department.

Tremont Teacher in the Running for National Award



Paula Eschbach, a fifth-grade teacher at Tremont Elementary School, is one of four finalists from the state of Ohio for the Presidential Awards in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

These are the highest honors that the

2020-21 SCHOOL DATES

End of second trimester (kindergarten-grade 5) & third quarter (grades 6-12)
Friday, March 12

Spring Break
Monday, March 15-Friday, March 19

No school for students; staff report per schedule
Monday, March 22

No school for students; staff report per schedule
Friday, April 2

Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, April 7
Grades K-5: school all day; morning and afternoon kindergarten conferences

No school for students; staff report per schedule
Tuesday, May 4
Primary Election Day

Early dismissal (K-12), last day for students
Thursday, May 27

- Morning kindergarten ends at 10:05 am (Wickliffe: 11:05 am); afternoon kindergarten begins at 11:05 am (Wickliffe 12:05 pm)
- Dismissal at 1 pm (Wickliffe 2 pm) for elementary students; 1:30 pm for secondary students

For the full school year calendar, visit: www.uaschools.org/calendars.aspx

Treasurer's Notes

Andrew L. Geistfeld



Upper Arlington Schools is committed to being a good steward of our community's investment in our schools, and we take this commitment very seriously. Effective and efficient use of our financial resources is crucial to ensuring that we can provide the high-quality educational experiences that our students deserve and our community expects.

Every year, we rely on external, third-party review of our finances by the state auditor's office. A team from the auditor's offices delves into our financial records and reviews our practices.

This year, our district again earned a clean audit opinion - recognizing our commitment to effective and accountable financial practices for our community.

Over the past year, our district has responded to the challenging economic situation facing our state and country by taking steps to seek out cost savings while also preserving the overall student experience in Upper Arlington Schools.

Since the summer of 2020, we have been carefully looking at our five year forecast to creatively seek out cost efficiencies. So far, we have achieved approximately $4.6 million in cost savings, primarily through a three-year hiring freeze on new positions, with the exception of all-day kindergarten and the new executive director of diversity, equity and inclusion.

This was one approach that the Board of Education asked us to take due to the economic situation at that time. At the request of the Board of Education, we also dipped into our budget reserve. The district has a long-standing practice of maintaining a conservative budget reserve to help stabilize the budget in the event of a future crisis, and the board felt that the economic challenges presented by the pandemic met the standards for tapping into this reserve.

As we move forward, we are keeping a close eye on several things that may impact our finances. That includes the proposed state budget and state funding for our schools, as well as revenue generated by local property valuations. We also continue to monitor our projected enrollment growth, and we expect that will likely be a significant factor in the financial future of our district over the next decade.

We are committed to continuing to seek out efficiencies that preserve the overall student experience while also responsibly planning for all possible scenarios in the coming years.

United States government bestows on kindergarten through grade 12 teachers. The program recognizes teachers for their contributions to instruction and learning, as well as their ability to help students make progress in mathematics and science.

Tremont Principal Jim Buffer praised Eschbach as an innovative and visionary teacher of science and a role model for female students in the areas of math and science. "She brings science to life in meaningful and memorable ways," Buffer said. "There are no 'failures' in her class – only opportunities to grow and learn."

Eschbach moves forward to the national competition later this school year. A national committee will choose up to 108 winners nationwide for the presidential awards.

BECS Registration Now Open – and Space Is Limited!

Burbank Early Childhood School (BECS) is our high quality, tuition-based childcare for children ages 2 to 5. BECS is accepting registrations for summer 2021 as well as the 2021-2022 school year for children ages 2 to 5.

For more information, please visit www.uaschools.org/burbank or call 614-487-5155.

SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School staff, students and families supported the families of Heart to Heart Food Pantry through a gift drive.



Upper Arlington High School congratulates the 26 student-athletes who committed to continue their education and athletic pursuits in college.



Greensview Elementary School students learn about idioms to enhance reading comprehesion.



Jones Middle School teacher Alice Aichele got students laughing during a fun pool noodle activity to support student well-being.



Children at Burbank Early Childhood School enjoy a painting activity.



Kindergarten students at Tremont Elementary School learn about spelling words with three sounds.

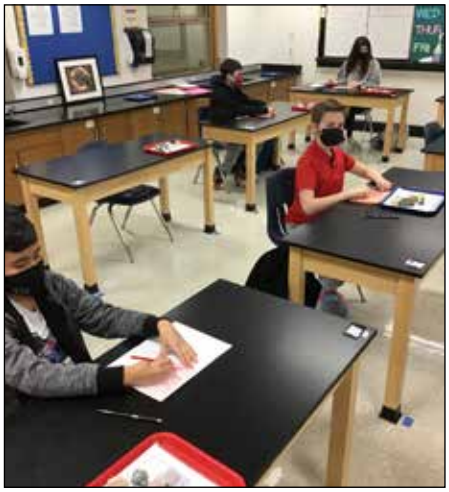
SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED





Students at Hastings Middle School and across the district shared many opportunities to learn more about Black history in America through posters, book displays, read-alouds, announcements and classroom learning honoring Black History Month.







Students 'Spread the Love'

Upper Arlington Schools students in our school-based pathway and the UA Online Academy helped "Spread the Love" during the Valentine's Day season to residents of Upper Arlington nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Through a partnership with the Upper Arlington Civic Association, our schools helped support a citywide drive for works of art, cards and letters to brighten the day of senior citizens and residents who have had limited community interaction due to COVID-19. UACA hoped to deliver 2,000 pieces of art during the month of February.



MARCH | APRIL 2021

LibraryINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

National Library Week is April 4-10

National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and is celebrated by libraries each April. The week is a time to celebrate the important services and contributions of the nation's libraries and staff. How well do you know libraries? Test your knowledge with this quiz.

1. Which library is the largest library in the world, with more than 167 million items?
A. The Library of Congress
B. Bodleian Library
C. Vatican Library
D. New York Public Library

2. In 2016 there were more than _____ in-person visits to public libraries?
A. 1 Million
B. 47.5 Million
C. 965 Million
D. 1.3 Billion



3. How many total libraries are there in the United States?
A. 260,562
B. 57,698
C. 116,867
D. 98,483

4. On average public libraries offer _____ programs per year?
A. 4.3 Million
B. 1.3 Million
C. 56, 000
D. 257,000

5. What percentage of Americans say that having a public library improves the quality of life in a community?
A. 12%
B. 35%
C. 94%
D. 83%

Sources: https://www.loc.gov/, http://www.ala.org/, https://www.imls.gov/, https://www.pewresearch.org/

Answers: 1. A, 2. D, 3. C, 4. A, 5. C

Friends of the Library News

The Friends of the UA Library will hold a Media Sale in the Main Library's atrium on Sunday, March 21 from 9 am-3 pm. Shop a large selection of DVDs, CDs, VHS, vinyl records, and audiobooks at bargain prices.

Face masks and social distancing are mandatory. We may limit the number of people allowed in the atrium at one time depending on demand.

Only the atrium will be open for the sale; the rest of the library will not be accessible.

The Friends are also planning a full sale for April 24 & 25 to be held outside in the parking lot. Details aren't yet available, but join the Friends' mailing list at uapl.friends@gmail.com to get updates on sales and other developments.

Thank you for your support!

Friends of the Upper Arlington Public Library

LibraryINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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www.twitter.com/@UAPL



A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Beth Hatch

Although the Library is humming with outdoor activity at curbside and walk up service, we eagerly await the day when the inside of our buildings will be just as busy.

Our mission is to continue to expand service, but unfortunately there is an estimated 11% loss of funding from the State of Ohio Public Library Fund and we are experiencing a severe staffing shortage. This means for the foreseeable future the Library will be unable to expand to our full hours or provide the same level of pre-pandemic service.

Despite these challenges, we anticipate offering computer access at our Main Library knowing that this is an essential and important service. We're currently planning how to staff our public service departments for reopen and how to provide curbside and indoor checkout simultaneously.

We sincerely appreciate your support and patience during this difficult time. We are working swiftly and diligently on plans to open our buildings and provide service safely.

Many of you have told us that the Library has had a tremendous impact on your lives and on the entire community. We want to know your story. Did a Librarian help you with technology or research, or to get books into your children's hands? If the Library made a difference in your life, be a part of our story and let us know how the Library has impacted you and your family by visiting https://www.ualibrary.org/support.

Want to help even more? We're enlisting the help of supporters to become library advocates in our community. A library advocate is someone who understands the value and importance of public library service, and who can communicate that value and importance to the community, government leaders, and other residents.

Advocates will receive action alerts on how to play a key role in educating our community about why libraries and librarians are essential and how funding plays an important part. Visit our website at https://www.ualibrary.org/support for more information.

Miller Park Debuts Walk-Up Service

After 10 months of being closed due to the pandemic, the Miller Park Library opened for walk-up window service on January 11.

Due to a staffing shortage, loss of revenue, and additional budget requirements for increased cleaning, Miller Park remained closed most of last year while the Main and Lane Road Libraries partially opened. However, after the Library saw an uptick in revenue near the end of 2020, hired an additional custodian, and shared staff among locations, it became possible to open the beloved branch for limited services. Miller Park offers service Monday-Friday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m.-Noon. The building's book drop is also open during these hours.

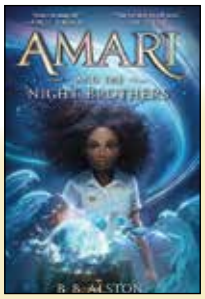
Services available at the walk-up window include the pickup of holds, plus the browsing and checkout of book bundles, DVD bundles, and a small collection of individual items. Miller Park staff can also take on-demand requests to retrieve items from their shelves for checkout. This service is limited to the Miller Park Library at this time.

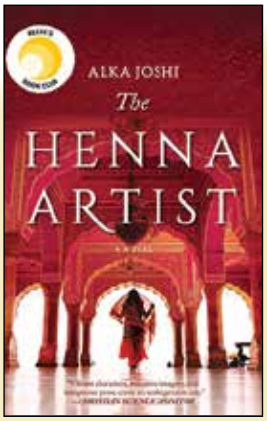


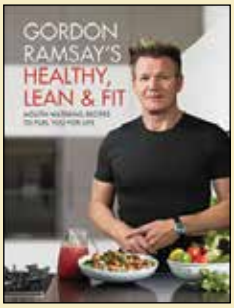
To have your requested items sent to Miller Park Library, choose "UA Miller Park" as your pickup location when using our online catalog. For previous requests that you're waiting on, call 614-488-5710 and ask the staff member to change your pickup location.

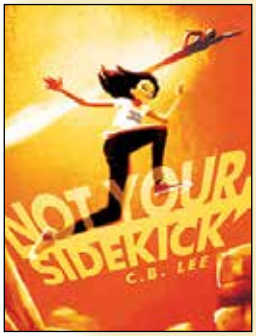
Branch Manager Kate Albers and her staff can't wait to see you.

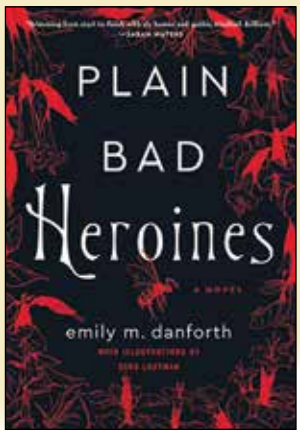
OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

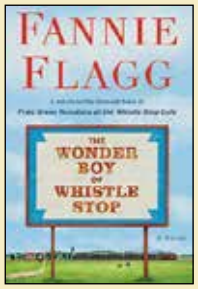












Not Your Sidekick

By C.B. Lee

On top of normal teenage problems, like school, work, and crushes, Jessica Tran does not have any super powers. The issue is her parents are the superhero protectors of the near-future town of Anover, so she has always wanted super powers, too. Instead, Jessica is hired for an internship but soon learns she is working for her parents' arch-nemesis, the villainous Mischiefs. Not only that, but she is working with her crush, Abby! As her internship progresses, Jessica learns heroes and villains are not always what they seem to be. Perfect for fans of superheroes ages 10 and above.

– Emma Root, Lane Road

The Wonder Boy of Whistle Stop: A Novel

By Fannie Flagg

Whistle Stop has become a ghost town due to the railroad yards shutting down, but its memory, and those of its residents, are still alive. One of its former citizens, Bud Threadgoode, decides to take a trip back there, which sets off a series of events that allow us to remember the town and reconnect with its people. We learn some new "secrets," discover what everyone has been up to, and meet new family and friends. This sequel to *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* does not disappoint in the least.

– Matilda Davis-Northrup, Technical Services

The Henna Artist

By Alka Joshi

After sneaking away from a husband who beats her and the only town she's ever known, 17-year-old Lakshmi begins a new life in the lush "pink city" of Jaipur, India, as a henna artist and herbalist. Over the years, she builds a successful business among high-caste individuals, including royalty, who trust her with intimate secrets -- until the day her husband and a teenage girl claiming to be her younger sister arrive in town. The twists and turns that follow are both heartbreaking and hopeful. This is a fascinating and engaging book, based on the author's re-imagining of her mother's life in the evolving social and political landscape of 1950s India.

– Nancy Byron, Miller Park

Amari and the Night Brothers

By B.B. Alston

Amari gets an invitation to a summer camp at the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and discovers that otherworldly beings live undetected among humans. Understandably a bit freaked out, Amari agrees to go because she hopes it will help her find out what happened to her beloved older brother, Quinton, who worked for the Bureau and has disappeared. Once she arrives and finds that she has powers the supernatural world distrusts, she must prove her worth while hunting for Quinton. Amari is a tough and likable heroine who doesn't shy from confronting the fearsome or the privilege and discrimination she experiences. Few Harry Potter/Rick Riordan mash-ups live up to their name, but this is the beginning of a series that indicates it will hold its own.

– Tracie Steele, Youth Services

Gordon Ramsay's Healthy, Lean & Fit: Mouthwatering Recipes to Fuel You for Life

By Gordon Ramsay

Gordon Ramsay knows how important it is to eat well, whether you're training for a marathon or just trying to live healthier. And just because it's healthy food, doesn't mean you have to compromise on taste and flavor. As a Michelin-star super-chef who is also a committed athlete, Ramsay shares his go-to recipes for when he wants to eat well at home.

– Melanie Stanley, Adult Services

Plain Bad Heroines

By Emily M. Danforth

Plain Bad Heroines is one of those rare titles that presents a complex, time-jumping story with a questionable narrator, and manages to not only make it work, but makes it sing. Initially set in 1902 Rhode Island at the Brookhants School for Girls, we hear of the horrible tragedies that befell the students there, and the origins of the curse that still surrounds the now dilapidated grounds. We soon fast forward over a century to the days before the initial meeting of young actresses who will go on to portray the unfortunate victims of that fatal semester, as well as the young author who unburied them. Figuratively speaking… maybe… what unfolds is a whirlwind of self-discovery, romance, humor, and good old gothic horror. Plain Bad Heroines will leave you eager to unfurl its lovely twists and turns.

– Ben Claymier, Adult Services

Digital Media Q&A

Q. What do you mean by "digital media"?
The UA Library offers several ways for you to enjoy books, music, movies, television, and magazines - including digital versions that you stream or download to your personal device. Digital media collections are available online and are available to browse and borrow at any time.

All you need to get started is an Internet-connected device and your UA Library card information.

Q. Do I need to have a smartphone or tablet?
You can use your smartphone, tablet, or PC/laptop. You can also watch free movies and television shows on your TV using a media streaming device like Roku or Amazon Fire TV.

Q. What are the best ways to watch digital movies and TV shows from the UA Library?
The library offers two services, Kanopy and Hoopla, where you can watch a variety of genres, including popular blockbusters, travel guides, and instructional videos.



Kanopy bills itself as "thoughtful entertainment." You'll find award-winning independent cinema, world cinema, and documentaries, plus unlimited access to the Great Courses series.

Hoopla's collection includes television shows in addition to films, featuring a large collection of Acorn, BBC, and PBS series.

Q. Is digital media available for all ages?
All of our collections have content for all ages. To find books for kids and teens, try the special guides on Libby, our e-book and digital audiobook library; the Kanopy Kids collection, which includes educational entertainment for ages 2-8; and Hoopla's Kids Mode, which displays only movies, music, comics, and more, for ages 12 and under.

Q. How can I get help using your digital media collections?
The staff of our Media Services Department are available for help by phone. Book a 30-minute phone consultation by calling us at (614) 486-9621, option 1, or by visiting our website at ualibrary.org.

NewsBITES

LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Reading Recommendation Service

Need a good book? Our Adult Services librarians are here to help. Fill out our reading recommendation request form at https://www.ualibrary.org/adultservices and we'll respond via email within a few business days with a list of 3-5 titles we think you'll love. You can also call the library at (614) 486-9621 for help selecting your next great read!

Become a Library Advocate

We're looking for fans and supporters of the Upper Arlington Public Library to serve as library advocates. Has the UA Library made a difference in your family's life? Did a librarian introduce you to a fabulous book or online resource? Did you learn something new at a program? By sharing your stories, support and time, you'll help spread the word about why libraries are essential to strong communities. Learn more and sign up at http://www.ualibrary.org/support.

Tax Season at the Library

Tax returns must be filed with the IRS by Thursday, April 15. Our reference librarians have put together a guide to help you get started on your taxes. Visit https://www.ualibrary.org/referencesrvc/topics/taxes-2020 for helpful information. Our reference staff is happy to direct you to tax information and locate specific forms, but please note that we cannot give out tax advice or answer specific tax questions. For assistance getting tax forms from the library, please call the UA Library Reference Department (614) 486-9621, opt. 4; or (614) 486-3342. You may also email us at reference@ualibrary.org.

Monthly eNewsletter

Keep up with UA Library news by subscribing to our monthly eNewsletter. Join our email list at http://eepurl.com/dlQpbH.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

UACA Easter Egg Hunt

8-10:30 am, Saturday, March 27
Register March 1 @parks.uaoh.net
www.uaca.org

Thanks to the UA Civic Association, the Easter Bunny is coming to you! Registered families will have a personalized visit, as the holiday hare hops into your yard, hiding candy filled eggs. Plus, five lucky rEGGistrants will receive a Golden Egg, which can be redeemed for a prize basket donated by the Anthony Thomas Candy Co. Registration is limited and spots will fill quickly.

Prescription Drug Take Back Day

10 am–2 pm, Saturday, April 24
Municipal Services Center Parking Lot
POLICE DIVISION 614-583-5150

In addition to hosting the year-round drop-off unit for old and unused prescription drugs, the City's Police Division participates in the spring and fall Drug Take Back Days coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Agency. Drop off old and unused prescription drugs drive-thru style. For the rest of the year, visit the Police Division section of our website, at upperarlingtonoh.gov for details of accepted items.



Volunteer With Friends of UA Parks

www.friendsofuaparks.com

The Friends of Upper Arlington Parks is comprised of a group of volunteers that gather monthly in our community's parks to clear natural areas of invasive species such as honeysuckle, buckthorn and garlic mustard. The group meets monthly on Saturday mornings at different park locations, typically from 9 am-Noon. Their work includes cutting the branches of invasive shrubs with pruning saws and dragging them to a pile for City crews to chip into mulch. Once the spread of these invasives has been effectively controlled, the group returns to plant native trees and shrubs.

Upcoming dates and locations are as follows:

- March 13 - Smith Nature Park
- May 15 - Smith Nature Park

Franklin Soil & Water Tree & Plant Sale

Order Deadline: March 29
www.franklinswcd.org/products

The annual Tree & Plant Sale is back as a smaller, socially distanced sale to accommodate everyone in a safe way. This year, Franklin SWCD is offering bareroot trees, shrubs and berry plants, as well as live stakes and seed packets, as well as Native Perennial Kits that will ship direct to Franklin county residents in early June. To learn more and place your order, visit www.franklinswcd.org/products.

