

# UA <sup>SSS</sup>iNSIGHT

WINTER 2015-2016 | DEC • JAN • FEB

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON, UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS & UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## City <sup>SSS</sup>iNSIGHT

BEGINS PAGE 2

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **Northam Park Next Steps** – Plans for Phase II include the pool & playground.
- **2016 State of the City Address** – join us January 25 for our annual review and community celebration.
- **ALERT Franklin County** – UA has transitioned to the County system for emergency notifications.

## Schools <sup>SSS</sup>iNSIGHT

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- **Superintendent Updates** – Educational Technology transforms the learning equation.
- **Tremont Elementary Expansion** – New classroom space begins to take shape.

## Library <sup>SSS</sup>iNSIGHT

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### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **New Civics Program Offered** – Learn how UA's local government operates.
- **Online Comic Books** – The Library is adding comics to its Hoopla digital media service.
- **Live at the Library** – The New Year brings with it a new schedule of free concerts at the Library.

## Northam Park—A Work in Progress

**As we ready to begin engineering designs for the pool, playground and gardens, the community will continue to be invited to provide input, as has been the case throughout the master planning process**

The brainstorming and planning for changes at Northam Park have been long in the making, and it's clear there's a lot more work ahead to balance existing park uses with the expectations of surrounding neighbors and the opportunity for effectively serving the greater community. Currently, we are moving forward with what we consider to be Phase II of this redevelopment project (since the parking lot on Tremont Road was Phase I). This entails the new pool, a replacement playground and the beginnings of passive garden space that will serve double duty by handling stormwater runoff.

As we move into the engineering design phase for these elements we will be continuing to invite residents to the table for further input, as part of our commitment to an open, citizen-involved design process.

Many Northam Park components have been tweaked along the way, some multiple times, as we've worked towards an overarching design for the redevelopment. If you study the different versions of the conceptual plan (available on our website), from December 2013 through August 2015, you will see some significant changes. More recent schematics were created early in November to portray options emerging from the work of a City Council Special Committee, formed to consider optimum locations for the tennis courts and field sports configuration.

To highlight some of the primary adjustments:

The gardens and event spaces envisioned for the south end of the park along Northam Road were removed in the spring of 2015 in response to concerns about a loss of field sports space, ongoing maintenance and the



addition of a new programming element in an already busy community park.

The park walkway, or promenade—which initially extended into the gardens—was seen as another negative impact on the potential for field sports space. Plans have been adjusted more than once, and the promenade now extends no further than the footprint of the new pool, based on the most recent schematic.

The idea for a gazebo at the end of the promenade met with concerns of a new use in a heavily programmed park that already hosts thousands of visitors each year. In response, we intend to scale these plans back and to consider options for a more modest, neighborhood-friendly shelter house when we reach that phase of our planning efforts. It's important to note that Northam Park is the community's only major park that currently lacks a shelter house.

Recognizing that consensus had not yet been reached on options for the tennis

courts—and how that decision would impact the reconfiguration of the sports fields—a Special Committee was convened by Council to further study this issue. Two alternative options have emerged from this work—one proposing consideration of Thompson Park as a new location for the courts, the second relocating the courts to the north-west corner of Northam Park in a way that would minimize impacts on the adjoining neighbors. Based on these options, the new schematics previously mentioned have been developed. A timeframe for bringing the Special Committee report before Council is pending with Council direction on the best way forward yet to be determined. Please watch for updates as this issue moves forward.

The window has all but closed at this time relative to the idea of including privately funded indoor recreation space within Phase II of the Tremont Elementary School expansion. Hearing concerns from some

that a primary objective of the master plan was to build a community center, in September City Council adopted a Motion stating that no public funds would be used for construction of a community center without a vote of the people. Concurrently, working within a tight timeframe, the Schools needed to move forward with architectural designs in order to break ground next summer. Lastly, the Upper Arlington Community Foundation recognized a capital campaign of this magnitude would require more time and more detail in order to be successful.

## Phase II Plans Proceeding

We are excited to be an important step closer in our plans for the pool, with selection of our engineering design firm almost complete. Incorporated into their scope of work is a citizen engagement phase, which we anticipate will transpire early in the New Year.

Ideas for the pool were actively sought this past summer during our outreach on the entire master plan. The consensus from the feedback was to replace the pool, with many indicating a desire for a no-frills pool similar in nature to the previous facility. From there, opinions varied relative to how many lap lanes were needed, if there should be a separate wading/baby pool, whether or not to keep a diving well, etc.

All of this feedback will be shared with the design firm as they start to put pen to paper and we anticipate their more detailed designs will incorporate some of these considerations, as much as is feasible within the allotted budget.

If the return of aquatics to Northam Park is high on your wish list or you have opinions to share on options for the tennis courts, we encourage you to stay tuned and make your opinions known as opportunity arises.

The Northam Park webpage continues to be updated and now includes quick links to the various versions of the conceptual plans—it's a great way to visualize the changes and understand just how much of our planning efforts have been a "work in progress." And as always, we welcome your input as the plans evolve. Just visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) for more details.

## Preserve Fancyburg Park Donates Funds for Baseball Diamond Improvements

Baseball season may be behind us, but thoughts of improving some of UA's baseball facilities for next year are on our minds, and we are pleased to report we have received some unexpected funds to help make improvements to the existing diamonds at Fancyburg Park.

The group formed earlier this year to voice opposition to the addition of more diamonds within the park has made it clear through this donation that its members are supportive of enhancing the facilities already within Fancyburg, baseball diamonds included.

City Manager Ted Staton and Brad Waite, President of Preserve Fancyburg Park, met in the fall to discuss his neighborhood's love for the park and the events of earlier in the year when a proposal from Bearcub Baseball to expand baseball facilities at Fancyburg was shared with the community. Both agreed this was an issue that brought forth strong passions on both sides but that from that dialogue doors were opened to continue good faith conversations about how to preserve and enhance the park.



Fancyburg Park is a popular destination each October when Parks & Recreation hosts its Fall Fest family event.

Mr. Waite presented a check for just over \$1,800—funds collected via donations to the Preserve Fancyburg Park effort—specifically to be put toward improvements to the existing diamonds, and reaffirmed the group's position and willingness to be part of future discussions about the park.

"One thing on which all parties agreed during the events surrounding Fancyburg Park last summer, was that the existing ball fields should be upgraded and made safe for our kids," said Waite. "The Preserve Fancyburg group is glad we could help in a small way toward that goal."



**THIS GIFT IS MAJOR**

**2016 U.S. SENIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Purchase your Major Championship Ticket and Holiday Gift Package at [2016USSENIOROPEN.COM](http://2016USSENIOROPEN.COM)

**AUGUST 8-14, 2016**

*Proudly Hosted by the Upper Arlington Community*



## UAOH Photo Contest Show us Your UA Spirit!



Even if you're not from Ohio, you know the popular "OH-IO" call and pose. Show us your UA-OH pride and enter to win some prizes in the process!

Submit photos of you and your friends, neighbors and coworkers making the UA-OH pose throughout Upper Arlington on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram tagging #UAOH. Not on social media? Submit photos through our submission form, at [www.uaoh.net/photocontest](http://www.uaoh.net/photocontest).

The contest begins Monday, November 16 and ends Friday, January 8. The City will then repost all submissions to a Facebook album beginning Monday, January 11. The photos with the most "Likes" received by Friday, January 22 will be deemed the winners, with a first prize of \$100 and a second prize of \$50. Winners will be announced at the 2016 State of the City Address on Monday, January 25.

Full contest rules can be found at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net), just look for the UAOH Photo Contest link under the Headlines section.



## 2016 State of the City Address

5–7:30 p.m., Monday, January 25

Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road

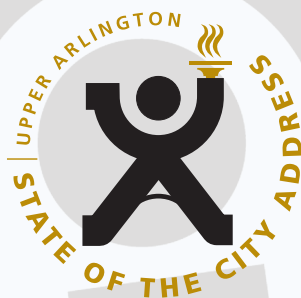
The City invites you to join us for the 2015 State of the City Address for a firsthand look at the year that's been and what lies ahead.

**5 p.m., Community Fair** – The Fair features exhibits by City departments and local service groups, providing an opportunity to meet with community leaders and staff in one convenient forum.

**6:30 p.m., State of the City Address** – Highlights of the City's and the community's achievements from the previous 12 months with a look at what's ahead for the community.

**2015 Community Awards** – What better way to recognize the many individuals and groups who enhance our community through their various civic activities than through our annual awards program. See below for categories and be sure to send us your nominations by January 8.

We hope you to take this opportunity to learn about the fine community in which we live and work by joining us for the 2015 State of the City Address and Community Fair. For details, visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) or call the City Manager's Office at 583-5040.



## 2015 Community Awards

**The City invites you to nominate an individual or group that makes our community a better place to live and work.**

**Business of the Year** – Involved in community service projects, provides financial or in-kind support for various causes, or brings other significant benefits to the community.

**Community Enrichment** – Individual or group involved in programs to enhance the City's quality of life, in areas that include the arts, education, recreation, cultural diversity and the natural environment.

**Community Safety** – Individual or group involved in activities to raise awareness of or improve the overall health and safety of our community.

**Rotary Club of Upper Arlington Volunteerism Award** – Awarded to a notable volunteer or team, the Rotary Club of Upper Arlington will donate \$500 to the recipient's charitable organization. Deadline December 15.

**Super Senior** – Individual actively involved in the community through volunteer service, taking a leadership or participatory role in community programs.

**Youth Award** – Youth individual or group involved in volunteer service or community programs to benefit others and setting a positive example to fellow UA youth.

**Nomination forms are available at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) or by calling 583-5040. Deadline: Friday, January 8, 2015**

## It's Time to Register for ALERT Franklin County

Residents must opt-in to new automated notification system to receive emergency, weather and other useful updates via text, voice message, email, etc.

The City is transitioning to a new and improved emergency and community notification system and we need you to do your part so that we can reach you quickly with important information!

We are now partnering with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEMHS), on a system called "ALERT Franklin County." To make the system a success, we are asking all residents to opt-in and personalize your accounts so that you receive the updates you want in the way that you want them.

Through ALERT Franklin County, you will be registered to receive severe weather and county-wide emergency notifications from FCEMHS. Upper Arlington is able to use this system for our own emergency and service notifications, much as we had with the UA Alerts system. For example, you can still register to receive the following types of updates from the City:

- Police Crime and Safety Alerts
- Fire Division Alerts
- Construction and Utility Updates
- City Services and News Updates
- Recreation and Events Updates



Like UA Alerts, you can set your account to receive voice messages, texts or emails, but this new system gives greater flexibility in choosing what type of communication works best for you, and it has the added component of allowing anyone who lives, works, travels through or has family or friends in Franklin County to register for updates.

To get started click the ALERT Franklin County icon on the City's homepage or visit [www.uaoh.net/alertfranklincounty](http://www.uaoh.net/alertfranklincounty). The page includes step-by-step directions for setting up your new account. Questions? Please call the City Manager's Office at 583-5027 or email Megan Hoffman at [mhoffman@uaoh.net](mailto:mhoffman@uaoh.net).

### Are You Following Us?



[facebook.com/CityofUA](https://facebook.com/CityofUA)  
[twitter.com/@CityofUA](https://twitter.com/CityofUA)



If the answer is no, you're missing out on quick access to updates on City services, community news, special projects and more!

## FROM CHAMBERS

### Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions

#### 2016 Marks Change in Council Members and Leadership

The November 3, 2015 election brought with it some changes in City Council, effective with the New Year. Three seats were up for election, with Erik Yassenoff ineligible to run for a third term due to term limits.

Council incumbent Mike Schadek ran and was successful in his bid for a second term. Brendan King and Carolyn Casper were selected by voters for their first terms in office. Current President of Council Don Leach will be leaving Council at the close of 2015, having served his community for two, non-consecutive terms.

The 2016-17 City Council is scheduled to convene for the first time on Monday, January 11, 2015. At this time, the three successful candidates will be sworn into office for their 2016-19 terms. Additionally, Council as a Whole will select who from its ranks will serve two-year terms as President and Vice President. These two positions also serve as Mayor and Vice Mayor for ceremonial duties.



#### 2015 Upper Arlington City Council

##### Front row (from left):

David DeCapua;  
 Debbie Johnson (Vice President), Donald B. Leach (President), John C. Adams

##### Back row:

Kip Greenhill,  
 Mike Schadek;  
 Erik F. Yassenoff

Business will also include Council member assignments to various regional and local entities, including:

- Two appointments to the Central Ohio Municipal Council
- One appointment to the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- One liaison appointment to the Upper Arlington Commission on Aging
- One appointment to Leadership UA
- Three appointments to the Community Improvement Corporation

Thereafter, Council meetings will resume their regular schedule for the year, typically meeting for Conference Session on the first and third Mondays, and for formal Council Meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Please check the events calendar at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) in advance of meetings in case there have been any schedule changes. If you have questions, contact the City Clerk's Office, at 583-5030.

## CITY STREETS

*Updates on Road Improvement Projects*

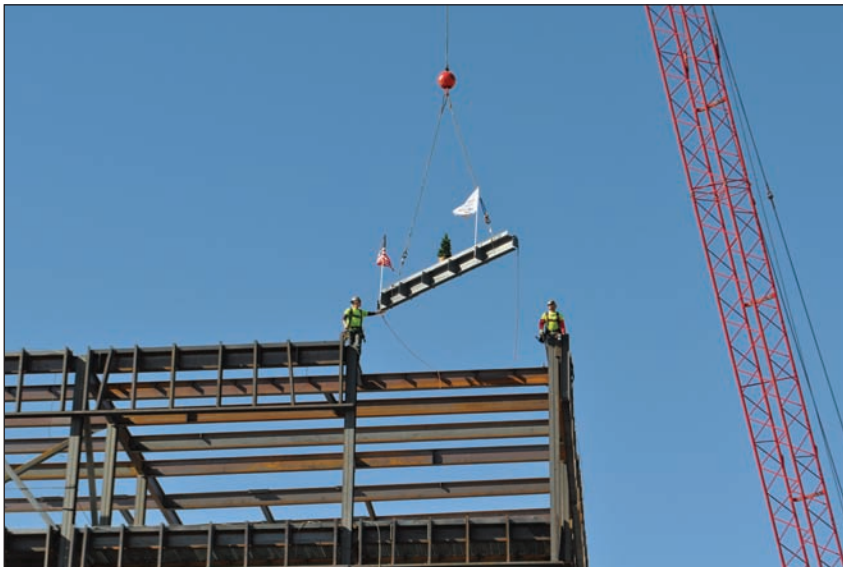
### 2016 Capital Improvement Program Construction Projects

Plans for the 2016 Capital Improvement Program indicate the year will be a busy one for construction. The first phase of the Tremont Road project will be completed while the second phase begins, running from Ridgeview Road south to Lane Avenue and including installation of a traffic circle at the Tremont, Canterbury and Abington intersection. Plus, the City's fiber optic network will be installed in 2016, and we look forward to the City, Schools and Library enjoying an enhanced level of connectivity as a result. We can also look forward to progress being made on the following projects:

- The City will invest \$918,400 in the Street Maintenance Program, an increase of more than 20% from 2015. This work entails the replacement of the top layer of roadway to prolong its useful life and will likely include sections of 30 or more streets.
- Our Street Reconstruction Program also sees an increase in funding by about 15% to \$1.5 million, so if bids are favorable we will see an increase in these projects.
- Two bridges are scheduled for replacement, at Bridgeview Road and Glenrich Parkway.
- New waterlines will be installed along Mountview, Avalon and Ridgeview roads.
- Completion of traffic signal replacement at Fishinger and Reed roads.
- Streetlight improvements on Fishinger Road, from Riverside Drive to Tremont Road.
- Traffic signal improvements at Grace Lane and Reed Road.

Full details of the 2015 construction season can be found at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) under **Living in UA | Road Construction Updates**. Additionally, we share frequent updates during construction season via Facebook and Twitter.

## BUILDING BLOCKS



### OSU Wexner Medical Center "Topping Off" Ceremony

Just four months after ground was broken on the new OSU Wexner Medical Center facility at Kingsdale, dignitaries returned for a "topping off" ceremony, as the last steel beam was put in place on the new structure. Work remains on schedule for a summer 2016 opening.

## CITY SERVICES

### Holiday Refuse Collection Delays

**Solid Waste.....583-5370**

- No delays for Christmas Day, Friday, December 25 and New Year's Day, Friday, January 1.
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 18 and Presidents' Day, Monday, February 15** – delay collection by one day for all zones.

Normal service resumes the following week.

### End of Leaf Collection

**Streets Division.....583-5380**

The City's free leaf collection program ends Friday, December 11. Please stop raking leaves curbside by 7 a.m. Monday, December 7 to ensure pickup. Any remaining leaves can be disposed of as part of our regular Yard Waste Program or by taking leaves to the free yard waste drop-off facility on Roberts Road.

### Snow Removal

**Streets Division.....583-5380**

The City provides exceptional snow removal services, with the aim of returning normal driving conditions to all City streets within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. Priority is placed in the following order:

- **Arterial** – the City's main roads receive priority treatment during a storm.
- **Collector** – the next level of streets that carry a lot of traffic to main streets – these streets are plowed and salted once arterial streets are complete.
- **Residential** – all remaining streets. Plowing takes place when snowfall exceeds three inches.

To assist our crews please do not park on the street.

### Christmas Tree Collection

**Solid Waste.....583-5370**

The City will collect live Christmas trees on Fridays, January 8, 15, 22 and 29. Remove all decorations and place trees (do not place in bags) at the curb with one Solid Waste Sticker affixed per tree on your regular refuse/recycling/yard waste collection day. If the tree is eight feet or taller, please cut it in half (one sticker is still all that's needed). Trees can also be dropped off free-of-charge at the yard waste facility at 4120 Roberts Road. Visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) for winter hours and additional details.



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Theodore J. Staton

### Budget Time = Year-in-Review Time Too

As we prepared for our mid-budget review and update, in typical fashion we also compiled some highlights from the year that is drawing to a close. I thought some of these highlights were worth sharing—it's been a busy year to be sure.

#### 2015 CIP Implementation

With implementation of year two of the City's first 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), 2015 has seen a lot of construction. Work began on the first phase of the Tremont Road reconstruction project, from Five Points south to Ridgeview Road, converting this section to three-lanes with a middle turn lane, bike lanes and sidewalks for enhanced connectivity. Sections of six other streets were reconstructed, and sections of 24 streets were resurfaced, including the section of Kenny Road from Tremont Road south to Fishinger Road, with the addition of new sidewalks to complete pedestrian connectivity. Additionally, a new waterline was installed along Derby Road. See page 6 for highlights of next year's slate of projects.

Capital dollars set aside for park improvements, such as a new Tremont Pool, are being carried forward in preparation for the start of Phase II of the Northam Park improvements.

#### Fiber Optic Network

Details were finalized for installing a fiber optic network to connect all City, Schools and Library buildings, at a cost of approximately \$2.5 million. As part of the conditions of a \$500,000 grant from the State in support of this project, the new Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center facility on Zollinger Road will be provided fiber access at no charge for a period of 20 years. We also secured a low interest loan of \$1 million from the Franklin County

Infrastructure Loan Program to help fund this project, saving approximately \$64,000 in interest over the life of the loan when compared to the City's bond issuance interest rate. Additionally, we put agreements in place with the Schools and Library to pay the equivalent of their current leased broadband lines to the City each year until the City's capital investment in this project is recouped.

#### Economic Development

In the economic development arena, a long-held goal for facilitating professional office use at Kingsdale is becoming reality. The City sold an approximately five-acre parcel held solely for this purpose to make way for a 100,000 square foot Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center facility. Once complete, the facility will initially house 155 employees, generating a significant level of income tax revenue, giving residents access to world-class medical services and further adding to Kingsdale's vibrancy.

Other highlights include:

- Approval of a two-story, 19,422 square foot medical office building for Columbus Aesthetic and Plastic Surgery, with construction likely to occur in 2016.
- Approval of a 19,705 square foot mixed-use development at 1515 Lane Avenue, to be comprised of retail and a restaurant on the first floor, and eight luxury apartments on the second and third floors, with construction likely to occur in 2016.
- Approval of a 26,620 square foot, two-story medical office building at 3363 Tremont Road to house an OhioHealth medical facility. This project entails the demolition of an existing office building to the immediate north of the

GetGo Gas Station to make way for the new building, with parking on the now vacant, adjacent parcels to the north. Construction is expected to occur in 2016.

- The Schoedinger Funeral Home on Zollinger Road is nearing completion of a major renovation and expansion.
- Completion of the Berkley House apartment complex at Riverside Drive and Bethel, featuring 256 apartments.
- Looking forward, we anticipate focusing our attention on additional projects proposed for the Lane Avenue Corridor and Kingsdale.

#### 911/Dispatching Consolidation

Continued study of our options for optimizing 911/dispatching operations led Staff to conclude and Council to unanimously support a consolidation with Columbus as the best option for making sure 911 calls from cellular phones are processed efficiently, saving an average of 43 seconds per call, among other important considerations. The City is still in the midst of contract discussions with Columbus at this time but we hope to reach mutually acceptable terms in the near future, at which time planning for a seamless transition in services would begin in earnest.

#### Northam Park

Last but not least, the Northam Park planning process took center stage for much of the year. Since we have a separate update on the plans on page 2, I won't go into detail here, other than to say we are all looking forward to beginning Phase II construction next year, so that the community can once again enjoy a pool at the park, as well as much needed upgrades to the playground area.

Council hearings on the 2016 budget continue through December 7, and we anticipate Council will vote on the budget at its December 14 meeting. Visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) for more details, or call the Finance & Administrative Services Department at 583-5280.

# NewsBITES

## CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

### Public Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holiday:

- **Friday, December 25** – Christmas Day
- **Friday, January 1** – New Year's Day
- **Monday, January 18** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Monday, February 15** – Presidents' Day

### Public Meetings

#### CITY CLERK'S OFFICE 583-5030

Check the "Public Meetings" link under Upcoming Events on the City's homepage for dates of City Council meetings, agendas, plus Board and Commission meetings.

### Prescription Drug Drop-Off

#### POLICE DIVISION 583-5150

Drop off unwanted, unused or expired prescription medications in the Drug Collection Unit in the lobby of the Municipal Services Center (3600 Tremont Road). The unit is open to the public Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during evening community meetings. Drugs can be dropped off with no questions asked.

### Sunday Swim at UA High School

#### PARKS & RECREATION 583-5300

Sunday Swim provides a weekly opportunity to enjoy the High School's indoor aquatics facility, held most Sundays through May 15, from 1-3 p.m. The cost per visit is \$3 for a resident or \$20 for a season pass (\$40 for a household). Swim lessons are also available.

### 2016 Community Calendar

#### CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE 583-5040

Each year, the City creates a Community Calendar to promote special events hosted by the City and other community entities. These calendar listings are then included on the City's website calendar, included in this newsletter and oftentimes promoted via other means such as social media. Now is the time to send us details of qualifying community events – look for the **2016 Community Calendar** link under **Headlines** on our homepage for details.

### Old Street Signs for Sale

#### STREETS DIVISION 583-5380

As we update aging street signs, we are making old signs available for purchase. Prices range from \$29 to \$45 depending on size. Signs are for private use only, and should not be displayed in the public right-of-way or any other location that would cause confusion. Look for the link on the Headlines section of our homepage.

### 2016 Wall of Honor

#### Nominations

#### PARKS & RECREATION 583-5300

Each year, a new bronze plaque is added to the limestone wall of the Municipal Services Center Plaza to honor a deceased UA resident who had a positive impact on the community and beyond through his or her professional, philanthropic, volunteer or public service. Nominations are currently being accepted for the 2016 Wall of Honor inductee, a program made possible through a partnership of the UA Historical Society and the City's Parks & Recreation Department. Nomination forms are available at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net). The deadline is Friday, January 15, 2016. The 2016 unveiling ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 22.

### Kind Call Holiday Safety Check

In mid-December, Kind Call representatives will take advantage of the holiday season to visit with Kind Call program participants, delivering holiday packages and offering to run some simple home safety checks. Kind Call is a free telephone check-in service for any UA resident, but is primarily used by the elderly and their families. It operates through the cooperative efforts of the City's Police and Fire divisions, the UA Commission on Aging and the UA Rotary Club.

### Help Keep Sidewalks

#### Clear This Winter

Navigating the community on foot can be hazardous in the winter, especially for the elderly or those with disabilities. Help keep sidewalks in front of your property or business clear of snow and ice. If you have elderly neighbors, take a few extra moments to help clear their sidewalks too.

### Fire Hydrants in Winter

#### FIRE DIVISION 583-5100

While we are all hoping for a milder winter than the one we experienced last year, if you do find yourself out clearing snow and ice from your driveway and sidewalk and you have a fire hydrant in front of your property, please take a little extra time to keep hydrants free of snow and ice.

### Online Contractor Registration

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 583-5070

All contractor registrations for 2016 must be undertaken online. All general contractors, building trade contractors and subcontractors registered for 2015 are being mailed a notice detailing this registration process. Additional information can be found at [www.uaoh.net/contractor](http://www.uaoh.net/contractor).

### City Receives Auditor of State

#### Award With Distinction

#### FINANCE & ADMIN. SERVICES 583-5280

The City has recently been notified it is a recipient of the Auditor of State Award with Distinction. Auditor of State Dave Yost's office recently undertook a financial audit of the City, with a resulting clean audit report speaking to the City's continued practice of excellent record keeping.

## Activity Guide



**UA Parks & Recreation's Winter Activity Guide has everything you need to ward off cabin fever.**

Grab a copy at the UA libraries, City buildings and other local drop-off points.

Visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) to view our Winter Activity Guide flipbook – now conveniently placed on our homepage. All you have to do is click on the class title and you're taken straight to a simplified online registration process.

Don't miss out on all the fun you could be having with UA Parks & Recreation!  
**614-583-5300 | [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net)**

**City INSIGHT eNews and eUpdates****CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE 583-5040**

Did you know that you can get updates from the City, with information similar to that in UA INSIGHT, sent directly to your inbox? The City has launched a new and improved monthly e-newsletter and e-update system. Register for construction updates, such as for Tremont Road or the OSU Wexner Medical Center at Kingsdale, stay in the know about park updates, learn about planning for Upper Arlington's Centennial in 2018 and more. Register on the City's website by navigating to **Services | Register for eUpdates**.

**Welcome**

Welcome to the City of Upper Arlington's improved eNews. Each month, you'll get City Manager updates, news bites on current issues and highlighted upcoming events sent directly to your inbox. While we're at it, we're also improving our other eUpdates specific to current community topics (i.e. Tremont Road, OSU Northram Park, etc.). So please take a moment to manage your subscriptions after skimming this newsletter.

**Book the Barn for Your Event****PARKS & RECREATION 583-5300**

Since opening in 2011, the Amelita Mirolo Barn has become an increasingly popular venue for wedding and other memorable events. So much so, that availability during "wedding season" on Fridays and Saturdays is limited. Don't forget that the Barn is a great year-round venue for birthday parties, retirements, baby and wedding showers, corporate events and more! Book the Barn at [www.amelitamirolobarn.com](http://www.amelitamirolobarn.com).

**Call for Board & Commission Applicants****CITY CLERK'S OFFICE 583-5100**

The City is currently seeking applicants to serve on the Library Board of Trustees and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Please visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) for full details and to complete an application form.

**Recycling Guidelines****PUBLIC SERVICE 583-5350**

It can be confusing understanding what items can be recycled, and periodically the requirements change. For example, many don't realize that yogurt containers are not accepted at the Rumpke recycling facility. We've recently updated our "Recycling Collection" page and expanded our Recycling Resources page to help you effectively recycle as much as possible. Visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) and look under the "Services" link to access these resource pages.

**Friends of UA Parks****PARKS & FORESTRY 583-5340**

The Friends of Upper Arlington Parks is a community volunteer group that assists the Parks & Forestry Division with improvement projects, focusing on improving the health of existing native trees and forests through removal of non-native invasive plants like honeysuckle and buckthorn, and planting a variety of native trees and shrubs. Volunteer events are scheduled on select Saturday mornings, generally one per month, throughout the year. The next 'Friends' event is Saturday December 12, beginning at 9 a.m. at Miller Park. If you can volunteer, like "Friends of Upper Arlington Parks" on Facebook or contact Annemarie Smith ([smith.3746@osu.edu](mailto:smith.3746@osu.edu)) to get on the emailing list.

**City Receives Portion of State Road Salt Settlement**

In June, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced an \$11.5 million antitrust settlement with Morton Salt, Inc. and Cargill, Inc. over past sales of road salt to

public purchasers in Ohio. During the applicable time period, Upper Arlington paid approximately \$638,000 to these companies, and as a result, we have received \$19,500 as part of the settlement.

**Finance Director Receives Lifetime Achievement Award**

Finance & Administrative Services Director, Cathe Armstrong, was recently awarded one of the most prestigious accolades any Ohio finance professional could hope to achieve—the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ohio Government Finance Officer Association's (GFOA) conference. Nominees cited her professional expertise, commitment to the highest of standards in financial reporting and her willingness to give back as an instructor of governmental accounting at the OSU John Glenn College of Public Affairs. Through changes in Council leadership, city managers, good and bad economic times that have occurred during Cathe's tenure at the City, she has been an invaluable constant. This most recent recognition is well deserved.

**Watch Out for Joggers****POLICE DIVISION 583-5100**

The City has been receiving an increase of calls from residents who exercise by jogging in the community. They are noticing a rise in unsafe driving practices by motorists, such as failing to come to a complete stop at stop signs, or pulling out when a pedestrian is still in an intersection. We urge all motorists to drive safely at all times—put away the cell phones or other distractions and follow the rules of the road. During the winter months, joggers often have no choice but to be out during dusk or dark, so please be extra cautious.

**Historic Demolition Seminars****COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 583-5070**

The Community Development Department is hosting two informational seminars about the historic demolition process:

- 5:30 p.m., Monday, December 7
- 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 8

Both meetings will be held at the MSC, 3600 Tremont Road. Please visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) for details, including an agenda.

**CityINSIGHT**

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

**Production:**

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# Schools*i*NSIGHT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS



## Facility Upgrades Vital for a Solid Foundation & Long-Term Financial Health

Residents now know the estimated cost of maintaining and repairing Upper Arlington's schools for use far into the future.

That figure — approximately \$189 million over the next 15 years — was shared with residents at the latest community discussion sessions on November 18 and 19 in the district's facilities master planning process.

The estimate combines the work of local firms Moody Nolan and Turner Construction and the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), a state agency that provides baseline standards for Ohio school construction.

The district's facilities master planning process stems from a recommendation made by a group of community members that took an in-depth look at the district's finances and operating procedures. In a report to the Upper Arlington Board of Education, the team encouraged board members to engage the community in a comprehensive and proactive planning process as soon as possible, calling it "essential to the long-term financial health of the district."

Last fall, the OFCC sent a team of architects, engineers and educational planners to Upper Arlington to assess the district's educational buildings and complete an enrollment report. The OFCC team found that Upper Arlington High School and all five of the district's elementary schools are in need of additional square footage based upon current and projected student enrollment numbers.

"The OFCC provided us with a great foundation for our research," said Executive Director of Business Services Chris Potts. "We were able to accomplish a lot of our work by taking advantage of this free service from the state."

This fall, the Board of Education contracted with Moody Nolan and Turner

Construction to verify and build upon the OFCC's report. The Moody Nolan/Turner team looked at everything from the foundation and roof to the plumbing and heating systems in each building. The team also assessed the spaces outside the OFCC's scope, such as auditoriums, athletic spaces and full site planning. They compiled reports for each building, assigning needed repairs to time frames based upon urgency. The team then added up the cost of those repairs, including 4% annual inflation for the items deferred to a later time frame.

"These figures do not account for any additional square footage," said Superintendent Paul Imhoff. "Even though the OFCC has identified the need for more space at most of our buildings, we wanted to start with a baseline estimate of what it would take to keep the current facilities running well for another 50 years."

The idea of adding space to one or more of the schools will be explored by community volunteers in the second phase of the three-year master planning process.

"The options phase is when the building teams will look at space considerations and the educational adequacy of our buildings," Potts said. "They will use this information to explore other options rather than just continuing to maintain and repair our current buildings."

Once the Board of Education selects a master plan from the options recommended by the community members on the building teams, it will ask a team of residents with financial expertise to provide guidance on when and how to implement the plan.

"All along we have been telling people 'Your voice matters,' and it's true," Imhoff said. "Our schools belong to the community, and this planning process was designed so that the plans for the future are really coming straight from our residents."

There is still plenty of time to get involved. Please visit [www.uaschools.org/facilities](http://www.uaschools.org/facilities) to review the building assessments in their entirety, join a building team or submit questions.



Approximately 200 community members took part in the first community-wide master planning sessions in September. The next community-wide sessions will be held February 23 and 24.



## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

**Paul Imhoff**

### Educational Technology Transforms the Learning Equation

How can educational technology change the equation of learning for every student? This fall, I had the good fortune of hearing about the transformative shift from a teacher in a North Carolina school district that has provided its students laptops for several years.

Before the shift to educational technology, the teacher said she would stand in front of her class when she introduced a new concept — the same concept delivered the same way to 20-plus students.

“Not now!” she told me with a smile.

During the past eight years, as she has become more comfortable with the power of technology as a tool in her classroom, she has shifted to preparing for new concepts by having students take a brief electronic assessment. The students see it as simply answering a few questions online, but from those answers the teacher gleans valuable information about how prepared each student is to move on.

When students return to her class, she often has them work in small groups with classmates who are at a similar place in their learning on that particular day. As they work, she goes from group to group, checking in, answering questions and skillfully introducing the next concept in just the right way for that group of learners. She ensures that no concept is left unlearned and that new twists in the curriculum are seamless and logical for each student.

The best part for this teacher? “I get to know my students so much better now.” This is personalized learning at its best.

Each day more than 5,900 students walk through the doors of Upper Arlington’s schools, and each of those students has his or her own learning style. Our talented

teachers have been differentiating instruction for years, but we know we need to take it a step further to give our students the best foundation possible for their futures in this quickly changing world.

Personalizing education is one of the five goals in our strategic plan, and in the coming weeks we will roll out a one-to-one technology program for students in grades six through 12. The focus of this program isn’t technology; the technology simply serves as a tool to help our teachers meet the needs and strengths of every student in the classroom.

A team of teachers and principals spent a year researching and planning for the implementation of one-to-one technology in our middle schools and high school. Another team is hard at work going through the same process for our younger learners, who will begin receiving devices during the 2016-2017 school year.

We’ll fund the one-to-one technology program by reallocating resources such as textbook and technology department funds. We are also implementing a modest technology fee and will utilize a sell-back feature at the end of our four-year lease of the devices.

To learn more about funding and the personalized learning program as a whole, please visit [www.uaschools.org/personalizedlearning](http://www.uaschools.org/personalizedlearning). If you have any questions or ideas for us, please reach out at [superintendent@uaschools.org](mailto:superintendent@uaschools.org) or 487-5030.

## Treasurer’s Notes

**Andrew L. Geistfeld**

While some people might spend fall looking back on longer days and warmer nights, school district CFOs like me instead look to the future.

Each October, I prepare a detailed forecast of the district’s anticipated revenues and expenditures for the upcoming five fiscal years. This legally required document is presented to the Upper Arlington Board of Education for approval and then filed with the state of Ohio.

The forecast and the accompanying notes are extremely detailed, incorporating three years of actual data and five years of projected data. This tool helps us to keep a clear view on our financial outlook and understand how the decisions we make today can affect our future.

The updated forecast again shows we are on track to keep the promise made to voters when the last operating levy passed in 2013. At that time, we committed to making the 4-mill levy last four years, and we continue to uphold that promise because of conscientious budgeting and the impact of our Efficiency Project.

The Efficiency Project is a commitment to improve the district’s projected 2016-2017 bottom line by \$4.5 million. We are 93 percent of the way toward our goal, having realized efficiencies of nearly \$4.2 million.

I invite you to learn more about the Efficiency Project and the five-year forecast by visiting our website, [www.uaschools.org/treasurer](http://www.uaschools.org/treasurer). As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [treasurer@uaschools.org](mailto:treasurer@uaschools.org) or 487-5000.



# BITES From the Apple

SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



## UAHS students welcome Pulitzer Prize winner



Sixteen Upper Arlington High School students had a unique opportunity to serve as ambassadors to Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Anthony Doerr during his visit in October for the Upper Arlington Author Series. The Cleveland native signed copies of his novel *All the Light We Cannot See*, took photos with the students and was given an impromptu tour of the high school by one of the students. The experience with Doerr was made even more special for Lindsey Shi, who wrote an essay to win a prime seat for his presentation in the UAHS auditorium and a book signing with him. Doerr was so touched by Shi's essay about his novel that he wrote her an email during his return flight, crediting her for renewing his "faith in the mystery of that connection" between a writer and a reader whom he might never meet.

## Education expert shares tech tips

Alan November, an international leader in educational technology, offered an insightful session on October 26 for UA teachers and administrators as well as a small group of student leaders from Jones and Hastings middle schools and UAHS. November introduced ways to transform



learning through technology, offering tips for properly constructing Internet searches to get the best results, differentiating reliable and unreliable websites for student research, and looking back to a specific day and time on a website through the Internet Archive's "Wayback Machine" at archive.org. The best-selling author (*Empowering Students With Technology* and *Web Literacy for Educators*) also introduced ways to help students become involved in math problems through Twitter. UA Schools thanks the Ohio Association of IB World Schools and the Upper Arlington Education Foundation for partnering to sponsor the event.

## Staff members honored with annual awards

Susan Adams, a paraprofessional at Tremont Elementary School, was awarded Staff Member of the Year at a ceremony in August.

Other award recipients:

- Administrator: Jim Buffer, Hastings Middle School
- District Teacher: Pam Meadows, Upper Arlington High School (now at Hastings)
- Cook: Francie Blake, Windermere Elementary School
- Custodial/Maintenance: Liz Hayes, Windermere
- Secretary: Julie Minton, Central Office, Bookkeeper
- Transportation: Christina "Tina" Smith

## UAHS senior receives ethics award

Sophia Fisher, a UAHS senior, has been honored with a Students of Integrity Scholarship award from the BBB Center for Character Ethics. The scholarship program, established in 2002, encourages strong ethics and character development in future leaders and employees. Ten high-school seniors from the Better Business Bureau's 21-county area are named every year as recipients of \$1,000 scholarships. Fisher and the other recipients were honored at the Torch Awards for Ethics luncheon on October 20 in Columbus.



## Hastings student awarded scholarship

Hera Chung, a sixth-grader at Hastings Middle School, is the recipient of the Ohio Association for Gifted Children's 2015 Distinguished Student Award. Chung was nominated for the award for the excellence in leadership she demonstrated as a fifth-grader at Greensview Elementary School. She received a \$500 scholarship and a certificate of excellence from the National Association for Gifted Children.



## Work on Tremont Addition Underway

The first phase of the much-needed expansion is rising on the northeast corner of Tremont Elementary School after a groundbreaking ceremony in October and the pouring of the foundation in early November. Plans for phase two of the project, which will begin after the completion of phase one in May 2016, might also soon take shape.

"The district is moving forward and expects to have concepts for that phase of the addition in December," said Chris Potts, Executive Director of Building Services. The second phase will renovate the music area, transform the existing gymnasium into a multi-use cafeteria space, convert the existing cafeteria into a new main office with a secure entrance and add a new gymnasium.

The idea of creating additional community space in the Tremont Elementary addition is on hold, Potts said. The district is moving ahead with its plans for phase two. Residents, however, would be asked for input if the Board of Education is asked to consider the addition of any community space to the building.

Meanwhile, crews from Elford Inc., a Columbus construction company, are working on adding much-needed classroom space and a new media center to enhance the educational experience students receive at Tremont.



"We can't wait for this part of the addition to be finished, and we are excited for what the district has in store for the second phase of the addition," Principal Brett Gambill said.

Gambill joined students, staff members, district officials and Board of Education members at the groundbreaking ceremony in October.

"We have been anticipating this moment for quite some time," Superintendent Paul Imhoff said. "The foresight of the community, in passing a permanent improvement levy in 2007, has allowed us to fund this and other projects in the district." The additional classroom space is crucial to the school, where the student population has grown from 530 just five years ago to more than 600 in 2014-15. Enrollment is projected to continue rising to more than 650 students.

As work continues, the district will continue to engage neighbors of Tremont Elementary and the UA Senior Center.

"The district is taking all steps to keep neighbors abreast of the project and informed of ways to contact us if they have any concerns," Potts said.

To learn more about the project, visit [www.uaschools.org/tremontconstruction](http://www.uaschools.org/tremontconstruction) or contact Chris Potts at 487-5000.

## THE UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION



### 2015 Upper Arlington Board of Education

**Back row:** Vice President Matt McClellan, Superintendent Paul Imhoff, Treasurer Andrew Geistfeld, President Nancy Drees

**Front row:** Stacey Royer, Carol Mohr, Robin Comfort

### Get the Inside Scoop on Upper Arlington Schools

[facebook.com/upperarlingtonschools](https://www.facebook.com/upperarlingtonschools)

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[twitter.com/imhoffpaul](https://twitter.com/imhoffpaul)

Do you want to get the inside scoop from your schools? Stop by the District's Facebook page and press the "like" button. You'll get the latest headlines from the District, as well as fun photos and videos. If you're a Twitter fan, be sure to follow @UA\_Schools!



Thanks to a partnership with the City of Upper Arlington, Board of Education meetings are held in the Council Chamber of the City's Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road. In general, meetings begin at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Some exceptions apply and last-minute scheduling changes are possible. Please refer to [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org), for the most up-to-date information.

### Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 6 p.m. – Council Chamber

The schedule of meetings for 2016 will be set by the board in January. To see the schedule then, please visit [www.uaschools.org/board](http://www.uaschools.org/board).

For additional information on the members of the Board of Education and its policies, please visit [www.uaschools.org/board](http://www.uaschools.org/board).

# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED

The UAHS girls water polo team won its fifth state title in six years and its 15th overall with a victory over Cincinnati Sycamore. The UAHS team finished the season 31-1.



Sisters Paige and Olivia Kompka led the UAHS girls tennis team to its second consecutive Division I state doubles championship. Teammates Kyra Jung and Anna Marie Reynolds placed third.



Wickliffe Principal Chris Collaros helped collect donations from students for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank during the elementary school's annual Halloween Parade.



Upper Arlington Schools retirees gathered for a breakfast in their honor in September. To see more photos, please visit <http://bit.ly/1Gt6C2B>.



Sixteen UAHS students have been recognized as Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. They will compete for about 7,600 scholarships worth more than \$35 million.



Windermere fifth-grader Phillip Stevens received a \$500 award through the "Agriculture Is Cool" education program. His essay about the program at the Ohio State Fair was selected as one of the top four in the state.

Greensview first-graders visited Stratford Ecological Center in Delaware to support their learning of living things and their basic needs. During the field trip, they made apple cider and sauce.

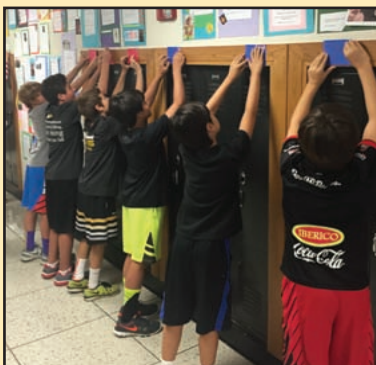


# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Above: About 20 eighth-grade students from Jones Middle School engaged in service learning during a trip to Costa Rica in June. Activities included volunteering at an after-school child-care program and day care and planting a garden.

Right: Jones students marked the anniversary of the September 11 attack by writing notes thanking firefighters for their service.



Mrs. Devore's fifth-grade class at Barrington Elementary showed their school spirit during Barrington Pride Day. Every student at Barrington received a T-shirt with the motto "Work Hard and Be Kind" thanks to parents and the PTO.



## HOP Day

Hastings Middle School students fanned out into the community to clean up parks, pack boxes at food banks and make deliveries for Meals on Wheels through LifeCare Alliance for HOP ("Hastings Outreach Program") Day, the school's annual service-learning event. Joining them to kick off the event in September was Joshua Williams, left, a high-school student from Florida who discovered his passion for philanthropy when he was only four and has dedicated himself to stomping out world hunger through Joshua's Heart Foundation.



## 2015-16 KEY SCHOOL DATES

### Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27

### Winter Break

Monday, December 21 – Friday, January 1

### End of Second Grading Period & First Semester

Friday, January 8

### Staff Professional Day

Monday, January 11

No school for students

### Beginning of Third Grading Period

Tuesday, January 12

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 18

No school for students & staff

### Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, January 21

- No kindergarten or LIFT classes all day
- Grades 1-5 dismissed at 11:05 a.m.

### Student Early Dismissal – Staff Professional Development

Wednesday, January 27

- Elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- Secondary students dismissed at 1:30 p.m.

### Presidents' Day

Monday, February 16

No school for students & staff

### Student Early Dismissal – Staff Professional Development

Wednesday, March 2

- Elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- Secondary students dismissed at 1:30 p.m.

### End of Third Grading Period

Friday, March 18

### Spring Break

Friday, March 21–Friday, March 25

### Staff Professional Day

Monday, March 28

No school for students

### Beginning of Fourth Grading Period

Tuesday, March 29

## Alumni Spotlight

### Carri Twigg, Class of 2004

**Notable achievements at UAHS:** For her senior thesis, Carri re-created the eighth-grade Washington, D.C., trip for 10 foster children from Columbus Public Schools. Her senior year work/study program involved teaching adult literacy at the Columbus Literacy Council. Both of these experiences serving people who didn't have the same advantages of her in UA deeply affected Carri.

**Career and goals:** Carri is a special assistant to President Barack Obama and the director of public engagement for Vice President Joe Biden. She engineers the external affairs and community relations for Biden, working daily with him to determine where he will go to interact with Americans on policy issues. Her long-term goals involve continuing to work in the areas of social justice and economic opportunity.

**How did UA prepare her for success?** "Over the years, I had a handful of educators who truly invested in me and made me feel special. From Wickliffe Elementary to Hastings Middle School and UAHS, there were some real standout adults who encouraged me and pushed me, even though I always had a rambunctious streak. I'll share one of my mom's favorite stories from my childhood: One day, early in elementary school, my mom found me in my room with a stack of library books. I told her I went to get a library card and checked them out. When she brought me back to the library to return the books, I greeted one particular librarian. The librarian told her that I came in, asked for some books but didn't have a card. The librarian said that, without a picture ID or a parent, I couldn't have a card. I walked back home, got my Wickliffe yearbook, walked back and showed it to her. The librarian was so impressed by my determination, she gave me the card and helped me pick out some books. Community members who work with kids and believe in them and show trust in them make for a great community."



## Schools*i*NSIGHT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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# Library **iNSIGHT**

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Library & Leadership UA Team Up to Offer Civics Program

The Library and Leadership UA have collaborated to develop a four-part series designed for the Upper Arlington resident who is interested in learning how our community works.

Here is a summary of the sessions, which will be held in the UA Main Library's Friends Theater.

### **Part 1: Wednesday, January 13 at 7 p.m.**

How does our local government operate? Do we vote for our mayor? How does our school system work? Does the city of UA govern the school system? Is the library part of the city government? These are common questions and with variation across local municipalities, it's no wonder that people are confused about the answers. In this session, you'll learn how the City of UA, UA Schools, and the UA Public Library are structured and operated. The discussion will be led by representatives of the city, school and library systems.

### **Part 2: Wednesday, January 20 at 7 p.m.**

How are your tax dollars used? This session will focus on the funding sources and financial operations of Upper Arlington's city, school and library systems. You'll hear about how taxes are approved and collected, and about the unique regulations and requirements for governmental and educational entities. The discussion will be led by representatives of the city, school and library systems.

### **Part 3: Wednesday, January 27 at 7 p.m.**

Local civic and community organizations play a key role in sustaining Upper Arlington. In this session, you'll learn about organizations that provide significant support to our community. Examples of

these types of organizations include the Upper Arlington Civic Association, The Upper Arlington Education Foundation, The Upper Arlington Community Foundation and more. The discussion will be led by representatives from each organization.

### **Part 4: Wednesday, February 3 at 7 p.m.**

Everyone wants to have the correct information, but with so much info available on the Internet, it can be hard to find the credible information you seek. A reference librarian leads this session about the many resources available to UA's citizens for becoming an effective information consumer.

Registration opens on December 15 via the Library's program calendar at [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org).

"We've heard many questions from the community about how the various city organizations work that we decided to

develop a program to answer those questions," said Jennifer Faure, the Library's Community Engagement Specialist. "Leadership UA has quite a bit of expertise with this type of programming since they do this on a much larger scale with their seven-month program. While we can't offer the depth of their program in four sessions at the library, we hope we can address the key questions that will help residents feel informed and understand how their tax dollars are used."

"The Leadership UA program is focused on developing future leaders and on educating community members so that they are well informed about the community," said Mary Ellen Hatch, Leadership UA's Executive Director. "Alumni always express appreciation for the parts of the program that teach them how the major local organizations work. We are looking forward to working with the library to scale this aspect of our program in such a way that we can share it with the broader community."





## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Chris Taylor

### 2015 Author Series Visit a True Signature Event for UA

The Upper Arlington Author Series hosted bestselling author Anthony Doerr for a talk and reception on October 11.

Nearly 1,200 people were in the audience at Upper Arlington High School to hear Doerr talk about his childhood, his path to becoming a writer, and his inspiration for writing his Pulitzer Prize winning novel *All the Light We Cannot See*. Not only is he an amazing author, he's also an engaging speaker who told humorous stories of his college dean's concern over his lack of focus, and of his time in Rome with three-month old twins. He also shared touching photos that served as influences when developing the book's main characters of a blind French girl and young German soldier.



Doerr speaks with guests at the reception and book signing held at the Main Library.

Finally, he fielded several great questions from the audience, who obviously were fans of his book and wanted to know more about the creative choices he made.

At a sold out reception following his talk, Doerr chatted personally with guests and graciously signed dozens of books.

The event was a tremendous success. Attendees came from 53 different ZIP codes to be a part of this special day. Here is a sample of the many wonderful comments we received from those who attended:

- "A huge thank you — what a special privilege today was!"
- "I attended the talk at the high school with three friends, and we all enjoyed it so much."
- "I need to drive 90 minutes to get home but it was well worth it."
- "What a well-run event. Thank you."
- "The author was wonderful. So glad we came."

Anthony Doerr's visit was made possible by many months of planning by the staff of the Library and the Upper Arlington Community Foundation. Funding was

generously provided by the Ann Royce Moore Fund at the UACF, the Friends of the Upper Arlington Public Library, and the Upper Arlington Rotary. Additional event support



A crowd of nearly 1,200 people filled the Upper Arlington High School Theater.

was given by Ann Moore, Steven's Catering, Homewood Suites and Barnes & Noble.

My sincere thanks goes to these sponsors, to all staff and volunteers involved, and to everyone who supported the Ann Royce Moore Fund by purchasing tickets.

In just four years, the Upper Arlington Author Series has become a signature event for our community. The Library looks forward to being involved in many more visits by well-known authors, including next year's guest: Bill Clegg, author of *Did You Ever Have a Family*, which received offers from four publishers and was longlisted for the 2015 Man Booker Prize. Clegg will visit Upper Arlington on Sunday, October 2. Look for tickets to go on sale this summer.

## Children and Teen eReading Rooms are Now Available

Kids and teens who love eBooks and eAudiobooks now have a great way to find old favorites and discover new ones through our age-appropriate eReading Rooms. These collections include all the children's and teen titles currently available to check out through our Digital Downloads service, and will feature hundreds of new titles as they're added.

Once in the eReading Room, search results will show only kid or teen subjects and no adult content will appear, allowing young patrons to find books faster. All titles in the eReading rooms are also cataloged by reading level and other metrics to help parents and teachers select titles for their children and students. Patrons can browse by subject, reading level or interest level.

Digital Downloads is a free service with your UA library card. Digital titles are available anytime, anywhere and expire automatically, which eliminates overdue fines. To access these new areas, visit [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org) and click on the orange "Teen Collection" or "Kids Collection" buttons. You'll find a support page and instruction sheet. You can even book one-on-one training sessions with a Media Services staff member.

## Seniors Can Nurture All Aspects of Wellness

The Library and the Upper Arlington Commission on Aging are pleased to offer another series of programs with senior residents in mind. This winter we're offering programs that will inspire you to focus on many aspects of good health — physical, intellectual and emotional. Make a resolution to be well this winter!

Programs will be held on seven consecutive Wednesday afternoons in the UA Main Library's Friends Theater.

### Everybody Has a Story

**Wednesday, January 6 at 1 p.m.**

Have you ever thought about preserving your stories? The constellation of moments, both ordinary and extraordinary make every person's life story unique. Join Becky Converse from The Forum at Knightsbridge and Melanie Brown from Circle of Life Histories for a special session on how to identify and record those moments. Becky will talk about the health benefits of recalling some of those special moments and will share a project that she did with residents at The Forum called "The Hands of Time." Melanie will give you tips and prompts to get your stories on paper.

### Guided Meditation

**Wednesday, January 13 at 1 p.m.**

There is an increasing body of research that shows that meditation can improve brain health and a variety of other health

conditions. Guided meditation is a great way to give it a try. Its easy and repeated practice can yield great health benefits. Shift Studio will be here to guide you to a wonderful meditation experience.

### Chair Tai Chi

**Wednesday, January 20 at 1 p.m.**

Tai chi is often described as "meditation in motion," but some are saying it should be referred to as "meditation in motion" because of a growing body of evidence that this mind-body practice is valuable in treating and preventing many health conditions. Tai chi is low-impact, slow-motion exercise through a series of motions that you perform without pausing. Tai chi can be easily adapted for anyone and Lucy Bartimole from Shift Studio will lead you through beginning tai chi that you'll do in a chair.

### Reiki

**Wednesday, January 27 at 1 p.m.**

Reiki is a Japanese healing technique that activates the natural healing processes of the body and restore physical and emotional well-being. While western medical research is working to understand how it works, there is evidence that it can be helpful in treating a wide range of health concerns ranging from insomnia to healing injuries. Join a Reiki practitioner from Shift Studio for this introduction.

### Share Your Story

**Wednesday, February 3 at 1 p.m.**

Now that you learned memoir writing techniques from Melanie Brown, come back and share some of your stories based on the prompts that were offered at a previous session. Weren't able to attend the memoir writing session on January 6 but want hear some great stories? Come listen to the stories of others and get inspired to record your own.

### High Tea

**Wednesday, February 10 at 1 p.m.**

Did you know that socializing can be an important component of wellness? Participants are cordially invited to wear their best hat and bring their favorite teacup. High tea will be served, compliments of The Forum at Knightsbridge.

### Technology for Wellness

**Wednesday, February 17 at 1 p.m.**

Many people don't think about technology as a way to improve your health, but there are many apps available intended to do just that. From reading and stimulating your intellect to apps that offer guided meditation, yoga practice or nutrition coaching, there is an endless array available for free or for at low cost. Join one of our Reference Librarians for a discussion of some of the many resources that are currently available.

## Comic Books Come to Life on Your Computer or Device

Starting December 1, we're adding comics to the selection of content available through the Hoopla digital media service.

The catalog of comics includes titles from DC Comics, Image Comics, and BOOM! Comics, as well as Dark Horse comics, the publisher of best-selling titles such as *Hellboy*, *B.P.R.D.*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Sin City*. Other comic book titles in the collection include *Star Trek*, *Dr. Who*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Strawberry Shortcake*, *Garfield* and many more.

You can read them full-page or select panel-to-panel, which allows you to zoom in on a specific panel then simply flip to the next one. This is a great way to see all the action in a comic book close up right on your computer or device.

In addition to comics, you can use your Upper Arlington Public Library card to access Hoopla's movies, television shows, music, eBooks and audiobooks. Borrow them to your device or stream them from your computer.

Lending periods are three days for movies and TV shows; seven days for music; and 21 days for audiobooks, eBooks and comics. All Hoopla content is available for simultaneous check out, meaning there are no waiting lists or holds. Once the loan period is over, the items are returned automatically so there are no overdue fines to worry about.

To access this great service, go to [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org) and click the "Movies" tab in the digital media box near the top of the page.

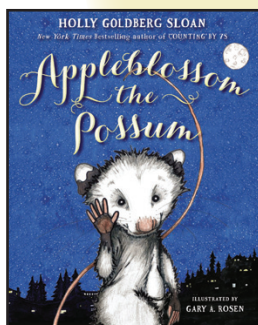
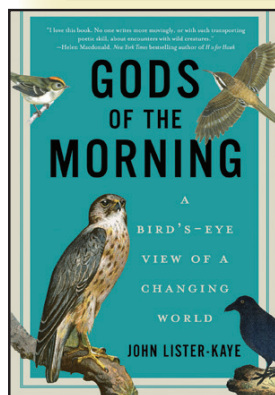
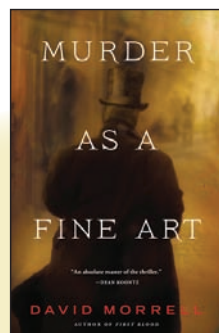
## OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

### Courage & Defiance: Stories of Spies, Saboteurs, and Survivors in World War II Denmark

By Deborah Hopkinson

This book profiles several people who worked alone or in groups during World War II against the Germans in Denmark. It drives home the danger these people were in (most of them were captured and placed in camps at some point) and what the turning point for each person was to become personally involved. Good for grades 3-7.

— Tracie Steele, Youth Services



### Appleblossom the Possum

By Holly Sloan

Appleblossom is a young possum who has just started navigating the world on her own. When she accidentally falls down the chimney of a human family's home, it's up to her possum brothers to rescue her. This book makes a great parent and child read-aloud.

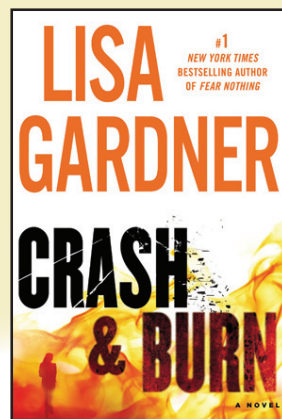
— Sue Emrick, Lane Road Library

### Murder as a Fine Art

By David Morrell

Take a trip back to 1850s England where the newly formed police department join forces with Thomas DeQuincey and his daughter to find a brutal killer roaming the dark and foggy streets of London. This master of disguise killer sees murder as a fine art that should possess the theme of terror and pity. A superb thriller that intertwines Victorian history with terrorizing crimes. A must read!

— Scott Potter, Adult Services



### Did You Ever Have a Family

By Bill Clegg

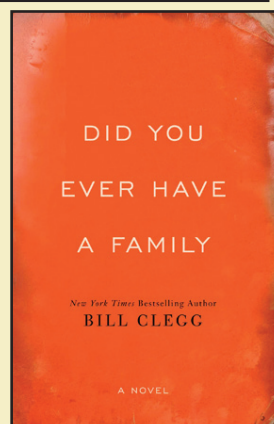
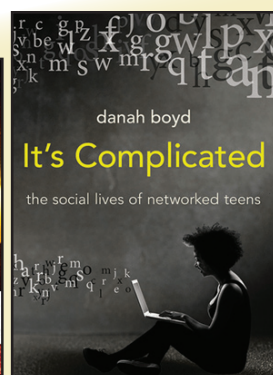
A devastating gas explosion levels a house along with its inhabitants. In the wake of tragedy, this novel slowly reveals characters who are struggling with loss. Told through alternating narrative, the story that ultimately unfolds is one of hope and human connection. This is a great book club pick that would lend itself to a layered discussion. Save the date – the Upper Arlington Author Series will host Bill Clegg on October 2, 2016!

— Jennifer Faure, Community Relations

### Crash & Burn

By Lisa Gardner

The latest stand-alone mystery by Lisa Gardner is a doozy. The main character,



Nicky Frank, has suffered three head injuries in a short period of time, which raises numerous questions for the local police. Who is Nicky Frank? Is her confusion a result of her head injuries? Were her falls accidental? Is somebody trying to kill her? What, exactly, is going on here? This book is for you if you enjoy reading an engaging book full of twists and turns.

— Hari Ruiz, Adult Services

### Gods of the Morning

By John Lister-Kaye

Over a period of a year the author beautifully describes the changing natural world around him at his estate in the

highlands of Scotland, Aigas. As a naturalist and a conservationist, he tells the stories of the plants and animals that are found in this unique part of the world, especially the birds that are his passion and that he calls his gods of the morning.

— Alina Butler, Miller Park

### It's Complicated: the Social Lives of Networked Teens

By danah boyd

boyd combines dozens of interviews with teenagers across the country with years of research to distinguish the real and perceived online dangers that teens face. She convincingly demonstrates that teens really do care about privacy (especially from their parents!), that they aren't so much addicted to the Internet as too over-scheduled to meet up with their friends in person, and that they aren't all as tech-savvy as older adults imagine. She includes nuanced and sympathetic discussions of everything from identity to cyberbullying in this helpful guide for adults trying to figure out what the heck their teens are up to online.

— Megan Sheeran, Reference

## Live at the Library Returns with Local Music Concerts

The Upper Arlington Public Library's dedication to local music continues this winter with the return of our popular Live at the Library concert series. This year's concerts run the gamut from popular covers to jazz; indie pop to bluegrass.

We kick off the series with **Randall and Randolph**, aka David Vaubel and Canaan Faulkner, on Thursday, January 7 at 7 p.m. They've been harmonizing together in local band The Randys for more than a decade. Catch them in a rare performance as an acoustic duo singing country gems from the 1950s & '60s.

Folk-pop ensemble **Winter Makes Sailors** performs on Thursday, January 14 at 7 p.m. W.M.S is made up of Sean Gardner, John Fitzgerald, Nick Nocera, Jay Gasper and Kate Folmar. The band plays quaint indie-pop songs full of simple, catchy melodies as well orchestrated pop music.

**Old Hundred** plays artful folk-rock combining the wistful grace of Wilco, the snappy forward motion of Spoon, and the lilting harmonies of Fleet Foxes. Band members Blake Skidmore, Jon Helm, Nate Gelinias, Hal Hixson and Gordy Smith are influenced by grunge, folk, and Americana. See them perform on Thursday, January 21 at 7 p.m.

**Fox N Hounds**, performing on Thursday, January 28 at 7 p.m., keeps the laments and ballads of bluegrass music, but also brings a lively addition. It's bluegrass music of the now. Band members Steven Fox, Adam Schlenker and Caleb Powers bring their sound to the ears of listeners eager for a new twist to bluegrass music.

The series wraps up on Thursday, February 4 at 7 p.m. with the cool jazz sounds of the **Derek DiCenzo Trio** featuring

members Derek DiCenzo, Aaron Scott and Dave DeWitt.

"This is the third year of this series and we're thrilled to be able to support local musicians in this way," said Shahin Shoar, the Library's Media Services Manager. "Live at the Library is a great way to not only support some wonderful musicians working in Central Ohio, but also to showcase musical styles our patrons may not be familiar with."

The series complements our local music CD collection, which consists of albums, many of them donated by central Ohio bands, displayed together as "Local" and arranged by genre.

## NewsBITES

### LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

#### Mobile Printing Now Available

Patrons wishing to print from a webpage or mobile app to a Library printer can send the print job from any computer or device. You can even send your print job from home and pick up at the Library. Visit [print.ualibrary.org](http://print.ualibrary.org) for details. The new printing software is also compatible with the computers provided to Upper Arlington students through the new One-to-One Technology initiative.

#### UA Public Library Receives Five Stars

*Library Journal* magazine has once again named us a 5-Star Library! The LJ Index is a measurement tool that compares U.S. public libraries with their spending peers based on four per capita output measures: circulation, library visits, program attendance and public Internet computer use. We also ranked highest in our budget category for circulation and visits per capita. More information on ratings can be found at [www.libraryjournal.com](http://www.libraryjournal.com).

#### Holiday Happiness Returns December 5

Our 44th annual Holiday Happiness event will be held at the Main Library on Saturday, December 5 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. We'll have music by the Jones and Hastings Middle School Honor Choirs and the Jones Chamber Orchestra. We'll also have kids' crafts, face painting, balloon sculptures, festive displays and a visit from Santa Claus from Noon-2 p.m. Our annual gingerbread building contest returns, too. Visit [www.gingerbread.ualibrary.org](http://www.gingerbread.ualibrary.org) for more information on this contest for all ages, including the new LEGO "gingerbread" house building division for ages nine-12.

#### Upcoming Holiday Closings

All three UA libraries will be closed on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24 and Christmas Day, Friday, December 25. We will close at 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 31 and remain closed on New Year's Day, Friday, January 1. Libraries will be open on Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Presidents' Day.

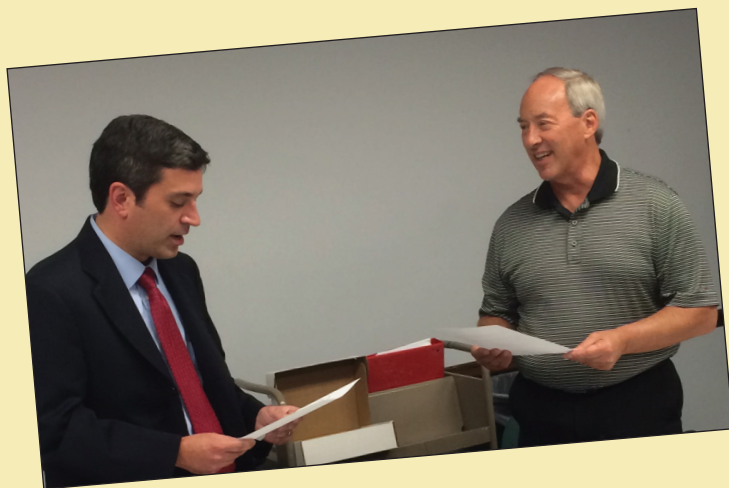
#### Winter Book Sale

The Friends of the Upper Arlington Library will hold its Winter Book Sale from February 21-March 6 in the atrium of the Main Library. You'll find a large selection of used books, DVDs, CDs, records, magazines and more. Most books are priced from 25¢ to \$2. A special members-only presale will be held on the first day, Sunday, February 21 from 12-1 p.m. Memberships will be sold at the door for those who would like to take advantage of this benefit but are not yet members. On the final day of the sale, Sunday, March 6, Friends members can fill a paper grocery bag with books for just \$5. Nonmember price is \$10 per bag. All proceeds benefit the UA Library, so find a bargain and help your library.

#### Strategic Plan Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent focus groups and survey. We will study and use the public's input as we craft a new three-year strategic plan. We hope to have the plan completed in early 2016.

# Explore...GATHER...*grow!!*



On September 15, Justin Nahvi (left) was sworn in as the Library's new Fiscal Board Member Jack Burtch administered the oath.



Illustrator Steve Harpster came to the Main Library to teach kids basic drawing techniques.



Back to the Author Series — Anthony Doerr spoke about his influences when writing *All the Light We Cannot See*.



Doerr poses with Ann Moore and staff members from the Library and the Upper Arlington Community Foundation.



Golden Bear Athletes from Upper Arlington High School visited the Miller Park Library to share a story, help with crafts, and talk about their sport.



# Winter Program Highlights

## Winter Reading Program

Readers of all ages can have fun with our Book Bingo Winter Reading Program. From January 4-February 14, kids and adults can stop by any Upper Arlington Library to pick up a bingo sheet containing 24 literacy and activity spaces. When you've completed enough spaces to form a bingo (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line across the card), return your sheet to the branch of your choice. Each person who turns in a completed sheet will receive a bookmark, and a chance to win a grand prize. There will be drawings at the end of the program for five different age categories: infant-PreK, grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-12, and adult. Grand prizes will be drawn and winners will be notified, on Monday, February 15. Thanks to our generous Friends of the Library organization for donating the prizes!

## Star Wars Programs

Young Jedis and Padawans are invited to two *Star Wars* events this winter. The Lane Road Library will have *Star Wars* crafts and activities on Wednesday, December 16 at 4 p.m. Then the Force will be with you when you stop by the Miller Park Library on Thursday, January 7 between 4-6 p.m. for more fun and crafts.

## Downton Abbey Final Season Premiere

Calling all *Downton Abbey* fans! Join us at the Main Library on Sunday, January 3 at 8:30 p.m. for scones, tea and the premiere of the show's final season. Find out what the Crawleys and their servants are up to in high definition on our Friends Theater's big screen.

## Feed Down Fines

Our popular fine reduction program returns to all three Upper Arlington Libraries on Saturday, January 16 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. We'll clear \$1 of your fines for every canned or boxed food item that you donate to the Heart to Heart Food Pantry, up to a total of \$10. Please check expiration dates in advance. No fines but want to donate? Bring your food items and we'll get them delivered to Heart to Heart for you.

## Rock-n-Roll Book Club Podcast

Love books? Love to rock? Put them together and you've got the Rock-n-Roll Book Club podcast! Join the four club members — DJ Mark Dantzer, Pat Buzzard of Saving Jane, Chuck Johnson of The Cooking Caravan, and musician Ryan Smith — in the Main Library's Friends Theater on Tuesday, January 26 at 7 p.m. for the first-ever public taping of their monthly podcast. They'll discuss *Hitless Wonder: A Life in Minor League Rock and Roll* by Joe Oestreich. Immediately following, Joe will do a Q&A via Skype where you can ask him questions. Local musician Colin Gawel will join in to perform three live songs. Go to <http://rnrbookclub.com> for more information.

See our *Library Link* guide for the complete schedule of programs for all ages. Pick up your copy at any UA Library or view online at [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org).

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Seated:** President Bill Shkurti;  
Vice President Sarah Mueller  
**Standing L-R:** Jack Burtch,  
John Yesso, Gloria Heydlauff,  
Karen Davis, Karen Olstad

In general, meetings of the Upper Arlington Public Library Board of Trustees begin at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in Meeting Room B of the Main Library. All meetings of the Board and its committees, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public. You can sign up to

receive email notification of upcoming Board meetings by visiting [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org) and clicking the "Explore Newsletters" button.

### Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, December 8 at 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 19 at 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 16 at 5 p.m.

## Library **iNSIGHT**

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Production:

Christine Minx | Marketing & Community  
Relations Manager  
614-486-9621 | [cminx@ualibrary.org](mailto:cminx@ualibrary.org)



### Upper Arlington Public Library

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Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221

Phone: 614-486-9621 | [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org)



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# calendar

## COMMUNITY

Visit our Community Calendar at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net)  
Or follow us on Facebook & Twitter for event updates

### Santa's Mailbox

**November 23–December 14**

*Municipal Services Center Kenny Road parking lot, 3600 Tremont Road*

Boys and girls who place a letter in Santa's special mailbox receive a letter from Santa. An unaffixed first-class stamp is required.

### UACA Christmas in the Park

**November 29–December 3**

*Thompson Park*

*UA Civic Association, [www.uaca.org](http://www.uaca.org)*

Each year Santa visits UA and the lucky children of our town enjoy a carriage ride, meet with Santa and share their Christmas wishes. Reservations fill quickly each year.

### Winter Festival

**6–8:30 p.m., Friday, December 4**

*Mallway, Arlington Avenue*

*UA Parks & Recreation, 583-5300*

Celebrate the season as we light the holiday tree for the first time. Enjoy carriage rides, caroling, visits with Santa, holiday lights, a bonfire with s'mores and more. Free.

### Cultural Arts' Pop-Up Shop

**6–8:30 p.m., Friday, December 4**

*Mallway, Arlington Avenue*

*Cultural Arts, 583-5310*

During Winter Festival stop by to pick up something for you, something for them. Featuring work from local artists.

### Brunch With Santa

**9 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,**

**Saturday, December 5**

*Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park*

Join Santa for a brunch buffet and some festive cheer. Reservations can be made at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net). Cost: \$16.50/adult, \$9.50/child, free for kids under 2 yrs.

### Tremont Center Christmas Event

**6–8 p.m., Tuesday, December 15**

Celebrate the season with Tremont Center merchants. See Santa, enjoy free sleigh rides, tasty treats and more.

### Concourse Gallery

*M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 3600 Tremont Road*

*Cultural Arts Division, 583-5310*

### Through the Lens

**January 6-29**

The FOCUS Group is a photography club of enthusiastic amateur and professional photographers who live in Central Ohio. Since its founding in 1998 by Abdi Roble and Bill Nieberding, members have shared their passion for photography the public through exhibitions such as this.

### Elementary Schools

**February 3-February 26**

Work on display comes from Barrington, Greensview, St. Agatha, St. Andrew, Tremont, Wellington, Wickliffe and Windermere.

### State of the City Address

**5–7:30 p.m., Monday, January 25**

*Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road*  
*City Manager's Office, 583-5040*

The City's annual progress report, Community Fair, and announcements of the 2015 Community Awards.

### UA Stage – "The Mystery of Edwin Drood"

**4:30–9 p.m., Wednesday, February 24**

*UA High School Auditorium*

*UA Civic Association, [uastage@uaca.org](mailto:uastage@uaca.org)*

Fourth annual senior event, offered in conjunction with the High School's Vocal Music Program, First Community, and the City's Parks & Recreation Department. It includes dinner and an advance preview of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" at the High School. Reservations required.

### The Mystery of Edwin Drood

**7:30 p.m. February 25-27**

**2:30 p.m. February 28**

*UA High School Auditorium*

*487-5200 | [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org)*

The Tony award-winning musical is based on the unfinished novel by Charles Dickens and stops at the point where he left off, allowing audiences to solve the mystery and determine the outcome of the show.