

UA[★]iNSIGHT

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2021





City of Upper
Arlington

CityiNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2021



CO-CREATING UA'S COMMUNITY CENTER

After many years spent making the best of dated, inadequate and randomly located facilities for meeting the community's recreational needs, we are on the cusp of realizing a once in a lifetime goal - a centrally located Upper Arlington Community Center. Thanks to the extensive process undertaken by the Community Center Feasibility Task Force, we already know in broad terms what types of facilities will be included in the Community Center. However, as the City's architecture and design team begins to drill into the details, there's still plenty of opportunity for your input, with the goal of co-creating a facility that will welcome and serve all members of our community, no matter your age, interests or abilities.

Read on for an overview of the ways you can become involved in this exciting process.

Engagement Schedule

Community Meeting 1 October 20 Open House

At press time, plans for this Open House - to be held at the Tremont Library - included a brief overview of the design process and project schedule, and a

review of the primary uses developed during the feasibility study. This was to be followed by an exploration of three models depicting options for organizing the facilities within the available building footprint.

Focus Groups & Work Groups November - mid-December

A series of focus group and work group discussions will be hosted virtually on topic areas that will include but not be limited to:

- Senior Programming
- Youth & Teens
- Aquatics
- Inclusion & Accessibility
- Sustainability

If you would like to participate in a focus group, or you have another topic area to suggest to our consultants, be sure to let us know at uacommentarycenter.com.

Community Meeting 2 7-9 pm, Wednesday, November 10 MSC, 3600 Tremont Road

At this second community gathering, the design team will provide a project

update and share details of their planning and design strategies.

Online Survey

Mid-December - mid-January

An online survey, open to everyone, will give the community a chance to guide the focus and next steps for the planning and design process.

Community Meeting 3

UACC State of the City Address Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mark your calendars to join us for a very different State of the City Address. In addition to some of our regular State of the City Address activities, the design team will be unveiling the preferred planning and design strategy for the Upper Arlington Community Center. This will be a night you won't want to miss!

This is your Community Center, so don't miss these upcoming opportunities for helping to shape this exciting new facility. Visit uacommentarycenter.com for project updates and to sign-up for the UA Community Center mailing list.

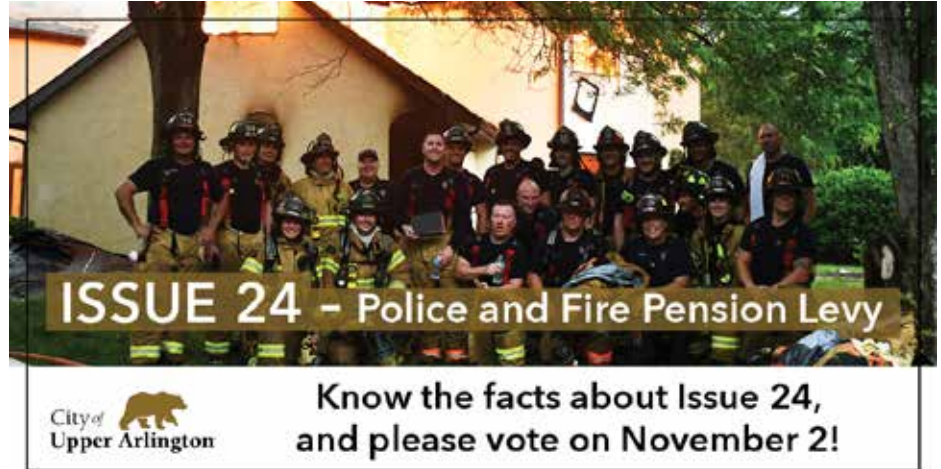
November 2 General Election Reminders

The November Election is just days away. As a reminder, UA has several candidates running for seats on both City Council and the School Board and one important local issue on the ballot – so we hope you have been able to take some time to learn more in advance of heading to the ballot box on Tuesday. Read on for a quick rundown:

Issue 24 Police and Fire Pension Levy

The City is seeking voter approval of a five-year renewal of its Police and Fire Pension Levy. By Ohio Statute, the City is required to fund a notable percentage of gross wages to support the Police and Fire Pension Fund. The City has been able to meet this obligation through property tax for the past 45 years, with residents approving nine, five-year ballot issues. Several factors have led to a reduction of 8.25% in the renewal request (reduced from .97 mills to .89 mills). If approved, the renewed levy would take effect for tax year 2022 and would be payable starting in 2023.

Maintaining a high standard of safety services is a costly endeavor – combined our safety forces represent approximately half the City's workforce and general budget each year, while still providing high levels of service at one of the lowest costs per capita when compared to similar Ohio communities. The Police and Fire Pension Levy provides an important, fixed source of income for our safety forces' pensions and enables the City to dedicate general



fund monies to providing the full range of safety services that you expect and deserve.

Visit upperarlingtonoh.gov to learn more about Issue 24.

Upper Arlington City Council

For Upper Arlington City Council, Council Vice President Kip Greenhill is completing his second term on Council and is therefore unable to run for an additional term. Council members Brian Close, Michele Hoyle and Jim Lynch are all running to serve second terms. Community members Kathy Adams, Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, Stacy McIntire and Andrej Rotter are all running to serve a first term on Council.

Upper Arlington School Board

For the Upper Arlington School Board, Carol Mohr is seeking reelection to

serve a third term, and Scott McKenzie is running to serve his second term. Community members Liz Easton, Nidhi Satiani and Lou Sauter are all running to serve a first term.

Please take some time to be informed on the issues and candidates on the upcoming ballot. And be sure to exercise your constitutional right and civic duty by voting on Tuesday, November 2.

Election Sign Recycling

8-11 am, Saturday, November 6

Bill McDonald Athletic Complex

4990 Olentangy River Road

Once the excitement of Election Day is behind us, the question of what to do with all those yard signs will inevitably spring to mind. Never fear, SWACO offers a yard sign recycling collection on the Saturday following Election Day (November 6), from 8-11 am at the Bill McDonald Athletic Complex, 4990 Olentangy River Road. And if you can't make that, just bring your signs to the Municipal Services Center (by the Police bay) by 5 pm Friday, November 5, and our Code Compliance team will recycle them for you.

Police & Fire Pension Levy - in Dollars & Cents

The table below compares the existing levy of .97 mills—which expires at the close of 2021—to the proposed annual property tax rate of .89 mills, which represents a reduction of 8.25%. The property tax amount assigned to your home's value when a levy takes effect is fixed over the life of the levy.

Home Value	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate	Annual Decrease
\$100,000	\$33.95	\$31.15	(\$2.80)
\$400,000	\$135.80	\$124.60	(\$11.20)

BUILDING BLOCKS



Upper Arlington is fortunate to be home to a rich and diverse mix of small businesses that provide us all with convenient shopping, dining and service options. Recognizing the challenges that many small businesses have been experiencing in recent months, City Council and the Administration have been exploring ways to help support these businesses as they navigate the pandemic.

In February of this year, the Love LOCAL Marketing Campaign enabled members of the small business community to participate in a coupon mailer that proved very successful in raising awareness and patronage for the participating businesses.

Fast forward to the fall and the team at the City has developed a creative new program designed to give a much needed boost to employee retention.

The Jumpstart UA program was overwhelmingly approved by City Council in August, including authorization for the City to earmark up to \$300,00 in American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds from the federal government, to support this new program.

The goal for the JumpStart UA Employee Retention Grant program is to help our local businesses with retention

of their staff and to thank those workers who have continued to serve the Upper Arlington community throughout the pandemic.

JumpStart UA will reimburse eligible local businesses up to \$200 per employee with a maximum of \$6,000 per business, for qualifying employee retention bonuses. The reimbursement will be on a two-to-one basis. Below are two examples of how this program could work:

- If a business were to give their employee(s) a \$300 retention bonus, the City would reimburse the business \$200 per employee.
- If a business were to give their employee(s) a \$150 retention bonus, the City would reimburse the business \$100 per employee.

The JumpStart UA Program has specific requirements to ensure the funds will go to local businesses and their workforce who served the Upper Arlington Community during COVID-19. One such requirement states that eligible employees must earn less than \$20/hour and have been employed for at least six months by that employer during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are a small business owner in UA and you are interested in learning

more about JumpStart UA, contact our Economic Development Director Joe Henderson today, at jhenderson@uaoh.net, or 614-583-5046.

5000 Arlington Centre Boulevard Purchased by Gosh Enterprises

The parent company of restaurant chains that include Charleys Philly Steaks and Bibibop Asian Grill – Gosh Enterprises – announced in August its purchase of 5000 Arlington Centre Boulevard from the Tree of Life Christian Schools. The site will serve as its corporate headquarters, while also retaining a number of existing office tenants.

Gosh Enterprises' initial plans are to initially occupy approximately 30,000 square feet of the 200,000 square foot office building. Design plans include collaborative workspaces and a research and development kitchen. The company's 200 employees are tentatively scheduled to take up occupancy over the summer of 2022.

"This is great news for our community," said City Manager Steve Schoeny. "The Henderson Road corridor has the potential for undergoing an exciting transformation that will to build on our recent economic development successes along Lane Avenue and at Kingsdale. We look working with Gosh Enterprises in the months and years ahead to maximize the potential of this significant commercial parcel."



CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Steve Schoeny

Community Safety is a Team Sport

I have a confession to make. After a little more than two years learning the ins and outs of community policing and crime trends in UA, I did the unthinkable – upon returning one evening from a trip out of town, I left my car parked on my street overnight, unlocked. The next morning, I quickly realized the error of my ways, and a few members of the Police Division rightly gave me a slice of humble pie along with some tips (that I already knew) for preventing any future thefts from my car.

From one year to the next, crime statistics in the *Police Annual Report* show that a vast majority of reported thefts in Upper Arlington are crimes of opportunity – from an unlocked car, an open garage or items and packages left in plain view on the front porch. As residents, we are fortunate that this is our predominant safety challenge, especially since there are many simple steps that we can take to minimize our chances of becoming victim to these frustrating crimes.

With the holidays fast approaching, I've decided to share my recent mishap in the hope that it inspires you to think about your family's home safety practices, since extra vigilance is so important at this time of year.

Here are some basic steps we should all take to help keep our cars, homes and families safe.

Car Safety Reminders

- Keep cars parked in your garage and keep the garage doors closed.
- If your car must be parked on the drive or in the street, lock the doors and close the windows.

- Don't keep a spare key in or near your vehicle.
- Don't leave valuables in your car.
- If your car has an audible alarm system, use it.
- Use a visible safety device, such as a steering wheel lock or alarm flashing light as a deterrent.

Holiday Shopping Reminders

If you do your holiday shopping using the traditional, in-person method:

- Park in a safe, well lit area.
- Have your keys at the ready when returning to your car and avoid weighing yourself down with too many bags.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you.
- Don't leave shopping bags in plain view in your car.

Home Safety

- Make sure your home is well lit, and keep doors locked, even when you are home.
- Don't advertise new gifts or purchases - break boxes down and place them in your recycling container.
- Try to schedule package deliveries when you are home and use online package tracking so that you know when items should be arriving.
- Consider investing in one of the doorbell or home video technologies now available, and if you do invest in some smart technology, put out the signs that let passersby know your home is protected.
- Register your camera through the Police Division's Citizen Camera Partnership program.

In the coming weeks, watch for a series of holiday-specific and basic home safety blogs on our website and in the *City Insight* weekly e-newsletter that provide a more expansive set of tips for keeping the home front safe.

Police Body Worn Camera Update

After many months researching best practices, formulating policies, selecting a vendor and testing equipment, the Police Division is ready to fully implement our Police Body Worn Camera Program. The final rollout is scheduled to occur by early December, equipping all patrol officers with cameras.

To help get us to this point, the division began using a limited number of the cameras this summer. Police Chief Steve Farmer recently showed me some examples of the resulting "in the field" footage obtained by officers when responding to a police incident. It further solidified my belief in the value of this safety investment – it truly does enhance transparency, and frankly, it gave me a whole new level of appreciation relative to the professionalism and level of training demonstrated by our officers.

The use of body worn cameras is rapidly becoming the standard for police agencies across the nation. Combined with the rapid increase in video surveillance technology in places of business and public gathering spaces, many of our daily activities are already on camera. Something to think about as we all go about our lives.

Community Special Event Application Process Updates

The City is changing the application and permitting process for community special events that require the use of City property and/or City logistical and planning support. Primary goals are to simplify the application process for the benefit of event organizers and to streamline the internal review process by the various departments that typically provide event assistance. It will also allow the City to effectively manage its finite supply of equipment and staffing, while balancing its support of longstanding community events with new and unique event proposals.

Event organizers are encouraged to start their applications early. For new event proposals, planners may be required to attend a review meeting.

Application Timeline

Beginning in 2022, City Staff will review event applications on a quarterly basis, per the following tentative schedule:

For Events Held:	Application Deadline	Review Date
April 1 – June 30	January 17	February 2
July 1 – September 30	April 18	May 4
October 1 – December 31	July 18	August 3
January 1, 2023 – March 31	October 17	November 2

A streamlined, online application form has been created, to be used for all event proposals that involve use of public streets, parks or other City property. It can be accessed at <https://upperarlingtonoh.viewpointcloud.com/>.

Separate applications are available for Block Parties, Mobile Demonstrations and Car Washes.

Also new for 2022 will be a Park Use Permit for groups wishing to hold small activities in a City park that won't disrupt typical park uses.

If you have questions about this new process, contact Parks & Recreation at 614-583-5300. For walks and runs, contact the City Manager's Office, at 614-583-5040.

FROM CHAMBERS | Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions

2022 Budget Hearings

The fall of each odd numbered year marks the time for City departments to review and make adjustments to the second year of its biennial budget document. The results of that effort come before Council starting in November, with a series of public hearings that look at the different budget components.

The City's financial position remains strong despite the recent challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a result of several interrelated factors that include:

- The leadership of past and present City Councils that have guided reviews, updates and adherence to strong fiscal policies and financial accountability practices;
- The cumulative effect of a proactive economic development program, which is diversifying and strengthening the business community;
- Voter support in 2014 of an increase in the income tax rate to fund capital improvements.



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

The proposed 2022 budget is reflective of conservative revenue projections in response to the current economic climate, while positioning the City to be able to continue providing a high level of services and continuing the City's reinvestment in its 10-Year Capital Improvement Program, relative to streets, sidewalks, waterlines, sewers, parks and other public infrastructure.

Dates for the budget hearings are as follows:

- **6:30 pm, Monday, November 8**
City Council Meeting – first budget

discussion (Capital Improvement Program)

- **7:30 pm, Monday, November 15**
City Council Meeting – second budget discussion (Operating, Capital Equipment, Schedule of Fees)
- **7:30 pm, Monday, December 6**
City Council Meeting – third budget discussion (open items)
- **7:30 pm, Monday, December 13**
City Council Meeting – Council vote

For additional budget process details, contact our Finance Director, Brent Lewis, at 614-583-5288.

Leaf Collection**Public Works Division614-583-5350**

The City is providing leaf collection services through early December, weather permitting.

The timeframe for collection each year does not change since the Public Works Division must fit this service in with other seasonal services.

A Leaf Collection Tracking Map is available on the **Leaf Collection** section of our website, providing residents a means to follow the progress of collection crews in their area and anticipate when they are likely to be on their street.

Please follow these guidelines:

- **The last day to rake leaves to the curb is Sunday, December 5.**
- Place loose-raked leaves close to the edge of the street in the tree lawn, **not in the street.**
- Leaf piles should extend no further than two-three feet behind the curb.
- Do not place grass clippings, rocks, sticks or other objects in leaf piles – please continue to use the weekly yard waste collection service to dispose of other yard waste debris.
- Keep piles away from signposts, light poles, trees and mail boxes.
- Do not block storm sewers as this can increase the chance of flooding in the event of a heavy rain.
- Parked vehicles should be at least 15 feet away from either side of leaf piles so that collection crews have safe access to the leaves with their truck and leaf machine.

**Bring Us Your Pumpkins!****October 29-December 3**

Don't throw away your pumpkins, compost them! Special collection containers will be available at Fancyburg Park beginning Halloween weekend. Simply toss your pumpkins into the containers and they will be transported to the compost facility. Please do not put pumpkins in the lime-green containers as those are



reserved for food waste only. Last year, we were able to divert over 65,000 pounds of pumpkins from the landfill!

Holiday Lights Recycling Program**Available Through January 30****Public Works Division614-583-5350**

Following the holidays, the City is offering a holiday light recycling program. Bins are available at the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road, at the rear of the building, near the food composting containers. This environmentally friendly program offers residents an alternative to sending strands of holiday lights to the landfill. Lights only please, no bags or other material. Light strands should never be placed in the blue recycle containers as they are considered "tanglers" and can cause major issues within the recycling facility.

Christmas Tree Collection**Available Through January 30****Solid Waste614-583-5370**

The City's Solid Waste provider, Local Waste, will collect live Christmas trees on your regular collection day as part of the yard waste collection program. Remove all decorations and place trees (do not place in bags) at the curb by 7 am. If the tree is eight feet or taller, please cut it in half.

2022 Solid Waste Holiday Collection Schedule

Since Local Waste collection crews follow some, but not all City holiday observances, here's a rundown of collection delays for 2022:

- **New Year's Day:** Friday, December 31, 2021 - No delays
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day:** Monday, January 17 - No delays (City observance only)
- **Presidents' Day:** Monday, February 21 - No delays (City observance only)
- **Memorial Day:** Monday, May 30 - **All zones have a one day delay**
- **Independence Day:** Monday, July 4 - **All zones have a one day delay**
- **Labor Day:** Monday, September 5 - **All zones have a one day delay**
- **Veterans Day:** Friday, November 11 - No delays (City observance only)
- **Thanksgiving Day:** Thursday, November 24 - **Thursday zone collected on Friday**
- **Christmas Day:** Monday, December 26 - **All zones have a one day delay**
- **New Year's Day:** Monday, January 2 - **All zones have a one day delay**

NewsBITES

CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Public Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Thursday, November 11** – Veterans Day. Solid Waste service is not affected.
- **Thursday, November 25** – Thanksgiving Day. Thursday's Solid Waste collection zone will receive service on Friday.
- **Friday, December 24** – Christmas Day. Solid Waste service is not affected.
- **Friday, December 31** – New Year's Day. Solid Waste service is not affected.

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery*

Sunday, November 7

As Daylight Savings Time comes to a close, clocks "fall back" one hour at 2 am on Sunday morning. This is also a good time to change the batteries in your home's smoke alarms. This should be done at least once a year, but changing them while changing your clocks serves as a great reminder. Alarms should also be tested once a month and if an alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the battery right away.

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.

Fire Division Awards

FIRE 614-583-5100

UA's Fire Division is pleased to announce the recipients of two awards:

- **2021 Dr. Mary E. Fontana Distinguished Service Award** – Fire Captain Chris Moore has been selected, in recognition of more than 20 years of exceptional service. He has played an instrumental role in the Fire Division's COVID-19 policies, and coordinating a series of vaccination clinics.
- **2021 Firefighter of the Year** – Firefighter/Paramedic Josh Moore has been selected, in recognition of his actions – while already off duty – to respond to a house fire. Knowing that crews had already left for another emergency situation, on hearing the dispatch call, Josh drove straight to the home on fire, alerted the occupants to get them to safety, and then climbed a privacy fence to open the gate to the backyard, directing the responding crews to the exact location of the fire as soon as they arrived on scene. Thanks to his quick actions, no one was injured and damage to the home was minimal.

2022 Wall of Honor Nominations

uahistory.org

Each May, 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 being accepted for the 2022 Wall of Honor inductee, a partnership of the UA Historical Society and the City's Parks & Recreation Department. Nomination forms are available at www.uahistory.org. The deadline is Friday, January 14, 2022. The 2020 induction ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 22.

2022 Community Calendar upperarlingtonoh.gov

As a service to the community, the City provides an online Community Calendar of special events on its website. These event listings are oftentimes promoted by the City via other means, as space and scheduling permits. Now is the time to send us details of qualifying community events for 2022. Visit our **Events** section, at upperarlingtonoh.gov, where you will find submission details.

SCRAM! Wildlife Control

www.SCRAM!Wildlife.org

The City contracts with SCRAM! Wildlife Control, a division of the Ohio Wildlife Center, to provide wildlife management services to residents and businesses at a discounted rate. Full details can be found at www.SCRAMwildlife.org. The City has an **Animal Control** guidelines page under the **Resources** section of its website, at upperarlingtonoh.gov.

Snow Angels

FIRE 614-583-5123

Each winter, the City's CARES Program and UA Commission on Aging partner on the Snow Angels program, matching volunteers to elderly neighbors who need help with snow shoveling. We encourage individuals, families and/or groups of neighbors to "adopt" a senior during the season and help them with this winter chore.

COVID-19 Health & Safety Update

The City asks visitors to our public indoor facilities to put on a face mask before you enter. As a reminder, residents can

conduct much of their business with the City online or via telephone.

Porta-Johns at UA Parks

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300

The time is approaching for many of our park restrooms to close for the winter season, however, Parks & Recreation has plans to place all-season port-a-johns at these parks.

U.S. Flag Collection Box

Thanks to a 2018 Eagle Scout project of Joseph Piccininni, the Municipal Services Center is the site of a U.S. Flag Collection box, with an informational brochure detailing the history, etiquette and proper flag retirement. Residents can stop by any time during regular business hours to properly retire any worn flags.

Citizen Camera Partnership

POLICE 614-583-5150

The Police Division's Citizen Camera Partnership is an opt-in program designed to build a database of properties with



video cameras. By registering, residents and businesses are simply letting the division 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 participants' information kept private and confidential.

Visit the Police section of the City's website to register.

Home Security Alarm Permits

POLICE DIVISION 614-583-5100

Households with home security systems are required to obtain a license from the Police Division. The one-time \$50 fee is non-transferable and covers both Police and Fire services. Households are allowed up to three false alarms per calendar year—any false alarms thereafter are subject to a \$50 fine to offset the costs for emergency response.

Senior Center Fall Social

**10-11:30 am, Tuesday, November 9
SENIOR CENTER 614-583-5320**

Join your friends as we all enjoy seasonal refreshments and door prizes during this social event. Attendees must be active members of the Senior Center and registration is required due to limited seating and food count.

Tobacco Free Parks

PARKS & RECREATION 614-583-5300

Continuing Upper Arlington's commitment to protecting the health and welfare of its residents, the use of all nicotine products are prohibited in

the City's public parks. This includes cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes and vaping devices.

Permit Portal

**RESOURCES | PERMIT PORTAL
upperarlingtonoh.gov**

The City has been transitioning its various application processes online via its **Permit Portal** on our website, from building permits to special event applications, making it possible to conduct business with us online in most instances. Just look for the **Permit Portal** icon under the **Resources** section of our website to get started.

Red Cross Blood Drives

**10 am-4 pm, Tuesday, November 23
10 am-4 pm, Friday, December 17
3600 Tremont Road**

www.redcrossblood.org

The City regularly partners with the American Red Cross to hold blood drives. Register at the above website, using the code CityofUA.

Firefighters for Kids Toy Drive

**Station 71, Arlington Avenue
Station 72, Reed Road
FIRE 614-583-5100**

Help the UA Fire Division make the Christmas holidays memorable for Central Ohio kids in need, by dropping off new toys at either firehouse.

RITA Income Tax Update

www.ritaohio.com

All residents aged 18 and over must file an annual income tax return with the City, regardless of whether any tax is due. RITA will be sending non-filing notices to those residents that have not filed their income tax returns for 2020. If you have questions, please contact the Finance Department, at 614-583-5291.

UA Historical Society Holiday Craft Kit Available

The Upper Arlington Historical Society is selling a "make-your-own ornament" kit to celebrate our new (and old!) UA public schools this holiday season. The kit is available for \$10 and makes a great gift idea for some family fun. The kit includes 18 stickers to personalize your way.

Purchase information and sticker samples can be found at uahistory.org/shop.



Sanitary Sewer Backup Prevention Program

There's no denying the changes in weather patterns resulting from climate change. On a local level, significant rain events appear to be part of the new normal, bringing with them a new set of challenges for homeowners.

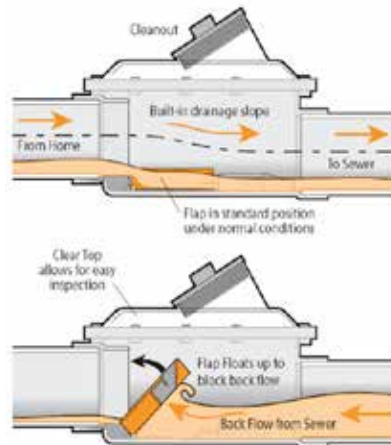
In 2020, the community experienced two, 25-year storm events within two months of each other - with rainfall totals of 4.5 and 5 inches. In both cases, parts of Upper Arlington experienced flash flooding and more than 240 homes experienced backups from the floor drains in their basements that connect to the sanitary sewer system. In response, the City's Engineering Division has taken a close look at this issue, to see what steps can be taken to educate residents and identify steps that they - and the City - can take to reduce the risk of basement flooding.

The sanitary and storm systems are designed to operate separately - "grey" water from homes and businesses is discharged into the sanitary sewer system, and rainwater/storm runoff makes its way to local waterways through the storm water system.

Sanitary sewer backups through the floor drain can be caused by a number of factors:

- Blockages caused by tree roots
- Blockages caused by items that should not be flushed
- A system overload during a heavy rainfall, if rainwater is able to enter the sanitary sewer system through cracks in the pipes.

In recent issues of *UA Insight*, we have shared information about these two critical - and often overlooked - pieces of infrastructure. Additionally, the City continues to prioritize its sewer lining program to identify and address pipes with root control issues. And now, the City is introducing a Backflow Preventer Program, which will reimburse residents up to \$4,000 to install a backflow preventer for eligible properties.



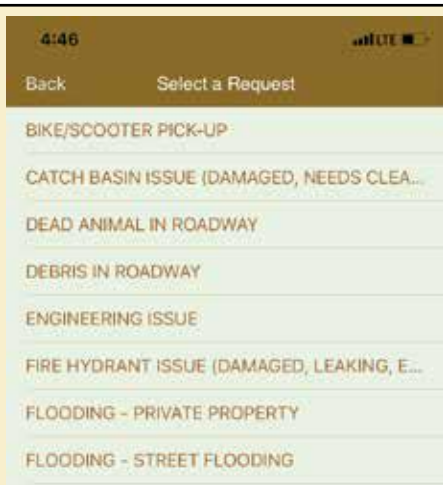
If you experience flooding in your basement and you believe it has entered your home through the floor drain, please contact the City as soon as possible - at 614-583-5350 during business hours, or 614-459-2800 after hours.

To participate in the Backflow Prevention Program, homeowners will need to complete a questionnaire and have their property inspected by a plumber or qualified contractor to make sure they meet eligibility requirements. Following installation of a backflow preventer, homeowners are responsible for performing recommended maintenance.

Full details of this new program can be found at upperarlingtonoh.gov, or by calling the Engineering Division, at 614-583-5360.

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, street-light 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.



CityiNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

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upperarlingtonoh.gov



www.facebook.com/CityofUA
www.twitter.com/@cityofua



Schools[★]INSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2021



Every Step of the Way

Driven by a mission to *challenge and support every student, every step of the way*, Upper Arlington Schools continues to be a lighthouse district – leading the way for others with a high quality academic program, exceptionally talented students, and new and innovative programming designed to meet the individual needs of all students.

Guiding all of this work is the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, which identifies a focused set of recommendations rooted in the district's mission and the vision of *uniquely accomplished students prepared to serve, lead and succeed*.

At the core of the strategic plan is academics and the long-running philosophy of educating the whole child through not only academics but the arts, service learning, athletics and unique real-world learning opportunities that expose students to authentic career-based experiences and skills that they'll take into their next step in life.

"It's my little 'woosh of joy' knowing that what our students are doing today is

preparing them to positively impact our world tomorrow," said Amanda Fountain, a communications teacher at Upper Arlington High School.

Throughout the K-12 academic program, Upper Arlington Schools is taking the lead nationwide by implementing a totally personalized student support system known as the multi-tiered system of support, or MTSS. This system gives teachers the structures, tools and student-specific data to respond to the unique learning needs of every student so that they can maximize their growth.

"It pushes us to better meet the needs not only of students who may be struggling but also those who are above where they should be according to the learning standards – and everyone in between," said Michelle Banks, Ed.D., director of curriculum and instruction.

With one-to-one technology and state-of-the-art facilities, students also have the tools to enhance their academic experience. Upper Arlington

Schools was the first district in the central Ohio area to fully implement one-to-one technology by the start of the 2016-2017 school year, providing every student with a device to support and enhance their learning and setting the district well ahead of others when schools were forced to move to remote learning in the spring of 2020.

And, with six of the eight K-12 schools newly built or completely renovated, students are now learning in flexible, light-filled environments that are designed to support the learning styles of today and the future.

"I've said it many times – this is a great time to be a Golden Bear," said Superintendent Paul Imhoff, Ed.D. "We are building on a long-standing tradition of excellence in our schools to provide our students even more opportunities for success now and in their future."

At the elementary level, Upper Arlington Schools continues to set

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13



SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Paul Imhoff, Ed.D.

It's been an amazing start to the school year as we welcomed students into six new or renovated school buildings. While we are extremely proud of these beautiful facilities, they have never been our focus. Throughout all of the work, we have remained steadfast in our focus on students and academic achievement.

I'll start with something that will impact all students in our schools, and that is the new multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) framework. Upper Arlington Schools is taking the lead in education nationwide by implementing MTSS so that every student is able to maximize their growth through differentiated and individualized instruction with a focus on the whole child. MTSS truly brings to life our mission to challenge and support every student, every step of the way.

In addition to MTSS, new to Upper Arlington Schools this year is our all-day kindergarten program. The Board of Education has been committed to launching an all-day kindergarten program in order to better meet the needs of our developing learners, and the new and renovated elementary schools give us the space to make that vision possible. By transitioning from a part-day to a full-day program, we now have double the time in the classroom each day with our youngest learners to develop their skills in the core academic areas such as literacy and math.

Finally, I want to talk about the success of our high school students and graduates, who year after year exemplify our long-standing tradition of academic excellence. We are at the top of the state rankings - sending the highest percentage of students to college or

university within two years of high school graduation, and we know our students are ready to excel when they get to college.

Students continue to set a high bar on the ACT and SAT, performing significantly above state and national averages. Digging a little deeper, our students' have the highest percentage of "remediation-free" scores on the ACT in Central Ohio and among the top five in the state. This means their performance shows they are ready for college-level coursework while still in high school.

Our students' success is further illustrated by a significant drop in our remediation rates over the past decade. This remediation measure from the Board of Regents looks at how many college students have to take remedial courses. Ten years ago, approximately 20 percent of our graduates needed to take some type of remedial course in college. Our most recent data shows that just four percent of our graduates are in that position. Districts similar to

ours had remediation rates of twice that amount, and the state average is four times that amount. That means our students are graduating better prepared than ever to succeed in college.

The Ohio Department of Education also recognizes that our students are set up for success in their next step in life. We are first in central Ohio, and seventh in the state in a measure called "Prepared for Success" - which looks at how well prepared students are for future opportunities, whether it's training in a technical field or preparing for work or college.

Throughout everything we do in our schools, we are committed to continuous improvement, and we are seeing that - through the MTSS framework, all-day kindergarten and the success of our students and graduates.

We will continue to share the most updated data and information about what's happening in our schools in our Quality Profile, which will arrive in mailboxes early next year. There will also be a presentation at the November meeting of the Board of Education about the Ohio School Report Cards for the 2020-2021 school year.

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



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, meetings begin at 6 pm on the second Tuesday

of each month. Some exceptions apply, and last-minute scheduling changes are possible. Please refer to www.uaschools.org for the most up-to-date information.

Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, November 9, 6 pm – Council Chamber
- Tuesday, December 14, 6 pm – Council Chamber

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

the standard for literacy instruction by building a strong foundation for success for early readers, from kindergarten on. The new all-day kindergarten program is revolutionizing learning for these early readers and learners by providing nearly 18 additional hours a week to focus on the development of core academic skills such as literacy and math. It is one of the first all-day kindergarten programs in the state to be offered to families at no additional cost.

At the middle level, students are able to dive deeper into the full scope of their academic journey and earn high school-level credit in math, science and global language. There, they also can begin their journey in Upper Arlington's renowned performing arts program by pursuing orchestra, band or vocal music.

Both middle school and high school students here are also consistently bringing home honors in national, regional, statewide and local competitions in math, science, computer science, robotics, art, writing, the performing arts, speech and debate, and much more.

At Upper Arlington High School, students can choose from a vast number of courses in the comprehensive curriculum, including lifelong career-related coursework and multiple opportunities for college-level coursework through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and College Credit Plus. In fact, so many UAHS students choose



advanced coursework that Upper Arlington Schools is first in the state in the combined percentage of students taking AP and IB courses.

"One consistent message that I hear often is how prepared our students are for college - whatever college they attend, whether it's Ohio State University or Dartmouth or University of Cincinnati," said Kathy Moore, Ph.D., the college and career counselor at Upper Arlington High School. "So many college representatives from schools across the country feel so fortunate to get an Upper Arlington student on their campus. They're hoping that our students will choose them."

Treasurer's Notes

Andrew L. Geistfeld

In Upper Arlington Schools, we are committed to preparing the young people of Upper Arlington for success, both



while they're here and in their next steps in life. That is the focus for everything we do in our district – from our academic program to operations and finances.

Through thoughtful planning and sound fiscal management, we have been able to build on our exceptional academic program by implementing an all-day kindergarten program this fall. The Board of Education has been committed to and planning for this for some time, and we are excited about

the opportunities it will provide our younger learners to lay an even stronger foundation in literacy and math for their academic journey in our schools.

When we think about tightening our belts and seeking out cost savings, our focus, first and foremost, is doing that in a way that does not have an impact on the student experience. Since the summer of 2020, we've done just that by creatively seeking out approximately \$4.6 million in cost efficiencies without impacting the student experience.

As we look to the future and continue to build on the tradition of excellence in our schools, our five-year financial forecast will be an important guide for us. At the November Board of Education meeting, I will present a new five-year forecast for the district. This is a legally required document that covers three years of actual data and five years of anticipated revenues. It is presented

to the board for approval and then filed with the state of Ohio.

Over the past few years, the biggest impacts we've seen on our five-year forecast have been enrollment growth, fluctuations in revenue sources such as state funding and the decision to delay an operating levy in the summer of 2020.

Our new five-year forecast will serve as a financial check-in point for us as a district and help us keep a clear view on what our future impacts and needs will be. This is an important part of our commitment to our community to use our money wisely - and to our students and their families to provide the highest quality of education possible in our schools.

Please check our website later in November for the new five year forecast, which will be available at www.uaschools.org/treasurer.aspx.

BITES From the Apple



SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Nine seniors named National Merit Semifinalists

Nine Upper Arlington High School students have qualified as Semifinalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, giving them the opportunity to compete for approximately 7,500 National Merit college scholarships worth nearly \$30 million. These academically talented members of the UAHS Class of 2022 are among approximately 16,000 high school seniors nationwide to qualify as Semifinalists based on their scores on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

The Semifinalists represent the highest scores on the PSAT/NMSQT and less than 1 percent of high school seniors nationwide. The students named National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists are:

- Kun Bai
- Reva Baste-Bania
- David Butz
- Sam Cheung
- Evan Huang
- Kiah Kapoor
- Anna Schuler
- Malachi Son
- Evelyn Wu

Beginning in February, the National Merit Scholarship program expects to notify about 15,000 Semifinalists that they advanced to Finalist status after fulfilling several requirements, including having a record of a high academic achievement in grades nine through 12 and earning a high score on the SAT or ACT. Approximately half of the Finalists will be awarded National Merit Scholarships and the Merit Scholar® title.

For more information on the National Merit Scholarship Program, visit www.nationalmerit.org.

Alumni Ambassador Program Grows

The Upper Arlington Alumni Association (UAAA) is proud to announce the addition of five new student ambassadors from the UA High School Class of 2023. In its third year, the alumni ambassador program continues to evolve and grow. It began in 2019-2020 with two ambassadors, Will Reynolds and Abby Vitali, who helped create and launch new branding and a new website for the UAAA. Since then, the program has tripled in size, with seven ambassadors on board for the 2021-2022 school year.

"We have been blown away by the students we have interviewed," said Alice Finley, executive director of the Upper Arlington Alumni Association and the Upper Arlington Education Foundation. "These students bring a diversity of thought and interests that help us fulfill our mission – to keep alumni informed, connected and engaged, from the moment they join the esteemed ranks of Upper Arlington High School graduates."

The UAAA student ambassadors for the 2021-2022 school year are:



- Ryan Sivakumar, David Mockabee, Matthew Doron, Audrey Szollosi and Jacob Hanks from the Class of 2023.
- Elizabeth Goth, Caroline Langmeyer and Krish Mawalker from the Class of 2022, who are returning as ambassadors for a second year.

The student ambassadors will serve on the board of the Alumni Association, help share meaningful stories about alumni, participate in the selection and presentation of Alumni Awards, and meet and work side by side with the UAAA and UA+Ed to continue the Golden Bear tradition as students who serve, lead and succeed.

Twelve Students Selected for State, Regional Orchestras

Twelve Upper Arlington High School students have been selected among the best of the best in the performing arts in the state of Ohio as members of the 2021 Ohio Music Education Association's South-Central All-Region Orchestra.

Three of these students have also been chosen to perform in the prestigious All-State Orchestra. The following UAHS students were selected based upon a rigorous audition process for the South-Central All-Region Orchestra:

- Lucy Cheng, cello
- Susie Hodson, cello
- Nathan Jeoung, violin
- Wendy Jiang, violin
- Andy Lehman, violin
- Krish Mawalker, cello
- David Mockabee, cello
- Jachin Ocacio, violin
- Wil Robertson, viola
- Anna Schuler, violin

- Taylor Speas, viola
- Kaiwen Wu, violin

"The competition is fierce in the Columbus area, and we're so proud of them for this accomplishment," said Gretchen Zunic, co-director of the Upper Arlington High School orchestra program.

These 12 students will participate in several rehearsals and perform with the All-Region Orchestra on Sunday, November 21 at the Reynoldsburg High School Summit Campus.

The top students from all five OMEA regional orchestras in the state are then selected by audition for the All-State Orchestra. UAHS students Lucy Cheng, Nathan Jeoung and Anna Schuler will represent UAHS in February and perform with other top orchestra students in the state as members of the 2022 OMEA All-State Orchestra in Cleveland.



UA Schools Hiring Substitutes in All Areas



Upper Arlington Schools is in need of substitutes in several areas in our district, and we offer competitive pay rates that have been recently updated. We are looking for substitutes for the following positions:

- Permanent building substitutes – nine positions available for the 2021-2022 school year: Apply online at www.applitrack.com/uaschools/onlineapp.
- Substitute teachers and paraprofessionals: Apply online through the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio at www.escco.org/substitutes.
- Substitute bus drivers, cooks / cashiers, secretaries, educational aides, health aides and transportation aides: Apply online

at www.applitrack.com/uaschools/onlineapp. You may apply and be considered for one or more positions.

New Mincy Center District Office Opens at the New UAHS



The Mincy Center opened in early October on the site of the new Upper Arlington High School. The new Mincy Center will be home to the new student welcome center, as well as the location for several district-level departments including human resources and the treasurer's office.

The Mincy Center is named for Dr. Homer F. Mincy, who served Upper Arlington Schools as superintendent from 1972 to 1993. Dr. Mincy was responsible for furthering the

tradition of excellence in the Upper Arlington Schools. During his time as superintendent, he also established the Upper Arlington Education Foundation to ensure our students would have access to resources above and beyond the district's budget. Dr. Mincy passed away last October.

The Mincy Center is located at 1619 Zollinger Road, with hours of 7:30 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

SchoolsINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Learning in Our New Environments

In August, the entire Upper Arlington community turned out by the thousands to celebrate the completion of the first phase of the community-developed facilities master plan and take in the six new and renovated buildings. Since then, the schools have come alive with the sounds and sights of students learning. At Upper Arlington High School, students are experimenting, creating, collaborating and problem-solving in the science labs, art rooms and learning studios. In the Berwanger Family Learning Center, they are gathering to hear from college recruiters. In the new and renovated elementary schools, students are focusing on literacy and math, engaging in project-based learning through the new Elementary Explorations workshops, and learning in small groups focused on differentiated learning to reach every student.



SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Upper Arlington High School staff wear t-shirts designed by students for national Start With Hello Week, five days of activities designed to promote inclusion and help anyone feeling lonely or isolated.



The Upper Arlington High School Homecoming Court (wearing red for a senior class spirit day), from left to right: Nathan Varda, Ava Adamantidis, Charlie Van Aman, Lucy O'Brien, Asher Hamilton, Lucy McCabe, Jacob Hartman, Viv Lawless, Grant Overmyer and Georgia Rehl.



Through new Elementary Explorations workshops, veteran teachers are providing all K-5 students with opportunities to engage and explore project-based learning.



Third-grade students at Greensview enjoyed their very own "book tasting" - trying out all different genres to see what whets their appetites.



Sixth-grade students were welcomed on their first day by seventh and eighth grade mentors who offer support and help ease the transition to middle school.



The entire Windermere Elementary School community celebrated Windermere Way Day with activities inside and outside of their new building all aimed at being respectful, responsible and ready to learn.

Physical Investigations into Litchford Cemetery Conclude on Site of old UAHS



A member of the archaeological team reviews the site of the Litchford family cemetery, with concrete footers from the science wing visible.

As demolition work has continued on the old Upper Arlington High School this summer, so have investigations into the Pleasant Litchford family cemetery site.

Pleasant Litchford was a master blacksmith who had been enslaved in Virginia. After buying his own freedom and settling in the area that is 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.

Following his death in 1879, Mr. Litchford's land was divided up between his heirs. Decades later, in the 1950s, the school district took legal action to acquire the piece of land that was home to the family cemetery in order to build a high school. Approximately 30 bodies were exhumed and moved to other cemeteries in the area.

In early 2017, a book by local authors Diane Kelly Runyon and Kim Shoemaker

Starr called *Secrets Under the Parking Lot* raised concerns that some of those laid to rest in the Litchford cemetery may have been left behind.

In August 2020, an archaeological team began investigating the site of the cemetery, which was located near the science wing of the old high school. That team found one fully intact grave with a complete set of remains, along with two partially exhumed graves and three fully exhumed graves.

This summer's investigative work happened in two phases. In late June/early July, archeologists conducted another search around the perimeter of the science wing. This search allowed the team to look more closely at the earth right up next to the foundation of the building and to investigate areas in which a search dog had alerted. During this work, the archeologists found another partially exhumed grave that contained bone fragments.

In mid-September, the science wing was demolished and the team of archeologists and K9 specialists returned to the site to search the part of the cemetery that had been covered by that section of the building. During two

days of work, no additional graves were located. The team and descendants of the Litchford family agreed that this brought to a close the phase of physical investigations at the site.

Moving forward, the former cemetery site will become a park-like setting for all UAHS students, staff, families and community members to enjoy as a place for reflection and relaxation. The district will continue to work with the descendants of the Litchford family and community volunteers to design signage and historical displays.

2021-22 SCHOOL DATES

End of First Trimester (Grades K-5)
Monday, November 1

General Election Day: No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule
Tuesday, November 2

Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday, November 24-Friday, November 26

End of Second Quarter and First Semester (Grades 6-12)
Friday, December 17

Winter Break
Monday, December 20 - Friday, December 31

No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule
Monday, January 3

No School for Students and Staff; Martin Luther King Day
Monday, January 17

Elementary Early Dismissal (Grades K-5) for Parent - Teacher Conferences
Thursday, January 27

Dismissal at 11:05 am; no lunch service

For the full 2021-2022 school year calendar, visit:
www.uaschools.org/calendars.aspx

Celebrate the Holidays with Us

After a hiatus last year due to the pandemic, holiday celebrations will return to two of our libraries this season.

Home for the Holidays

Miller Park Library's annual holiday event will be spread out over several days this year. Here's the full schedule:

Merry Mail

November 29-December 1

Drop in any time to write a letter to Santa Claus or to your family, friends, or someone special using our festive supplies.

Take & Make Craft

November 29-December 4

Pick up a craft to take home and make. Available while supplies last.

Visit from Santa

December 2

Register to bring your family to visit with Santa Claus! We'll have timeslots available at 4, 4:30, 5 and 5:30 pm. Registration is new this year and opens November 20 at 10 am. Please visit our

program calendar at <http://uapl.me/calendar> to sign up your family as a group for a specific timeslot with Santa.

Holiday Happiness

Kids will love our Holiday Happiness celebration on Saturday, December 4 from 10 am-2 pm at the Main Library. We'll have craft tables in our Youth Department from 10 am- 2 pm, and Santa will visit from Noon-2 pm. Support the Franklin County Children's Services Holiday Wish program by choosing a tag from our Giving Tree. Play PLINKO to find out what holiday character you are, and snap a selfie at our photo station. Additional activities are being planned at press time, so visit our program calendar for details as the date gets closer.



Countdown to Noon

Ring in the new year at the Main Library on December 31 from 11:30 am-1 pm, with stories, activities, and dance party fun! Count down to noon with a storytime featuring your favorite characters, then dance the afternoon away at our after-party featuring crafts, games, and your favorite tunes. Open to all ages.

Meet Author Marcy Campbell

Join us for a talk and book signing with picture book author Marcy Campbell on Saturday, November 13 at 10:30 am in the Main Library's Friends Theater.

Marcy Campbell is an award-winning author of picture books and middle-grade novels. Her books have been translated into eight languages and adapted for stage. Her newest picture book, *Something Good*, explores the power of words, the impact of community, and the importance of empathy.

This event is presented in partnership with Cover to Cover Books for Young Readers. Registration is required and is open now at <http://uapl.me/Marcy>.



Program Highlights

Autumn Scavenger Hunt

Drop by the Lane Road Library's Youth Department anytime during the month of November to participate in an autumn-themed scavenger hunt. Pick up a scavenger hunt sheet at the youth desk, look for hidden pictures throughout the library, and turn it in for a prize once you're finished.

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month

Celebrate American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month with Molly of Denali. Go on an adventure with Molly through displays and fun activities like a scavenger hunt and a stick puppet craft. Discover fun facts about Alaskan animals, and learn about programs, services, and businesses run by Native Americans currently living in Central Ohio. Visit the Main Library's Youth Department anytime from November 15-20.

Deer-Proof Your Landscaping

Has your landscaping become a buffet for hungry deer? Come to a fun, fast-paced class in the Main Library's Friends Theater on Thursday, November 11 at 7 pm. You'll learn effective strategies to keep whitetail deer from destroying your suburban yard. Presenter Tisa Watts will discuss plant choices, deer repellants, barriers, camouflage, and how the annual deer life cycle can affect your garden.

Magic Show

Join husband and wife duo Jason and Stacy Alan for a highly interactive magic show full of imaginative props, age-appropriate humor, and, of course, amazing magic! The show will be held in the Main Library's atrium on

Saturday, November 20 at 10:30 am. All ages welcome and registration is not required.

Yeti, Set, Read! Winter Reading Club

Help Yeti find a treat! From December 13-February 19, stop by any of our locations to pick up a reading log. For each day you read, color a new step on the Yeti's path to help them reach their goal. Once you've finished your sheet, visit the library to receive a bookmark and enter a raffle drawing for gift cards and yeti goodies. One raffle entry per participant per week. All ages welcome!

Tech Assist

Learn how to access books, audiobooks, magazines, music, movies, and comics on your computer, smartphone, or tablet device for free with your library card. Make an appointment for your spot at Lane Road Library's program on Saturday, November 6 from 12:30-3:30 pm.

Be a Content Creator

Join us for two online programs via Google Meet to learn how to be a content creator.

Considering starting your own podcast? On Thursday, November 4 from 7-8 p.m. we'll talk about what a podcast is, where to find podcasts that meet your interests, and how to create your own. We'll cover recording equipment, audio editing software, where to host, and additional resources. On Thursday, November 11 from 7-8 pm, see what it takes to start a YouTube channel. Learn about creating a YouTube account, video editing software, and how to create and promote your content. Register through our online program calendar. Participants will receive a link and directions for logging into the program.

LibraryiNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Beth Hatch

"The Library has been a lifesaver during the pandemic" has been a common sentiment we've heard over the last two years, whether referencing access to our massive eBook collection and streaming services, curbside pick up of Library materials, extension of Wi-Fi outside our buildings, or the ten thousand COVID test kits the Library has distributed.

Although the pandemic is not over, we have resumed all traditional Library services. We're committed to providing access to millions of books, movies, and other items, engaging experiences for all ages, and personalized service and expertise that includes delivery for the homebound. Yet, these are not the only ways the Library provides value.

Every day, we see the transformative nature that the Library has on the lives of our community members. The Library is a place of belonging and connection, creating a richer quality of life for many residents.

I love seeing all the ways the Library acts as a place for social interaction and learning. Myron Adams, 76, earned a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a Masters in business management. He came to central Ohio after his company, American Electric Power, transferred him to the area. His family moved to Upper Arlington many years ago and his daughter, Kathy and son, Chris, attended Upper Arlington High School. Myron has been coming to the Library a few days a week for over 20 years, and frequently takes advantage of our One-on-One Help

appointments to build his technology skills. "It's amazing everything you can get at home anymore," says Myron. "But at the Library you have librarians who are knowledgeable and eager to help you find the right information and teach you how to find it too. They are the experts. They impart their expertise to the average person." Although Myron has taken over 100 courses through The Ohio State University's Program 60, he enjoys coming to the Library to interact with the staff because it gives him a local, social connection. "You can't find everything with Google," he said.



The Library is also a place where residents feel a sense of community, purpose, and belonging through volunteering. Melissa is a lifelong community member, library patron and a person with special needs. She has always loved the library and is a loyal patron. Her devotion to our library has been deepened by the opportunity to become a library volunteer. With patience and respect, the library staff taught Melissa the skills she needs

to work in the media department. Each time she volunteers, she learns something new, and in doing so, further develops the joy of purpose and belonging.

Volunteering at the library has given Melissa the opportunity to serve and contribute to her community, as well as to grow and hone her skills. Each time she enters the library to volunteer, she is greeted with friendship, smiles, and acceptance. She, in return, gives her best as she organizes and shelves media materials. Being able to help patrons and connect with the library's excellent staff has given her so much happiness, and a true sense of pride. Our library is a place that serves and welcomes everyone. Melissa is honored to be a part of that service. She is always excited to tell others that "I work at the library and I love it."

There are so many ways the Library impacts the lives of the Upper Arlington residents and community. If you would like to share the way the Library has



impacted you or your family's lives, submit your story at www.ualibrary.org/support or contact director@ualibrary.org to set up time to meet with me.

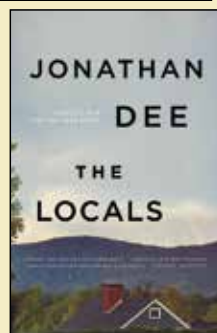
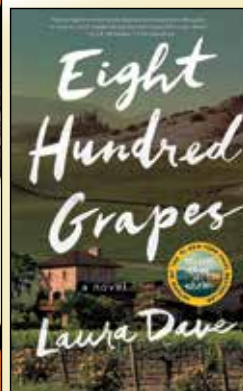
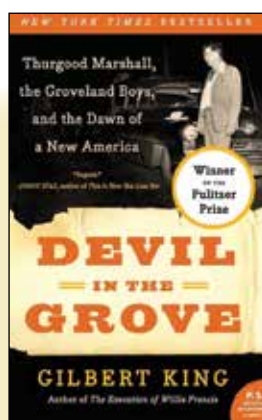
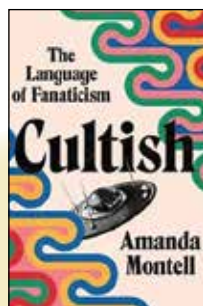
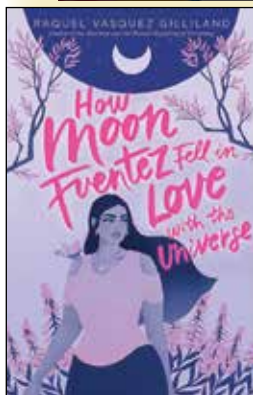
OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

The Good Sister

By Sally Hepworth

Fern and Rose are adult twins with vastly different personalities and lives. Fern has a sensory disorder and works at a library where she thrives on routine. Rose, who is rather protective of Fern, is trying to get pregnant while dealing with a traveling spouse and demanding job as an interior designer. The sisters have remained close over the years, bound by the trauma of being raised by an emotionally unstable mother – and by a dark secret they share. This is a real page-turner with some very endearing characters.

– Nancy Byron, Miller Park



How Moon Fuentez Fell in Love with the Universe

By Raquel Vasquez Gilliland

This young adult novel is about sisterhood, standing up for oneself, and learning one's worth ... with a surprising touch of magical realism. 17-year-old Moon is an artist who has always lived in the shadow of her twin sister Star, a social media influencer and the apple of their mom's eye. When Star is invited to tour the country, Moon and her photography skills are required to tag along and staff the merch table. The tour starts out being all about Star but quickly evolves into Moon finding her voice, following her dreams and observing the beauty that exists in the universe. Vasquez Gilliland's poetic writing style helps readers understand how Moon is beginning to experience the world around her. Both Moon and her sister are relatable in different ways (though no, the average person isn't a super famous social media star). I wish I had read this book when I was 17-18 years old, as I feel like it would have helped me with my self-confidence and self-worth at a time when I really needed it.

– Raina Bradford-Jennings, Youth Services

Cultish: The Language of Fanaticism

By Amanda Montell

A fascinating and thought-provoking examination of the power of words. The word "cult" has a seriously negative connotation, yet the author claims that not all cults are harmful. Montell's study of how cults use language to create community and connection exposes how pervasive their influence is in today's world. Cults are all around us in ways we don't even realize.

– Laura Griffin, Tech Services

The Locals

By Jonathon Dee

The Locals is about a small town in the Berkshires, a finance tycoon who relocates to the town after 9/11, and a handful of locals whose lives are all touched by the wealthy financier. Throughout the book, Jonathon Dee intertwines the lives of the locals and the financier while seamlessly switching

from one point of view to another, sometimes within the same paragraph. Just when you think he's completely

forgotten about a character he winds back around to make them an intricate part of the plot. Every time I put the book down, I was amazed at how entertained I was by his writing style and the interesting plot he was weaving between the characters and the town. I found this book by using Novelist Plus on the Library's website and was very happy with the recommendation!

– Beth Casement, Miller Park

Eight Hundred Grapes

By Laura Dave

The title of this book refers to how many grapes are needed to produce one bottle of wine, but the mess of family, falling in

love, and a place to call home, all make up the book *Eight Hundred Grapes*. The story weaves between winemaking and committed relationships – both need patience and constant care. Grab a glass, your favorite vino, and enjoy a California tour of winemaking with a family chock full of rocky relationships and crazy romances!.

– Vita Marinello, Adult Services

Devil in the Grove

By Gilbert King

Thurgood Marshall was clearly becoming one of the most powerful civil rights attorneys in the country in the late 1940s. Many civil rights abuse cases crossed his desk at the NAACP. The injustices in this case got his attention. In deep rural Florida, four young African American youths were accused of a capital crime. Marshall and his team of lawyers did their best to defend these young men against a hostile environment and a blatantly racist justice system. Gilbert King transports his readers back to a time which should not be forgotten. This book is hard to read, but even harder to put down.

– Scott Potter, Adult Services

NewsBITES

LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Miller Park Adds Evening Hours

Our Miller Park Library is now open until 8 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Check back in December for updates on additional hours at Miller Park.

Upper Arlington Author Series Postponed

Unfortunately, we had to postpone this year's Upper Arlington Author Series with Madeline Miller. Originally scheduled for October 24, we will work with the author to schedule a new date sometime in 2022.

Friends of the UA Library Sale

Visit the Friends' November Sale at the Main Library from November 1-13. Shop a large selection of fiction and nonfiction books, DVDs, CDs, vinyl and more...all at bargain prices. The sale will be held in the atrium during the library's operating hours. Current, paid members are invited to the presale from 10 am-Noon on the first day, Monday, November 1. Memberships will be sold at the door for anyone wishing to join. On the final day of the sale, November 13, from 10 am-3 pm, shoppers can fill a paper grocery bag with books for one low price. Members can fill a bag for \$5; the non-member price is \$10.

Friends Donation Days

Donate your unwanted books, media, and art to the Friends of the UA Library. Their donation carts are available whenever the Main Library is open, or visit their outdoor donation events on Sunday, November 21 from 1-4 pm or Friday, December 17 from 10 am-2 pm.

Booked on Tuesday

Our monthly Facebook conversation about books continues on Tuesday, November 2 and Tuesday, December

7 at 7:30 pm. Visit our Facebook page and look for the #BookedOnTuesday post by the Library, then add your recommendations and questions in the comment section. More info at <https://www.ualibrary.org/booked-on-tuesday>.

Holiday Closings

All three UA Libraries will be close at 5 pm on Wednesday, November 24 and remain closed on Thanksgiving Day. We'll reopen on Friday, November 26. We'll be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We'll close at 3 pm on Friday, December 31 and remain closed on New Year's Day.

Passport Processing

The Main Library currently offers new passport processing Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment. If you only need a passport photo, you can stop by any time...no appointment needed.

Visit passportservices.ualibrary.org for details on this service, including what paperwork is needed and to book your time slot.

Passport Fair

Getting ready for Spring or Summer travel? Join us for our upcoming Passport Fair on Sunday, January 9 from 10 am-1 pm. Please register in advance through our website's program calendar beginning December 15 so we can know how many patrons to expect.

Red Cross Blood Drive

There's a critical need for blood donations, and you can help by donating at the Red Cross Blood Drive at the Main Library on Wednesday, December 22 from 11 am-4 pm. Visit www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "UAPL" to make your appointment.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

From Left: Bill Shkurti, Board President Gloria Heydlauff, Stephen Flynn, John Yesso, Kevin Fix, Kate Hare and Vice President Peter Hahn



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 at www.ualibrary.org/pages/board-trustees.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- No meeting in November
- Tuesday, December 7 at 5 pm



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar reflects what is known at this time. Plans are subject to change based on COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

Beggars Night & Pumpkin Patrol

6-8 pm, Thursday, October 28

Throughout UA neighborhoods

The City's volunteer Pumpkin Patrol ensures children are safe while passing out candy.

Concourse Gallery

M-F, 8 am-5 pm, 3600 Tremont Road
Cultural Arts Division | 614-583-5310

In Retrospect

Joseph Angelo Anastasi

November 3-December 31

Reception: 5-7 pm, Thursday, November 4

Artist Talk: 6 pm, Thursday, November 4

UA resident and artist Joseph Anastasi brings his lifetime of work to the walls of the Concourse Gallery. From paintings and drawings of Columbus' homeless, to landscapes and still lifes in various mediums, Anastasi captures the spirit of the people and places in his art.

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. To guarantee delivery, include child's full name, address and an un-affixed postage stamp. One child's letter per envelope please!



UACA Holiday House Decorating Contest

Nominations Open: November 29-December 10

www.uaca.org

Decorate your home for the holidays and enter this fun annual contest. Judging categories include "Clark Griswald," "Best Front Door Display," "Neat as a Pin," "Inside Out," "Best Overall" and "Anything Goes." Judging takes place mid-December, with winners receiving yard signs December 18/19.

Winter Festival

6-8:30 pm, Friday, December 3

Mallway Business District

UA Parks & Recreation

Activities include carriage rides, visits with Santa, live reindeer, ice carving and the traditional tree lighting ceremony.

Breakfast & Brunch With Santa

Saturday, December 4

Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park
Registration Opens 6 am November 2

UA Parks & Recreation | parks.uaoh.net

Children can visit with Santa for pictures and to share their holiday wishes, as well as enjoy a delicious breakfast/brunch buffet. Various times available, register at parks.uaoh.net beginning November 2.

UACA Christmas in the Street Parade

2 pm, Saturday, December 4

Route TBD

UA Civic Association | www.uaca.org

Santa and his crew will be taking to the streets of UA for a festive parade. Check the UACA website for details as the date approaches.

UACA Christmas in the Park

December 5-9

Thompson Park

Registration opens 6 am November 18

UA Civic Association | www.uaca.org

Reservations for this popular UACA tradition fill quickly.