

UA[★]iNSIGHT

MARCH | APRIL 2023



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



COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE



The Senior Lounge will look out onto an outdoor deck and a view to the west, across Tremont Road.

Upper Arlington City Council is readying to consider a significant step toward fulfilling a long-anticipated wish of many residents - a community center to call our own. Over the years, various surveys, studies and anecdotal feedback cited the lack of a community center as a top concern. A resident-led task force, formed in the summer of 2019, placed renewed focus on the issue, concluding by the close of 2020 that a community center was needed, and the City was in a position to make it happen without any increase in City income or property taxes. To be sure of the community's support, on the May 2021 ballot City Council asked residents if the City should build a community center. Almost 80% of voters replied with a resounding "Yes." With this clear directive in hand, the City began an extensive process to design and prepare for construction of the community center.

Upper Arlington's new Community Center will be a 150,000 square foot facility spanning five floors plus a large mezzanine. The facility will include:

- Entry/lobby, indoor pool, event/party space, locker rooms

- Fitness/exercise spaces
- 3 gymnasiums (1 multi-purpose)
- Senior lounge
- Child watch
- E-sports room
- Walking/running track
- Program classrooms
- Multi-purpose room/meeting space /outdoor deck
- Outdoor multi-purpose terrace

The building also includes approximately 40,000 square feet of leasable office space. The City is currently in negotiations with the OSU

Wexner Medical Center to lease the available space in the building, adding additional services and amenities for the community.

If the final design and budget is approved by Upper Arlington City Council in March 2023, construction will begin in April 2023 and is anticipated to take approximately two years to complete, with a tentative Spring 2025 opening date. This construction timeframe may be impacted if construction materials supply chain disruptions continue or worsen.

The indoor pool will be on the main level, with direct access to a multi-purpose event/party space & locker rooms.





The Community Center will be financed by a combination of long-term debt, existing accumulated City surpluses, and private donations. The primary repayment source for the debt will be Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenues generated by recent development projects in Upper Arlington. In 2021, City Council approved, and the voters endorsed this financing plan as part of the Community Center vote. The specific details of how much debt will be issued and how much of the City's existing fund balance will be used to fund the construction will be determined once the final construction figures are known. Per the plan approved by Upper Arlington voters in May 2021, the debt for the Community Center portion of the project will not exceed \$54 million. Debt for the private office portion of the project will be separate. As of mid-February 2023, the Upper Arlington Community Foundation

has raised almost \$8 million in private funds to support the construction of the Community Center.

After voters approved the Community Center project in May 2021, the City engaged a team to design (led by MSA Sport), construct (a partnership between Elford and Continental Building Systems), and manage (with Pizzuti Solutions acting as the City's owner's representative) the project. Early design work included extensive community engagement, revisiting the original feasibility study, and efforts to take the project from a program concept to a complete building design.

Initially, the size of the building increased as more space was added for common areas, mechanical equipment, expansion of the fitness floor and storage.

However, dramatic changes in the construction market nationally and in Central Ohio led to significant cost increases that exceeded the City's financial capacity. The City worked



One of three gymnasiums will feature flooring that allows for a variety of programs and activities.

City Council Review of Construction Bids

Following the detailed design process for the Community Center, the City issued a request for construction bids early this year, with the results to be shared with City Council in March. In preparation for this important step in the process, the Community Center team attended the February 13 City Council Meeting, to provide Council and the community a refresher on this exciting project, what is planned, and to map out the anticipated next steps.

The schedule for Council's consideration of the construction bid results is as follows:

- Monday, March 6 - Introduction of Ordinance
- Monday, March 20 - First Reading, Public Hearing
- Monday, March 27 - Second Reading, Public Hearing, Council Action

Meetings begin at 7 pm, at the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road. It's also possible to watch a livestream of the meetings on the City Council section of our website, at upperarlingtonoh.gov.

with the design and construction teams to engage in a value engineering process that removed some lower value spaces. The most important result of this value engineering process was that the team was able to remove one floor from the building and bring the facility below the threshold for high rise construction standards. Additionally, the team worked to minimize the need for underground spaces, sought more efficient options for mechanical systems, and closely evaluated finish options in the building.

The result is a Community Center that is more efficient, concentrates on those uses that are most important to UA residents, and is groundbreaking in its ability to provide a comprehensive set of indoor services without reducing a community's greenspace.

Watch for details of a groundbreaking ceremony this spring that will include some exciting announcements from the Upper Arlington Community Foundation. In the meantime, if you wish to learn more about this project, please visit uacommunitycenter.com.

FROM CHAMBERS | Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions

City Council Retreat

On January 31, City Council gathered for a day-long retreat. Typically held at the start of each year, Council Retreats provide an opportunity for members to work together outside the formalities associated with a City Council Meeting, to take stock of recent accomplishments and to establish a new set of priorities for the coming months.

When reflecting on 2022, it was agreed that much had been accomplished to move the community forward, while maintaining the City's strong financial position and remaining committed to processes that allow and encourage resident participation. Some projects that stood out include:

- The progress made on planning for the Community Center, as Staff and the design team worked through the detailed design process, conducted "value engineering" exercises to contain costs and continued to include residents at different decision points.
- The detailed study and extensive community engagement process used to review and ultimately rezone the Henderson Road office district to a Planned Mixed Office District (PMOD).
- The richness of information uncovered by the 2023 Community Survey relative to residents' satisfaction with City services, how their local government and its leaders operate, while bringing to light broader areas of concern, such as a desire for greater diversity in UA and the impacts of growth in the region.
- Preparations for shared use paths to be constructed on Lane Avenue and Riverside Drive, providing a connection to the Quarry Trails Metro Park, which has included successfully securing grant monies to support both projects.
- How the public review process



FROM LEFT: Michaela Burriss, Jim Lynch, Brendan King (President), Kathy Adams, Brian Close (Vice President), John Kulewicz, Ukeme Awakessien Jeter

helped reshape and improve the Fairlington Heights condominium project on Fishing Road.

- The positive, cumulative impacts of a proactive economic development program, that helped generate the highest level of income tax revenue in the City's history.

Council's focus turned to establishing priorities for 2023, with members developing a master list of projects. Council then worked through a discussion process to identify a list of Tier 1 projects they consider critical to the future success of the City and that should be notably advanced in 2023.

The top four projects to emerge from this process are:

- **Community Center** - as outlined on page 2, much is expected to be accomplished in 2023 on this landmark project, as it moves from planning to construction.
- **Henderson Road Study** - the commercial area running along the south side of Henderson Road represents the largest remaining redevelopment opportunity for the City. Expected to begin this fall, the study will entail an extensive visioning and community engagement process - undertaken in cooperation with neighboring

Columbus - to establish a guiding framework for future redevelopment projects that best benefit the City and surrounding neighborhoods.

- **Northam Tennis** - part of the current Northam Park improvements plan, Northam Tennis facility upgrades recently fell victim to inflationary market conditions, with costs far exceeding the budget. In 2023, Council and Staff will revisit this issue to determine project scope and establish a new timeline.
- **PMOD Development Priorities** - with the new zoning in place for the district surrounding Arlington Centre Boulevard, the City wants to be ready for any redevelopment projects that may come forward in the months ahead.

Tier 2 projects include a review of the City's procurement practices, further enhancement of the City's diversity, equity and inclusion practices, and a review of electric aggregation to see if reviving such a program would be of benefit to residents.

To view a summary from the Council Retreat, visit the **Meeting Agendas and Minutes** section of the **City Council** webpage, at upperarlingtonoh.gov.

2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

As spring approaches, plans for the 2023 Capital Improvement Program are moving into high gear. Read on for highlights of this year's projects.

Street Reconstruction Program

Street reconstruction projects comprise full pavement replacement, new curb and gutter and driveway approaches. For 2023, sections of the following streets are scheduled for this extensive work: Haviland, Malvern, Suffolk and Welsford roads, Merriweather Drive, Oakridge Court.

Street Maintenance Program

Sections of 13 streets are scheduled for street maintenance work, which comprises street resurfacing and spot curb and gutter repairs: Abington, Ashdowne, Barrington, Canterbury, Somerford, Westover, West Devon, Wickford, Wickliffe and Willowbrook roads. Adner Court, Greensview Drive, South Parkway.

Wakefield Forest Traffic Calming Measures

The Wakefield Forest neighborhood will receive additional traffic calming measures, including improvements to the intersection of Trentwood and Mount Holyoke roads, pedestrian crossing improvements at Northwest Boulevard and Trentwood Road, traffic-calming on Brandon and Mount Holyoke roads, and one-way westbound geometry improvements at Northwest Boulevard and Trentwood Road.

Fishinger Road Reconstruction & Waterline

Long awaited improvements to Fishinger Road began toward the close of 2022, enhancing the connectivity and aesthetics of this major thoroughfare. Phase I runs from Mountview Road to Tremont Road. Phase II - scheduled to begin in 2023 - will complete the project, running from Mountview to Riverside Drive. The two phases include full street reconstruction, new curb and gutter, improved LED streetlights, new sidewalks and a shared-use path. Concurrent with these improvements, a new waterline will be installed along this entire section of Fishinger.

Other Highlights

- A shared-use path will be installed along the north side of Lane Avenue, between Asbury Road and Riverside Drive. This will connect to a future shared-use path heading south on the west side of Riverside Drive to the Trabue Road bridge, providing direct access to the Quarry Trails Metro Park.
- With the first five-year cycle

completed in 2022 for the City's Sidewalk Maintenance Program, the second cycle is expected to result in fewer repairs and a substantially lower cost.

- The 2023 Sanitary Sewer repairs will complete improvements based on City video inspections.

Full details of the 2023 Capital Improvement Program can be found on our *Construction Projects* page at upperarlingtonoh.gov.

CityiNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

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PARKS & REC | PLAY UA Financial Assistance Program

"...[PLAY UA] helped me give more "normal" to my son and helped him fit in with his friends. It is part of the reason I chose to move to UA and why we love living here, with the support of our community."

UA Parks & Rec is committed to eliminating barriers for individuals and families, so that everyone can enjoy their programs and facilities. Don't let a financially challenging situation prevent you from enjoying summer at the pool or the many programs offered throughout the year.

Learn more about PLAY UA and how to qualify today:

upperarlingtonoh.gov/play-ua/



CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Steve Schoeny

City Ends 2022 With a Strong Financial Position

With the City's largest capital investment on the horizon, the year-end financial report provided to Council by Finance

Director Brent Lewis on January 23, was welcome news. Thanks to the cumulative effects of a proactive economic development program, total income tax receipts exceeded \$41 million, a record high, and essentially double the revenues we received in 2015.

The City's primary operating account - or General Fund - received a little over \$29.6 million of income tax revenues, approximately 13% over projections. Other revenue sources also remained strong, bringing total General Fund revenues to \$50.5 million, just shy of 11% over projections. Concurrently, our various departments continued their commitment to operating well within their means, resulting in a combined \$3.3 million of unspent funds by year's end.

Put these two impressive figures together, and the City's already strong fund balance grew by approximately \$8.4 million, an increase of over 37%.

The February 13 update to City Council on the Community Center included a snapshot of how we intend to fund this historic project. Thanks to the significant fund balance increase, the City will be able to increase its use of cash from \$9 million to at least \$14 million, while issuing bonds totaling \$62.5 million for both the Community Center and office space portions of the project.

To say that Upper Arlington's Community Center will be a world class facility is an understatement - I truly believe it will serve as inspiration for many other communities considering how to combine recreation and community gathering spaces within dense, mixed-use redevelopment opportunities.

At the Council update, it was clear the entire team working on this project is extremely proud of their work, and excited to have finally reached the point where we will start to see the Community Center rise from the ground. Several members of the design and construction management team are Upper Arlington residents, and this is clearly more than just a normal project for them.

I encourage you to stay tuned over the month of March, as Council considers and votes on the

construction package. And I hope you will be able to join us this spring for our Community Center groundbreaking.

Won't You Be Our Neighbor Podcast <https://anchor.fm/cityofua/>

We are beginning the second year of our podcast, and I have to say I'm as excited as ever about this fun and interactive way to highlight the many incredible residents we have in this community. To get the year off to a great start, we met with Pastor Vicki Züst of St. Mark's Episcopal Church to about Megan and Harry, Schisms and Quantum Physics in a truly divine episode! Then Margie Pizzuti joined us to discuss everything from Celestials to Folk Music and to take a deep dive into her love of Hallmark RomComs. In mid-February, Mark Ricketts of National Church Residences joined us for a chat about Disco, The Piano Man (Billy Joel) and affordable housing!

If you're yet to give us a try, tune in to find out what you've been missing!

See Yourself in the Future Community Center



Together... community starts here! A community center is coming to Upper Arlington. Celebrate with us by including a photo of your choice in the Community Center mosaic. The mosaic will be revealed in the Spring of 2023 and installed in the inter-generational Community Center for all to enjoy.

With a tax-deductible gift of \$250, include the photo of your choice with your family, friends, or teammates in this limited time only opportunity. Proceeds from this gift support the Upper Arlington Community Center Capital Campaign.

**UPPER ARLINGTON
COMMUNITY CENTER
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**
In Partnership With the Upper Arlington Community Foundation

Togetherua.org



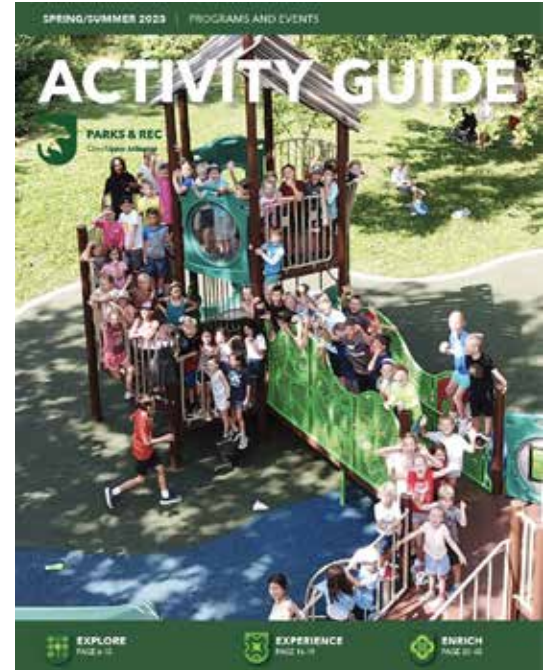
UA Parks & Rec Launches New Brand

The City's Parks & Recreation Department is launching a new brand this Spring and UA households will soon be receiving a much improved *Spring/Summer Activity Guide* that serves as the brand's official launch.

For some time, the team has wanted to develop an identifying look and feel. The Community Center design process provided the perfect time to develop the new brand. When you receive your copy of the *Activity Guide*, you will see the brand in action in several ways. Not only has the design been refreshed, the programs, events and services have been reorganized within three overarching pillars that reflect the department, and simplify the user experience:

- **Enrich** - opportunities for education, enhancement, instruction and education available through recreation programs
- **Experience** - where people can encounter, meet, view, listen and enjoy community events, galleries and performing arts activities
- **Explore** - showcasing the places, facilities and destinations that we can all enjoy in different ways, from our parks, shelters and rental facilities to our outdoor pools and tennis facilities

We hope you like the new look and that it inspires you to try our programs!



Community Relations Committee Updates

2023 Innovation Small Grant Program Recipients

The Community Relations (CRC) Innovation Small Grant Program was established in 2022 to support community-based, innovative approaches to fulfilling the CRC's Purpose, Mission and Vision. That year, two grants were awarded - to Rainbow UA for their UA Pride event, and to the Upper Arlington Schools for their Longest Table community discussion.

We are pleased to report an increase in interest for the 2023 grant cycle, with 10 applications received. Of these, five programs were successful:

- The Upper Arlington Historical Society will receive \$3,000 to support their History Speaks presentation series. In February, the Series featured the Story of James Preston Poindexter, a conductor on the Underground Railroad and the first Black member of Columbus City Council. Future events include: the Sells Brothers Circus, which used to winter in the area and featured Native American Bill Moose, who

is buried in Wyandot Park; the Newark Earthworks, one of the World's Ancient Wonders, built by the Hopewell Native Americans who lived in this area from 1-400 AD.

- The Upper Arlington Civic Association will receive \$5,000 for their plans to relaunch a welcome event for new residents, tentatively scheduled for the fall.
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church will receive \$1,000 for their inaugural Culture and Artisans Fair on Saturday, May 6. Held in partnership with Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), many of the artisans participating in the event will be refugees who are building a new life in the Central Ohio area.
- Rainbow UA will receive a grant of \$2,500 for this year's UA Pride event. This marks a 50% reduction in grant monies, as event planners work to grow and make UA Pride fiscally-sustainable for the long-term, through fees and sponsorships.
- The Upper Arlington Schools

will receive \$500 to support their hUmAn Connection Festival (Celebrating Cultures & Diversity) taking place at the UA High School on March 9, featuring performances that highlight cultural diversity and inclusivity through music, dance and lyrical expression, as well as an exhibit space showcasing student-led clubs and community participants, sharing food, photography, traditions and other interactive opportunities.

Annual Observances Calendar

The CRC website houses a 2023 Observances and Holidays Calendar that includes national holidays, significant celebrations and observances for different religions, and notable national, month-long observances. We encourage UA civic groups, businesses and residents to refer to this calendar when scheduling meetings, events or other activities. Visit the Resources section of the CRC website, at uacommunityrelations.com.

NewsBITES

CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Public Meetings

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE 614-583-5030

A full list of public meetings can be found on our **Events** calendar, at upperarlingtonoh.gov. If you are interested in receiving City Council meeting agenda updates, send us an email, at city.council@uaoh.net.

City e-News

Don't be the one who didn't know!!

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 updates from Parks & Recreation
- **Sentinel** - monthly program updates from the Senior Center

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

Community Special Event Applications

Deadline for Events Held July 1-Sept 30: Monday, April 17

upperarlingtonoh.viewpointcloud.com/

An application and permitting process is in place for community special events that require use of City property and/or City logistical and planning support.

Event organizers are encouraged to start their applications early. For details and to access the application form, visit <https://upperarlingtonoh.viewpointcloud.com/>

2022 Income Tax Filings

Deadline: Tuesday, April 18

www.ritaohio.com

All residents aged 18 years and over must file an annual income tax return with the City, regardless of whether any tax is due. The City uses the services of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) for the processing of UA income taxes. As an extra service for RITA taxpayers, RITA provides onsite municipal income tax return assistance each spring free of charge at its various locations. Agents can answer questions, take payments and assist with RITA municipal income tax preparation. RITA's Worthington office, located at 760 Lakeview Plaza Boulevard, Suite 400, is providing in person taxpayer assistance Monday-Friday, from 9 am-4 pm. Please bring all necessary documents, including:

- W-2 Forms from all employers, and any W-2G Forms and 1099-MISC Forms.
- Federal Form 1040, Federal Schedules C, E & F, Federal forms

K-1, 2106 (if applicable).

- Addresses and dates for each location in which you resided during 2022 and any previous tax year filings being submitted

The City's Finance Department is also available for in-person assistance, and taxpayers can drop off their information at convenient, secure drop boxes at either the RITA/Worthington location or the Municipal Services Center Kenny Road parking lot - please include a phone number or email address in case there are questions.

Statewide Tornado Drill

9:50 am, Wednesday, March 23

www.ready.ohio.gov

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

Fire Hydrant Flushing

April 17-May 5

FIRE DIVISION 614-583-5100

Fire hydrant flushing will occur week-days, April 17-May 5. This is part of an annual fire hydrant maintenance program that keeps hydrants in operable condition.

Most residents will notice no difference in their water supply, but a few



Seasonal Positions with UA Parks & Rec

UA Parks & Rec is looking to secure the many seasonal employees needed for a successful summer of youth camps, days at the pool, tennis programming and more. We offer competitive salaries, free training for lifeguards, recruitment bonuses & more. Positions include:

- **Lifeguards & Various Pool Positions**
- **Summer Camp Leaders & Managers**
- **Seasonal Parks Maintenance Workers**
- **Northam Tennis Operations Staff**
- **Rental Facility Support Staff**
- **Safety Town Teachers & Classroom Assistants**

Apply today: www.governmentjobs.com/careers/uaoh/seasonal

could experience water discoloration after flushing has taken place. Refrain from doing laundry on the day hydrants are flushed in your area. Before resuming laundering, partially fill washers on the cold setting until the water runs clear. Run a sample of water into a transparent container to check for settling or discoloration. Once the water is clear, the washer can be spun out to drain the tub for a normal laundry load. Turn on all faucets and allow water to run until it appears clear. Some may experience staining of clothes despite these notices. Clothes should be kept damp or wet to prevent the stains from setting. "Rust removers" or "rust fighters" are carried among cleaning products at grocery and hardware stores.

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

2023 Wall of Honor Program 3 pm, Sunday, May 21

The City of Upper Arlington and the Upper Arlington Historical Society are pleased to announce that Robin Hess Comfort and Joanie Igel Dugger have been selected for induction onto the Wall of Honor in 2023.

Both women shared a dedication to the betterment of the UA Schools. Robin served on the Board of Education for 11 years and as Board President for two years, playing a pivotal role in the facilities master planning project that led to a monumental transformation of the district's educational facilities. Joanie served as Executive Director for the UA Education Foundation, growing it into a model for communities across the state.

An induction ceremony to honor Robin and Joanie is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, May 21. Watch for additional details in the *May/June UA Insight*, or visit www.uahistory.org.

Safety Town Registration Sessions: June 12-16, June 26-30, July 10-14, July 17-21

POLICE 614-583-5150
Safety Town is a popular summer preschool program that teaches children

all aspects of safety. Registration begins at 6 am, on Wednesday, March 22 for residents, and at 6 am on Friday, March 24 for non-residents. The cost is \$125, and children entering kindergarten and first grade are eligible, but must be five years of age prior to September 30, 2023. Please note that classes fill quickly.

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery® Sunday, March 12

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

Building Permit Reminders DEVELOPMENT 614-583-5070

If you have plans to remodel part of your home, our Community Development Department can help with an important first step: checking to see if your project requires a permit. Examples of projects that require a permit include:

- Constructing a deck
- Finishing or altering a basement
- If framing is removed/added to a kitchen/bathroom or the layout is altered

- If non-load-bearing walls and/or soffits are removed, altered or added
- Adding a porch or covered entry
- Building a fence or replacing an existing fence
- If roof decking, exterior sheathing or framing is replaced, along with shingles or siding
- If an exterior wall and/or header framing is altered during window replacement

Friends of UA Parks

friendsofuaparks.com

Friends of Upper Arlington Parks is a volunteer group that works with the City's Parks & Forestry Division on invasive plant control projects and native plant restoration in UA Parks. The group meets regularly throughout the year on Saturday mornings from 9 am-Noon. Here are dates for the Spring:

- March 25 - Thompson Park
- April 15 - Thompson Park (includes planting bare-root saplings)
- April 22 - Miller Park

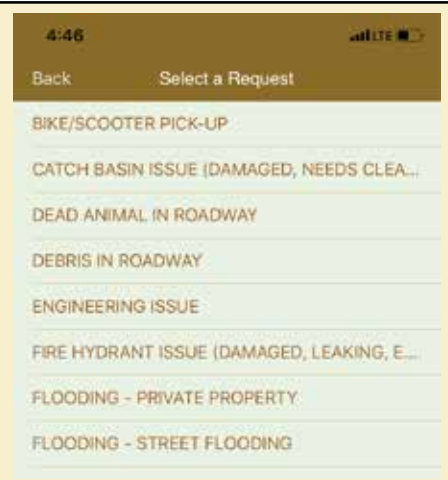
Float Builders Information Session

UA CIVIC ASSOCIATION www.uaca.org

If your neighborhood is planning to enter a float in the 2023 Fourth of July parade, learn the tricks of the trade from the UA Civic Association by watching their float builder video, available in early April.

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.



Schools[★]INSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

MARCH | APRIL 2023



Superintendent Search Announcement

Ohio native Robert Hunt, Ph.D., has been named the next superintendent of the Upper Arlington Schools following an extensive and thorough search process by the Upper Arlington Board of Education.

The Board took action at a special meeting on January 30 to approve a contract with Dr. Hunt, effective July 1. The meeting was followed by the first of several community open houses in the coming months to meet Upper Arlington's next superintendent.

Dr. Hunt will be coming to Upper Arlington from the Barrington 220 Community Unit School District, northwest of Chicago, where he currently serves as superintendent. He has nearly 12 years of experience as the superintendent in school districts in Ohio and Illinois and has served 27 years in public education.

"We are very excited to welcome Dr. Hunt to Upper Arlington and back to the Buckeye State," said Board of Education President Lori Trent. "Dr. Hunt reflects the

vision of our students, staff, families and community for our next superintendent – he is an accomplished educator and a visionary leader who truly believes in supporting all students and building a strong relationship with our community."

Dr. Hunt has spent the majority of his career in the state of Ohio, where he most recently served for nine years as the superintendent of the Chagrin Falls Exempted Village School District near Cleveland. He holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Kent State University, a master's degree in educational administration from Ursuline College, and a Ph.D. in educational administration from Kent State University.

"This is an absolute tremendous honor, and I am humbled to serve as the next leader of the Upper Arlington Schools," Dr. Hunt said at the Board meeting on Monday. "You have built an incredible educational environment from a program to facilities for young people. Today I had the opportunity to interact with staff and it just became

more evident to me what makes this place so special. It's the people that get to interact with our students every single day."

Dr. Hunt has held numerous roles in public school districts in the state, starting as a middle school English teacher and athletic director and later becoming a high school administrator. He was named the 2021 Ohio Superintendent of the Year by the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and has also received the prestigious Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Ohio Superintendent Outstanding Performance Award, which recognizes exceptional leadership with a commitment to deep learning and excellent teaching.

Over the next several months, Dr. Hunt will be working with Interim Superintendent Kathy Jenney, Ed.D., and the rest of the Upper Arlington Schools staff as he prepares to transition

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

UA Schools Volunteers honored with Arkin Service and Leadership Awards

Upper Arlington Schools is privileged to have many volunteers and residents who make a significant difference for the Upper Arlington Schools community. The Dr. Robert Arkin Service and Leadership Award was established in 2017 in honor of Dr. Arkin, who spent 12 years serving the students, staff and residents of Upper Arlington as a member of the Board of Education. The Arkin Award recognizes those individuals who go above and beyond to help the district reach its vision of uniquely accomplished students prepared to serve, lead and succeed.

Congratulations to the new recipients of the Dr. Robert Arkin Service and Leadership Award!



Aimee Moulakis White

Aimee Moulakis White is a longtime volunteer for Upper Arlington Schools, most recently as the chair of the historic Upper Arlington Legacy Capital Campaign. Through her tireless work, she raised more than \$8 million to augment the \$230 million bond-levy endorsed by Upper Arlington voters in November of 2017 and go above and beyond bricks and mortar by supporting programming that impacts students' daily academic and co-curricular experiences.

Upper Arlington Schools Medical Advisory Team

Beginning in the fall of 2020, Upper Arlington Schools worked closely with local experts in public health, infectious diseases and the mental health of school-age children to monitor Upper Arlington health data and what was happening in the country and around the state. Honored with the Dr. Robert Arkin Service and Leadership Award in December of 2022 were: Naeem Ali, MD, chair; John Ackerman, Ph.D.; Sara Bode, MD; Shandra Day, MD; Ayaz Hyder, Ph.D.; Efthimios Parasidis, JD; and Laura Pomeroy, Ph.D.



Jennifer Overmyer and Todd Walter

Receiving the Dr. Robert Arkin Service and Leadership Award for their service as co-chairs of Citizens for UA Schools were Jennifer Overmyer and Todd Walter. They led the volunteer effort behind the successful community campaign for Issue 5, the November 8, 2022 operating levy that funds daily operations of the district and maintains current academic programming so that the district can continue providing the current quality of education for Upper Arlington students.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

to the role of superintendent in Upper Arlington beginning on July 1. At that time, Dr. Jenney will step down as interim superintendent and remain on the district administrative team to continue to offer support until her retirement on July 31.

“Successful schools are a partnership between school and community, and that exists here today,” Dr. Hunt said at Monday’s meeting. “My focus will be to build upon that moving forward - to spend this transition listening and learning about what makes Upper Arlington so special ... and then working with the Board of Education and this amazing team to lead in the next iteration of what will benefit our young people.”

As Dr. Hunt becomes a Golden Bear, so too will his family – including wife Shannon, a high school teacher; and their two elementary-age children, Emerson and Hawken. They also have two older children – Ashton, who will graduate from the University of Dayton this spring with a teaching degree, and Braden, who is looking to transfer to a college in Ohio this fall.

“We cannot wait to join this community because when we come, we come to be a member of a community as much as we come to lead and be a part of the school,” he shared.

The selection of Dr. Hunt as the district’s next superintendent is the culmination of a months-long search process, involving feedback from more than 1,000 students, staff, families and community members as to their vision for the next leader of the Upper Arlington Schools.

“On behalf of the Board of Education, we truly thank the many, many community members who took time last fall to share their vision for our next leader,” Trent said. “We look forward to many opportunities ahead for everyone to get to know Dr. Hunt and to work together so that our school district can be the best it can be.”



SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Kathy Jenney, Ed.D.

New Profile of an Engaged Learner Reflects Our District’s Vision for Our Students

In January, Upper Arlington Schools unveiled its *Profile of an Engaged Learner*, an important focus of the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan.

The *Profile of an Engaged Learner* was developed with input from students and staff from across the district, and then solidified by a districtwide work group of educators representing all of our schools. It reflects our whole child philosophy – and our commitment to well-being and diversity, equity and inclusion – by articulating the skills and characteristics that we believe will prepare our students to serve, lead and succeed in Upper Arlington and beyond.

- Solution seeker
- Creative
- Skilled communicator
- Open minded and empathetic
- Responsible and resilient
- Well-balanced

This year, a working group of educators from across the district will be continuing their work on the profile and how teachers, administrators and other staff members can support these skills and characteristics. We will also be working with students from all levels – elementary, middle and high school – to capture their ideas for how they can develop these skills and characteristics during their time in Upper Arlington.

You can find more about the *Profile of an Engaged learner* in the *Quality Profile*, our district’s annual accountability report to the community – which will be arriving in mailboxes this spring.



Black History Month

During the month of February, our schools honored Black History Month by providing opportunities for our students to learn about the contributions and experience of Black Americans throughout the history of our country. I’d like to thank our staff members and students who have dedicated time and effort to honoring Black History Month in our schools – which supports our continuing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Kathy Jenney, Ed.D. is the interim superintendent of the Upper Arlington Schools. You can reach out to her at superintendent@uaschools.org.

BITES From the Apple



SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

'Memory Mission' Takes Potts to Guatemala to Build a School



After overseeing the completion of the construction process for Upper Arlington's new schools, Chief Operating Officer Chris Potts had the unique opportunity to help build a new school in Guatemala as part of an educational service trip.

For more than 20 years, Lifetouch, the school photography company, has sponsored "Memory Missions" like this to build environmentally responsible schools in Guatemala.

For a week in January, Potts was part of a team of 40 educators and Lifetouch employees from across the country and Canada who traveled to Guatemala. They worked alongside the local community, including children, and nonprofit organization Hug It Forward, to build a three-room "bottle" school using plastic bottles stuffed with inorganic trash to fill the walls of the school.

"To be able to help to provide these children, teachers and families with a better learning environment is something I will carry with me for my entire life," Potts said. "During our time there, we were able to go into the homes of these families and walk alongside the children on their one-hour journey to and from school each day.

"This experience is a great example of why we, as a district, lead with a commitment to service and to providing our students with opportunities to give of their time and resources to others."

Uniquely Accomplished

Congratulations to these Golden Bears on their impressive accomplishments!

- Upper Arlington High School Mock Trial brought two teams to the Franklin County Municipal Court for the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education's district competition. One of the teams, Team Ginsburg, advanced to the regional competition in February. Five UAHS students were honored with individual awards for their performance. Danny Petronella, Fabi Corso and Maggie Nowak received



best attorney awards, and Safia Malhotra and Rachel Thyer received best witness awards.

- Tremont Elementary School student MengDe Dai earned a silver medal in the iCode Global Hackathon Finals. MengDe was the only participant from the United States to win a medal in the Blockly Advance division.
- Tremont Elementary School student Pierce Landauer is one of only 14 students nationally who achieved a perfect score of 20 on the

Sign up to Receive UA Schools e-newsletters!

Upper Arlington Schools remains committed to keeping all stakeholders informed of what is happening throughout the district and receiving and responding to feedback from stakeholders.

Community members can sign up to receive the monthly district e-newsletter that is currently sent to families and staff at the end of each month. Please visit www.uaschools.org/emails/signup.aspx to subscribe to the e-newsletter. Current families with children in the schools and current staff members do not need to take any action, as they are automatically subscribed to these emails.



WordMasters Challenge, a vocabulary competition involving nearly 125,000 students annually.

Summer Academy Returns for 2023

Upper Arlington Schools is proud to offer an exceptional summer school program for our students for the summer of 2023. Summer Academy 2023 will offer comprehensive academic and well-being programming to students who will be entering grades 1 through 12 in the fall.

Course schedules for Summer Academy 2023 will be available at www.uaschools.org.



Course schedules for Summer Academy 2023 will be available at www.uaschools.org/SummerAcademy.aspx beginning on Wednesday, March 1, and registration will open on Tuesday, March 21.

All courses will be offered free of charge for 2023 thanks to federal funding.

Kindergarten Registration Open for 2023-2024

The Upper Arlington Schools community is looking forward to welcoming the Golden Bears Class of 2036! Children who will be 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2023, are eligible for kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year.

The district is pleased to offer a full-day kindergarten program for the families of Upper Arlington. Full-day kindergarten in Upper Arlington Schools gives younger learners more opportunities to learn and grow socially, emotionally and academically.



Information about starting the registration process is available now at www.uaschools.org/kindergarten.aspx. We strongly encourage families to complete the registration process by Friday, March 24, 2023, for staffing and planning purposes.

For more information on kindergarten registration and a map of the elementary attendance areas, please visit our website.

Nominations Sought for UA Educator Hall of Fame

The Upper Arlington Schools Educator Hall of Fame is accepting nominations through March 31 for outstanding retired educators.

The Educators Hall of Fame recognizes the best of the best among retired teachers and administrators of all grade levels, preschool through grade 12. Criteria and nomination materials are available on the district's website, www.uaschools.org/EducatorHallofFame.aspx.

The new inductees will be recognized during the summer at the Upper Arlington High School Open House sponsored by the Upper Arlington Alumni Association.

BECS Registration Open – and Space Is Limited!

Burbank Early Childhood School (BECS) is our high quality, tuition based childcare for children ages 2 to 5. BECS is accepting registrations for the 2023-2024 school year for children ages 2 to 5.

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



2022-23 SCHOOL DATES

Spring Break

Monday, March 13 - Friday, March 17

No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule

Monday, March 20

No School for Students and Staff

Friday, April 7

No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule

Monday, May 1

Election Day: No School for Students; Staff Professional Learning Day

Tuesday, May 2

Early Dismissal (K-12) and Last Day for Students

Thursday, May 25

Staff Report Per Schedule

Friday, May 26

UAHS Commencement

Sunday, May 28 at 9:30 am

The Jerome Schottenstein Center

Memorial Day; All Offices Closed

Monday, May 29

**For the full 2022-2023 school year calendar, visit:
www.uaschools.org/calendars.aspx**

SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



In January, elementary students celebrated a big milestone – the 100th day of the school year.



Students, staff and community members put their creative minds to work in January to brainstorm possibilities for the future of Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School's outdoor play and learning spaces, including the castle playground.

UAHS Athletic Hall of Fame Celebrations

Upper Arlington High School welcomed 12 new inductees in January who have made outstanding contributions to the impressive history of the school's athletic program. The sixth class of inductees and their families were recognized during a girls and boys varsity basketball double-header at Upper Arlington High School and a ceremony the following morning in the Performing Arts Center.

Congratulations to the inductees and their families: Jax "Mo" Black (Class of 1992); Bill Cook (Class of 1957); former coach Paul W. "Pete" Corey; friend of the program and "Voice of the Bears" Dan Donovan; Steve Dusseau (Class of 1998); Bob Jencks (Class of 1959); Cathleen (Aschinger) Pugh (Class of 1980); Tom Saunders (Class of 1964); former coach Dan Sebastian (Class of 1960); Sam Sebastian (Class of 1989); Sarah Wall Fortier (Class of 2002); and Artie Wolfe (Class of 1958).



SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Barrington Elementary students made special deliveries in December to fulfill the wish lists of 68 senior citizens through LifeCare Alliance.



Thanks to the generosity of the Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School community, more than 100 gifts for 28 children were sent off to Heart to Heart Food Pantry in December.



Jones Middle School staff and students continued a long-standing tradition of preparing a holiday meal for the Home for Families Dowd Center in Columbus.



The Windermere Elementary School flight crew welcomed students to their global education kickoff assembly in November – with stops throughout North America.



Mrs. Miller's 2nd grade class and Mr. Diehl's 5th grade class at Greensview teamed up on a service-learning project with the Ronald McDonald House in December. A highlight was a special visit from Henry, a therapy dog.



International Baccalaureate students hosted a potluck in November with their friends from the Individualized Needs Center at Upper Arlington High School to share dishes representing family traditions and cultures.

Treasurer's Notes

Andrew L. Geistfeld

Upper Arlington Schools is committed to being a good steward of our community's investment in our schools, and we take this



commitment very seriously. Effective and efficient use of our financial resources is crucial to ensuring that we can provide the high-quality educational experiences that our students deserve and our community expects.

Every year, we rely on external, third-party review of our finances by the state auditor's office. This process involves a team from the auditor's offices spending a significant amount of time delving into our financial records and reviewing our practices.

I am pleased to share that our district has again earned a clean audit opinion for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, recognizing our commitment to effective and accountable financial practices for our community. You can find the fiscal year 2022 audited financial report from the state on our website at www.uaschools.org/annualaudits.aspx.

Our community can also get a closer look at our fiscal year 2022 financial information in the 2022-2023 Financial Update, which will be available this spring on our website. This report serves as a companion piece to our Quality Profile, our annual accountability report, by providing a deeper dive into our district's finances. It details the sources of our funding, how that money is used and other topics that may affect district finances in the future.

Responsible planning for future financial needs is an important part of what we do as a district. This is a crucial part of our commitment to being a good steward of our community's investment in our schools.

With that commitment in mind, the Board of Education has approved moving forward with a capital project reserve fund to proactively plan for future maintenance expenses for our facilities. Just as homeowners plan and save for eventual home maintenance needs, the district will set aside \$750,000 annually in permanent improvement funding to prepare for eventual maintenance needs for our facilities such as new HVAC systems or the replacement of a turf field once it has reached its expected lifespan. This is something that we had discussed during the facilities master planning process

and is structured so that it will not impact the district's general fund.

By responsibly planning for future financial needs related to our facilities, we are honoring our commitment to the community to keep our focus on providing the highest quality of education for our students.

I encourage community members to learn more about our district's finances through the many resources available on our website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at treasurer@uaschools.org.

2023 UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM LEFT: Vice President Nancy Drees, President Lori Trent, Jenny McKenna, Lou Sauter and Nidhi Satiani



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

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, March 7, 6 pm – Council Chamber
- Tuesday, April 11, 6 pm – Council Chamber
- Tuesday, May 9, 6 pm – Council Chamber

At the Board of Education's organizational meeting in January, the Board selected Lori Trent to serve as president and Nancy Drees to serve as vice president for the 2023 calendar year. The Board also approved a schedule of meetings for 2023, which is available at www.uaschools.org/board. For additional information on the members of the Board of Education and its policies, please visit the website listed above.

Library MARCH | APRIL 2023 **INSIGHT**

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



Explore Greener Living at Our Sustainability Fair

Kick off Earth Month with a Sustainability Fair at the Main Library on Saturday, April 1 from 10 am-2 pm.

This special event is co-sponsored by Sustainable UA, and celebrates the sustainable initiatives happening in our community. Visit with local organizations, do hands-on activities, and attend presentations on greener living. We'll also offer recycling, tasty treats from Littleton's Market, and much more.

The day's headliner is Catherine Zimmerman, award-winning documentary filmmaker and environmental educator. Her videos include global warming documentaries for *CNN Presents* and *New York Times Television*. The goal of her work is to fire up the movement toward creating



biodiversity and making natural landscapes the new norm. She'll speak at our Sustainability Fair at 2 pm in the Friends Theater.

Another of the day's highlights is an Animal Encounter presented by the Ohio Wildlife Center. Patrons of all ages can learn about the Center's work, the history of Ohio native wildlife and how to coexist with our wild neighbors. OWC will even bring along some live animal

ambassadors! This presentation will be in our Youth Department at 11 am.

Visit with representatives from over a dozen organizations in our atrium, including Friends of the UA Parks, Drive Electric Columbus, and SWACO.

In our parking lot, we'll have an electric car tour, electric bike testing, e-waste recycling, paper shredding, and more.

For a complete schedule of the day's events, visit uapl.me/SF23 or scan this QR code.



Turn Your Passion for Art into a Business

Artists and crafters who want to make a hobby into something more won't want to miss our Arts & Crafts Entrepreneurship series.

Presented in partnership with the City of Upper Arlington's Parks & Recreation Department, this series of five programs features a variety of local entrepreneurs offering guidance on topics like pricing strategies, marketing, merchandising, and more.

Speakers include Dr. Jennifer Schlueter of Columbus College of Art and Design, designer Sarah Martin, Elaine Grogan Luttrell of Minerva Financial Arts, award-winning artist Rebecca Rea, and two-time Emmy winning filmmaker Matt Hubbard.

Three programs will be held in the Main Library's Friends Theater, one at the Amelita

Mirola Barn, and one at the UA Municipal Building. Visit uapl.me/ACE23 or scan this QR code for the complete schedule, including program descriptions, dates and times, and locations. Registration is now open at ualibrary.org.



Program Highlights

Swap-a-palooza

Each of our libraries is hosting a swap event this April where you can trade unwanted items and get some that are new-to-you. Swap jigsaw puzzles with other enthusiasts on Saturday, April 15 from 2-3 pm in the Main Library's Meeting Room B. This swap is intended for adults with puzzles containing 300+ pieces. Also on April 15, visit our Miller Park Branch between 10 am-4 pm for a garden swap. Trade healthy plants, cuttings, pottery, tools, seeds and more. Finally, our Lane Road Branch will have an arts & crafts supply swap. Bring your craft items anytime from April 15-21, then attend the swap on Saturday, April 22 from 10 am-4 pm.

Tech Help at Miller Park

Need a helping hand with your computer, cell phone or tablet? Our

Media Services staff will visit the Miller Park Library on Friday, March 10 and Friday, April 7 from 2-4 pm. Get assistance with downloading eBooks and streaming movies for free, plus basic computer, internet and software skills. Registration is required.

Animals We Love to Hate

Glimpse live animals that are often feared and disliked at this program for ages 4+. Ohio Nature Education will be at the Main Library on Saturday, March 18 at 10:30 am to share myths and facts about animals like bats, spiders and snakes. You'll see how beneficial these creatures really are!

The Woman Detective in Popular Culture

The 1980s brought a new heroine to the bestseller list: the professional woman

detective. Come to the Lane Road Library on Thursday, March 23 at 6:30 pm, as Linda Mizejewski, professor at The Ohio State University, explores this new character and her transition to film and TV.

Author Ryan T. Higgins

Picture book author and illustrator Ryan T. Higgins will visit the Main Library on Sunday, April 2 at 2 pm. He'll talk about his newest book, *We Don't Lose Our Class Goldfish*. Registration is required. Presented in partnership with Cover to Cover Books.

School Bus Visit

See a school bus up close when an Upper Arlington City Schools bus visits the Miller Park Library, on Saturday, April 8 at 10:30 am.



A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Beth Hatch

Spring is around the corner and as the landscape begins to change and bloom, the Library will begin a new season as well. Supported by the Upper Arlington community with the passage of the 2022 levy, the Library will begin the process of refreshing Library buildings, increasing our outreach across the community, planning amazing programs and events, and enhancing our collections.

In January, the Library published a request for proposal to solicit an architectural firm to help create a 10-year master facilities plan. This plan will re-envision our buildings to adapt

to the needs of the community and enhance our space for collections, programs, and services. We'll be inviting community members and stakeholders to participate in engagement sessions that will be critical in helping us inform our strategy later this year.

Although the facilities plan spans the next 10 years, the Library has begun implementing ways to immediately have an impact on the community. First, we've added new positions to support our programming and outreach endeavors. Our new youth librarian position will increase visits to schools, daycares, and preschools by delivering Library materials and new, fun programming. Also, a new program and outreach coordinator will increase our presence at community events and coordinate volunteer efforts both within and outside the Library. With additional staff, you can expect fresh new programs and events

for all ages both in our three libraries and around the city.

Finally, our digital collection has been increasing in use by 20% each year, so we're investing to meet that need. With an Upper Arlington Public Library card, you now have access to the Overdrive Advantage collection with Libby, the Library's premiere eBook and audiobook app. We share Overdrive content with other libraries through our membership in the Central Library Consortium, but Overdrive Advantage offers additional titles that are exclusively for UAPL cardholders. Additionally, the Library has increased Hoopla checkouts from 10 to 15 per month, which offers immediate/no-holds access of a variety of digital movies and TV shows. If you don't have a UA Library card, be sure to apply online at ualibrary.org.

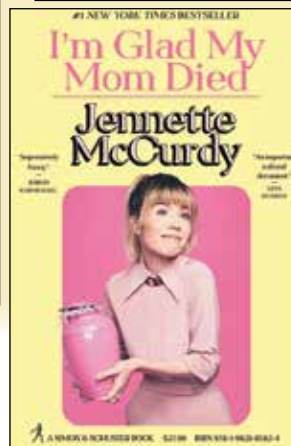
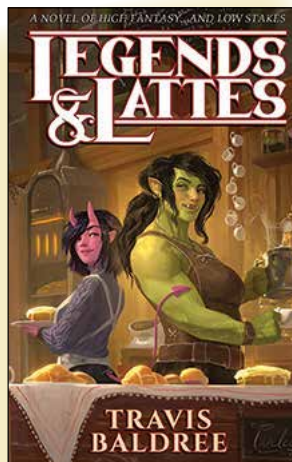
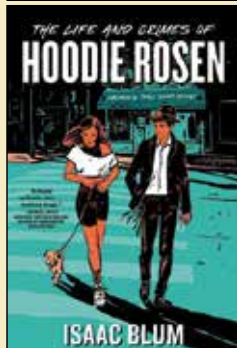
OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

Fletch

By Gregory McDonald

Fletch is back! The *Fletch* series from the mid-1970s has been re-released. Investigative reporter, Irwin Fletcher, goes undercover to write a story about the drug-trafficking problem at the local beach. While posing as homeless, Fletch is recruited (accosted) by a rich businessman who bribes him to be a part of an insurance scam. Fletch is now investigating two storylines. Are these stories related? The sarcastic wit of *Fletch* keeps the reader well entertained.

– Scott Potter, Adult Services



Legends & Lattes

By Travis Baldree

Ever wonder what orcs do when they get tired of constantly battling everyone and everything? Open a coffee shop, of course! Swordsman Viv does one last job, hoping to find a fabled artifact thought to bring luck to its owner. The city of Thune offers the perfect place to start over. It doesn't matter that no one has ever even heard of coffee before. Viv is sure that the wonders of coffee and the help of new friends will bring her the peaceful life she's been searching for.

– Laura Griffin, Technical Services

meet adventure, humor, romance, and selfless acts of bravery. Audiobook listeners will love Katherine Kellgren's narration, as she brings delightful passion to already lovable characters, and expertly embodies a self-aware narrator who doesn't take herself too seriously.

– Sarah Shepard, Miller Park

Daughter of Sparta

By Claire Andrews

A great new Greek Mythology series for the teen reader, *Daughter of Sparta* highlights themes of family, female power, and finding strength against all odds. Daphne is a fighter, figuratively and literally, and is determined to show her worth to her community. When she unexpectedly encounters the goddess Artemis, she strikes a deal to go on a deadly quest with Apollo to save the powers of Olympus. Action, humor, and a little bit of romance make this the perfect read for any mythology fan.

– Alex Burris, Youth Services

I'm Glad My Mom Died

By Jennette McCurdy

Jennette McCurdy, a child actress, writes in vivid detail and with refreshing honesty about what life was like growing up with her abusive mother. Jennette's life as a star seems glamorous from the outside, but only by diving into this memoir do we see how fame is just a fragile veneer smeared over the cracks. Not allowed to shower alone until she was 16, Jennette's mother also controlled every bite she ate, which sparked a life-long struggle with eating disorders. It wasn't until she was older, and her mother had passed, that she truly realized how used and abused she was by this key figure in her life. A tough but critical read, this book shows us the complicated relationship we have with family, especially our parents.

– Lyndsie Otto, Adult Services

The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen

By Isaac Blum

Winner of the 2023 William C. Morris Award for a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens. Hoodie Rosen's entire Orthodox Jewish community has moved to a small town in hopes of establishing a new home base. Unfortunately, their welcome is less than enthusiastic. Hoodie begins to question the limits of his religion and the restraints it places upon him. A series of antisemitic events spirals out of control leading to a tragic event. Through it all, Hoodie learns about friendship, family, and many ways faith can affect those around him.

– Laura Griffin, Technical Services

My Lady Jane

By Brodi Ashton, Cynthia Hand, and Jodi Meadows

Three authors work together to spin a fantastical retelling of the real historical figure Lady Jane Grey. At just 16 years old, Jane suddenly finds herself married off to a handsome stranger, shortly before being handed the throne by her newly deceased cousin, King Edward. Readers won't mind the creative liberties taken when history and royal conspiracy

Explore...GATHER...grow!!



Penguin crafts and bowling were featured at Lane Road's Penguin Party.



Tweens made bags and hair scrunchies at our tie dye program.



The atrium was filled with revelers ready for a balloon drop during our Noon Year's Eve celebration



Plush friends received bandages and a teeth cleaning at our Stuffed Animal Doctor Visit program.



Miller Park's Pretend Train Play was a big hit with our little engineers.



NewsBITES

LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Hoopla Borrow Limit Raised

Love to stream movies, music and audiobooks on Hoopla? You can now borrow 50% more digital content for free with your library card – we've increased the monthly borrowing limit from 10 to 15 titles. Get started by downloading the Hoopla Digital app on Google Play or the Apple App store.

Summer Teen Volunteer Opportunities

Each of our libraries will be looking for teens to help our youth staff this summer. Our Main and Lane Road Libraries need Summer Reading Volunteers. Our Miller Park Library needs big buddies for the Book Buddies program, and help through our Teen Service Club. More information will be available at teenvolunteers.ualibrary.org in April.

Affordable Connectivity Program Info Sessions

In the last Insight, we introduced you to the new Affordable Connectivity Program from the Federal

Communications Commission. The program provides discounts on Internet service and connected devices for eligible households. We've scheduled drop-in information sessions with local connectivity champions to provide more information on the program. Stop by our Main Library's Meeting Room C between 11 am-1 pm on Tuesday, March 14 or Monday, April 10. You can also visit our Media Services desk for info.

Library March Madness

Be sure to participate in all our March Madness activities! From March 1-31, teens can vote for their favorite teen tropes in the Main Library's teen department. At Miller Park, vote for your favorite picture book and YA book. Finally, tell us which library services you're "mad" for in our online-only poll. Look for a new voting round each Monday in March with the most-loved service being named on April 3. Find the link to cast your vote in the News & Announcements section of ualibrary.org or on our Facebook page. So much madness heading your way!

Passport Fair

Our Passport Fair on Sunday, March 26 from 9 am-Noon will be a one-stop shop to apply for passports. No appointment necessary. Visit www.travel.state.gov or passportservices.ualibrary.org for important information, including fees and what documents to bring.

Easter Closing

All three UA Libraries will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 9.

Tax Season

Tax season is upon us. Our librarians have compiled information to get you started on doing your taxes. Visit uapl.me/taxes22 for helpful resources. The filing deadline this year is Tuesday, April 18. Reference librarians are happy to direct people to tax information and locate specific forms, but please note: Library employees cannot give out tax advice or answer specific tax questions. All UA Library branches will receive a limited amount of IRS Form 1040 and instructions for distribution. Other tax forms and instructions can be printed from our public computers at a cost of 10¢ per page. For assistance, please stop by or call the UA Library Reference Department at (614) 486-3342 or email us at reference@ualibrary.org.

LibraryINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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www.facebook.com/UAPublicLibrary [www.twitter.com/@UAPL](https://twitter.com/UAPL)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2023 Board of Trustees

From Left: Stephen Flynn,
Sue Ralph, William Shkurti,
John Yesso, Vice President
Kevin Fix, Kate Hare,
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:

- 5 pm, Tuesday, March 21
- 5 pm, Tuesday, April 18



3600 Tremont Road,
Upper Arlington, OH 43221
upperarlingtonoh.gov



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Concourse Gallery

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

Middle School Students

March 1-24
Reception: Sunday, March 5 | 2-4 pm

High School Students

March 29-April 28

UA Library Sustainability Fair

10 am-2 pm, Saturday, April 1

Tremont Library
UA LIBRARY www.ualibrary.org
See pages 19 & 10 for details.

UACA Easter Egg Hunt & Bunny Trail

10 am, Saturday, April 8
Thompson Park www.uaca.org

Enjoy this free event from the UA Civic Association and UA Parks & Rec. Arrive by 9:45 am for a prompt start. If it rains, candy is handed out drive-thru-style.

UA Historical Society "History Speaks" Series: The Sells Brothers Circus

7 pm, Tuesday, April 25
Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park
www.uahistory.org

Hear the fascinating stories of the Sells Bros. Circus, which used to winter just southeast of today's UA.



The Community Relations Committee encourages residents to visit Mallway Park in early April to enjoy the blossoms of 21 cherry trees planted in the Veterans Plaza area. The Greater Columbus Cherry Blossom Festival provides another opportunity for the region to celebrate Spring and learn about Japanese culture. Visit uacommunityrelations.com for more details on this year's event.

Prescription Drug Take Back Day

10 am-2 pm, Saturday, April 22
Fire Station 72, 3861 Reed Road
UA POLICE 614-583-5150

Drop off old and unused prescription drugs drive-thru style.

Arbor Day Ceremony

9:30 am, Friday, April 28
Location TBD
UA PARKS & REC 614-583-5300

UA celebrates Arbor Day each year with a tree planting ceremony involving students in our schools.

Sandwich Stroll

10:30 am-Noon, Tuesday, May 2
Sunny 95 Park
UA PARKS & REC 614-583-5300

UA seniors health and wellness event. Pre-registration required.

St. Mark's Church Culture & Artisans Fair

10 am-3 pm, Saturday, May 6
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2151 Dorset Road

This new event will feature artisans selling handmade items from all over the world, along with food and music and an opportunity to interact with the artisans and hear their stories.

Northam Tennis Open House

1-5 pm, Saturday, May 6
UA PARKS & REC 614-583-5300

Enjoy an afternoon of free tennis and refreshments. You can also purchase your membership to the Northam Tennis Courts and meet tennis pro Mike Haddow.