

# UA <sup>★</sup>iNSIGHT

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2022



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



## Police Operations Study Shared with City Council

For all the City services we provide to the community, it makes sense to periodically go through an evaluation process, to see how our operations compare to other agencies and to identify best practices that could be incorporated here, while also seeking opportunities for efficiencies. In the case of our Police Division, utilizing the expertise of an outside consultant to conduct a detailed study of current practices has been long-overdue. This task was entrusted to the Center for Public Safety Management, LLC (CPSM), an affiliate agency of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Following an extensive study process that included data analysis, interviews, focus groups, document review and operational and administrative observations, CPSM has provided a detailed report with a series of prioritized recommendations. The key findings and recommendations to emerge from this report were shared with City Council in October.

Some general observations to emerge from the study speak to the strengths of the division, which is comprised of a team of professional and dedicated staff who take great pride in their work, guided by strong leadership within the division, and supported by the Administration, elected officials and the community.

When compared with other communities, the data shows that UA is very safe, with one of the lowest crime rates. The division's community relations activities - such as Safety Town, School Resource Officers and Citizen Police Academy - far exceed those offered by similar sized agencies. Also of note, the division is ahead of many agencies in its commitment to regular data analysis that includes a review of bias-based policing patterns in support of the division's commitment to accountability, fostering relationships and building trust with all the communities it serves.

Results of the 2022 Community Survey echo many of the findings of the study, with 91% of respondents

rating the Police Division as "excellent" or "good," 95% stating that they feel "very" or "extremely" safe during the day, and 80% stating that they feel "very" or "extremely" safe at night.

A notable theme to emerge from the study was the need for additional civilian positions to support the work of sworn officers, a challenge that has increasingly impacted operations over the years. For example, while the City's partnership with Dublin's Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center for the provision of 911/dispatching services has been extremely successful, an unintended consequence has been the reallocation of various administrative responsibilities to sworn officers, taking time away from patrol.

### Key Recommendations

Overall the report presents 67 recommendations that have been broken into three priority categories for implementation. Of these, 32 recommendations have been identified

as “high priority,” for implementation over the next three-six months.

Some examples include:

- Possible adjustments to the patrol schedule to maximize coverage, and to align sergeants and officers to a consistent supervision schedule.
- Reorganizing some administrative responsibilities and expanding the number of civilian positions, so that officers can focus on their patrol duties.
- Improving data collection on patrol officers’ time allocation.
- Conducting an annual review of calls for service to help guide strategic decisions on which calls should be responded to by uniformed officers.
- Enhancing the policies and procedures for residential and business alarms.
- Transferring crime analysis functions to a civilian position.
- While the division’s data collection system is robust and ahead of many agencies, the report has some recommendations on how to better analyze the available data to help guide operations.

The Administration is readying to begin implementing the immediate-need recommendations. As such, the proposed 2022-2023 budget that will be under Council consideration starting this month includes a request for two additional civilian positions.

The full report and video of CPSM’s presentation to Council is available on the **City Council** section of our website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov). To view the presentation, click on the **Council Videos** link, select **Past City Council**, then click on the **October 10** meeting, where it’s possible to select **Item G** to fast forward to the presentation. To access the report, click on **Agendas & Packets** and select the **October 10 Agenda**.

If you have any questions about the Police Operations and Data Analysis Report and next steps, contact the City Manager’s Office, at 614-583-5040.

## Review of Zoning Updates for the Office and Research District on Henderson Road

The City has been undertaking a public engagement and review process relative to possible zoning revisions for a portion of the ORC Office and Research District located on the south side of Henderson Road. The concept under consideration would be to rezone this area as a Planned Mixed Office District (PMOD) with the intent of retaining a significant amount of office space within the district at a minimum, while allowing for a limited number of additional uses, such as residential and retail, as future redevelopment projects occur.

This review process has included a series of community meetings so that Staff could share insight on what is being considered and obtain community input and suggestions for accomplishing the best possible outcome for the surrounding neighborhoods, the Henderson Road corridor and the community as a whole.

The emerging zoning revision proposal was reviewed by the Board of Zoning and Planning in October, with the Board voting to recommend the revisions to City Council, with a condition to further consider a building



height transition for the lakefront properties

Council’s review of this proposal is scheduled to occur in the month of November, per the following schedule:

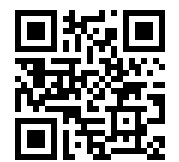
- 7 pm, Monday, November 7 – 1st Reading, Public Hearing
- 7 pm, Monday, November 14 – 2nd Reading, Public Hearing
- 7 pm, Monday, November 21 – 3rd Reading, Public Hearing, Council Action

For full details on what is being proposed, please visit our website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov), where you can find information under **Community Projects**.

# Together... Community Starts Here

**UPPER ARLINGTON  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

In Partnership With the Upper Arlington Community Foundation



Your gift of \$5,000 and less will be doubled! [togetherua.org/give](http://togetherua.org/give)

## Holiday Fire Safety

As we head into the fall and winter months, Upper Arlington residents will be celebrating several holidays. Those holidays often combine decorations and candles with large family gatherings, cooking, etc. The Upper Arlington Fire Division wants you to celebrate safely, so please consider the following tips:

- Use battery operated candles, if possible.
- Keep decorations away from open flames and other heat sources.
- Keep lighters, matches and candles away from small children and pets.
- Blow out candles when leaving the room or going to bed.
- If a candle must burn continuously, make sure it is in a glass container and placed on a metal tray or in a deep basin filled with water.
- Remain in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Make sure holiday lights are used per the manufacturer's directions.
- Keep Christmas trees well-watered, away from heat sources and turn off lights when going to bed.
- **Close before you doze:** close bedroom doors when sleeping (see a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSP03BE74WA>).
- **ABOVE ALL:** Ensure all smoke detectors are in place and working properly.

For more fire safety tips see the National Fire Protection Association's website at <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Teaching-tools/Safety-tip-sheets> or use the QR code below on your smartphone.



## New Solid Waste Contract for 2023: Same Great Service Translates to Slight Fee Increases



One of the most notable shifts in resident sentiment to emerge from the 2022 Community Survey pertains to one of our most basic but vital municipal services - solid waste collection.

Back in 2017, when a Community Survey was last conducted, we were still operating under a "pay as you throw" model that had residents providing their own containers - the result was not particularly pretty, especially on windy days, and residents were burdened with the frustration of remembering to buy their solid waste stickers before collection day.

At that time, Community Survey ratings for these services were among the lowest, with respondent ratings of "excellent" or "good" as follows:

- Garbage collection - 58%
- Recycling Collection - 68%
- Yard Waste Collection - 64%

The following year marked the start of the City's first five-year contract with Local Waste Services, which brought with it standardized containers, automated collection service and a biannual billing process.

This year's Community Survey came as the Local Waste contract entered its fifth and final year, and the transformation in resident satisfaction is a sure sign that we got this vital service right, with the same "excellent" or "good" ratings for services skyrocketing:

- Garbage collection - 93%
- Recycling Collection - 92%
- Yard Waste Collection - 89%

In preparation for a new contract, the City issued a request for proposals over the summer. Two proposals were received and ranked based on several criteria. Local Waste Services once again emerged as the best option for the City, in major part because of the success of the first five-year contract and exceptional level of service, along with the fact that residents can continue to use the containers that have already been provided.

This new five-year contract will result in a fee increase starting in the New Year, but these new rates are very comparable to the rates being charged in other communities.

Additional details are available under the **Solid Waste Services** section of the City's website at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov), but a typical household will be billed \$300.50 per year, or \$150.25 per six-month billing cycle, and qualifying senior households will be billed \$272.00 per year, or \$136.00 per billing cycle. Residents will see this increase effective with the first billing in 2023, which will be heading to UA households early in the New Year.

If you have any questions about the City's Solid Waste Services, please contact our Public Service Department, at 614-583-5350.

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

### 2023 Budget Hearings

The fall of each even numbered year marks a busy time for the City as departments develop their proposed budgets for the next two years. 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 recent inflationary and supply chain challenges. This is the 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.

The proposed 2022-2023 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 (meetings begin at 7pm):

- **Monday, November 7 City Council Meeting** – first budget discussion (Capital Improvement Program)
- **Monday, November 14 City Council Meeting** – second budget discussion (Operating, Capital Equipment, Schedule of Fees)
- **Monday, November 21 City Council Meeting** – third budget discussion (open items)



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

- **Monday, December 12 City Council Meeting** – Council vote

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

### Board and Commission Application Portal

The City is fortunate to have many residents who are willing to donate their time and expertise serving on the various Boards and Commissions that have been formed to address specific community issues. In return, these individuals are afforded the opportunity to help shape their community in areas that are of interest to them.

Continuing the City's recent efforts to enhance the Board and Commission application process, a new online portal has been created.

The portal can be reached from the **Boards and Commissions** or **City Council** sections of the City's website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov), or can be directly accessed at <https://onboard.upperarlingtonoh.gov>.

On the portal, you will find a list of the City's Boards and Commissions, the current members and their terms. It is possible to sort data in a number of ways to identify any current vacancies,

upcoming term expirations for seats and more.

You can also directly access the application form - which you are welcome to complete at any time to express your interest in serving the community in this way. When completing an application, it's possible to select and prioritize more than one Board or Commission that is of interest to you.

One of the first steps in improving the Board and Commission application process was to transition all expiration dates to the same date of June 30 in any given year. As a result, the City will typically put out the call for applicants in the first quarter of each year, so that the Council President can work with their fellow Council members to undertake an interview and selection process. That said, some vacancies do occur as members find they are unable to fulfill their obligations or move out of the community.

Public service of this nature is voluntary.

If you have any questions about the City's Boards and Commissions or the application process, please contact the City Clerk's Office, at [city.clerk@uaoh.net](mailto:city.clerk@uaoh.net).



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Steve Schoeny

### The 2022 Community Survey Results Are In!

With a community of over 35,000 residents and 13,000 households that are made up of busy people from different backgrounds, it is hard to get a sense of what “The Community” thinks. We do community meetings, council meetings, zoom meetings, booths at community events, email, podcasts, newsletters and websites on a regular basis. And every three to five years, we hire a survey research firm to do a random sampling of households for a survey.

This summer, we did our UA Community Survey for the first time since 2017. The bottom line is that our residents love living here, they are overall satisfied with City government, and they care about how UA continues to evolve.

Here are some of my key takeaways from the 2022 Community Survey:

A large majority of UA residents think that this is a great place to live and that City government is working well:

- 98% think UA is a good or excellent place to live, and 96% said it is a good or excellent place to raise a family.
- 93% of residents think City services are excellent or good.
- 68% said that what they like most about living in UA is our feeling of safety, our recreation services, our community events or some other element of the services that we provide at the City.
- 89% think City government officials are trying to do the right thing.
- 78% of those who had a personal

interaction with a City employee said that they were very or extremely satisfied with that interaction.

- 77% think they get good or excellent value for their City tax dollars.

Residents REALLY like our move away from trash stickers. In 2017 only 58 percent of residents were satisfied with trash collection and only 68 percent were satisfied with recycling. Today, over 90 percent are satisfied with those services. We also saw big increases in satisfaction with sidewalk maintenance, street repair and our recreation programs and classes. Virtually everyone was satisfied with our fire and EMS services, and over 90 percent of our residents are satisfied with our police.

At the City, we believe that those increases in satisfaction are related to an emphasis on doing better at listening to the community. While I love that our statistics on the number of people who DO trust us went up, I was particularly struck by the change in the numbers on people who DO NOT trust us or think that we listen to residents. In 2017, seven percent of residents said they didn't trust us at all and 13 percent said we didn't listen at all. In 2022, only four percent of our residents don't trust us at all, and only five percent don't think that we listen at all. To put it another way, 95 percent of our residents are willing to give the City the benefit of the doubt that we are going to listen to your concerns and try to do the right thing.

Thank you for that trust. We will continue working to earn it, and we do not take it for granted.

Since we have dealt with many of the concerns that were raised in the 2017 survey, what are UA residents worried about today? They are worried about how we deal with the growth in the Columbus region (density, affordability and availability of housing) and becoming a more diverse community. When asked what our most important problem facing UA is, 36% (up

from 11% in 2017) mentioned something related to growth or affordability, and 26% (up from 3% in 2017) mentioned our lack of diversity. When we asked later in the survey about diversity specifically, 51% think attracting more diverse residents is very or extremely important and another 19% said it is moderately important.

The City is not going to solve housing affordability or overcome the legacy that has limited our diversity on our own over the next five years. What we need to do is listen to our residents and find innovative ways to help move the community forward on these issues. The City will work with organizations and individuals in the community to make new (and newer) residents part of the fabric of our UA. Also, we will be looking for ways to invite people who might not have thought of calling UA home in the past to join us.

I hope you will read the survey results in detail, and share your reactions, thoughts and ideas with us. I also hope that this inspires new ideas on how we at the City can engage with the community, innovate, be inclusive, supportive, accountable and transparent so that our residents can focus on what matters most to them.

You can find the full survey report in the **Connect** section of our website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

### Great News on the Finance Front

For the 14th consecutive time, the City has achieved exceptional financial ratings from two national agencies for two bond issuances.

For an issuance of general obligation bonds to fund a portion of the 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Program, Moody's Investors Service assigned the top rating of Aaa, and S&P Global assigned its top rating of AAA.

For an issuance of non-tax revenue bonds to finance infrastructure improvements at the Kingsdale

## UA Parks & Recreation Adopts an Athletic Field Turf Management Program

Redevelopment Project - namely funding for the structured parking - Moody's assigned an impressive rating of Aa1, and S&P Global assigned its top rating of AAA.

Both ratings agencies once again opined on the City's strong operating fund balance and its excellent credit profile, highlighted by a strong tax base, above average resident incomes and its ties with the Columbus metropolitan economy.

The Triple A rating is the highest that can be attained and is considered the gold standard for government entities when selling bonds to finance projects. As a result, our efforts to effectively manage the community's assets can now be further enhanced by our ability to secure the best possible interest rates.

This accomplishment is testament to the City's commitment to responsible and transparent fiscal planning and implementation practices that have helped us maintain a strong financial position during challenging times and afforded us the flexibility to address significant issues like the Community Center and infrastructure needs.

And just when you thought it couldn't get any better, our Finance Department has received word that it's been named a 2020 Triple Crown winner, for successfully attaining the Government Finance Officers Association's certificates of achievement for excellence in financial reporting for three important publications - The 2020 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, 2020 Popular Annual Financial Report, and 2020-2021 Biennial Budget.

Our Finance Director, Brent Lewis, and his capable staff may work behind the scenes at the City, but their efforts are crucial to keeping our organization and the work that we do on track. My thanks to all in the team for their continuing efforts, and for the accolades they have been able to secure for our community year after year.



After a months-long review process, the City finalized its Integrated Turf Health Management Program in the summer of 2022. This program takes a flexible, site-specific approach to maintaining the turfgrass on our sports fields to reduce the risk of injury and exposure to treatment materials while improving playability.

Development of the program was triggered by the 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan process, which determined that the condition of parks in general, and athletic fields specifically, were below acceptable standards, with resident input indicating that remedying this issue should be a priority.

The City has already taken several steps to improve its athletic fields, including creation of a turf specialist position in the Parks & Recreation Department, prioritization of improvement projects in the Parks Capital Improvement Program, enhanced management protocols, and creation of a Field Use Policy.

While these steps resulted in some improvements, it was clear more was needed to make lasting change. An Integrated Turf Health Management Program was identified as a viable approach. Tailored to each location's needs, the program uses the least impactful materials necessary to achieve maintenance goals.

A knowledgeable and trained member of Staff will regularly run through a comprehensive checklist

of items that affect a field's safety and playability, generating an overall rating score. This score will govern the maintenance level followed and which of the available tools - some combination of cultural practices (such as reseeding and aeration) and pest management - should be prescribed and used for the management of each field.

A Turf Management webpage has been created on the City's website, serving as the repository for updates as they occur. The Parks & Recreation Department will also place signage at sports fields in advance of any treatments that include the use of pesticides. These signs will remain in place until the field has been treated and can be used again. These signs will feature the same QR shown here, pointing directly to this webpage, so that residents can learn more about any treatments that have been planned.

If you have questions about the Turf Health Management Program, please contact our Parks & Recreation Department, at parks@uaoh.net.



# NewsBITES

CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

## City Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Friday, November 11** – Veterans Day. Solid Waste service is not affected.
- **Thursday, November 24** – Thanksgiving Day. Thursday's Solid Waste collection zone will receive service on Friday.
- **Monday, December 26** – Christmas Day (observed). Solid Waste service is not affected.
- **Monday, January 2** – New Year's Day (observed). Solid Waste service is not affected.

## Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery\* Sunday, November 6

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](#). If you are interested in receiving City Council meeting agenda updates, send us an email, at [city.council@uaoh.net](mailto:city.council@uaoh.net).

## Sunday Swim at UAHS

**PARKS & RECREATION** 614-583-5300

Sunday Swim lap swimming will be available at the UA High School Natatorium from 1-3 pm most Sundays beginning September 18. For details and to register, visit [parks.uaoh.net](http://parks.uaoh.net).

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

Visit the **Connect** section of our website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](#) to register.

## Friends of UA Parks [friendsofuparks.com](http://friendsofuparks.com)

The Friends of Upper Arlington Parks coordinate monthly gatherings from 9 am-Noon on Saturday mornings, helping clear invasive species from UA parks and to assist with tree planting efforts. All tools are provided, wear long pants and closed -toe shoes. Upcoming dates include:

- November 12 - Thompson Park
- December 3 - Smith Nature Park

## Parking Restrictions During OSU Home Football Games

**PUBLIC SERVICE** 614-583-5350

To address parking, access and safety concerns, the City restricts parking for

streets in the proximity of OSU's campus abutting North Star Road on home football games. Hours of restriction run from four hours before through four hours after each game. "No Parking" signs are posted on the fire hydrant side for sections of the following streets: Ashdowne, Barrington, Beaumont, Berkshire, Cardiff, Doone, Essex and Grenoble Barrington roads.

## Election Sign Recycling 8 am-Noon, Saturday, November 12 Bill McDonald Athletic Complex 4990 Olentangy River Road

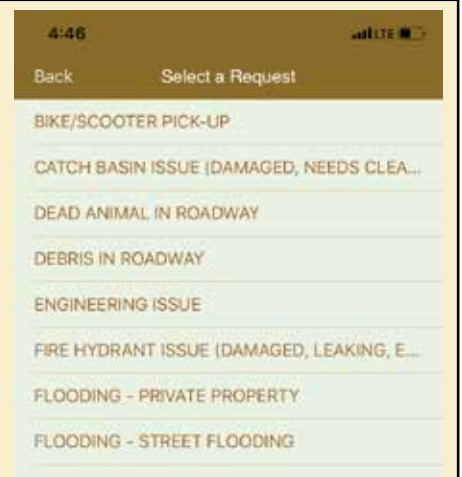
SWACO is hosting a collection of used political signs. If you can't make this event, you can drop signs off at the Municipal Services Center (by the Police bay at the south end of the building) any time before 5 pm, Friday, November 11, and the City's Code Compliance team will recycle them for you.

## 2023 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 2023. Visit our [Events](#) section, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](#), where you will find submission details.

## 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.





## 2023 Wall of Honor Nominations

[uahistory.org](http://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 their professional, philanthropic, volunteer or public service. Nominations are being accepted for the 2023 Wall of Honor, a partnership of the UA Historical Society and the City's Parks & Recreation Department. Nomination forms are available at [www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org). The deadline is Friday, January 13, 2023. The 2023 induction ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 21.

## SCRAM! Wildlife Control

[www.SCRAM!Wildlife.org](http://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. Full details can be found at [www.SCRAM-wildlife.org](http://www.SCRAM-wildlife.org). The City has an *Animal Control* guidelines page under the *Resources* section of its website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

## Snow Angels

UACOA

614-583-5326

Each winter, the Snow Angels program matches 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. Please call the Upper Arlington Commission on Aging at the above number to volunteer.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

# UA PARKS & RECREATION

## Seasonal Employment

- **Pools:** lifeguards (age 15+, certification provided)
- **Rental facilities:** various support positions
- **Parks maintenance:** 3-9 month opportunities
- **Tennis:** various support positions
- **Summer Camps**
- **Senior Center:** facility support

For details & to submit an application, visit

[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/uaoh/seasonal](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/uaoh/seasonal)



City of  
Upper Arlington

[upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov)

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## CityINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

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# Schools<sup>★</sup>INSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2022



## November 8 Levy Request

After delaying an operating levy request for the past two years, the Upper Arlington Board of Education is returning to the ballot. Issue 5 is a new, continuous 6.9 mill operating levy that would fund daily operations and maintain current academic programming so that the district can continue providing the current quality of education for Upper Arlington's students while also addressing enrollment growth.

Issue 5 would add approximately \$241.50 a year, or \$20 a month, in property taxes per \$100,000 of auditor's appraised home value. For a home with an auditor's appraised value of \$400,000, the levy would add about \$966 per year in property taxes based on calendar year 2022 tax valuations. You can look up your appraised home

value at [www.franklincountyauditor.com](http://www.franklincountyauditor.com).

The role of the school district in an operating levy request is to provide factual information so that community members may make an informed decision on November 8. Below is a list of the frequently asked questions about Issue 5. For more information, please visit [www.uaschools.org/Issue5.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/Issue5.aspx).

### **Why are Upper Arlington residents responsible for such a large share of the district's funding?**

The district receives the majority of its revenue – 83% – from local property taxes. Of that, approximately 90% of property taxes are generated from residential property because the district

has relatively little commercial property.

State aid represents only 13.1% of the total revenue for Upper Arlington Schools. Because of a relatively high property valuation and income per pupil, as well as other demographic figures, the district is considered wealthy and receives much less than the state average. In fact, last school year Upper Arlington Schools received less than half the amount of state funding per pupil than private schools received. District leaders continue to advocate for increasing state support for the district so that it is comparable to the amount a private school receives.

**Continues on page 12**

Continued from page 11

### Upper Arlington is landlocked. How much can enrollment really grow?

UA Schools enrollment has been growing, and projections indicate that it will continue to grow at an even faster rate over the next decade. In fact, you may see some anecdotal evidence of these changes in your neighborhood, as new families with younger children move in.

During the past 10 years, student enrollment has grown by approximately 7%. A third-party enrollment projection report projects that UA Schools could grow by as much as 24.6%, or an additional 1,500 students, over the next 10 years.

This is one of the most exciting challenges for the school district and the community – as more students create a need for more staff and school resources. The district will continue to closely monitor enrollment growth as it plans for the future.

### Doesn't state funding help with enrollment growth?

Even with our enrollment growth and inflation, the district's state funding total is expected to remain steady. In fact, it's remained relatively flat for decades and is lower today than it was in 1999.

In 2022, UA Schools received \$2.6 million in funding from the state. If you look back 23 years, to 1999, the district received \$3.4 million in state funding. Adjusted for inflation, that would amount to approximately \$6 million in 2022 dollars.

### What would happen if Issue 5 fails?

If Issue 5 fails, approximately \$11 million – about 100 positions – would have to be cut from the district's budget in the first year. This would amount to a significant restructuring of the district including cuts to academic programming and extracurricular opportunities for students.

### Why do suburban school districts like Upper Arlington keep asking for operating levies?

In Upper Arlington, approximately 96% of district revenues are fixed, with little or no room for growth. A major factor in this is House Bill 920, a state law passed in the 1970s.

HB 920 ensures that voted operating levies do not grow as property values increase. As property values increase, the millage collected for each voted operating levy is reduced to ensure the district's funding from the operating levy remains flat.

Generally speaking, the only way school districts see an increase in property tax revenue is when voters approve a new operating levy. That contributes to the need for suburban school districts like Upper Arlington to return to the ballot every three to five years to keep up with the cost of doing business.

## Superintendent Search Update

Following the announcement by Superintendent Paul Imhoff, Ed.D., that he will retire in January 2023, the Board of Education has launched a thorough and comprehensive search process that prioritizes community engagement and feedback from all stakeholders – students, parents and guardians, staff and the school district community as a whole.

The Board of Education is working with search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) to lead the search for the next superintendent of Upper Arlington Schools.

Throughout the month of September, the Board of Education offered multiple opportunities – including in-person and virtual meetings and an online survey – for everyone to share their thoughts on the attributes, skills and qualifications they would like to see in the next superintendent, as well as what that individual's priorities should be for the district.

Following the series of community engagement opportunities, HYA shared an initial presentation to report back on its findings to the Board of Education at its regular meeting on October 11. For updates, please visit [www.uaschools.org/2022SuperintendentSearch.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/2022SuperintendentSearch.aspx).

### How much of the district budget goes toward the classroom vs. non-classroom expenses?

The majority of the district's budget – 78% in the 2020-2021 school year – goes to supporting students in our classrooms. In fact, Upper Arlington Schools is the #1 district of the more than 600 in the state of Ohio for the percentage of funding dedicated to the classroom. That also means that our district is #1 in the state for the lowest percentage of funding (22%) dedicated to non-classroom expenses, including administrative costs.

## SchoolsINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

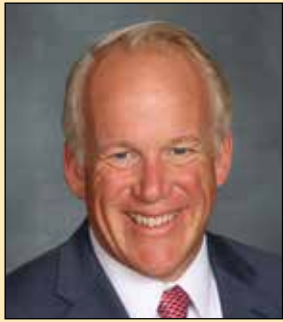
### Production:

Karen Truett  
Director of Communications  
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### Upper Arlington Schools

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



## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Paul Imhoff, Ed.D.

### State Report Card Rates UA as One of the Top Districts in Ohio

[www.uaschools.org/statereportcards.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/statereportcards.aspx) and updates from the Board meeting at [www.uaschools.org/BoardofEducation.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/BoardofEducation.aspx).

#### Enrollment and Financial Updates

We often say that schools are a “people” business – we are focused on helping young people become the best they can be.

That is why, when you look at our district finances, the majority of our budget – 78% in the 2020-2021 school year – goes to supporting students in our classrooms. In fact, Upper Arlington Schools is the #1 district of the more than 600 in the state of Ohio for the percentage of funding dedicated to the classroom. That also means that our district is #1 in the state for the lowest percentage of funding (22%) dedicated to non-classroom expenses, including administrative costs.

In order to keep our financial focus on the classroom, it’s critical to understand just how many people we

will be serving both now and in the future. That is why we have an outside agency conduct an independent enrollment projection study for our schools each year. These experts look at everything from real estate trends to birth data to project how many students will be enrolled in our schools during the next 10 years.

Looking at the past 10 years, our student enrollment has grown by approximately 7%. The most recent projections indicate that our schools could see an increase of as much as 24.6% – or approximately 1,500 students – over the next 10 years.

These figures signify what many Upper Arlington residents already know. Our community is a wonderful place to live and to raise children, and many young families are coming here.

As a people business, we also know that more students creates a need for more teachers and school resources. That is one reason why suburban school districts like Upper Arlington return to the ballot to request additional operating funding to cover costs.

You can find more information about our enrollment on our website at [www.uaschools.org/enrollment.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/enrollment.aspx).

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

In September, the Ohio Department of Education released the 2021-2022 annual school report cards. The report cards look different this year than in previous years. Schools and districts now receive star ratings, on a scale of one to five, for five components: achievement, progress, gap closing, graduation and early literacy.

Upper Arlington Schools was one of only 12 districts of the more than 600 in the state – and one of three in the central Ohio area – to receive a five-star rating on all five components.

The state report card is one of the data points we review as a district to monitor the success of our academic program and our students.

At the October 11 Board of Education meeting, our Teaching & Learning Department shared information about the 2021-2022 school report card. You can find more information at

### 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.

New this fall, 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/emailsignup.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/emailsignup.aspx) to complete an online form 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.



# BITES From the Apple



SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



## Thirteen Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists

Thirteen Upper Arlington High School students have qualified as Semifinalists in the 68th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, giving them the opportunity to compete for approximately 7,250 National Merit college scholarships worth nearly \$28 million.

These academically talented members of the UAHS Class of 2023 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 Upper Arlington students named National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists are:

- John Burky
- Riddhi Gupta
- Annie Hu
- Liam Martin
- Ruchika Raj
- Rahul Rajaram
- Nathan Ross
- Ethan Samora
- Alana Sayat
- Benjamin Son

- Sanay Tufekci
- James Underwood
- Caroline 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.

## Three Juniors Receive National Academic Honors

Three Upper Arlington High School juniors have been selected as College Board National Recognition Program honorees.

Receiving honors this year from Upper Arlington High School are:

- Ali Abubakr, National African American Recognition Award
- Jachin Ocacio, National Hispanic Recognition Award

- Sienna Martinez, National Hispanic Recognition Award

The College Board offers these national recognition awards to honor academic excellence among underrepresented populations. Students are considered for these awards based on academic achievements in school and outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and/or at least two Advanced Placement exams.

## Thirteen Students Selected for All-State Ensembles

Thirteen Upper Arlington High School students have been selected among the best of the best in the performing arts in the state of Ohio for the Ohio All-State Ensembles for 2023.

- All-State Choir: seniors Sydney Barrett, Patrick Bertke, Adam Clingan, KK Murphy, Alana Sayat and Miriam Silver, with senior Avery Pine selected as an alternate
- All-State Orchestra: senior Lucy Cheng, junior Wendy Jiang and senior David Mockabee, with junior Wil Robertson and senior Taylor Speas as alternates
- All-State Band: senior Tyler Harrison selected as an alternate





Additionally, the five students selected for All-State Orchestra will also be performing with the Ohio Music Education Association's South-Central All-Region Orchestra (pictured). Joining them from UAHS will be: seniors Susie Hodson and Miriam Silver, and juniors Thomas Chapman, Matthew Lederer, Jachin Ocacio and Sally Oh.

### Athletic Hall of Fame to Honor 12 Inductees

The Upper Arlington High School Athletic Hall of Fame will welcome 12 new inductees who have made outstanding contributions to the impressive history of the school's athletic program.

- Cathleen (Pugh) Aschinger (Class of 1980), swimming
- Jax (Mo) Black (Class of 1992), track and field and gymnastics
- Bill Cook (Class of 1957), basketball and baseball
- Paul W. "Pete" Corey, retired football coach
- Dan Donovan, a friend of the program and an Upper Arlington Schools retiree
- Steve Dusseau (Class of 1998), lacrosse
- Bob Jencks (Class of 1959), football and basketball
- Dan Sebastian, retired tennis coach and Class of 1960 graduate
- Sam Sebastian (Class of 1989), tennis

- Tom Saunders (Class of 1964), wrestling
- Sarah (Fortier) Wall (Class of 2002), soccer
- Artie Wolfe (Class of 1958), swimming

These individuals will be recognized in January at the high school, with an introduction before the 7:30 pm start of the varsity boys basketball game against Dublin Coffman High School on January 6. They will then be honored at a ceremony on January 7.

The Upper Arlington High School Athletic Hall of Fame is continuing to honor achievements of the 148 state championship teams, all automatically entered into the Hall of Champions within the Hall of Fame. The ceremony in January will recognize the state championship teams from 2000 through 2009.

Learn more about the eligibility guidelines and submit a nomination for the Upper Arlington High School Athletic Hall of Fame at [www.uaschools.org/uahsathletics](http://www.uaschools.org/uahsathletics).

### Community invited to the Longest Table

The Longest Table is a collaborative effort of the Upper Arlington Schools, Upper Arlington Education Foundation (UA+Ed) and the City of Upper Arlington. Funded by UA+Ed and the City of Upper Arlington, this event will bring

together students, parents/guardians, staff and community members of diverse backgrounds and points of view for a shared meal to celebrate our unique stories. Guests will have the opportunity to meet new people, engage in guided conversation that encourages understanding and respect, and listen to and learn from different perspectives in our community.

The Longest Table will take place on November 16 from 6 pm to 8 pm at Upper Arlington High School, 1625 Zollinger Road. Registration is required, and space is limited. Please visit [www.uaschools.org/longesttable.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/longesttable.aspx) for more information.

### Informal Program Celebrates 50 Years



The Upper Arlington Schools Informal Program, offered at Barrington and Wickliffe elementary schools, is celebrating 50 years of education. All are invited to join the Barrington and Wickliffe school communities for celebratory open houses.

- Barrington Elementary School, 1780 Barrington Road – November 2 from 6:30 to 8 pm.
- Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School, 2405 Wickliffe Road – November 3 from 6:30 to 8 pm.

Please visit [www.uaschools.org/InformalTurns50.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/InformalTurns50.aspx) for more details.

## SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



In September, Jones Middle School kicked off a year-long commitment to service learning, with activities supporting the theme of "Kindness Is Our Culture."



Hastings Middle School welcomed motivational speaker and musician Elec Simon, thanks to Upper Arlington Education Foundation and The Stand Project.

## Start With Hello Week

During the week of September 19, all K-12 school buildings in the Upper Arlington Schools celebrated Start With Hello Week with activities that support the district's strategic priority of student and staff well-being and help students strengthen their sense of belonging at school. Students and staff started with hello by engaging in conversation with new peers and one another, practicing gratitude for the people and things that make them happy, creating a school-wide mural, and engaging in a virtual singalong.





# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Windermere Elementary School staff and students kicked off the school year with team-building activities for the annual Windermere Way Day.



Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School students celebrated International Dot Day by making their mark with community art projects and hands-on STEM challenges inspired by Peter Reynolds' book "The Dot."



More than 50 student leaders from Upper Arlington High School began their leadership journey with an amazing field trip thanks to the Upper Arlington Education Foundation.



Tremont Elementary School gathered together as a school community for the first "MANE Event" town hall meeting.



The fifth grade classes at Barrington Elementary School enjoyed a visit from Bol Aweng, a Lost Boy of Sudan, as part of a grade-level focus on authentic learning and leadership.



In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, the UAHS Spanish Honor Society wrote messages of encouragement for the Proyecto Mariposa campaign.

## Treasurer's Notes

**Andrew L. Geistfeld**

Why do suburban school districts like Upper Arlington keep asking for operating levies? This is a question that comes up quite often whenever a school district is on the ballot.

The primary reason is House Bill 920. In the 1970s, the Ohio legislature passed this state law, which ensures that voted operating levies do not grow as property values increase. In fact, as property values increase, tax rates on voted operating levies actually decrease for homeowners, so the district gets about the same amount of money.

So how does that work? Every three years, the county auditor sets an appraised home valuation for each property. These valuations may not match what you think you could sell your home for, but they are used by the county to calculate property taxes. As overall valuations increase, the tax rates for voted operating levies are recalculated, ensuring the school district continues to receive about the same total amount of money from each levy.

That is why operating levies are the primary way that suburban school districts similar to Upper Arlington deal with inflation in the cost of daily operations for their schools. Generally speaking, because of House Bill 920, the only way school districts see an increase in property tax revenue related to operating levies is when voters approve a new operating levy. That is why suburban school districts like Upper Arlington return to the ballot every three to five years in order to keep up with inflation and maintain the current level of school operations.

You can look up the auditor's appraised valuation of your home on the Franklin County auditor's website at [www.franklincountyauditor.com](http://www.franklincountyauditor.com). You can also find more financial information about our district on our website at [www.uaschools.org/treasurer.aspx](http://www.uaschools.org/treasurer.aspx).

If you have questions about school funding or our district finances, please contact me at [treasurer@uaschools.org](mailto:treasurer@uaschools.org).



## 2022-23 SCHOOL DATES

**End of First Trimester (Grades K-5)**

**Monday, November 7**

**General Election Day: No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule**

**Tuesday, November 8**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25**

**End of Second Quarter and First Semester (Grades 6-12)**

**Thursday, December 22**

**Winter Break**

**Friday, December 23 - Tuesday, January 3**

**No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule**  
**Wednesday, January 4**

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

## 2022 UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

**FROM LEFT: Nancy Drees,  
President Lori Trent,  
Vice President 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 the month. Some exceptions apply, and last-minute scheduling changes are possible. Please refer to [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org) for the most up-to-date information.

### **Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:**

- Tuesday, November 15, 6 pm – Council Chamber
- Tuesday, December 13, 6 pm – Council Chamber

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

# Library NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2022 iNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Winter Reading Club Begins December 1

We're celebrating narwhals as we dive into our annual Winter Reading Club!

From December 1-January 31, stop by any Upper Arlington Public Library location to pick up a reading log. There are two ways to participate: read for seven days

and track your time on a narwhal coloring sheet, or set seven personal reading goals and check them off on a written log. Pick up a new sheet each week!

Once you've finished your sheet, swim over to one of our locations to receive a prize of coupons and a bookmark. You can also visit [ualibrary.org/winterreadingclub](http://ualibrary.org/winterreadingclub) to enter a grand prize drawing.

We have some fantastic prizes this winter! Come back each week to receive coupons like a free scoop of ice cream from Chocolate Café, free laser tag from Scene 75, discounts at Cover to Cover and Busy Bees Pottery & Arts Studio, and more.

Our grand prize raffle will feature drawings for a family membership to COSI, Narwhal gift baskets from Cover to Cover, four tickets to Escape It Grandview, gift cards, and more prizes for the whole family. One raffle entry per participant per week.

Many thanks go to this year's Winter Reading Club sponsors: the Friends of the UA Library, Scene 75, Cover to Cover Children's Books, Chocolate Café, Busy Bees Pottery & Arts Studio, Chiller, Chicken Salad Chick, Chipotle, Grandview Theater & Drafthouse, and Wild Cat! Gift and Party.

All ages are welcome to participate! Learn more at [ualibrary.org/winterreadingclub](http://ualibrary.org/winterreadingclub).



## Celebrate the Holidays at the Library

Looking for festive family activities this season? #StartHere for holiday fun! See News Bites on page 23 for more holiday-related news.

### Merry Mail

Stop by the Miller Park Library anytime from November 28-30 to write a letter to Santa Claus or to a family member, friend or other special someone. We'll have all the supplies you need to make a one-of-a-kind letter.



### Home for the Holidays

Miller Park Library will host Home for the Holidays on Thursday, December 1 from 4-6 p.m. We'll have face painting and take-home crafts, and Santa will visit, too! Register for a time slot to see Santa on our program calendar at [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org).

### Holiday Happiness

Our Holiday Happiness family event returns to the Main Library on Saturday, December 3 from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. In our atrium, look for a life-sized Candyland game leading to Santa. We'll have kids' crafts and activities in the youth department, too.

### Winter Crafts

Kids ages 2 and up can make a variety of winter crafts at the Lane Road Library on Thursday, December 8 from 4-5:30 p.m.

### Book Craft Ornaments

Help us recycle our broken books and create a one-of-a-kind holiday ornament! Crafters of all ages are welcome at Lane Road Library's Repurposed Book Crafts on Wednesday, December 14 from 3-5 p.m.

### Noon Year's Eve

Ring in the new year with stories, activities, a balloon drop and dance party fun! Don't miss Noon Year's Eve on Saturday, December 31 from 11:30 am-12:30 pm in the Main Library's atrium. Great for ages 0-8.



## A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

**Beth Hatch**

As we approach the end of the year, I look back on 2022 with gratitude for the Upper Arlington community, and with anticipation for the wonderful things that lie ahead.

In May, UA voters showed overwhelming support for the Library levy, which will generate a much-needed increase in revenue starting in 2023. These funds will enable us to complete our general maintenance and building repairs, as well as fund major capital expenses, ensure we can hire and retain excellent staff, and invest in collections, programming, outreach services, and more for the community.

Our community has shown support in other ways too, including large

donations to major projects at our Main and Lane Road Libraries. Our Early Learning Play Area, "My Town," was completed in September with significant donations from the Upper Arlington Community Foundation, Dale and Gloria Heydlauff, Sarah and Andrew Fast, The Friends of the UA Library, Tri-Village Rotary, and UA Rotary. This space at Lane Road features a large car and train table featuring a map of Upper Arlington, an interchangeable storefront that can be converted into a Farmer's Market, Animal Clinic, Library, and Post Office, and a "baby garden" with mirror and soft foam padding for the little ones to safely play.

The Main Library has opened the Sue Hutson Reading Room at the back of the Adult Department. Thanks to a generous donation from Tim Hutson in memory of his late wife, we enclosed the space and purchased new comfortable furniture and power features to provide a quiet reading area. A sculpture titled "The Reader" donated on behalf of the Roman Czech family enhances the new space.

We're also tackling some of the more pressing building issues. We undertook a drainage project at the Main Library to help with the flooding issues in the lower level. After a long delay due to supply chain and labor availability issues, the Lane Road Library's elevator has been fixed and is open for use.

The Library will soon post an RFO for a Master Facilities Plan to hire a firm to conduct an assessment of all Library facilities, make recommendations for improvements and maintenance, and define the priority and the sequence of such improvements for the most cost-effective and efficient sequence of construction work over the course of ten years.

I am overwhelmed by the incredible generosity and support that the members of our community show to the Library. I'm forever thankful for having the opportunity to lead our Library in such a wonderful community.

## Sue Hutson Reading Room Now Open

Readers are invited to spend quiet time with a book in the new Sue Hutson Reading Room at the Main Library.

Located in the back of the Adult Department, the room offers a variety of comfortable chairs and tables, and electrical and USB outlets. Readers can also enjoy views of the outdoor Reading Garden and Northam Park.

This project was made possible through a generous donation by Tim Hutson in memory of his wife Sue, who was an avid reader and fan of the library.

Finishing touches are currently being completed, but the room is open for patron use. Be sure to stop by on your next visit to the Main Library.



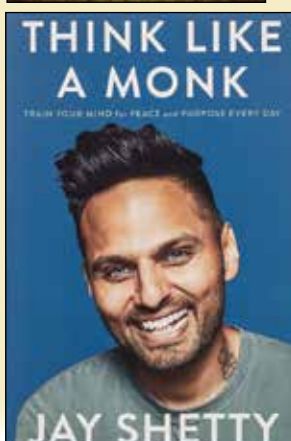
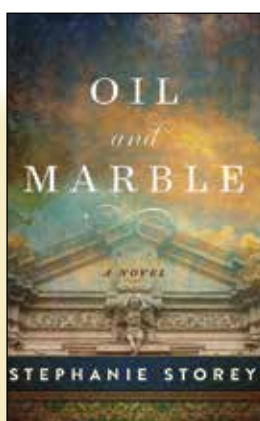
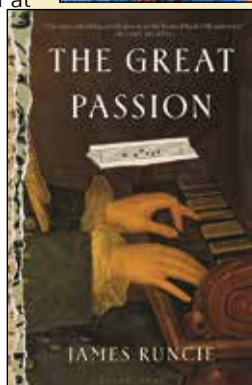
## OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

### The Great Passion

By James Runcie

This fictionalized depiction of J.S. Bach's journey to write the St. Matthew Passion oratorio is told by his 13-year-old student, Stefan Silbermann. After the passing of his mother, a grieving Stefan finds himself at a Leipzig choral boarding school. There he is pushed to his musical limits by the Cantor of St. Thomas Church, J.S. Bach, and under the torment of his peers for his red hair and "new kid" status at the school. After attempting to run away, Stefan finds refuge in Bach and his compassionate family as they take him in to nourish his talent and help him heal from the tragedies that follow him. The story provides beautiful ponderings on life, death, and the power of music in our darkest times.

— Maklayne Vitovich, Miller Park



three mouse friends Rupert, Thistle, and Nibbs are trying to make him the star of their new book.

— Laura Griffin, Technical Services

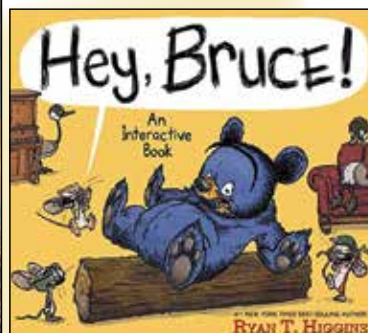
### Think Like a Monk: Train Your Mind for Peace and Purpose Every Day

By Jay Shetty

If you are looking for a book to help you live a happier, peaceful life with less anxiety, try *Think Like a Monk*. Shetty spent many years as a monk, meditating and learning how to live a mindful and purposeful life. He uses what he learned at the monastery to help people living in today's society experiencing tremendous stress, pressure, and unhappiness. Shetty helps readers focus on well-being, purpose, and mindfulness in three steps: letting go, growing, and giving. He takes the concepts he learned and breaks them down into actionable steps that

anyone can take every day, training the mind to be at peace.

— Beth Hatch, Director



### Every Cloak Rolled in Blood

By James Lee Burke

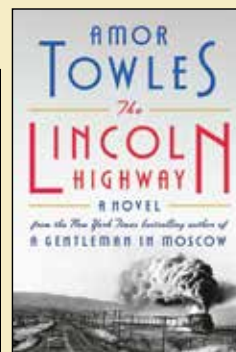
James Lee Burke returns to add to his Holland Hackberry series. It follows

a family through many generations of politicians, law enforcement, war veterans, and writers.

This is an almost autobiographical novel about Aaron Holland Broussard, a well-known author in a small western community, grieving his daughter's unexpected

death. While trying to cope with his recent loss, he gets drawn into people fighting with opiate addiction, bikers, criminals, and even supernatural outlaws. A thought-provoking entertaining read.

— Scott Potter, Adult Services



### Oil and Marble: A novel of Leonardo and Michelangelo

By Stephanie Storey

*Oil and Marble* takes you into 15th Century Italy with a witty narrative that describes the lives of Leonardo DaVinci and Michelangelo, and the feud that consumed them and helped them create the masterpieces we treasure today. It's an entertaining and informative behind-the-scenes look at what drove and inspired these artists to create their work. At the same time, it treats you to a unique perspective on the history and lifestyle of the Renaissance age in Italy.

— Beth Casement, Miller Park

### Hey Bruce!: An Interactive Book

By Ryan T. Higgins

Everyone's favorite curmudgeon is back! Bruce just wants to take a nap, but his

### The Lincoln Highway

By Amor Towles

This novel takes the reader on a nostalgic journey through 1950s America. The tale begins in rural Nebraska where Emmett is released from a juvenile detention center shortly after his father dies, leaving him and his whip-smart younger brother Billy as orphans. With the family farm in foreclosure, Emmett and Billy leave the Midwest and make a fresh start. Enter two of Emmett's former "cellmates," Woolly and Dutchess, who sneak away from the detention center intent on collecting Woolly's inheritance from his wealthy New York family. This is a riveting ride with plenty of detours, sharp turns, and "family" squabbles along the way. Seatbelt required.

— Nancy Byron, Miller Park

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



Lane Road Library's Dinosaur Party featured a bean bag toss, an archeological dig, and of course, dino books.



Miller Park Library's monthly Play and Learn programs are a big hit with preschoolers.



The new Early Learning Play Area at Lane Road Library features a car table, play store, and semi-enclosed space just for babies and toddlers. It was made possible thanks to generous private donors.



Stretching, fitness, and plenty of laughs were on the agenda at Lane Road's Goat Yoga program.



# NewsBITES

## LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

### Coffee and Hot Chocolate

We now offer a self-serve coffee and hot chocolate station near the vending machines at the Main Library. Drinks are available for a \$2 cash or credit card donation to the Friends of the UA Library. See the posted instructions for making a hot drink to warm up your visit to the library. Lids and coffee cup sleeves are available.

### Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of the UA Library will hold a book sale November 6-20 in the atrium of the Main Library. The sale will feature a large selection of fiction and nonfiction books for all ages, DVDs, CDs, vinyl, magazines and more. A members-only presale will take place November 6 from 11 am-1 pm. The sale opens to the public at 1 pm that day, and will close each day 15 minutes before the library closes. The final day of the sale will feature a bag sale, where shoppers can fill a paper grocery bag with books for \$5 (Friends members) or \$10 (nonmembers).

### Toy Drive for Holiday Wish

Help make a local child's holiday a little brighter by donating to our toy drive to benefit Franklin County Children's Services' Holiday Wish program. Stop by any UA Library November 21-December 6 to pick a gift tag, then purchase the item and bring it to us unwrapped by 7:30 pm Wednesday, December 7. You can also make monetary donations for gifts for older children by visiting the Holiday Wish website.

### Avenue of Trees

We're looking for five local nonprofit organizations to participate in our Avenue of Trees holiday display at the Main Library. Spread holiday cheer AND awareness of your organization by decorating an evergreen tree for the season. Read and submit the application at <http://bit.ly/AvenueofTrees>. Deadline for forms is Monday, November 7. Five organizations will be selected and notified on November 8, with trees ready for decorating on November 21. Contact Christine Minx, at [cminx@ualibrary.org](mailto:cminx@ualibrary.org) with questions.

### UA Holiday Pets

Submit a photo of your pet enjoying the season, and it could be included in our new UA Puzzle Pets collection on [jigsawplanet.com](http://jigsawplanet.com). Pets only in the photos, please! Fill out the Google form at <http://uapl.me/puzzlepets> and attach a JPEG by December 4. Look for UA's Holiday Pets at [jigsawplanet.com/uapubliclibrary](http://jigsawplanet.com/uapubliclibrary) on December 9.

### ListenColumbus

Have you checked out ListenColumbus lately? Nearly 100 albums by local musicians are available to stream on [www.listencolumbus.org](http://www.listencolumbus.org). We add new albums throughout the year, and bands on the platform are also considered for our Live at the Library concert series. This year we've added 12 albums by Columbus-area artists Hebdo, Chuck Starr, Howie Campbell and others. For information on the service, contact Alexa Elgabri at [aelgabri@ualibrary.org](mailto:aelgabri@ualibrary.org).

### Holiday Closings

All three UA libraries will close at 5 pm on Wednesday, November 23 and remain closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 24. We'll be closed for Christmas from December 24-26. Finally, we'll close at 3 pm on Saturday, December 31 and remain closed on January 1-2.

## LibraryINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Production:

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



### Upper Arlington Public Library

2800 Tremont Road  
Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221  
Phone: 614-486-9621 | [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org)

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

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### 2022 Board of Trustees

From Left: President Peter Hahn, Sue Ralph, Kate Hare, William Shkurti, John Yesso, and Vice President Kevin Fix. Not pictured: Stephen Flynn



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](http://www.ualibrary.org/pages/board-trustees).

### Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- 5 pm, Tuesday, December 6



3600 Tremont Road,  
Upper Arlington, OH 43221  
[upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://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

## Hidden Beauty in the Trees: Jane Heater

Thru December 30

Be transported away from the chaos of life into the details of nature through the photography of award winning artist Jane Heater. Heater captures the essence of a scene through colors, shapes and textures allowing the viewer to connect emotionally with an image.

## Santa's Mailbox

**November 15-December 13**  
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!

**Chase Columbus Turkey Trot**  
**9 am, Thursday, November 24**  
**Begins at Shops on Lane Avenue**  
[www.columbusturkeytrot.com](http://www.columbusturkeytrot.com)

This annual event brings together thousands of runners and walkers for a 2.6 mile or five mile course, and all for a good cause. Registration open through November 23.

## UACA Holiday House Decorating Contest

**Nominations Open: November 28-December 9**

[www.uaca.org](http://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 soon after.

## Winter Festival

**6-8:30 pm, Friday, December 2**  
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 3**  
Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park  
Registration Opens 6 am November 1  
UA Parks & Recreation | [parks.uaoh.net](http://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](http://parks.uaoh.net) beginning November 1.



**UACA Christmas in the Park**  
**Noon-9 pm, Sunday, December 4**  
**6-9 pm, Monday-Thursday, December 5-8**

Thompson Park

Registration opens 6 am November 9  
UA Civic Association | [www.uaca.org](http://www.uaca.org)

Registered families will enjoy crafts and snacks in the north shelter house before taking a horse drawn carriage ride to the south shelter where they will have a personalized visit with Santa. You must be a current UACA member to be able to register for this event.

## Tremont Center Christmas Celebration

**6-8 pm, Tuesday, December 13**  
Tremont Center

Event includes visits with Santa, carriage rides and reindeer.