

# UA<sup>★</sup>iNSIGHT

MAY | JUNE 2026



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



## Meet the Master Plan Steering Committee



**Master Plan Steering Committee members (from left):** Katie Freeland, Andrew Theado (UA Schools rep), Lindsey Christ, John Preloger, Vicki Zust, Caroline O'Donnell, Sam Spofforth, Michael Stafford, Committee Co-Chair Don Brown, Ryan Wallace, Committee Co-Chair Bakti Bania, Dan Ayars, Adrienne Low Joly, Nicholas Grimmer, Shannon Tolliver, Darius Banks, Sarah Welch, Matt McGrath, Anne McDaniel, Bill Hadler, Judy Yesso, Kathryn Eberle, James Schimmer. **Not pictured:** Colin Chiles, David Smith, Brad Stoll.

The City's Master Plan update process is in full swing. Guided by lead consultant firm, OHM Advisors, the new Master Plan will encompass significant updates to the City's current Master Plan - originally developed in 2001 - and the 2017 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. It will create a shared, community-driven vision to guide growth, investment, and decision-making in the years ahead. It will help align future land use, public investments, and policies around clear priorities, with the goal of strengthening neighborhoods, protecting community character, and enhancing the quality-of-life residents value.

In March, the resident volunteers enlisted to help lead the update process convened for their first Meeting of the Whole. The Master Plan Steering Committee will help guide discussions, review ideas, and represent community perspectives. Serving on the Steering

Committee will require a meaningful commitment of time and participation.

### Master Plan Subcommittees

Four subcommittees have been formed to focus on core plan components:

- **Land Use, Housing, and Economic Development** - This subcommittee will focus on land use, housing options and affordability, and economic vitality. **Members:** *Bhakti Bania, Brad Stoll, Dan Ayars, Adrienne Low Joly, Katie Freeland, Shannon Tolliver, Colin Chiles, Darius Banks.*
- **Parks and Recreation** - This subcommittee will offer local insights on park facilities, recreation programming, trail connectivity, open space needs, and community wellness. **Members:** *Don Brown, Lindsey Christ, Caroline O'Donnell, John Preloger, Judy Yesso, Michael Stafford, Ryan Wallace.*
- **Mobility** - This subcommittee will offer local insights on transportation, connectivity, and accessibility across the community. **Members:** *Vicki Zust, Bill Hadler, James Schimmer, Matt McGrath, Sam Spofforth.*
- **Emerging Technology, Resilience and Disruption** - This subcommittee will focus on innovation, digital infrastructure, and evolving trends that may influence the community's future. **Members:** *David Smith, Kathryn Eberle, Anne McDaniel, Sarah Welch, Nicholas Grimmer.*

For each focus area, members of the four subcommittees will assist with assessments of current conditions, and the development of prioritized recommendations for future implementation. They will also serve as bridges between community perspectives and Master Plan planning efforts, to help ensure the emerging Master Plan

## Older Adult Services Update

Since consolidating various older adult programs under the City's service umbrella at the beginning of 2026, the team has been working to enhance existing programming, explore new service options, centralize and expand volunteer opportunities, and simplify the aging experience for older adults, their families and caregivers.

### 2026 Aging in UA Older Adults Survey

An important step in building a robust program is to fully understand the needs and concerns affecting the community's older adults.



Throughout the month of May, our community's older adults, their caregivers and family members are invited to complete a survey designed

to gather additional information on the issues facing older adults as they age in our community.

The survey has been designed to gather information on a variety of areas that could impact quality of life for older adults, including:

- Home and community
- Financial concerns
- Knowledge of support resources
- Support services needed
- Health and wellness issues
- Social interaction interests
- Caregiver concerns
- Transportation needs

The survey can be completed online, at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/aginginua>. Or you can scan the QR code provided for direct access.

If you would prefer a hard copy of the survey, please contact us, by calling 614-583-5326 or sending an email to [olderadults@uaoh.net](mailto:olderadults@uaoh.net).

## STAY UA

### Aging Well in UA Health Fair

**10 am-2 pm, Wednesday, June 10**

**Bob Crane Community Center**

**REGISTER BY JUNE 3: [parks.uaoh.net](https://parks.uaoh.net)**

The Aging Well in UA Health Fair will focus on the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of our community's older adults, creating a space where they feel supported and encouraged to learn about living a healthy lifestyle.

The event features educational sessions, fitness class demonstrations, a walk-a-thon, and a chance to visit with local organizations that provide health-related services and resources.

Lunch is also provided. Cost: \$5 for residents and Community Center members; \$6 for non-residents.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

recommendations align with community values and long-term goals.

Please check the Master Plan website for subcommittee updates.

### Steering Committee Meetings of the Whole

Upcoming meetings of the Master Plan Steering Committee are as follows:

- **6 pm, Thursday, May 21** - Bob Crane Community Center
- **6 pm, Thursday, October 8** - Bob Crane Community Center

### Upcoming Opportunities to Participate

Community involvement will be central to the Master Plan update process, with many ways for residents to be involved, including:

- **Public Workshop #1 (September)** - An introductory workshop to learn about the planning process, review

existing conditions, and begin shaping a shared vision. This workshop is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, please watch for additional details this summer.

- **Community-Wide Survey (September)** - An online survey will be open to all residents, focused on life in Upper Arlington today and the values that should guide the City's future.
- **Public Workshop #2 (late-2026)** - A follow-up workshop will be held to refine the community vision and confirm core values that will inform both plans.
- **Community Events** - Informal opportunities to provide input and connect with the project team.

### Look for the Master Plan Team Around UA

As part of the 2026 Master Plan process, the project team will be out in

the community gathering video footage, connecting with residents, and capturing the voices and places that make Upper Arlington unique. You may see us at community events and local destinations such as the Upper Arlington Farmers Market, the Labor Day Arts Festival, or at Littleton's Market. Through short interviews and candid moments, a Master Plan film series will help tell the story of the plan in a way that feels authentic to UA, shaped by the people who know it best.

If you see the video team out and about, say hello and share your ideas for the future.

### How To Stay Informed

For project details and updates, use the QR code provided here to access the Master Plan website, also available at [upperarlingtonmasterplan.com](https://upperarlingtonmasterplan.com).



## FROM CHAMBERS

## Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions

### One-Year Report for the Bob Crane Community Center

At the April 20 City Council Meeting, Parks & Recreation Staff provided an update on the Bob Crane Community Center following its first full year of operation. For anyone concerned that the Community Center would not be a wise investment for the City, the results tell a compelling story of a long-held community need that, once fulfilled, has been embraced by residents.

Some highlights from an impressive first year include:

#### Attendance Statistics

- Active paid monthly memberships totaled 12,545 as of March 31, 2026.
- Of these memberships, 11,060 are UA residents, and 1,488 are non-residents.
- Membership types:
  - Regular - 8,375
  - Senior - 1,227
  - Medicare Supplement - 2,698
- In the first year of operation, visits by members totaled 435,639, with an average of 1,220 visits per day (not including program attendees, OSU Wexner Medical Center client visits, or rental attendees).
- 13,156 day passes were purchased.
- Busiest day since opening - January 2, 2026
- Busiest day of the week - Tuesdays

#### Programming Highlights

- Indoor program enrollment grew by 43%, at 13,460 (the 12 months prior had totaled 9,408 enrollments).
- Most popular programs/activities:
  - Older Adult Fitness & Wellness - 3,193
  - Older Adult Enrichment - 3,177
  - Adult Fitness & Wellness - 1,002
- 1,198 classes were held, a 64% increase in indoor programming.



**2026 City Council (from left): John Kulewicz, Vice President Heidi Munc, Nic Fortkamp, President Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, Todd Walter, Ben Tracy, Laura Oldham.**

- New programming included indoor swim lessons, aqua aerobics, TRX classes, walking and running clubs, pickleball, and ballet.

#### Facility Rentals

Several facility spaces are available for rental and proving increasingly popular.

- 603 total rentals
- Of these:
  - Event Center - 150 rentals
  - Party Room - 203 rentals
  - Board Room - 119 rentals
  - Gymnasiums - 66 rentals
  - Program Rooms - 65 rentals

#### Financial Highlights

- Total Revenue - \$3,635,716
- Of this:
  - Memberships - \$2,881,778 (79.3%)
  - Day passes - \$175,633
  - Facility rentals - \$168,054

#### Looking Ahead

For all the pre-planning and detailed research, opening a new facility of this magnitude comes with a significant learning curve. Our team in the Parks &

Recreation Department has risen to the occasion, refining programming approaches, making staffing adjustments, and continually watching for opportunities to improve. As part of this, Community Center members will be invited to complete a customer satisfaction survey this year.

Also front of mind is the transition to ongoing maintenance and upkeep of what is clearly a very busy facility, to make sure it stays clean, safe and inviting for many years to come.

## CityINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

#### Production:

Emma Speight, Community Affairs Director  
Phone: 614-583-5045 | [espeight@uaoh.net](mailto:espeight@uaoh.net)



#### City of Upper Arlington

3600 Tremont Road  
Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221  
Phone: 614-583-5000  
[upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov)



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



## Five Points Intersection Improvements Project Update

It has long been recognized that the Five Points intersection struggles to accommodate motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists efficiently and safely. In 2025, the City contracted with American Structurepoint, Inc. to develop concepts for improving the intersection. Using a variety of data, they developed three concepts:

- **Option 1** - A reconfigured signalized intersection with extended turn lanes and signal timing adjustments
- **Option 2** - A circular roundabout
- **Option 3** - A non-circular roundabout

A Community Meeting was held in February, with approximately 120 attendees. The team provided insight on the challenges and opportunities associated with the intersection, shared the concepts, and answered questions. Access to an online survey was also shared.

The meeting presentation was uploaded to the City's website, and the community was invited to complete the online survey, which remained open through March 10. A total of 1,475 survey responses were received, with the following feedback emerging:

- 50% of respondents indicated that they used the Five Points intersection daily, and another

41% indicated they used the intersection a few times each week.

- 55.29% preferred a roundabout at the intersection. Of this total: 37.02% preferred a circular roundabout; 18.24% preferred a non-circular roundabout

Some positive themes about a roundabout to

emerge from feedback included:

- A roundabout would improve traffic flow and result in time savings for motorists.
- The circular roundabout design would feature more green space and appears to be a better fit for the intersection.

Some concerns focused on:

- Maximizing pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- The potential for user error, for those unfamiliar with roundabouts.
- A need for extensive education on the correct use of roundabouts.



- Potential impacts on surrounding businesses.
- Ensuring efficient access for emergency vehicles.
- Construction costs.

A next round of community outreach is expected this fall, following some additional study and design work. It is hoped that the project will undergo detailed design in 2027, with construction slated for 2028.

Full details of this project can be found on the City's website. If you have questions or comments, please direct them to [engineering@uaoh.net](mailto:engineering@uaoh.net).

## Announcing UA's CivicServe Economic Development Platform

We are pleased to announce the launch of CivicServe, a comprehensive economic development platform designed to connect local businesses with City resources, streamline incentive applications, and centralize critical economic data. The platform is now live and accessible to businesses and stakeholders across the community.

We invite local businesses, developers, and residents to visit <https://upperarlingtonoh.civicserve.com/> to explore available resources, browse properties, consult the business directory, and register to receive updates on new incentive programs and economic development opportunities in Upper Arlington.



For questions or additional information, contact the Economic Development Department at 614-583-5046.



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Steve Schoeny

### City to Consider a Registration & Safety Program for e-Bikes and e-Scooters

Over the last couple of years, e-bikes and e-scooters have become an increasing presence in our community, particularly during the warmer months.

We have been working to educate the community, especially kids, about safety. Unfortunately, we continue to receive complaints of behavior that puts both the operators of these devices and other residents at risk of injury.

We have been exploring some existing approaches that might work for our community. Through a collaboration between the City, UA Schools, and UA Public Library, we have developed the outline for a program that would balance safety with personal freedom, and responsibility with a baseline of requirements to ensure operator safety.

#### About the Proposed Mobility Device Registration and Safety Program

Our goal is to ensure that everyone operating a motorized vehicle on UA's roads, in our parks and on our sidewalks understands basic safety practices and the rules of the road. Under the proposed program, all electronic scooters, electric skateboards, or motorized bicycles would need to be registered with the City's Police Division. Registration would be free, and all registered vehicles would be required to display a sticker with a unique number for tracking purposes.

Two permit types would be available:

1. For devices that would only be operated by individuals with a valid driver's license, the owner would need to provide a driver's license,

the make and model of the device, and certify that the device will only be operated by someone with a valid driver's license.

2. For devices that would be operated by someone without a valid driver's license, the operator would need to take a safety class provided by the City, and provide the make and model of the device. If the operator of the device is under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian would also need to sign that they have reviewed safety information provided by the City and are responsible for any damages or fines that may result from operation of the device. Additionally, anyone without a valid driver's license would be required to wear a helmet.

All permits would be free of charge. Failure to register a device could result in seizure or immobilization of the device, with fines for repeat offenders. If someone without a driver's license rides a device that is registered to someone with a driver's license, UAPD would lock the device up until the registered owner comes to claim it. The same penalties would apply to operators without a driver's license who fail to wear a helmet.

#### Public Review Timeline

Recognizing this important community safety issue impacts us all, care is being taken to schedule a thorough review process that provides plenty of opportunity for public input.

In May, a draft of the proposed Mobility Device Registration and Safety Program will be shared with the community, along with an opt-in online survey. The findings from the survey will be used to help identify possible improvements to the proposal.

City Council is scheduled to begin reviewing proposed legislation in June, with extra time built in over summer recess for further study and feedback before Council makes its final determination in the Fall.

As Council's review process begins, the team will also present the proposal to the Upper Arlington School Board. Please watch for updates on this date.

#### Implementation Schedule

If the proposed legislation is approved by Council, the City and Schools would collaborate in the fall to develop a comprehensive education schedule. Since much of our education and registration effort would be with school-aged youth, we would work together to offer safety classes at the schools as well as community locations beginning in December.

The program would launch January 1, 2027, beginning with registration requirements for all e-bikes and e-scooters, regardless of when they were purchased. After an initial two-month registration period, enforcement of the program would begin.

We will provide updates as the review process unfolds, and we encourage you to let us know your thoughts by completing the May survey.

We also will continue to share routine e-bike and e-scooter safety reminders throughout the year. You can learn more about e-bike and e-scooter safety at the **Safe UA** webpage on the Police section of the City's website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov). Or just scan the QR code provided here.



## UA's America 250-Ohio Celebrations



*In April, a new History Trail marker was unveiled at the Walcutt-Legg Cemetery, adjacent to Wellington School. The cemetery dates back to the early 1800s, and includes the only marked grave of a Revolutionary War veteran in our community, Elijah Legg.*

Upper Arlington is proud to be hosting a series of activities that celebrate the U.S. Semiquincentennial – marking 250 years since the nation's founding in 1776.

### The History of UA: 250 Steps on Our Story

Explore our interactive online map, highlighting Upper Arlington's history. The map will continue to grow throughout the year, ultimately featuring 250 unique historical facts about our community. There are still history facts to be created, and we invite you to submit your ideas, via [uahistory.org](http://uahistory.org).

### The Best Day in UA: Celebrating 100 Years of July 4th Traditions

**3-4:30 pm, Sunday, May 3**  
**Bob Crane Community Center**

The 2026 America 250-Ohio celebrations coincide with 100 years of the UA community's Fourth of July celebrations. Discover the origins of UA's favorite day at this free event.

### Amelita Mirolo Barn History Trail Signs Dedication Ceremony

**Part of 2026 Spring Fling**  
**11 am, Saturday, May 9**  
**Sunny 95 Park**

Join with City officials as we kick off this year's Spring Fling family event, with an unveiling and dedication ceremony for five new History Trail signs that detail the

genesis of the Amelita Mirolo Barn and its ties to the region's farming heritage.

### Community Gallery Exhibit An American Town: Celebrating 250 Years

**May 20-July 17**  
**Bob Crane Community Center**

As the nation marks its 250th birthday, UA reflects on its own unique story of community tradition and civic pride, through a special exhibit featuring images from *Portrait of An American Town* alongside historic photographs of the community's beloved Fourth of July celebrations.

View our UA America 250-Ohio webpage, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov). Just scan the QR code and you're there!



**UPPER ARLINGTON FARMERS MARKET**

**Wednesdays | 3-6 pm**

**MAY 13-OCTOBER 21, 2026**

**DORSET ROAD**  
(Tremont Center & St. Mark's Episcopal Church)

COMMON GREENS FARM, FOOD & COMMUNITY | Littleton's MARKET | City of Upper Arlington

[www.commongreensohio.org/upperarlington/](http://www.commongreensohio.org/upperarlington/)

# NewsBITES

## CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

### Public Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Memorial Day** - Monday, May 25. Solid Waste collection is delayed by one day for all zones.
- **Juneteenth** - Friday, June 19. No Solid Waste delays.
- **Independence Day** - Friday, July 3. No Solid Waste delays.

### Community Center Holiday Hours

- **Memorial Day** - Monday, May 25. Open 8 am-Noon
- **Juneteenth** - Friday, June 19. Open 5:30 am-10 pm
- **Independence Day** - Saturday, July 4. Closed.

### City e-News

#### COMMUNITY AFFAIRS | 614-583-5040

Get timely service news, event reminders and special project updates by e-mail:

- **City Insight** - weekly e-news on City services, special projects & events.
- **Activity Link** - monthly news from UA Parks & Rec, including Bob Crane Community Center updates.



### Public Meetings

#### CITY CLERK'S OFFICE | 614-583-5030

The City has an online portal for public meetings, where you can also register for meeting agenda notices. A full list of public meetings can also be found on our *Community Events* calendar, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

### Won't You Be Our Neighbor Podcast

City Manager Steve Schoeny and City Attorney Darren Shulman discuss City

happenings and introduce you to various members of our community. Get started today, at <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/cityofua>.

### Friends of UA Parks

#### Saturdays, 9 am-Noon [friendsofuaparks.com](http://friendsofuaparks.com)

Volunteers are always welcome to help remove invasive plant species from UA's local parks. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes, equipment is supplied.

- **May 16** - Smith Nature Park
- **June 27** - Miller Park

### 2026 Wall of Honor

#### 3 pm, Sunday, May 17 [www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org)

The City and UA Historical Society invites the community to the 2026 Wall of Honor Ceremony on Sunday, May 17, as we honor John Steven Christie. Visit [www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org) for more.

### 2026 Safety Town

#### June 8-12, 22-26, July 6-10, 13-17 UA POLICE

Safety Town is a popular summer preschool program that teaches children all aspects of safety. Registration begins at 6 am, on Wednesday, March 11 for residents. The cost is \$125. Non-resident registration begins at 6 am, on Friday, March 13, at a cost of \$150. Children entering kindergarten and first grade are eligible, but must be five years of age prior to September 30, 2026. Please note that classes fill quickly.

### UA CARES Helpdesk

#### UA CARES | 614-583-5352

Residents can meet with our CARES Social Worker to ask questions about a variety of useful resources that can help older adults age safely, such as food and utility assistance, mental health and home safety checks, as well as providing support to caregivers, families

and younger adults who may also be in need of connections with resources and services. Please stop by the UA CARES Helpdesk to learn more about the available services on any of the following days, from 10 am-Noon:

- **Wednesdays, May 6, June 3** - Bob Crane Community Center, Level 1, Public Safety Office
- **Wednesdays, May 13, June 10** - Tremont Library
- **Wednesdays, May 20, June 17** - Bob Crane Community Center, Level 2, Older Adult Services Office
- **Tuesday, May 28** - Miller Park Library
- **Wednesday, June 24** - Lane Road Library

### Summer Utility Invoice

#### FINANCE

614-583-5291

Watch for your second semi-annual utility invoice from the City in late June. This includes fees for Solid Waste, the Stormwater Utility and, in some cases, a Neighborhood Lighting Utility fee.

### Garage/Yard Sales

#### CODE COMPLIANCE

614-583-5070

Residents may conduct one garage/yard sale during any six-month period, not to exceed three consecutive days or two days on two consecutive weekends. Sales may be held from 8 am-8 pm, with items placed for display in a garage or backyard. Any signage should be placed on private property only and should not exceed eight square feet.

### American Red Cross Blood Drives at the MSC

**10 am-4 pm, Friday, May 15\***

**10 am-4 pm, Friday, May 22**

**10 am-4 pm, Friday, June 12**

**10 am-4 pm, Friday, July 10**

**3600 Tremont Road**

The need for blood donations always increases in the summer. It's a time of year when fewer people register to donate, meanwhile warmer weather increases outside extracurricular activities that can often have a higher risk of injury. Do your part to help meet the need by donating at one of our upcoming American Red Cross blood

## Electric Aggregation Program Update

Since early 2024, Upper Arlington has been participating in a Community Electric Aggregation Program that provides residents and small businesses with a stable and sustainable electricity option. Aggregation allows the City to negotiate competitive electricity rates on behalf of our community. This program is authorized by voters and administered in partnership with the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC) and AEP Energy as the supplier.

When the City began the current Aggregation Program it did so knowing that its best efforts to secure a lower, stable "green" rate that utilizes renewable energy sources for eligible customers might not always result in the best prices. However, since launching in January 2024, the program has collectively helped over 10,300 customers save more than \$2.7 million on electricity costs.

drives. Visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> and type in *CityofUA* to register.

\* The May 15 blood drive is part of a Police Week initiative, type in *PoliceWeek* to register.

### Free Box Fans for Older Adults FRANKLIN COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING 614-525-6200

Franklin County residents ages 60 years & older are eligible to receive a free box fan to help them stay cool over the summer months. Call the above number to request a fan and to schedule a pick-up date. Delivery is available for residents who are homebound.

UA residents can assist this effort by donating new box fans via the City's Fire Division. Just drop them off at Station 72 on Reed Road.

### City of Columbus Enhanced Water Meter Program <https://columbusemp.org/>

The City of Columbus Division of Water is undertaking a second phase of water meter replacements in UA, for proper-

### 2026 Program Update

In late April, existing aggregation customers and eligible households were mailed a letter from SOPEC to notify them of the updated rates that will take effect with the June 2026 meter reading.

Reflective of the upward trend in electricity prices across the nation, the newly secured rate is higher than the current rate of 9.756 cents per kilowatt hour, which runs through the May 2026 billing cycle.

The new rates for June 2026-May 2027 are as follows:

- **"Green" Rate:** 11.162¢/kWh.
- **Opt-Down "Brown" Rate:** 10.927¢/kWh.
- **Standard Service Offering\* "SSO":** currently 9.940¢/kWh through May. This rate will change in June, but that rate has not been announced.

ties north of Zollinger Road. This work is expected to take several months to complete, with property owners to be contacted as the Division's water meter installation contractor, VEPO Metering, works its way through the area.

### May is Mental Health Awareness Month

UA CHAT reminds us that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Sometimes life's transitions and stressors can affect our well-being. It's always okay to ask for support to help navigate these changes. Visit [MHAOhio.org](https://MHAOhio.org) to learn more about mental health services, support groups, and self-screening tools that support you and your family.

### Grass/Weed Control Guidelines CODE COMPLIANCE 614-583-5070

The care and maintenance of property and landscaping benefits the entire community. City code specifies that grass must not exceed 8 inches in height and should be kept free of noxious weeds. Failure to comply will result in notice

*\*This is the current standard AEP electricity rate if not participating in UA's Aggregation Program. It is subject to five changes through the year.*

Residents and small businesses that have received the April notice from SOPEC have until May 13 to opt out of the City's program in time for the June meter reading. Thereafter, customers can still opt out of or into the Electric Aggregation Program at any time with no penalty.

To opt-out, visit [www.AEPenergy.com/uaoptout](http://www.AEPenergy.com/uaoptout), mail in the form received in the mail, or call 1-877-648-1937.

Additional details about Upper Arlington's Electric Aggregation Program can be found under the Services section of our website, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

from the City to rectify the situation within five days, at which time the City will make arrangements to cut the grass/weeds at the owner's expense.

### Mother's Day Flower Sale 9 am-5 pm, Friday, May 8-Saturday, May 9 Tremont Shopping Center [upperarlingtonfire.com](http://upperarlingtonfire.com)

The UA Fire Fighters Local 1521 is hosting its annual flower sale fundraiser in the lead up to Mother's Day. All flower sale contributions help them support a variety of charities.

### Fire Hydrant Flushing Runs Thru May 8 UA Fire | 614-583-5100

Each Spring, the Fire Division conducts maintenance checks and flushing operations for the City's fire hydrants to make sure they are in good working order. Visit the division's *Fire Prevention* section of our website to learn more and to see when crews will be in your area.

## July 4th Reminders

UA knows how to put on an incredible Independence Day celebration, thanks to the hard work of the all-volunteer UA Civic Association (UACA). This is a special year for UACA, as they celebrate 100 years of hosting UA's Independence Day Parade and festivities, and as the nation celebrates its 250th anniversary. With the theme "Ohio's Greatest Hits," this year's celebration is sure to be one for the history books.

To help ensure the day is safe and enjoyable for everyone, we always share several reminders.

### Fireworks Safety

Recognizing the dangers posed by fireworks if handled improperly, the City prohibits the use of consumer grade fireworks. This includes sparklers, bottle rockets, firecrackers and trick noisemakers. It is not our intent to be heavy-handed in enforcement, but the City has and will enforce its laws, especially when unsafe situations are witnessed by police. We encourage you to enjoy all that UA has to offer over the Fourth of July holiday, but be wise, and above all, be safe. Leave the fireworks to the professionals.

### Block Parties

If your neighborhood is planning to host a block party over the Fourth Weekend, the deadline for submitting your application is Friday, June 19. The \$50 fee covers administrative costs and the delivery of barricades. Block parties are not permitted on main thoroughfares. To complete an application, visit the *Community Permits* section of the City Manager's Office webpage, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

### Golf Cart Reminders

Non-street legal golf carts may only be used by UACA for the Parade, or on streets closed for a Block Party.

If you wish to operate a USV or golf cart in UA:

- They must meet Ohio Department of Public Safety standards, including brakes, brake lights, turn signals, lights, windshield, rear view mirror, and tires for street use.
- They must have seatbelts at each designated seating position (an additional UA requirement).
- They must be titled and registered,
- They must be inspected and approved for use on public streets by an authorized law enforcement agency.
- They can only be used on streets with speed limits of 25 mph or under.
- They are not allowed on paths in public parks or on park fields.

### Chairs on the Parade Route

In the days leading up to the Parade, Northwest Blvd. becomes overrun with lawn chairs and areas taped off by families staking their spectator spot. Please refrain from this practice until just a few days before the parade. Placing your property at the curb - similar to placing trash or bulk items out for collection - runs the risk of having your property taken by opportunistic passersby. In such instances, their loss is not considered theft.

### Parade Updates

#### Parade Diversability Zone

An area in front of Holy Trinity Church on the parade route will be available for community members with mobility and sensory issues. The space will include a covered tent and access to parking for individuals with mobility issues. It will also provide a quieter version of the parade, with participants reducing their volume by at least 50% as they pass by. This Inclusive Zone is spearheaded by the Red Oak Family Foundation, a local non-profit that supports families with members on the autism spectrum.

#### Parade Traffic & Safety Restrictions

UA Police will be placing non-movable barricades or City vehicles at streets intersecting Northwest Blvd. As a result, local traffic will not be able to cross

or use Northwest per the following schedule:

- 6:30-7 am - all streets between Zollinger Rd. and Lane Ave. will be closed at Northwest.
- 7-7:30 am - most streets between Lane Ave. and North Star Rd. will be closed at Northwest. It will still be possible to cross Northwest at Guilford, Barrington and Waltham roads until 8 am.
- Travel on Northwest Blvd. will be limited after 7:30 am.
- Lane Ave. will remain open to traffic until approximately 8:30 am.
- All streets are expected to be reopened to traffic by 1 pm.

### Parking Restrictions

Parking restrictions will be in effect for most streets south of Lane Ave. that surround the parade route - in some instances this will be on both sides of the street, in other instances it will be on the fire hydrant side only. The affected streets will be posted in advance with "no parking" signs. No parking hours will be from Midnight-1 pm on the day of the parade. If you live in the area, please move cars into your driveway or to a nearby location where parking is permissible.

### Pools & Northam Tennis Holiday Hours

#### Friday, July 3

- Northam Tennis & Pickleball - close at Noon
- Tremont Pool - closes at 9 pm

#### Saturday, July 4

- Northam Tennis & Pickleball - closed
- Tremont Pool - closed
- Devon Pool and Reed Road Water Park - open Noon-5 pm

#### Sunday, July 5

- Northam Tennis & Pickleball - open at Noon (if fireworks cleanup is complete)
- Tremont Pool - opens at 1 pm (if fireworks cleanup is complete)

For expanded Fourth of July reminders, check our website for updates beginning mid-June, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov).

# Schools<sup>★</sup>iNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

MAY | JUNE 2026



## Facilities Master Planning Update

After a nearly two-year, collaborative process, Upper Arlington Schools is moving closer to finalizing a master plan for the aging middle schools and Burbank Early Childhood School.

In late February, Superintendent Robert Hunt, Ph.D., and Treasurer/CFO Andrew Geistfeld shared their draft master plan recommendations with the Board of Education. These recommendations were developed based on feedback and findings from community experts on a Financial Advisory Board, along with more than 5,000 touchpoints with students, staff members, families and residents throughout the process.

"This has been an incredible process shaped by the voices of our community at every step," Dr. Hunt said. "We've had thousands of meaningful interactions that helped us better understand priorities, ask important questions and ultimately develop recommendations

that reflect both our values and our responsibility to plan for the future."

In that same spirit of community engagement, the draft recommendations were shared for an additional round of feedback. Community members had the opportunity to participate in an engagement session on March 25 and/or complete an online survey following the event. As of press time, approximately 2,000 stakeholders had shared their thoughts..

To help summarize where things stand, here's a closer look at the key questions surrounding the proposed plan:

### What Are the Draft Recommendations?

The community was asked to share feedback on the following draft recommendations for a phase two master plan:

- Rebuilding and adding four additional classrooms to meet growing special education identifications and general enrollment needs at Burbank Early Childhood School
- Rebuilding Hastings Middle School at the current athletic stadium site
- Rebuilding Jones Middle School on its current site, along with forming a historical advisory board to help honor the legacy of the existing building through the new design

The district also gathered feedback on additional considerations, including turf athletic fields at Hastings and Jones to help bring those spaces back online more quickly, as well as options for transitional educational space during the rebuild of Jones Middle School.

**CONTINUES ON PAGE 12**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11**

One potential solution includes adding a third floor above the district's Mincy Center and music classrooms at Upper Arlington High School to house seventh- and eighth-grade students during construction. In addition, modular classrooms for sixth-grade students could be placed on the former Senior Center site near Tremont Elementary School. Together, these options would be comparable in cost to a full modular school originally budgeted as part of the Jones project.

**What Might This Mean Financially?**

The rebuilds of all three schools – including transitional educational space and turf fields at the middle schools – are estimated to cost \$287 million. This would be offset by \$14 million that the Board of Education set aside last summer for facilities needs, resulting in a projected \$273 million bond request to the community.



Dr. Hunt and Geistfeld recommended pairing this estimated 2.0-mill increase in current bond millage with a 4.9-mill operating levy to support the district's day-to-day operations. If approved by voters in November, this would amount to an increase of approximately \$1,210 in the property

taxes for a \$500,000 home as valued by the county auditor.

"When we last went to the ballot, we shared that we would likely need to return in three years for additional operating support due to inflation," Geistfeld said. "Because of the district's strong financial management and careful stewardship of resources, we were able to extend that timeline by an additional year."

**What's Next?**

District administration and the Board of Education are reviewing all feedback gathered this spring. The Board is expected to take action in May or June on a finalized phase two master plan, as well as a combined operating levy and bond issue for the November 2026 ballot.

To learn more about the facilities master planning process, please visit [www.uaschools.org/facilities](http://www.uaschools.org/facilities).

**Golden Bear Reflections: Josh Brown ('24)**

For Josh Brown (Class of 2024), Upper Arlington High School was more than just a place to learn—it was a place to explore, experiment, and discover his passion for media production.

"I got involved with Kickin' It Live and WARL Productions, handling the technical aspects for the shows," Josh says. "As much as it's a classroom, you're given access to put on these shows, and it's what we like to call a learning lab—you can mess up, you can fail, but you grow from that."

Mentorship played a key role in shaping his path. "Amanda Fountain, our studio director, was instrumental in getting me into this field," he notes, highlighting the impact of supportive teachers who encourage curiosity and hands-on learning.

Now a film and media production major at Capital University, Josh is building on that foundation while gaining real-world experience. "I work a lot with athletics there, doing media for broadcasts and social media content. I really get to experience both sides of production, and I'm excited for where that can take me," he shares.

Josh also reflects on the leadership and opportunities that UA provided. "The opportunities UA gave me allowed me to step



up and be a leader in every space I was in—in the classroom, in extracurriculars, in every area," he says.

Looking ahead, Josh hopes to take his skills into the world of video broadcasting for sports, stadiums, and other large-scale events. "At least as of right now, I plan to go into video broadcasting for sports—wherever I can find a job around the country and work in even larger environments," he explains. For Josh, Upper Arlington Schools offered more than technical skills—it provided a space to learn, grow, and imagine what's possible. And now, he's ready to take that curiosity and dedication into the next chapter of his journey.



## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Robert Hunt, Ph.D.

### Measuring Progress and Expanding Opportunities Through Our Strategic Plan

*Robert Hunt, Ph.D., is the superintendent of Upper Arlington Schools. You can email him at [superintendent@uaschools.org](mailto:superintendent@uaschools.org).*

As we move through the final weeks of the school year, we have the opportunity to both celebrate meaningful progress and look ahead to what's next for Upper Arlington Schools. Across our district, the work connected to our *Excellence & Innovation 2030 Strategic Plan* continues to take shape in ways that directly impact our students, staff and community.

#### Celebrating Literacy Work

This spring, all five elementary schools were named 2026 Governor's Science of Reading Champions – a distinction awarded to just 109 schools across Ohio. This recognition highlights strong implementation of evidence-based literacy practices, along with measurable student growth.

Strengthening foundational literacy has been a sustained priority for our district, and we are proud to be recognized as a leader in this work. As we continue enhancing the learning experiences for every student, we also launched a five-year curriculum review cycle this year, beginning with K-12 mathematics, to ensure coherence, rigor and alignment across our programs.

#### Expanding Academic Programming

We remain focused on creating meaningful, future-ready learning opportunities for our students. At the high school level, this includes expanding programming that allows students to explore career pathways and build real-world skills.

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, students will have access to INCubatoredu, an entrepreneurship program that connects them with local

business mentors, as well as Innovations in Medicine & Biotechnology through the UA Hub. These experiences are designed to help students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed for success beyond graduation.

#### Strengthening Gifted Services

Following a comprehensive review of our gifted services in partnership with Northwestern University's Center for Talent Development, we have already taken important steps to expand access at the middle school level through cluster grouping. This approach allows students identified as gifted in a specific subject area or in superior cognitive ability who previously did not receive services to access enriched learning within their everyday classroom environment. As a result, significantly more students are now receiving gifted services. Our next phase of work will focus on identifying opportunities to strengthen and expand services at the elementary level.

#### Amplifying Student Voice

This year, we launched Amplify, a district-level student voice committee that brings together more than 30 students in grades 7-12. Amplify provides a meaningful platform for students to share their perspectives and help shape the decisions that influence their school experience.

This innovative approach has already gained national attention. Upper Arlington Schools was invited by AASA, The School Superintendents Association, to share our work in developing student voice and engagement practices through a national webinar.

This spring, Amplify students are leading efforts to gather feedback from peers across grades K-12, helping ensure that student perspectives continue to inform our work moving forward.

#### Increasing Engagement

In May, we will conclude the second year of our Coffee & Conversation series, which reflects our ongoing commitment to strengthening connections with our community. These conversations will resume in the fall, alongside expanded opportunities for family and community learning.

This year, that included a session focused on supporting young people through crisis and grief – one example of how we are working to equip the adults in our students' lives with meaningful tools and resources. In the year ahead, we look forward to building on this work and offering additional opportunities to support the whole child.

## SchoolsINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

#### Production:

Karen Truett  
Chief Communications Officer  
Phone: 614-487-5027  
[ktruett@uaschools.org](mailto:ktruett@uaschools.org)



#### Upper Arlington Schools

1619 Zollinger Road  
Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221  
Phone: 614-487-5000 | [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org)

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

[www.twitter.com/UA\\_Schools](https://www.twitter.com/UA_Schools)

# BITES From the Apple



SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



## It's a Three-peat for Girls Swimming and Diving!

Upper Arlington High School girls swimming and diving clinched their third consecutive state championship – and 15th all-time – in Canton on February 28. Ten top-eight finishes powered the Golden Bears to the team championship.

Sophomore **Kiera Powers** brought home two individual championships, winning the 200-yard medley and 500-yard freestyle, and the Golden Bears also won the 200 medley, 200 free and 400 free relays. Junior **Maren Berg** was second in the 50 free and fourth in the 100 free, and junior **Riley Hollingsworth** was fifth in the 200 individual medley and sixth in the 100 butterfly.

In the diving finals, junior **Mira Wiegman** and senior **Madi Vermilion** earned podium finishes as well, with Mira placing third and Madi in fourth.

## UAHS Students Earn Major Art Accolades

Upper Arlington High School student artists are making their mark on the regional arts scene with multiple prestigious honors and exhibition selections.

**Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Competition** – Five students had artwork chosen for the Scholastic

Art & Writing Awards exhibition at the Columbus College of Art & Design. Junior **Delilah Coss** earned a Silver Key award, while Honorable Mentions were awarded to junior **Leena Ibrahim**, seniors **Samuel Layne** and **Izzy Midlam-Mohler**, and senior **Cooper McGinty** for a portfolio submission.

**Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition State and Regional Winners** – Two students, junior **Addie Brownfield** and senior **Ellie Ness**, were selected as state winners, placing among the top 250 submissions in the state. Seven additional students were honored as regional winners: junior **Nina Belvedere**,

junior **Max Bennett**, junior **Delilah Coss**, junior **Evelyn Kirk**, senior **Emily Marusic**, senior **Jack Morris** and sophomore **Audrey Oberle**.

**Ohio Capital Conference's Wes Blizzard Art Invitational** – Three seniors, **Ethan Galvan Farrera**, **Samuel Layne** and **Izzy Midlam-Mohler**, had artwork chosen for the Wes Blizzard Art Invitational and displayed at the Fairfield County District Library.

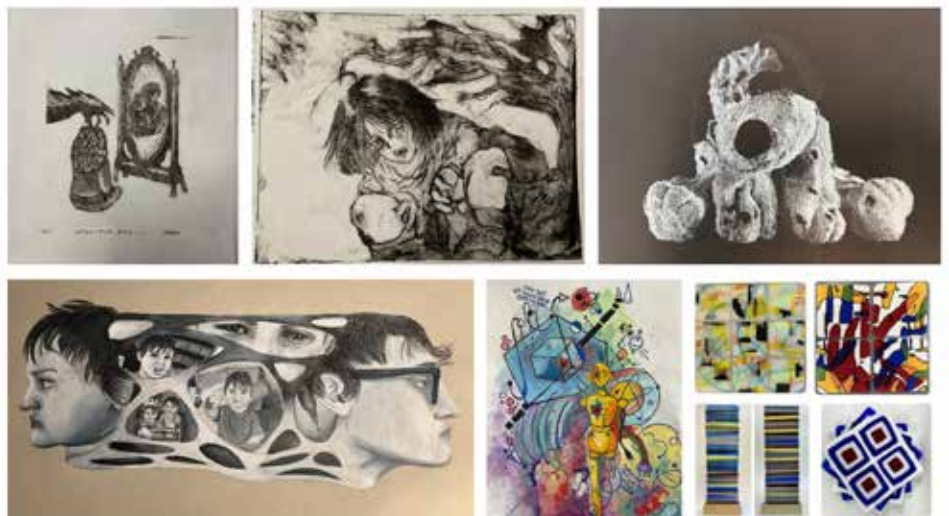
In addition, **Izzy Midlam-Mohler's** artwork was selected for the State of the Arts Mentor & Mentee exhibition at Ohio University, where it is displayed alongside the work of UAHS art teacher **Corey Aumiller**. Rounding out the honors, **Delilah Coss** also earned third place in the Pixar: Art of Storytelling exhibition presented by COSI.

These accomplishments reflect the incredible creativity, dedication and talent of our students – and the strong support of our visual arts educators.

## Uniquely Accomplished

Our Golden Bears have a lot to celebrate this spring! Here are some of the highlights for recent recognitions for our students.

- **Educators Rising awards:** Forty-





seven Upper Arlington High School students attended the 2026 Ohio Educators Rising Conference at Capital University in March, representing our Education in Training Pathway and gaining valuable experience exploring careers in education. Several earned top honors and qualified to compete at the national conference this summer.

- **National business honors:** A team from the Future Business Leaders of America at Upper Arlington High School – **Eric Liu, Jackson Stiles** and **Tian Lin Zheng** – earned third place nationally in the high school division of the Fall 2025 FBLA Stock Market Game, offered in partnership with the SIFMA Foundation. Competing against teams nationwide, the students managed a virtual \$100,000 portfolio and made real-time investment decisions.
- **State math achievement:** Hastings Middle School student **Julian Hsiao** qualified for the national MATHCOUNTS competition this summer in Orlando after placing at the statewide tournament. Both Hastings teams had huge success at the regional competition, finishing in second place and receiving an honorable mention.
- **State journalism award:** Senior **Lucy Baker**, editor of the *Arlingtonian* newsmagazine, was awarded an honorable mention for Ohio Scholastic Media Association Journalist of the Year.
- **Economics recognition:** Seniors

**Hannah Hunt** and **Miles Ostarchvic** have been named among the top 100 economics students in North America through the Economics Olympiad, the world's largest and most prestigious international competition. By qualifying among the top 100, Hannah and Miles now move on to round two of the competition, with the opportunity to compete in the finals in Athens, Greece.

- **Music honors:** Sophomore **Melanie Klapper** placed second in the prestigious David Dubois piano competition, held annually at Bowling Green University. The competition featured 25 outstanding preselected high school-age pianists from across the United States and Canada.

### Alumni Association Updates

- **Celebrate a senior!** Join the Upper Arlington Alumni Association and Upper Arlington Education Foundation as they celebrate this year's graduating seniors! Your tax-deductible

donations will help provide an Upper Arlington Alumni Association t-shirt to every senior, making their final year even more memorable. Learn more and make a donation at [BearAlums.com](http://BearAlums.com).

- **Mark your calendars!** Join the Upper Arlington Alumni Association at the Upper Arlington High School Open House on Thursday, July 2 from 2-4 pm, with the Alumni Awards and Educator Hall of Fame Induction ceremony at 3 pm. More information can be found at [BearAlums.com](http://BearAlums.com).
- **Check out our Impact Stories!** The Upper Arlington Education Foundation supports the school district in its mission to challenge and support every student, every step of the way. UA+Ed funds innovative programs and meaningful experiences that go beyond the district's budget. Your generosity creates a ripple effect across our schools. To learn more about the impact you make possible, visit [www.uaeducationfoundation.com/impactstories](http://www.uaeducationfoundation.com/impactstories).

*Graduation is here!*  
**CELEBRATE A UAHS SENIOR**  
 Each \$10 tax deductible donation will provide a graduating senior with an Alumni t-shirt and keep them connected to UA Schools.

Donate today at  
**BearAlums.com**

## Sparking Moments That Matter: Growing Together at Tremont Elementary School

At Tremont Elementary School, learning is taking root in a whole new way. Thanks to a schoolwide indoor gardening project, students aren't just planting seeds – they're discovering how curiosity, collaboration and hands-on experience can help them grow as learners.

For Shelly Bloom, a gifted intervention specialist at Tremont, this project was a way to engage every student in hands-on learning.

"We've done garden projects in my class where we designed outdoor garden beds and used area and perimeter," Bloom said. "I teach math, so it was a really natural integration. But I wanted to see if we could get all of the kids involved."



### 2025-2026 SCHOOL DATES

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

**Tuesday, May 5**

**Upper Arlington High School Commencement**

**Sunday, May 24 at 9:30 am**

*Jerome Schottenstein Center, 555 Borror Drive*

**Memorial Day: No School for Student and Staff**

**Monday, May 25**

**Last Day for Students; Early Dismissal**

**Thursday, May 28**

*Elementary dismissal at 1 pm; secondary at 1:30 pm*

**Teacher Work Day: No School for Students; Staff Report Per schedule**

**Friday, May 29**

**For the upcoming 2026-2027 calendar, please visit our website, at [www.uaschools.org/calendars](http://www.uaschools.org/calendars). For a calendar of community events in our schools, visit [www.uaschools.org/communitycalendar](http://www.uaschools.org/communitycalendar).**

That idea blossomed into a shared vision – one rooted in growth, collaboration and community. "Creating a common theme of we are growing together – that we're going to plant together, harvest together and enjoy it together – was just a really nice idea," Bloom said.

With support from the Upper Arlington Education Foundation, that vision became reality. The UA+Ed funded 53 tabletop growers – small but mighty tools that brought gardening into classrooms and spaces throughout the building. For students, those growers became an invitation to explore, measure, experiment and care for something living.

"We've been growing lettuce, dill, basil," shared Tremont student Sylvia S. "We get to use it in the cafeteria, and we learn about how it grows. It's really fun."

Another student, Tucker U., loved the hands-on nature of the experience. "Everybody got to put the seeds in, and they got to pour water and stuff," he said.

Students weren't just watching the process – they were deeply involved every step of the way.

"I helped measure, I helped snip a little bit, and then I put them in plastic bags," Sylvia explained.

The project is expanding even further thanks to a Grow Ohio Grant from the Ohio Department of Education and

Workforce. The \$17,000 grant is allowing the school to formally connect classroom learning with nutrition education.

"Because we applied under edible gardens, we're able to integrate with our nutrition team and harvest what we are growing and put it in the cafeteria for the kids to enjoy," Bloom said.

That partnership has transformed the harvest into something students could taste.

"We did some roasted vegetables with fresh dill and fresh basil, which went over great with the kids," said Irene Hunt, Director of Nutritional Services. "The excitement students get when they know something has been grown by their own students – that's one of the things that really surprised us."

For students like Tucker, seeing the process come full circle made all the difference.

"It was really good," he said. "It's just like we made them, and it's like you never really get to do those things in school. So I'm just really happy that we get to do that here."

At Tremont, the garden has become more than a project. It's a living example of how learning can connect subjects, spark pride and create moments that students will remember long after the harvest.

# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Thanks to the Upper Arlington Public Library, Hastings and Jones middle schools welcomed bestselling author and illustrator Jerry Craft in March.



Upper Arlington High School students led the fourth-annual Human Connections Festival on March 25 in a celebration of what makes our school community unique.



Creativity met compassion at Barrington Elementary School's Create & Discover Day as students met community needs through a variety of activities.



Cupid was hard at work at Jones Middle School in February, spreading love by creating handmade Valentine's Day cards for local seniors.



Greensview Elementary School enjoyed creating pop collage art during a two-day visit with artist Michael Albert, thanks to the Upper Arlington Education Foundation.



The Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School community came together for the fourth-annual Wolves Around the World, filling the space with stories, traditions and cultures.



Upper Arlington High School sophomores stepped out of the classroom for Shadowing Day. Students spent a day exploring potential career paths and learning from professionals in fields that interest them.

## Treasurer's Notes

**Andrew L. Geistfeld**

Each spring, the district releases its Financial Update – an annual report that provides a clear overview of our financial position and the factors shaping our budget in the years ahead. The 2025-2026 edition offers important context as we consider a potential combined operating levy and bond issue for the November 2026 ballot.



As outlined in the report, approximately 96 percent of the district's revenue is fixed, with little room for inflationary growth. This is due to a state law known as House Bill 920, which ensures that voted operating levies do

not grow as property values increase. Instead, 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. In short, as a homeowner's property value increases, their school operating tax rate actually decreases. This is why suburban school districts like Upper Arlington return to voters every three to four years in order to keep up with inflation and maintain the current level of school operations.

Upper Arlington Schools last passed an operating levy in fall 2022 to support daily operations, with a commitment to return to voters in three years. We have successfully stretched that levy an additional year, but as expected, expenditures are now outpacing revenue. As a result, we are planning

to return to the ballot this November to request the operating funding needed for the district to maintain the current level of high-quality academic programming for Upper Arlington's student population.

At the same time, the district has been engaged in long-term planning for our aging middle schools and Burbank Early Childhood School. Since phase one of the master planning process, we have known these facilities would require significant investment within the next decade. There is no zero-cost option – these buildings have immediate needs to remain safe, dry and operational for students.

Based on community input and guidance from our Financial Advisory Board, Superintendent Robert Hunt, Ph.D., and I have shared draft recommendations with the Board of Education for a combined operating levy and bond issue for the November 2026 ballot. The current proposal includes a 4.9-mill operating levy and an estimated 2.0-mill increase in bond millage. If approved by voters in November, this would amount to an increase of approximately \$1,210 in the property taxes for a home with an appraised value of \$500,000 by the county auditor. It's important to note that appraised home valuation isn't what your home would sell for – it's an amount determined by the county auditor that is available on your property listing on the auditor's website.

After gathering additional feedback this spring on the master plan recommendations, the Board of Education is expected to take action in May or June on a combined operating levy and bond issue for the November ballot.

I encourage you to review the Financial Update, along with additional financial documents, on our website at [www.uaschools.org/treasurer](http://www.uaschools.org/treasurer). If you have any questions about our district's finances or the master planning process, you can contact me at [treasurer@uaschools.org](mailto:treasurer@uaschools.org).

## UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM LEFT:

Lori Trent, Vice President  
Liz George Stump,  
Kip Greenhill, Nidhi  
Satiani and President  
Jenny McKenna



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](http://www.uaschools.org) for the most up-to-date information.

### Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, May 12 – 6 pm, Council Chamber
- Tuesday, June 9 – 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).

# 2026 Cum Laude Awards

Membership in the Cum Laude Society is the highest academic recognition a high school student can achieve on a national level. The society was established in 1906 to recognize academic excellence, justice and honor. It was modeled after Phi Beta Kappa. The Upper Arlington chapter of the Cum Laude Society is supported by the Dr. Charles Wade Moulton Fund of the Upper Arlington Education Foundation. Congratulations to our 2026 scholars!



## Current Members

Nicholas Ardelea  
Luke Backes  
Ola Brown  
Asha Chaudhari  
Charles Cheng  
Khloe Dewald  
Willow Dudley  
Andrew Fahrback  
Connor Ferguson  
Keshav Goyal  
Helen Griffith  
Reed Hastings  
Leah Hoffman  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Hannah Hunt  
Cindy Ju  
Colin Kennedy  
Mia Kourlas  
Esther Lam  
Evelyn Leader  
Elijah Liu  
Evelyn Logsdon  
Ava Manning  
Kathleen McKelvey  
Natalie Meyer  
Isabel Midlam-Mohler  
Meera Norton  
Abigail Oliphant  
Adrian Pecourt  
Andrew Petzinger  
Thomas Prescott  
Elise Schantz  
Matthew Schmersal  
Kathryn Sexton  
Lila Susi  
Ayla Sutherland  
Masao Tamiya  
Junaina Tarannum  
Rajan Singh Thakur  
Mazen Thompson

Alexander Vacchiano  
Jillian Vagnier  
Sydney Vermilion  
Mani Vutha  
Kiersten Watts  
Claire Wessells  
Elena Zhu

## Senior Inductees

William Abouhassan  
William Bain  
Kennedy Bates  
Athina Becker  
Kilian Blair  
Camille Brown  
Peyton Burton  
Anthony Cavallario  
Kaitlyn Cole  
Clara Crist  
Lauren Dombrowski  
Evelyn Durakovic  
Aisha Emmons  
Kevin Feng  
William Fitkin  
Grace Garn  
Nicolas Gonzalez  
Connor Hagkull  
Edie Hampel  
Giana Homer  
Oliver Hulse  
Reagan Hunt  
Audrey Jack  
Zoe Kourlas  
Calvin Larson  
Ziqi Lin  
Franka Lorenz  
Erin Malone  
Carlo Manganelli  
Emily Marusic  
Vivian McGee  
Michael Moloney

Ashton Mumaw  
Angela Nguyen  
Nathan Nichols  
Miles Ostarchvic  
Any Pathak  
Hannah Piao  
Sarah Poling  
Christopher Pomeroy  
Meghan Robertson  
Alex Rothe  
John Sass  
Hannah Setterlin  
Ella Smith  
Ross Szollosi  
Ishaan Vasudeva  
Lucy Wilkins  
Ashleigh Wimmer  
Nurim Yoo

## Junior Inductees

Jamie Ayers  
Stephen Baker  
Julia Balada-Guerau  
Layla Barger  
Brant Berg  
Mark Cartlidge  
Phineas Chapman  
Casey Chaudhari  
Delilah Coss  
Josephine Cox  
Caroline Crespo  
Barrett Doerflein  
Lukas Gerhardt  
Lauren Hall  
Cole Harris  
Owen Hawley  
Claire Iams  
Riley Jones  
Kristen Kahle  
Evelyn Kirk  
Autumn Kleinman

Ayano Kusaka  
Annabelle Leibowitz  
Nancy Li  
Avery Lloyd  
Olivia Lorenz  
Alexander Lowe  
Jackson Mills  
Anna Mowry  
Eva Newlin  
Edward Oakley  
Evan Reinhardt  
Roshan Satiani  
Gabriella Shondel  
Colson Smith  
Abigail Smith  
Charlie Stought  
Shreya Trikha  
Mia Walter  
Reed Walther  
Angela Wei  
Ellen Wen  
Emery White  
Judy Wu  
Eric Wu  
Jintao Wu



# Library MAY | JUNE 2026 iNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Dig Into Reading This Summer

This summer, step into a land of dinosaurs, discoveries, and page-turning fun – the “Unearth a Story” 2026 Summer Reading Program! It runs from June 1-July 31 at all UAPL branches, and your whole family can earn prizes and grand prize entries just for reading.

Readers of all ages can color a dino footprint on their log for every day they read. Adults can count the days they read or set personal reading goals. For every 10 days you read or 10 reading goals you meet, you’ll earn a prize and an entry in one of our 6 grand prize drawings. After 30 days, you’ve earned all three prizes but keep reading to get up to three more drawing entries using a “Read On Challenge” sheet.

Prizes available to all ages include a coupon pack at 10 days, a selection from



our prize bin at 20 days, and a free book after 30 days.

We’ll begin the program on Monday, June 1 with a Dino-Mite Summer Reading Kickoff Party from 10 am-Noon at all three branches. Unearth dino activities, grab a log, and check out some books to start your reading adventure!

Many thanks to the Friends of the UAPL for their continued sponsorship of our Summer Reading Program.

Thank you also to the following for their grand prize and coupon donations: Ohio Renaissance Festival, Ohio State Fair, the Ohio State Parks, Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt, The Original Goodie Shop, and Studio 35 Cinema and Drafthouse.

## NewsBITES

### LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

#### E-waste Recycling

Our Tremont Road Branch now hosts electronics recycling containers. Accepted items include computers and computer accessories, printers, small appliances, household electronics, cell phones, tablets, chargers (televisions, CRT monitors, light bulbs, alkaline batteries and hazardous waste are NOT accepted). Bring your eligible e-waste to the bins in our vestibule by the sliding exit door. Columbus Micro Systems will collect and recycle items weekly. Wipe personal data from your devices before recycling them.

#### Libby and Kanopy Access

Under new security measures, Libby and Kanopy users may be prompted for

their UAPL PIN when using these apps. Once entered, the apps will retain the PIN. If you’ve forgotten your PIN, visit <https://uapl.me/MyAccount> to reset it. Need help? Call our Customer Service Department, at 614-486-9621 opt. 3.

#### Sign Up for our Monthly eNewsletters

Our eNewsletters keep you informed about new library materials, programs and news. Sign up with your email address at <https://uapl.me/subscribe>.

#### Holiday Closings

UA Libraries will be closed Sunday, May 24 and Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day. We’ll also be closed Friday, June 19 for Juneteenth.

## Library MAY | JUNE 2026 iNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### Production:

Christine Minx

Marketing & Communications 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) [www.instagram.com/uapubliclibrary](https://www.instagram.com/uapubliclibrary)



## A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR Beth Pfahler

### A Bright, Busy Season Ahead

As we head into May and June, the UAPL is looking forward to one of our busiest – and most exciting – times of the year. Summer reading is just around the corner, bringing with it opportunities for readers of all ages to explore new stories, set goals, and stay engaged all season long. Along with summer reading, we're planning a full calendar of programs, activities, and events designed to ensure there is always something to do at the library.

This summer also marks the beginning of an important initiative for our community. The Tremont Road Community Task Force will be kicking off its work, bringing together a group of dedicated community members to help guide the future of our Tremont Road Branch. The task force will explore big-

picture ideas, assess community needs, and help shape recommendations that align with the library's long-term vision.

At the same time, we want to reassure our community that planned facility improvements are moving forward. Roof work at the Tremont Road Branch is scheduled to begin this year, an important step in maintaining and preserving this well-used community space.

Community input will be a critical part of this process. In addition to the task force's work this summer, we will be reaching out more broadly in the fall through community surveys to gather feedback and perspectives from residents. These insights will help ensure that future plans reflect the needs and priorities of those we serve.

Whether you're joining us for a program, participating in summer reading, or contributing your voice to the future of the library, we look forward to a vibrant and engaging season ahead.

## Library at UA Farmers Market



This year the UAPL has been named the official programmer of the Upper Arlington Farmers Market.

The Market runs weekly from May 13-October 21 on Dorset Road across the street from our Tremont Road Branch.

We'll bring fun activities to the Market's programming booth each month. We'll be there on the fourth Wednesday of each month from May through September, and the third Wednesday in October.

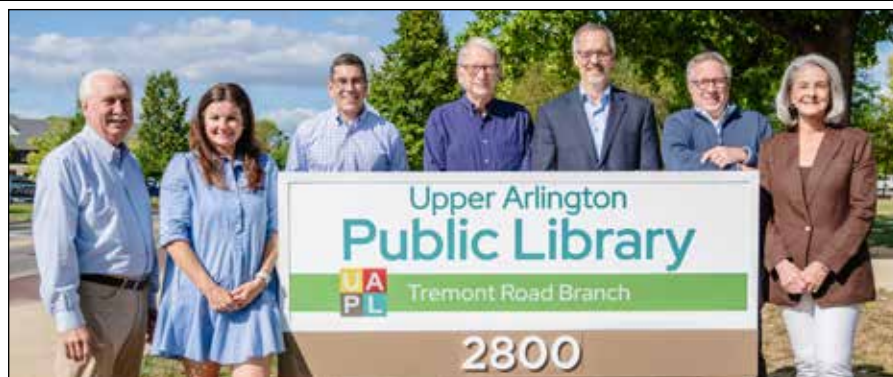
On May 27, we'll have coding games and binary code necklaces and bracelets. On June 24, we'll learn about dinosaurs and make dino-themed crafts.

Be sure to visit our booth to say hello, do an activity, and learn what the Library has to offer!

### Sticker Club

Our new Sticker Club launches in May! Pick up a sticker passport at events like Spring Fling and the Farmers Market, collect stamps at UAPL branches and event booths, and earn a sticker after four stamps. Look for a new design each month through October.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



All meetings of the Board and its committees, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public. Meetings begin at 5 pm, and are held in Meeting Room B of the Tremont Road Branch.

### Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, May 19

### 2026 Board of Trustees

From Left: John Yesso, Kate Hare, Matthew Courser, William Shkurti, Kevin Fix, Peter Hahn, Sue Ralph

- Tuesday, June 16

# MAKING MEMORIES...building connections



Our annual Craft Supply Swap drew creative and resourceful folks looking for inspiration.



This fun-loving crew took part in our Improv Workshop led by Columbus Unscripted.



Local library leaders, including our director Beth Pfahler, shared stories and advocated for strong community libraries with State Representative Allison Russo.



The iron station at our Perler beads program was the "hot" place to be!



At our Paint and Sip program, participants enjoyed tea while bringing floral scenes to life.



## OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

### **Dig Dig Dinosaur** By Anjali Goswami

Professor Goswami's adorable picture book introduces children ages 2-5 to the concept of archeology. After reviewing necessary equipment, young readers go on a fossil hunt for progressively larger dinosaurs. Peek-through holes make the adventure extra exciting, and the final fold-out pages are a delight.

– Christine, Marketing & Communications Department

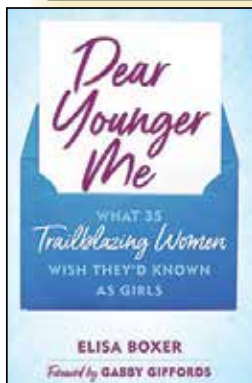
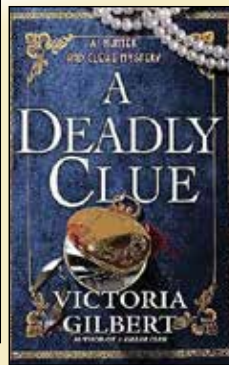
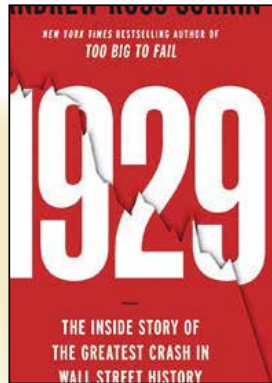
### **A Deadly Clue** By Victoria Gilbert

This is the third and newest book in the Hunter and Clewe mystery series. The unconventional partnership of Jane Hunter (a 60-something retired librarian) and Cam Clewe (a 30-something eccentric book collector) once again comes across a mystery to solve. While Jane continues to catalog Cam's extensive book collection, this time focusing on books from a deceased patriarch of the wealthy Stewart family, she finds a note from a daughter who was thought to have died by suicide. Alarming, the note indicates otherwise. While looking into this cold case, a second member of the Stewart family meets a suspicious death. Believing these deaths are related, Cam and Jane use their quirky methods in an attempt to solve them before a third member of the family is targeted.

– Donna, Lane Road Branch

### **An Invisible Thread** By Laura Schroff and Alex Tresniowski

A true story that doesn't sugarcoat or dramatize reality. This is a 'warts and all' account of an unlikely but divinely orchestrated connection between a go-



go-go New York advertising executive and a homeless preteen asking for spare change. If you don't think a seemingly small gesture of kindness can change a life, read this book.

– Nancy, Miller Park Branch

### **Dear Younger Me: What 35 Trailblazing Women Wish They Had Known as Girls** By Elisa Boxer

Here are the stories of 35 women from all walks of life who overcame the barriers between them and their dreams. They share their stories in their own words, and what they would have said to their younger selves. These amazing girls grew up to become aerospace engineers, world-renowned musicians, neuroscientists, successful advocates for many social issues such as civil rights, world hunger, and the environment, as well as a Prime Minister, a Congresswoman, and other courageous and strong female roles. The journeys of how these remarkable

women accomplished their goals will amaze and inspire you!

– Cathleen, Youth Department

### **1929: Inside the Greatest Crash in Wall Street History – and How it Shattered a Nation**

By Andrew Ross Sorkin

If you were a fan of Andrew Ross Sorkin's *Too Big to Fail* and its portrayal of the 2008 financial crisis, then his latest work is a must-read. Written in a journalistic style that often feels as gripping as a novel, Sorkin masterfully brings to life the large cast

of characters behind the stock market crash of 1929. Unlike a dry history book, he doesn't just recount events; he humanizes them, revealing the ambition, fear, and miscalculation that fueled the Great Depression. The result is a compelling, immersive look at a pivotal moment in financial history.

– Ash, Miller Park Branch

### **The Invention of Morel** By Adolfo Bioy Casares

This is Adolfo Bioy Casares' classic novella, which was praised by his mentor Jorge Luis Borges. The narrative is in equal turns a mystery, a romance, and a science fiction story. It begins with a fugitive, stranded on an island with inhabitants who – for an unexplained reason – can neither see nor hear him. I would recommend this novella to any classic film fans – as one of the central characters is inspired by the actress Louise Brooks.

– Greta, Tremont Road Branch



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



Presort Standard  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Columbus OH  
Permit #758

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit our Community Event calendar at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov) for more on these events

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

**Jon-un Choi**  
May 6-July 10

**Community Gallery**  
Bob Crane Community Center, Level 5  
Cultural Arts Division | 614-583-5310

**McKenzie Gilbert**  
Through May 15

**Celebrating America's 250th**  
May 20-July 17

**UA Culture & Artisans Fair**  
10 am-3 pm, Saturday, May 2  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
2151 Dorset Road

Artisans from across the globe showcase and sell their handmade items. This event is part of the CRC Welcome Series.

**Northam Tennis Open House**  
1-5 pm, Saturday, May 2  
Northam Park

**History Speaks: The Best Day in UA: Celebrating 100 Years of July 4th Traditions**  
3-4:30 pm, Sunday, May 3  
Bob Crane Community Center  
UA Historical Society | [uahistory.org](http://uahistory.org)  
The 2026 America 250-Ohio celebrations coincide with 100 years

of the UA community's Fourth of July celebrations. Discover the origins of UA's favorite day at this free event.

**Spring Fling**  
11 am-2 pm, Saturday, May 9

Sunny 95 Park  
UA PARKS & REC | 614-583-5300  
Family friendly event with a fishing derby, games, Touch A Truck and more.

**UA Farmers Market**  
3-6 pm, Wednesdays  
May 13-October 21  
Dorset Road at Tremont Center  
[commongreensohio.org/upper-arlington](http://commongreensohio.org/upper-arlington)

**Wall of Honor Ceremony**  
3 pm, Sunday, May 17  
3600 Tremont Road  
City of UA & UA Historical Society  
[www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org)

**UACA Memorial Day Run**  
Begins 9 am, Monday, May 25  
Reed Road Park Shelter  
UACA | [www.uaca.org](http://www.uaca.org)  
Pre-registration required.

**Pride Month Flag Raising Ceremony**  
5 pm, Monday, June 1  
Kids activities begin at 4:30 pm  
3600 Tremont Road

**Arts on Arlington**  
6-9 pm, Thursday, June 5  
Mallway Park, Arlington Avenue  
Enjoy local artists, live music, community groups and food trucks.

**Movie in the Park**  
Ready Player One (PG-13)  
7 pm, Friday, June 12  
Sunny 95 Park  
UA Parks & Rec | [parks.uaoh.net](http://parks.uaoh.net)

**Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony**  
5 pm, Monday, June 15  
Kids activities begin at 4:30 pm  
3600 Tremont Road

**Rainbow UA Pride**  
1-5 pm, Sunday, June 28  
Sunny 95 Park  
Rainbow UA | [www.rainbowua.org](http://www.rainbowua.org)

**U.S. Senior Open**  
July 2-5  
Scioto Country Club  
[www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org)

**UACA's Fourth of July Celebrations**  
Saturday, July 4  
9 am Parade | 5 pm Party in the Park  
10 pm Fireworks  
UA Civic Association | [www.uaca.org](http://www.uaca.org)