

# UA <sup>'''</sup>INSIGHT

WINTER 2016-2017 | DEC • JAN • FEB

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



## City <sup>'''</sup>INSIGHT

BEGINS PAGE 2

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **2017-18 Budget** – The proposed budget outlines a positive outlook for operations and capital improvements.
- **2017 State of the City Address** – Join us January 23 for our annual review and community celebration.
- **OpenGov** – Online financial portal now available.

## Schools <sup>'''</sup>INSIGHT

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### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **Adoption of Master Plan Pending** – UA School Board asking for feedback.
- **Superintendent Updates** – Second edition of Quality Profile complete.
- **Tremont Elementary Expansion** – New classroom space in use, work continues on new gymnasium.

## Library <sup>'''</sup>INSIGHT

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### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **From the Director** – Voters support of Issue 63 allows work of Library to continue.
- **Listen Columbus** – Ohio's first digital library collection of local music now available.
- **Holiday Happenings** – Check our schedule of fun holiday events.

## 2017-2018 Budget and Capital Plans Set the Stage for Progress

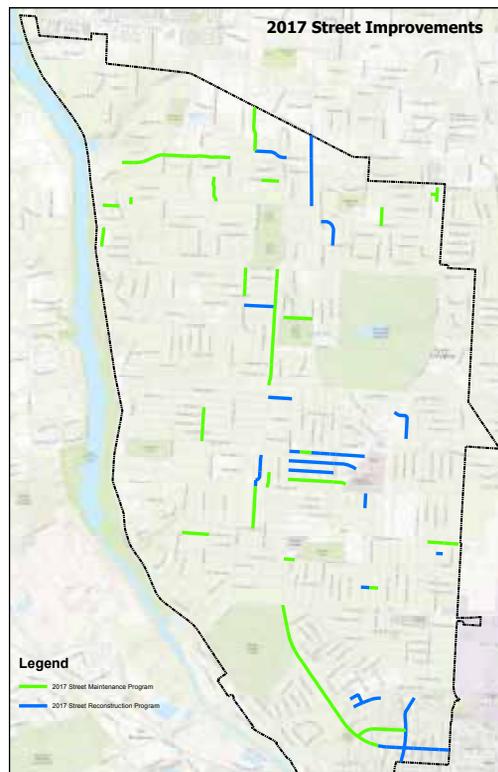
The fall of every even numbered year marks a busy time for the City as departments develop proposed budgets for the next two years, under the guidance of the Finance & Administrative Services Department. The results of that effort typically comes before Council early in November, with a series of public hearings that look at the different budget components.

The proposed 2017-2018 budget provides the resources to maintain high service levels and continue reinvestment in our public infrastructure and parks. Looking further out, five-year projections indicate we will have the capacity for producing structurally sound budgets while keeping our 10-year Capital Improvement Program financed.

This is due to a number of interrelated factors that include: the leadership of present and past City Councils that have guided reviews, updates and adherence to a strong set of fiscal policies and financial accountability practices; the cumulative effect of our proactive economic development program; voter support of an increase in the income tax rate to fund capital improvements; and an improving economy.

### Triple A Ratings Reaffirmed

No sooner did Staff present the draft 2017-2018 budget document to City Council in early November and we heard back from Moody's Investors Service and S&P Global that the City has retained its Triple A ratings. This marks the ninth consecutive year we have received the highest possible financial rating from both of these rating agencies, an accomplishment that speaks to exceptional fiscal policies and oversight, and that translates to significant interest rate savings when bonds are issued to support capital projects.



With this stamp of approval, we couldn't be in a better position as we look ahead to the next two years of capital improvements.

### 2017 Capital Improvement Program

With an additional \$1 million added to the 2017 capital program, the City's efforts to address many years of deferred maintenance will make significant progress:

- At an investment of \$3.8 million for the 2017 Street Reconstruction Program—approximately three times what has been spent in years past—sections of 18 streets are slated for improvements.
- Another \$1.6 million is earmarked for the Street Maintenance Program,

paving the way for a impressive list of resurfacing projects;

- Reed Road is to be reconstructed from Lane Road to Henderson Road, with 80% of this project covered by federal funding;
- Waterline replacement projects are slated for sections of Asbury Drive, and Reed and Wyandotte roads;
- Bridge replacements and improvements are scheduled for Abington, Brixton and Kenny roads;
- Approximately \$2 million will be invested to begin a series of sanitary sewer improvements—and it's important to note that the 2015-2024 Capital Improvement Program document includes plans and funding to fully address these EPA mandates;
- Traffic signal upgrades are pending for the Grace Lane/Reed Road and Andover Road/Northam Road intersections;
- Kioka Avenue from Zollinger Road to Fishingner Road, and McCoy Road from Kenny Road to Reed Road are to receive street lighting improvements;
- A shared-use path is to be installed on Fifth Avenue in partnership with Marble Cliff and Columbus, and with one third of the cost covered by a State grant.

The most significant capital improvement for the City's parks is the Northam Park Phase II project. Pool construction began in the fall, with an anticipated completion by the start of the 2017 swim season. Bid results for constructing the remaining components—park entry, new playground and reading garden—will be before Council December 5 for a December 12 vote. See page 6 for additional details on Phase II progress.

## Grants & Loans Grow to Represent 10% of Typical 10-Year Capital Plan

A recent summary from our Engineering Division highlights the City's proactive efforts to supplement funding for the Capital Improvement Program by seeking grants and loans. From 2014 through 2019, approximately \$7.5 million has been secured, with another \$6.6 million in grant requests pending. If our efforts are successful for the Fishinger Road reconstruction project (construction year tbd) and funding for CoGo bike share stations in Upper Arlington, a combined total of just over \$14 million represents approximately 10% of the total costs for a typical 10-year plan.

Since the City expanded its Capital Improvement Program from seven-to-10-years, from 2014 through 2016 more than \$31 million has been invested in our streets, waterlines, bridges, sanitary sewer lines, streetlights and traffic signals. By the close of 2017, it will have been more than \$43 million. The positive results are already being realized: The most recent street paving conditions rating exercise—a systematic process for measuring road conditions conducted every two years to help prioritize projects—shows a marked improvement. For example, the average rating for pavement condition has shifted from 82.7 (out of 100) in 2012 to 88.17 in 2016. Curb conditions have also improved, from an average of 2.3 in 2012 to 2.1 in 2014 (on a scale of 1-to-5, with one being the best condition).

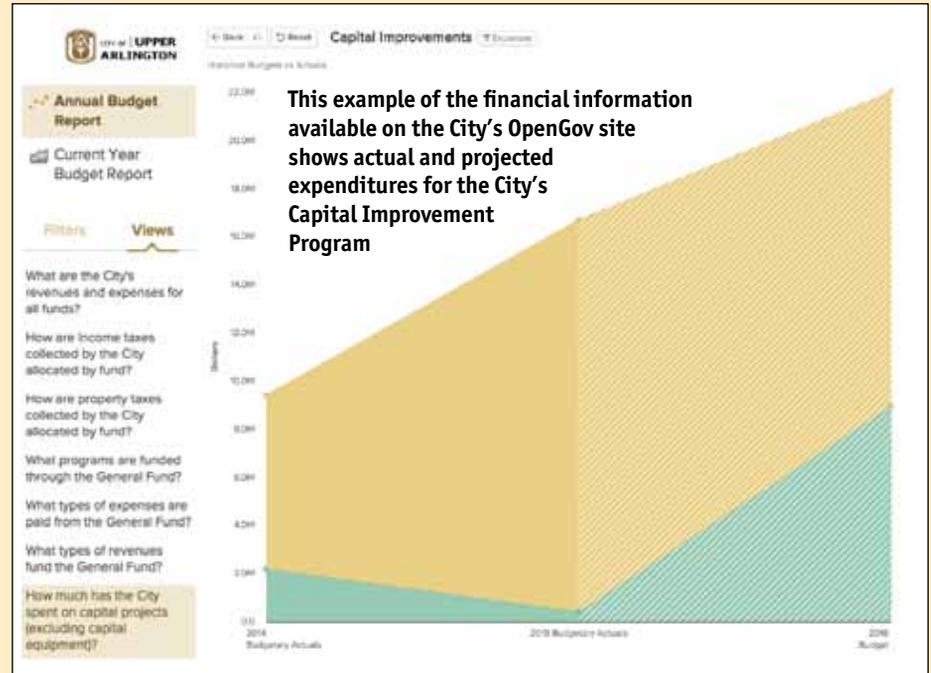
## Cumulative Impact of Proactive Economic Development Program

The City's proactive efforts have successfully attracted and secured new businesses and helped existing businesses expand. The positive, cumulative impact on income tax revenues is very evident. In fact, many of the economic development incentives used to support business expansion have already been paid back in full from the new revenues they helped generate.

Three of the more notable recent projects stand to generate approximately \$760,000 in annual income tax revenues for the City:

- The OSU Wexner Medical Center Out-patient Care Upper Arlington facility,

## Launch of OpenGov Financial Transparency Portal



With a AAA rating from S&P Global and a Aaa rating from Moody's Investor Services, it is no wonder that a majority of the most recent community survey respondents believe the City has "excellent" or "good" financial management. However, from the same survey, it was discovered approximately 30% of respondents didn't feel knowledgeable enough to answer questions about City finances. We get it—financial documents are cumbersome and our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is no exception, at over 200 pages long—which is the primary reason behind the reader-friendly Popular Annual Financial Report.

With bulky financial documents in mind and understanding the need for increased government transparency, the Finance & Administrative Services Department has

launched a portal powered by OpenGov.com, providing a dashboard through which you can create visualizations of and analyze our financial data first-hand.

The City's OpenGov portal provides access to 2014-2016 annual budget reports and current year monthly budget reports. Users can drill down to specific department-level data or view a more holistic view of our organization's expenditures and revenues. In the coming months, the site will be expanded to include the City's Checkbook, allowing the public to search and view the expense transactions by vendor, spending category or other variables.

You can find the City's OpenGov site on our homepage, at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net). If you have questions, please call 614-583-5280.

which was completed in the summer, is on target to house 200 employees and generate approximately \$450,000 in annual income tax revenue.

- The OhioHealth Neurological Surgery Rehabilitation Center -- which is currently under construction on Tremont Road -- will house 61 employees and generate approximately \$110,000 in annual income tax revenue.
- The just-opened Columbus Aesthetic & Plastic Surgery (CAPS) facility on Arlington Centre Boulevard is expected

to generate approximately \$200,000 in annual income tax revenue.

With projects like these—and more in the pipeline, such as the potential redevelopment of the former Macy's site by Kroger and J. Liu's plans for Lane Avenue—income projections look strong moving forward.

The remaining dates for budget hearings are December 5 and 12, with both meetings beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Municipal Services Center. The 2017-2018 draft budget document can be found at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net).

## Partnership Helps Protect Olentangy Watershed



The City has been partnering with FLOW (Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed), who's mission is to keep the Olentangy River and its tributaries clean and safe through public education, volunteer activities, and coordination with local decision-makers. FLOW volunteers met with our Parks & Forestry Division to discuss the City's watershed and pond at Sunny 95 Park. The group made some suggestions, such as adding native perennials and trees to existing pond plantings and nearby landscaping. FLOW donated 60 moisture-loving perennials and helped plant them around the pond. The group also donated and helped plant three native large deciduous shade trees outside the pond fence. Most recently, FLOW donated 40 native evergreen seedlings that were planted at Thompson Park by volunteers of the Friends of Upper Arlington Park. The Friends continue to make substantial progress removing invasive species and planting native trees and shrubs in UA parks. Our thanks to both groups for improving our parks and community.

## Community Foundation 2016 Support of City Programs

[www.uacommunityfoundation.com](http://www.uacommunityfoundation.com)

The City wishes to thank the Upper Arlington Community Foundation for coordinating its Fund-a-Need program and supporting other City projects in 2016, including:

- Fire Division purchase of a new, interactive CPR training mannequin
- Outdoor pool season passes for six UA families
- Free swim lessons for three UA families
- Support for a UA Police Division D.A.R.E. pool party
- Mallway Business District beautification thanks to the Berwanger family
- Support of the Renkert Garden at Thompson Park
- Support of Cultural Arts' Jazz Arts Concert
- As an Art Sponsor of the Labor Day Arts Festival



## 2017 State of the City Address

5–7:30 p.m., Monday, January 23

Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road

The City invites you to join us for the 2017 State of the City Address for a firsthand look at the year that's been and what lies ahead.

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

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

**2016 Community Awards** – What better way to recognize the many individuals and groups who enhance our community through their various civic activities than through our annual awards program. See below for categories and be sure to send us your nominations by January 6.

We hope you to take this opportunity to learn about the fine community in which we live and work by joining us for the 2017 State of the City Address and Community Fair. For details, visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) or call the City Manager's Office at 614-583-5040.



# 2016 Community Awards

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Nomination forms are available at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) or by calling 614-583-5040. Deadline: Friday, January 6, 2017**

# FROM CHAMBERS

Highlights of City Council & Its Policy Decisions



2016 Upper Arlington City Council

Front row (from left): Sue Ralph, Debbie Johnson (President), Kip Greenhill (Vice President), Carolyn Casper

Back row: David DeCapua, Brendan King, John C. Adams

## Election Results

Amidst a packed and unusual election season, Upper Arlington voters were asked to weigh in on three community issues on November 8.

### Issue 38

The Police and Fire Pension Levy—Issue 38—passed by approximately 76%. This marks the ninth time residents have supported funding the City’s portion of the Police and Fire retirement and disability fund through a five-year property tax levy. The new rate—which at .97 mills is a decrease of approximately 10% from the current rate—will take effect in January 2017.

Council and Staff wishes to thank residents for your continued support of our fine safety services. Safety services represent approximately half of the City’s general budget each year. Passage of Issue 38 allows us to continue to maintain the high level of services to which you are accustomed.

### Special Council Election

A special election was held for an unexpired term on City Council. In May of this year, Susan (Sue) Ralph was appointed by Council to fill the term of Mike Schadek, who left in March 2016. Resident Omar Ganoom challenged part of the Council appointment process—as set forth by the City Charter—with the Ohio Supreme Court ruling in favor of a special election. In response, the Franklin County Board of Elections scheduled a municipal Council election between Ms. Ralph and Mr. Ganoom.

Upper Arlington voters chose to retain Sue Ralph as a member of City Council. Her term runs through January of 2019. The unofficial result was 59% in support of Ms. Ralph, and 40% in support of Mr. Ganoom.

### Issue 63

The Upper Arlington Library’s renewal levy was also approved by voters. See page 18 in the *Library Insight* section for additional details.

## CITY SERVICES Holiday Refuse Collection Delays

Solid Waste .....614-583-5370

- Christmas Day, Monday, December 26
- New Year’s Day, Monday, January 1
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 16
- Presidents’ Day, Monday, February 20

Collection delayed by one day for all zones. Normal service resumes the following week.

## CITY SERVICES End of Leaf Collection

Public Works Division .....614-583-5380

The City’s free leaf collection program ends Friday, December 9. Please stop raking leaves curbside by 7 a.m. Monday, December 5 to ensure pickup. Any remaining leaves can be disposed of as part of our regular Yard Waste Program or by taking leaves to the free yard waste drop-off facility on Roberts Road.

## CITY SERVICES Snow Removal

Public Works Division .....614-583-5380

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

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

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

## CITY SERVICES Christmas Tree Collection

Solid Waste.....614-583-5370

The City will collect live Christmas trees on Fridays, January 6, 13, 20 and 27. Remove all decorations and place trees (do not place in bags) at the curb with one Solid Waste Sticker affixed per tree by 7 a.m. on one of the Friday dates. If the tree is eight feet or taller, please cut it in half (one sticker is still all that’s needed). Trees can also be dropped off free-of-charge at the yard waste facility at 4120 Roberts Road. Visit www.uaoh.net for winter hours and additional details.

## Are You Following Us?

- facebook.com/CityofUA
- twitter.com/@CityofUA

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

## Northam Park Phase II Progress



On October 3, Tremont Elementary School students and residents joined with City, School and Library leaders for a groundbreaking ceremony, marking the start of construction of the new Tremont Pool.



The images of pool construction (above) and the beginnings of the pool house (below) are from mid-November.



Construction of the new Tremont Pool is making great progress. Begun early in October following a community groundbreaking ceremony, good weather has allowed work to progress on schedule. As a result, the Thomas & Marker construction team remains optimistic for a 2017 Memorial Day Weekend grand opening.

At a cost of approximately \$4.5 million, the facility features heated water, six lap lanes, two diving boards, a climbing wall, a balance element and zero-depth entry with a separate toddler area. The pool deck includes shade structures, landscaping and trees. A reserveable shelter is included that can also be used by the general public during non-rented times. A concession stand at the southeast corner of the site can serve pool patrons and park users, with restrooms dedicated for park users. Changing areas and restrooms include family facilities. As many of the existing, healthy trees as possible will be preserved. For the entire Phase II project, a total of 28 trees will be removed, with 62 new trees planted.

Once Tremont Pool opens for business, a pool pass will give UA residents access to an extensive range of aquatic options at our three outdoor facilities.

### Next Steps for Remaining Phase II Components

A separate bidding process was undertaken for the remaining components associated with Phase II—the park entry area,

new playground, reading garden by the Library, pathways and landscaping, etc. At the December 5 Council Conference Session, Staff will be recommending that the City also use Thomas & Marker for the remainder of the project since the firm provided another favorable bid, at a cost of approximately \$1.45 million. Council Action is expected at the December 12 City Council Meeting. Both meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road. Pending Council approval, work is expected to begin in the New Year.

The playground has been designed to accommodate children ages two-12 years, with the southern half catering to older children. It is to include a mix of nature-based and traditional play structures, including:

- A swing set that includes two children's swings, a toddler swing and an "all access" swing
- Three "Willow Walk" tunnels
- Log hops and balance beams
- Insect spring toys
- Large climber structure with ladder, deck, tree house, slide and rope climber
- Rock and rope climbing apparatus
- Two separate climbers with connecting bridge and enclosures
- Large swing for two-three people at one time
- Rope climber

The play features will be accessible to people of various abilities, meeting

today's design standards. The current plan for the playground surface is to have 40% engineered wood fiber (mulch-like material that is safe for play) and 60% "poured in place" rubber surfacing. This may be switched to 100% wood fiber if a national study currently looking at engineered sports and play surfaces finds proof of potential health risks from different types of rubber surfaces. A decision on this will need to be made by March of 2017.

The Northam Park Phase II project was shaped in large part through an extensive community engagement process. We thank everyone who provided input.

Full details of this project can be found at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) under the Headlines section of the homepage.



A series of more detailed renderings like the one above have been prepared depicting the new playground. Additional images can be viewed on our website.



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Theodore J. Staton

### Urban Forestry and the Changing Landscape in UA

Trees are ever present in our daily lives here in UA and there is no better time to stop and reflect on their importance and value than the fall, when we get to enjoy an impressive canopy of golds and reds.

The City has a long history of proactively supporting a green and healthy community. When the Thompsons first purchased the land that would become Upper Arlington in the early 1900s, they immediately began planting trees on what was previously open farmland, even before constructing new homes and roads. The City officially took control of the community's street trees in 1946.

Things have come a long way since then: The City conducted its first official tree inventory in 1977; a large-scale tree planting occurred in 1987 in celebration of our nation's bicentennial; a Tree Commission was created in 1988; and the City was first awarded Tree City USA status in 1990, a designation we have retained every year.

The ongoing efforts of the Parks & Forestry Division have resulted in an ever upward street tree inventory trajectory—

from 12,000 street trees in 1990 to more than 17,000 today, a 45% increase. Also of note, from UA's origins as an area of treeless farmland, today 35% of our landmass is covered by tree canopy.

While these results are impressive, there is no reason to stop now! Parks & Forestry will continue doing its part to add more trees to the right-of-way and in parks around the City. In fact, if the recent trend continues with our capital improvement projects—most notably the Tremont Road reconstruction project, which resulted in a net gain of more than 220 trees along just one street—we could see the growth of our majestic urban forest increase at an even faster pace.

The City encourages residents to be part of keeping UA's impressive urban forest strong by caring for your existing trees and planting new whenever appropriate, as we collectively build upon the roots that were first planted here 100 years ago.

A Parks & Forestry presentation on the history of our urban forest is available at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net).



## UA Fire Personnel Part of Hurricane Matthew Disaster Response



It has been some time since we have had Fire personnel deploy with the Ohio Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team. Hurricane Matthew served as the trigger. On October 6, Lieutenant Jim Mild (pictured left) and Firefighter Ed Beacom joined up with 78 of their fellow fire and EMS professionals from across the State. The Ohio team was deployed along with task forces from Virginia, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Tennessee and New Jersey.

Originally formed in 1996, the Urban Search and Rescue program was developed in response to the devastating impact of earthquakes and the need for specialized teams that could conduct emergency building shoring activities and rescue victims trapped in collapsed concrete structures. Since their founding, the 28 teams nationally have further developed to also have resources suitable for response to terrorism events. These teams have been used extensively on such high profile national level events as the Oklahoma City bombing, World Trade Center and Pentagon collapses, Hurricane Katrina, and now Hurricane Matthew.

Based at Fort Bragg, the Ohio team performed search and rescue missions in the center of Charleston, South Carolina. They returned safely after about a week of rescue work and several successful rescue missions. In total the task force rescued 75 humans and 46 animals, and searched 39 structures.

Ed and Jim are a credit to the Fire Division, and we thank them for their hard work and dedication.

# NewsBITES

## CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

### Public Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Monday, December 26** – Christmas Day
- **Monday, January 2** – New Year’s Day
- **Monday, January 16** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Monday, February 20** – Presidents’ Day

### Prescription Drug Drop-Off

**POLICE DIVISION 614-583-5150**

Drop off unwanted, unused or expired prescription medications in the Drug Collection Unit in the lobby of the Municipal Services Center (3600 Tremont Road). The unit is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

### Sunday Swim at UA High School

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

Sunday Swim provides a weekly opportunity to enjoy the High School’s indoor pool, held most Sundays through May 14, from 1-3 p.m. The cost per visit is \$3 for a resident or \$20 for a season pass (\$40 for a household).

### 2017 Community Calendar

**CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE 614-583-5040**

Each year, the City creates an online Community Calendar of special events hosted by the City and other community groups. These listings are oftentimes promoted via other means such as social media and City newsletters. Now is the time to send us details of qualifying community events – look for the *2017 Community Calendar* link under *Headlines* on our homepage for details.

### Watch Out for Joggers

**POLICE DIVISION 614-583-5100**

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

### Kind Call Holiday Safety Check

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

### Old Street Signs for Sale

**PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION 614-583-5380**

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

### 2017 Wall of Honor

#### Nominations

**PARKS & RECREATION 583-5300**

Each year, a new bronze plaque is added to the limestone wall of the Municipal Services Center Plaza to honor a deceased UA resident who had a positive impact on the community and beyond through his or her professional, philanthropic, volunteer or public service. Nominations are being accepted for the 2017 Wall of Honor inductee, a program made possible through a partnership of the UA Historical Society and the City’s Parks & Recreation Department. Nomination forms are available at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net). The deadline is Friday, January 13, 2017. The 2017 unveiling ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 21.

### Help Keep Sidewalks

#### Clear This Winter

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

### Fire Hydrants in Winter

**FIRE DIVISION 614-583-5100**

If you find yourself clearing snow and ice from your driveway and sidewalk this winter and you have a fire hydrant in front of your property, please take a little extra time to keep hydrants free of snow and ice.

### 2017 Contractor Registration

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 614-583-5070**

All general contractors and building trade contractors registered for 2015 and 2016 are being mailed a notice detailing the new and improved registration process. Additional information can be found at [www.uaoh.net/contractor](http://www.uaoh.net/contractor).

### Friends of UA Parks

**PARKS & FORESTRY 614-583-5340**

The Friends of Upper Arlington Parks is a volunteer group that assists the Parks & Forestry Division with improvement projects focused on the health of existing native trees and forests through removal of non-native invasive plants like honeysuckle and buckthorn, and planting a variety of native trees and shrubs. To get involved, like “Friends of Upper Arlington Parks” on Facebook or contact Annemarie Smith ([smith.3746@osu.edu](mailto:smith.3746@osu.edu)) to get on the email list.

## Activity Guide



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

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

Visit [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net) to view our Winter Activity Guide flipbook – conveniently placed on our homepage.

All you have to do is click on the class title and you’re taken straight to a simplified online registration process.

Don’t miss out on all the fun you could be having with UA Parks & Recreation!

**614-583-5300 | [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net)**

## Book the Barn for Your Event

### PARKS & RECREATION 583-5300

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

## City Receives Auditor of State Award With Distinction

### FINANCE 614-583-5280

Our congratulations to Cathe Armstrong and her capable staff in the Finance & Administrative Services Department. At a fall Council meeting, the team received an Ohio Auditor of State Award With Distinction recognizing another clean audit of the City’s finances and excellence in financial reporting for the 2015 Comprehensive Annual Report. Auditor of State representative, Tim Kraft, mentioned that of approximately 5,800 Ohio agencies reviewed, only about 5 % receive this award. And UA has been a recipient of this award for more than two decades.

## City iNSIGHT eNews

### CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE 614-583-5040

Did you know that you can get updates from the City, with information similar to what you find in this newsletter but sent directly to your inbox? Register to receive our monthly e-newsletter, just look for the Open Government link on the homepage, at [www.uaoh.net](http://www.uaoh.net).

## Snow Angels Program

### COMMISSION ON AGING 614-583-5123

The UA Commission on Aging and STAY UA are launching a new volunteer program. Snow Angels will match willing volunteers to their elderly neighbors who are in need of 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. To become a Snow Angel or to receive help this winter, please call the Snow Angels Hotline at 614-583-5123 by December 15. We will do our best to accommodate all requests for service.

## Development Stats Headed for Record Year

For a built-out, landlocked community, its somewhat surprising that the trends in reinvestment by both homeowners and businesses continue to increase from year to year. 2016 is on track to be the most impressive year yet, with construction value already at \$89 million through the end of October. With two months to go, it looks like 2016’s record of \$95 million will be beaten.

## 2017 Stormwater & Solid Waste Bills to be Mailed in February

### FINANCE 614-583-5280

UA households will receive their annual Stormwater Utility and Solid Waste Service bill in February. The \$45 Stormwater Utility fee helps to defray the costs of the City’s deteriorating storm drainage system and the \$40 Solid Waste Service fee goes to offset the costs of providing weekly refuse, recycling and yard waste collection services.

## Senior Center Luncheons

### SENIOR CENTER 614-583-5320

The Senior Center hosts monthly lunches with guest performers, with the start of the 2017 schedule as follows:

- Tuesday, February 14 – ‘50s and ‘60s music performed by Todd Berry
- Tuesday, March 14 – Music from Oklahoma performed by Celeste Friedman

Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance. Look for the Winter 2017 *Activity Guide* for additional details.

## Police Division Seeks Reaccreditation

### POLICE 614-583-5150

An assessment team from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies visited UA’s Police Division mid-November, as part of efforts to retain accreditation. The division has held this national ranking since 1993. It affirms that a division’s law enforcement practices meet an established set of professional standards. The division will know if it is accredited for the next three years by the end of the year.

## RITA eServices

[www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com)

With tax season just around the corner, UA residents and businesses can use free online services through the City’s income tax coordinator, the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA).

- **RITA E-File** – a quick, secure way to file municipal income taxes. Features include: step-by-step calculation of taxes or refunds, the ability to file even if you moved in 2016 and electronic transfer of refunds into your account.
- **RITA E-Payment** – a simple and secure method to pay municipal income taxes online. All you need is your bank routing number and account number.
- **RITA E-Registration** – if you have not previously filed a municipal tax return with RITA, you can sign up electronically.

## Public Meetings

### CITY CLERK’S OFFICE 614-583-5030

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

## Music in the Parks Call for Performers

### CULTURAL ARTS 614-583-5310

Music in the Parks is a juried outdoor summer concert series Thursdays in June and July. Interested bands complete an application and the Performance Committee reviews them in January. Additional details and the application form can be found at [www.uaoh.net/MIP](http://www.uaoh.net/MIP).

# Schools **i**NSIGHT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS



## Board of Education Gathers Community Feedback Before Taking Action on Master Plan Recommendation

After two months of asking residents to share their thoughts on the master plan recommendation for the district's aging schools, the Board of Education expects to take action at the December 13 meeting.

In October, Superintendent Paul Imhoff recommended rebuilding the high school, renovating or rebuilding the district's five elementary schools, and repairing the two middle schools and Burbank Early Childhood School. His recommendation for a long-term, financially sensible master plan drew from all of the community feedback collected since the spring of 2016 on whether to repair, renovate or rebuild the district's nine school buildings. The buildings are, on average, more than 60 years old.

"The community feedback from every data point was very clear on the high school," Imhoff said. "Our community really puts a priority on having a high school that reflects the high academic achievement of our students and prepares them for the future, with updated science labs and classroom spaces."

Imhoff recommended that the district implement either Rebuild Option E or F for the high school. The district wants to gather additional community feedback on these two new community-suggested options during the decisions phase, the final phase of the two-year, three-phase facilities master planning process.

Both options would include a four-story core academic building. Rebuild Option E would locate the high school's front door on Brandon Road and involve significant renovations to Marv Moorehead Stadium. Rebuild Option F would locate the high school's front door on Zollinger Road and would involve relocating and rebuilding Marv Moorehead Stadium to maximize the site.



For the district's five elementary schools, Imhoff recommended addressing both the physical needs of those buildings identified in professional physical assessments and the educational adequacy needs, such as security, classroom size and daylighting, identified in an additional professional assessment. Under Imhoff's recommendation, Greensview, Wickliffe and Windermere would be rebuilt; Barrington and Tremont would be renovated.

The recommended options would also give all of the elementary schools the additional space needed to accommodate the district's growing enrollment, which is projected to increase by more than 10 percent by 2025-26 and affect the elementary schools first.

For the district's middle schools, the recommendation proposes the Repair+ options. These options address the physical needs of both schools and provide the additional space needed to accommodate the projected enrollment increase at Jones Middle School.

The Repair+ option was also recommended for Burbank Early Childhood School, which serves both preschool and kindergarten students and houses district offices as well.

Community members are welcome to attend the December 13 Board of Education meeting, which will begin at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road.

After the Board of Education approves a master plan, the district will form a Financial Advisory Board (FAB) of community volunteers with experience in financial management or the management of businesses that have undertaken sizable facilities and construction projects.

The group's key considerations will be:

- The district's future operating levy needs,
- The scope and cost of the master plan, and
- The funding and phasing of construction.

**continues on page 13**

## Treasurer's Notes

Andrew L. Geistfeld

### Efficiency Project Commitment

In August 2013, the district committed to improving its bottom line by \$4.5 million by the summer of 2017 without having a negative impact on the



student experience. I'm pleased to report that we have now surpassed that goal, enacting more than \$4.6 million in efficiency measures as of October 2016.

Two of the biggest changes were moving to a self-insured model for medical coverage and increasing employees' share of their medical premiums. Other factors include the renegotiation of several contracts and a reduction in staff positions. For more details, including a full listing of the changes, visit [www.uaschools.org/efficiency](http://www.uaschools.org/efficiency).

Although we met the Efficiency Project goal early, we remain committed to seeking additional efficiency measures through 2017 and beyond.

### Five-year Forecast and Enrollment Growth

Each October I prepare a five-year financial forecast for the district that includes three years of actual data and five years of anticipated revenues and expenditures. This legally required document is presented to the Upper Arlington Board of Education for approval and then filed with the state of Ohio. This tool helps us keep a clear view on our financial outlook and the impact of future needs.

One thing that is notable in this year's forecast is the potential impact of enrollment growth on district finances. Many people are surprised to hear that our land-locked district is growing, but it's true. With the hot real-estate market in our community, many homes are being purchased by young families with multiple



## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Paul Imhoff

### Quality Profile continues to evolve with second edition

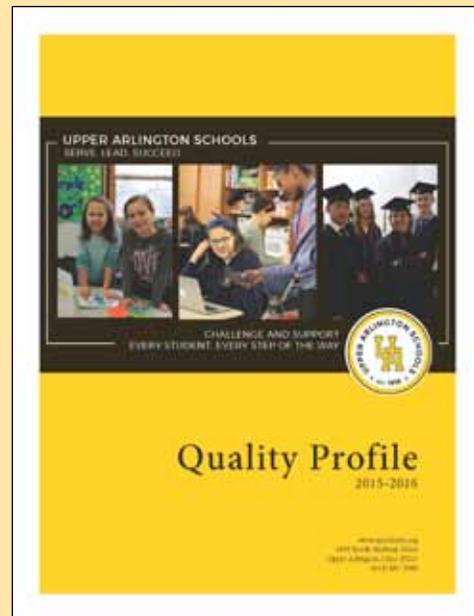
In November, UA Schools released its second annual Quality Profile (QP). This accountability document is designed to go above and beyond the information in the state report card, which is largely dependent on the scores of single-day government tests.

The Quality Profile was developed two years ago during our strategic planning process, an innovative hybrid approach to planning that combined public-sector and private-sector practices. The private-sector influence yielded a small number of results-oriented, measurable goals, while the public-sector influence ensured a large amount of community involvement in both creating and implementing the goals.

The Quality Profile is a perfect example of that hybrid approach. This very focused document was created by a team of volunteers from our community and our staff. Each year our staff updates the data, and then we turn to the community for feedback so we can keep improving with each edition of the QP.

If you visit [www.uaschools.org/qualityprofile](http://www.uaschools.org/qualityprofile), you'll see that the document is organized around the five goals of our strategic plan: performance, personalization, efficiency, accountability and ownership. It's a quick read, and it will give you insight into everything from how our students' scores on college

children. In just the past year, we have grown by 57 students at the elementary level alone. Enrollment projections indicate that trend is likely to continue for the next several years, with growth topping 10 percent over the next 10 years. More students create a need for more supplies, more staff and more space. We'll continue



entrance exams compare with the state and national averages to how UA's school tax rate compares with that of other local communities.

I hope you'll take a few minutes to read the Quality Profile and then click on the link to share your thoughts for how we can continue to improve, not only the document but also the services we are providing our community.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas for our schools, please feel free to contact me at [superintendent@uaschools.org](mailto:superintendent@uaschools.org) or 614-487-5030.

to monitor enrollment growth and carefully plan for its financial effects.

To learn more about the five-year forecast or to read our annual financial report, please visit [www.uaschools.org/treasurer](http://www.uaschools.org/treasurer). As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [treasurer@uaschools.org](mailto:treasurer@uaschools.org) or 614-487-5000.

# BITES From the Apple

SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



## District, Hastings and Jones Win SOAR Awards



Hastings and Jones middle schools and the entire Upper Arlington school district have been named as recipients of 2015 SOAR Awards by Battelle for Kids. Hastings and Jones are among 17 schools from across the state to receive a 2015 SOAR Award for High Progress Schools. The Upper Arlington City School District is among 12 districts statewide to receive a 2015 SOAR Award for Significant Progress Districts. The annual SOAR Awards acknowledge Ohio schools and districts for their academic progress in multiple grade levels and subjects.

## UAHS Orchestras Plan Patriotic Concert



Upper Arlington High School Orchestras will host a Pearl Harbor Tribute Concert at 7 p.m. December 2 to raise money to travel to Hawaii to perform at a concert series commemorating the 75th anniversary of the attack.

The tribute concert in the UAHS Auditorium will feature Upper Arlington High School Orchestras honoring the community's veterans with patriotic-themed music. The professional band Moxie Strings will headline the concert's second half. Concertgoers will also enjoy a dessert reception and silent auction.

All proceeds from the concert will support the UAHS Orchestras' trip to Oahu in February 2017 to represent the state of Ohio in the National Festival of the States concert series. More than 100 UAHS orchestra students will play for veterans and active-duty service members at the USS Missouri and at various events across Oahu.

Tickets for the tribute concert are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens, and free for all veterans and active duty service members. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at [www.uastrings.org](http://www.uastrings.org).

## Staff Members Honored with Annual Awards



Congratulations to all UA Schools staff members who were honored at a ceremony in August.

Receiving district-level employee of the year awards were:

- Administrator: **Julie Nolan**, Windermere Elementary School
- District Teacher: **Felice Kasso**, Wickliffe Progressive School
- Classified Employee: **Reed Black**, Hastings Middle School
- Food Service: **Dianna Vernon**, Upper Arlington High School
- Operations: **Lynnette McGuckin**, Burbank Early Childhood School
- Secretarial/Bookkeeping: **Maria Bernon**, Windermere Elementary School
- Transportation: **Sohail Adalat**

Receiving a building-level teacher of the year award were:

- **Tino Benedetti**, Tremont
- **Laura Brennan**, UAHS
- **Linda Carmichael**, Hastings
- **Kim Cullen**, Jones
- **Chasity Garling**, Barrington
- **Tracy Lobao**, Windermere
- **Sally MacGregor-Martin**, Greensview
- **Amy Tomasko**, BECS

The entire UA Schools staff was honored to be joined by retired Superintendent Dr. Homer Mincy, who was presented with an honorary award for his service as superintendent.

## Jones Student Recognized in Academic Talent Search

Jones Middle School student **Anna Schuler** received the top composite score among sixth-graders who took the ACT test through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search last school year. The NUMATS program administers the ACT and other standardized tests that typically measure college readiness to gifted students before the grade levels at which the tests are normally administered. For her top score among sixth graders, Anna received a \$600 scholarship. Anna entered seventh grade at Jones in the fall of 2016.





**New UAHS Honor Society Welcomes 71 Inductees**

The new high school chapter of the Spanish Honor Society inducted 71 sophomores, juniors and seniors in its first class in October. "Our Spanish program is very strong, and we want to provide students with opportunities for advancement outside of the classroom," said **Dr. Karen Ritz**, who, with **Sheri Etefagh**, is serving as a teacher mentor to the society. The honor society will provide students with the opportunity to apply for travel scholarships and to submit written or photographic entries to *Albricias*, the society's national journal. In addition to being a sophomore, junior or senior, each inductee must be enrolled in an

intermediate-mid or higher Spanish class and meet certain requirements for grade point average and community service.

.....  
**New HIP Day Builds Positive Culture at Hastings**

Hastings Middle School held its first HIP Day, a program of team-building activities developed and planned by students to build a more positive culture for learning. A group of 25 students known as the Hastings B.E.A.R.S. (Bringing Empathy, Acceptance, and Respect Schoolwide) came up with the idea for HIP (Hastings IN-Reach Program) Day to complement the school's day of outreach, HOP Day. These students spent their summer planning the

**continued from page 10**

Another factor that will be examined during the decisions phase is the district's remaining voted bond debt capacity, which is estimated at \$215 million as of the fall of 2016.

"The Financial Advisory Board will examine all of these important points," Imhoff said, "and the community will be asked again, through building team meetings, community engagement sessions and a community survey in the spring of 2017, to share their thoughts on the Financial Advisory Board's findings for those key considerations."

The FAB will also review the following needs identified during the master planning process: transitional athletic space to be used by students during potential construction projects; a welcome office to house a central registration point for all district families; overall site layout of the schools including athletic fields and parking; a privately funded alumni room at Upper Arlington High School; and repairs and/or renovations to the central office building at 1950 North Mallway Drive.

Treasurer Andrew Geistfeld is expected to ultimately make a recommendation to the Board of Education on the funding, phasing and scope of the master plan in May 2017. The Board is expected to take action soon after, with a combined operating levy and bond issue likely on the ballot in November 2017.

To learn more about the facilities master planning process and to review the master plan recommendation, please visit [www.uaschools.org/facilities](http://www.uaschools.org/facilities). If you would like to host a coffee chat on facilities master planning in your home or attend a coffee chat, please call 614-487-5030 or email [superintendent@uaschools.org](mailto:superintendent@uaschools.org).

**THE UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**2016 Upper Arlington Board of Education**

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

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

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

**Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:**

- Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 6 p.m. — Council Chamber

The schedule of meetings for 2017 will be set by the board in January. To see the schedule then, please visit [www.uaschools.org/board](http://www.uaschools.org/board).

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

# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED

The UAHS girls water polo team won its third consecutive state championship and its 16th overall with a victory over Napoleon.



Jones Middle School students learned about Pets for Vets and other service organizations during their annual Service Learning Day in October.



Windermere Elementary students celebrated Windermere Way Day with new #Windermere Way street signs dedicated by Mayor Debbie Johnson.



Eleven UAHS students (one not pictured) have been recognized as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists.



Fourteen Upper Arlington High School students were recently named to the OMEA Regional Orchestra.



Wickliffe Progressive School held its annual costume parade and food drive on October 31. Students paraded in costume to drop off their donations.



Jones Middle School students enjoy new flexible furniture as part of a pilot program at Jones and four other UA schools.



Upper Arlington Schools retirees enjoy a performance from the UAHS marching band at the second annual breakfast in their honor.



# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



The YES painting (above) and technology crews (right) worked during the summer to prepare the schools for other students.



Barrington students in the Informal Program sampled healthy foods (above) and learned about how much water their bodies need (left) during Habitat Day.



## One-to-One Learning

As a part of a goal to personalize learning for all Upper Arlington students, Upper Arlington Schools has implemented a districtwide one-to-one technology program. Older students are serving as a great resource for younger students as they begin to explore their new learning tools. At Greensview Elementary, kindergarten and fourth-grade teachers worked together to have the older students help the younger ones set up their devices and master basic iPad skills. To learn more about the one-to-one technology program, please visit [www.uaschools.org/personalizedlearning](http://www.uaschools.org/personalizedlearning).



## 2016-17 KEY SCHOOL DATES

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

Tuesday, December 20

### Winter Break

Wednesday, December 21–Tuesday, January 2

### Staff Professional Day

Tuesday, January 3

No school for students

### Beginning of Third Quarter (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, January 4

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 16

No school for students and staff

### Elementary Early Dismissal (Grades 1-5) for Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, January 25

- Dismissal (grades 1-5) at 11:05 a.m.
- No kindergarten or LIFT classes all day

### Presidents' Day

Monday, February 20

No school for students and staff

### Early Dismissal (K-12)

Wednesday, March 1

- Morning kindergarten ends at 10:05 a.m.;  
afternoon kindergarten begins at 11:05 a.m.;  
no LIFT classes
- Dismissal at 1 p.m. for elementary students;  
1:30 p.m. for secondary students

### End of Second Trimester (K-5) and Third Quarter (Grades 6-12)

Friday, March 10

### Spring Break

Monday, March 13–Friday, March 17

### Staff Professional Day

Monday, March 20

No school for students

### Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, April 12

Grades K-5: school all day

### No School for Students and Staff

Friday, April 14

## Tremont Academic Addition Opens to Students as Project Continues



Tremont Elementary opened the doors to a new and much-needed academic wing at the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

The opening of the addition, with five new classrooms and a new, larger media center, marks the completion to the first phase of work at the growing school. Tremont's student population has grown by nearly 100 students since the 2009-2010 and is projected to grow to more than 650 students by 2024-2025.

"Our teachers, students and families are so excited about the new spaces," Principal Jim Buffer said. "These innovative new classrooms offer our teachers more options for their instruction and simply give our students more room to work and learn together."

By the end of February 2017, an addition with a new gymnasium and orchestra room is expected to be completed. Work will then begin to convert the old gymnasium into a new, larger cafeteria—which the school very much needs, Buffer said. During the summer of 2017, additional interior renovations will convert the auditorium into two music rooms and the old cafeteria into an office with a secure entry.

"It's really an exciting time for Tremont," Buffer said. "By the time work is completed for the fall of 2017, we're going to be able to better serve our growing student population in every aspect of the school day."

The project is funded by the permanent improvement levy put in place by the community in 2007. In recent years these funds have been used to address similar needs at Barrington and Greensview elementary schools.

To learn more about the Tremont Elementary project, visit [www.uaschools.org/tremontconstruction](http://www.uaschools.org/tremontconstruction).

## Schools*i*NSIGHT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

### Production:

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Director of Communications  
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[www.facebook.com/upperarlingtonschools](http://www.facebook.com/upperarlingtonschools)  
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[www.twitter.com/imhoffpaul](http://www.twitter.com/imhoffpaul)



# Library **iNSIGHT**

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Stream Local Music for Free with Listen Columbus

After over a year in the making, Listen Columbus is now live!

Listen Columbus is Ohio's first digital library collection focused on local music. It features albums from some of the top musicians in Central Ohio. Anyone can currently visit [www.listencolumbus.org](http://www.listencolumbus.org) to stream music in the collection. Soon Upper Arlington Library cardholders will be able to download songs for free.

Listen Columbus was created by the UA Library through a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), awarded by the State Library of Ohio. Additional support came from the Friends of the Upper Arlington Public Library.

The service complements our local music in CD collection and the Live at the Library concert series. Listen Columbus is an additional way to bring local music to library patrons, to help them discover great music in their community.



Listen **Columbus.org**

Our current collection includes albums by artists from a variety of genres.

- Closet Mix—*01 EP*
- Playing to Vapors—*A Glitch in the Void*
- Erika Hughes & The Well Mannered—*Behave*
- The Salty Caramels—*Damn Good Woman*
- Fields & Planes—*Deeper than Before*
- Raw Pony—*Demo Tape*

- New Basics Brass Band—*Ditties for Kiddies*
- Bicentennial Bear—*Doubt and Distortion*
- Angela Perley & The Howlin' Moons—*Homemade Vision*
- Grassahol—*Joy Shine*
- The Floorwalkers—*Kids Are You Listening?*
- Winter Makes Sailors—*Moving On*
- Mary Lynn—*My Animal*
- Andy Shaw Band—*Own Resolve*
- The Spikedrivers—*Sunset Motel*
- EOS Duo—*The Frame*
- Correy Parks—*The Road Less Traveled*
- Fox N Hounds—*Whiskey Diary*

We expect the number of albums available on Listen Columbus to grow. Bookmark [www.listencolumbus.org](http://www.listencolumbus.org) for easy access to streaming and downloading, and follow Listen Columbus on Twitter and Facebook for the latest updates.

## HARRY POTTER PARTY



The Main Library hosted a Fantastic Beasts and Harry Potter party on November 12. The Youth Department was filled with characters from J.K. Rowling's books, including Hedwig the owl!



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Chris Taylor

### Thank You For Supporting Your Local Library

I'd like to thank the Upper Arlington Community for once again keeping our Library strong by passing Issue 63 on November 8. Revenue from the property tax provides more than 50 percent of our operating budget. We are fortunate that since 1992, Upper Arlington voters have passed a levy every five years to support library operations. The current renewal preserves the rate that taxpayers have been paying since 2008.

Upper Arlington has a 70-year history of library service. The Miller Park Library opened as a branch of the Grandview Heights Public Library on December 1, 1946. Twenty-one years later, on December 11, 1967, the Upper Arlington Public Library was established as an independent public library. We will celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2017 and have begun planning events to recognize this special occasion.

We start the celebrating with our February Library Lovers' Month campaign. Did you know that donations to the Upper Arlington Public Library are tax deductible? Donated funds are used to provide extras not covered by our tax dollars. Recent projects funded by donations include the hearing loop system which was installed last year in our Friends Theater. It allows for patrons with hearing aids to better hear presentations and speakers. We've also been able to add early literacy items and tablets to our youth areas as well as refresh some furniture. Whether you want to honor a loved one or support your favorite library service, donations to the library are welcomed. Learn more about Library Lovers' Month on page 21.

## Holiday Happenings in our Libraries

Those looking for festive activities this holiday season will find much to do at our libraries in December. Visit [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org) or see our winter Library Link program guide for details and registration information.

### December Countdown Calendar Craft

**Thursday, December 1, 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.**  
**Main Library**

Drop in anytime today and create your own December countdown calendar full of fun facts to mark each passing day of this final month of the year.



### Home for the Holidays

**Thursday, December 1, 4-6 p.m.**  
**Miller Park Library**

Bring your family to Miller Park to kick off the holiday season. We'll have cookies and drinks, caroling and a craft for the children. You can also write a letter to Santa Claus, who will visit from 5-6 p.m.

### Holiday Happiness

**Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Main Library**

It's our 45th annual Holiday Happiness! Enjoy

fun crafts, festive displays, holiday music and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus from Noon-2 p.m.

### Jingle Bell Storytime

**Monday, December 12, 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.**  
**Main Library**

Dash through the snow to this fun preschool winter music-and-movement storytime featuring jingle bells, snowballs and more.

### Elf Holiday Party

**Thursday, December 22, 6 p.m.**  
**Lane Road Library**

We'll have cocoa, snowflake making, elf trivia and a viewing of the movie *Elf* starring Will Ferrell. Crafts and trivia begin at 6 p.m. the movie starts at 7 p.m.

### Countdown to Noon

**Saturday, December 31 at 11:15 a.m.**  
**Main Library**

For those too young to make it to midnight, here's a preschool party to celebrate the old year and welcome the new one at a more manageable time! We'll have craft stations just right for little ones and their caregivers, and we'll all join in to count down to Noon together.

## Get Professional Tips at “Seniors Ask the Experts” Programs

This winter we're offering you a chance to meet experts from different professions—ranging from real estate to fitness to home repair—who will visit the Main Library's Friends Theater at 1 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons from January 4-February 22.

These programs are geared toward seniors but all adults are welcome. Please register by visiting our calendar under Events and Programs at [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org).

### Ask the Reference Librarian

**January 4, 2017**

Do you have questions about how to find information? How to tell good information from bad? Do you wonder what you can do to protect your personal information online? Join Reference Librarian Megan Sheeran to get all of your questions answered.

### Ask the Personal Trainer

**January 11**

Mindy Gabriel, personal trainer and UA firefighter, will be available to answer your questions related to exercise and fitness. Whether you're interested in starting to exercise or have been doing regular workouts for a long time, Mindy can help.

### Ask the Attorney

**January 18**

Do you have questions relating to the law? Today you can ask Stephen Berardino, an attorney with Jarvis Law Office. Stephen can answer legal questions but cannot provide legal advice.

### Ask the Physician and the Pharmacist

**January 25**

Do you have questions about health, medicine, medical tests, how to be your own best advocat? Dr. Eunice Oppenheim-Knudsen and Emily Vrontos, PharmD will be on hand to answer your questions. Both are in practice at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

### Ask the Realtor

**February 1**

Are you considering buying or selling a home? Join Rachel Kayla from Berkshire Hathaway Home Services to ask questions about real estate, the best time to put your home on the market, how to prepare your home for sale, how to find your next home or whatever real estate questions you have.

### Ask the Handyman

**February 8**

Do you have questions about general home repair or specific projects? Chuck Nutter from Nutter Hardware can help.

### Ask the Medical Advocate

**February 15**

Have you ever found that a health crisis has left you feeling confused and helpless? Dr. Annette Ticoras was a physician who witnessed firsthand how medical situations, medical jargon, tests, procedures, prescriptions, and diagnoses could be difficult to interpret and navigate and now works as a medical advocate. Learn how to advocate for yourself or family members and about options for using a professional when you're not sure you can do it yourself.

### Ask the Financial Advisor

**February 22**

If you have questions about financial planning, money management, saving for your future, planning for medical costs and more, join Fred Minich, financial advisor for Edward Jones, for a session to help you better understand your finances.

## The Stand Project Book Club Sets Now Available

We've partnered with The Stand Project to create book club sets featuring titles dealing with issues facing today's teens and parents, such as substance abuse and the pressure to succeed. Each set can be checked out for eight weeks and renewed

up to three times if no patrons have requested it. Each set includes 10 copies of a book, discussion questions, and a list of suggested supplemental articles. The discussion questions are intended to help book clubs consider the issues in the book within the context of our own community. Since reading preferences are varied, we have chosen a selection of fiction and nonfiction titles.



- *How to Raise an Adult* by Julie Lythcott-Haimes
- *Beyond Measure: Rescuing an Overscheduled, Overtested, Underestimated Generation* by Vickie Abeles
- *How Children Succeed* by Paul Tough
- *The Gift of Failure* by Jessica Lahey
- *Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood* by Koren Zalickas
- *How to Raise a Drug Free Kid* by Joseph A. Califano Jr.
- *How to Talk so Teens Will Listen and Listen so Teens Will Talk* by Adele Farber
- *The Price of Privilege* by Madeline Levine

### Fiction Titles

- *The Admissions* by Meg Mitchell Moore
- *Every Last One* by Anna Quindlen
- *All Fall Down* by Jennifer Weiner
- *Best Kept Secret: A Novel* by Amy Havatny
- *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher
- *This Beautiful Life* by Helen Schulman

Funding for the book clubs was generously provided through a grant from the Upper Arlington Rotary Club and the Upper Arlington Community Foundation.

### Nonfiction Titles

- *Above the Line* by Urban Meyer

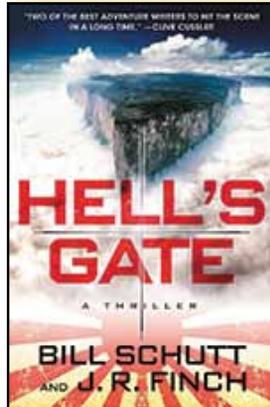
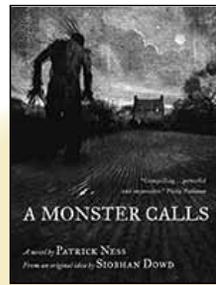
## OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

### The Great Reckoning

By Louise Penny

Fans of Louise Penny be happy, we are back to Three Pines, Gamache, and everything you love about Penny's novels. If you have not read a Louise Penny, I recommend you start at the beginning with *Still Life*. This book will unfold better if you are familiar with her characters' history. Former Chief Inspector of Homicide at the Sûreté of Quebec Armande Ganache doesn't retire but takes a job at their police academy to root out those who have created a culture of fear and dishonesty. But soon someone at the academy is found dead, killed by a single gunshot to the head. Is it murder or suicide? Louise Penny is a gifted story teller who makes the setting so real you want to pack up and move there!

— Vita Marinello, Adult Services



### Hell's Gate

By Bill Schutt

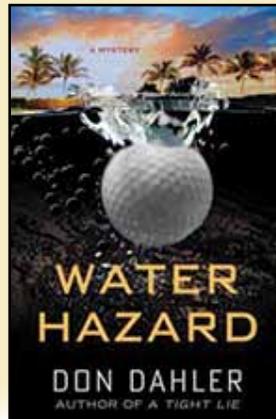
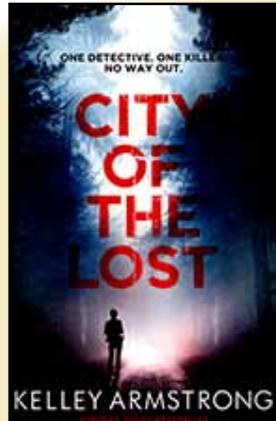
In 1944, U.S. Army Intelligence calls on Cpt. R.J. MacReady to travel deep into the Amazonian jungle. His mission: to locate a missing team of Rangers who had been investigating an abandoned Japanese submarine found beached near the mysterious Hell's Gate. An excellent blend of science, adventure, and history. A read-alike to Michael Crichton's *Congo*. Suitable for YA and adults.

— Laura Griffin, Youth Services

### City of the Lost

By Kelley Armstrong

What would you be willing to do to walk away from your life—just disappear? Homicide detective Casey Duncan killed a man when she was in college and was never caught. Her best friend, Diana, is in an abusive relationship with her ex-husband. Both need to disappear. Fortunately, there's a secret town for people like them but they must



apply and be accepted to live there; and, strings are attached. Casey and Diana are accepted and brought to Rockton, where they discover things are not always as they seem. Strap yourself in for a crime novel thrill ride!

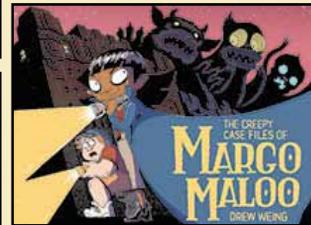
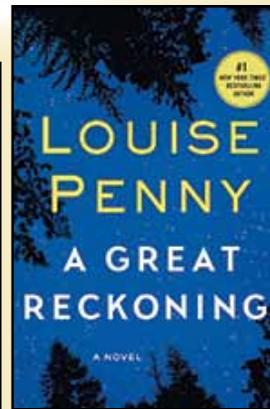
— Hari Ruiz, Adult Services

### The Creepy Case Files of Margo Maloo

By Drew Weing

Charles isn't excited about his move to Echo City, and that's before he discovers a troll stealing his BattleBeans. Fortunately, Echo City is home to Margo Maloo, Monster Mediator. As Charles tags along on her cases, he soon learns there's more to the city—and its monsters—than meets the eye.

— Caitlin O'Sullivan, Adult Services



### A Monster Calls

By Patrick Ness

Thirteen-year-old Conor's mum is very ill, and after repeatedly having "the nightmare," Conor is visited by a monster. Recommended by School Library Journal for grades 7 and up, this award-winning book was first published in 2011 but was recently adapted into a movie coming out this winter. This quick-read is sad, yet moving and has stayed with me for a long time. Make sure to check out the book edition that includes

Jim Kay's illustrations or the audiobook read by Harry Potter actor Jason Isaacs.

— Sarah Manley, Miller Park

### Water Hazard

By Don Dahler

Paradise can turn upside down in a second. While waiting to tee off on the 17th hole at the Waialae Country Club in Hawaii, struggling professional golfer and part-time detective Huck Doyle took a break from his practice round and looked out toward the ocean to enjoy the view. When Doyle looked back, his golf partner, sponsor, and banking billionaire Sing Ten Wong was lying on the ground—apparently shot through the heart. Who would want to kill this generous and jovial CEO? And where in the world could the shooter have been located? While doing his best to win a golf tournament, Doyle attempts to find out why his friend's father was murdered. Throughout his investigation he finds some shady business deals and questionable financial practices. The more clues he uncovers, however, the less the Wong family cooperates. This is a quick and easy but very entertaining read.

— Scott Potter, Adult Services

## February is National Library Lovers' Month

Libraries nationwide and their patrons mark each February as Library Lovers' Month. We invite you to stop by any of our locations during this month to share the reasons you love your library. We'll have paper hearts available that read "I love my library because \_\_\_\_\_." Let us and other patrons know just why you love libraries.



We will also celebrate this special month by launching a campaign with the goal of raising money for the creation of more study and work areas. This effort is in response to feedback from a patron survey conducted last year that indicated a need to provide more group study and work space.

We will use the Library Link and Library Insight as well as our monthly eNewsletter to share more specific space-changing plans as they develop. Please consider a gift to the Library in 2017—our 50th anniversary year—so we can offer enhancements to meet modern patron needs.

## Winter Reading Club Begins January 9

Beat those winter blahs! All ages are welcome to participate in our annual Winter Reading Club by reading and coloring winter-themed coloring sheets throughout our 6-week program.

Simply pick up a coloring sheet at any UA Library location beginning January 9, then for each day you read you can color in a winter symbol on your sheet. Once you've completed your sheet just cut off the entry slip on the bottom of your coloring sheet and return it to the library anytime before February 19 to be entered into the Grand Prize drawing for your age group. Participants are welcome to submit more than one sheet. Age categories are as follows: infants-PreK; grades K-2; grades 3-5; grades 6-12; and adult. Winners will be notified by phone on February 20.

**Are you in the Library Loop?**  
**Follow Us On Facebook or Twitter!**

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# NewsBITES

## LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

### UAPL Named a Five-Star Library

The Upper Arlington Public Library has again been designated a Five-Star Library in the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service. The LJ Index rates U.S. public libraries based on selected per capita output measures, including visits, circulation, electronic circulation, public internet computer use and program attendance. It's worth noting that we had the highest circulation per capita in our budget category.

### Passport Photos

You may know that our Main Library offers processing for U.S. passports by appointment. However, if you simply need a passport photo you may stop by anytime during our normal operating hours without an appointment. Photos are available for applicants ages 3 and up. The cost is \$10 per photo paid by cash, check or money order only made payable to the Upper Arlington Public Library.

### ProQuest Research Library

Our Reference Department has recently added a new online database to our long list of high-quality electronic resources. ProQuest Research Library provides one-stop access to thousands of full-text periodicals from one of the broadest, most inclusive general reference databases available. Search from a highly respected, diversified mix of scholarly journals, professional and trade publications, and magazines covering over 150 subjects and topics. You have access to research on business, health and medicine, history, literature and language, science and technology, social sciences, and the arts. Get started at [www.databases.ualibrary.org](http://www.databases.ualibrary.org).

### Author Piper Kerman Visits UA

Piper Kerman, author of *Orange is the New Black* and an advocate for prison reform, will speak at Upper Arlington High School on Thursday, December 1 at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$10-\$25 and are available at our website at [www.ualibrary.org](http://www.ualibrary.org). Kerman's

presentation is sponsored by the Upper Arlington Author Series and the Center for Spiritual Search.

### Upcoming Holiday Closings

All three UA Libraries will be closed on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24, and Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25. We will close at 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 31 and remain closed on New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1. Libraries will be open on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 16 and Presidents' Day, February 20.

### Winter Book Sale

The Friends of the UA Library will hold its Winter Book Sale from February 19-March 5 in the atrium of the Main Library. The sale will feature a large selection of used books, DVDs, CDs, record albums, magazines and more. Most books are priced from 25¢ to \$2. A special members-only presale will be held on the first day, Sunday, February 19 from Noon-1 p.m. On the final day, Sunday, March 5, Friends members can fill a paper grocery bag with books for just \$5. Nonmembers can do the same for \$10. Don't miss this change to get a bargain and help your library!

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



The crew from UA Engine 71 visited the Miller Park Library to teach children about fire safety and show off their fire engine.



Librarians from around the world toured our Main Library last summer while attending the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) conference in Columbus.



Coloring...it's not just for kids anymore! Stop by the Main Library's Adult Department and add your artistic flair to our group coloring banner.

The NorWest Garden Clubs held their "Autumn Joy" Standard Flower Show at the Main Library from Oct. 22-23.



Ann Fisher, host and executive producer of WOSU Public Media's All Sides with Ann Fisher, interviewed Bill Clegg, author of *Did You Ever Have a Family*, for the 2016 Upper Arlington Author Series.



These library staff members were the winners of the annual You Make a Difference Awards: (l-r) Cindy Johnson, Alina Butler, Diana Magee, Tony Bolton and Zach Parish. Employees are nominated by colleagues for outstanding contributions to the Library over the past year.

## Winter Program Highlights

### Masters of Suspense Film Series

Our winter film series is dedicated to exploring the work of motion pictures' great master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock and his adaptations of Daphne Du Maurier's gothic stories. All movies are shown on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Join us for screenings of *Jamaica Inn* on January 8 at 2 p.m., *Rebecca* on January 22; and *The Birds* on February 5. We'll also show the 2012 biographical film *Hitchcock* starring Anthony Hopkins on February 19. Film scholar Steve Hunt will present and lead a discussion of each film.

### Live at the Library

More great music is headed your way through our Live at the Library concert series. Join us the Main Library's Friends

Theater on select Thursdays at 7 p.m. this winter. The Dave DeWitt Trio will perform jazz on December 8. Top artists from the Chamber Music Connection will perform classical music on January 12. Finally, The Bascinet will play indie rock tunes on February 9.

### Winter Word Play

Adults: try your hand at six weeks of wily, wicked puzzles to win wonderful weekly prizes. No registration and no electronic devices required. Stop by the Miller Park Library's front desk anytime from January 9-February 19 to pick up the puzzle. New challenges each week!

### Paper Football Challenge

Put your paper football prowess to the test in our skills, accuracy and distance challenges as we get ready for the Super Bowl. Teens in grades 6-12 can check it out at the Lane Road Library on Wednesday, January 25 at 5 p.m.

### Early Literacy Fridays

The Miller Park Library will introduce a new series of programs this winter aimed at building literacy skills in young patrons. Early Literacy Fridays offer fun learning experiences for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers. Activities will vary each month but will include such things as games, play dough, cars, blocks and more. Stop by anytime from 10 a.m.-Noon on January 20 and February 17.

### Tips for the College Bound

Whether college is right around the corner or on the distant horizon, this program has something for you. Beth Probst from At The Core will visit the Lane Road Library on Thursday, February 23 at 7 p.m. to cover a wide range of topics from ACT/SAT testing to college applications to choosing a major. Parents and students are encouraged to attend as there will be tips for everyone. Recommended for families who have students in grades 8-12.

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

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Seated:** President Sarah Mueller; Vice President John Yesso

**Standing L-R:** Peter Hahn, Maura Bowen, Bill Shkurti, Secretary Gloria Heydlauff, and Kyle McKee

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

receive email notification of upcoming Board meetings at [www.ualibrary.org/pages/board-trustees](http://www.ualibrary.org/pages/board-trustees).

#### Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, December 6 at 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 17 at 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 21 at 5 p.m.

## Library **iNSIGHT**

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### Production:

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



#### Upper Arlington Public Library

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



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# calendar

## COMMUNITY

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

### Santa's Mailbox Through December 14

Municipal Services Center Kenny Road parking lot, 3600 Tremont Road

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

### Winter Festival

6-8:30 p.m., Friday, December 2

Mallway, Arlington Avenue  
UA Parks & Recreation, 614-583-5300

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

### Pearl Harbor Tribute Concert

7 p.m. Friday, December 2

UA High School Auditorium  
614-487-5200 | [www.uastrings.org](http://www.uastrings.org)

Join the High School Orchestras for a patriotic-themed concert that will benefit the orchestras directly by helping fund a trip to perform at a concert series commemorating the Pearl Harbor attack.

### UACA Christmas in the Park

December 4-8

Thompson Park

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

Each year Santa visits UA and the lucky children of our town enjoy a carriage ride, meet with Santa and share their Christmas wishes. Registration begins November 18.

### Firefighters for Kids Toy Drive 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, December 17

Fire Station 72, 614-583-5103

Donate new, unwrapped toys for kids ages 0-14 years.

### Tremont Center Christmas Event

1-8 p.m., Tuesday, December 20

Celebrate the season with Tremont Center merchants. Starting at 6 p.m., visit with Santa and enjoy free sleigh rides and cookies.

### Concourse Gallery

M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 3600 Tremont Road  
Cultural Arts Division, 583-5310

### Goodwill Flight

January 5-27

The Goodwill Art Studio & Gallery is an innovative fine arts program serving over 80 artists with disabilities and other barriers. This program offers the opportunity for creative self-expression, improved self-esteem, increased life satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment through encouragement and collaboration with professional artists.

### Elementary Schools

February 1-24

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

### State of the City Address

5-7:30 p.m., Monday, January 23

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

The City's annual progress report, Community Fair, and announcements of the 2016 Community Awards.

### State of the Schools

6 p.m. Monday, January 30

Upper Arlington High School  
614-487-5000 | [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org)

Join Upper Arlington Schools for an update on the implementation of our strategic plan and exhibits and performances by students and staff.

### UA Stage - "The Wizard of Oz"

4:30-9 p.m., Wednesday, February 22

UA High School Auditorium  
UA Civic Association | [uastage@uaca.org](mailto:uastage@uaca.org)

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

### "The Wizard of Oz"

7:30 p.m., Thu-Sat, February 23-25

2:30 p.m. Sunday, February 26

UA High School Auditorium  
487-5200 | [www.uaschools.org](http://www.uaschools.org)

The stage production is based completely on the movie we have all grown to love about a Kansas farm girl whose house is picked up by a tornado and deposited in the strange and beautiful land of Oz.