



CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

A CHERISHED PAST ★ A GOLDEN FUTURE

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

One Hundred Years Old And We're Just Getting Started

2018 State of the City Address
Monday, January 22, 2018
5-7:30 p.m. | Program Begins at 6:30

2018 State of the City Address
A Cherished Past ★ A Golden Future
Monday, January 22, 2018
Presentation begins at 6:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Performance Upper Arlington High School Vocal Music
Performers: *Anything Goes*

Welcome Council President Kip Greenhill

Community Foundations City Manager Theodore Staton

Renewal Council Vice President Brendan King and
Super Senior, Council Members Carolyn Casper
Community Enrichment Brian Close and Michele Hoyle
& Youth Award

Building Blocks Council Members Michele Hoyle
Business of the Year Award Jim Lynch
Community Safety Award

Service Council Members Jim Lynch
Community Safety Award and Sue Ralph

Celebrations Council Member Sue Ralph

Closing Remarks Council President Kip Greenhill

Closing Performance Upper Arlington High School Marching Band

2017 Community Awards Nominees

Each year at the State of the City Address, we honor individuals and businesses in our community for making a difference through their volunteer work, philanthropy and efforts to enrich Upper Arlington. Below are the details of this year's nominees.

Super Senior

Denny Mardas

Denny is a calm, gentle unassuming man with a huge heart for young people. He raised his family here and now enjoys watching his grandchildren grow up here. As a long-time member of the Upper Arlington Optimist Club, and someone with a passion for understanding the challenges facing young people in the area of substance abuse, Denny introduced The Stand Project to his fellow Optimist members, with a 'Friend of Law' award and funding support one of the positive results. He regularly volunteers for The Stand Project, participating with the Youth Engagement Team, helping to launch a student led group and to fund its first signature event, "Movie at the Marv." His generosity of time, advocacy and philanthropy is much appreciated, but he would never expect any recognition for his contributions. He would just say "it is the right thing to do."

Ed Sweeney

The last four years, Ed has volunteered for the Franklin County Court appointed advocate as Guardian Ad Latam. As a Veteran, he protected the California Coast in the US Coast Guard from 1965-72. Three years ago, Ed joined the UA Citizen Police Academy Alumni. He also has served on the UA Senior Association Council as a community representative, attending public meetings and Council meetings. He volunteers on Mondays in the Café

UA and helps coordinate food orders, inventory and pricing. Last but not least, Ed volunteers as the coordinator of weekly current event meetings.

Elaine Walter

Mrs. Walter, who just celebrated her 97th birthday still volunteers once a week making sandwiches for the homeless at St. Agatha. The group makes 225 sandwiches in less than an hour. She's commented before that it is one of the most rewarding things she does, because it helps feed so many people. Mrs. Walter has served a President of the Women's Club of St. Agatha and was in charge of luncheons after funerals for families so they didn't have to worry about preparing a meal for family and friends. Mrs. Walter has been an active community member since 1955. When asked to be a part of a Centennial project, she accepted without hesitation.

Community Enrichment

Fam-ess Learn to Earn Program

Michelle Salsberry created the Learn to Earn program to help youth of all backgrounds understand how to manage their money and become economically stable and independent. Her work has had a tremendous impact in the UA community and across Central Ohio. I personally have seen the lives of 20-plus teenagers deeply affected by the business plan competition that Fam-ess runs as part of the program.

Jennifer Faure

Jennifer is a hard-working community advocate, connector of people, and active volunteer. She not only spearheads programming for the UA Public Library as the Community Engagement Specialist, she volunteers on the UA Centennial Task Force and is an active board member for Leadership UA and The Stand Project. As a board member for the Stand Project, Jennifer has been pivotal in shaping the organization's educational program offerings, creating opportunities to cultivate community conversations to generate awareness. She helped launch a series of "Practical Parenting" discussions, with topics on marijuana, tools for raising a self-reliant kid, parenting adolescents, and more. She organized over 35 presentations, connecting the Stand Project with community partners including PTO organizations, Fraternal organizations (Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimists, Lions Club, etc.), and small parent gatherings and church groups.

Paul Imhoff

It would be an oversight not to recognize Paul Imhoff for his leadership and effort to educate the community about the recent school levy and bond issue. Paul went well beyond the high expectations placed on a UA Schools superintendent—the issue entailed countless evening meetings away from his family over a period of many months. Through his commitment to keeping the process inclusive and transparent—from identifying facility needs to determining how to address them—the community was informed and encouraged to participate along the

way. Paul is now the prime-time guest speaker at school conferences. They want to know how he did what he did, but it's a rare person who can bring a community together around an issue of this magnitude.

Mandy Markoff and Michelle Montgomery

Lifelong residents Michelle and Mandy have started EQUAL in UA. This grass-roots movement begins a new conversation about discrimination in our community. They are leading the effort to take a stance against discrimination and to promote kindness, inclusiveness and understanding. They hope to improve the quality of life in UA by promoting the message that we are a welcoming community where all can be respected and all can participate. EQUAL hopes to be the umbrella group for diversity issues, helping to bring attention to this issue, further develop diversity programming, and encourage inclusive attitudes in our community. Yard signs and car magnets have popped up all over UA. UA has embraced this movement and important conversations are occurring. Learning and growing in a positive way is the hallmark of this effort and UA. Michelle and Mandy are moving this hallmark forward.

Patty Matthews

Patty is a UA High School graduate and a UA Arts Festival Volunteer. In 2011, Patty lost her sister, Suzie, to breast cancer. Suzie had been a Jones Middle School music teacher for 28 years and a talented musician who played at local churches. In 2012, Patty and some loyal friends,

launched the Suzie Matthews Cookie Throwdown event as a way to honor her sister's life and to help someone experiencing the challenge of breast cancer. Cookie bakers unite on one day in September to bring dozens of delicious and creative home-baked cookies to a Tri-Village coffee shop to be offered in exchange for donations. Proceeds are gifted to a chosen "Pink Warrior" to assist in the needs of the annual honoree's life as she experiences the health challenge. In the past, leftover cookies have been boxed and sent to military personnel. With Patty's envisioning, creativity, hands-on chairmanship, and network of loyal friends, the loss of her sister has turned into a celebration of her life, as someone else is recognized and assisted in Suzie's name.

UA Historical Society History Book Committee

Sara Klein, Chair, Cindy Holodnak, Melanie Circle Brown, Ed Seidel, Kristin Greenberg, Erik Yassenoff, Charlie Groezinger

In preparation for Upper Arlington's Centennial year, this volunteer team from the UA Historical Society decided now was the right time for an update to the history book on Upper Arlington. They went much further than picking up where the version from the late 1980s left off—they decided to return to Upper Arlington's beginnings and to capture the milestones and stories of the community's evolution anew. Following many months of research, fact checking and organizing, they enlisted the help of a local writer to put one voice on the stories that can be found within 100: A Cherished Past, A Golden Future. The result is

a delightful read that celebrates our community's first century and is sure to become the "go to" resource on all things Upper Arlington.

Youth Award

Barrington Elementary 4th Grade Informal, Molly O'Connor and Dante Landolfi

In November of 2008, ovarian cancer took the lives of two Barrington Elementary third grade students' loved ones—Molly O'Connor's mother (Eileen O'Connor) and Dante Landolfi's grandmother (Bonnie Masdea). In April of 2009, Molly and Dante's 4th grade classes under the leadership of Mrs. Katie Benton (Molly's teacher), undertook a fundraising effort (2009 Beat Michigan, Beat Cancer! 5K Run/Walk) to raise money for ovarian cancer research and to honor Molly and Dante's loved ones. Now seniors, Dante and Molly reached out to Mrs. Benton and her current 51 Barrington 4th graders, who enthusiastically decided to run the event a second time. The 2017 Beat Michigan, Beat Cancer! 5K Run/Walk event was entirely developed, planned and run by the 2017 Fourth grade informal class, with support from high school art students who helped them create marketing materials. More than \$31,000 was raised for cancer research as a result of this collaborative project.

Max Gillum

This March, Max will put on his fourth annual Dodgeball tournament for charity. Max started as a 5th grader at Windermere. He is now an 8th grader at Hastings. The first year, the tourney was held at Jones and raised over

\$2,800 for Faith Mission charity. Since then, the tournament has been held at the High School to accommodate the crowds! Kids from all five elementary schools and both middle schools compete in a giant dodgeball tournament. Last year, Max raised over \$8,000, which he presented to the Refuge—a Columbus-based homeless charity for men struggling with illness or addiction. Max begins planning in early January with emails, calls, sign-ups and ground work, spending his evenings (after school and wrestling practice) putting it all together for the annual March event.

***The Stand Student Group
Townsend Thompson, Andrew
Armstrong, Aidan Brennan,
Susie Lynn, Michael Partridge,
Isabella Sanfillipo,
Mitchell “Drew” Weisberg – President,
Minnah Mohamed,
Haley Gillespie – Vice President,
Brandon Weaver
Audrey Unverferth, Declan
Unverferth, Kota Wharton***

Last spring students were hand selected and offered charter membership to the Stand Project Student Group, with a goal of cultural change in UA. Since the beginning of The Stand Project, students from UA High School and Wellington participated by electing officers, crafting their mission statement and printing t-shirts. This summer they planned, coordinated with vendors and community partners to promote and create a successful fall event, “Movie at the Marv,” where over 130 students gathered for food and a movie as the first of many substance free events. This winter, they are being

trained to go into the Middle Schools to share more about challenges and solutions surrounding substance use. This spring, the students hope to offer another signature event. They are committed to creating cultural change, educating younger students and serving as role models as they step out of social norms to showcase that drugs and alcohol are not a positive choice.

Business of the Year

Kristin E. Devor, DO

Dr. Devor opened Upper Arlington Preventative Primary Care in the heart of UA (The Mallway) in December 2016. She believes deeply in her community, and wanted to offer a convenient, wellness-based primary care medical practice option for residents. She promotes evidence-based preventative medicine and wellness practices to prevent disease and reduce the burden of chronic conditions. Their aim is to encourage every person to be an active participant in improving and maintaining their health. They believe that regular physical activity and sound nutritional choices are the cornerstones of good health. Dr. Devor has been actively involved in the UA Civic Association for three years, as a Director and as Secretary.

Flower Galaxy, Fred Salmon

For over 15 years, Fred Salmon from the Flower Galaxy has provided weekly floral arrangements to The Altar Guild of Trinity United Methodist Church. Each week these arrangements, which grace the sanctuary altar, are purchased by individuals in memory of loved ones. Fred not only uses his creative talents at the highest level, he also indirectly donates a portion

of the floral expense, and delivers the arrangements at no expenses to the Guild. Mr. Salmon's dedicated service and many acts of kindness are greatly appreciated by the Altar Guild and members of the Church.

OhioHealth, John Leff & Brian Jepson

OhioHealth has worked hard to generate awareness surrounding the health crisis of addiction and substance abuse. From physicians and nurses advocating in our community to providing funding and meeting space, OhioHealth has been an outstanding partner for The Stand Project. This kind of generosity is contributing to cultural change. Dr. John Leff acts as an extension of OhioHealth as a subject matter expert, attacking the issue of substance abuse with passion, knowledge and first-hand patient experience. As a board member, John makes participating in The Stand Project a priority. Under the leadership of Brian Jepson, OhioHealth awarded The Stand Project a \$15,000 grant to help grow the initiative and agreed to in-kind printing services for community resource guides distributed to every student in UA.

Schoedinger Northwest Chapel

Schoedinger has been serving UA since 1961. For several years, Schoedinger had been interested in improving its physical facility. The Northwest chapel was its busiest location and smallest building. A decision was made to do a complete renovation. Partnerships were made to continue serving the community with minimal disruption while construction took place over five months. The response from customers has been overwhelming.

Funeral homes from the 1960s were dark, solemn, private chapels. It is refreshing to have a well-lit building, that is open, spacious, and comfortable to people experiencing some of the most intense discomfort they will ever feel after losing a loved one.

Community Safety

Courtney Campbell

In an effort to control the feral cat population, Courtney participates in a trap, neuter, release (TNR) program. She provides care to stray and feral cats and improves the quality of life for cats. Through social media and neighborhood outreach, Courtney has established a friendly dialogue with neighbors and addresses any concerns. Her dedication to control the cat population in our community is to be commended.

Hollie Goldberg

Hollie deserves recognition for her many years of dedicated service and advocacy on behalf of the older adult population living in UA. She has been a tireless advocate for the fragile elderly and their care givers. Hollie is a consummate and caring professional who would do anything to improve the lives of UA's aging community members. After 40-plus years working in the field of aging supportive services—many of those years spent with Northwest Counseling Services and Syntero—Hollie has announced she will retire in March. We are grateful for all that she has contributed to bettering the lives of others.

Julia Gomez

If your cat or dog is lost in UA, Julia Gomez is the person to contact. Through Facebook, social media, search parties and signs attached to poles in the community, Julia helps reunite pets with their owners. Her concern for our community, her neighbors and animal welfare is the reason I'm nominating her for this award. She freely gives her time to those in sometimes stressful situations.

Charlie Reed

Charlie personally knew UA's Dispatching Center needs couldn't be met by Columbus' operations. He took pride being part of the Auxiliary UA Police Division, and for many years worked in the City's radio room. To make the community aware of the situation, the Save UA 911 campaign came into being, with Charlie at the helm of the challenge. He gave many hours compiling important data and presenting options, and launched an extensive public awareness campaign that helped result in the best possible outcome. When it seemed necessary to outsource the system, he made certain it went to Dublin. Charlie's perseverance helped keep the issue in the forefront so that our outsourced contracting became a good decision for UA. Charlie embodies the very reason for this award, every resident is better served because our Dispatch Center partnered with NRECC.

Jon Rice

Jon is a dedicated School Resource Officer (SRO), concerned with the safety and wellbeing of students in our schools. As a police officer, Jon

is all too aware of the challenges facing students and families when it comes to substance abuse. As a father, beekeeper, police officer, UA High School SRO, Stand Project Board member and advisor for The Stand Project Student group, Jon demonstrates a unique combination of empathy, understanding and accountability. Jon actively seeks out non-traditional solutions, offers tangible resources, and personally invests in building relationships, all with an eye toward the wellbeing of our young people. You can often find Jon with students—in the halls, after school and at school sponsored events. With guidance from Jon and Syntero Counseling, The Stand Project High School Students are being trained with to work with middle school students this winter. In addition, Jon is working with the new SRO at Jones and Hastings to start a similar student group for middle school students.

Community Fair

The City of Upper Arlington wishes to express its gratitude to the following Community Fair participants:

City of Upper Arlington:

*Community Development, Economic Development, Fire, Engineering,
Parks & Recreation, Police, Public Services, Senior Center,
Cultural Arts, UA Tree Commission*

MORPC

UA Rotary

UACA

Upper Arlington Public Library

Syntero

Vocal Music Group

UA Senior Center

Commission on Aging

UA Community Foundation

Centennial Task Force

Veterans Memorial Project

Kiwanis

Leadership UA

Historical Society

UA Education Foundation

Schools Vocal Program

The Stand Project

Community Improvement Corporation

Tri-Village Chamber

Tri-Village Magazine

Tell us how we did and enter to win!

Please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/UA0H2018 to take a five-question survey about the event. You can also access the survey on the City's homepage www.uaoh.net

Please respond by **Friday, January 26** and enter your email address to win a **pool pass, Centennial apparel and more!**

**The City of Upper Arlington wishes to thank the following
for their contributions to the State of the City Address:**

Band Director George Edge with UA High School Marching Band and
the Vocal Music Booster Club for helping to coordinate tonight's
performances from the High School Cast
of Anything Goes.



Upper Arlington City Council

President Kip Greenhill

Vice President Brendan King

Carolyn Casper, Brian Close, Michele Hoyle,
Jim Lynch and Susan Ralph

City Manager

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